



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
SWACHH AUR SWASTH BHARAT CELL**



**GUIDELINES FOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF SWACHHTA
ACTION PLAN
2022-23**

"Everyone must be his own scavenger" - Mahatma Gandhi



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Background:

To accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put focus on sanitation, the Prime Minister of India had launched the Swachh Bharat Mission on 2nd October 2014. The mission was implemented as nation-wide campaign/Jan andolan which aimed at eliminating open defecation in rural areas during the period 2014 to 2019 through mass scale behavior change, construction of household-owned and community-owned toilets and establishing mechanisms for monitoring toilet construction and usage. Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti has been entrusted to build toilet and solid waste management facilities in rural areas and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for urban areas.

Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) is an inter-Ministerial initiative of Government of India, it was initiated in the year 2017-18 on the directions received from Cabinet Secretariat and Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS). Accordingly, all Ministries/Departments of Government of India started preparing and implementing the Swachhta Action Plan.

A separate budget head was created for this scheme in the year 2017-18 as per the directions received from Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance to enable central monitoring for expenditures made under SAP. To oversee, execute and monitor the programmes under Swachhta Action Plan, the **Swachh aur Swasth Bharat (SSB) Cell** was established in the Ministry in the year 2017-18.

During the period 2018-21, SAP was implemented as a non-scheme programme wherein funds were disbursed from Other Administrative Expense Object head towards meeting the expenditure incurred on SAP activities. This financial procedure required submission of each and every bill amounting to Rs 500 or more for settlement. This resulted in a humungous effort at the end of Ministry to check each and every bill.

To overcome the above procedural hiccup and streamline the programme a "Grant-in-Aid-General" Object head was created in year 2021-22 and SAP was mainstreamed under the awareness component "Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity building and livelihood Programme" of the revamped umbrella scheme -"Decision Support System for Environmental Awareness, Policy, Planning and Outcome Evaluation" which has been converted into a single scheme and renamed as "Environment Education, Awareness, Research and Skill Development" Scheme.

The revamped scheme consists of three components namely:

1. Environment Education Programme
2. Environmental Research & Development Programme
3. Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity building and livelihood Programme including bio-toilet buildings at National Parks and Centuries to educate visitors regarding Cleanliness.

SAP has been placed under the third component for up scaling and consolidating the awareness programmes under the Ministry for a wider outreach.

Mission

Since time immemorial India as a civilisation has learnt to co-exist with nature. We have been a civilisation wherein even rivers, trees, animals have been worshipped, taken care of, not only that our harmonious and symbiotic nature of living had been an example to follow for the world. Swachhta Action Plan is a step in that direction to rejuvenate the glorious past practices for a solution to modern problems. Our societies have played an important role in teaching us to respect and nurture our environment. We have been taught to love, respect and take care of living as well as non-living things. The Swachh Bharat Movement launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India is one step forward in that direction only.

Swachhta Action Plan of this Ministry is helmed at making Swachhta a daily routine of people's life. The purpose is to bring convergence of contributions from individual, community, organization at one platform for bringing sustainable and visible change in the society by promoting use of toilets, garbage management, pollution free environment and better sanitation practices which will yield a neat and clean environment.

Aims & Objectives

The Swachhta Action Plan has been mainstreamed under the Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity building and livelihood Programme of the Scheme "Environment Education, Awareness, Research and Skill Development". The scope of the Program now also includes building of bio-toilets at National Parks and Centuries to educate visitors regarding Cleanliness.

Implementation Plan

The Swachhta Action Plan has been mainstreamed under the Environmental

Information, Awareness, Capacity Building and Livelihood Program of the Scheme "Environment Education, Awareness, Research and Skill Development".

In the current financial year, special focus may be given to the followings:

- To raise awareness by building Bio-Toilets at National Parks and Sanctuaries.
- To educate visitors/ stakeholders regarding cleanliness and thereby encouraging citizens to use toilets which will enhance the motto of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

The Implementing Agencies shall submit the audited Utilization Certificates (UC), Statement of Expenditure (ES) and Progress Report through proper channel at the end of the financial year of final settlement of the project account. At most 60% of the funds will be allowed in first installment. In view of the directions of DoE, further funds will be released only after utilization of 75% of funds released earlier, further funds will be released only after receipt of UC for at least 75% expenditure. This will ensure proper monitoring of the project and effective utilisation. The total release under the SAP component will be restricted to 25% of the earmarked amount for SAP at a time.

Third Party Evaluation of the Program will be done in 2025-26 for continuing beyond 2026.

Special Case

In case of implementation through Implementing Agency (IA) i.e. organizations/institutions/ agencies or other such cases which are not elaborated in this note, the proposal would be processed and finalized by this Ministry with due approval of Secretary (EF&CC).

Submission of Proposal and Budget

Organizations/ Institutions/ Agencies are required to submit their proposal in accordance with Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) 2022-23. The budget for establishment of Bio-Toilet under the Swachhta Action Plan has been kept at ₹ 30.00 lakh (maximum) for each National Park/ Sanctuaries etc. This amount will be released in a single installment subject to due approval of competent authority.

Reporting

SAP of the Ministry is being monitored by Cabinet Secretariat. As per the advisory received from the DDWS, Ministry of Jal Shakti, the SAP reports are to be uploaded in the SAP website (<https://swachhataactionplan.gov.in>) with financial and physical progress. Accordingly, IAs shall submit their reports to the Ministry annually. Furthermore States/UTs are required to adhere the provisions of GFR 2017 in full letter and spirit.
