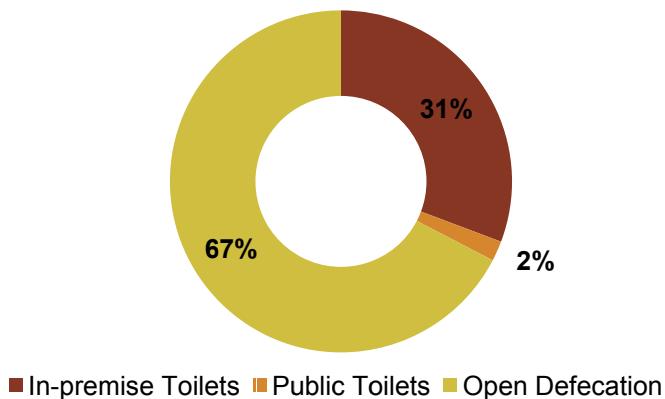


Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

On 2nd October 2014, the Prime Minister launched the Swachh Bharat Mission comprising of two components: Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural/Gramin) and Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban). The goal of the Swachh Bharat Gramin is to **improve the overall level of cleanliness in rural areas by eliminating open defecation, providing access to toilets to all households, and ensuring cleanliness through waste management activities**. The mission aims to achieve an open defecation free India by 2019. Though the activities of government under the mission include mass participation in cleaning public spaces and overall improvement in hygiene, the scheme primarily deals with access to improved sanitation.

Access to Toilets in Rural India



Over 11.3 Crore rural households defecate in open everyday

Only 32 lakh households in rural India have access to community toilets in the vicinity of their houses

Over 10.6 Crore households in rural India have no facility for waste water drainage

Sanitation Situation in Rural India

Indian government defines access to improved sanitation as facilities that ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact including flush or pour-flush toilet/latrine connected to a piped sewer system, septic tank, ventilated pit or composting pit, without a need to engage in open defecation. According to the Census 2011 data, around **67% of the rural households defecated in open** due to lack of access to individual or public toilets. Only 1.9% of the rural population had access to community toilets for daily use. 63% of the rural households did not have any access to waste water drainage. The lack of access to sanitation facilities combined with lack of drainage and waste disposal has resulted **increased exposure to water-borne and vector-borne diseases in rural India**.

Rural Sanitation Schemes in the Past

Rural sanitation has been identified as a national priority by previous governments. In 1986, the **Central Rural Sanitation Programme** (CRSP) was started to improve the quality of life of the rural residents and to ensure privacy and dignity to women through use of toilets. In 1999, the **Total Sanitation Campaign** (TSC) sought to generate a demand for toilets among the rural citizens by increasing awareness about sanitation and providing residents with financial incentive to construct and use toilets.

The TSC programme was converted to the **Nirmal Bharat Abhiyaan** (NBA) in 2012. The NBA adopted a saturation based approach where the goal was to ensure that all the houses in the selected Gram Panchayats (GP) have toilets for 100% coverage. NBA further enhanced the financial incentives for construction of toilets and enabled convergence of toilet building with MGNREGA scheme to leverage focused funding.

Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

In order to accelerate the sanitation coverage in rural India, the **SBA(G) was launched on 2nd October 2015** by the Government of India. The new centrally sponsored scheme, replaced the NBA. The stated objectives of the SBA scheme are:

1. Improvement in the general quality of life in the rural areas, by promoting cleanliness, hygiene and eliminating open defecation
2. Accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas to achieve the vision of open defecation and manual scavenging free India by 2nd October 2019
3. Motivate communities and panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) to adopt sustainable sanitation practices and facilities through awareness creation and health education
4. Encourage cost effective and appropriate technologies for ecologically safe and sustainable sanitation
5. Develop community managed sanitation systems focusing on scientific solid & liquid Waste Management systems for overall cleanliness in the rural areas as required

The mission aims to provide a wide range of mechanisms to be flexibly used by the state governments who will be the prime drivers of the mission. The tools suggested are:

1. **Community led and saturation based approach** where awareness created in the community about sanitation facilities leads to behavioural changes and results in the demand for toilets.
2. Leveraging existing ground-level employees and community workers from different schemes of the government to be "**Swachhata Doots**" to continuously support and sustain the construction and use of toilets
3. Provision of financial **incentives for construction of individual house-hold toilets** as required to ensure saturated community coverage
4. **Engagement of local level groups and civil society organizations in mobilization**, IEC activities, implementation and monitoring
5. **Provision of adequate water supply** for sanitation and provision of toilet facilities in schools and anganwaadis
6. Range of technology options for **construction of toilets** to suit local needs and user preferences
7. **Monitoring mechanism** at the village level to ensure sustained usage

Initial Phase of Implementation

A baseline survey will be conducted at the beginning of the mission to assess sanitation situation and hygiene practices. Based on this data, a district and state plan will be prepared. Extensive **IEC activities and person-to-person communication** will be undertaken through Swachhata Doots, members of the PRIs and CSOs by targeting complete communities to enable behavioral changes and demand generation for hygienic sanitation practices. The IEC activities must be inclusive to enable behavioural changes in each and every member of the community. IEC activities must also include special awareness for girls and women regarding menstrual hygiene practices.

