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## AN ANALYSIS TRENDS AND PATTERNS OF RURAL SANITATION IN INDIA

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### ABSTRACT

*India is a welfare state according to Constitution. Providing basic facilities to the people is one of the important responsibilities of a democratic country like India. In the post-independence period, the Government of India has been concentrating on various development activities in the country. Particularly, rural development initiatives were prominent activities taken up and their implementation modalities saw a sea change in form and content. Initially, the thrust was welfare and later it turned into development oriented programmes. Rural sanitation was part of rural development activities steered by DRDA, Project Director. Thereafter, the government concentrated on initiating exclusive activities for rural sanitation. The study is based on secondary data collected from 2011 population census and Ministry of Drinking Water Supply, Sanitation's Monitoring System from 2000-01 to 2011-12. The study is including the trends and patterns of rural sanitation in India. The Statistical tools used like percentage and states are classified like Eastern states, Western states, Northern state and southern states. Good sanitation practices need proper understanding of its consequences, both at the individual and community level. In order to bring about behavioral change, there is a need for institutional structure, involving government and civil society. Allocation of appropriate financial resources is a precursor for successful implementation of the programme objectives. Unfortunately, sanitation sector in India has been one of the most underfunded programmes*

**KEY WORDS:** *Sanitation, Rural, Household, Work progress, MGNREGA and Expenditure.*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

India is a welfare state according to Constitution. Providing basic facilities to the people is one of the important responsibilities of a democratic country like India. In the post independence period, the Government of India has been concentrating on various development activities in the country. Particularly, rural development initiatives were prominent activities taken up and their implementation modalities saw a sea change in form and content. Initially, the thrust was welfare and later it turned into development oriented programmes. Today, there is a shift towards empowerment. In 1980s, rural sanitation was part of rural development activities steered by DRDA, Project Director. Thereafter, the government concentrated on initiating exclusive activities for rural sanitation. It can be recalled that post independence era, rural sanitation was not a priority issue. However, it got real impetus with Mahatma Gandhi's thrust on rural sanitation as an important aspect for development.

Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi not only fought for independence but also took up cudgels against a host of social problems. Known for social engineering, he conducted social experiments for the development of Indian villages. In the realm of manual scavenging, his efforts were to mitigate human suffering and ensure dignity. He considered manual scavenging to be inhuman and reiterated sanitation, health, and hygiene aspects in various forums and occasions. Government of India launched the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA). This programme emphasized on a new approach of awareness by linking it with the current sponsored schemes of GoI. Total Sanitation Campaign closed in 2012 after striving for 13 years in achieving universal rural sanitation coverage. Government took stock after duly assessing the processes involved in rural sanitation, its design, and incentives to local governments. Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP) of World Bank in India proposed a study in response to a request from the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, GoI.

Sanitation is not only an absence of garbage and waste materials strewn around but also access to toilet facility, safe drinking water and connectivity to a drainage system. In rural India, this is a huge problem. Census of India collected data on access to water and sanitation shows that only 31 per cent rural households were having any toilet facility in their households. The increase in toilet facility during last ten years from 2001 to 2011 was at the rate of just one per cent every year.

Worldwide it has accepted that a safe and sustainable water supply, basic sanitation and good hygiene are fundamental for a healthy, productivity and dignified life. Poor Sanitation and Hygiene gives many infectious and chronic diseases like diarrhea, dysentery, cholera, typhoid, infectious hepatitis, polio, cryptosporidiosis, ascariasis etc. A study by World Bank report that Diarrhea and respiratory infections remain leading killers of young children in the developing world, and claim approximately 3.5 million young lives each year. Centre for Disease control and Prevention (CDC's) focusing on Global Water, Sanitation and hygiene Programs to prevent the spread of disease (Pandey 2017).

