

SWACHHATA SAMACHAR

Volume 5 | Issue 35



Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)



Sh. C. R. Patil
From Hon'ble Union Minister

Even amid intense heat, our sanitation workers continue to work with unwavering dedication and a spirit of service, ensuring that cleanliness and hygiene are maintained smoothly in villages and communities.

I appeal to all of you to further strengthen this spirit of service and respect by expressing our gratitude to sanitation workers and by ensuring positive co-operation and respectful behavior towards their work.

Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri C R Patil on X on 29th May 2026



Sh. V. Somanna
From Hon'ble Union Minister of State

The SBM-G program has evolved from infrastructure to behaviour, from construction to long-term culture. The journey from ODF to ODF Plus (Model) has not been about ticking boxes, but about ensuring that households, schools, anganwadi centres, and public spaces reflect the success of the rural water and sanitation missions. The next chapter of SBM will continue to deepen the partnership with Panchayats, VWSCs, women's collectives, and youth clubs. The SBM journey is not just about sustaining toilets or drains, it is about unlocking economic opportunities through sanitation..

Minister authored article on 2nd October, 2025



Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen)



Sh. Ashok K K Meena From the Secretary's Desk

Under SBM(G), our focus must remain on sustaining ODF Plus (Model) outcomes and strengthening sanitation service delivery in every village. Gram Panchayats have a central role in ensuring that sanitation assets created through the joint efforts of Centre and States remain functional, community-owned and accountable. DWSM meetings must be leveraged as an important platform to review service delivery, address gaps and strengthen compliance. With the Solid Waste Management Rules, effective from 1 April 2026, and their monitoring by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, there is renewed focus on responsibility at every level. Districts, Gram Panchayats and communities must work together to ensure that solid waste management becomes part of everyday rural sanitation systems

7th edition of Sujal Gram Samvad



Smt. Aishvarya Singh Joint Secretary & Mission Director

Under SBM(G), States and UTs need to plan and work for achieving ODF Plus (Model) status for every village, while ensuring strict implementation of the SWM Rules, 2026 and compliance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court's orders on this subject. Strengthening on-ground execution by States/UTs through handholding of Gram Panchayats for 4-stream source segregation, BWG registration, EBWGR certification and the remediation of legacy dump sites remains critical.

National Review Meeting DDWS, 22nd May 2026



A. Programme Highlights

Month End Overview

As on 31st May, 2026

ODF PLUS MODEL

- ODF Plus (Model) declared Villages: **Over 5.05 lakh**
- Villages reported having arrangements for Greywater Management: **Over 5.53 lakh**
- Villages reported having arrangements for Solid Waste Management: **Over 5.33 lakh**
- Blocks covered with Plastic Waste Management Units: **5495**
- Under GOBARdhan, **1156** Community / Cluster level biogas plants under SBM(G) have been constructed since the launch of the scheme



SWM Rules 2026 workshop with States and UTs



B. Swachhata Pakhwada in May 2026

Participating Ministries /Departments in May as per Swacchata Pakhwada 2026 Calendar

i. Ministry of Power

ii. Ministry of Science & Technology

i. Ministry of Power



- Tree plantation drive by Agartala Gas Based Power Station, AGGBPS Tripura.
- Plogging with community involvement at Kameng, Arunachal Pradesh.
- Cleaning drive and tree plantation at villages near Tuirial Hydro Power Station, Mizoram.
- PFC organized a drawing competition on Cleanliness on 20th May 2026 at Bal Sahyog, a social welfare organisation with participation from over 50 students.
- A Nukkad Natak was organized at THDCIL Tehri, Uttarakhand Unit to spread awareness about cleanliness, hygiene & healthy environment.
- Menstrual hygiene awareness session was organized at THDCIL Tehri Unit to promote awareness about women health hygiene.
- Painting competition was organized at THDCIL Khurja Unit to promote awareness about cleanliness, hygiene and environment.
- A cleanliness drive was undertaken at THDCIL Khurja U.P to ensure a clean and healthy environment while promoting environmental responsibility
- NEEPCO Guwahati organised a drawing competition on Swachhata themes at Ramdiya Adarsh LP School.
- Swachhta awareness rallies was organized where participants were carrying placards, and administering Swachhta pledge, and spreading awareness on cleanliness (Chandigarh).
- Swachhta awareness rallies were organized where participants carried placards and took the Swachhta pledge in Sundernagar.
- THDCIL Amelia unit organized a Signature Campaign to promote awareness on cleanliness & environmental responsibility.
- Cleanliness drives undertaken at important places including religious sports near the BBMB Residential Colonies (Talwara)
- Campaign on Discarding Single Use Plastic at Kameng, Arunachal Pradesh
- Repair and Renovation of Public Toilets, Schools and Hospitals at Nangal.



