

SANI NEWS

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A PROGRAMME OF WSSCC

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BAJURA & ARGHAKHANCHI BECOME THE 16TH AND 17TH ODF DISTRICTS IN NEPAL



Deputy Prime Minister at ODF Declaration in Arghakhachi



Former Minister Karna B. Thapa at ODF Declaration in Bajura

The month of November brought some good news for the Global Sanitation Fund Programme in Nepal as Bajura became the second GSF supported district to become open defecation free (ODF) on November 28 2014 and the following day on November 29 2014, Arghakhanchi became the third GSF supported district to become ODF. With these, three of the six districts where GSF initially provided its support has become ODF and the remaining three are also moving ahead quickly. Sindhupalchowk has set the target date of 15 March 2015 to become an ODF district.

With support from GSF and other partners, Bajura district with 24,888 households (2011) went from 10.56% toilet coverage to 100% in a short span of two and a half years time to become the 16th ODF district in the country. In

2010, the district was ranked last among the 75 districts of Nepal in terms of sanitation coverage and it is still ranked 75th in terms of Human Development Index. This indicates that even poor and remote communities are actively participating in the country's sanitation movement and they can build and use their toilets without subsidy.

Inaugurating Bajura's ODF declaration programme, UML central leader and former industry Minister Karna Bahadur Thapa praised Bajura for its progress in sanitation. District Engineer Rameshwor Ghimire said that although Bajura was considered to be on the bottom of Human Development Index, the district had climbed to 16th position in terms of sanitation. Over 5000 people attend the ODF ceremony celebrations.

Arghakhanchi district became the 17th

ODF district in Nepal. Arghakhanchi was unique as it declared ODF and 100% immunized district on the same day thus integrating sanitation and health. Before GSF intervened in the district the sanitation coverage of the district, with 46,826 households was only 36%. Within a short span of two and half years the district managed to get 100% sanitation coverage.

Inaugurating Arghakhanchi's ODF declaration Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Federal Affairs and Local Development Mr Prakash Man Singh praised Arghakhanchi for declaring both ODF and total immunization together which are the important indicators of health and hygiene. Arghakhanchi's District WASH Coordination Committee also unveiled its Post-ODF strategy on the occasion.

GSF PROGRESS UP TO DECEMBER 2014

Parameters	Total Achievements	GSF-Phase 1		GSF Phase 2	
		Achievements	GSF Targets by 2015	Achievements	GSF Targets by 2017
People living in ODF environments	1,032,023	1,021,661	1,863,933	10,362	1,900,000
Access to improve sanitation facilities	830,219	759,559	983,211	72,575	2,100,000
People living in target areas	3,741,883	1,863,933	1,863,933	1,877,950	5,590,702
VDCs declared ODF	146	144	205	2	300

GSF INTRODUCTION

GSF is a pooled global fund to boost expenditure on sanitation services and adopt good hygiene practices. It is estimated that 2.6 billion people, about 40% of the world's population, do not have access to basic sanitation. The GSF offers an efficient and cost effective opportunity for contributors to help the world's poorest people address this most basic everyday need. The GSF is a programme of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) and was launched in 2008.



GSF in Nepal started from 2010 for five years with the commitment to support the government for operationalization of Sanitation and Hygiene Master Plan 2011. The successful ongoing implementation of GSF Programme in Nepal in Six districts (Bajura, Bardiya, Arghakhanchi, Sindhupalchowk, Sunsari and Bhaktapur) and six municipalities (Madhyapur Thimi, Gulariya, Tikapur, Bhaktapur, Ithari and Inaruwa) in five developmental regions, has led towards expansion of the programme in 8 Terai districts (Parsa, Bara, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Siraha and Saptari) and 1 mountain district Dolakha covering the timeframe upto 2017. The major components of GSF programme are

- Consensus Building
- Sector Coordination and Planning
- Capacity Building
- ODF Campaign
- Sanitation Marketing
- Monitoring
- Knowledge Management

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EDITORIAL

The declaration of Bajura and Arghakhanchi as the 16th and 17th Open Defecation Free (ODF) districts in the country was a major milestone for the GSF Programme in Nepal as it meant that half of the original six GSF supported districts are now ODF (Bhaktapur was declared ODF on the occasion of 5th SACOSAN in November 2013). As ODF declarations in the remaining districts (Bardiya, Sindhupalchowk and Sunsari) are also in the pipelines, the focus of GSF Programme in Nepal has now shifted to the Terai, where GSF is supporting the sanitation campaign in 8 priority districts where the sanitation coverage is less than half of the national average.

