

World Toilet Day 2025

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Infrastructure & Governance

Why in news?

The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched new campaigns and showcased progress under SBM-U 2.0 on account of World Toilet Day.

World Toilet Day - November 19.

- **Purpose** - To raise awareness and inspire action to tackle the global sanitation crisis and ensure safe toilets and sanitation for all.
- **Theme, 2025** - “Sanitation: Collective Responsibility for Dignity and Planet”
- It emphasizes dignity, inclusivity, and environmental stewardship and aligns with SDG-6 and India’s climate-resilient sanitation goals.

World Toilet Summit 2025

- **Co-hosted by** - Sulabh International, World Toilet Organization, Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
- **Attended by** - Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs & Jal Shakti, delegates from **25 countries**, including South Africa, Sri Lanka, Bhutan.
- **Partners** - World Bank, Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).

Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0 & Aspirational Toilets

- Entered a new phase of urban sanitation - the journey from **Open Defecation Free (ODF) to ODF+ and to ODF++ status**, most importantly safe sanitation.
- 29,000 Aspirational Toilet seats approved with smart, inclusive, and eco-friendly designs.

- **Features include -**

- smart features and user-friendly designs,
- accessible and inclusive infrastructure,
- gender-neutral and child-friendly facilities,
- environmentally sustainable technologies.

- **SBM Achievements -**

- India declared ***ODF in 2019***, just 5 years after Swachh Bharat Mission began in 2014.
- **Rural sanitation** - 12 crore toilets were constructed built, saving nearly 3 lakh children annually from diarrhoea-related deaths.
- **Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) report, 2024** - Nearly 55 million urban residents in India have gained access to improved sanitation in 2 years.

Urban Innovations & Partnerships

- **Initiatives** - Swachhata Startup Challenge and Toilet Design Challenge launched to foster innovation.
- **MoUs signed** - With HUL for PPP models in community toilets & Sulabh International for maintenance in high-footfall zones.
- **Campaigns launched** -
 - 'Toilet Paas Hai' and 'Main Saaf Hi Achha Hoon' to promote responsible toilet use.
 - Swachh Aadatein - 21 Dinon Ka Prashikshan Pathyakram for early hygiene education.
- **Training modules** released for CT/PT design and SafaiMitras' dignity and safety.

Reference

[PIB | World Toilet Day, 2025](#)