

## Northeast State Capitals to be Rated for Cleanliness

The State capitals of the Northeastern States are among 75 cities in the country where the Centre will conduct a survey to ascertain the sanitation scenario and subsequently rate them. The survey, commissioned by Urban Development Ministry, is the first such since Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Swachh Bharat Mission in October last year and aligns with the objectives of the Mission.

Apart from New Delhi and State capitals, Ahmedabad, Varanasi, Pune, Visakhapatnam, Gurgaon, Kochi, Nagpur, Amritsar, Allahabad are among the 75 cities, which account for over 50 per cent of country's total urban population, to be rated for its cleanliness.

The survey parameters have been aligned with the objectives of Swachh Bharat Mission with more focus on solid waste management which is adversely impacting cleanliness in urban areas, as per the directions of Urban Development Minister M Venkaiah Naidu.

The proposed survey and subsequent ratings, to be completed in January next year, is aimed at fostering a spirit of competition among the cities to ensure sanitation in urban areas, said a senior UD Ministry official.

In the proposed survey, solid waste management is being given 60 per cent weightage followed by 15 per cent each for availability and use of individual household toilets and public and community toilets besides five per cent each for city level sanitation plans and Information, Education and Behaviour Change Communication (IEBC) activities.

Under Swachh Bharat Mission, about Rs 37,000 crore of the project cost of Rs 62,009 crore is to be incurred on solid waste management. In the last survey, for ranking 476 cities with a population of over one lakh each which was commissioned before the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission, solid waste management had a weightage of only 13 per cent.

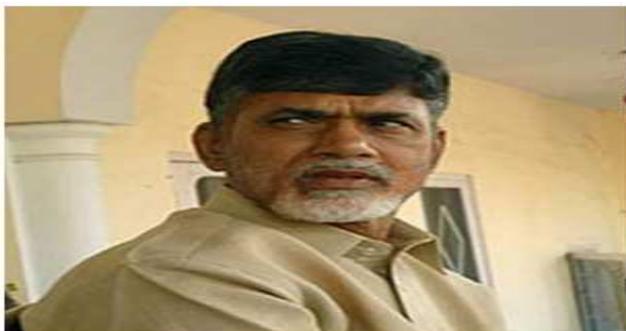
Swachh Bharat Mission is aimed at ensuring door-to-door collection, transportation and scientific disposal of solid waste in all the 83,000 wards in urban areas by 2019 besides construction of one crore individual household toilets and over five lakh public and community toilets.

Among the cities to be surveyed are Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada from Andhra Pradesh, Guwahati from Assam, Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh, Ahmedabad and four other cities from Gujarat, Panaji in Goa, Srinagar from Jammu & Kashmir, Ranchi, Jamshedpur and Dhanbad from Jharkhand, Bengaluru and Mysore from Karnataka, Kochi, Kozhikode and Thiruvananthapuram from Kerala, Bhopal and three other cities from Madhya Pradesh.

Other cities include Imphal from Manipur, Shillong from Meghalaya, Aizawl from Mizoram, Kohima from Nagaland, Gangtok from Sikkim, Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli from Tamil Nadu, Hyderabad and Warangal from Telangana.

Eight cities from Uttar Pradesh include Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi, Allahabad, Meerut, Ghaziabad, Noida and Agra. Dehradun from Uttarakhand, Kolkata and Asansol-Durgapur from West Bengal are other cities in the list of 75 cities finalised by the Ministry for sanitation survey

## Make Andhra Pradesh open defecation-free by January 2016, says CM Chandrababu Naidu



Naidu said the Swachh Andhra Pradesh Corporation should operate with freedom like a private organisation to achieve the ambitious targets. *File Photo*

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **N Chandrababu Naidu** on Wednesday said his government has set a target to make the state **open defecation** free by 2016. "Under the phase-1 of the Swachh **Andhra Pradesh** program, make AP open defecation-free by January 2016," Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said in a meeting with Municipal Commissioners. Noting that all towns are strewn with litter, Naidu said sweeping and cleaning of all public places should happen before midnight, according to a state government release.