Construction of Individual Household Latrines

The goal of the scheme is to provide access to sanitary latrines for each and every household. A financial incentive of up to Rs.12000 will be available for construction of toilets to all BPL families and APL families which are SC/ST, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers, physically handicapped or have a female head of household. The APL households will be encouraged to construct toilets in the house and may be provided financial assistance as loan from the district-level revolving fund to be set up for this purpose, through SHGs. The toilets constructed under the scheme should meet the standards as specified.

- The toilet should include a sanitary substructure where the human feaces are safely confined and does not require human handling before decomposition.
- The toilet should have a superstructure
- The super structure of the toilet must be acceptable to the beneficiary
- The toilet should have provision for adequate water and handwash unit
- The toilet should not be over designed or over constructed

The construction of the toilets should be taken up by the beneficiaries themselves with support from the Gram Panchayats. The incentive can be provided in cash or in form of the construction material. The provision of sanitary material can also be ensured through Rural Sanitary Marts, Production Centers and Self Help Groups. The sourcing agencies for the sanitary material can be established by SHGs, NGOs and Panchayats. **An interest free loan of Rs.5,00,000 can be made available through the district revolving fund** for the same.

Community Sanitary Complexes

In case of lack of space for household toilets, community sanitary complexes comprising an appropriate number of toilet seats, bathing cubicles, washing platforms, wash basins can be set up in a place in the village acceptable and accessible to all. The maintenance of such complexes must be taken up by GPs. User families, in case of complexes specifically meant for households, may be asked to contribute a reasonable monthly user charge for cleaning & maintenance. For complexes in places of community congregation, pay and use model may be encouraged. **The maximum support per unit prescribed for a Community Sanitary Complex is Rs.2,00,000.** Sharing pattern amongst Central Government, State Government and the Community will be in the ratio of 60:30:10. The Community contribution, however, can be made by the GP out of its own resources.

Solid and Liquid Waste Management

On demand from the Gram Panchayat, a solid-liquid waste project will be taken up on a project-basis. All Gram Pachayats will be targeted for a SLW project. The financial assistance provided will be shared in 75:25 ratio between the centre and state government and will be capped for the Gram Panchayat based on the number of households in the panchayat. Additional resources can be raised by the GP or the state government through other possible avenues.

Cap on Assistance	Households in GP
Rs.7 lakh	Up to 150 households
Rs.12 lakh	Up to 300 households
Rs.15 lakh	Up to 500 households
Rs.20 lakh	More than 500 households

States will identify suitable technologies for Solid and Liquid Waste Management Project (SLWP). The activities permitted under the SLWP assistance will be:

1. Collection, segregation and safe disposal of household garbage
2. Decentralised systems like household composting and biogas plants, preferably activities with maximum reuse of organic solid wastes as manure
3. Safe disposal solutions for menstrual waste (used sanitary cloths and pads)
4. Setting up incinerators in schools, women's community sanitary complexes, primary health centre etc.
5. Technologies should be socially acceptable and environmentally safe
6. Management of liquid wastes may focus on maximum reuse of such waste for agriculture purposes
7. Low cost drainage/ small bore system and soakage pit may be adopted

8. Treatment of waste water including waste stabilization ponds (WSPs), duckweed based waste water treatment, phyto roid technology, anaerobic decentralized waste water treatment

Implementation and Monitoring

At the national level, a **national scheme sanctioning committee**, chaired by the Secretary (Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation) ,will be formed to sanction the project implementation plan (PIP) for the states and the districts and the annual implementation plan (AIP) as received from the states/UTs. A **SBM (G) mission office** will be established at the MoDWS with a mission director and will have resources for monitoring and evaluation of the implementation, national level communication activities and a national resource centre for technical assistance.

On the state level, the **State Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)** will be formed as a registered society under the implementing department of the state with representatives from the relevant state departments, civil society and technical experts. The SSBM(G) directorate will be responsible for facilitating convergence between departments, preparation and consolidation of the AIPs for the districts and the state and receiving and disbursal of grants for the mission from the Centre. A **state sanctioning committee** shall be formed and will be responsible for sanctioning of the annual plans. Similar, mission offices will be formed on the district and block levels to manage the implementation of the programme. The mission envisages vigorous participation from the village level water and sanitation committees and PRIs to ensure proper implementation and monitoring, triggering of demand, identification of beneficiaries and sustainable use of the IHHTs. The mission also provides for the involvement of CSR foundations and corporate entities in technology development, IEC activities and direct incentivization of sanitary habits.

The mission will be monitored through **annual monitoring surveys conducted by a third-party to assess the sanitation situation and concurrent monitoring through the use of Information and Communication technology** to ensure proper implementation and sustainability. The online Management Information System (MIS) will be used to periodically monitor the physicaland financial progress of the mission.

Research in Sanitation Technology

Funding will be made available to institutes and NGOs for researching **improved, low-cost and sustainable technology for toilets and solid/liquid waste management**. The technology will be evaluated by a committee in the MoDWS and the list of technology options available under the mission will be periodically reviewed and updated to accommodate new research. States can also take up research at their level.

Conclusion

With broader targeting to trigger demand and a saturation approach to make communities open defecation free, the Swachh Bharat Mission also provides increased flexibility to the state to decide on locally available and acceptable sanitation solutions. This, combined with the community level sustainability mechanisms and sustained focus, can help ensure an open defecation free India by 2019.