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Title: Need to increase the rate of subsidy on construction of community toilets and individual household toilets in Vizianagaram Parliamentary Constituency, Andhra Pradesh.

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI (VIZIANAGARAM): I appreciate the scheme for constructing toilets and community toilets in villages. It is important for the purpose of sanitation. It will not only protect the honour of women and girls but will also provide a healthy environment.

I have received representations from women for constructing community toilets as well as individual toilets from my constituency. Government of India is allocating some funds to the State and districts for constructing community toilets, but the allocation of funds is very less. In this connection, the subsidy for construction of Individual Household Latrines should be increased from Rs. 3,200 to Rs. 6,000 for plain areas from Rs 3700 to Rs. 6500 for hilly and difficult areas due to hike in rates of construction materials. As Vizianagaram is most backward district and inhabited by the poorest of the poor, they need more subsidy. The unit cost of community toilets should be increased from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 4 lakhs as per the demand and need-based. At the same time, the number of units for community toilets may be increased from ten to hundred, that is, three community toilets for each Mandal or Block.

I request the Ministry of Rural Development to accede to this proposal as it would improve the sanitation in backward rural areas.

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