

Concept note on sustainability of Sabar Shouchagar

India shares the largest proportion (60%) nearly six hundred million people defecating in open out of 1.20 billion people defecating in open globally. Recognize the biggest shame, District Administration in Nadia took a note of the poor sanitation and hygiene situation in Nadia district as a priority in a mission mode, even before the launch of the national programme i.e. SwacchBharath Mission. The district leadership took a collective decision on 2nd October 2013 and launched an innovative "SabarShouchagar" (Toilet for all) movement, with the pledge to transform Nadia into an Open Defecation Free district by 31st March, 2015 which had about 33% of Open Defecation at the beginning of 2013.

Thus, in just one and a half years' time, the district made remarkable progress by accelerating the pace of service delivery and covered over 100% families and aims to ensure 100% saturation by April 2015. A positive and enabling environment have encouraged and motivated the stakeholders for effective service delivery and people at large have become aware and started realizing that a new social norm towards stopping open defecation is doable and has to be ensured. The organized network of women Self Help Groups (SHG) and school children has played a major role in generating awareness, behavior change and demand and supply response is coordinated by District Administration and Zilla Parishad through Block Development Officers & Panchayati Raj Institutions. This transformation and turnaround in behavior change among people is the most important outcome of the innovative communication strategy coupled with close and effective monitoring of the programme enabled optimum resource mobilization for accomplishing the mission successfully.

During this tenure the district administration was able to provide 3, 55,609 toilets with near 100% usage as found out in final survey conducted by UNICEF which is attached herewith. Besides, district administration was also able to provide 100% access of Sanitary Toilets to all the Schools, ICDS centres and all others fringe areas of the District through providing community toilets complexes or through special interventions like Cluster Toilets as in Market Places, Roadside Dhabas, Slums etc. Finally Hon'ble Chief Minister, West Bengal Smt. Mamata Banerjee declared Nadia the 1st open defecation free (ODF) district in India on 30th April, 2015. Finally Nadia district received as the First Place Winner for the 2015 United Nations Public Service Award in the category of 'Improving the Delivery of Public Services' for the initiative 'SabarShouchagar'.

Since achieving the ODF status it has been a constant challenge for the district administration to maintain the ODF status of the district by performing practice of using sanitary toilets both at individual and community level. For sustainability purpose Paranazardari committees are already formed in all the areas and they were quite effective

in the enforcement of ODF. But in order to maintain the ODF status a structured approach is required for the entire district which will be spearheaded by the district administration and elected representatives together. To maintain the sustainability of ODF district and to achieve the status of ODF society following steps may kindly be taken:

Regular monitoring:

- A report may be taken in the proforma (**Proforma-I**) from all the GPs about the functioning of Para Nazardari committee where they will distinctly mention the name and no of persons of their locality who may be performing outdoor defecation. The report should be submitted to the GPs on each Monday of every week and Pradhan of that GP will send the consolidated report to the BDO on next working day.
- The BDO will consolidate the report and will send the Block wise report directly to the District Sanitation Cell on each Thursday with the copy to the respective SDO.
- If any stray case of outdoor defecation is ever reported then the family will have to be visited by a Govt. Employee from the GP along with the local member of GP immediately along with members of Para Nazardari committee to sort out the problem. If could not be resolved locally then there will be intervention from Block level.
- Another report (**Proforma-II**) will be prepared by the respective CDPOs on same issue which will come from the Anganwadi workers and CDPOs will submit the same to the DPO ICDS who will submit this to the ADM(ZP) with copy to ADM(Dev) which will have to be submitted by second Tuesday of every month.
- The third report (**Proforma-III**) will be collected by the SI of Schools from all the schools both primary, secondary etc regarding the number of families of the children who are still performing open defecation. This report will have to be collected by the school authority from their students by simply asking whether they perform open defecation or not.
- SI of school will consolidate the report and will submit this to DPO SSM and he in turn will submit this to District Sanitation Cell by second Tuesday of every month.
- DNO SSK/MSK will also collect the same report and submit the same to the District Sanitation Cell by second Tuesday of every month.
- On every month ameeting will be conducted by the ADM(ZP) reviewing these reports at the last week of the month where threadbare discussion on these issues will take place.
- VHSNC will be associated with Para Nazardari committee to sustain the effort.

