ABSTRACT

Announcements - Sanitation Policy for Rural areas – Announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister (MA, RD & Impn. of Spl. Prog.) in the Legislative Assembly for the year 2019-20 – Comprehensive Sanitation Policy for Rural areas – Approved – Orders – Issued.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS.1) Department

G.O. (Ms) No.13 **Dated:06.01.2020**
விகாரி, மார்கழி 21.
திருவள்ளுவர் ஆண்டு 2050.

Read:-

1. Announcement made by the Honble Minister (MA, RD & Impn. of Spl. Prog.) on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 08.07.2019.
2. From the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Letter No.42745/2019/SBM(G)-1, dated 19.08.2018 and 26.11.2019.

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ORDER:

The Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration, Rural Development and Special Programme Implementation has made the following announcement on the Floor of the Legislative Assembly on 08.07.2019.

"ஊரக பகுதிகளில் தூய்மையான சுற்றுச் சூழலை பேணுவதற்கும், ஊரக மக்களிடையே பாதுகாப்பான சுகாதார பழக்க வழக்கத்தினை ஊக்குவிக்கவும், சுகாதாரம், திட மற்றும் திரவக்கழிவு மேலாண்மையில் தெளிவான வழிமுறைகளுடன் ஊரகப் பகுதிகளுக்கான விரிவான சுகாதார கொள்கை உருவாக்கப்படும்."

2. In the letter second read above, the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has sent a proposal stating that the Government has consistently been taking up various initiatives towards the achievement of cleaner environment and in promoting safe sanitation among the rural community. Tamil Nadu has achieved Open Defecation Free (ODF) status as per baseline survey conducted in 2013 with the involvement of Community Based Organizations such as Village Poverty Reduction Committees (VPRCs) and Panchayat Level Federations (PLFs) of Self Help Groups and field functionaries of all the stakeholder departments. School sanitation is also given top priority through separate fund allocation for engaging sanitary workers for cleaning the toilets and school premises.

3. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has further stated that the Tamil Nadu is the first State to achieve universal coverage in the establishment of Solid Waste Management (SWM) Systems in rural areas by engaging 'Thooimai

Kaavalars' for door to door collection, segregation and safe disposal of solid waste. The issues relating to Liquid Waste Management is being addressed through construction of soak pits at household level and community level.

4. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has also stated that in order to sustain ODF status, consolidate and further augment the achievements made and to clearly lay down the policy initiatives for Grey and Black water management, it has been proposed to bring about a Comprehensive Policy for Sanitation and this Policy is expected to provide clear cut direction and strategies for Sanitation and Solid and Liquid Waste Management in the State and the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has therefore sent a draft Sanitation Policy for approval of the Government.

5. The Government after careful examination, have decided to accept the proposal of the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj and approve the Comprehensive Sanitation Policy for Rural areas as annexed to this order.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

HANS RAJ VERMA
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj,
Chennai – 15.
All District Collectors (Except Chennai)
(Through Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj,
Chennai – 15)
All Project Directors, District Rural Development Agencies,
(Through Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj,
Chennai – 15)
The Social Welfare and Nutritious Meals Programme Department, Chennai-9.
The Health and Family Welfare Department, Chennai-9.
The School Education Department, Chennai-9.
The Tourism, Culture and Religious Endowments Department, Chennai-9.

Copy to:
The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India, New Delhi – 110 003.
The Finance(RD) Department, Chennai – 9.
The Principal Private Secretary to Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Chennai – 9.
The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (OP.2) Department, Chennai – 9.
The National Informatics Centre, Chennai – 9.
Spare copy/Stock file.

//FORWARDED BY ORDER//

6.1.2020
SECTION OFFICER

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Annexure to G.O.(Ms.) No.13, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, dated:06.01.2020

TAMIL NADU RURAL SANITATION POLICY

1. BACKGROUND OF RURAL SANITATION IN TAMIL NADU:

"Muzhu Sugaathaara Thamizhagam, Munnodi Thamizhagam" is the topmost priority of the State Government, which aims at ensuring the provision and availability of safe and quality sanitation facilities in the rural areas. The Government pioneered the sanitation revolution during 2001-04, by constructing Integrated Women Sanitary Complexes (IWSC) in all the Village Panchayats, as a foundation to create an impact and render a supportive environment that would eliminate Open Defecation. In 2003, "Clean Village Campaign" launched by the State Government, created a momentum and accelerated the progress of the Sanitation coverage and Environmental Cleanliness. Having a fruitful outcome of establishing Safe Sanitation provisions for Women and Children in rural areas through IWSC and based on the demand raised to provide similar facilities for rural men, the government extended its support to construct Integrated Men Sanitary Complexes (IMSC) in all the rural Blocks of Tamil Nadu in the year 2012-13.