## 2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The brief review of literature in study paper has reviewed the rural sanitation in India. **Veerashekhharappa and Bhide (2009)** the author found that the rural sanitation in India. Lack of proper sanitation, communicable diseases spread causing considerable loss and disabilities to human resources. Considering this, the international community has set the provision of sanitation as part of the Millennium Development Goals, aiming to reduce the number of those without adequate sanitation facilities to half by the year 2015. To achieve this, various strategies are designed by the Government of India and the state governments. It is observed that the strategies involving nongovernment organizations are more effective than the ones involving exclusively the state in promotion of sanitation. **Singh (2014)** Sanitation is one of the important Millennium Development Goals which covers the important aspects of management of human excreta, domestic and industrial wastewater and hazardous substances. It also includes reuse of recycled products which is part of this management. However, developing countries like India where highly increasing population leaves policy makers in

worry to provide basic amenities; toilets are mainly focused to manage human faces and urine. In order to achieve the MDG, Government of India has been running many policies like Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) and Total Sanitation Campaign. Convergence has also been done with schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA). However, it doesn't seem to be really an effort achieving the target in the time anyhow. So, Government has set a new deadline of 2022.

## 3. OBJECTIVES

1. To examine the trends and Patterns of Rural Sanitation in India.
2. To analyse the sanitary facilities and rural sanitation under MGNREGA in India.
3. To offer policy suggestion to reduce the rural sanitation in India.

## 4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

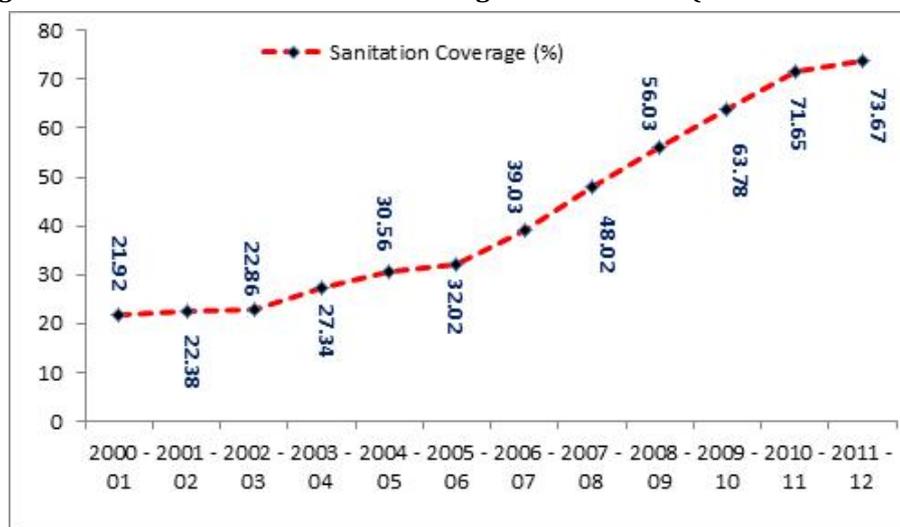
The study is based on secondary data collected from various sources like Published reports, 2001 and 2011 population census and Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation's Monitoring System from 2000-01 to 2011-12. www.mgnrega.nic.in 2013-14 to 2017-18. The study is including the trends and patterns of rural sanitation in India. The Stastical tools used like percentage and states are classified like Eastern states, Western states, Northern state and southern states.

## 5. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 5.1 Trends and Patterns of Rural sanitation

Good sanitation practices need proper understanding of its consequences, both at the individual and community level. In order to bring about behavioral change, there is a need for institutional structure, involving government and civil society. The figure 1 presents the national level sanitation coverage in rural areas in India during the period 2000-01 to 2011-12. The sanitation coverage in rural area was estimated 21.92 percent in 2000-01 in India. The rural sanitation continuously increased by 51.75 percent in India during the period 2000-01 to 2011-12. There are lot of variation arrive at the average of 73.67 percent rural sanitation coverage in India during the period 2011-12.

Figure 1: National level Sanitation Coverage in Rural Areas (2000-01 to 2011-12)

