



India WASH Forum

WASH News and Policy Update e-Newsletter of India WASH Forum Issue # 38, January 2015

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India WASH Forum News

India WASH Forum stands for an independent credible voice in the water, sanitation and hygiene sector. We bring out one WASH News and Policy Update in two months. It is an open platform for engagement on contemporary issues in WASH sector in India and elsewhere. We are pleased to share the 38th Issue of our WASH Policy Newsletter that is produced once in two months consistently from 2009.

The WASH Policy Newsletter promotes information and knowledge sharing, research and analysis for advocacy on critical issues. We try to highlight critical WASH issues that are often ignored by specific WASH sector agencies who are sometimes engaged with promoting a specific approach or a WASH theme only for example the popular focus in WASH sector today is on Menstrual Hygiene and Sanitation while research is showing that no single WASH intervention should be prioritised. We are also conscious that WASH sector is increasingly being dominated by market led approaches, often drowning the voices of the people and real issues experienced on the

ground. There is no dearth of funding in WASH sector because this is a politically sensitive sector. Yet we are witnessing a shift of funding focus away from real issues and investments in creating adequately staffed service provisioning for operations and maintenance and for behavior change and awareness promotion initiatives, to more and more infrastructure construction in water and sanitation. There is increasing dependence on NGOs for sub contracting promotional work and privatization (often in the PPP mode) of WASH services.

In this backdrop, our newsletter provides an analytical perspective/commentary on contemporary WASH issues. We are conscious of the need to engage with and understand other larger debates in the social and economic development scenario, of which drinking water and sanitation is a part. Hence we include in our news analysis and policy updates, events and developments from other related development fields, besides the WASH sector.

We invite readers to share their experiences and reports that can be disseminated from this WASH Policy Newsletter.

In this 38th issue of our Newsletter we share an analysis of the recent developments. Analysis of the 2015 guidelines of the Swacch Bharat Mission (Grameen), the Mumbai High Court judgment on Right to Water, excerpts of a Study on Sanitation Vulnerability and Womens Stress and Struggles. We also include a civil society WASH memorandum to political parties for 2015 Delhi Assembly elections.

In December 2014, we had the **landmark judgment of Mumbai High Court “Right to get water as an integral part of Right to Life under Article 21 of the Indian constitution.”**

Mumbai represents the urban growth model of development in India where economic development comes with denial of basic rights including water and sanitation to a majority of its people. YUVA had been fighting for the right to water and sanitation for more than a decade and had reached the situation. Securing water through any other means (PPP or privatization of water) was emerging as a hopeless alternative. People



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cannot wait for the state to declare water as a fundamental human right YUVA highlighted the sorry condition where Municipal corporation of Greater Mumbai through its circular of 2012 was denying water supply to unauthorized and slum settlements, was leading to the emergence of water mafia and some NGO led water privatization initiatives that made people pay for water.

While it is good that the Honorable Court upheld the right to food, water and sanitation under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, its ruling also says that this Article does not prevent the authorities to demolish illegal settlements. Those who work in poor urban slum settlements of India know that the tenure rights are more precious to the urban poor than water and sanitation rights. **If this court ruling denies tenure rights to slum dwellers and only upholds their right to water and sanitation then it is not a victory to be celebrated.**

The **alleged rape and murder of two teenage girls who were reportedly murdered when going out for defecation** had made news headlines recently. A CBI probe has concluded that these were suicides and not murder.

In a previous issue of IWF Newsletter we had shown the fallacy of some WASH agencies jumping to the conclusion of lack of toilets causing the outcomes of violence against women in India. This news report by an independent activist says that it is the status of women in general in the caste divided society in UP and some other states of India, that needs to be highlighted and not access to sanitation and toilets. There is no denying the fact the toilets at home are needed, but to make toilet provision the highlight in this tragedy is not right. "Women are disrespected here and falling in love with someone from another caste is unimaginable". "several say that the worst recipe for trouble is handing a mobile phone to a girl who will misuse it, titillate men and create a mess."

This not only shows that extent of gender discrimination, an ancient and medieval mindset that considered women as inferior to men and the need to control their sexuality in order to ensure a patriarchal dominance by men. The increasing conflicts over land ownership and denial of share

of land and property for women under Hindu Marriage Act. In Haryana, the Khap panchayats intervention on intra-gotra marriages is also related to this issue of preventing women from demanding a share of their ancestral family agriculture lands after marriage. Hence the need to get them married as far away as possible from the family village.

We share **excerpts of the SHARE-WSSCC study "Sanitation Vulnerability: Womens Stress and Struggles for Violence Free Sanitation"** done by SOPPECOM and A&M University that re enforce the conclusions drawn above in the Badayun alleged murder of teenage girls

This study, one of the few in WASH sectors, looks at deeper gender and power issues that affect womens access to sanitation, their stress and struggles. Unlike most WASH gender studies that are service focused on accessing usage of toilets by women in a limited framework of a slum settlement, this study claims that "women are not a single entity, so we need not be surprised that caste and community relations present a division." Women showed little hesitation to point out caste groups that engaged in harassment, but responses about sexual assault usually blamed an outsider.

We find that individual women experience the risks of inadequate sanitation differently, but at broader scales, we reach the conclusions that provision of adequate sanitation is not sufficient to alter gendered social relations.

Adequate sanitation without attention to gendered relations of power puts the burden of safety on women, and does not address the caste and gender-based patterns of violence against women.

Many NGO initiative in urban sanitation put the onus of management of public toilets on local communities. Engagement and interest in management of local community infrastructure, is different from financial responsibility imposed on the community to manage a sanitation infrastructure of public toilets in slums. If the local community is given the financial operation responsibility for a public toilet, then the Urban Local Body needs to pay the salary and operational costs to the community. This study



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rightly recommends;

From slum-dwelling women's point of view, however providing a toilet whether public or individual is not sufficient, its maintenance was a key issue. Public toilet maintenance has to be the ultimate responsibility of the ULBs. Moreover the study clearly showed that these toilets have to respond to needs of diverse women (for example old, pregnant, with children, disabled, belonging to different religious and caste communities) by being better lit, in safer locations and with regular provisioning of water.

A need for a community mental health centre was evident given the various psycho- social stresses that women faced.

It seems the Ministry of Drinking water and Sanitation has done an extensive assessment of administrative bottlenecks that impede progress in achieving higher sanitation coverage in India. District level administrative machinery and accountability is emphasized in **Swachh Bharat Mission(Grameen) Guidelines 2015**.

