Varanasi Municipal Corporation

(Swachh Bharat Mission)

*E- Newsletter June 2016*

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Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)

The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) emanates from the vision of the Government articulated in the address of The President of India in his address to the Joint Session of Parliament on 9th June 2014:

We must not tolerate the indignity of homes without toilets and public spaces littered with garbage. For ensuring hygiene, waste management and sanitation across the nation, a ‘Swachh Bharat Mission’ will be launched. This will be our tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary to be celebrated in the year 2019. SBM was launched on the 2nd October 2014 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) and by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS) for urban and rural areas respectively.

Mission Objectives

- Elimination of open defecation
- Eradication of Manual Scavenging
- Modern and Scientific Municipal Solid Waste Management
- To effect behavioral change regarding healthy sanitation practices
- Generate awareness about sanitation and its linkage with public health
- Capacity Augmentation for ULB’s
- To create an enabling environment for private sector participation in Capex (capital expenditure) and Opex (operation and maintenance)

_Everyone must be his own Scavenger._ – ‘Mahatma Gandhi’
Varanasi at a Glance

One of the oldest living cities in the world, Varanasi is considered to be the spiritual and cultural capital of India. One of the most pious cities for Hindus, birth place of Buddhism it is also been associated with four of the Tirthankar’s of Jainism. It is one of the most important centers of learning and knowledge since ages. Bestowed with exquisitely rich tangible as well as intangible heritage, Varanasi is known for its unique oral and living traditions. Be it the world famous Ghats on the holy river Ganga, temples and monuments or music, dance, cuisine, craft, literature, traditions, or fairs and festivals, Varanasi has an unmatched legacy.

Varanasi Municipal Corporation

Varanasi Nagar Nigam was established on 24-01-1959 under the act of Uttar Pradesh Government viz, Municipal Corporation Act of 1959 as a Nagar Mahapalika. In 1994 it was converted into Nagar Nigam under the U.P. Government act. The total wards under Varanasi Nagar Nigam are 90. At present total area under Varanasi Nagar Nigam is 79.79 Sq. Kms. The total length of road under Varanasi Nagar Nigam is 1170 K.M. Its total population was 11.98 Lacs as per census 2011.

Honorable Mayor - Shri Ram Gopal Mohley
Municipal Commissioner - Shri Srihari Pratap Shahi
Add Municipal Commissioner- Shri B. K Dwivedi
Add Municipal Commissioner- Shri R. S. Sengar
Dy. Municipal Commissioner- Shri Ramesh Singh
Municipal Health Officer- Dr. Govind Mishra
News from the City

As part of the thematic drive (1st to 15th June 2016) initiated by the Ministry of Urban development, GOI, cleaning activity was carried out in a number of parks of the city, the most prominent being Shaheed Udyan, Aazad Park, Bhartendu Udyan, Anand Baag. Officials of the VMC, members of CSU, NGOs and the general public participated in the event. In addition to the cleaning activity, awareness campaign against littering, open defecation and urination was carried out. The need for intensive plantation and its importance in saving our environment was deliberated upon. The local residents took a pledge to maintain the parks and keep it clean.

Under the thematic drive for 16th to 30th June 2016, Corporate Volunteering for Swachh Bharat Mission, few corporate and business houses were contacted and requested to actively support the Swachhta campaign. Some of them evinced keen interest and promised to lend their financial support for the activities within the city. Some manufacturing units, hospitals etc were also requested to construct urinals / toilets on the periphery of their premises as per the space available, which could be used by the general public. A seven seated toilet complex on the Sakka Telianala Ghat, a prominent OD spot was inaugurated on the 11th June 2016. This uses Bio Digester onsite disposal technology and has been constructed with the support of CSR funds of RITES.

Concerted effort is being undertaken to improve the solid waste management of the city. 29 wards have already been covered for door to door collection, 14 wards by IL&FS Environment and 15 wards by Kiyana Solutions and Services Pvt Ltd. Within a month it is expected that a total of 41 wards will be covered by these two companies for D2D collection. As per their contract, IL & FS is also engaged in sweeping of the streets and transportation up to the Waste Transfer Stations (Kooda Ghar) and then further up to the dumping ground. Road sweeping vehicles, Mobile Compactors etc have been introduced to increase the efficacy of the operations. IL & FS is making efforts to streamline their operations in the 14 wards, the staff of VMC will be withdrawn after their operations are stabilized. Plans are being made for covering the remaining 49 wards for D2D collection and in this regard various options are being considered.
The 600 TPD solid waste processing plant at Kharsada is being revamped and is in the process of being made operational by NTPC. Most of the installed machines have started functioning and the remaining infrastructure is being created. It is expected that this plant will be in a position to receive garbage of the city by the third week of July. After segregation and processing, compost and RDF will be produced which will be sold to the consumers. This will be one of the most important milestones in the realm of the SWM of Varanasi City.

An agreement has been signed for establishment of decentralized waste to bio gas/energy plants at 10 locations in the city. This project is being funded by IOCL under their CSR initiative. The capacity of each plant is 10 MT unsegregated solid waste. The plants are expected to be operational within two months. This initiative will provide innovative onsite solutions for solid waste disposal and will significantly reduce the need for transportation of the waste.

A tender was floated by VMC for round the clock cleaning of all the 84 Ghats on the river Ganga under the Namami Ganga initiative of NMCG. Offers have been received and are being processed. It will be finalized soon and work order will be issued. The scope of work includes inter alia sweeping, washing, mopping of all the Ghats at the specified periodicity. The Ghats are the defining heritage space of Varanasi and this project will go a long way in improving the aesthetics of the area.