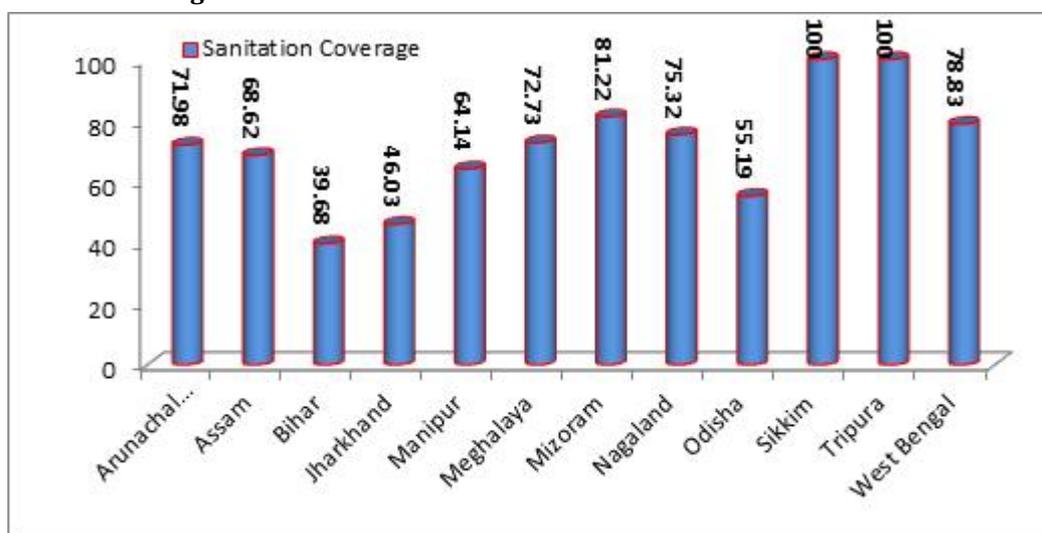


Source: Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation

The figure 2 shows that the rural sanitation coverage across eastern states in India during the period 2011-12. The Sikkim and Tripura states are having 100 percent result coverage rural sanitation in India compared with other eastern states in 2011-12. The rural sanitation coverage very list states

are Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha having 39.68 percent, 46.03 percent and 55.19 percent in India. The Mizoram and West Bengal states are having average rural sanitation coverage in India during the period 2011-12.

**Figure 2: Rural Sanitation across Eastern states in India**

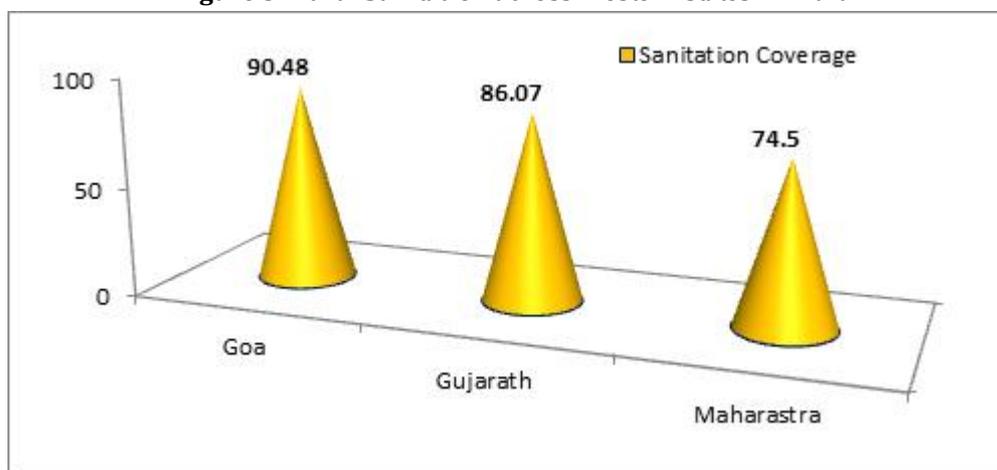


Source: Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation

The figure 3 presents that the rural sanitation coverage across Western states in India during the period 2011-12. The Goa state have highest rural sanitation coverage was estimated 90.48 percent compared with other Western states

in India during the period 2011-12. The Maharashtra having 74.5 percent rural sanitation coverage in India. The Gujarat state having 86.07 percent rural sanitation.

