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Swachh Bharat Mission (Clean India Mission).A Case Study

Case Study

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“ SWACHH BHARAT MISSION (SBM) : A CASE STUDY ”

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ABSTRACT

Swachh Bharat Mission i.e. Clean India Mission, a national level initiative started by the Government of India in 2014 is a major step towards the protection of environment. Already India achieve 99.9% open defecation free status. If Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) is implemented properly with all its stakeholders and public taking their respective responsibilities, there is no doubt that India will become a clean country. A brief about this program, objectives, schemes, statics, implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission by Govt. in “X” sub-division, the areas in which SBM should focus to improve and related health concerns and its role in environmental protection has been discussed in this paper.

Keywords – Swachh Bharat Mission, open defecation, sanitation.

“X” a sub-division of Assam where implementation of SBM schemes are considered for field work for this paper; directly not mentioning the name of that sub-division.

INTRODUCTION

The Swachh Bharat Mission was initiated with the aim of achieving a clean India by 2 Oct, 2019 through cleanliness and sanitation (solid and liquid waste management and making whole India open defecation-free).

The overall mission has two parts-

SBM (Gramin) & SBM (Urban).

SBM Gramin is a modified version of the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan which was launched earlier. Besides eliminating open defecation, cleanliness, hygiene across all over India, the Mission also aims to decrease the use of single use plastic, proper drainage to make clean and green India.

SBM Urban targets urban areas. In India one third of the total population are living in urban areas. The population of urban areas are increases day by day. And with increasing population in urban areas, urban India will also need focused to make a Swachh India. So to provide better sanitation, better waste management facilities, increasing public and community toilet, improving drainage system in the urban areas, this mission has launched a sub mission named as Swachh Bharat Mission- Urban.

HISTORICAL LITERATURE

About cleanliness Mahatma Gandhi said that if he wanted anything before independence, it was cleanliness in the country. He was very much concerned about the dirty roads, streets and specially in rural areas of the country. The mission was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 2nd of October, 2014 at Rajghat, New Delhi.

It will be a tribute to the Father of the Nation on his 150th birth anniversary on 2 Oct, 2019. It is significant that the PM himself is taking very active role in making the campaign a success; at Rajghat he started the campaign by cleaning the street by himself. Then some bollywood actor, actress, sportsman, businessman, famous person also promoting SBM.

The logo with spectacles of Mahatma Gandhi with Swachh Bharat written on the two glasses with the bridge of the spectacles in national tricolour signifies the entire nation uniting together to achieve the vision of Mahatma for a Clean India.



Fig-1: Logo of SBM

Effects of SBM on health issues-

The success of SBM can be depicted from the reducing health issues which are related to sanitation, drinking water, waste materials. After implementation of SBM diarrhoea among children below 5 years in India have reduced significantly over the past 4 years. Low birth weight of babies which cause due to drinking impure water has also improved. Some dental diseases due to drinking fluoride, arsenic added water is also improved for implementing pure drinking water facility under PHED. A study conducted by World Health Organisation (WHO) said that the initiative of SBM will lead India to good potential health condition in rural area.

Different parts under SBM

Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G)-

The main schemes under SBMG are –

- Construction of individual household toilets in each family (IHHL)
- Construction of community & public toilets (CSCs).
- Improvement in Solid & Liquid Waste Management (SLWM).

The cost of construction per toilet is Rs. 12,000. This cost also will include water facility, water storing, hand-washing and cleaning of toilets facilities. For the states of North East, Jammu and Kashmir and those state which are in Special category states, the central will provide 10,800(90%) and the State will provide Rs. 1,200(10%) of total cost; for other states central and state share is 60:40. The SBM-G is being implemented in the districts of the States with the help and support from the Dept of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Central Govt and the respective State Governments.

No. of Household toilets constructed in India-

According to Dept of Drinking Water and Sanitation 99.9% of India is open defecation free.

