

PREFACE

Drainage is an important facility that needs to be provided in each and every city. Cities without proper drainage system face problems of water-logging on roads, streets and bylanes during rainfall and the resultant traffic jams, polluted atmosphere, insanitary conditions, spread of various water-borne diseases, etc. In fact, cities without proper drainage facilities give an ugly appearance and are eyesores. Even an open drainage system is preferred to having none. A closed drainage system in a city with proper maintenance will go a long way in making it a “healthy” city. However, drainage in itself is also not enough. What is more important is that all the households should be connected with it, as drainage is a determinant of the quality of life and requires utmost attention.

What is the scenario in India? How many households have access to closed drainage system and how many have open or none? To answer these questions, the instant document has been brought out. The analysis carried out in the document is based on the data of Census of India, 2001, which, *inter alia*, provides data pertaining to distribution of households by availability of type of drainage connectivity for wastewater outlet. The drainage connectivity has been classified into three types, viz., ‘closed drainage’, ‘open drainage’ and ‘no drainage’. The census data does not include institutional households.

The document contains four chapters. It has been brought out by Sh. J. Nagarajan, Senior Social Scientist., assisted by Shri K.L. Buttan, Research Officer and Shri P.P.Tuteja. Sh. C.A. Lokesh carried out the drafting of the report in the prescribed format. He also undertook computerization and processing of data to generate the required analytical tables along with Sh. T.Tete. Sh. B.K. Bharti, Senior Research Officer, was responsible for supervising the work.

The present document is the third in the series of the documents that have been brought out by TCPO during the past few months relating to access of households to various facilities, the other two being related to 'drinking water' and 'toilet' facilities.

It is hoped that this document would prove useful for policy-makers, administrators, urban planners, researchers and academicians.

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(J.B. Kshirsagar)
Chief Planner