

S-18011/17/2022-SBM-DDWS
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation
Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)



4th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi-110003
Dated: 14th July, 2022

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary
in-charge of Rural Sanitation,
All States/UTs

Subject: Social Audit under SBM-G-regarding

Madam/Sir,

Social Audit is not just an exercise for information gathering or monitoring of programme implementation on ground, but also an important tool for social mobilization and sensitization for the programme objectives to a wide range of stakeholders.

- Hence, the importance of organizing Social Audit for community engagement and monitoring under SBM(G) has also been emphasized in the Operational Guidelines of SBM(G) Phase-II. Para 17.7 of these Guidelines provides that Social Audit meeting will be held in each GP once in six months. The GP will organize and assist in organizing Social Audits of the programme. The District and the Block shall be responsible to ensure that this schedule is adhered to. A Social Audit Manual was also shared with all the States/UTs by this Department vide letter No.S-18013/2/2014-O/o Dir(SBM)-Part(1) dated 25th September, 2020. A one day workshop on Social Audit was also held by this Department for all the States/UTs on 15th June, 2021.
- However, this Department has not been receiving updates from the States/UTs regarding organizing Social Audit in the GPs. Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources (Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation) while discussing the Demands for Grants of this Department for 2022-23 have raised serious concern on non-compliance with the guidelines for conducting of Social Audit once every six months. The Committee has strongly recommended that States/UTs should conduct Social Audit at regular intervals for ensuring that there is effective implementation of the programme on ground.
- A brief guidance note for undertaking the Social Audit of SBM(G) is attached.
- You are, therefore, again requested to ensure that Social Audit of SBM(G) is conducted in all the GPs adhering to the time schedule stipulated in the SBM(G) Phase-II Guidelines and the findings are displayed for the public in GP office for better transparency and credibility of the scheme. A report of organizing the Social Audit meetings may also be submitted to this Department on regular basis.

Yours sincerely,

(Arun Baroka)
Special Secretary
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Copy to: Mission Director/State Coordinator (SBM-G), All States/UTs.

Brief guidance note for undertaking Social Audit of SBM(G)

1. Social Audit is a participatory monitoring exercise used to systematically assess the progress of the program. The Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation strives to achieve following objectives by the Social Audit exercise under SBM (G) Phase II:
 - a) Ensuring accountability and transparency
 - b) Spread awareness about the program among the populace
 - c) Mobilize community for collective action to achieve ODF Plus (Model) villages
 - d) Identify local needs and priorities pertaining to sanitation
 - e) Identifying gaps and develop plan to plug in those gaps (both sanitation coverage & SLWM)
2. Social Audit has its origin in the democratic values and principles of transparency and accountability. It is not just an information gathering exercise, but a tool for social mobilization and sensitisation regarding the programme objectives among wide range of stakeholders.
3. The Social Audit exercise for SBM(G) may be conducted every six months by using the existing institutional mechanism in the States like in MGNREGA, by involving community and obtaining citizens' feedback on the programme implementation. GP will assist in organizing the Social Audit.
4. Social Audit for Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) shall capture information on the following:
 - A. Sanitation Coverage**
 - a. No. of Toilets (individual/community) constructed within a period
 - b. Expenditure incurred
 - c. Beneficiary details
 - d. No. of HH left out (if any)
 - e. Plan to plug any identified gaps (if any)
 - B. Solid & Liquid Waste Management**
 - a. No. of Community assets constructed/procured for management of solid & liquid waste in the village within a period,
 - b. Expenditure incurred
 - c. No. of Households benefitted
 - d. No. of Households not having the facility of SLWM
 - e. Plan to plug the gaps (if any)
5. The findings of the Social Audit shall be placed before Gram Sabha for its validation.
6. To ensure accountability & transparency, it is suggested to make disclosure of information (expenditure and beneficiary details) in public places mandatory.