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He instructed officials to form a Committee by involving Jack Sim, the founder of World Toilet Organisation, and look at ways to achieve targets.

Currently, 59,000 toilets have been built in the state against the total sanctioned 1.14 lakh toilets. The state government had set October 2, 2015 as deadline for completion. "I will make surprise visits to all municipalities," Naidu said. He reprimanded the commissioners for failing to educate public on the need to have toilets. "Work on war-footing basis and complete them by January 1, 2016."

Seeking suggestions from municipal commissioners on best waste management practices in India, he directed all municipalities to set certain norms for every village or town in the state in order to declare them as litter-free and open defecation-free.

Questioning officials on why towns and cities in Andhra Pradesh could not make it to the top 100 of the Centre's [Swachh Bharat](#) rankings, Naidu said the [Swachh Andhra Pradesh Corporation](#) should operate with freedom like a private organisation to achieve the ambitious targets. He said all municipal commissioners should also work on benchmarking their cities and towns against international standards.

This kind of benchmarking, according to the Chief Minister, should evolve into a healthy competition between towns, by eventually becoming a public campaign.

## Naidu Appeals Citizens To Join 'Swachha Bharat-Swachha Andhra



Vijayawada, Sep 30 (PTI) Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has appealed to citizens to participate in the 'Swachha Bharat - Swachha Andhra' drive on October 2, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Naidu said the official celebration of 'Swachha Bharat - Swachha Andhra' will be held in Guntur.

"In future, every Saturday cleanliness programme will be conducted at all public places and 'Swachha Bharat - Swachha Andhra' would be included in school curriculum," the Chief Minister told reporters here.

He said all municipalities and municipal corporations should be free from open defecation by January 1, next year.

He informed that under his chairmanship the 'Swachha Bharat' sub-committee in NITI Ayog has proposed a cess on petrol to meet the expenses for maintaining the cleanliness programmes in the country.

"The draft report would be handed over to Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) very soon, he added.

## ‘Swachh Bharat’ brings TS, AP icons together



They not only shared the dais but also ideas. And their coming together was not lost on the audience.

It was a pleasant surprise to see Telangana and Andhra Pradesh icons partaking in the Swachh Bharat programme. Telangana Member of Parliament K. Kavitha and Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration Minister Dr. A. Narayana too sat in close proximity.

The occasion was their nomination as Swachh Bharat ambassadors.

The Government of India roped in the stellar team to galvanise people to take part in clean India movement. As many as 18 iconic personalities, nine each from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, have been nominated as ‘Swachh Bharat ambassadors’ to take forward the Prime Minister’s message of clean India.

At a programme here on Monday, Union Minister for Urban Development, M. Venkaiah Naidu, announced the names of the icons from film industry, sports, media, medical fraternity and corporate sector.

### **The ambassadors**

They are: V. Radhakrishna, Dr. S.P. Balasubramaniam, Dr. G.S. Rao, B.V.R. Mohan Reddy, Dr. Rameshwar Rao, Dr. Gopichand, J.A. Chowdary, actor Nitin, Ashok Teja, Koneru Humpy, Pallela Gopichand, V.V.S. Laxman and MPs - K. Kavitha and Galla Jayadev.

In their acceptance address the nominees promised to do their bit for spreading the message of Swachh Bharat among people.

Singer, Balasubramaniam, mesmerised the audience with a lilting song on cleanliness.

Giving an overview of the programme, Mr. Venkaiah Naidu announced central grant of Rs. 20 crore for Telangana and Rs. 10 crore for Andhra Pradesh to take up the Swachh Bharat programme.

### **People’s participation**

He stressed on people’s participation as government alone wouldn’t be able to implement this gigantic task.

In fact, no initiative of government would succeed without people’s active participation.

Changing the mindset of people on cleanliness is important as even now 68 per cent of people indulge in open defecation. There is also an urgent need to create the necessary infrastructure.

The Swachh Bharat mission was launched on October 2 and the country should be neat and clean by 2019 to mark the 150 birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, he said.

