

No. S-18020/51/2020-SBM-DDWS
भारत सरकार/Government of India
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय/Ministry of Jal Shakti
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग/Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation
स्वच्छ भारत मिशन (ग्रामीण) /Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)
4th Floor, Pt. Deendayal 'Antyodaya Bhawan'
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi-110 003
Dated: 08.09.2020

To

Addl. Chief Secretaries/ Pr. Secretaries/ Secretaries,
In-charge of rural sanitation,
All States/UTs

Sub: Advisory for ensuring Open Defecation Free (ODF) sustainability under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)

Madam/Sir,

As an outcome under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) [SBM(G)], all the villages and districts in all the States/UTs had declared themselves Open Defecation Free (ODF) as on 2nd October, 2020. But as declaring one time ODF status will not provide the desired benefits of ODF to the community without its sustainability, Phase-II of SBM(G) has been launched with the focus on making all the villages ODF Plus i.e. ensuring sustainability of ODF status and to cover them with Solid and Liquid Waste Management arrangements.

2. For ensuring sustainability of ODF status of villages, this Department has time and again emphasized on the importance of continuous engagement with the villages/communities to ensure that no one is left behind in having access to a functional toilet and that all the rural population are using the toilets regularly.


3. As communicated in earlier advisories, awareness generation and behaviour change activities are required to be continued in all the ODF villages for ensuring continuous usage and proper maintenance of the toilets. Use of safe, eco-friendly and easy to maintain toilet technology is another important aspect for ensuring long term sustainability of the toilets constructed under the programme. Under SBM(G), construction of twin leach pit toilets has been promoted, which are safe, sustainable and useful for most of the parts of the country. The States/UTs have also been advised to ensure quality of construction of toilets and to retrofit the toilets, wherever required, to ensure that they remain functional. Recently issued SBM(G) Phase-II guidelines also provide for the required activities for ensuring ODF sustainability. A detailed advisory on planning and implementation of ODF sustainability issued by this Department on 27.05.2019 is again **enclosed**.

4. On this issue, this Department has received a Notice from National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) dated 17.08.2020 (copy **enclosed**) in Case No.14920/24/46/2020/OC citing a news report titled '13 year old Dalit gang-raped; 2 held' published in Times of India on 17th Aug, 2020 edition wherein it is stated that a 13 year old girl belonging to Scheduled Caste was gang raped and killed when she had gone to relieve herself as the toilet in her house was not functional. The Commission has advised this Department to issue an advisory to the

States/UTs to ensure that toilets are not only build but also used so as to make the country clean and to save women from such heinous crime.

5. In view of this, though this Department has already issued the necessary guidelines/advisories in this regard, all the States/UTs are again requested to ensure that all the rural households always have access to safe functional toilets facilities and use them regularly so that sustainability of ODF status as well as safety and dignity of women are maintained.

Yours faithfully,



Encl. As above

(Arun Baroka)
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Copy to:-

1. The Mission Director /State Coordinator, All States/UTs