The Terai Sanitation Campaign is starting to pick up speed as all GSF partners as well as other stakeholders are intensifying their efforts. Although number of ODF declared Village Development Committees (VDCs) is still low, the environment for a sanitation movement is being created with workshops, training and field level triggering. It is anticipated that within the next few months, the number of toilets and number of people living in ODF communities will increase substantially in these districts.

As we complete the 4th year of GSF in Nepal, we found that we have been working more efficiently than originally planned and will end up saving about USD 1.4 million of the original USD 5 million budget while achieving all the targeted results. GSF Programme will use this saving to support ODF campaigns in additional districts and also support post ODF campaigns in the six original GSF districts to improve sustainability of the sanitation movements in these districts.

GSF Family in Nepal wishes you a very Happy and Productive 2015.

Bhushan Tuladhar

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SANITATION CHAMPION IN ACTION: RAMJI THAPA



In this issue of SANI-NEWS, we salute the effort of Mr Ramji Thapa of Syaule-9 VDC of Sindhupalchowk for his leadership in the Open Defecation Free Campaign (ODF). Mr. Thapa has been serving as a Village Development Committee (VDC) Secretary since 2012. He has been actively involved in the ODF campaign and out of the 52 VDCs that have been declared ODF in Sindhupalchowk, 3 VDCs have been declared due to the effort of Mr. Thapa. He is the only VDC secretary who has managed to declare three VDCs of the district ODF.

Mr Thapa believes that this ODF campaign is one of most important campaigns in the district. This is because it directly affects the health of the people and with this campaign various disease that is caused due to open

defecation can be eliminated. "This campaign gives positive impact to the lives of people and the results are also seen very quickly" he said. He also has experience of working in 6 VDCs at one time and is one of the very hardworking VDC secretary in the district. "I am very proud to be a part of the ODF campaign which is now running all over the country" he added. He is very good at motivating people in constructing toilet and if required he even digs the hole for the toilet construction himself.

In Sindhupalchowk district he has now become a good example among the VDC secretaries. He motivates other VDC secretaries to be the part of this important sanitation campaign.

TOILET IN FREE BONDED LABORER COLONY



Bardiya. Asmita B.K, 34, lives in Bardiya district Deudakala-8, Bangaudi Tole, with her 5 member family. She has been living in Mukta Kamaiya (Freed Bonded Labor) colony for 9 years. Like other women in the community, she has been facing problems every day because of lack of toilet and they all go in nearby jungle for defecation.

Most of the households in the area don't have legal land. When local government announced to provide legal paper all households went to their respective VDC office to submit the application.

At the same time, local government announced to give priority to the households (HHs) having toilet. It was really a huge incentive to support the ongoing sanitation campaign in the district. Such decision by the VDC was very effective to improve the sanitation status of the community and declare the VDC open defecation free area as well.

All households in the community, including Ambika BK started to build safe latrine in expectation of legal land. "I am building this toilet by myself with the help of neighbours because most of masons are quite busy in constructing other toilets. Although I am expecting a legal land after construction of this toilet, this toilet will also keep us healthy" she said. "We use to defecate in open places and we had lots of problems especially the security problem but now after this we will be safe" she added

After this campaign of VDC many toilets have been built in the community. Within few days, the trend of open defecation will be stopped and people will start to use safe latrines.

According to her, it took about two weeks to construct an improved toilet with attached bathroom and she says that now she is quite happy that her grown up children does need to go to open space for defecating. Although she has some loan for repayment she is not worried and says that my investment has become fruitful. Now she has become a good example to triggers in the VDC.

TRIGGER'S EFFECT IN PARSA



Paanmati Lama is a 50 year old widow with one daughter and two sons living in Biruwagutthi - 1 VDC, Jhabraha tole. By profession she is a tobacco farmer. She actively participated in the orientation of V-WASH-CC Biruwagutthi and got chance to know different aspects and benefits of toilet. After that she was very much interested to construct a toilet at her place. But the commitment further grew when a trigger visited her home and explained how she has been eating shit through the flies and with toilet she can reduce diseases that are caused by those flies.

She immediately started constructing a complete toilet with septic tank. She initially took loan from her relative and started to construct a toilet with attached bathroom

ODF COUNTDOWN IN BARDIYA



The sanitation campaign in Bardiya is heating up after the D-WASH-CC decided that the District will be declared ODF on the occasion of Nepali New Year on 14 April 2015.