An initiative has been taken under Solid & Liquid Resource Management (SLRM) program. The program aspires to treat the Solid and Liquid waste not as garbage but as a resource which can be gainfully utilized. The program is being coordinated by Mr C Srinivasan of Indian Green Service. To start with an intensive training for 20 days was conducted for 530 interested youths who have been designated as Safai Mitra. A door to door survey of all the residential and commercial establishments of the city has been initiated using these Safai Mitras, with an elaborate questionnaire to get first hand information about the solid and liquid waste being generated and other related issues. Under this program innovative paradigms will be used for collection and processing so as to make the operation self sustainable and also generate some revenue. This initiative also aims to develop entrepreneurs amongst these volunteers who can get engaged in this activity and develop it as a livelihood opportunity.
Construction of Community and public Toilets funded by Japan International Co operation Agency (JICA) has been expedited. Out of the first phase of 45 CT/ PTs, 36 have completed and the remaining 9 sites are expected to be complete by the 10th July. Work is in progress at 25 sites in the second phase of 40 CT/PTs. There are some issues pertaining to the land at the remaining sites which are being sorted out. Work Order has been issued to the contractor for 43 CT/PTs in the third phase. They have been asked to complete the work by December 2016. VMC is also planning to float tenders/RFP for ascertaining the interest of parties to construct new CT/PTs on BOT model. Tender for standalone urinals will also be brought out soon.

Five Community toilets have been constructed and are being maintained by a NGO SEEDS supported by EY and BMGF. Funding support has been received under CSR initiative of different companies. These toilets are pilot projects using onsite disposal technologies like Bio Digester, DEWATS etc. On completion of the pilot phase the efficacy of the different technologies being used will be validated. The models can then be replicated elsewhere based on the outcome of this project.

A two day Social Entrepreneur Incubation Program on the 29th and 30th June, was organized by EY and SEEDS for budding entrepreneurs to enable them to appreciate the field of Sanitation and accept it as a business opportunity. The response was quite good and number of ideas were generated.

Detailed survey has also been carried out for identifying the remaining Open defecation spots especially along the Ghats and the railway track. A number of spots have been identified and the matter is being followed up with the concerned railway authorities for getting their approval.
Construction of **IHHL** (Individual Household Latrines) is going on at 779 sites where the first installment of Rs 2000 has been disbursed to the beneficiaries. The second installment for these 779 cases has been received and will be disbursed after physical verification of the progress. First Installment for another 2525 cases has been received and will be disbursed. A total of 3900 cases have been verified online.

To ensure construction of the IHHL with proper specifications and quality, 110 masons have been given intensive two day training starting from 30th June 2016, in the construction of toilets both with soak pit and septic tank technologies. The training was imparted by Global Academy of Public Safety & Habitat Management (GAPSHAM). Along with classroom lectures, practical training was also imparted to the masons. These masons will now be deployed in different areas for construction of the IHHL. The engagement of trained masons will also help in achieving construction within the timelines and also in a cost effective manner.
News from around the Country

Indian Railways’ Goes Green: Installs Bottle Recycling Machine at Mumbai’s Churchgate Station

Giving boost to PM Modi’s ‘Swachh Bharat’ scheme, Indian Railways has put up a 'Swachh Bharat Recycle Machine', which is a bottle/can recycling machine at the Churchgate railway station in Mumbai. 500 bottles in a day can be crushed with one machine and it will only accept bottles/cans with authentic bar codes. Users will get an instant ‘reward’ when recycling used containers, motivating repeated use. When the bottle is accepted by the machine, three options on the screen will appear—donation, mobile recharge and discount from an outlet with which the machine provider has tied up for discounts. The user can select either option and a printout will be issued. The recycled bottles will be supplied to fibre manufacturing companies to be used for clothes, carpets and grocery bags.

(Source-Financial Express)

'52% citizens find their city cleaner after 600 days of Swachh Bharat mission'

Fifty two per cent of citizens find their city cleaner 600 days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Swachh Bharat (Clean India) initiative, a country wide survey has found. "At 600 days, Swachh Bharat is making progress but civic sense awareness and municipal engagement and effectiveness remain a critical challenge," Local Circles, which conducted the online survey of over 40,000 citizens, said. Interestingly, only 21 per cent citizens had found their city cleaner one year after the initiative was launched. Twenty three percent of citizens said availability of public toilets had improved, against only 12 percent who had found an improvement a year after the drive began. Fifty percent felt civic sense awareness was the most important driver for improving cleanliness, while 40 percent felt municipal engagement and effectiveness was needed for better cleanliness.

(Source-The Economic Times, 11th June 2016)
**Fast Facts**

2.5 billion People roughly 37 per cent of the world’s population still lack what many of us take for granted: access to adequate sanitation.

Open defecation is one of the main causes of diarrhea, which results in the deaths of more than 750,000 children under age 5 every year.

Every 20 seconds a child dies as a result of poor sanitation.

80 per cent of diseases in developing countries are caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation, including inadequate sanitation facilities.

Access to sanitation, the practice of good hygiene, and a safe water supply could save 1.5 million children a year.

In 2006, the world’s population was almost equally divided between urban and rural dwellers. Nevertheless, more than 7 out of 10 people without improved sanitation were rural inhabitants.

Doing nothing is costly. Every US $1 spent on sanitation brings a $5.50 return by keeping people healthy and productive. The global economic gains from investing in sanitation and water are estimated at $260 billion per year. •