To expedite the attainment of Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and to give focused attention on Sanitation, countless initiatives were taken including involvement of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) like Panchayat Level Federations (PLFs) of Self Help Groups, Village Poverty Reduction Committees (VPRCs) for Inter-Personal Communication (IPC), development of State specific Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials, convergence with several Stakeholder Departments, etc., under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM).

State Government's yet another initiative which received National attention was the establishment of Solid Waste Management Systems in rural areas for sustainable and effective means of Waste Management, involving "Thooimai Kaavalars", which brought a visible and perceptible impact in the maintenance of Cleanliness in the rural areas. In addition, Government of Tamil Nadu also allocated necessary funds to ensure sustained Sanitation facilities and maintenance of clean and functional toilets in all the Government Schools located in rural areas.

Though the schemes dealt with the overall issues in the Sanitation front, there are few specific issues pertaining to sustainability of ODF status, managing and safe disposal of both Solid and Liquid waste, which is increasing day by day, causing environmental degradation. Open Defecation and improper handling of waste not only creates health and environmental hazards to the community, but also has far reaching Socio-Economic and Ecological consequences.

In this background, this Rural Sanitation Policy intends to solve the issues to sustain the ODF status along with the functional plan to effectively implement and manage the waste paving way to fulfill one of the important goals of "Sanitation for All" of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations.

2. NEED FOR RURAL SANITATION POLICY

- "Muzhu Sugaathaara Thamizhagam, Munnodi Thamizhagam" Campaign under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) have led all the Village Panchayats in all the rural Districts in Tamil Nadu to attain Open Defecation Free (ODF) status. The next part of the mission is to embark on ODF Plus activities which include sustaining the ODF status of the Village Panchayats and focusing on Sustainable Solid and Liquid Waste Management so as to create Clean and Green Villages.
- To implement effective Inter-Personal Communication (IPC) plans in Convergence with several Stakeholder Departments for inculcating the habit of Safe Sanitation, Personal Hygiene and Environmental Protection activities to the target groups.
- To promote decentralized method of Waste treatment and Management, and adoption of suitable cost-effective technologies in rural areas.
- To develop ecologically safe and sustainable region specific technologies of Solid and Liquid Waste Management for maintaining hygiene and also the aesthetic view of the Rural Villages.
- To address the issues related to the rapid increase in the quantum of Solid and Liquid Waste generation in rural areas, especially in Census Towns and Peri-Urban Panchayats, due to Urbanization.
- To adopt and encourage effective methods of waste water management, to prevent the stagnation of grey water in the streets, lanes or into water bodies, as it results in contamination of surface water and also aggravates environmental hazards.
- To bring about an improvement in the living standards of the rural community by focusing on 'Safe Sanitation' and proper 'Waste Disposal Mechanism'.

In this context, State Policy on Rural Sanitation aims to give clear directives for providing Safe Sanitation facilities to ensure healthier, cleaner and greener community.

2.1 STATUS OF SANITATION IN RURAL AREAS:

Tamil Nadu achieved the Open Defecation Free status on August 15, 2018 by providing access to Sanitation for about 51.05 lakh households, as per the Baseline Survey-2013. About 49.87 lakh households have been provided with Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs) and 1.18 lakh households have been provided access to Community toilets and other sanitation facilities. All the 12,524 Village Panchayats in Tamil Nadu had declared themselves as Open Defecation Free (ODF) in Grama Sabha and all the 31 Rural Districts have reached 100% sanitation coverage as per the Baseline Survey.

2.1.1 SALIENT FEATURES OF SANITATION IN TAMIL NADU:

- With sustained efforts and community engagement, all the districts have achieved ODF status and also to address the gaps, if any, resurvey was conducted in 2018 to identify the households without toilets that are left out in the Baseline Survey 2013. Such households are being assisted in toilet construction in order to achieve full sanitation coverage.
- Steps have been taken to rectify the defunct toilets and also monitoring of continuous usage through Department Officials and Motivators.
- More than 13,800 Motivators identified from Self Help Groups (SHG), Panchayat Level Federation (PLF), Village Poverty Reduction Committee

(VPRC) are given training on Community Approaches to Sanitation (CAS), Community Based Monitoring and ODF Plus activities at State, District and Block levels.

- In convergence with stakeholder departments like School Education, Health& Family Welfare and Social Welfare Departments, awareness on importance of Safe Sanitation, Personal Hygiene, Menstrual Hygiene, Waste Management and other Environmental Sustainable activities are given to the public/ target group at Schools, Anganwadis, Public Health Centers (PHC), SHG meetings, Public gathering, etc.
- For effective dissemination of Sanitation, Solid and Liquid Waste Management messages, various IEC materials like Sanitation Handbook, Graphic Stories, Awareness Videos and Pamphlets are created and distributed.
- Sanitation Cards are provided to monitor the usage of toilets at Individual Households, Schools and Anganwadi Centers.
- An exclusive App has been created for encouraging the ODF Plus activities of the Motivators, at State level.
- Sanitation Competitions are conducted regularly at all the Government Schools to make the students understand the need of proper Sanitation for better living.
- School Sanitation is given top priority through separate fund allocation for engaging sanitary workers for cleaning the toilets and school premises.