**Figure 3: Rural Sanitation across Western states in India**

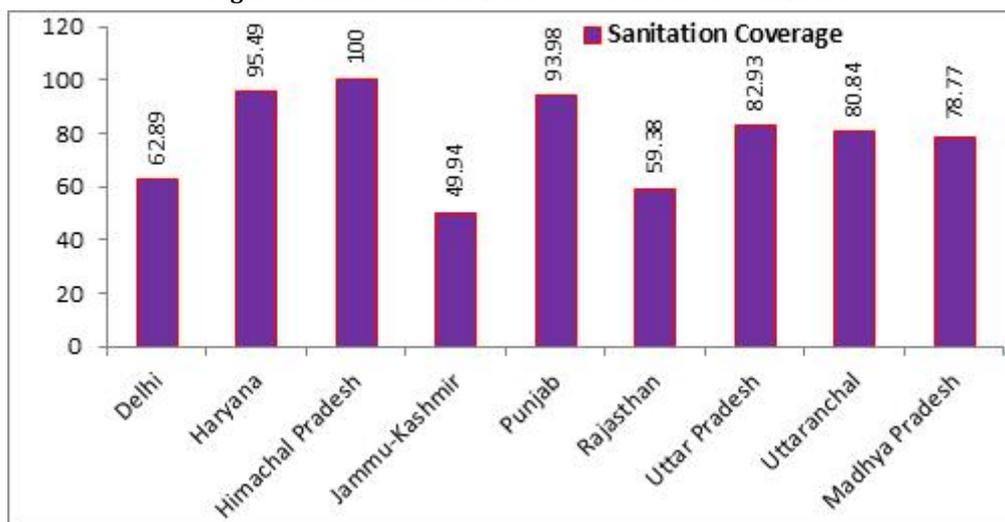


Source: Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation

The figure 4 presents that the rural sanitation coverage across Northern states in India during 2011-12 periods. The Himachal Pradesh having 100 percent result rural sanitation in Northern states in India compared with other states in 2011-12. The Haryana and Punjab have good performance

coverage the rural sanitation having 95.49 percent and 93.98 percent in India. The low sanitation coverage states are Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan and Delhi having 49.94 percent, 59.38 percent and 62.89 percent in India in the year 2011-12.

**Figure 4: Rural Sanitation across Northern states in India**

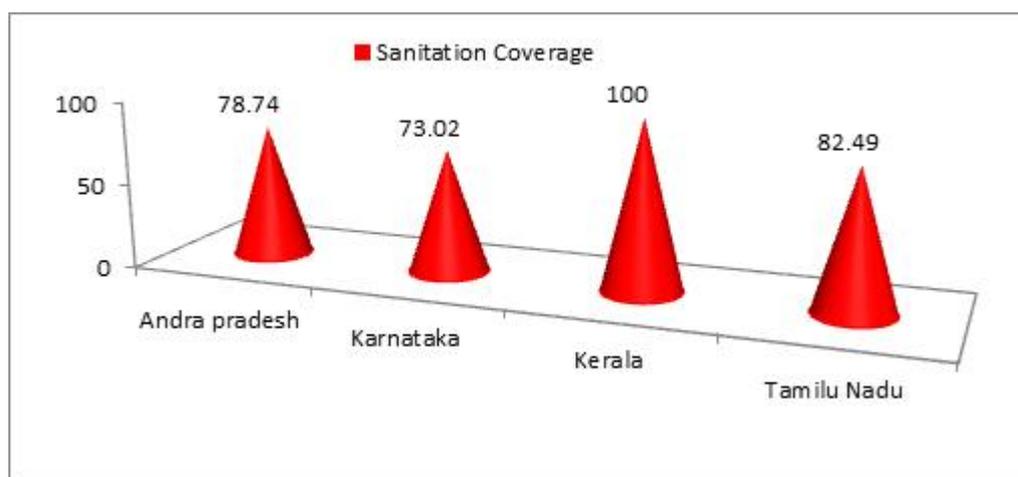


Source: Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation

The figure 5 presents the rural sanitation coverage across southern states in India during the period 2011-12. The Kerala state has 100 percent result having rural sanitation compared with southern states in India during the period 2011-12. The

Karnataka state has 73.02 percent rural sanitation. The Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu states have 78.74 percent and 82.49 percent rural sanitation coverage in rural area in India during the period 2011-12.

