Minutes of the regional review meeting with Secretaries/Principal Secretaries in-charge of Rural Sanitation in the NE States including Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh held on 27th May, 2016 at Assam Administrative Staff College, Guwahati

Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

A review meeting with State Secretaries in-charge of Rural Sanitation in the NE States including Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Parameshwaran Iyer, Secretary (DWS), on 27th May, 2016 at Assam Administrative Staff College, Khanapara, Guwahati to review and analyze the progress made so far in implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), discuss various issues linked with implementation of SBM(G) and identify changes, modifications, if any.

At the outset, Shri Ashok Kumar Das, Secretary, PHED, Govt. of Assam welcomed the participants of the meeting. He mentioned that due to elections in last 2 months the progress in water and sanitation in Assam was slow. Now, new Government has been formed. Good progress will be registered in coming months.

In his address, Shri Parameshwaran Iyer, Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, GoI appreciated that North Eastern States are leading in implementation of Sanitation programmes. Sikkim has already been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). Government of India is giving high priority to North Eastern States. Priority for piped water supply schemes will be given to villages having Open Defecation Free Status.

Shri Saraswati Prasad, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation said that Ministry is providing financial and technical supports to States. The purpose of the meeting are review the progress made during last year under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), listen from the states about and issues and problems and to provide solutions. State-wise brief summary of the specific achievements, issues discussed and concerns raised on the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) during review meeting were as follows:

1.1 Arunachal Pradesh : Good progress has been registered in Arunachal Pradesh during last year. Against target of 15688 IHHLs, 19439(13%) IHHLs have been constructed. Interior districts could not upload achievements online in time during 2015-16. The issue already taken up with Ministry. During 2016-17, the progress is slow due to heavy rain-fall in April and May. The State Govt. has not released the 2nd Instalment of fund received at end of the financial year 2015-16. Proposal already initiated for release of 2nd Instalment of 2015-16 and part of 1st Instalment amounting Rs. 4.73 Crore during 2016-17. Additional incentive of Rs. 8000/- Per IHHL have been provided by state govt. The Previous module of SBM(G) IMIS could not accept the additional support. Mismatch of expenditure figure has been taken up with the Ministry for updating. 185 GPs and 514 Villages have been declared ODF. Verification process is in progress. State has targeted 800 GPs for ODF during 2016-17.
Religious leaders have also been involved. State raised the issue of defunct toilets. AS, MoDWS informed that defunct toilets may be taken through Swachh Bharat Kosh.

1.2 Bihar: State Co-ordinator, SBM(G), Bihar informed that Govt. of Bihar has taken decision to transfer rural sanitation from PHED to Rural Development Deptt. Till date, 255 Villages have been declared ODF. The State has adopted CLTS as a key community mobilization strategy to trigger collective behavioral change. He requested the MDWS to support CLTS training.

1.3 Jharkhand: Against target of 4.60 lakh toilets, 3.15 lakh toilets have been constructed during the year 2015-16. State Government is now focusing to develop ODF blocks. 25 Blocks have been identified to be block ODF before 2nd Oct. 2016 and 75 Blocks by March 2017. Ratri Choupal have been organised. 5456 bio-digester toilets in flood effected areas of Sahibganj will be constructed with support of UNDP. 5 districts have been targeted for making ODF in 2016-17. State Secretary requested that allocation for 2016-17 to be re-worked. He also requested MDWS to empanel the SLWM Consultants. Funds for defunct toilets should be provided from Swachh Bharat Kosh.

1.4 Manipur: Against target of 40750 toilets, 47636 toilets have been constructed during the year 2015-16. State representative raised the issue of dysfunctional toilets and updation of Baseline Survey. Additional Secretary, MDWS suggested that community approaches can be used. State representative mentioned that in 15 villages 100% toilets and 24X7 water supply have been provided. Against requirement of Rs. 94.33 crore, 54.55 crores have been allocated for the year 2016-17. State representative raised the issue of less allocation. AS, MoDWS informed that the allocation for 2016-17 is tentative. Actual releases will be made based on the performance.

1.5 Meghalaya: Out of 4.11 lakh households, 3.30 lakh households have toilets as on 31.3.2016. Out of 6785 GPs, 2716 GPs have been declared ODF. Verification of ODF are being done through inter-district teams. To address the issue of defunct toilets, funds have been given to community. Under Solid and Liquid Waste Management, Soak pits and storm water drainage are being constructed.

1.6 Mizoram: Against target of 11760 individual toilets, 6026 toilets have been constructed during the year 2015-16. State representative informed that 4 districts will be ODF by March, 2017.

1.7 Nagaland: Secretary, PHED, Govt. of Nagaland informed that State Government is giving highest priority to Sanitation. State has planned ODF Nagaland by March, 2018. 6 Districts have been targeted for ODF by March 2017. State has prepared action plan for the same. She raised the issue of entry of villages on Online IMIS. AS, MDWS suggested that State should send a person to MDWS to facilitate village entries on Online IMIS.
1.8 Uttar Pradesh : Against target of 4598069 toilets, 694487 toilets(15.10%) have been constructed during the year 2015-16. 473 villages have been declared ODF. CLTS approach have been adopted. State representative raised the issue of wrong baseline survey entry in Gorakhpur district.

1.9 Sikkim : Sikkim has already been declared ODF. The challenge is to sustain ODF status. State is concentrating on Solid and Liquid Waste Management. Resource Recovery Centres have been developed. There is issue of land for Solid Waste Management. State has started activities like selfy with garbage. School children are extensively involved in awareness programme. Workshop with NGOs has been organized for problems and Solution of OD on National Highways. Religious leaders have been involved in awareness campaign. AS(DWS) said that State should work on ODF plus activities.

1.10 Tripura : Against target of 75000 household toilets, 61173(82%) toilets have been constructed during the year 2015-16. The work of construction of toilets in place of defunct toilets is going-on. By September, 2016, 491 Gram Panchayats will be declared ODF.

1.11 Assam : Against target of 630090 toilets, 19439 toilets(74%) have been constructed during the year 2015-16. 252 villages have been declared ODF. Due to election progress was slow. Nirmal Assam Kosh has been created. 9 KRCs are working in the State. State raised the issue of defunct toilets, addition of family. He also said that unit of toilets should be increased for flood affected areas.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.