TOILET INSTEAD OF A GOAT



Sindhupalchowk, Sita Ram Nepal and his wife, residents of Pariyar tole of Mansewara VDC have set an example in the VDC by selling the only goat he owned to construct toilet. Both husband and wife are physically challenged as they are unable to speak and they live alone as their daughter has been married.

He said "Health and Hygiene is more important to us than the goat. Goat can be purchased later but to have toilet means living happily in the community without any shame". He received a pan from the Village Dalit Network at low price and he finished constructing toilet in a month and now he is using it with pride.

He says "Before this toilet we had lots of problems open defecating especially in the rainy season and during the dark. Now it has become very easy for us because we have toilet in front of our house and we can defecate without any fear and there is no shame for us". Recognizing his effort, during the Open Defecation Free ceremony of the VDC, he was rewarded. He was quite happy that the VDC recognized his efforts.

OWN EFFORT TO CONSTRUCT TOILET



Siraha, Bahuri Mahato of Balhi VDC-3 has been defecating in the open for over seven decade. He lives with his wife and struggles to make ends meet.

In Siraha, after the GSF intervention, the the sanitation campaign is gaining momentum and Mr. Mahato is one such person whose views have been changed after this campaign. He used to believe that the toilet construction is a government job same as the road construction. But after the triggering workshop in the Balhi VDC, he came to know about the importance of the toilet. He says "Now I have understood the harm for defecating in the open. I realized that I am facing various problems while going to defecate in open area. He adds "my old age will obtain ease with this toilet".

Mr Mahato was very much committed to construct a toilet and he started to manage resource for the same. He says "I am a poor farmer and do not have enough money to make toilet. But I had determination to construct toilet. So I sold my one mango tree some millet and took few thousands loan from relatives".

Mr. Mahato has shown a good example in this village by constructing toilet in his own effort. This stands as an example to the culture of expecting government and development agencies support for toilet.

COMMITMENT OF LOCAL LEADERS IN DHANUSHA



Jaga Narayan Yadav



Ganesh Yadav

Dhanusha, Sapahi VDC is the home of President Ram Baran Yadav and the people are proud of that. But when it comes to sanitation they have to face shame because 68% of people still defecate in the open. Although several donor agencies have provided subsidies to construct toilets in this VDC, the fact remains that people of 994 households, out of a total of 1459 defecate in open.

During a workshop for political leaders, the local leaders Jaga Narayan Yadav and Ganesh Yadav made a commitment towards the sanitation campaign. Mr. Jag Naryaan Yadav, a local political leader of ward number 9, announced to provide NRs 20,000 to the ward that is declared ODF first. "I have taken it as my social responsibility", he said- "The provision of reward will certainly support for gearing up the sanitation campaign in Sapahi VDC and Dhanusha District."

While the members of V-WASH-CC were developing VDC Level Sanitation and Hygiene Action Plan, Mr Ganesh Yadav, another social and political leader of ward number 3, also announced to provide the reward of NRs 11,000 to the ward that is declared ODF second. "I have tried to fulfill my responsibility towards my society", he added - "I have decided to support the sanitation campaign for succeeding the national campaign to achieve 100 percent sanitation coverage."

Mr. Jaga Narayan Yadav and Mr Ganesh Yadav remember the days they have passed waiting for subsidy to construct household toilets. "We generally did not use to take sanitation as the personal matter", says Jaga Narayan - "Now, we are aware enough that sanitation is the matter of health, dignity and security as well."



WSSCC MISSION IN NEPAL

A four-member mission from WSSCC, consisting of Senior Programme Officer Mattheus Van Der Velden, Senior Programme Development Officer Franck Bouvet, Finance and Systems Advisor Francis Gahizi and Programme Support Officer Simon Msukwa, visited Nepal from 24 to 29 November 2014 to observe and review GSF's work in Nepal, interact with key stakeholders and plan future activities. The team visited several villages in Sindhupalchowk and found that the high quality of latrines, enthusiasm at district and VDC level and the effort put forth by district for sanitation campaign was very impressive. The team, however, felt that there is a need for post-ODF interventions to sustain the results of the campaign.

AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO BUILD TOILET



Sarlahi, Mr. Rambharos Mahato, 45, of Bela-4 Sarlahi, used to get up early in the morning and go to nearby river side to defecate. Like the other people in the village, his time of going for defecation would always be after all the female members of his house return. However, this changed after his ninth grader son, who had been triggered to build a toilet for the sake of good health, time saving and security started demanding a toilet. Later all his brothers and sister also started to demand for the same. This forced Mr. Mahato to think of an innovative approach to construct a low cost toilet.

