

सरस्वती प्रसाद, आई.ए.एस.

अपर सचिव

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भारत सरकार
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1st February, 2016

Sub: Invitation to attend "Innovative Sanitation Financing Forum" to be held on 9th February, 2016

Dear *Sir / Madam*

There has been an unprecedented focus on sanitation in India, ever since the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, from the ramparts of Red Fort during his Independence Day address on August 15, 2014, gave a clarion call to the nation to make India clean. Half of India's population defecates in the open, a figure that is truly alarming for a country that is poised to become a global superpower. The Government is therefore trying to address this problem comprehensively and on a priority. Swachh Bharat Mission has been launched to create an open-defecation-free India by 2nd October, 2019.

2. The Swachh Bharat Mission provides flexibility to the States in addressing this issue. This is so, since sanitation is a State subject, and solution to various challenges in this sector requires contextual innovations appropriate to the local socio-cultural-economic milieu. While the programme provides incentives for construction of toilets, some components such as repair of defunct toilets, appropriate software activities, R&D, technological innovations etc. require additional funds. The massive scale of work – more than seven crore toilets to be constructed over the next four years – requires innovative financing and meaningful partnership with businesses and suppliers.

3. In order to deliberate upon the same, the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is organising 'Innovative Sanitation Financing Forum' on the **9th February, 2016** at **Hall no.5, Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi. The Hon'ble Union Minister for Rural Development, Drinking Water and Sanitation & Panchayati Raj will be inaugurating the Forum.**

4. The Forum aims to bring together policymakers and capital allocators, to brainstorm and explore opportunities for collaboration. We expect participation from the Central government and State governments, multilaterals, commercial banks, regional rural banks, scheduled co-operative banks, microfinance institutions, impact investment community, non-profits and corporates to work out a multi-pronged strategy to achieve 'Swachh Bharat'. Developing and scaling priority sector lending portfolios in water and sanitation may be a crucial first step in innovative financing. At the Forum, we can focus on how the Reserve Bank of India's inclusion of water and sanitation in its priority sector lending (PSL) guidelines in 2014 can be translated from intent into action.

5. At the Forum, we will also be exploring various ways in which different organisations can work with financial institutions and state governments to facilitate water and sanitation financing, especially at the household level. Given your experience in implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (G), your experiences and insights would be valuable to all our delegates. **We request you to kindly participate in the Forum along with SBM(G) coordinator.**

6. Mr. Sabarathinam Selvaraj from Water.org will follow up with your office. Your response may be confirmed to my email id as-mdws@gov.in or to the e-mail id rsvp.innovativefinancing@gmail.com. Tentative agenda of the programme is attached herewith.

7. I would be grateful for your support in making this Forum a success.

With *regards*

Yours sincerely,



(Saraswati Prasad)

Principal Secretary / Secretary in-charge of Rural Sanitation
All States / UTs

Copy to: SBM(G) Coordinators.



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Tentative agenda

The forum will be organised by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. Water.org will be the nodal support agency and will partner with World Bank – WSP and UNICEF to organise the conference.

The following is a list of the sessions we envision for the forum, along with details on formats, themes and times. We have also outlined the participants we seek to invite.

Tentative date: February 9th

Venue: Hall no.5, VigyanBhavan

Proposed Session Title	Format	Mins	Prospective Participants	Potential Themes to Explore
Key note address	Inaugural address and lighting of the lamp	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Honourable Minister, Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What role does the centre see for innovative financing? The Minister's vision for the program and the role he envisions for innovative financing Outline expectations for the conference
Innovative financing for Swachh Bharat: setting the context	Panel discussion	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Founder Water.org International expert (to be confirmed) Representative, World Bank 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share current national and international case studies and best practices Set the agenda for the forum Set the context: how can different participants present at the forum collaborate to solve for the problem
Tea/Coffee				
Identifying the need: what are the areas that need attention? – through the	Panel discussion followed	60	Proposed categories of panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-4 Ministers/Principal Secretaries from select state governments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How are programs being currently financed? What are the key financing gaps that



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'lens' of state governments	by Q&A Moderator: UNICEF		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation/Ministry of Rural Development 	<p>private sector can play a role in solving?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What financing mechanisms will support State governments' achievement of Swachh Bharat targets? • What are some frameworks/models in which organisations can work with state governments to solve their needs?
Innovative financing of sanitation and operationalising PSL: through the 'lens' of capital allocators	Panel discussion followed by Q&A Moderator: World Bank	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief managing Director/Representative of a Public sector bank(e.g.SBI) • Chief Managing Director/Representative of a Foreign Bank (Citi) • Head of a Microfinance Institution /Representative, MFIN • Chief General Manager/Representative, Reserve Bank of India • Head/Representative of NABARD • Joint Secretary, NRLM • Impact Investing community representative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role that each of their communities can play in financing social programs such as Swachh Bharat • Operationalising Priority Sector Lending for Water and Sanitation • What support do they need from the government to lend more towards sanitation? Identify areas where capital allocators need additional clarity • Further refining financing mechanisms for sanitation: size the market
Lunch				
CSR for Swachh Bharat: redefining the role – through the lens of 'companies'	Panel discussion Moderator: Water.org	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative from FICCI Sanitation Coalition • Head NFCSR • Multinational: IKEA/PEPSICO etc • Indian corporate: Bharti/PSU –BPCL etc • 1 State government representative • 1 representative from MDWS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the critical gaps in funding that CSR can play a role in? • What role do corporates see themselves playing? • What support do they further need from state and central governments?
Workshop	Audience and	90	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions followed by presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each of the themes discussed earlier in the day



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	panelists breakout into smaller focus groups to discuss specific themes in detail		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderated by Albright Stonebridge Group 	<p>will be focused on in smaller groups through the lens of “execution”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear recommendations and expectations from the Ministry to be outlined at the end of the session
Tea/Coffee				
Sustaining Swachh Bharat: what all must be done to achieve universal sanitation and dignity?	Closing address	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoS, MDWS/Representative from the Ministry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations and expectations from workshop to be presented to the Ministry