2.1.2 MAJOR CHALLENGES IN SANITATION IN RURAL AREAS

- Though ODF has been achieved through continuous Behavioral Change activities, sustaining the momentum in the same pace is a challenging phenomenon. Continuous Capacity Building, Monitoring and Inter-Personal communication (IPC) are essential to sustain the ODF status.
- Sanitation issues pertaining to the Floating and Migrant Population needs to be addressed.
- Retrofitting of defunct and Single Leach Pit toilets to be done by motivating the people.
- Awareness on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) should be communicated to the adolescent girls and women and safe disposal mechanism of soiled sanitary napkins must be ensured.
- Faecal Sludge Management must be implemented for the proper handling of Faecal Sludge, especially in Peri-urban Village Panchayats.

2.2 STATUS OF SOLID AND LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT (SLWM) IN RURAL AREAS OF TAMIL NADU

The Government of Tamil Nadu has consistently been according high priority to the cleanliness and sanitation of Village Panchayats. It had formulated a home grown solution to address these challenges by issuing detailed guidelines for establishment of Solid Waste Management Systems with recycling and waste disposal facilities in three phases, from 2014-15 to 2016-17,covering all the 12,524 Village Panchayats in the State. Tamil Nadu has become the first State to achieve universal coverage with Solid Waste Management facilities in all the 12,524 Village Panchayats.

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And also as a part of effective Liquid Waste Management in rural areas, Construction of Soak Pits are being undertaken at Individual household level and at Community level in the Villages under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

2.2.1. SALIENT FEATURES OF SLWM IN TAMIL NADU:

- The State Government have issued guidelines for establishment of a sustainable Solid Waste Management systems in all the Village Panchayats in a phased manner.
- The unit of implementation is the Village Panchayat. In case of a Village Panchayat having more habitations, it had been geographically grouped as cluster and considered as a unit of implementation.
- Solid Waste is segregated into biodegradable and non-biodegradable before disposal.
- Two Pits for Composting of Biodegradable waste were dug up in convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) apart from one Sanitary Landfill for safe disposal of non-recyclable waste.
- Thooimai Kaavalars are engaged in door to door collection of waste, segregation, transporting to segregation shed and for safe disposal."Thooimai kaavalars" have been engaged on outsourcing basis through Village Poverty Reduction Committee (VPRC)/Panchayat Level Federation (PLF), at the rate of one worker per 150 households, totally 66,130 Thooimai Kaavalars are engaged in Solid Waste Management activities.
- Tricycles/Pushcarts had been provided for the use of Thooimai Kaavalars, Sanitary Workers and in Vermi-Compost Units. Implements for cleaning, Jackets, Gloves, Caps, etc., have been provided to the Thooimai Kaavalars.
- Street Garbage Collection Bins have been provided to all the 79,394 habitations in 12,524 Village Panchayats.
- About two lakh Individual and Community Soak Pit works have been taken up in 2017-2018 and in 2018-2019 under MGNREGS, as a cost effective method for Liquid Waste Management in rural areas. 500 numbers of Horizontal and Vertical Soak Pits are taken up in 2018-2019 under MGNREGS.

2.2.2 MAJOR CHALLENGES IN SLWM IN RURAL AREAS:

- Lack of awareness among the rural community on the importance of source segregation of solid waste into bio-degradable and non-bio degradable and lack of awareness about the harmful effects of improper disposal of Liquid waste, i.e., Grey and Black water in the open environment.
- The low level of public awareness in the rural areas hampers the implementation of Waste Management activities. The desired result cannot be achieved without active community participation.
- Illegal dumping of Solid waste, Black and Grey water into Water bodies needs to be prevented and legal action to be enforced.
- Scattered distribution of Households and vast geographical spread of population in certain pockets of rural areas poses a challenge in establishing a self-sustainable model of Solid and Liquid Waste Management in these areas.
- Lack of availability of suitable land/site is also a constraint for setting up of waste processing, treatment and disposal units, especially, in Peri-urban areas.

