

श्री. राधा आई.ए.एस.
संयुक्त सचिव
V. Radha, I.A.S.
Joint Secretary



भारत सरकार
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता मंत्रालय
Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

D.O. No. W-11044/1/2018-Water
New Delhi, the 20th July, 2018.

Dear Madam/Sir,

As you are aware, the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation launched *Swajal* – a community based demand driven pilot project in six States namely Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh in February, 2018. The Ministry has extended it to all Aspirational Districts and would be implemented now as a single village, solar powered, mini Piped Water Supply programme in the “safe blocks” in these districts identified by Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of WR, RD&GR..

In the Meeting on “Review and Reform of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP)” held on 14th June 2018 at New Delhi with the States Ministers in Charge of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, a presentation on *Swajal* was made highlighting the key contours of the programme. A copy of brochure released on the occasion is enclosed for ready reference.

The Ministry along with NITI Aayog would be driving the implementation of *Swajal* in the aspirational districts of your State. Nation-wide, it is proposed to take up *Swajal* for implementation in 1000 Gram Panchayats/Villages by December 2018. This would imply implementing about 10 schemes in each of the aspirational district in your State.

The funds for the programme can be accessed from the “Flexi Fund” component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme. Out of the 25% of funds available under the Flexi-fund component, 40% (20% Central share and 20% State share) can be accessed for *Swajal* schemes. The Ministry would be organizing a meeting of State Pr.Secretaries/Secretaries of Rural Water Supply/Public Health Engineering Department on *Swajal*, tentatively scheduled in the first week of August 2018.

Considering the tight time line to roll out *Swajal*, I request you to kindly communicate about the programme details to your Department and the District Collectors of the Aspirational Districts in your State. Also, field officers in the Aspirational Districts may be requested to identify the prospective Gram Panchayats where the scheme can be taken up immediately in consultation with the District Collector/Magistrate. A State Coordinator and a District Nodal Officer from your Department for *Swajal project* may kindly be nominated for each aspirational district of your State and their contact details may be sent to the Ministry by email to radhav@ias.nic.in.

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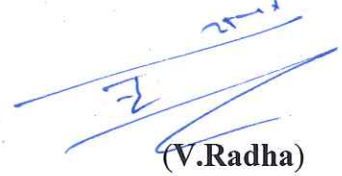
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I am also endorsing a copy of this D.O. letter to the District Collectors/ Magistrates in-charge of Aspirational Districts so that preliminary works to identify the prospective Gram Panchayats can commence expeditiously.

With your kind cooperation, I look forward to the successful implementation of *Swajal project* activities in your State.

Yours sincerely,

Encl.: As above



(V.Radha)

To

The Principal Secretary/Secretary,
Incharge of Rural Water Supply/Public Health Engineering Department
All States/UTs

Copy along with copy of enclosures forwarded in advance to: All the District Collectors/Magistrates of Aspirational Districts in the States.



MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER
AND SANITATION
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



National Rural
Drinking Water
Programme



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर



Community Led Approach to Drinking Water

One step at a time

Swajal

A Community-based Piped Water Supply Scheme
by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

Swajal is a community-designed, implemented, maintained and safely-managed Piped Water Supply (PWS) Scheme. Implemented under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), this community-centric scheme envisages sustainable access to drinking water for the people throughout rural India.



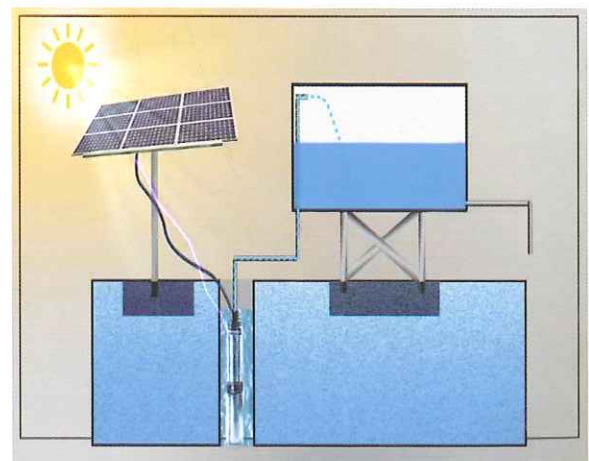
The Swajal Scheme was launched by the Union Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Sushree Uma Bharti in February 2018 and pilot schemes have been initiated in six states- Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Key Contours of Swajal Scheme

Swajal is a mini-PWS scheme involving low capital and operational cost. It is designed as a single-village, solar based initiative that is locally-funded and managed.

