

No. S- 11018/1/2017-SBM
Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

4th Floor, Pt. Deendayal 'Antyodaya Bhavan'
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi 110003

Dated: 29.08.2018

To

The Addl. Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries
In Charge of Rural Sanitation
All States/ UTs

Subject: Ensuring construction of toilets with appropriate technology for preventing ground water contamination under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin.

Madam/Sir,

As you are aware, Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) emphasizes on the use of safe and eco-friendly sanitation technology in order to ensure sustainable use of the toilets constructed, safe disposal of excreta and avoiding contamination of ground water. The preferred technology promoted by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is the twin pit toilet technology, which is environmentally safe and causes no groundwater contamination, if constructed properly as per prescribed specifications. The toilets are easy to construct, operate and maintain.

The following steps therefore must be taken to ensure the use of appropriate technology during construction:

1. IHHL beneficiary and masons must be made aware of the correct design parameters, especially the linkage between a poorly constructed toilet and groundwater quality.
 2. It is suggested that States further increase their efforts on creating awareness on construction of safe sanitation services using mass media and IPC activities.
 3. States may also re-train their masons to ensure the construction design is safe and as per the detailed technical manual on safe sanitation systems for rural areas issued by this Ministry.
 4. Regular field monitoring and visits by senior officials to check on use of appropriate technology is also advised. The Ministry would henceforth seek a status update on this issue on a biannual basis.
2. We look forward to your renewed efforts on promoting safe and sustainable sanitation services.

Yours faithfully,



(Arun Baroka)

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