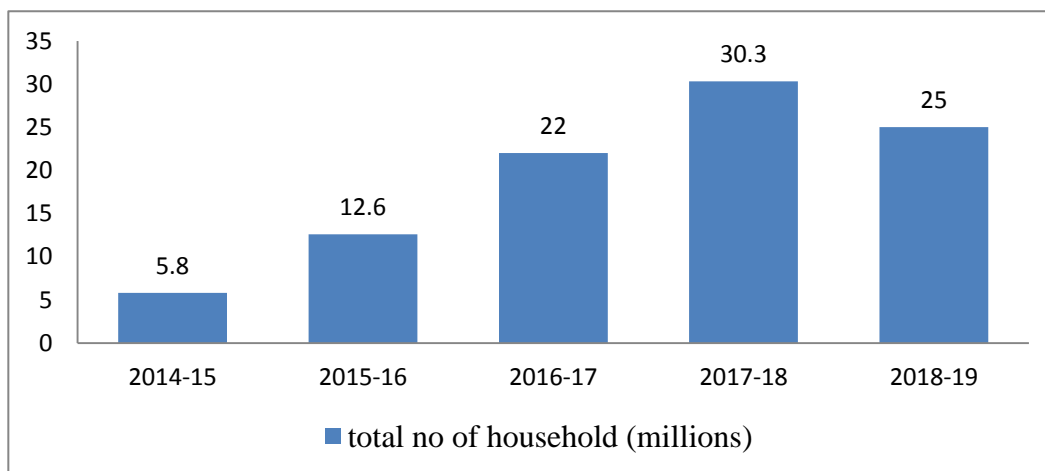


Fig-2: Household toilet construction

(Source: Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation)

Solid and Liquid Waste Management is an important part of SBM-G. As scientific disposal of waste has to be done for a better impact on the environment, there is an urgent need for efficient disposal and proper management of waste in various states, especially rural villages. Already many states have given importance to it and taken various activities such as construction of waste collection centers, installation of bio-gas plants, installations of bio-fertilizer system, installation of dustbins, system for collection, proper disposal of garbage, construction of drainage facility and construction of ponds.

Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U)-

The Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban has covered construction of 1.04 crore household toilets, construction of 2.6 lakh public toilets and construction of 2.5 lakh community toilets and a solid waste management facility in each town. Under this SBM-U program, community toilets built in residential areas where it is difficult to construct individual household toilets due to compact space and connection of proper water supply. Public toilets are also constructed in designated populous locations such as markets, bus stations, tourist places, railway stations, etc.

One of the facilities of SBM- Public toilets is that people can get the location of these toilets through using Google Map, SBM Android app in mobile phone. Upto 2 Oct, 2019 in India, 4400 cities are declared as ODF cities. In total 4,99,000 public and community toilets are built in different cities across India. The main challenge in urban areas is waste management as compared to sanitation. Upto 2 Oct, 2019 about 4,38,700 metric ton waste collection is done under SBM-U project in India. Under this mission solid waste management and decompose in a scientific way is preferred. According to Pollution Control Board of India, by collecting the solid waste produced in urban areas 88 megawatt electricity is produced. Central Govt. aims to 100% door to door waste collection within 2022 in all the cities all over India including small cities. The Ministry of Urban Development and the Central Pollution Board of India, publish National City Ranking under Swachh Bharat Mission scheme annually. This rating covers 500 different cities.

Ban on single-use plastic-

In 25 August, 2019 Prime Minister Narendra Modi officially declared about impose a nationwide ban on single-use plastics i.e. plastic bags, cups, small bottles to reduce use of pollution-causing, non degradable, soil, water pollution causing single-use plastic. India generates plastic waste about 25,000 tones per day across all cities. Single-use plastic take upto 1000 years to decompose completely.