However impediments in programme delivery for promoting improved sanitation and behavior change seem to be left to the new "Army" of Swachhata Doots to be created under SBM(G). Promoting rural sanitation has been attempted before in different central government initiatives - CRSP, the TSC, the NBA and now the SBM. Subsidy for individual household toilets was reduced under TSC and then increased under NBA. It is now further increased in SBM and the programme is delinked from the MNREGA subsidy.

Resistance to building and using toilets are many, and in most instances these are related to the social context of a rural community. In a mixed village, toilets and hygiene are perceived differently by different groups. Then physical constraints of water availability and land for household toilets, varies from state to state. A migrant or a dalit household may have a different self perception of hygiene practice, often based on self perception and esteem that is derived from the work they do, their social status and their living conditions(periphery of village with least amenities, in dirty urban slums). While everyone knows the

health benefits of hand washing with soap or ash before eating and after defecation, socialization of behaviours is deep rooted in a culture perpetuated over centuries and often makes people discount knowledge to practicing what their work and social status demands. For example a landless farm labourer or a dalit may believe that a higher level of hand washing and hygiene behavior is the preserve of the higher caste and well off people in the village and they are not expected to match them. Promoting sanitation and hygiene behavior change messages is not easy and hence different messages for different types of communities may be needed. Similarly adopting a unified community triggering approach using shame and disgust as triggers, may not work in mixed caste villages or worse still may end up strengthening the status quo and exclusion of dalit and other communities.

The SBM programme guidelines while giving due importance to IEC and BCC, fixing accountability and incentives for Swachhta Doots to promote and sustain behavior change, is still not adequately strengthened to address large scale behavior change for sanitation and hygiene that is needed.

An IEC/BCC budget of 4%, 2% for capacity building and 2 % for administrative cost – may not be enough to address the sanitation and hygiene promotion and sustainability in the SBM programme and its ambitious target for 2019. Agreed that the states are expected to draw up more specific plans and this cannot be done in the national guidelines. However the amount allocated for IEC may not be sufficient to secure a team of knowledgeable promoters and monitors to support the Swachhata Doots on a consistent basis. On the other hand a 3% national IEC promotional budget under SBM, essentially used for media driven IEC promotion, appears to be a relatively high allocation that may not be appropriate for WASH behavior change promotion in rural India with its great diversity even at a district level.

Availability of water is another constraint that may impede achievement of SBM goals and this will require concerted efforts and monitoring at the state and district level.

It is feared that State and District Administrations may come up with 5 year plans as an administrative requirement for securing SBM



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funds, without realistically assessing the challenges to saturate GPs/Blocks and Districts with IHHLs and to monitor usage and sustainability. The RLAUs will need to be funded from the 2% administrative budget ceiling of the entire SBM and maybe additionally from the IEC budget. If these are not staffed by professionals who can provide programming guidance for behavior change in sanitation and hygiene, and who can influence the annual and five year targets setting – may end up as mere monitoring cells for SBM undertaking statutory collection of data and performing reporting tasks.

An ambitious sanitation and hygiene programme for the scale of India, needed a large enabling civil society framework of engagement at all levels and a funding mechanism under SBM. Perhaps on the lines of the National Watershed Development programme of the 1990s, that decentralized a technical watershed development programme through NGOs.

There is a need to bring more and more human resources into a national sanitation programme that could run in a campaign mode to achieve ODF India by 2019. There is a need to promote Programme Guidance Mechanisms at Block/District/State/National level with a range of stakeholders(NGOs, universities and colleges, Health and Education sector and private sector) that would ensure a wider ownership of the SBM. Unfortunately, the SBM is still conceptualized in the old administrative programme delivery mode with more District level oversight and more individual responsibility and incentives for motivators(Swachhata Doots) at village level. Teams of sanitation and hygiene promotion professionals at Block level were needed to undertake a 4-5 year WASH promotional programme in a Block and supported by professional teams at the District level. Without investing in an institutional framework to support the software approaches and to rely on a totally government delivery programme, may cost the SBM dear in terms of outcomes and results.

WASH Memorandum to all political parties for Delhi Assembly Elections 2015

Issued by Citizens Solidarity Forum on Right to Water and Sanitation

Dear Sir/Madam,

Drinking water and sanitation is a major priority for residents of Delhi. There is no concrete commitment from any political party as yet in terms of norms, investment, pricing for water and sanitation, or what the elected government will do to ensure improvements in water supply, sanitation and cleanliness of Delhi. The slogan of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is an empty slogan if the political parties are not willing to listen to the demands of the residents of poor and slum settlements of Delhi and commit to providing basic sanitation and water services as a Fundamental Right.

In unauthorized colonies like Sonia Vihar, Sangam Vihar and Bhalswa, the DJB does not provide piped water or any sewerage services. Residents of Sonia Vihar have been unable to obtain water connections despite repeated representations to the DJB and the Delhi Government. In some resettlement colonies like Savda Ghevra, where evicted slum dwellers have been resettled by the government, there is no provision for piped water supply), no provision for sewerage system and people are expected to use public toilets that are non functional or in poor condition. The Delhi government's commitment to providing potable water to the vast population of Delhi living in JJ colonies, Unauthorized and Resettlement Colonies, is almost entirely met by water tankers, or from borewells dug by individuals, private contractors and the mafia.

In Bhalswa JJ colony, situated next to the Bhalswa Landfill, the largest open landfill site of Delhi, although groundwater pollution is very high, in the absence of piped water supply and an unreliable tanker water supply by the DJB, people to perforce use polluted ground water for drinking in many instances. In the Savda Ghevra Resettlement colony, groundwater is contaminated with a high level of solids (TDS), making the water hard and undrinkable. In the south Delhi slums, there is no groundwater at all, since there is no recharge from



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the Yamuna or from any canals as is the case in west, east and north Delhi. In Sonia Vihar, where people have paid huge amounts for laying pipelines for water and face high monthly bills of Rs 500 -1000, the water is of such poor quality that it needs to be boiled before use.

The fact is that the poor end up paying exorbitant amounts for their water, a human Right, is treated as their "willingness and ability to pay" by the government and private sector who try to show that people in poor colonies pay more for water than richer areas. Hence it is appropriate to increase the water tariffs for all, to invite private businesses to operate water and sanitation services for profit.

Lack of sewerage systems and poorly maintained public toilets is a major concern in Delhi slums and unauthorized colonies. Even resettlement colonies set up by the state government do not have sewerage systems. People are defecating in the open and forced to making expensive investments in septic tanks as basement floors of their small 12 square foot houses. Not only is it expensive to construct and pay for regular cleaning, low cost poorly constructed basement septic tanks eat away the foundations of the houses.

