

No.S-18/10/2015-SBM-Part(2)
Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
Swachh Water Mission

4th Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi – 110003

Date: 15-09-2016

To

Principal Secretary/Secretary, In-charge (Rural Sanitation)
All States/UTs

Subject: Emphasis on hygiene in SBM-G

Madam/Sir,

The SBM-G Programme is being implemented across the country for the last two years or so. As part of this programme, great emphasis has been laid on achievement of open defecation free (ODF) villages and improvement in total coverage. These activities are being undertaken with a final goal of improving the health status of villagers by denting diarrheal diseases by breaking the faeco-oral transmission route.

2. You will appreciate that elimination of open defecation is only one part to break the faeco-oral transmission. Hygiene i.e. hand wash with soap and water after defecation and before meals is another essential component for the same. I am sure this issue is being addressed as part of the SBM-G behaviour change campaign. However, there is a need for laying further emphasis on the same since the recently-agreed Global Sustainable Development Goals incorporate separate indicators for hygiene.

3. It is requested that your State may, therefore, take appropriate steps to renew focus on hygiene within the overall SBM-G implementation. This Ministry may be kept apprised of the innovations and best practices adopted by your State in this regard.

Yours faithfully,



(Arun Baroka)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tele:011-24362192