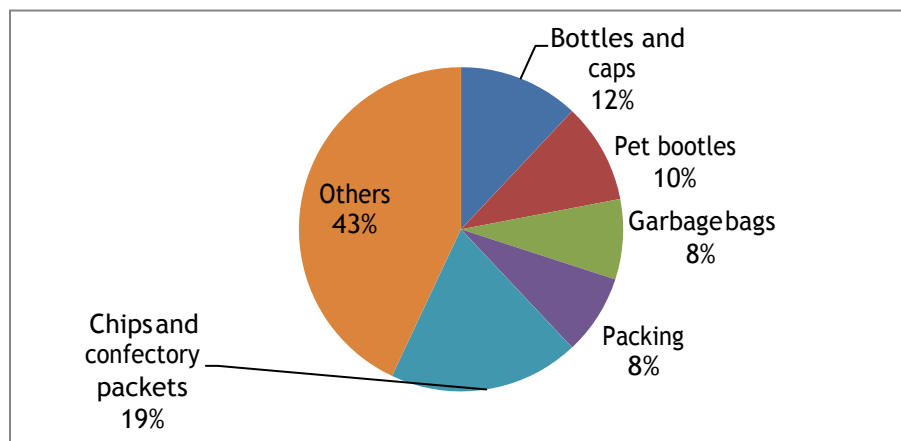


Fig-3: % of different plastic waste in India
(Source: Central Pollution Board of India)

But this bans have add fears among public, industries, which use plastic in packaging for different items from chocolates and biscuits to chips and shampoo. India has total 30,000 plastic processing units. According to the All India Plastic Manufacturers' Association, this plastic manufacturing industry also employs over 4.3 million people. The Govt. have to carefully take the steps to control the impact of plastic ban, in terms of plant closures and job losses, at a time of economic slow growth. But considering cause of environment pollution, problematic degradation, killing wildlife, harmful to human health, not easy to recycle, high cost to cleanup plastic ban is a great step towards Swachh Bharat.

Rivers are a major source of plastic waste into oceans. According to a international NGO survey, 90% of ocean waste is due to plastic waste. So people have to minimize the use of plastic as much can. People have to aware about these harmful effects of single-use plastic. Working together we can make India as a pollution free nation and a healthy nation.

CHALLENGES FACED AND NEED TO IMPROVE

(From field study place ‘X’ sub-division)

Low quality of constructed IHHL-



Fig- 4: Poor construction of IHHL

The construction process of IHHL are carried out by some NGOs. Respective panchyat and Govt officials verify and check the construction process and quality. But in some cases due to negligence of officials and panchyat representative, the constructed IHHL are found as very low quality. In some of them water facility is not given and in some case the size of septic tank is very small. In some case septic tank is made using just only 3/4 bricks, no depth is given. So to cover these SBM scheme in a proper way the respective dept should focus on ground verification of each toilet and strict action should to taken against those NGOs.

Poor condition of Alley and Rural street-



Fig- 5: Alley in town areas



Fig- 6: Rural street

In town areas the condition of main roads are quite good but alleys are in very bad condition. In rural areas the condition of rural streets are not good. The process of improvement of these roads are going on under the scheme of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), PWD, MLA-MP fund. But a speedy construction and repairing is needed to cover the whole sub-division in a less time. The respective dept should look into these problems.

Poor drainage system-



Fig- 7: Effects of Poor drainage

In town areas drainage system is not in proper working condition. Due to miss use of public, lack of cleaning in time to time by municipality, improper planning in new construction; drains are frequently get blocked. As a result artificial flood causes. To get rid of these regularly maintenance of drain, construction of new drains, culverts has to be done by municipality board.

Focus on waste management-

To make swachh Bharat, 100% door to door collection of waste material has to be done. With the help of necessary dept. these waste material should be used properly in a positive way to make bio-fertilizer with less investment, recycle material etc.

