

Progress of Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen in Rajasthan

Why in News?

The Union Minister for Jal Shakti chaired a crucial review meeting to assess Rajasthan's progress and challenges in implementing the Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G).

Key Points

- Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM-G) & Rajasthan:
 - It was **launched in 2014 by the Ministry of Jal Shakti** to accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put focus on sanitation.
 - The mission was implemented as a nation-wide campaign/Janandolan which aimed at eliminating open defecation in rural areas.
 - Rajasthan has demonstrated notable progress under the SBM-G initiative:
 - Ranked 10th nationally for ODF (Open Defecation Free) Plus Model achievements.
 - 98% of villages in the state have been declared ODF Plus.
 - 85% of villages have successfully achieved ODF Plus Model status.
- Achievements:
 - Faecal Sludge Management (FSM):
 - Current Status: Only 114 blocks have completed FSM verification.
 - No rural Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) have been constructed yet.
 - Recommendations: Utilize urban resources effectively.
 - Finalize and implement a robust FSM policy.
 - Solid Waste Management (SWM):
 - Progress: 94% of villages are covered under SWM initiatives.
 - **Recommendations**: Ensure the proper functioning of segregation sheds and vehicles while connecting compost markets to enhance sustainability.
 - Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMUs):
 - Only one operational PWMU exists in rural Rajasthan, needing significant scale-up.
 - Grey Water Management (GWM):
 - **Progress:** 98% of villages have GWM systems in place, with saturation in remaining villages expected soon.
 - Focus Areas: Promote household soak pits for tap water connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JIM).
 - Strengthen the role of <u>self-help groups</u> in driving sanitation initiatives.
- Tourism and Cleanliness:
 - Rajasthan was urged to combine its rich tourism heritage with cleanliness initiatives and adopt the <u>Swachhta Green Leaf Rating program</u> to demonstrate tradition and innovation can unite for sustainable sanitation.

Swachhata Green Leaf Rating (SGLR) Program

- It is a government initiative to promote hygiene and sanitation in the hospitality sector.
- The SGLR program aims to improve the quality of life and public health by:
 - Ensuring world-class cleanliness and hygiene in hotels, resorts, and homestays
 - Improving the reputation of tourist destinations
 - Supporting local Gram Panchayats to achieve ODF Plus Model status

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