Keywords: ‘Swachh Bharat’ brings TS, AP icons together, Hyderabad, SP Balasubrahmanyam

## Andhra's Nellore has highest number of e-toilets

**Thiruvananthapuram, Aug 14:** **Andhra Pradesh's** Nellore has gained the unique distinction of becoming the first district in the country with the highest number of e-toilets (461) in its schools.

Kerala-based Eram Scientific Solutions, the sole manufacturers of e-toilets (electronic toilets) in the country, has deployed these automated and self-cleaning e-toilets in 411 schools in Nellore as part of the corporate social responsibility initiatives of Tata Consultancy Services.



Eram Scientific announced the world's most economically-priced e-toilet on October 1, 2014, on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, as a foreword to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan programme.

The school model e-toilet "e-Lite14" has automatic floor wash system, automatic ceiling light, exhaust fan, in-built sensors to conserve electricity and water, and an overhead water tank.

It works on both solar and electric grid and is priced at Rs.1 lakh. It also has a one-year warranty and insurance coverage.

"We are happy in creating a profound impact on the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan by providing technology-enabled sanitation which was unheard of in the country before," said Siddeek Ahmed, chairman of the Eram Group.

Eram Scientific has deployed more than 1,200 e-toilets in 18 states in India and has received over 38 national and international awards for their innovative intervention in sanitation.

## Swachh Bharat: plan to produce power, compost from solid waste



Union Minister M. Venkaiah Naidu addressing a press conference in New Delhi on Thursday.

PTI

### TOPICS

Swachh Bharat Mission

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*On the first anniversary of Swachh Bharat Mission, the Urban Development Ministry on Thursday announced some crucial policy changes.*

On the first anniversary of Swachh Bharat Mission, the Urban Development Ministry on Thursday announced some crucial policy changes since it is planning to generate electricity and compost from municipal solid waste.

"Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers will soon bring a proposal before Cabinet to provide Market Development Assistance on sale of city compost to farmers,"

said Urban Development Minister M. Venkaiah Naidu. "Ministry of Power is in the process of amending the Electricity Act 2003 to enable mandatory purchase of power generated from municipal solid waste."

Addressing a press conference here, Mr. Naidu said the Power Ministry was finalising a tariff rate that would help "waste to energy projects" sustain in the market.

A senior official of Urban Development Ministry told *The Hindu* that since the purchase of waste generated electricity was mandatory, the tariff rates would be higher compared to coal and hydel energy.

"The cost of maintenance of [waste] power plants is higher than coal or hydel projects," he said. "So it's crucial to make these plants a crucial pillar for the income of municipalities."

The official said that the Ministry has already sent notices to New Delhi based power providers—BSES Rajdhani, Yamuna and Infrastructure Limited and Tata Power Delhi Distribution—directing them to include waste energy projects into their services.

The Ministry is also finalising the pricing model for the compost produced out of city trash. Mr. Naidu said that compost would be sold to farmers on subsidised rates.

Since the government recently faced criticism over falling behind on the yearly target of Swachh Bharat Mission, Mr. Naidu said the "the initiative targets minds of the people while other policies seek to meet the needs already felt in the mind."

"One year is not enough," Mr. Naidu said. "But things have started to move slowly and awareness [about Swachh Bharat Mission] is increasing."

Mr. Naidu appealed the corporate players to a "do a little more" in building public toilets under PPP model of the mission.

Explaining the changes Swachh Bharat Mission will inspire in India's railway sector, Mr. Naidu said bio-toilets would be installed in 8,368 coaches and another 4,400 added by next year. "It would cover 25% of existing 45000 coaches," he said.

The mission aims to cover 1.04 crore households, provide 2.5 lakh community toilets and 2.6 lakh public toilets by 2019. Since its inception, the Ministry has recorded the construction of 4.6 lakh individual toilets and just 25,000 community and public toilets. The year 2015 has been quite slow with just a fifth of the targeted 25 lakh individual toilets and a fourth of the targeted 1 lakh community and public toilets built until September.

Keywords: Swachh Bharat, plan to produce power, compost from solid waste

## 12 waste-to-energy plants in AP: Naidu



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu cleaning the road at the market centre in Guntur on Friday. Speaker Kodela Siva Prasada Rao and Ministers P. Narayana and K. Srinivas are also seen. —Photo: T. Vijaya Kumar

### *Chief Minister launches Swachh Andhra Pradesh Mission*

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Friday said that within the next year, the government would launch 12 waste-to-energy power projects in the State wherein 77 per cent of waste would be converted into energy.

