

No. W-11042/16/2010-Water  
Government of India  
Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation

9th Floor ParyavaranBhavan,  
CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003  
Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2013

To

The Principal Secretary/Secretaries in-charge of  
Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation  
Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra,  
Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh.

**Subject: Convergence between National Drinking Water Security Pilot Project and  
Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan for achieving Nirmal villages in the Pilot Blocks.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is promoting the National Drinking Water Security Pilot Projects (NDWSSP) in 15 over-exploited Blocks in 10 States, including your State.

The NDWSSP aims at developing scalable models at the Block level in various hydro-geological zones of India for achieving drinking water security in rural areas. The methodology involves development of Village Level Water Security Plans with an emphasis on demand side management, through a community based participatory approach and getting the Plans implemented through convergence of various programmes.

Drinking water security is envisaged for the villages of the Pilot Block through the following approach:

- Measures for source sustainability through convergence with MNREGS, IWMP and other Watershed programmes and NRDWP
- Participatory integrated water resources management led by Gram Panchayats, including water budgeting, reducing over exploitation, etc.
- Addressing the issues of water quality in affected villages through the NRDWP.
- Addressing the issues of Sustainability of drinking water supply systems and service delivery by system and service improvement plans.
- Making all the villages / GPs in the Pilot Blocks **open defecation free** and ensuring proper solid and liquid waste management, in convergence with Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan.

Achieving total sanitation is an important milestone in achieving safe drinking water security for a village. Without achieving total sanitation in the villages, safe drinking water security is incomplete as the drinking water quality issues will either remain unresolved or may crop up in due course.

**You are therefore requested to target all the Pilot Block GPs to make them Open Defecation Free and "Nirmal" by the end of the pilot project period i.e. 30/09/2014. Please include them partly in the AIP for 2013-14 and the rest in the AIP for 2014-15.**

In States where NRDWP and NBA are managed by two different departments, please advise the District and Block level teams working on NBA to work in close collaboration with the team working on water security pilot project for the pilot Blocks. We have a Support Organization (NGO) engaged in each Pilot Block to support the Department in the implementation of NDWSPP and they have deployed a team of professionals to work on community mobilization and developing and implementing water security plans. **Please utilize them for promoting Open Defecation Free status through toilet construction and SLWM.**

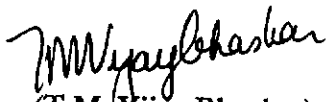
It is also requested that availability of funds should not be a constraint for the pilot project activities, by releasing requisite Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan funds, to the Pilot Blocks, Gram Panchayats, etc. The Water and Sanitation Program of the World Bank is providing technical support to the Pilot Blocks in the implementation of NDWSPP and **they are willing to provide training support for 'Swachata Doots' to adopt community led approaches in sanitation.**


A note prepared to guide on the convergence of NDWSPP and NBA in Pilot Blocks is attached herewith, along with the guidelines on engagement of Swachata Doot.

**We request you to give necessary instructions to the concerned officials of the 15 Pilot Blocks to ensure smooth convergence of the two programs.** This would be an excellent opportunity to work together and achieve good results on the ground for both water supply and sanitation.

Your personal attention will go a long way in making this important Pilot project a success.

Yours faithfully,

  
(T.M. Vijay Bhaskar)  
Joint Secretary (Water)

  
(Saraswati Prasad)  
Joint Secretary (Sanitation)

Encl:

1. Note on Convergence of NDWSPP and NBA.
2. Guidelines for engagement of Swachata Doot

✓ TD, NIC for hosting on web.

**NOTE ON CONVERGENCE WITH NIRMAL BHARAT ABHIYAN (NBA)  
FOR ACHIEVING NIRMAL VILLAGES  
IN THE NATIONAL DRINKING WATER SECURITY PILOT PROJECT (NDWSSP)**

**Background**

The National Drinking Water Security Pilot Project (NDWSSP) is being implemented by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MDWS) in 15 selected Blocks in 10 States. This Project is aimed at achieving drinking water security for the villages, using a convergent approach involving various sectors like water supply, sanitation, agriculture, irrigation, etc. In order to achieve drinking water security, elimination of open defecation and sustainable solutions for safe disposal of solid and liquid waste is essential, as drinking water sources often get polluted by poor sanitation in the villages. Hence it is decided to address the issue of open defecation and unsafe disposal of solid and liquid waste in the Drinking Water Security Pilot project.

The Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) being implemented across rural India by the MDWS is also aiming at elimination of open defecation and achieving sustainable solutions for solid and liquid waste management in the villages. Though both NDWSSP and NBA are programs of MDWS, in some States, these programs are being implemented by different departments. Hence it is felt necessary to develop guidelines for the effective convergence of these two programs in the 15 pilot blocks of the NDWSSP.

**Sanitation in NDWSSP**

Sanitation is one among the four major components of the NDWSSP and the implementing agency with the help of the Support Organization (SO), engaged under NDWSSP, is required to undertake the following activities for achieving Nirmal villages.

1. Baseline survey on sanitation coverage in each village/GP of the pilot Block, identifying households without access to toilets.
2. Using participatory tools like transect walks and focus group discussions identify issues of solid and liquid waste management (SLWM) in the villages.
3. Prepare an action plan for the entire Block to eliminate open defecation and ensure access to toilets for the entire people in the villages and also to find solutions for SLWM. Prepare this plan with the active involvement of the functionaries of NBA in the Block/District.
4. Prepare cost estimates for the Action Plan and submit to the administration responsible for NBA in the district. The cost estimates shall be as per NBA norms and the officer responsible for NBA is required to make available the required funds.
5. Identify and select a Team of SwatchathaDoot (Motivators) 30 – 40 persons, depending on the size of the Block) from within the Block who could be trained to work in assigned villages/GPs for triggering behavior change and provide follow-up support in the implementation of NBA. The Team shall be selected with the active involvement of the GP leadership and BRC.

6. Organize the five day training program for the selected SwatchathaDoot with the support of the Resource Agency provided by the Water and Sanitation Program (WSP) of the World Bank.
7. Undertake IEC programs in the village to generate awareness on safe sanitation and trigger behavior change, using the services of trained Swatchatha Doot and BRC.
8. Provide necessary follow-up and supervision support to the team of SwatchathaDoot and facilitate the flow of financial support to villages/ GPs from NBA for construction of toilets and SLWM programs. Facilitate payment of outcome based incentives to SwatchathaDoot as per NBA guidelines.

### Selection of Swatchatha Doot

The selection of Swatchatha Doot shall be done carefully so that the right people are identified and engaged. The following criteria shall be used to select them:

- The SwatchathaDoot shall be from the villages of the Pilot Block
- Persons with leadership qualities and good communication skills
- Minimum educational qualification shall be Class X pass.
- People who have worked/ associated with NGOs and organizations like Nehru Yuvak Kendra, MahilaSamakhya, NRHM shall be given preference.
- Those selected as SwatchathaDoot shall not be employed full time elsewhere as they are required to attend training programs and devote significant time in the follow-up work on NBA.
- Both men and women shall be engaged as SwatchathaDoot.
- It is better to group the SwatchathaDoot with one male and one female member to work jointly as a team in the GPs.
- The number of SwatchathaDoot for a Block shall be 30-40 depending on the number of villages/ GPs in the Block. It is estimated that on an average a team of two SwatchathaDoot can cover 5 GPs over a period of 6 months.

### Training of Swacchata Doot

The selected SwatchathaDoot shall be given intensive training in the use of participatory tools so as to equip them with necessary skills to mobilize communities and trigger behavior change in the villages. WSP shall provide support in the training of Swatchatha Doot by using the services of the resource agency hired for this purpose. The cost of the resource agency including their fee, travel, accommodation and food expenses will be paid by WSP. The training is residential and is for full five day period which includes two days of field work in selected villages where the trainees will practice use of triggering skills. The cost of organizing the training program which includes accommodation and food for participants, travel cost for field work, venue, stationery etc. is the responsibility of the Project. The IEC funds available under NBA shall be used for this purpose for which it is essential to prepare and get a budget approved from the concerned agency.

### Incentives to Swachhata Doot

The SwachhataDoot shall be given outcome based incentives for their work on NBA in the villages. The NBA guidelines permit payment of Rs. 75 per household for motivating households without toilets to construct toilets. This payment shall be made only after the villages achieving 100% open defecation free status. The amount payable shall be calculated by calculating the no. of households covered by this campaign in each village to achieve full coverage. The incentives to Swachhata Doot shall be paid from the IEC funds available for NBA.

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