Major Components

- Construction of borewell or any other suitable source
- Installation of pump of required capacity
- Installation of solar panel for power
- A storage structure with required head
- 3 to 4 stand posts within the village / habitation
- A soak pit



Community Participation is the Basic Foundation

The scheme is envisioned to be planned, designed and implemented by the community, supported by Gram Panchayats in consultation with the State Rural Water Supply Department / Agency.

Gram Panchayats will be responsible for :

- Providing their share of capital contribution and annual Operation and Maintenance (O&M) cost (50%) from their own sources
- Collecting community share of annual O&M cost (50%)
- Including the asset in the Gram Panchayat Asset Register and maintaining it
- Appointing a dedicated worker at the Gram Panchayat level to take care of the day-to-day operations of the scheme

The Gram Panchayats, out of their own funds, may extend the PWS network for household connections within the habitation. The State Government would be required to provide technical support to Gram Panchayats, through empanelled and dedicated agencies.

Raising Awareness and Connecting Communities

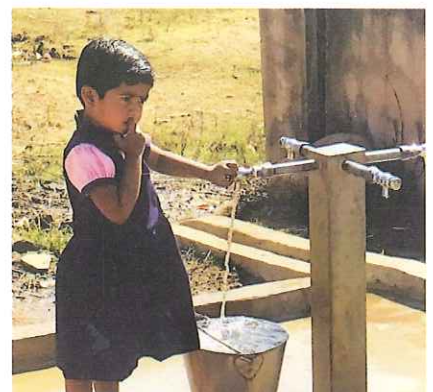
An extensive communication campaign to create awareness on project principles, objectives, scope, implementation approach, roles and responsibilities of project partners will be undertaken through workshops at State / District / Block levels, roadshows, wall writings, slogans and such other activities. The campaign will focus in ensuring community involvement, social audit, credit requirement and meeting the O&M cost. A convergent approach involving different agencies working at the grassroots will be ensured to integrate various rural development schemes like MGNREGA, NRHM, IWMP and Atal Bhujal Yojana as applicable.

Building Capacities

Capacity building of stakeholders at various levels will be undertaken with reputed institutions in various States, NGOs and Key Resource Centres (KRCs). Twinning training schemes will be organized through inter-state learning. Skill development of barefoot, dedicated GP workers will be provided by the empanelled State-level dedicated agency with curriculum accredited by the National Skill Development Corporation.

Scheme Sustainability

Sustainability of the scheme will be ensured by creating an O&M pool fund through an upfront contribution by the communities and Gram Panchayats. Capacity building of communities to manage the O&M will be undertaken with the support of technical agencies.



Financial Allocation

States will spend a total of 10% (5% from the Centre and 5% from the State) out of the 25% of funds available as "Flexi-funds" under NRDWP. This will be ₹700 crore for the year 2018-19 for 115 Aspirational Districts. The cost of the scheme is estimated to be between ₹10 to 50 lakhs.

Funding Pattern

NE and Himalayan States	81:9:10 (Centre:State:GP)
Other States	45:45:10 (Centre:State:GP)

Expansion to Aspirational Districts

Swajal will be taken up in all the 115 Aspirational Districts in 28 States identified by NITI Aayog. These districts have only 25% Piped Water Supply (PWS) against the national average of 57%, thus presenting significant scope for expansion of Swajal Scheme.

The scheme will be implemented in the villages that are (i) located in the safe blocks identified by Central Ground Water Board (ii) preferably in Open Defecation Free (ODF) villages and (iii) not having any PWS scheme.

Open Defecation Free (ODF) Sustainability and Swajal Scheme

A significant number of Villages / Blocks in the Aspirational Districts have been declared as Open Defecation Free (ODF). Many of them are in the pipeline to be declared as ODF. Swajal would ensure their ODF sustainability by providing piped water supply at low capital and maintenance costs.



Each Gram Panchayat is expected to complete the scheme within six months to one year, depending upon the topography.