Proforma-I

Name	Name of GP	Number of	No of persons found to be	Remarks
------	------------	-----------	---------------------------	---------

of Block		Sansads	performing outdoor defecation	

Proforma-II

Name of Block	Name of GP	Number of AWCs	No of students found to be performing outdoor defecation	Remarks

Proforma-III

Name of Block	Name of GP	Number of Schools	No of students found to be performing outdoor defecation	Remarks

BCC Activity

- Oath taking by the students on every Monday in school to sustain the ODF. Oath taking to be started from 30th October, 2015. Oath cards will be supplied by District Sanitation Cell to DPO SSM who in turn will supply the same to the school authorities.
- Massive IEC campaign in block, panchayat level to promote the sanitation practices to sustain the ODF status specially in vulnerable areas. May we use other fund like INC & NHAI, ISGP etc for the IEC campaign.
- Display the Permanent Boards, Flexes, Banners etc in prominent public places like Gram Panchayat Office, Block Office, Bus-stop, Market Places, Health Centre etc.
- Display the banners with message of ODF in various Durga puja & Jagadhatri puja Mondap.
- Meeting with faith leaders of minority communities.
- Erection of cross gates and gantry on important highways.
- Converging resources of other departments in the effort.
- 5-7 tag lines will be developed on post ODF campaign. The D.P.O, SSM will be responsible to develop the message.
- All the GPs will be asked to immediately pass bye-laws if not already declaring outdoor defecation an offence punishable by Fine.
- No building plan will be passed by any GP/municipality if provision of sanitary toilets are not in the plan. Same will apply for all other types of commercial compound like market places, haats etc.
- All GPs will have to display the provision of the bye-law in prominent places in Bengali in permanent metal board.

30th October, 2015 may be celebrated to complete of six month of ODF declaration. In this day a campaign will be organized with active participation of PNC in their areas along with all the officers and people's representatives of the area.

A workshop may be organized on 13th October, 2015 to discuss the plan on post ODF campaign. Various stake holders will be invited in this meeting to share their views to finalize the post ODF campaign strategy. This may be formally launched in the presence of Hon'ble MIC P&RD who may remain present in the occasion.

Concept note on sustainability of Sabar Shouchagar – II

Survey to ascertain the status of toilets

- The District has got around 11 Lakh Households both urban & rural all of which has access to toilets of which 1040456 are of rural in nature out of which 7.5 Lakh Households already had toilets before BLS of 2013.
- Out of these 7.5 Lakh toilets around 2 Lakh toilets are constructed during TSC/NBA phase which are still in use. Most of these 2 Lakh IHHLs are of single pit squatting plate model. As such they are in urgent need of upgradation or reinstallation as these has an average life span of 5-7 years.
- It may be assumed that a good number of them are on the verge of becoming unusable in near future if not upgraded or reinstalled and thereby causing difficulty to maintain ODF status of the District.
- The users of such toilets may and can be motivated into reinstalling or upgrading the same by their own resources but there may be substantial number of families which will require further financial input to maintain the ODF status.
- In order to identify such families as mentioned in the last para a thorough is needed to be undertaken at an early date to properly assess the situation and initiating necessary corrective measures.
- As the District has roughly 11 Lakh HH both urban & rural, a detailed survey will require a fund amounting Rs. 2.2 Crores (Rs. 20/- X 11 Lakh) which will take care of all the expenses from training of enumerators, supervisors, cost of printing of forms, actual survey works, mobility support, supervision, data entry, analysis & consolidation etc.
- As in the current programme of SBM(G) there is no scope of such survey but as this data found to be most important for sustenance of ODF status of the District, as clearly spelt out by the UNICEF consultants in the discussion held on 01.10.2015, UNICEF may be asked either to provide fund for the survey as stated above or they may themselves cause the survey to be done for sustenance of ODF status of District.
- There is a limited number of new HH coming in the District which are not constructing latrines along with the dwelling places which may also have a negative effect on maintenance of ODF status of the District.
- BDOs may be asked to keep vigilance over this phenomena and ensure this problem although very limited in nature may be addressed immediately though local GP, VHSNC & Paranazardari Committee.