INTEGRATED WOMEN SANITARY COMPLEXES (IWSC) IN TAMIL NADU

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ DEPARTMENT
Government of Tamil Nadu
INTEGRATED WOMEN SANITARY COMPLEXES (IWSC) IN TAMIL NADU

Introduction:

Absence of sanitation facilities is primarily due to poverty and cultural inhibitions, and they are to be overcome. It is of paramount importance to ensure privacy and safety of women besides improving general hygiene and health to rural people. Therefore, in 2001, the Government of Tamil Nadu decided to construct Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women in all the 12,618 Village Panchayats in the State, at a unit cost of Rs.2.25 lakhs. These Complexes were renovated during 2011-12 and additional facilities were created at a total cost of Rs.170 crores, entirely funded by the State Government.

Objectives of constructing IWSC

- To promote sanitation and hygienic practices among rural women and children.
- To facilitate bathing and washing clothes in a hygienic environment and prevent water pollution.
- To promote community ownership in maintenance of public assets.
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Facilities in IWSCs

- Sites which were easily accessible to rural women and nearer to the habitations were selected.
- Each Complex is built in an approximate area of 750 sq.ft, and has 8-14 water closets depending on the population of the Village and in addition, 2 bathrooms.
- One baby-friendly toilet and one western type water closet are provided in each Complex for the use of the aged, pregnant women, and physically challenged.
- Each Complex has a water tub and stone paved washing facility.
- Lighting facilities are provided to help use the toilet even during night time.
- Incinerators are provided for the safe disposal of soiled sanitary napkins.
Formation of User Groups

In order to ensure regular maintenance and usage of the Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women, User Groups have been formed from among the members of Women Self Help Groups and Hamlet Level Federations for all the renovated Complexes with the assistance of the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women.

Direct Maintenance:

The Village Panchayat ensures the availability of electricity connection in the Complex. The current consumption charges in respect of water supply and lighting is met out of the Village Panchayat General Fund. In order to ensure continuous functioning of the Complex, any minor repair/maintenance work like maintenance of pump sets and cleaning of septic tanks is to be attended to by the Village Panchayat and the expenditure is to be met out of the Village Panchayat General Fund.

User Groups follow up with the Village Panchayats so that the current consumption charges are regularly paid, septic tanks are cleaned at periodic intervals and minor repairs are attended to then and there by the Village Panchayat concerned.
Maintenance of Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women

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Day to Day Maintenance through User Groups

The day to day maintenance of the Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women is undertaken by the User Groups through a nominal contribution from by the user members. This kind of a shift in the maintenance of Complexes through user groups has created a perception of ownership among members and has facilitated sustaining of the usage.
Maintaining Gardens using waste water from IWSCs

- Any vacant site surrounding IWSC is utilized for growing vegetables.
- Waste water from the IWSC is used to irrigate this garden.
- A garden nearby will keep the environment neat and clean without stagnation of water around the IWSC.
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**Plan-I**

**Plan-II**

**INTEGRATED SANITARY COMPLEX FOR WOMEN**

**SECTION 'AA'**

1. PLINTH AREA : 56.78 Sq.M (611 Sq.Ft.)
2. OPEN TO SKY : 29.74 Sq.M (320 Sq.Ft.)
3. BATH ROOMS (1.00 X 1.30m) : 3Nos.
4. WATER CLOSETS : 10Nos.
5. PUMP ROOM (1.00 X 1.10m) : 1No.

**SCHEDULE OF JOINERY**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>D</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>0.60</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>MAIN DOOR</td>
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**NOTE:**

- The drawings and designs are subject to further modifications based on site conditions and local regulations.
- All dimensions are approximate and should be verified with local authorities.

**DIRECTORATE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**INTEGRATED SANITARY COMPLEX FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN**
Constitution of Monitoring Committees

To monitor the maintenance of the Integrated Sanitary Complex for Women, the District Collectors have constituted District Level and Block Level Monitoring Committees. The above Committees deliberate on the following and take necessary follow up action:

- Functioning status of each and every Integrated Sanitary Complexes for Women
- Maintenance of the Complexes by User Groups
- Periodic maintenance by Village Panchayats
- Feedback given by the User Groups
- Feedback on inspections made by the members of the Committee / Zonal Officers.

The User Groups have been trained on the use and maintenance of the Complexes. A Booklet on the use and maintenance of Integrated Sanitary Complex for Women has been prepared and distributed to all the User Groups as a Ready Reckoner.