

Q.66

The role of women is key to the successful implementation of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Explain.

According to a research analysis in May 2014 almost 800 mn girls and women across the country lacked the access to toilets. In 2012 23% of girls dropout of school was because of lack of toilets and proper sanitation facility in school premises.

Various women led programs -

- 'Right to Pee' campaign in Mumbai where women compelled authorities to come up with gender specific sanitation solutions.
- 'No toilet, no bride' campaign in Haryana where women from their village wouldn't be married to the households that had no toilets.

Role of Women:-

1. Various women led movements raised the issues regarding women centric sanitation problems and urged for toilet construction in every Primary school in the villages, Anganwadi centres.
2. Women are considered to be more sensitive for problems regarding health and sanitation. Women sarpanch of the villages devised a proper plan for the construction of toilets in the villages and their proper cleanliness.
3. Environment cleanliness and awareness drive is carried out by various women's organisations.

4. Under Municipal Solid Waste Management, women were actively engaged to protect environment from dangers of spreading strewn garbage.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was more about inculcating behavioural change about problems with open defecation and women played a pivotal role in it.