B. Swachhata Pakhwada in May 2026

Onground action capturing Swachhata Pakhwada



Tree plantation drive by Agartala Gas Based Power Station, AGGBPS Tripura.



Menstrual hygiene awareness session was organized at THDCIL Tehri Unit.



A Nukkad Natak was organized at THDCIL Tehri , Uttarakhand Unit.



B. Swachhata Pakhwada in May 2026

ii. Ministry of Science & Technology



- Swachhata awareness run held from Shilparamam to CDFD Lab for students, scientists and staff.
- Safai Mitras were felicitated on swachhata pakhwada.
- BRIC-THSTI undertook the initiative of renovating the toilets and classrooms at the Government Girls School, NIT, Faridabad
- Mass cleanliness drive and awareness campaign conducted in Sainik Colony Market in Faridabad.
- A Waste to Wealth competition was organized in BRIC-NCCS, Pune on 8th May.
- Campaign on stopping single the usage of single use plastic conducted in Church colony and Ramantapur at Hyderabad.
- An effort was undertaken to promote swachhata, cleanliness and water conservation by distributing pamphlets to individuals at public places followed by a rally.

Onground action capturing Swachhata Pakhwada



Swachhata awareness run held from Shilparamam to CDFD Lab for students, scientists and staff.



Campaign on stopping single the usage of single use plastic conducted in Church colony and Ramantapur at Hyderabad.



Secretary, DDWS Visits Liquid Waste Management Plant at Art of Living Foundation, Bengaluru



Sh. Ashok K. K. Meena, Secretary, DDWS, visited the Liquid Waste Management Plant at the Art of Living Foundation campus in Bengaluru on 26th May, 2026 to review its operations. He inspected the nature-based solutions adopted at the plant, including constructed wetlands, soil bio-filtration, wastewater collection, treatment, reuse systems and maintenance mechanisms. The Secretary was briefed on sanitation and liquid waste management efforts across Gram Panchayats in Bengaluru Urban District, with a focus on strengthening systems in rural areas.

He was also briefed on the organisation's environmental conservation initiatives, plant-based treatment, natural filtration for sustainable wastewater management, and gobar based organic fertilizer production to preserve soil health and increasing farm productivity in long run.

The visit highlighted the importance of such model facilities in advancing nature-based solutions for liquid waste management across India.



DDWS hosts Sensitization Workshop on SWM Rules, 2026 for States/UTs



Sensitization and hand-holding workshop with States/UTs for compliance of SWM Rules, 2026 and Orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court



DDWS Conducts Sensitization Workshop on SWM Rules, 2026

Secretary, DDWS, Shri Ashok K. K. Meena chaired a virtual sensitization workshop with SBM(G) Mission Directors from States/UTs on compliance with the SWM Rules, 2026. Organized in collaboration with CPCB, the workshop focused on key provisions of the Rules and directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Secretary, DDWS emphasized strict compliance in rural areas, highlighting priorities such as timely reporting, constitution of

district-level Special Cells, four-way waste segregation, and monitoring of dumping sites. CPCB presented the key provisions of the Rules and upcoming monitoring mechanisms, including a centralized on-line portal.

JS & MD, SBM(G), Ms. Aishvarya Singh, addressed queries from States/UTs and stressed the importance of identifying Bulk Waste Generators, strengthening digital monitoring, regular reporting, and ensuring grassroots preparedness for effective implementation of the SWM Rules, 2026.



Joint Review Meeting by Five Union Secretaries with States/UTs on SWM Rules 2026 Implementation



A video conference was convened bringing together Secretaries from MoEFCC, MoHUA, DDWS, MoPR, and MoRD with Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs to review the implementation of Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026 and compliance with Hon'ble Supreme Court directions on May 13, 2026. Secretary, DDWS, Shri Ashok K.K. Meena underscored the importance of strong local governance, collective responsibility, and the critical role of Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) in advancing sanitation and waste management. He highlighted the need for involvement of elected representatives, community sensitization on four-stream waste segregation, and inclusion of SWM as a regular agenda in district-level review platforms such as DWSM/DSBMG meetings. He also called for

encouraging healthy competition among Urban and Rural Local Bodies through recognition and incentive mechanisms.

A subsequent webinar saw participation from around 10,000 stakeholders, focusing on roles, responsibilities, and action points for States/UTs and districts. JS & MD, SBM(G), Ms. Aishvarya Singh emphasized the need for robust implementation systems, empowered district administrations, and strengthened coordination with Zila Panchayats. She highlighted key priorities including four-stream segregation, identification of bulk waste generators, monitoring mechanisms, and capacity building. She further stressed the importance of Jan Bhagidari and sustained compliance with SWM Rules, 2026 as essential for achieving ODF Plus (Model) outcomes.