Delhi was once a city of public water points, called *piaos*, with these water points scattered all over the city to enable the poor and working class people to avail of a free source to quench their thirst. Almost all the public water points have now been removed. Even the charity *piaos* in front of people's homes to give free water to people, have been dismantled by the DJB.

Considering all these issues, we had conducted a **survey in 2014, to assess the current drinking water demand and sanitation-drainage by unauthorized colonies and slum residents of Delhi**. A report of the key findings and demands of the study is enclosed as **Annexure A** of this letter.

A study of the terms of water privatization in Delhi, in the form of the 3 PPP contracts in Nangloi, Malviya Nagar and Vasant Vihar, that the DJB formalized in 2013. A summary note of key

findings of this study are also enclosed in **Annexure B** of this letter.

DEMANDS FOR YOUR PARTY MANIFESTO FOR 2015 DELHI ELECTION;

1. A Delhi Level Policy –
 - Ensuring water and sanitation provision as a **state responsibility and a fundamental right of every resident** of Delhi and not just a right to choose between different service providers; not an aggregate right for all residents but a right for each and every resident of Delhi.
 - Delhi does not need any additional water from any other external source, including the Renuka waters, beyond what is currently available provided it is used, along with internal sources, wisely.
 - 100% treatment of sewerage and other liquid waste generated.
 - Decentralised water harvesting and wastewater recycling should be an integral part of any sustainable urban water plan
2. Blueprint and budget for providing household level sewerage connectivity to all residents of Delhi by 2016, irrespective of their residential status (slums, unauthorized colonies, etc.).
3. Operation and maintenance of public toilets in bastis should be the responsibility of the government. Women caretaker provided for for womens toilets and provision of water, electricity and a guard for all public toilets.
4. Supply of 20KL/family/month water and sewerage connectivity free. Requirement for larger sized families may be pro-rata to this norm.
5. Drainage and solid waste management to be ensured by government appointed full salaried basti sweepers and not contractual low paid workers by MCD, allotting reasonable work and allocating them materials for cleaning is government responsibility.

6. Suspension of privatisation initiatives and initiation of a referendum on privatisation and PPP projects asking people to vote on whether they want this or not
7. Suspension of wasteful DJB investments in construction of District Metering based water supply systems of underground reservoirs and related infrastructure.
8. Suspending the wasteful new privatisation based electronic metering system.
9. Public toilets to be built and maintained by the government for all slums and unauthorised colonies. If management is handed over to the slums, the government should pay the local committees for salaries and maintenance of the public toilets.
10. Strengthening the DJB. Filling vacant posts, hiring appropriate new staff for operations and maintenance and grievance redressal of complaints.
11. Time bound plans to ensure Roof Rainwater Harvesting for all buildings: government, institutions, malls, embassies, multiplexes, airports, bus depots, hotels, flyovers, etc.
12. Stoppage of fresh water supply from state utility to bottled water plants, golf courses and other such water intensive industries
13. Management committees comprising of 50% non government members, for each Sewerage Treatment Plant(STP), Central Effluent Treatment Plant(CETP), natural drain and *nallas* – based on distance and population criteria(every 5 km length of drains and 1 lakh population of STP/CETP population.
14. Protection of Delhi Ridge, Yamuna floodplains and water bodies from diversion to other uses.

State Must Ensure Water Accessibility to All: Mumbai High Court

<https://sandrp.wordpress.com/2015/01/19/state-must-ensure-water-accessibility-to-all-bombay-hc/>

In a landmark judgment dated Dec 15, 2014, Mumbai High Court bench of Justices Abhay S Oka & A S Gadkari have ruled: “Right to get water is an integral part of right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution of India...”

A rejoiced Sitaram Shelar of petitioner Pani Haq Samiti noted in press release on the day of the judgment, “Reinforcing the intrinsic relationship between water and life, the judgment established that the right to water is as fundamental as the right to life... Pani Haq Samiti will continue the struggle towards ensuring that those living in slums access their right to water.”

Through this case, the apathy of the middle class and a few mainstream political parties towards those living in slums has become evident. Adv Mihir Desai representing Pani Haq Samiti has been instrumental in reinforcing the fact that water is a right and cannot be seen within the purview of slums and illegality alone. Samiti says: “For all those fighting for the right to water in the country, this is a historic judgment. This is the first time that it has been stated that in order to realise Article 21, access to water is essential. Till date there has been no law in India that mandates water to all. The judgment is a great impetus to movements across the country fighting for the basic rights of people.”

The impact of lack of water has impacted both, people as well as the MCGM. Negative impacts of the lack of water supply that have been borne by the Corporation include: an increase in the amount of unaccounted for water (UWF); emergence of the water mafia through which illegal connections and leakages increased; increased contamination of water lines; lastly, revenue that could be earned by the MCGM was being pocketed by the water mafia. Various studies conducted by YUVA, TISS and other organizations on the impact of lack of access to water in slums has found that: Access to water has been only through the water mafia; while buildings are



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provided 1000 litres of water for Rs 4, the water mafia charge Rs 1000 for 1000 litres of water in slums – water has become a financial burden as 30 to 40 percent of a family's income was spent on water.

Slums Indian cities While the cities of India are undergoing a transition phase in the form of rapid developments of modernized apartments, industries and commercial complexes, the ingress of labor and job seekers from other parts of the country, added to the fact that availability of land is now a highly contested resource – the urban areas has seen a prolific development of the informal settlements or the slums.

As per census of India, "Slum" has been defined as residential areas where dwellings are unfit for human habitation by reasons of dilapidation, overcrowding, faulty arrangements and design of such buildings, narrowness or faulty arrangement of street, lack of ventilation, light, water or sanitation facilities or any combination of these factors which are detrimental to the safety and health. 17.4% (137 lakhs) of Indian households are slum, out of which only 49.65 lakhs of households are 'Notified Slums' as per the latest census of 2011.

In many Indian cities and towns facing the challenges of increasing populations and expansion of urban areas, direct access to clean, affordable, and reliable drinking water is a significant challenge, especially to the poor who lives in slums. As per the WHO-UNICEF Joint Monitoring Program's Report of April, 2014, only 51% of the urban households have coverage of piped onto premises supply of drinking water and 46% are covered by other improved sources.