He fetched few sacks of sand and stone pebbles from the nearby river on bicycle and hired a ring as well as block casting mold. Within a couple of days he casted enough number of blocks and 10 large sized rings with covering slab. He bought a pan and pipes from nearby market and set up everything by his own with the help of his children. Within 10 days he built a safe toilet thus saving cost of labors, masons and materials.

'I had to go very far from the house every day with a pot of water and sit for defecation in open. I always felt shame doing so. While raining, I had to go with an umbrella however my leg slipped many times in muddy field. So, I insisted my father to build a toilet in the house' said Mr. Ranjit Kumar Mahato his son. 'Like other female members, I also had to hold motion during day times. However, it is very much comfortable now' added Mr. Mahato's wife.

WEST KAUSHAHA VDC TOWARDS ODF



Sunsari, A campaign to build a toilet in every house in West Kushaha of Sunsari district is underway as part of the sanitation campaign in Sunsari District. However, in Urab Tole of West Kaushaha not a single household had a toilet till 5 months ago. Less than a year after the campaign began to make the VDC ODF, 57 of its 74 houses have constructed toilets without subsidies and the construction is underway in the remaining household as well. The target was to have a toilet in every house of West Kushaha, says Mr. Gopal Khatiwada, Chairperson /V-WASH-CC, West Kushaha. Mr Khatiwada says local women are in charge of explaining to villagers about the importance of the toilet.

Radha Devi, resident of the village, is witness to the fact that women are more concerned about the village's sanitary condition. Although she makes

a living as a daily laborer, she worked hard so that with the wages she could construct a toilet. Finally, she constructed a toilet and she decided to advocate on the importance of toilet to each and every women of the VDC. With the effort of Radha Devi, the community started to construct toilet without subsidy. Field Facilitator of WSSOD, Sunsari Ms Lalita Lamsal says "Without the help of youths and women this campaign would have packed up midway."

DOLAKHA ADOPTING FAST TRACK FOR ODF CAMPAIGNING



According to recent NMIP data 2014, access to sanitation of Dolakha is 49.66. Till date 12 VDCs have been officially declared as ODF. After the GSF intervention, different level of training and workshop has been conducted in the district. VDC Secretary Orientation has been proved as milestone for sanitation promotion in the District. VDC secretaries have internalized the importance of sanitation and hygiene and committed to achieve VDC ODF by the end of Phalgun 2071 and district ODF date also fixed for 24th Chaitra 2071 (7th April 2015) on the occasion of world health day to achieve the ODF target. Social mobilizers, education sectors, Political sectors, Health sector, MWASHCC Bhimeswor and Sanitation Master TOT participants also express their strong commitment to support district ODF campaigning to declare Dolakha district as ODF on 7th April 2015.

All VDC secretary have taken leadership and ownership for ODF campaigning. They have collected VDC level toilet users and non-users data. VDC have prepared sanitation & hygiene promotion strategy plan. VDC's have adopted convincing/motivating as well as social presser. Zero Subsidy model has been adopted. Dudh Pokhari VDC have prepared 45 days VDC ODF action plan (fast track Method). ODF task force committee has been formed and mobilized. Women sanitation and hygiene promotion committee also formed to convinced women. As Task force committee chairperson informed, there were 90 toilets were constructed within 15 days.

Two VDC's in the district has been declared as ODF after GSF intervention. D-WASH-CC is leading and supporting V-WASH-CC for creating enabling environment. The present progress scenarios shows that district will achieves ODF target by 7th April 2015.

TERAI SANITATION UPDATE



In order to promote better communication among stakeholders involved in the Terai Sanitation Movement, GSF is producing a monthly update on the Terai Sanitation Movement. (Please see <http://unhabitat.org.np/project/gsf-nepal/terai-sani-update-issue-1/> for the latest issue and please contact us if you wish to receive a copy by mail).

CELEBRATION OF HANDWASHING DAY 2014 IN GSF TERAJ DISTRICTS



On October 15th 2014, Handwashing Day was celebrated in various districts of GSF.