First Review Meeting on SBM(G) Phase II for FY 2026–27



SBM(G), DDWS held its first review meeting with States/UTs for FY 2026–27 on May 14, 2026 under the chairpersonship of Secretary, DDWS, Shri Ashok K.K. Meena, to assess the status and progress of SBM(G) Phase II. In his opening remarks, Secretary, DDWS emphasized expediting the declaration of ODF Plus (Model) villages, ensuring timely first and second verifications, and strengthening solid waste management arrangements in compliance with the latest SWM Rules, 2026. He also urged States/UTs to prioritize FSM compliance and maximize progress in the initial months of the financial year.

JS & MD, SBM(G), Ms. Aishvarya Singh presented a detailed review of State/UT performance across key components including ODF Plus (Model) villages, fund utilization, greywater management, FSM compliance, solid and plastic waste management, and GOBARDhan. In her concluding remarks, she emphasized upon States/UTs for ensuring functionality of all SLWM assets and prioritizing notification and implementation of O&M policies.

The meeting concluded with a call upon States/UTs for sustained focus, timely action, and strengthened monitoring to achieve SBM(G) Phase II objectives.



Progress Review of CBG/Biogas Initiatives with Gujarat Dairy Cooperatives



JS & MD, SBM(G), Ms. Aishvarya Singh chaired a follow up review meeting (via VC) with NDDB and milk cooperatives/dairies of Gujarat on 19th May 2026 to assess progress on CBG/Biogas plants, in continuation of the earlier review held on 18th December 2025.

The meeting was attended by Sh. S. Chandrasekhar, Group Head, NDDB, along with representatives from Banas, Baroda, Panchmahal, Sumul, Rajkot, and Valsad dairy cooperatives of Gujarat. The meeting reviewed updates from the previous

interaction and focused on the status of projects, key challenges, and coordination with participating dairy cooperatives.

Progress on household biogas plants and upcoming implementation milestones were discussed, along with the need to expedite processes such as civil tenders and address emerging issues. Variations in progress across cooperatives were noted, underscoring the importance of continued monitoring and coordination to support timely implementation of CBG/Biogas initiatives.



National Review Meeting with Deputy Commissioners/ District Magistrates/ Collectors on Solid Waste Management Rules 2026 under SBM(G) and JJM



JS & MD, SBM(G), Ms. Aishvarya Singh participated in a national review meeting with District Collectors/DMs from all States/UTs on JJM and SBM(G), held on 22nd May 2026 and chaired by Shri Ashok K.K. Meena, Secretary, DDWS. The meeting focused on strengthening implementation of SBM(G) alongside water service delivery, with emphasis on improved sanitation outcomes and effective enforcement of the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026.

Shri Ashok K.K. Meena highlighted that SBM(G) has entered a phase where the focus must be on sustained service delivery, functionality and community ownership, with greater emphasis on scientific waste

management and decentralized systems at the Gram Panchayat level.

Ms. Aishvarya Singh reiterated the need for States/UTs to achieve ODF Plus (Model) status in the final year of SBM(G) Phase II and stressed compliance with the SWM Rules, 2026. She highlighted four-stream source segregation, bulk waste generator registration, legacy waste remediation, validation and functionality of SBM(G) assets, promotion of twin-pit IHHLs, timely utilisation of funds, and regular review of water and sanitation status through DWSM meetings. DCs were encouraged to strengthen monitoring, address implementation gaps and ensure coordinated action to sustain rural sanitation outcomes.



D. On-ground Stories from States/UTs

(i) Sanitation Measures at Pilgrim Congregations Across West Bengal



West Bengal has a focused approach to waste management during major pilgrim congregations, covering Ganga Sagar Mela in South 24 Parganas, Shrabani Mela at Tarakeshwar in Hooghly, Joydev Kenduli Mela at Ilambazar in Birbhum, and Jalpesh Mela in Jalpaiguri. The state has put in place waste management arrangements, including deployment of e-carts, sanitation workers, volunteers, SHG members and extensive waste collection infrastructure.

At Gangasagar Mela 2026, over 1,279 MT of waste was collected and channelized through the Sagar Plastic Waste Management Unit, with plastic waste being utilized

in road construction. During Shrabani Mela, 273 plastic cages, 853 dustbins and 500 e-carts supported waste management efforts, while plastic waste was processed for road construction and biodegradable waste was composted and supplied to farmer groups. Similar efforts were undertaken at Joydev Kenduli Mela and Jalpesh Mela, where volunteers, SHGs and local institutions played a key role in cleanliness and awareness activities.