Launching the Swachh Andhra Pradesh Mission here on Friday, Mr. Naidu said the government would introduce modern scientific methods of disposal and recycling of solid and liquid waste.

The Chief Minister said he was making efforts to make Andhra Pradesh a clean State which would attract more foreign investments.

He cited the use of technology in Singapore, which had been using recycled water for all purposes. Mr. Naidu said he was also planning to make the State a top destination in the country for trade and commerce.

Mr. Naidu said the State had made rapid progress during the last one year and added that it grew at a rate of 9.72 per cent while the national average was 7.1 per cent. "The State government had drawn up plans to further scale up investments by tying up with various foreign collaborators," he said.

Earlier, the Chief Minister took part in the 146th birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi. Addressing a meeting at Gandhi Park, he said the Swachh Bharat campaign had been inspired by Gandhi.

Mr. Naidu also took part in a rally from the Travellers Bungalow to the Police Parade Grounds.

NITI Ayog's Swachh Bharat sub-group likely to submit report by August 15



Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu(L), Uttarakhand Chief Minister Harish Rawat, Mizoram Chief Minister Lal Thanhawla and Karnataka Chief Secretary Kaushik Mukherjee (C) during the Meeting of Sub-Group of Chief Ministers. PTI

NITI Ayog's Chief Ministers Sub-Group on Swachh Bharat Mission headed by Andhra Pradesh [Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu](#) is likely to submit its report to the central government by August 15.

"Before Independence Day preferably, we want to submit the report to government of India," Naidu told reporters here after chairing a meeting of the Sub-Group comprising Chief Ministers of several states.

The next meeting would be in New Delhi, he said adding "If necessary, we will take respective ministries... finance ministry for tax incentives, urban and rural development ministries..., power ministry and central electricity commission as they will have to give some incentives..." Apart from Naidu, the meeting was attended by Karnataka Chief Minister [Siddaramaiah](#) and his counterpart [Harish Rawat](#) (Uttarakhand) and [Lal Thanhawla](#) (Mizoram).

Chief Ministers of Delhi, Bihar, Sikkim, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Haryana, who are also in the Sub-Group, did not attend the meeting and sent either their ministers or senior officials.

This was the third meeting of the Sub-Group after the first two held in Delhi and Chandigarh. Today's meeting discussed in detail about waste management. The Sub-Group was constituted in March last to examine financial requirements for comprehensive implementation of the Swachh Bharat Mission and suggest measures for meeting budgetary needs and recommend robust institutional mechanisms for effective implementation among others.

The Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 2 last, aims to rid the country of open defecation by 2019, the 150th birth anniversary year of Mahatma Gandhi.

Siddaramaiah said he suggested that since Swachh Bharat was a centrally-sponsored scheme, 90% of funding should be from the Centre and 10% from the states. "... we have also requested the Chairman of the sub-group to make this request to the central government in the report," said

Siddaramaiah, who in his speech, also said Karnataka would be an open defecation-free state by October 2, 2018, a year ahead of the Centre's deadline.

Asked whether there was unanimity among the Chief Ministers within the sub-group about the request made by Siddaramaiah, Naidu said, "we don't have any difference of opinion, this is one sub-committee and we are working for overall objective."

"We are all one and at the same time we are all very happy to get some funds; at the same time we have to give a practical report, we will work together," he added.

Sharing details about the meeting, Naidu said "... we have examined all the possibilities and the actions that we need to take for the future."

Stating that six different sub-groups were constituted and they have studied best practices and technologies for solid waste and liquid waste managements, he said "they have visited Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Mizoram, Haryana and West Bengal. They have studied best practices both in rural and urban areas."

Advocating best technology, best practices, cost effective solutions and sustainability, he said "only government cannot do all these things. We want to go to various alternative models in waste management in which energy is one, compost is another, public toilets through CSR or private..." "Various options of associations, public private partnership were also discussed...." he added.