

To  
All the District Collectors,  
Andhra Pradesh.

**File No: 88(21)/SAM/COO(S)/GEN/2017, dt:  
13.11.2017.**

Sir,

Sub: SAC- Advisory to the States and UTs basis recent media reports on malpractices in SBM(G)-Reg.

Ref: Lr No-S-18011/24/2015-SBM, dt: 08.11 2017, of the Joint Secretary, SBM(G),MoDWS.

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Attention is invited to the subject and reference cited.

The Joint Secretary, SBM(G),MoDWS has informed that recent media reports have highlighted lapses in the implementation of SBM-G programme in the states. Reports show that toilets constructed in the villages are incomplete and of poor quality resulting in instances where these toilets are not being used by people. Such instances have also been found in villages that have been declared as open defecation free. This is a serious lapse and tantamount to false and incorrect reporting on the program status. This is also dents the image and reputation of an otherwise highly successful program.

Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) gives emphasis on community led processes and collective behavior change leading to building and usage of toilets. It is hereby reinforced that State and districts are to encourage communities to build toilets on their own and use them. Gram Panchayats and districts have the responsibility to handhold the community in improving their sanitation situation and attain ODF status. As a good practice, villages themselves should declare the attainment of ODF status and collectively in Gram sabhas based on confirmation by the NigraniSamiti/Community that nobody is resorting to defecation in the open.

The SBM(G) guidelines provides flexibility to the states in the implementation of the programme, however, extreme care and caution must be taken to ensure quality of toilets being built and their subsequent usage. The people can realize public health benefits of the program only when the toilets are built and used on a continuous basis.

To ensure that the quality of toilets are maintained following is reinforced which may be ensured:

1. Beneficiaries must be engaged in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the program.
2. Mechanisms need to be put in place for concurrent monitoring of quality of toilets being constructed by Officials involved in the implementation of the program.
3. Declaration of ODF status on MIS to be done only after reasonable checks on the ODF claim by the village has been made by the district.
4. Verification of the ODF declared villages must take place within 3 months of declaration of ODF.
5. Sarpanch/Pradhan at GP level, DM/CEO/CDO at district level, to be made accountable for verifying GP's claims of becoming ODF.
6. Strict action must be taken against people resorting to incorrect reporting and those whose negligence may result in incomplete and unsafe toilets built in the villages.

Therefore, it is requested to take note of the above points and put in place the suggested mechanism for effective implementation of SBM-G in the State.

Yours faithfully,  
**D MURALIDHAR**

**REDDY, IAS**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**Encl: As above.**

Copy submitted to the Principal Secretary, PR, RD & RWS Department for information.

Copy to all CEOs ZP, SEs RWS, PDs DWMA, PDs DRDA and all the MPDOs for information and necessary action.

Signature Not Verified

Digitally signed by D  
Muralidhar Reddy  
Date: 2017.11.13 15:47:24 IST  
Reason: Approved



No. S-18011/24/2015-SBM  
Government of India  
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation  
Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Pt. Deendayal 'AntyodayaBhawan'  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road  
New Delhi-110 003

Dated 08.11.2017

To

The ACS/Principal Secretary/Secretary,  
In-charge of Rural Sanitation,  
All State and UTs

Subject: - Advisory to the States and UTs basis recent media reports on malpractices in SBMG –  
regarding.

Madam/Sir,

Recent media reports have highlighted lapses in the implementation of SBM-G programme in the States. Reports show that toilets constructed in the villages are incomplete and of poor quality resulting in instances where these toilets are not being used by people. Such instances have also been found in villages that have been declared as open defecation free. This is a serious lapse and tantamount to false and incorrect reporting on the program status. This also dents the image and reputation of an otherwise highly successful program.

2. You are aware that Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) gives emphasis on community led processes and collective behavior change leading to building and usage of toilets. It is hereby reinforced that State and districts are to encourage communities to build toilets on their own and use them. Gram Panchayats and districts have the responsibility to handhold the community in improving their sanitation situation and attain ODF status. As a good practice, villages themselves should declare the attainment of ODF status and collectively in *Gram Sabhas* based on confirmation by the Nigrani Samiti/community that nobody is resorting to defecation in the open.

3. The SBM (G) guidelines provides flexibility to the States in implementation of the programme, however, extreme care and caution must be taken to ensure quality of toilets being built and their subsequent usage. The people can realize public health benefits of the program only when the toilets are built and used on a continuous basis.

To ensure that the quality of toilets are maintained following is reinforced which may be ensured:

- a. Beneficiaries must be engaged in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the program.

- b. Mechanisms need to be put in place for concurrent monitoring of quality of toilets being constructed by Officials involved in the implementation of the program
- c. Declaration of ODF status on MIS to be done only after reasonable checks on the ODF claim by the village has been made by the district
- d. Verification of the ODF declared villages must take place within 3 months of declaration of ODF
- e. Sarpanch /Pradhan at GP level, DM/CEO/CDO at district level to be made accountable for verifying GPs' claims of becoming ODF
- f. Strict action must be taken against people resorting to incorrect reporting and those whose negligence may result in incomplete and unsafe toilets built in the villages.

It is hoped that all will take note of the above points and put in place the suggested mechanism for effective implementation of SBM-G in your State.

Yours faithfully,



(Arun Baroka)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

Ph: - 011-2436 2192

Copy to: - Mission Director/State-coordinator, SBM (G), All States and UTs