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- The processing of non-recyclable waste and final disposal of inert waste is a major issue in rural areas. The entire non-recyclable waste that is collected should be scientifically disposed.
- In Peri-Urban / Bigger Village Panchayats adjacent to Corporations and Municipalities, SWM is a major problem due to its density, change in consumption pattern and increased per capita waste generation. These Village Panchayats find it very difficult to identify the required piece of land for establishment of an integrated solid waste management facility within their limit. The huge quantum of waste which could not be managed effectively at local level results in environmental pollution due to waste dumps, posing health hazard.
- Collected dry degradable and non – degradable waste is temporarily stored at the Village Panchayats. Hence, a proper centralized facility needs to be in place for the safe disposal of these wastes.
- Collection and transport of Fecal Sludge to the treatment plants will be streamlined.

3. VISION, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

3.1. VISION

The vision of the Rural Sanitation Policy is to enable all the people with access to improved sanitation facilities, where safe hygienic behavior and the proper disposal of solid and liquid waste is widely practiced, leading to a better standard of living through healthier, better and sustainable environment aiming at "Muzhu Sugaathaara Thamizhagam, Munnodi Thamizhagam" in rural areas by 2023.

3.2. GOALS

- To ensure that rural people have access to improved sanitation facilities.
- To empower the rural community with knowledge and capacity so that they develop the wherewithal to monitor and sustain the ODF status on their own.
- To achieve the desired optimum level of Safe Sanitation practices and Personal Hygiene including the menstrual hygiene practices among the rural community.
- To establish effective Solid Waste Management facilities in Rural Areas as per the Solid Waste Management Rules,2016.
- To achieve reduction in the generation of solid waste through the practice of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Recover (4Rs).
- To optimize on-Site Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities, wherever feasible.
- To establish effective Grey Water Management facilities in Rural Areas.
- To establish Faecal Sludge Management facilities in Peri-urban Village Panchayats.
- To ensure the piggeries, poultries etc are located away from human dwellings and maintained in safe and hygienic conditions.
- To prevent the occurrence of water borne diseases by ensuring the protection of drinking water at source, at storage and distribution.
- To prevent the occurrence of mosquito borne disease by abating the mosquitogenic conditions.
- To prevent the occurrence of Zoonotic diseases.

3.3. POLICY OBJECTIVES

3.3.1. SANITATION:

- To ensure provision and availability of toilet facilities in all the rural Households and Institutions.
- To generate awareness about the importance of sanitation and its linkages with public and environmental health amongst communities and institutions through continuous capacity building, monitoring and IPC to sustain the ODF status.
- To promote involvement of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) such as Self Help Groups (SHGs), PLFs, VPRC, resident welfare associations and other social institutions to ensure community participation in promoting Safe Sanitation and Personal Hygiene.
- To monitor the sustained maintenance of Integrated Sanitary Complexes and other Community Toilets and to provide access to Safe Sanitation facilities to the floating and migrant population.
- To technically assist and motivate the people to retrofit the defunct toilets and also in maintaining the Twin Leach Pit toilets.
- To educate Adolescent girls and Women on Proper handling and Safe disposal of Sanitary Napkins and also to ensure personal hygiene.
- To promote proper treatment and disposal of sludge and ensure that all the human wastes are collected safely and disposed after treatment so as not to cause any hazard to public health or the environment.

3.3.2. SOLID AND LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Establish mechanism to scrupulously ensure the proper implementation and enforcement of the various provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 issued by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, in the rural areas.
- To make Solid Waste Management services self-sustaining by motivating Rural Local Bodies to levy "User Charges" to cover the Operation & Maintenance cost of the services.
- To minimize Solid and Liquid waste generation at source and make efforts to promote reduce, refuse, reuse and recycling of Solid waste.
- To generate awareness about the importance of SLWM amongst rural communities and discourage citizens from littering and polluting the environment through penal provisions.
- Capacity Building of various levels of Stakeholders on Sanitation and Solid and Liquid Waste Management and to provide trainings through State and Regional Level Training Institutions.
- To promote integrated solid and liquid waste management technologies for cost effective and efficient delivery of services.
- To introduce innovative, sustainable and cost effective technologies that are appropriate and suitable for Village Panchayats in collaboration with Government Organizations like National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), etc., and Educational Institutions like Indian Institute of Technology, etc.
- To create awareness and encourage households / Commercial Establishments / Institutions to take up on Onsite Waste Management.
- To encourage the Thooimai Kaavalars by sharing of revenue generated through Sale of Compost and Recyclable waste

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- Illegal dumping of Solid waste, Black and Grey water into Water bodies to be prevented and legal action to be enforced.
- To ensure the proper disposal of animal excreta, Poultry waste and other wastes generated in animal, farms, Slaughter houses etc.
- To ensure proper Sanitation and Hygiene in establishments selling poultry / animal products
- Prevent the illegal dumping of waste from industries like Tanneries, chemical and other pollution prone industries in rural areas.

4. STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

4.1. SANITATION:

4.1.1. Provision of toilet facilities in all the Households in rural areas.

- In Tamil Nadu, all the households without toilet as per baseline survey conducted in the year 2013 and eligible households found to be left out of the baseline survey are provided with toilet facilities.
- All the new households that may come up shall be motivated to build toilet on their own.
- Toilet facilities and water availability should be ensured in all public places viz. shandies, bus stand, markets, religious centers, Schools, colleges, etc.
- Sanitation facilities will be ensured for the Migrant and floating population.
- The availability of functional toilets in all the Petrol pumps with access as per the directions of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas will be ensured.
- Availability of toilets facilities at schools, colleges and work places proportional to the number of Students and Staff to be ensured.

4.1.2. Awareness Generation:

- For continuous reinforcement of safe sanitation messages to cultivate and inculcate positive behavior among the people and to sustain the ODF status, an effective, region specific Information, Education and Communication (IEC) strategy will be designed and implemented from time to time.
- Special focus will be given to ensure all the new Households will have Safe Sanitation facilities to eradicate ODF and also prioritize sustained toilet usage, retrofitting and maintenance of twin pit toilet and Personal Hygiene practices.
- Motivators and the Community Based Organizations (CBOs) play vital role in disseminating the information on Sanitation and Personal Hygiene at grassroots level through Inter-Personal Communication (IPC). These game changers will be effectively utilized and encouraged with suitable incentive provisions.

4.1.3. Inter–Departmental Convergence:

- In addition to the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, the participation of other stakeholder departments like School Education, Health and Family Welfare and Social Welfare, is equally important to make an efficient and integrated delivery in promoting the practice of Safe Sanitation and Personal Hygiene among the rural community in order to achieve a

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positive impact in socio-economic, education and health parameters. Through convergence, WASH can be soundly promoted in Schools and Anganwadis, which will make a visible impact among the young children.

- The existing Village Health, Water, Sanitation and Nutrition Committees involving all the stakeholder departments at various levels will be strengthened and will be utilized effectively for promoting and circulating Safe Sanitation messages.
- In Consultation with the School Education Department, Sanitation, and Waste Management will be included in the School textbooks to reiterate the importance and Value of Personal Hygiene and Environmental Cleanliness.

4.1.4. Capacity Building:

- As Motivators are the key influencers in promoting Sanitation, periodic training on ODF Pus activities which includes ODF Sustainability, MHM, SLWM and other Sanitation related issues will be planned at State, Regional, District and Block levels, for which modules will be updated on regular basis, to achieve the desired output. In addition to the Motivators, the field Functionaries and officials of stakeholder Departments will also be trained on ODF Plus.

4.1.5. Inclusion of toilet as mandatory requirement in Building Plan Approval:

- Statutory Provisions will be made to mandatorily include toilet in the Building plan for Houses, Commercial and Institutional establishments similar to that of establishment of Rainwater Harvesting Structure.
- Statutory provisions will be made to include criteria for prevention of mosquitogenic conditions in building plan approval.

4.1.6. Maintenance of Sanitary Complexes:

- Pioneering in the construction and maintenance of Sanitary Complexes, all the Panchayats have been facilitated with necessary Sanitation structures. As ODF sustainability also measures the status of usable Sanitary Complexes, priority will be given to strengthen the user groups already available in the field, to effectively monitor the maintenance and usage of the complexes to eradicate Open Defecation.

4.1.7. Retrofitting and Maintenance of Twin Pit Toilet:

- Toilets becoming defunct due to technical issues will affect ODF Sustainability. Technical support will be given, wherever necessary and households will be continuously motivated to bring back defunct toilets to functional status with their own funds.
- People will be continuously educated on emptying the pit, after the decomposition of the faecal matter and in using it as manure.

4.1.8. Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM):

- MHM shall be given high priority as it is important in ensuring hygienic, safe and healthier living of adolescent girls, besides helping them in their academic pursuits.

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- Steps will be taken to strongly promote MHM in Schools and Anganwadis, which will have a definite purpose of making the girls and women understand the importance of practicing proper hygiene during menstruation.
- In addition, awareness will also be given to the rural community, which will have a significant effect in bringing a clear understanding on Menstruation and realizing the ill effects of poor hygienic practices.
- Incinerators will be made available in all Schools and Colleges for safe disposal of Sanitary napkins.

4.1.9. Establishment of Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants:

- After construction of toilet and achieving ODF, the next critical area is the safe disposal of the human faeces. Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant will be set up on pilot basis in Peri – Urban Village Panchayats and will be extended based on the necessity.

4.1.10. **Mechanism for Registration and Monitoring of Vacuum Tankers**:

- All the Vacuum tankers used for the transportation of Faecal sludge and sewage to the treatment plants should be registered with the Local bodies. The local bodies shall ensure that the Faecal sludge is disposed only at the Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant/ Sewage Treatment Plants.