Most of the slum dwellers in Mumbai lack the basic necessities of life. Despite the fact that many slums have been notified by the government, one tap is shared by more than thousand persons in some of the slum compared to an average of 52 persons per tap.^[2] The number of slums in Mumbai which came up after the year 2000 were officially prevented from provision of Municipal water supply.

In 2012, a Public Interest Litigation (no 10 of 2012) was filed by Pani Haq Samiti^[3] and others (vs Brihan Mumbai Municipal Corporation and others) in the Bombay High Court challenging the State Government Circular dated 4th March, 1996 which provides that the Local Authorities shall ensure that the water supply is not released to any unauthorized constructions. . On the basis of this circular, the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) prohibited regularized water connections to nearly 30 lakh people living in post 1995 slums the city. The petition also challenged a rule framed by Mumbai Municipal Corporation which initially provided that the water shall be made available to the structures in existence in slum areas till 1st January 1995, deadline of which is extended till 1st January, 2000. The question was whether the slums which illegally came up after 1st January, 2000 are entitled for water supply or not?

The State Government, however, in their reply stated that there is nothing illegal in the policy of State Government not to grant water supply to residents of illegal slums since the same is being done as State does not want to encourage the construction of such illegal slums and people occupying such illegal slums. The State Government showed concerns that any relief to the petition would mean encouraging the construction of the illegal slums, some of which are in difficult areas of the city like hills where provision of water supply is impossible for the Municipal Corporation. The concerns of encroachment of CRZ areas and forest lands by slums were specifically pointed out to the court and argued that it will lead to irreparable damage to the environment.

In a Chamber Summons filed in support of the contention that the notion that criminals or anti-social elements are staying in the slum areas is without any foundation, the fact that around 4,426 constables and 81 Inspectors of Mumbai Police lives in Slums as per April, 2006 data also came into light. The occupants of post 1st January 1995 slums include employees of Government itself as well as the employees of the Municipal Corporation and other Authorities.

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Throwing light on the fact that the Municipal Corporation is supplying water to the unauthorized occupants to the buildings in Mumbai which do not have occupation certificates or completion certificates on humanitarian grounds, the judgment observed, 'Humanitarian considerations are applied to only a category of unauthorized occupants. The unauthorized occupants of constructed buildings are protected by providing water supply, but not the persons residing in slums. We are mentioning this only to point out the approach of the Municipal Corporation.'

'In a situation where State Government encourages the creation of jobs, allows the bringing in of migrant labour and work force, makes the city of Mumbai and attraction for job-seeker, the State has done nothing to provide low cost housing in the city', the judgment quoted a para from the application.

Defining the limitation of Article 21 of Constitution of India to protection of such illegal constructions, the Court stated that the Authorities are under legal obligation to ensure that the illegal constructions do not come up and if they come up the same are effectively and expeditiously demolished by following the due process of law. But, State cannot deprive a citizen of his fundamental right to food and water which is an integral part of the right to life guaranteed under Article 21 on the ground that he is in occupation of an illegally constructed hut.

Badayun Twin Hangings : Burying a Crime

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/opinion/badaun-twin-hangings-burying-a-crime-627091?pfrom=home-topstories>

(Shefali Misra is part of a documentary film called Death Under The Mango Tree. She co-authored an independent report on crimes against women, is a development professional and politician with AAP.)

Speculations of murder, hanging and now suicide- can someone please get up and smell the Badaun Rot?

The CBI concludes that the girls committed suicide putting to rest the 'who dunnit' speculations. But why would two minor girls, age 14 and 15, kill themselves and, moreover, manage to lasso their dupattas over a massive mango tree, to hang over a seven-foot high branch. If they killed themselves, how did they manage to pull their bodies three feet above the ground, knot their necks and sustain the strength to hang themselves? Finally, they were able place their slippers right below their 'to be soon dead bodies' and wait to die.

Are we to believe that this is possible?

I am given to understand that the court will now take cognizance of the CBI's report that the cousins committed suicide. One sincerely hopes that the court will ask the right questions and give a more palatable judgment.

The suicide explanation seems convenient - it lets everyone off the hook and plants blame on the voiceless victim. The CBI has cracked the case, the VIP caravans have come and gone, and now the case can be closed.

I found myself standing under the infamous mango tree last week, where six months ago, two girls were allegedly killed and hung. Their bodies remained suspended mid-air for over 12 hours as their deaths were publicized and politicized. I had earlier gone with local leader Hema Badhwar to research the root causes of such heinous crimes.

The mango courtyard served as the parking lot for media vans telecasting globally the horrors of the girls' death.

Everyone stood up - from Ban Ki Moon and the US Department of State to Rahul Gandhi, Rajnath Singh, Mayawati and Akhilesh Yadav, Chief Minister of India's most populous state.

The case since then has gone through two enquiries and multiple speculations. The initial postmortem conducted by five doctors called it rape, the forensic analysis on which the CBI relies opines in the negative.

Mid-way into the enquiry, speculations were afloat of the deaths being an honor or assisted killing to cover an inter-caste love affair.



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In my recent visit to Katra Sadatgunj last week, this time as the anchor for a documentary film on the hangings, a different story revealed itself. Such cases of sudden deaths, rapes, murders or sodomy are routine and an indicator of much deeper dis-empowerment. UP is no stranger to crimes against women- it is ranked second-lowest in India on the Gender Development Index and records the maximum number of complaints of harassment, murders, dowry deaths and kidnappings as per the National Crime Bureau (2012 figures).

Swastika Mehta, a journalist covering the hangings points to an uncomfortable truth: "It will take more than a suicide or hanging for the badlands of Uttar Pradesh to wake up and the truth to come out. These things are common enough not to even hit front-page headlines. Women are disrespected here and falling in love with someone from another caste is un-imaginable."

Is it such a crime to fall in love or be attracted to someone of another caste to warrant killing oneself if exposed? Apparently it is! Media reports indicate that the CBI found 250 odd phone-calls shared between an upper-caste Yadav boy and one of the girls. In a social milieu where caste shapes the determinants of all relations, an inter-caste love affair is unacceptable and spat upon.

Men's perceptions about such women are terrible. "Several say that the worst recipe to trouble is handing a mobile phone to a girl who will misuse it, titillate men and creates a mess," adds Swastika.

What is equally appalling and something the CBI report will not talk about is that Katra Sadatgunj seems to have become a mute witness to its own rot. During the film shoot, I met with Laxmi Kumari and her cousins making their way to the village outskirts to relieve themselves. I ask her if they feel safe and whether they got the toilets that were promised after it was revealed that the cousins went missing when they allegedly left their home to relieve themselves in a field.

