

# Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

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## PRESS RELEASE

The National Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Awareness Week has started across the country from today i.e. 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 and will conclude at Kohima (Nagaland) on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015 commemorating the celebration of World Water Day. During this week long campaign, there will be an extensive awareness drive on construction and use of household toilets, keeping the villages clean, safe handling and use of drinking water, awareness of quality of drinking water, water conservation, community managed water supply systems in rural areas involving grassroot level institutions like Village Water and Sanitation Committees, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Angwanwadi, ASHA Workers, schools teachers, Women Self Help Groups, Youth Clubs etc.

2. The inaugural function was launched by Shri Birender Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water & Sanitation, Government of India in the presence of Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation, GoI and Rao Narbir Singh, Hon'ble Minister, Public Health Engineering and Public Works Department, Govt. of Haryana today at Village Kankrola-Bhanglora, District Gurgaon (Haryana). About five thousand people attended this function. Hon'ble Minister laid stress on building and use of toilets. Other speakers also emphasized on sanitation and judicious use of water. Senior officers of the Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation were also present on this occasion. On this occasion, ten Swachhata Raths were dispatched to different parts of the *district/state* to create awareness among the rural masses. This programme is

being carried out across the country in all panchayats involving Ministries of Rural Development, Health & Family Welfare, Panchayati Raj, Women and Child Development etc.