The experience of these pilgrim congregations highlights how sanitation and waste management can be integrated into the planning and management of large religious gathering.



D. On-ground Stories from States/UTs

(ii) Strengthening Fecal Sludge Management through Co-Treatment in Himachal Pradesh



Co-Treatment infrastructure at 2 STPs Nalagarh & Sunder Nagar

Himachal Pradesh has adopted a co-treatment approach under the Fecal Sludge Management (FSM) component of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) to strengthen safe sanitation practices in rural areas. Through a collaboration (signed MoU) between the Rural Development Department and the Jal Shakti Vibhag (JSV), fecal sludge collected from on-site sanitation systems is being transported to Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) for treatment.

Under the arrangement, 22 STPs have been sanctioned for co-treatment across the state. The approach enables the use of existing wastewater treatment infrastruc-

ture for the safe treatment of fecal sludge, while reducing the risk of unsafe disposal and contamination of water bodies. Once operational, these facilities are expected to serve approximately 6,270 villages across 10 districts, supporting integrated planning between rural and urban sanitation systems.

Two functional co-treatment units at the STPs in Palampur (244 villages) and Sundernagar (111 villages) reflects the state's efforts to operationalize FSM through existing treatment facilities and strengthen sanitation service delivery across rural areas.



(iii) Solid Waste Management Initiative in District Kulgam



With support from the Directorate of Rural Sanitation, J&K, a decentralised solid waste management model has been implemented in District Kulgam. The initiative focuses on door-to-door collection of segregated waste, conversion of bio-degradable waste into organic compost, recycling of plastic through a digital platform, and upcycling polythene into handloom-based eco-products.

The initiative has covered over 4,000 rural households across multiple blocks and generated approximately Rs 80 lakh in annual revenue through waste-based products. It has created more than 25 local jobs, both skilled and unskilled, while supplying affordable organic compost to

local farmers. The effort has also led to increased community participation in waste segregation.

A key feature of the model is the integration of technology through an e-commerce platform for plastic waste collection and sale. It also links waste management with rural livelihoods and traditional handloom practices. The use of community-owned, decentralised processing units ensures sustainability and local ownership.

The initiative aligns with SBM(G) principles by promoting the 4Rs of plastic waste management while strengthening rural waste systems



D. On-ground Stories from States/UTs

(iv) Take a Break: Public Sanitation Linked with Tourism in Idukki



Pallivasal Grama Panchayat in Idukki has implemented the Government of Kerala's "Take a Break" initiative to strengthen public sanitation infrastructure in a major tourism corridor near Munnar. Instead of developing conventional toilet complexes, the Panchayat created theme-based facilities that combine toilets with visitor amenities such as cafés, feeding rooms, sanitary napkin vending machines and incinerators. The aim is to provide safe, accessible and well-maintained public sanitation facilities, especially for tourists, women, children and the elderly.

Three "Take a Break" centres have been developed in Pallivasal. The KSRTC Bus Model, named "Munnar Express Pink Café & Take A Break," includes toilets, urinals, wash basins, a sanitary napkin incinerator and a café operated by Kudumbashree women.

The second facility at Karadippara is designed around the historic Kundala Valley Railway theme and includes toilets, a café, watch tower and children's park. The third centre at Pothamedu viewpoint has been designed as a heritage fort structure with toilets, wash areas and recreational spaces. The projects were supported through convergence, with SBM funding contributing to each model.

The project demonstrates strong convergence and stakeholder participation, with leadership from the Panchayat, technical guidance from Suchitwa Mission, and operational support from Kudumbashree units. This model has helped improve public sanitation standards while creating functional visitor facilities and local employment opportunities.



E. Engagement Section

Can you sort these everyday waste items into the correct bins?
Test your knowledge of waste segregation and support the
4 stream approach for better sanitation outcomes.

WASTE SORTING CHALLENGE: PLACE THE ITEMS!

WASTE ITEMS TO SORT

- 1  Banana Peel
- 2  Plastic Bottle
- 3  Diaper
- 4  Old Batteries
- 5  Used Tea Bag
- 6  Glass Bottle
- 7  Cardboard Box
- 8  Sanitary Napkin
- 9  Apple Core
- 10  Expired Medicine
- 11  Paper Cup
- 12  Aluminum Can
- 13  Tissue
- 14  Light Bulb



SELECT AN ITEM AND DECIDE WHICH BIN IT BELONGS IN!





पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग
जल शक्ति मंत्रालय
DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI



To contribute to the next issue of the **Swachhata Samachar**,
share your submission before the 15th of every month to sbmiec.ddws@gmail.com



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