

Drinking Water & Rest Room facilities in HP University, Shimla campus

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Abstract

According to the latest estimates of WHO/UNICEF, joint monitoring program for water supply and sanitation (JMP), 32% of the world's population, i.e. 2.4 billion people lacked improved sanitation facilities and 663 million people still use unimproved drinking water. Inadequate access to safe water and sanitation services coupled with poor hygiene practices, kills and sickens thousands of children every day and leads to impoverishment and diminished opportunities for thousands more. The relationship between poor sanitation, water borne diseases, mortality and malnutrition is well documented. Statistics about the number of deaths due to diarrhea as well as stunting caused by malnutrition due to poor absorption of nutrients are broadcast regularly as a way of awakening consciousness about the problem. Yet sanitation has always been the poor cousin when compared with drinking water, in terms of attention and financial support it has been received even though the two are always clubbed together as part of the same sector. This is both a reflection of the relatively lower importance given to sanitation by governments and even more, the limited priority attached to sanitation by those in need of it. As a result, the world remains off track to meet the sanitation MDG target.

Keywords: Clean Drinking Water, Sanitation Facility, HP University

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