



**T. M. Vijay Bhaskar, I.A.S.**

Joint Secretary

D.O. No.

Dear

Under the DISE, information on availability of toilets in schools is being collected. However, it is commonly observed that toilet seats and urinal spaces are not available in adequate numbers in schools. Sometimes toilets are locked up and children are not allowed to use them or in some cases the toilets and urinals are not usable. Lack of functional toilets in schools leads to drop out of girls, specially in the upper primary school.

It is necessary to identify the magnitude of this problem so that remedial steps can be taken. It is therefore, requested that in the next DISE exercise the following information may also be obtained from the schools by adding it to the existing schedule.

- (1) The number of usable toilet seats and urinal spaces available;
- (2) Ratio of number of usable toilet seats and urinal spaces to the number of students enrolled in school;
- (3) Availability of separate toilets for staff members;
- (4) System for maintenance of toilets by
  - (a) Student Committees
  - (b) By Safai Karmacharis
  - (c) No system of maintenance

It is hoped that the information gathered in this manner would help the Department of Drinking Water Supply and Deptt. of School Education & Literacy to plan for school toilets and urinals based on the requirement in schools and also help the State Govts. and Education authorities to tackle the issue of non functional toilets and maintenance of toilets for sustainable use.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

*T.M. Vijay Bhaskar*  
[T.M. Vijay Bhaskar]

**Ms. Anita Kaul**

Joint Secretary (Adult Education)  
Min. Human Resource Development  
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Fax: 23782052  
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