Bara district

Handwashing demonstration sites were set up at District Hospital and Bharat Chowk premises from 15th to 17th October 2014. Over 50 Government officials, thousands of school children, school teachers, headmasters, representatives of parent's teachers associations, School Management Committee representatives, and local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have jointly commemorated the Global Hand Washing Event

Sunsari district

Global hand washing celebration was held in different VDCs (Satterjhoda, Dumraha & Haripur) with the theme "Clean Hands, Save Life" with active participation of students and teachers. More than 350 school students participated and practiced the 6 steps of hand washing

Dhanusha District

A motorcycle rally which started from Barabiga with the objective to create awareness on handwashing was organized by D-WASH-CC. The rally concluded at Janaki Mandir where handwashing with soap was demonstrated in the presence of Local Development Officer Mr. Jhalak Ram Adhikari and Chief of District Health Office, Mr. Sachindananda Dev.

Parsa District

D-WASH-CC Parsa organized demonstration booth at Gantaghar of Birgunj Sub-Metropolitan for 2 hours (8AM -10 AM) with participation of, DDC, WSSDO, Birgunj Sub-Metropolitan City, UN Habitat and partners NRCS and AYC, civil society, NGOs and private entrepreneurs and others. Programme Co-ordinator, Mr Umesh Mishra demonstrated six steps for hand washing and CDO Mr Himnath Dawadi inaugurated the Stall with Hand Washing with Soap.

Mahottari District

Hand Washing was practiced in 22 communities and 19 schools of 13 VDCs in Mahottari District. The major activities were mass sensitization about importance of hand washing, demonstration and practice of hand washing and nail cutting, hand washing competition, distributing prize (Soap, towel and nail cutter) to best hand washing competitors, rally demonstration in school catchment area with banner and play card of national hand washing slogan.

Rautahat District

About 15 the teachers, 3 representatives from School Management Committee, V-WASH-CC Members and 180 students actively participated in a program organized at Shree Ma. Vi. School, Mathiya VDCs on the occasion of "Global Hand Washing Day".

Saptari District

Various awareness campaigns like rallies, demonstration of hand washing and motivational video shows was organized by the 30 V-WASH-CC. The program reached thousands of people in one day with message on the importance of hand washing.

Sarlahi District

An awareness programme on Hand washing was organized in Kabilashi VDC, where the Chief Guest Mr Rajkumar Sah demonstrated the handwashing six steps and than other participants also followed the same.

INTERACTION WITH DISTRICT ENGINEERS FROM TERAJ



An interaction programme was organized on 8 December 2014 by Department of Water Supply and Sewerage with the District Engineers from all 9 Terai districts which are being supported by the GSF as well as other organizations such as UNICEF and SNV, to discuss the Terai Sanitation Campaign. The District Engineers provided updates on the campaign, discussed the challenges faced and stressed the need to intensify the campaigns at the field level so as to deliver the planned outputs.

GSF FAMILY'S 2ND QUARTERLY REVIEW MEETING OF TERAI SANITATION CAMPAIGN IN LALGADH



The GSF family working in the Terai Sanitation Movement came together in Lalgadh, Dhanusha for its 2nd Quarterly Review Meeting from December 18-22, 2014. The major objectives were to review the progress, analyze the challenges and opportunities, learn from one another, ensure uniform understanding of campaign approach in the Terai, plan future activities and build the team spirit among all partners and staff. Over 70 participants were present in the meeting.

Before the meeting, GSF staff also visited the field in Dhanusha and Mahottari districts to gain first hand knowledge on the campaign's activities in these districts.

The meeting was successful in bringing the team together to learn from one another and plan future activities for accelerating the sanitation movement in the Terai.

SOME GLIMPSES OF DISTRICT ODF CEREMONY OF BAJURA AND ARGHAKHANCHI



30 VDC IN BARA GOING TO BE DECLARED ODF BY 2015



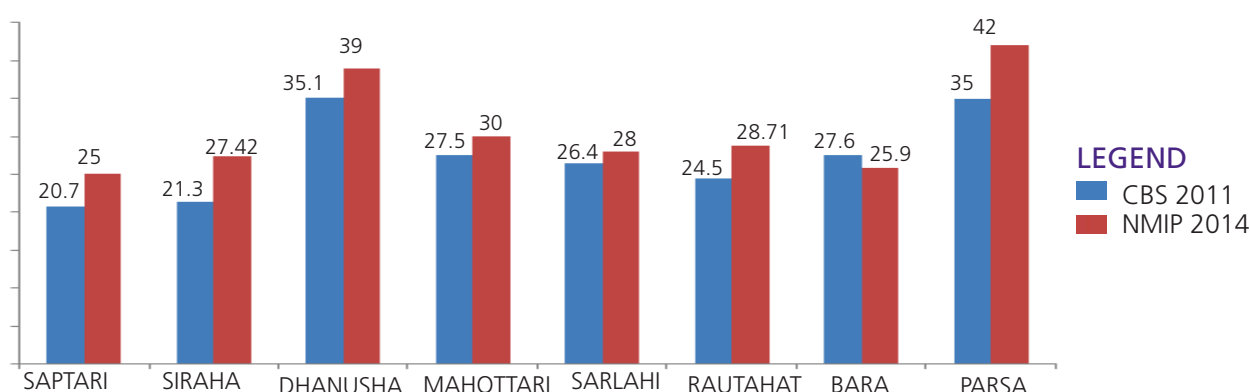
In Bara, at once 30 VDCs are going to be declared ODF. This commitment came in the district review meeting held by D-WASH-CC in coordination of the Global Sanitation Programme.

