

Impact of a Place to go Poo

Please read the information below, then complete the tasks and calculations.

Big Picture

- Globally, India has the largest number of people still defecating in the open: more than 564 million. One in two people uses a toilet.
- Half of the population excretes more than 65,000 tonnes of poo outside every day.
- An even lower proportion of India's rural population uses toilets. About 65 per cent of people in rural areas do not have access to toilets.
- Of the more than 160 million people who have access to improved sanitation, the coverage is highly inequitable. Open defecation is actually still increasing amongst the poorest segment of the population.
- Only 11 per cent of Indian rural families dispose of child faeces safely. Eighty per cent of children's faeces are left in the open or thrown into the garbage.
- With 44 per cent of mothers disposing of their children's faeces in the open, there is a very high risk of microbial contamination (bacteria, viruses, and amoeba) of water which causes diarrhoea in children.
- India reports the highest number of deaths due to diarrhoea in children under five in the world. Every year, diarrhoea kills 188,000 children in this age group.
- Children weakened by frequent diarrhoea episodes are more vulnerable to malnutrition, stunting, and opportunistic infections such as pneumonia. About 43 per cent of children in India suffer from some degree of malnutrition.
- The faecal-oral route is an important polio transmission pathway. Open defecation increases communities' risk of polio infection.

1 ton = 907185g

Did you know?

65,000 tons per DAY

One GRAM of faeces contains:

- 10,000,000 viruses
- 1,000,000 bacteria
- 1,000 parasite cysts

Child faeces contain more germs than adults'.

Women and girls face shame and a loss of personal dignity and risk their safety if there is no toilet at home. They have to wait for nightfall to relieve themselves in privacy.

Consider the information above. If Indians produce over 65,000 tons of excrement in the open each day. How many viruses, bacteria, and parasites are the population being exposed to each day? week? year?

	DAY	WEEK	YEAR
Viruses			
Bacteria			
Parasites			

Show your thought process...

In the space below, create a visual representation of 65,000 tons of something...