"No we don't have toilets. Our family doesn't even know. We don't even know that toilet schemes were announced when we go out in the night, boys still come and flash torch lights on us, make lewd gestures and remarks. We control ourselves

during the day and move to the fields only in the mornings or night" replies Laxmi frankly.

Nothing else has changed in Katra Sadatgunj either! The local government school still serves putrid food and has absent teachers, drains are blocked, power supply is available just three hours a day and eve-teasing, molestation, violence against women are reported regularly. The only visible development is the construction of 108 pink and green toilets made by Sulabh International - certainly not enough for a village of 6000 people. Laxmi says none are located near her.

Finally, so perverse is the subjugation of women here that even their top-most elected leader is forbidden from performing her functions. Kamal Kant Tiwari who claims to be the Pradhan (village head) and is in-charge of village governance and VIP protocol is actually a proxy. He speaks openly about been in-charge since 2010 and blames poorly-funded schemes for the condition of the village. He fails to even acknowledge the existence of his wife Babli Tiwari who is the real Pradhan. Babli, a bright woman, has not participated in village governance for the last four years of her term.

Mayurika Biswas, director of a documentary-in-progress on the Badaun killings, remarks, "To get to the truth of what really happened that night one must understand the social triggers that perpetrates such violence".

To imagine a village just six hours from Delhi as the possibly compliant home of a crime of such horror is a scathing indictment of our true state. This is not a center-versus-state responsibility point either. What we are witnessing in Badaun is the aggregation of the worst form of apathy towards our women and girls and it will not change until someone decides to get their hands dirty and deal with the real rot.



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Sanitation Vulnerability: Womens Stress and Struggles for Violence free Sanitation

Based on a yearlong study (2013-2014) 'Sanitation Vulnerability: Women's Stress and Struggles for violence-free sanitation', jointly done by SOPPECOM, and Texas A&M University, and supported by Department for International Development, UK; and The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)

Women's stress and struggles around violence-free sanitation varied across a spectrum: from preoccupation with safety to the normalization of harassment. While the hazards were many, some were not constant, like a need to rush out due to diarrhoea. Others were constant, like facing down a group of boys' taunts. Remarks like "What can we do?" and "We have no choice," give insight into the normalization of women's discomfort surrounding Open defecation (OD) and Public Toilets (PTs). They also may be understood as women's felt powerlessness around the issue of inadequate sanitation and its associated risk.

This research indicates that sanitation in the form of OD and PTs maintains the status quo of unequal gender relations. These relations intersect with relations of age, caste, and class. Seen as a struggle over resources, negotiations around the safe use of OD and PT sites were often to the disadvantage of women (e.g., inability to go at night). Widows faced more physical insecurity, but even married women avoided telling their husbands about harassment or being assaulted out of fear of conflict. Husbands set limits on wives' movement, time spent going for OD, and time of day of going out. However, gender relations were not necessarily antagonistic at the household scale. A woman could ask her husband to accompany her for defecation. Husbands also responded to their wives' requests for Individual household latrines (IHLs) for themselves or daughters.

Community played a significant role in shaping women's experiences around harassment. Belonging to a majority community had some advantages in both the cities. In Pune in Ambedkar basti Marathi women told us that the Marathi municipal corporator (ward level political representative) belonging to a right wing regional party had "fixed" the non- Marathi men and there

was thus overall less violence against women in the basti.

Our research shows that membership in the slum's dominant caste served as protection to married women, while women outside that caste might still be targets of harassment.

In Jaipur women of dominant castes claimed they felt no fear, faced no trouble, and had little experience with harassment. In Pune one of the few upper caste women we interviewed told us how insecure she was in the midst of dalits and how she feared for her daughter's safety.

We argue that such talk may be true, but it enables these women to put distance between themselves and other women's experiences and fears in the settlement. 'Women' are not a single entity, so we need not be surprised that caste and community relations present a division.

Women showed little hesitation to point out caste groups that engaged in harassment, but responses about sexual assault usually blamed an outsider. This may be because women were reluctant in small bastis to name someone, but it also suggests that those outside community sanctions with access to women at OD places (e.g., along a busy road) seized opportunities to assault when they presented themselves. Notably, in both Pune and Jaipur, women's triumphant responses to attackers were against outsiders.

Overall, the possibilities for women joining forces across caste groups seem minimal.

Communities in Jaipur are rigidly caste- divided, as evidenced by a riot in one of the slums during our interview period.

Little community solidarity was evident against sanitation-related violence or for the provision of sanitation.

Poor slum-dwelling women have developed habits that fit their caste, stage in the life course, marital status, etc. Nonetheless, every day is a different day, and the fears and discomfort that women confront are not necessarily the same in content, intensity, or even present on any given day, depending on the circumstances that they leave at home, their physical condition that day, and the presence/absence of certain groups/individuals at/near the defecation site.

Our discussion of the multiple inequalities that constrain women's choices surrounding sites of

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defecation begs the question, “What might the provision of adequate sanitation do to curtail gendered violence?” We take as a starting point that an alteration of gendered social relations is required. We find that individual women experience the risks of inadequate sanitation differently, but at broader scales, we reach the conclusions that provision of adequate sanitation is not sufficient to alter gendered social relations.

Adequate sanitation without attention to gendered relations of power puts the burden of safety on women, and does not address the caste and gender-based patterns of violence against women.

What emerges from the analysis of women's words is an understanding of both their individual struggles and the broad political relationships that hold India's gendered urban sanitation crisis in place. In particular, there are tensions between the needs of the urban poor and state-led, neoliberal development agendas. Being part of the city's not-so-desirable population itself puts the poor in a vulnerable position. As Gidwani and Reddy (2011) write, the poor form the 'waste' of the city—something that is outside of political modernity. So while there is a continual engagement with this 'waste' whether in terms of labour or spaces, it is mainly to maximize the potential of converting that labour or space into profit. Different arrangements emerge in this process, whereby common spaces are converted into private ones and labour is engaged in as much as it supports profit making. In such a paradigm of urban development the poor have to be gated out to the extent possible. The urban underclass is thus already in an unfavourable location and is thus not seen as worthy of any amenities.

We have no argument against a need for urban sanitation in India. The point has been made clearly by scholars and activists working in this sector.

However through our evidence we argue for a need to move beyond abstractions such as 'right to sanitation' and 'sanitation deprivation' to ground the absence or inadequacy of sanitation in the everyday struggles and psycho-social stress of women impacted by this reality (Sultana 2012).

