



## World Toilet Day

[Source: PIB](#)

[World Toilet Day](#), observed annually (since 2013) on **19th November**, is a [United Nations](#) initiative raising awareness about the **global sanitation crisis and promoting safe, accessible toilets** as part of [Sustainable Development Goal 6: Ensuring water and sanitation for all by 2030](#).

- **2024 Theme: 'Toilets-A Place for Peace'** which emphasises that billions of people face heightened threats to sanitation due to **conflict, [climate change, natural disasters, and systemic neglect](#)**.
- **Global Sanitation Crisis:** 3.5 billion people lack safely managed sanitation, and 419 million still practise open defecation, contributing to health risks such as [cholera](#).
  - The [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) in 2023 reported that unsafe water, sanitation, and hygiene are responsible for approximately **1,000 deaths of children under the age of five every day**, and improved sanitation could potentially save **1.4 million lives annually**.
- **India's Efforts for Safe Sanitation:** India launched the "**Hamara Shauchalay: Hamara Samman**" campaign, linking sanitation with human rights, dignity, and privacy, particularly for women and girls.
  - **Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) (Grameen):** 75% of villages in India achieved [Open Defecation Free\(ODF\) Plus\(+\) status](#) under [Phase II of the SBM Grameen](#).
  - **SBM-Urban:** 63.63 lakh household latrines and 6.36 lakh community toilets were constructed under [SBM-Urban](#).
  - 93% of women in ODF regions reported **enhanced feelings of security and dignity**.



Read more: [Making Swachh Bharat Mission A Reality](#)

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