IDS and CHEC Nepal are working in 15 VDCs while ENPHO and NRCS Bara are working in 15 VDCs of the District. Both of these are the implementing partners of the Global Sanitation Fund Programme working in the District.

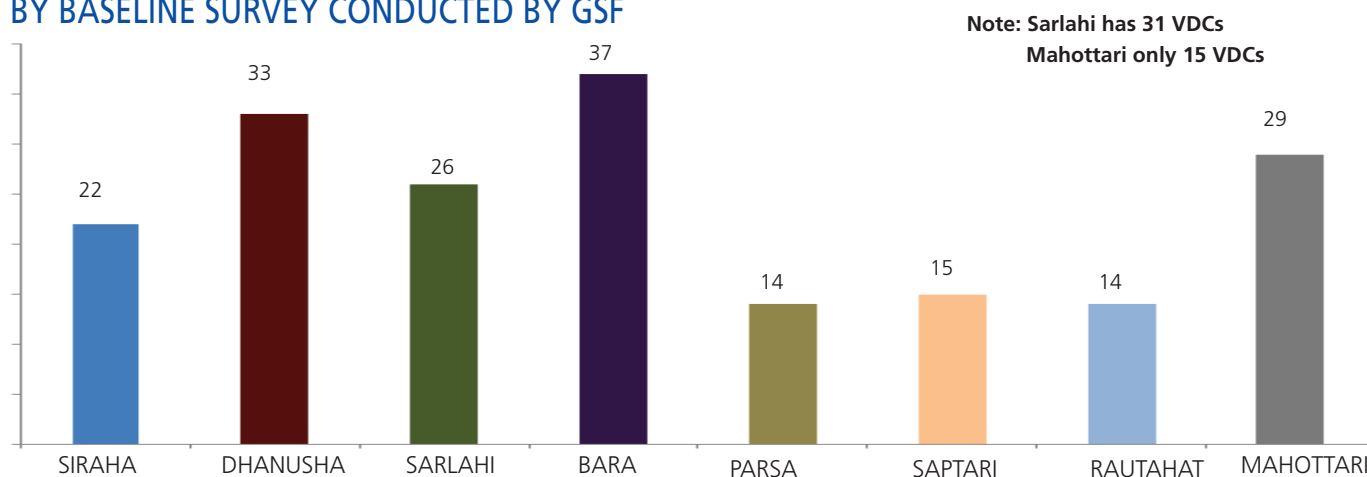
The Chief Guest of the programme was Mr Parshuram Aryal, CDO of Bara District while Mr. Sushil Raj Gautam and Mr Raju Chaudary facilitated the programme. In the programme Mr Gopilal Bhagat, Divisional Engineer of Water Supply and Sewerage Divisional Office, Bara presented the achievements. Overall there were about 40 participants in the workshop.

Source: Kreepa, October 16, 2014

COMPARISON OF SANITATION COVERAGE (%) OF 8 TERAI DISTRICT BETWEEN CBS 2011 AND NMIP 2014



SANITATION COVERAGE (%) OF 8 TERAI DISTRICT OF 30 WORKING VDCS OF GSF AS INDICATED BY BASELINE SURVEY CONDUCTED BY GSF



NEPAL SANITATION AND HYGIENE FORUM IN FACEBOOK

A facebook page named Sanitation and Hygiene Forum Nepal which is administered by GSF Nepal has now been operational since July 1 2012. The main objective of this page is to act a platform to share the best practices on sanitation sector. Please do visit the link below and Like the page if you wish to get informed on what is happening in the sanitation sector

<https://www.facebook.com/sanhyforum.nepal>

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