4.1.11. Compliance to Prohibition of Employment of Manual Scavengers:

- Compliance of the legal provisions of "Prohibition of Employment of Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013" shall be ensured and legal action will be taken against the violators.

4.2. SOLID AND LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT:

4.2.1. Implementation of Solid Waste Management in Rural Areas:

- Detailed guidelines have already been issued by the State Government for establishment of sustainable Solid Waste Management systems covering all the Village Panchayats in the State in a phased manner. As per above guidelines, proper solid waste management system with recycling and wastes disposal facilities has been established in all the 12,524 Village Panchayats in Tamil Nadu.
- Implementation of SWM activities shall be strengthened by placing strong enforcement measures covering the various provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, in the entire rural areas.
- Prescribe "User Charges" from time to time as deemed appropriate and collect the fee from the waste generators, especially the Bulk Waste Generators.
- Village Panchayat shall prohibit citizens from littering and shall have provisions to penalize violators.
- Allocate a separate space for storage and safe disposal of domestic hazardous wastes as per the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- Allow only the non-usable, non-recyclable materials to go to sanitary landfill and the sanitary landfill sites shall meet the standard specifications. However,

every effort shall be made to recycle or reuse the rejects to achieve the desired objective of zero waste going to landfill.

- Encourage the use of natural compost / vermi-compost in all parks, gardens maintained by the Rural Local bodies and in Mass Tree Plantations under its jurisdiction.

4.2.2. Creation of awareness

- Awareness should be created among the rural community through IPC / Behavioral Change Communication(BCC) activities on the importance of source segregation of solid waste into bio-degradable and non-biodegradable, harmful effect of non- Segregated waste and stagnant waste water in the open environment which acts as a source for many communicable diseases.
- IEC posters and brochures will be designed for effective and easier understanding of the bio-degradable and non-degradable waste.
- Continuous reiteration of 4R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Recover) of Waste Management will be done through intensive IEC/IPC Activities.

4.2.3. Capacity Building on SLWM:

- Preparation of training modules encompassing all important aspects of Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities.
- Organize orientation training and technical training to officials and staff involved in SWM& LWM activities at regular intervals as per the training need assessment.
- Facilitate training need assessment at various levels of stakeholders viz. State, Districts, Blocks and Village level functionaries.

4.3. Identification of Scalable, Cost effective and Viable Solid and Liquid Waste Management Technologies:

- State and District administration will assist the Village Panchayats in identifying and adopting appropriate technologies for treatment and disposal of Solid and Liquid Waste based on the local conditions.
- Providing suitable guidance to the Village Panchayats regarding the type design, construction and technical management to be followed for the effective implementation of Solid and Liquid Waste Management facilities.

4.3.1. Strategy for Peri – Urban / Bigger Village Panchayats:

- To address the problems in Collection, transportation, handling of huge quantum of waste generated in Peri Urban / Bigger Village panchayats and also to address the lack of land availability and to manage the solid waste, priority will be given to the construction of Micro-Composting centers and On-site Composting Centers.

4.3.2. Promotion of on-site (Household Level) Waste Management:

Household level waste management activities like setting up of Nutrition gardening for management of wet waste generated at households, construction of soak pits for treatment of grey water, reuse of grey water for gardening and other such activities shall be encouraged.

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4.3.3. Engagement of Thooimai Kaavalars and sharing of sale proceeds from Recyclable waste and natural compost:

- Thooimai Kaavalars (Protector of Environment) are engaged by Village Panchayats through VPRC/PLF on outsourcing basis for door to door collection of Solid Waste from the households, streets and commercial areas.
- A portion of sale proceeds from the sales of Compost and other Recyclable waste shall be shared with Thooimai Kaavalars as incentive to encourage their active involvement in the SWM activities.

4.3.4. Prevent Dumping of Solid Waste, Bio Medical waste, C. & D. Waste, E-Waste, Black and Grey water in water bodies and in public / other private places:

- Illegal dumping of Solid waste, Bio Medical waste, C & D Waste, E-waste, Black and Grey water into Water bodies and in public / other private places shall be prevented and legal action shall be taken on defaulters.

4.3.5. Grey Water Management in Rural Areas:

- Establishment of proper drainage facilities in the rural areas, connecting all households for grey water collection.
- Establishment of suitable, cost effective Grey water treatment facilities in all the Village Panchayats, for scientific treatment and effective reuse of treated Grey water for Agriculture and allied activities adhering to the existing standards.