Recommendations:

- Rethinking the urban development paradigm has to come to the forefront of the agenda. Sanitation plans will have to be integrated into the larger development plans of cities and states, where development is based on principles of equity, sustainable use of resources and democratic participation.
- For the urban poor the immediate concerns are those of space and survival. Issues of lack of tenure, living space and drainage have been voiced as the key constraints in constructing toilets. While the National Urban Sanitation Policy (NUSP) strongly suggests that the urban local bodies (ULBs) will have to settle these issues and provide for minimum access to sanitation facilities (NUSP 2008), a strong national budgetary commitment for the same is in order.
- From slum-dwelling women's point of view, however providing a toilet whether public or individual is not sufficient, its maintenance was a key issue. Public toilet maintenance has to be the ultimate responsibility of the ULBs. Moreover the study clearly showed that these toilets have to respond to needs of diverse women (for example old, pregnant, with children, disabled, belonging to different religious and caste communities) by being better lit, in safer locations and with regular provisioning of water.
- A need for a community mental health centre was evident given the various psycho-social stresses that women faced.
- Finally a community monitoring process is required whereby women and other stakeholders across diverse caste, class, and religious groups can monitor schemes and their outcomes that are implemented for their sake.



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Swachh Bharat Mission(Grameen) Guidelines 2015

The much awaited Swachh Bharat Mission(Grameen) were released in January 2015. These are available on MDWS website.

Salient features of the guidelines are;

- Mix of individual and community led approaches. Actual approach to be decided at District level.
- (IHHL) shall be available for all Below Poverty Line (BPL) Households and Above Poverty Line (APL) Households restricted to SCs/STs, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers with homestead, physically handicapped and women headed households.
- IHHL subsidy of Rs.12,000. States will have flexibility to use financial incentives for Individual Household Latrines. Central Share of this Incentive for IHHLs shall be Rs.9,000(75%) from Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen). The State share will be Rs.3,000(25%). For special category states 90:10 outlay.
- A duly completed household sanitary latrine **shall comprise of a Toilet Unit including a substructure which is sanitary** (that safely confines human faeces and eliminates the need of human handling before it is fully decomposed), a super structure, with water facility and hand wash unit for cleaning and handwashing.
- The Annual IEC Action Plan should be approved by the DWSC/DWSM. Funds required for implementing the IEC plan shall be provided under this component to Blocks, Gram Panchayats and/ or agencies involved in its implementation.
- States may provide incentives to households in 2 phases, one at pre-construction phase and the other on completion of construction and usage.
- Saturate coverage first in States/Districts/GPs in all major river basins of India
- Focus on community monitoring and

vigilance committees to ensure ODF villages

- Focus on Inter Personal Communication, Triggering of demand and use of toilets.
- Strengthened Block and District Level Monitoring and Implementation.
- The State and District Mission to provide for a Sanitation Support Organisation to each GP.
- An Army of Swachhata Doots. One person of a couple of persons supported by a community based vigilance committee in every village – who shall be responsible for motivating, assisting construction of toilet and ensuring sustained latrine usage by all members of a household. To be given an incentive of Rs.150/household who builds and uses a toilet.
- Setting up Rapid Action Learning Units(RLAUs) at National, State and District levels for programme review, evaluation and learning.
- Baseline Survey data of 2013, collected by States and entered on the IMIS of MDWS by 31.1.2015, will be considered as the base for all states
- Districts should prepare proposals to be consolidated by state governments into a 5 year plan with five independent annual plans for MDWS approval each year.
- Social audits done by a specific village level body/committee/SHG etc. which shall be carried out in coordination with the GP.

Excerpts from the Guidelines of SBM

*The suggested approach would be to adopt **the Community led and Community Saturation approaches** focusing heavily on collective behavioral change. Emphasis is to be placed on awareness generation, triggering behaviour change and demand generation for sanitary facilities in Houses, Schools, Anganwadis, places of Community congregation, and for Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities. Focus will be on Inter Personal Communication (IPC), especially of triggering of demand and use of toilets through social and behavioural change communication and house-to house interventions. Since Open Defecation Free villages cannot be achieved without all the*



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households and individuals conforming to the desired behaviour of toilet use, every day and every time, community action and generation of peer pressure on the outliers are the key. Therefore behavior change communication should focus on triggering entire communities. Community-based monitoring and vigilance committees are essential to create peer pressure. Delivery mechanisms would be adopted to meet the community needs, which is to be decided by the States. In the context of striving for saturation and its consequent implications, it is suggested that the planning for implementation should be the District level. There should be suitable targeting of GPs and an appropriate district wide IEC/IPC/social mobilization campaign should be carried out.

Significant strengthening of the Implementation mechanism is envisaged. Administrative and technical experts (e.g. on IEC and BCC, capacity building, technical supervision, SLWM and Monitoring and Evaluation) are to be made available at the State, District and Block levels.

An army of 'foot soldiers' or '**Swachhata Doots**' on sanitation could be developed and activated. These would be through using existing arrangements like Panchayati Raj Institutions, Co-operatives, ASHAs, Anganwadi workers, Women Groups, Community Based Organisations, Self Help Groups, Water linemen/pump operator etc. who are already working in the GPs, or through Swachhata Doots engaged specifically for the purpose. In case existing employees of other line Departments are to be utilised, their original Line Departments have to be in clear agreement to the expansion of their roles to include activities under the Swachh Bharat Mission. Further, as an alternative to creating a cadre of Swachhata Doots in the villages, the State may work through Civil Society Organisations with a mutually agreed upon incentive structure. In case the CSO route is adopted, the Swachhata Doots may be responsible to the CSO, who will also take the responsibility of paying the Incentives to such Swachhata Doots. There needs to be at least one person or a couple of persons supported by a community-based

vigilance committee in every village who shall be responsible for motivating, assisting construction and ensuring sustained latrine use by every person in each household in the village. Capacity Building of each of these persons has to be ensured. Role of such workers and also Health and ICDS workers to communicate to the Community, the consequences of poor sanitation and open defecation and their impact on health, is emphasised.

The provision of **Incentives for individual household latrine units** to the rural households is available to States (from the IHHL component) which may wish to provide the same so that tangible assistance is available for creation of infrastructure in addition to extensive motivational and behavioral change interventions (from the IEC component). This may also be used to maximize coverage so as to attain community outcomes.

