

Tinsukia to fill gaps, build 7969 toilets



Tinsukia which is quite popular among tourists as it serves as a gateway to charming villages and wildlife sanctuaries is planning to build 7969 individual household toilets for families that still do not have toilets; including those from floating population and new households.



The Assamese district whose sanitation coverage in 2012 was 24.42 per cent was declared open defecation free on 15th December 2018, after building 94,846 toilets.

The gaps were identified after extensive field surveys in consultation with members of Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs), according to Mrs. Pallabi Baruah, District IEC Consultant. The Public Health and Engineering Department (PHED) is planning to complete construction of the 7969 toilets by May 2020 – to meet the deadline set by the State Government of Assam.

In the meantime, vigorous IEC interventions are being carried out across the district, the messages focusing on the importance of safe sanitation practices (using and maintaining toilets by the entire family), keeping surroundings clean and tidy; segregating waste at source, recycling waste and curbing the use of single use plastics.

The district also plans to set up two community toilets with

separate facilities for men and women. These will be located in two religious places in Sadiya Development Block under Sadiya Sub Division catering to people who visit the sites, free of charge. The management committees of the religious institutions will take care of the maintenance. Each of the community toilets costs Rs. 10 lakhs, and will be constructed in a model approved by the state, by May 2020.



Inputs: Dr. Milanjit Bhattacharyya, Executive Engineer PHED, Tinsukia Division