

## TOTAL SANITATION CAMPAIGN IN HARYANA

One of the States that has shown commendable achievement in upscaling the impact of the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) is the Northern State of Haryana. Initially launched in 2 districts of Haryana i.e. Karnal & Yamuna Nagar (2000--01) all the districts were brought under the TSC programme by 2003-04. The programme is being implemented at the district level through the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA).

The State shifted their implementation strategy from a conventional top-down, construction based approach of awareness generation on sanitation through involvement of NGOs to direct and active involvement of village communities through Panchayati Raj Institutions, Women groups, Anganwadi Workers, Self-Help Groups, facilitators, motivators and school children focusing on behavior change communication. The goal was to make Haryana as a State with maximum number of Open defecation Free Total Sanitation Villages with universal access to sanitation for all families (BPL and APL). To ensure the sustainability of the Campaign the main emphasis was on Capacity building for all stakeholders at State, District and Village levels and behavioral change through innovative Community Led Total Sanitation approach. The unique feature of their strategy was the building of a cadre of District level champions (Swacchta Sainiks). The other IEC activities undertaken by the State include joint exposure visits to model sanitation project sites, Swacchta Week (Cleanliness Week)" celebration in coordination with other Departments like Health, Women and Child Development, Education, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Swacchta Yatra (Clean Rallies) through school children, and advocacy through print and electronic media. An effective Alternative delivery mechanism for supply of sanitation facilities is being managed by Panchayats or Blocks.

The rewards of the innovative demand driven and community led approach of TSC that Haryana has implemented is being reflected in the phenomenal and rapid increase in sanitation coverage from a mere 28.66% in 2001 to over 98.79 % in the current year. Further 798 Gram Panchayats and 1 Block have become Open defecation free and have been rewarded the prestigious Nirmal Gram Puskar last year and 250 NGP have been recommended during 2009.

Dynamic leadership to give a boost to the Sanitation Agenda at all levels from the highest office of the Hon'ble Chief Minister and State level officials to the grassroots level of District and village champions, Transparent and concurrent monitoring of the programme through a mission mode and the tremendous zeal among Sarpanches as community leaders and communities are some of the key factors for this miraculous performance in making an Open Defecation Free Haryana