

No. S-11011/3/2015-SBM-Part (1)
Government of India
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

4th Floor, Pt. Deendayal 'Antyodaya Bhawan'
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi-110 003
Dated 07.09.2018

To
The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary,
In-charge of rural sanitation,
All State/UTs

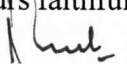
Subject: - Ensuring the quality of ODF declaration and verification of the villages under
SBM (G) – reg.

Madam/Sir,

This is to alert you about the reporting of negative media coverage on quality of ODF declaration of villages and its verification from some States. This Ministry has already laid out a detailed protocol for declaration and verification of ODF villages. The protocol ensures objectivity, transparency and full coverage of households for declaration of a village as ODF and also ensuring its sustainability. A village should be declared open defecation free through a transparent process, only when all the households in the village have access to toilet and use them and all the schools and Anganwadis in the village also have access to -toilet and in use. The verification exercise is to be undertaken after the declaration of a village as ODF by the Gram Sabha.

2. In light of the above, the States are advised to review their existing ODF declarations and verification arrangements and ensure that declaration of a village as open defecation free and verification of the claimed ODF status is undertaken as per the prescribed protocol and is not questioned. Periodic review of the quality of ODF declaration and verification process adopted and in practice should be undertaken by the State level Officials and guidance, if needed, be provided.

3. We look forward to your personal supervision on improving the quality of declaration and verification of ODF villages.

Yours faithfully,


(Arun Baroka)
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Copy to:

1. Mission Director, SBM-G, All States and UTs