4.3.6. Plastic Waste Management in Rural Areas:

- The Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India is applicable to all Waste generators, Rural Local bodies, Manufacturers, Importer and producer. The rule gives a thrust on plastic waste minimization, source segregation, recycling, involving waste pickers, recyclers and waste processors.
- The Government of Tamil Nadu have issued orders in G.O.(Ms) No. 84, Environment and Forests (EC.2) Dept., dated 25.06.2018 imposing ban on manufacture, storage, supply, sale and use of 'use and throwaway plastics' such as plastic sheets use for food wrapping, spreading on dining table etc., plastic plates, plastic coated tea cups and plastic tumbler, water pouches and packets, plastic straw, plastic carry bag and plastic flags irrespective of thickness from 01.01.2019.
- The above Government Orders should be strictly imposed in the rural areas and legal action shall be taken against the defaulters.

4.3.7. Construction and Demolition Waste Management in Rural Areas:

- Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India shall apply to every waste resulting from construction, re-modeling, repair and demolition of any civil structure of Individual or organization or authority which

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generates construction and demolition waste such as building materials, debris, rubble.

- District administration shall enforce the directives with regard to proper management of construction and demolition of waste within its jurisdiction in accordance with the provision of above rules.

4.3.8. e-Waste Management in Rural Areas:

The District administration shall facilitate and ensure proper implementation of the e-Waste Management Rules, 2016 issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, by setting up of e-Waste Collection centers, etc.

4.3.9. Bio-Medical Waste in Rural Areas:

The District administration shall facilitate and ensure proper implementation of the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2016 issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India through State Pollution Control Board.

4.3.10. Online Monitoring of SLWM Activities and Feedback mechanism:

- Proper online monitoring mechanism shall be put in place to track SLWM activities on a day to day basis.
- The infrastructures provided under Solid Waste Management Scheme shall be geo-tagged
- A mobile application shall also be developed for this purpose.
- An online feedback mechanism will be created to collect public and official feedback on sanitation facilities.

5. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF RURAL LOCAL BODIES

5.1.1. SANITATION:

The Village Panchayats shall perform the following functions:

- Effective monitoring of existence of Safe Sanitation facilities in all the newly constructed households in the Village Panchayats to eliminate Open Defecation.
- Assist in retrofitting and renovate the defunct toilets and bring it to use and ensure sustainability of ODF status.
- Discussion of sanitation status in Grama Sabha and ensure people's participation in all sanitation related activities.
- Organize and monitor the 'User Groups' of the Community Sanitary Complexes in regular usage and maintenance which will facilitate the households not having space for construction of toilets, floating and migrant population to access toilet.
- Carry out IEC/IPC activities and Community Based Monitoring (CBM) along with the Motivators and key influencers like Teachers, Anganwadi workers, Village Health Nurses, SHGs/PLF/VPRC in ODF Plus activities and in promoting Safe Sanitation Practices, Menstrual Hygiene Management and Personal Hygiene.

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- Motivate the community to share the responsibility for managing safe sanitation systems.
- Organize and assist in conducting social audits and also participate in monitoring and evaluation surveys, Focused Group Discussions and Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRA), especially to determine key behavioral changes regarding Sanitation, Hygiene, Operation and Maintenance, etc.
- Converge with VPRC/PLF in facilitating and monitoring the School Toilet Maintenance and also monitor the usage of Institutional toilets.
- Ensure all the Institutional Buildings have safe Sanitation facilities to completely eradicate Open Defecation.
- Educate the community on usage and maintenance of twin pit toilet.
- Educate the community on reuse and recharge of grey water through construction of Soak Pits.
- Identification of suitable site for setting up of disposal/treatment facilities including Operation and Maintenance for Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants adhering to the specified norms.
- Proper mosquito proofing of all water sources including mini OHTs in schools, public places etc.
- Ensure proper spacing between water pipelines from sewerage lines.

5.1.2. SOLID AND LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT:

The Village Panchayats shall perform the following functions:

- Enforce Source Segregation and Source reduction by carrying out intensive IEC/ IPC activities along with the Motivators and spread awareness on importance of Solid and Liquid Waste Management.
- Ensure for Door to Door Collection of segregated Solid waste from all households, informal settlements, commercial institutions and other non-residential premises. Also collect waste from vegetable, fruit, flower, meat, and poultry and fish market on day to day basis.
- Facilitate engagement of "Thooimai Kaavalars" with proper training and provide personal protection equipment including uniform, jacket, hand gloves, appropriate foot wear and masks and Identity Card to them and also conduct Health Camps for Thooimai Kaavalars twice a year.
- Prescribe "User Charges" from time to time as deemed appropriate and collect the fee from the waste generators, especially the Bulk Waste Generators.
- Prevent people from littering wastes on the streets and not to dispose any waste such as paper, water bottles, liquor bottles, soft drink canes, tetra packs, any other plastic or paper waste on the streets or down the hills, through proper awareness and penalize the violators.
- Ensure proper drainage facilities for all the Households in the Village Panchayat.
- Identification of suitable site for Disposal/ for setting up of Grey Water Treatment plants and also facilitate in Operation and Maintenance adhering to the norms specified.