**Figure 5: Rural Sanitation across southern states in India**



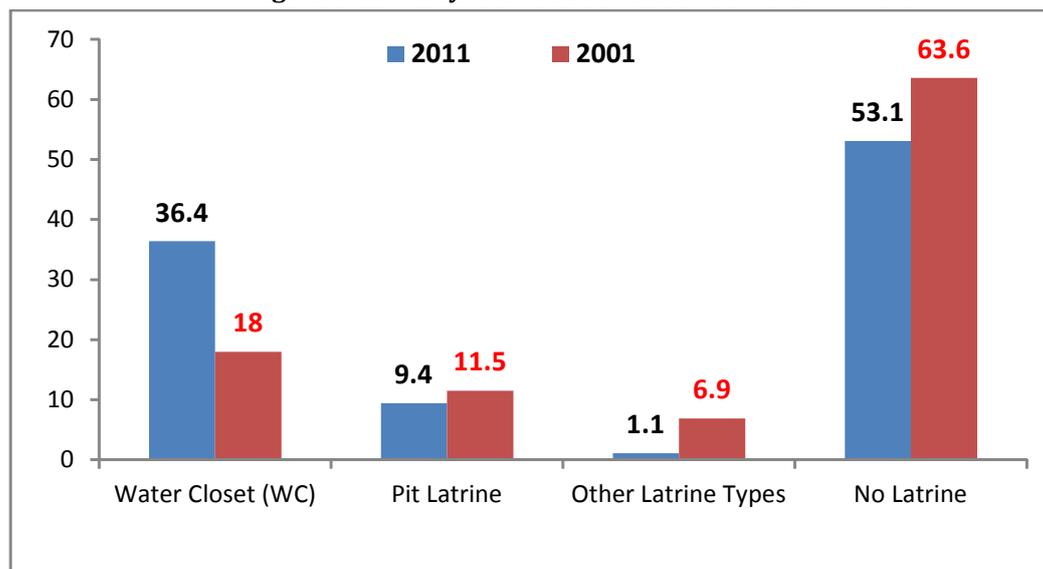
Source: Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation

### 5.2 Sanitary facilities and rural sanitation under MGNREGA

Rural sanitation facilities at the household level its good for health in village people in rural area. The MGNREGA under programme also coverage rural sanitation in rural area in India. The figure 6 presents that the national level sanitary facilities at household level in India during the 2001 and 2011 census. The water closet sanitation facilities having 18 percent

in 2001 census it's increased to 36.4 percent in 2011 census of India. The pit latrine facilities was estimated 11.5 percent in 2001 and it's reduced to 9.4 percent in 2011 census. The National level estimate 63.6 percent have no latrine facilities at household level in India in 2001 census and 2011 census it has reduced to 53.1 percent in India.

Figure 6: Sanitary Facilities at Household Level in India



Source: Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation

The figure 7 presents the rural sanitation coverage under MGNREGA programme in India during the period 2013-14 to 2017-18. Under the programme rural sanitation coverage 27.17 percent in India in 2013-14. The rural sanitation having under MGNREGA 27.83 percent in the year 2014-15, after

continuously declined because government introduced other programmes like Nirmal Bharath Mission etc. Rural sanitation coverage has 11.56 percent in 2017-18. The rural sanitation having 2.46 percent, 3.23 percent, 3.14 percent expenditure in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2017-18.

Figure 7: Rural Sanitation under MGNREGA in India-2013-14 to 2017-18 (in %)



### 6. SUGGESTION AND CONCLUSION

Government may motivate and incentivize ASHA and Village Chief for creating awareness relating to sanitation with an aim to influence the sanitation behavior of people in rural area. Advertisement on TV and Radio relating to sanitation awareness have played significant role in creating awareness amongst people about sanitation and also influencing the sanitation behavior. The Government may also include the local community participation, Self Help Group (SHG) and local level NGO for the promotion of sanitation. Government may directly transfer subsidy in saving accounts of the beneficiaries. There is a need to also focus on constructing and maintaining public sanitation complexes which are monitored periodically by officials. There is a need for effective implementation of government initiatives and programs relating to sanitation a periodical audit of the programs which may give a direction to the government for further improvements or maintenance.

From this study it is revealed that, although much has been achieved a lot still needs to be done to improve the sanitation situation. Moreover, it's the women folk who fetch water for the household and looks after the hygiene and cleanliness of the house. So their education and awareness regarding safe drinking water and clean toilets is very important. Equally important is the awareness regarding the benefits of good health, as the whole i.e. good health can be achieved only by fulfilling the parts. Sanitary toilet is very relatively low in a study population. Majority of the villagers were practicing of open air defecation. Most of the households did not have a sanitary privy. There is a need to impart health education regarding importance of use of sanitary toilet and motivate the community to use them.

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