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## **Executive Summary: UGC Minor Research Project**

**“Social Sector Spending for Societal Transformation: A Study of Clean India Mission to achieve Open Defecation Free India by 2019, with special reference to Karnataka”**

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"We are living in the 21st century. Has it ever pained us that our mothers and sisters have to defecate in the open?... The poor womenfolk of the village wait for the night; until darkness descends, they can't go out to defecate. What bodily torture they must be feeling, how many diseases that act might engender. Can't we make arrangements for toilets for the dignity of our mothers and sisters?" **Independence Day speech**, August 15, 2014 by **Narendra Damodardas Modi**, fourteenth Prime Minister of India.

"Nearly three years ago, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi made one of the boldest comments on public health that I have ever heard from an elected official...I can't think of another time when a national leader has broached such a sensitive topic so frankly and so publicly," wrote **Bill Gates** about the PM's 2014 Independence Day address to the nation.

The state of sanitation remains a powerful indicator of the state of human development in any community. Access to sanitation bestows benefits at many levels. Cross-country studies show that the method of disposing of excreta is one of the strongest determinants of child survival: the transition from unimproved to improved sanitation reduces overall child mortality by about a third. Improved sanitation also brings advantages for public health, livelihoods and dignity-advantages that extend beyond households to entire communities - UNICEF.

End Open Defecation Campaign – UN Sanitation Drive 2015, launched on 28 May 2014, aims to help end the practice of open defecation and improve access to toilets and latrines for the 2.5 billion people without basic level sanitation.

Percentage of households with toilets (national) as per Census 1991, 2001 and 2011 was 24%, 36% and 47% respectively. In Karnataka, the percentage of rural households with no latrines as per Census 2001 and 2011 was 82.6% and 71.6% respectively, and the percentage

of urban households with no latrines was 24.8% and 15.1% respectively.

Nationally the sanitation coverage has **increased from 42 per cent to over 64%** in just two-and-a-half years since the launch of the Swachh Bharat Mission on October 2, 2014. **Five States** – Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Uttarakhand and Haryana, **over two lakh villages** and **147 districts** have been declared Open Defecation Free across the country.

19 cities in Karnataka have been declared ODF since implementation of SBM. Household sanitation coverage in Karnataka under SBM-Rural, enhanced from 37.12% on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014 to 70.48% in 2017-18 (up to August 2017). Household sanitation coverage is almost doubled during a period from October 2014 to August 2017.

Government of India's Swachh Bharath Mission intends to overcome the bigger challenge on sanitation by having defecation free India by 2019. To monitor and measure the cleanliness of cities, the cleanliness survey "Swachh Sarvekshana" was launched in 2016 as part of the Swachh Bharat Mission. Under the first survey, Swachh Sarvekshan-2016, 73 cities with over 10 lakh population and all the state capitals were ranked. Mysuru had topped the list. In the 2017 survey, 434 cities with over 1 lakh population and all the state capitals were ranked. Indore had emerged as the cleanest city.