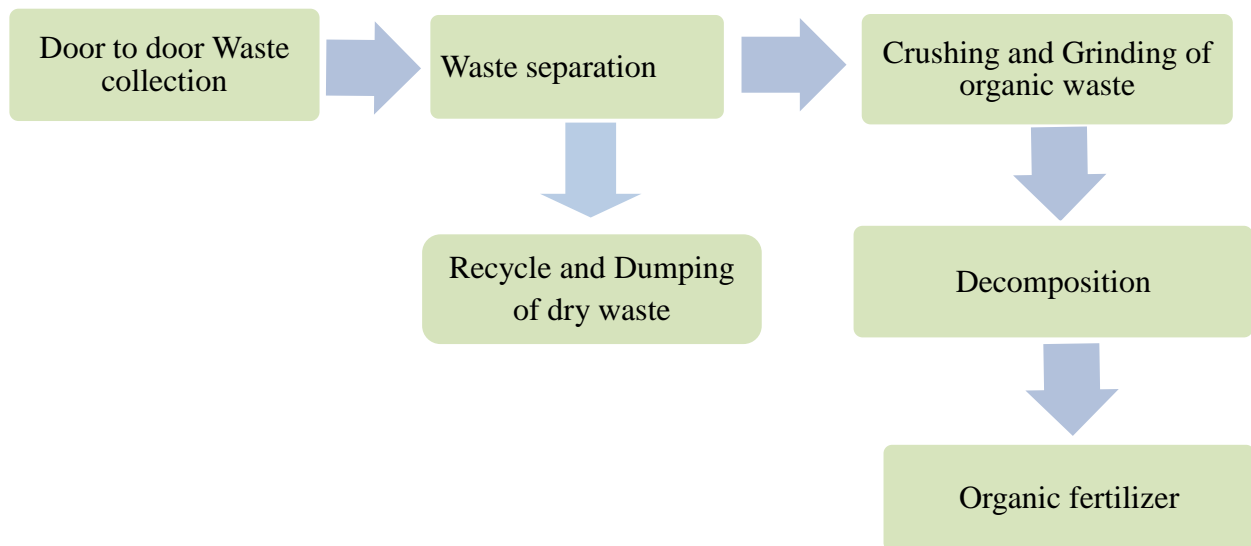


Fig- 8: Block diagram of proposed waste management

Proper dumping ground-



Fig- 9: Waste on the bank of the river Baralia

‘X’ is situated on the bank of the river ‘B’. ‘X’ municipality board dumped the waste collected from different sources on the bank of the river, which creates a very bad effect on the river and that location. So, by proper discussion with administration, local people, municipality, govt authority; new dumping ground should be chosen in a suitable place. And the inorganic waste materials which cannot be recycle, should be dumped in a scientific way in that dumping ground regularly. It is one of the main problem in small cities all over India.

Construction of Public toilet-

Despite of having scheme on public toilet, community toilet, there is a lack of proper implementation. Also, the public toilets which are already constructed, some of them are not in hygienic condition. Those toilets should also be regularly maintained in healthy condition.

Practically people are not interested in ‘pay and use’ type toilet. Most of them pee on side of road. So if possible SBM public toilet should be make free of cost atleast for urine purpose. Proper banner and direction has to be given for these public toilet because outsider face problem to locate the toilets.

CONCLUSION

It was observed that in that study area and also in overall India household toilets have been increased and construction of public, community toilet is in progress. Peoples were found aware about disadvantages of using impure water, unhygienic toilets. A sharp decline in some diseases like malaria, diarrhea was observed after implementation of SBM.

It is difficult to achieve cent percent aims of SBM, but continuing this mission upto a long term will definitely give a better result. In village areas most of the people are less educated or uneducated, to make awareness in each family some stakeholders like Aangawanbadi Sevika, panchyat/ward member, BLO of each villages should be trained to organized some awareness programe in their respective area. Also the maintenance of the schemes has to be done regularly. Despite of all the struggles SBM has almost succeed in its preliminary aim to make Open Defaction Free(ODF) India. In 'X' sub-division each villages, wards are declared as ODF and each photograph of construction was uploaded to central monitoring board.