States will have flexibility regarding the utilization of the IHHL Incentive. Participation of reputed Civil Society Organisations (CSO), Self Help Groups (SHG), NGOs, international, national and local level organizations with a proven track record of working in specific fields in the social sector should be taken in activities involving IEC/BCC/triggering, capacity building, monitoring and if found appropriate, in implementation. Local level mobilisation on sanitation has to be focused, as this cannot be substituted by other Communication methods. Availability of water in the Villages is an important factor for sustaining sanitation facilities created. Conjoint programmes may be prioritised at the District and GP levels under the SBM(Grameen) and the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), to maximize the availability of water for sanitary purposes.

Rural School Sanitation focusing on separate toilets for girls and boys remains a major intervention which shall be implemented under the programmes of the Department of School Education. Water will be provided inside the toilets for both boys and girls. Toilets in Anganwadis shall be provided by the Department of Women and Child Development. Children are



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to be utilised as sanitation communicators to spread the message of safe sanitation to all. This Mission shall specifically focus on such a campaign, involving educational institutions in rural areas.

An illustrative list of technology options, with cost implications will be provided to meet the customer preferences and location-specific needs. This list shall be continuously updated as new technologies are found. This needs to be communicated to the beneficiaries providing them with the choice of technological options. MDWS would assist in the preparation of such information. It shall be ensured that sanitary toilets are constructed, which ensure safe confinement and disposal of faeces. Appropriate participation of the beneficiary/communities, financially or otherwise in the setting up of the toilets is advised to promote ownership and sustained use, both at the household and community levels.

An effective monitoring mechanism shall be put in place for monitoring both - outputs (Toilet Construction) and of Outcomes (Toilet usage) suitably which could inter-alia be in the monitoring of open defecation in the GP. In view of the time scale of the Mission, the monitoring system shall also have - Rapid Action Learning Units (RALU) at the National, State and District levels tasked with studying and analyzing action taken across the country in the rural sanitation programme, evaluating their impact, identifying good practices for up scaling and also suggesting innovations and a range of options for implementation.

Implementation

Implementation of of SBM (G) is proposed with 'District' as the base unit, with the goal of creating ODF GPs. The District Collectors/Magistrates/CEOs of Zilla Panchayats are expected to lead the Mission themselves, so as to facilitate district wide planning of the Mission and optimum utilization of resources. The Baseline Survey data of 2013 collected by States and entered on the IMIS of MDWS by 31.1.2015 will be considered as the base for all states where the survey is still complete. For

other states the data entered on completion of the Survey will be taken as the base data.

A project proposal shall be prepared by a District, and scrutinized and consolidated by the State Government into a State Plan. The State Plan with district wise details will be shared with the Government of India (Swachh Bharat Mission-Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation). This Plan shall will include a 5 year Plan along with 5 independent annual Plans which merge into the 5 year Plan. These plans shall be approved by the Ministry each year. On the basis of formative research and consultation rounds, the State shall develop a tailor-made communication strategy, a communication plan, and material and will train community mobilisers to use these tools. The State plans shall provide details of the IEC, BCC, Triggering exercise, Capacity building, Implementation, Financial support and Monitoring activities planned in each district, consolidated for all Gram Panchayats. The District wise plans will have Gram Panchayat-wise details. The State Project Implementation Plans currently prepared by States on a perspective basis shall be revised based on the Baseline data and the revised norms of the SBM(G). The States will be allowed to make inter- district changes in allocation of resources to the individual districts within the overall funding of the state as a whole as per the approved Annual Implementation Plan (AIP), in consultation with the Centre.

Funds are to be made available for these preliminary IEC works including for triggering behaviour change. This will endeavor to reach every household in every community and shall disseminate information regarding the need for safe sanitation, and the ill effects of open defecation getting the population oriented towards satisfying their felt-needs. The feeling of shame and disgust can be introduced in the target population with focused communication at the community level where an entire community can be triggered into positive action towards elimination of open defecation and restore community pride. Individual households will be provided a menu of options for their household latrines, both in terms of technology, design and cost. To bring about the desired sustainable behavioural changes for relevant



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sanitary practices, intensive IEC and advocacy, based on Inter Personal Communication (IPC) with participation of one or more of the following - Government representatives like Swachhata Doots/ASHAs, ANM workers, Anganwadi workers/CSOs/NGOs/Panchayati Raj Institutions/resource organizations/local SHGs with a good track record is envisaged. Thus a mix of Individual and Community led approaches is envisaged to achieve the desired outcomes. The participation of local community oriented organizations has to be obtained to garner belief in the Community and develop their confidence in the programme. Thus the actual approach has to be decided at the District level and the identification and selection such groups and organizations has to be carefully done taking into account their experience and capabilities.

The proliferation of educational facilities in the rural areas provides the opportunity to utilize an approach that should essentially include an element that involves school and college children as potential agents of change in homes. This needs to be leveraged to the maximum extent possible and be included in any plan made to upscale sanitation facilities and use.

The built-in flexibility in the menu of options is to give the poor and the disadvantaged families' opportunity for subsequent upgradation of their toilets depending upon their requirements and financial position. The provision of Incentives can be used appropriately as decided by the State governments. A synergistic interaction between the Government agencies and other stakeholders is essential.

The provision of Incentives for individual household latrine units to the rural households is available to States which wish to provide the same. This may also be used to maximize coverage so as to attain community outcomes. States will have flexibility regarding the utilization of the Incentive. Incentives, if given, may be to the Individual households or where the community model is necessarily adopted to trigger the demand in GPs/Blocks/Districts, the community as a whole or as a combination of both. Since the Incentive for one IHHL is Rs. 12000, the State will be eligible to receive the

entire amount (shared between the Central and state governments. However the Incentive charged on the Mission will be used entirely on the sanitation sectors. States will decide on the methodology of the actual construction of toilets to follow triggering of demand under the Programme. Fund flow for IEC, Triggering, Capacity building, Monitoring activities can be done through the Gram Panchayats or through other agencies like administrative departments, CSOs, NGOs, SHGs etc. as decided by the State. Ideally the construction activities should be taken up by the individual beneficiaries themselves with support from/or through agencies in the village. States may decide to provide Incentives to households in two phases, one at the pre-construction stage and the other on completion of construction and usage. However, the community incentive, if any, can only be released after the village unit is open defecation free for a significant length of time. Both of these outcomes to be measured through a robust follow up monitoring system.