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- Prepare and submit Annual report on or before 30th April of the succeeding year to the District Collector/ Inspector of Village Panchayats through the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) Concerned.
- The annual report shall then be sent to the Directorate of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj by 31st May of every year by the District Collector/ Inspector of Village Panchayats concerned in the format prescribed in this regards by the DRD & PR.
- Protection of drinking water at source, at storage and distribution.
- Prevent the occurrence of mosquito borne disease by abating the mosquitogenic conditions.

5.2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF WASTE GENERATORS

- Waste generators / citizens shall be responsible for the management of their waste at the source of its generation. They shall refrain from littering and shall segregate bio-degradable, recyclable and inert waste at source, reduce the waste by its reuse and recycling to the extent possible and handover the residual waste to the Thooimai Kaavalars at the place and time that may be specified by the local bodies from time to time.
- Segregation of waste at source and managing the organic fraction of solid waste (Bio-Degradable waste) is the responsibility of Bulk Waste Generators, viz., Hotels, lodges, marriage halls, Community Centres Apartments, Market complexes, people living under the concept of 'gated community' within their premises.
- Domestic hazardous waste such as Tube lights, CFLs, Paint cans, Pesticide containers, etc., if and when generated, shall be kept separately for safe disposal by the waste generator.
- Waste generators shall pay the service fee / user charges and taxes as may be prescribed by the Village Panchayat from time to time for the provision of Solid Waste Management services.
- Ensure Safe disposal of Grey and Black Water Generated in the House.
- Make sincere efforts to follow the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Recover (4Rs) principles.
- Shall put up Onsite Waste Management facilities in their premises.

5.3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

5.3.1. Sanitation:

- To ensure Provision of toilet facilities in all the Households in rural areas.
- Effective implementation of IEC/IPC activities to sustain the momentum of ODF Sustainability.
- Conduct of continuous Capacity Building programmes on Sanitation and Hygiene to all the Motivators and field functionaries of the stakeholder departments at District and Block Level.
- Conduct the District Level Convergence Meeting of stakeholder departments to take stock of Inter-Personal Communication (IPC) activities of field functionaries and analyze the gaps in the field for rectification to be done with their involvement.
- Encourage the Motivators through awards and timely release of incentives as per norms to appreciate the desired changes they bring about in the villages.

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- Ensure Safe sanitation facilities and practices in Schools, Colleges, Public Places, Government buildings, Hospitals and also at Household levels.
- Monitor the conduct of School Sanitation Competitions and awards and recognition to all the field functionaries to motivate them.

5.3.2. Solid and Liquid Waste Management:

a) Effective implementation of IEC/IPC activities on Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities.
b) Conduct of continuous Capacity Building programmes on SLWM to all the Motivators and Stakeholders.
c) Ensure to conduct health camps for Thooimai Kaavalars atleast twice a year.
d) Facilitate identification and allocation of suitable land as per the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 for setting up solid waste processing and disposal facilities to local authorities in the district.
e) Review the performance of local bodies, at least once in quarter on segregation, processing, treatment and safe disposal of waste and take corrective measures.

5.4. Criteria and actions to be taken for Solid Waste Management in hilly Areas and tourist spots.

- Construction of landfill on the hill shall be avoided. A transfer station at a suitable enclosed location shall be setup to collect residual waste from the processing facility and inert waste.
- In case of non-availability of such land, efforts shall be made to set up regional sanitary landfill for their inert and residual waste in plains wherever available.
- Suitable land shall be identified and allotted on the hills for setting up decentralized waste processing facilities.
- Local body may levy additional charge from the tourist at the entry point in addition to the existing charges to make the Solid Waste Management services sustainable.

5.5. DUTIES OF THE STATE AND DISTRICT LEVEL MONITORING COMMITTEE

- State and District level monitoring committee will be in charge for monitoring the Overall sanitation status of the State and Districts respectively.
- Prepare Annual report on the overall sanitation status covering ODF–Sustainability, Solid waste management and Liquid Waste Management.

5.6. DUTIES OF VILLAGE HEALTH, WATER, SANITATION AND NUTRITION COMMITTEE

- Village Health, Water, Sanitation and Nutrition Committee will be made the Nodal Agency at Village Panchayat level for monitoring all the Sanitation related activities implemented at the Village level.

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6. CONCLUSION

Good health is an intrinsic factor of all the Sanitation Programmes as most of the interventions target mainly in improving the environmental health and well-being of the community.

This Rural Sanitation Policy also aims at enhancing the living standards of the community and will provide the requisite strategies and directives for effective implementation and enable the State to achieve and sustain the goal of "Muzhu Sugaathaara Thamizhagam, Munnodi Thamizhagam".

HANS RAJ VERMA
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// TRUE COPY//

6.1.2020

SECTION OFFICER

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