At the present time, besides sanitation SBM has faced more challenges in case of waste management and plastic free India. SBM should focus on 100% door to door collection of solid and liquid waste and to proper disposal of it. Scientific disposal and proper use of waste should be the next main aim of this mission in each areas. SBM should make scheme for river surface cleaning, forestation, river front development, proper drainage, treatment of industrial waste which flow to rivers. Strict rules should be imposed for industry waste management which directly comes in contact of river.

People should also maintain their duties at public places. Use of single use plastic should be decreased. People should use proper dustbin and cooperate with municipality and respective dept for better implementation of these schemes. By working together we can achieve the dream of Swachhta, and that will be the best tribute to Gandhi ji.

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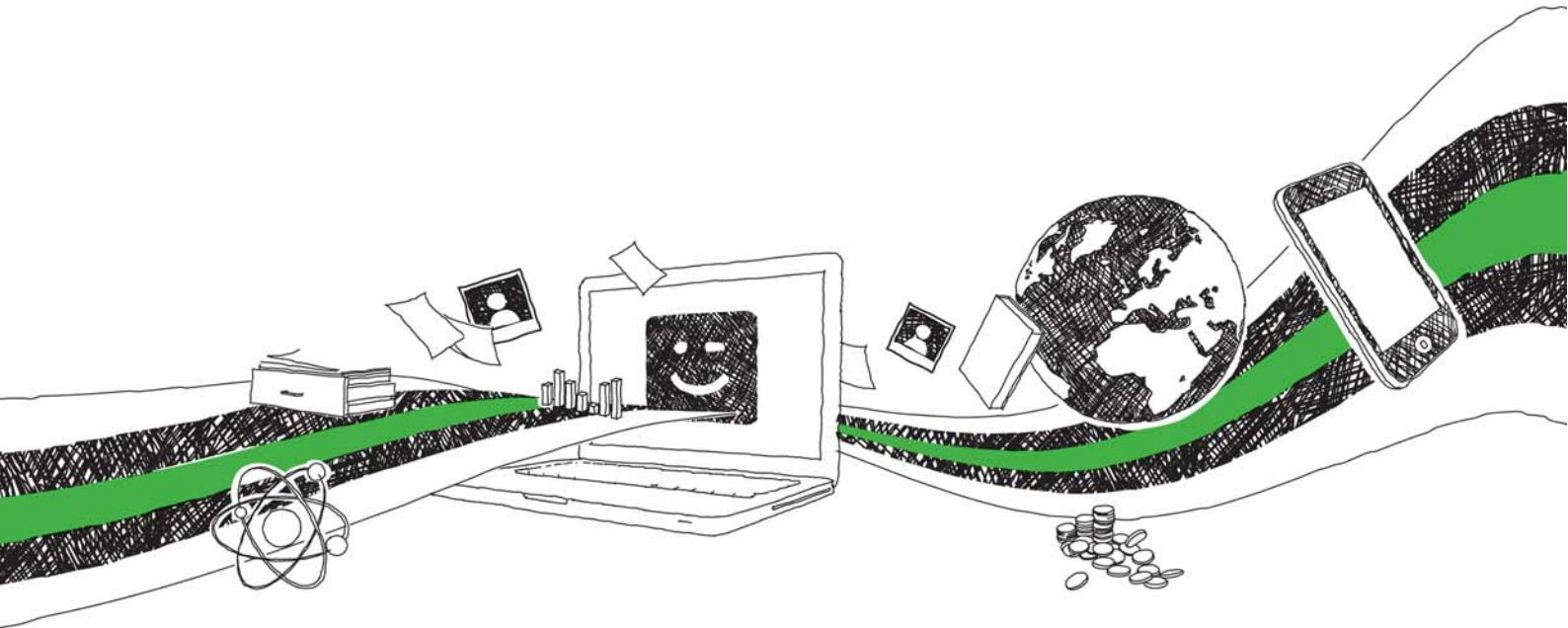
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