Since National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) is being implemented across India through a huge network of SHGs, Village Organizations (VO) of SHGs in the villages, Block level and District level Federations of SHGs for improving quality of life, beside strengthening livelihood options, States may tie up with State Project Management Units of NRLM in the respective states for utilizing the huge network of SHGs for effective IEC and BCC, triggering demand and promoting area specific toilet design and specification. The SHGs can also be effectively used as a micro financing unit for sanitation infrastructure. The Revolving Fund available under the SBM(G) also may be utilized through the NRLM mechanism. Arrangements for this can be made at the State level. SHGs may also be utilized for working as Rural Sanitary Marts (RSMs) in remote areas where bulk procurement and delivery of quality hardware for toilet construction may be assured through such system. Funding for this shall also be permitted under the SBM(G).

The Scheme shall aim to saturate coverage in the first instance the States/ Districts/ GPs in all major river basins of India e.g. Sutlej , Ravi,



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Beas, Ganga, Yamuna, Godavari, Narmada, Tapti, Kaveri, Brahmaputra. This will ensure the outcomes required for pollution free rivers, in addition to ODF communities.

A robust Monitoring arrangement has to be put in place to monitor open defecation status of a village, the implementation of Solid and Liquid Waste Management projects as well as the construction and use of Household, Schools, Anganwadi toilets and Community Sanitary Complexes. The monitoring has inter-alia also to use a robust community led system, like Social Audit.

A Rapid Action Learning Unit (RALU) should be put in place at the National, State and District levels (if found to be required by States), to evaluate the monitoring exercise, provide advice on corrective action and upscale good practices. The RAL units will be small, flexible and specialized to meet these needs and to find fast and effective ways forward, developing, sharing and spreading solutions. This will be based on learning's about Action (what is happening in the field) and from Action (by trying out through Innovative action). These units will carry out activities including being upto date with field activities under SBM(G), brainstorming and search; field trials of innovative approaches; research and sharing and feedback. Detailed instructions on RALU will be issued by MDWS.

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Swachh Bharat Mission(Grameen) Financial Commitments:

S.N.	Component	Amount earmarked as percent of the SBM(G) project outlay	Contribution Share		
			GOI	State	Beneficiary Household/ Community
a.	IEC, Start Up Activity and Capacity Building	Up to 8% of total project cost, with 3% to be utilized at the Central level and 5% at State level.	75%	25%	0%
b.	Revolving Fund	Up to 5%	80%	20%	0%
c.	(i) Individual Household Latrines	Actual amount coverage	Rs.9,000 (75%) (10,800 (90%) in case of NE States, J&K and Special category States)	Rs.3000 (25%) (1,2000 (10%) in case of NE States, J&K and Special category states	0%
	(ii) Community Sanitary Complexes	Actual amount required for full coverage	60%	30%	10%
f.	Administrative charges	Up to 2% of the project cost	75%	25%	0%
g.	Solid/Liquid Waste Management (Capital cost)	Actual amount as per SLWM project limits permitted cost within	75%	25%	0%



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About India WASH Forum

India WASH Forum is a registered Indian Trust since 2008 with Trustees from all over India. It is a coalition of Indian organizations and individuals working on water, sanitation and hygiene. The coalition evolved out of WSSCC support to national WASH sector advocacy.

The mandate/charter of India WASH Forum is Hygiene and Health outcomes from sanitation and water sector;

- **Promoting knowledge generation** through research and documentation which is linked to and supported grassroots action in the water-sanitation-hygiene sectors. Special emphasis is given to **sector-specific and cross-cutting thematic learnings**.
- **Supporting field-based NGOs and networks in their technical and programmatic work.** The IWF would also consistently highlight gender and pro-poor considerations, and provide a national platform for interest groups working in the sector to come together.
- **Undertaking policy advocacy and influence** work through
 - Monitoring and evaluations
 - Media advocacy and campaigns, and
 - Fact finding missions
 - **Undertaking lobbying and networking to promote common objectives** in the sector.

In order to undertake credible independent WASH advocacy work in India, the national coalition got registered as an Indian charity in 2008 and has undertaken a number of significant research and advocacy work that includes:

Knowledge Networking and Advocacy initiatives undertaken by India WASH Forum;

- Gender and Sanitation South Asia Workshop with National Foundation of India in Delhi; 2005
- Review of Swajaldhara and TSC Programme Guidelines; 2007
- Input to the Technical Expert Group set up to review the National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM); 2007
- Civil Society Input, Urban Sanitation Policy 2009
- Review of TSC in 4 states of India 2009
- Organisation of SACOSAN 3 in Delhi. CSO session and a CSO Statement of Action, 2009
- National Right to Water and Sanitation Workshop 2009 with participation from the Ministry and CSOs
- Start up of the GSF programme in India
 - Launch workshop 2009 with stakeholders in Delhi, 2009
 - Developing and finalising the Country Programme Proposal, 2010
 - Leading the PCM of GSF, as an institutional host and Chair and Convener.
 - Providing oversight for programme review.
- Member Govt of India 12th Five Year Plan Working Group on Drinking Water and Sanitation 2010. Recommendations on behaviour change priorities and staffing for national sanitation programme.
- Recommendations for Urban and Rural Water and Sanitation inputs: national consultations on drinking water and sanitation by Planning Commission Govt of India and Arghyam 2010
- National Pro poor Urban Water and Sanitation Consultation, 2010
- National report and a South Asia Report for SACOSAN 3 : Peoples Voices – a National



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Study project, Reports for India and South Asia, 2011

- Formal Input to the National Water Policy 2012, with a focus on drinking water and sanitation
- Report to the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation: UNDP international consultation – Greening of Rural Water Supply Programme and Guidelines, 2012
- FANSA-IWF Review of national commitments and progress since Sacosan 4, and preparation for World Water Forum 2012
- School Sanitation Baseline Research by GIZ for Tirupati and Mysore, 2012

Since 2010, India WASH Forum is actively engaged in the Global Sanitation Fund(GSF) and currently hosts Programme Coordination Mechanism(PCM), of the **GSF in India**. The role of the PCM is to provide a governance oversight to the GSF Programme in India. The Programme is being implemented by an Executing Agency called Natural Resources Management Consultancy(NRMC) that makes NGO sub grants in the two states of Jharkhand and Assam. The Programme is managed directly from WSSCC Geneva and with the support of the PCM and an Auditor(called the Country Programme Monitor) that is KPMG for India.

A unique feature of IWF is its non-hierarchical set up. Most of the Trustees of India WASH Forum are represented in their individual capacity and do not represent the organisations they are associated with. The agenda and activities that India WASH Forum are determined at the initiative of the Trustees and support from organisations and individuals.

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