

JAIRAM: INDIA OPEN DEFECATION FREE IN 10 YEARS

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NEW DELHI, FEB. 15

Union rural development minister Jairam Ramesh on Wednesday claimed that the government would make India a "open defecation free" country in 10 years time. He, however, admitted that it was shame that India accounted for almost 60 per cent of open defecation across the world.

Mr Ramesh stated that a major policy shift in 12th five year plan would be in the major restructuring of the total sanitation campaign. He said the ministry of drinking water would focus on innovations to provide low cost sanitation solution. He announced that gram panchayat will be the nodal agency to execute sanitation programme.