

National Rating and Award Scheme for Sanitation for Indian Cities

Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India



Goal

In order to rapidly promote sanitation in urban areas of the country (as provided for in the National Urban Sanitation Policy and Goals 2008), and to recognize excellent performance in this area, the Government of India intends to institute an annual rating award scheme for cities.

The award is based on the premise that improved public health and environmental standards are the two outcomes that cities must seek to ensure for urban citizens. In doing so, governments in states and urban areas will need to plan and implement holistic city-wide sanitation plans, thereby put in place processes that help reach outputs pertaining to safe collection, confinement and disposal (including conveyance, treatment, and/ or re-use without adverse impacts on the environment in and around the cities). It may be noted that the awards will not recognize mere inputs, hardware or expenditure incurred in urban sanitation but assess how these lead to achievements of intermediate milestones toward the final result of 100 percent safe disposal of wastes from the city on a sustainable basis. Cities will need to raise the awareness of city stakeholders (households, establishments, industries, municipal functionaries, media, etc.) since improved sanitation can ensure improved public health and environmental outcomes only if considerable changes in behavior and practice take place across the spectrum of society.

Concept of Totally Sanitized Cities

A totally Sanitized City will be one that has achieved the outputs or milestones specified in the National Urban Sanitation policy, the salient features of which are as follows:

- Cities must be open defecation free.
- Must eliminate the practice of manual scavenging and provide adequate personnel protection equipment that addresses the safety of sanitation workers.
- Municipal wastewater and storm water drainage must be safely managed.
- Recycle and reuse of treated wastewater for non potable applications should be implemented wherever possible.
- Solid waste collected and disposed off fully and safely.
- Services to the poor and systems for sustaining results.
- Improved public health outcomes and environmental standards.



Cities will need to raise the awareness of city stakeholders since improved sanitation can ensure improved public health and environmental outcomes only if considerable changes in behavior and practice take place across the spectrum of society.

Baseline, Eligibility and Selection Procedure

- a) *Baseline and Planning:* First, each of the cities will conduct a survey (based on secondary and primary data sources) and establish a comprehensive baseline with respect to (liquid and solid) waste generation, collection and disposal in the city. This will enable them to place themselves through objective self-assessment, in the relevant sanitary category (Table 2). This will form the basis for a City Sanitation Campaign to mobilize all stakeholders, and raise awareness about and priority to 100 percent sanitation. Based on the baseline, the city will draw up and implement with support from the State Government and Government of India, a comprehensive City Sanitation Plan to address the situation in order to reach the goal of becoming 100 percent sanitized.
- b) *Implementation:* The city will implement its City Sanitation Plan in a strategic manner, clearly prioritizing areas that need urgent attention, and implementing long-term plans in parallel. Again, emphasis will be on mobilizing all city stakeholders and raising the importance of behavior change, practices and installations for safe and sanitary disposal of all wastes of the city on a sustainable basis.
- c) *Achievement of Milestones:* The cities/urban areas that have achieved the sanitation outputs and outcomes described above and have systems and procedures in place to sustain these, will apply to their State Governments (State Urban Development/ Municipal Administration Department), for recognition and nomination for the national award.
- d) *State-level Verification and Awards:* The state government will be fully responsible for supporting and supervising their cities to implementing the above steps, and in this regard, may consider instituting a state-level award scheme to promote competition amongst the urban areas within the state. State Governments will also need to launch state-level awareness campaigns.
- e) *National Cities' Sanitation Rating:* The Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), Government of India, will commission independent agencies to carry out surveys of all urban centers in India and publish the results nationally as the basis for recognizing performance. In addition, Government of India may also request states for recommending cities showing commendable performance, that will be followed by a due verification process.
- f) *Criteria for Awards:* The National Urban Sanitation Advisory Group, constituted by the MoUD, will be responsible for setting out and revising criteria for the national award. This Committee will also be the final authority in deciding annual awards to applicant cities.
- g) *Type of Awards:* The award scheme will recognize the achievement of cities at the national level. However, no monetary incentive or reward is envisaged for the award. The award may however include, for city and state representatives, sponsorship to participate in national events, trainings, and exchange and learning visits to other locations.

Rating and Categorization of Cities

- The rating of cities with regard to their performance in sanitation improvements will be based on set of objective indicators of outputs, processes and outcomes, as presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Indicative Objective Rating Chart for Sanitation in Cities

No	Indicators	Points*	No	Indicators	Points*
1	Output-related	50	2	Process-related**	30
A	No open defecation sub-total	16	A	M&E systems are in place to track incidences of open defecation	4
i.	Access and use of toilets by urban poor and other un-served households (including slums) - individual and community sanitation facilities	4	B	All sewerage systems in the city are working properly and there is no ex-filtration (Not applicable for cities without sewerage systems)	5
ii.	Access and use of toilets for floating and institutional populations – adequate public sanitation facilities	4	C	Septage/sludge is regularly cleaned, safely transported and disposed after treatment, from on-site systems in the city (MAXIMUM 10 marks for cities without sewerage systems)	5
iii.	No open defecation visible	4	D	Underground and surface drainage systems are functioning and are well-maintained	4
iv.	Eliminate manual scavenging and provide personnel protection equipment to sanitary workers	4	E	Solid waste management (collection and treatment) systems are efficient (and are in conformity with the MSW Rules, 2003)	5
B	Proportion of total human excreta generation that is safely collected (6 points for 100 percent)	6	F	There is clear institutional responsibility assigned; and there are documented operational systems in practice for B)/C) to E) above	4
C	Proportion of total black waste water generation that is treated and safely disposed off (6 points for 100 percent)	6	G	Sanctions for deviance on part of polluters and institutions is clearly laid out and followed in practice	3
D	Proportion of total grey waste water generation that is treated and safely disposed off (3 points for 100 percent)	3	3	Outcome-related	20
E	Proportion of treated wastewater that is recycled and reused for non potable applications	3	A	Improved quality of drinking water in city compared to baseline	7
F	Proportion of total storm-water and drainage that is efficiently and safely managed (3 points for 100 percent)	3	B	Improved water quality in water bodies in and around city compared to baseline	7
G	Proportion of total solid waste generation that is regularly collected (4 points for 100 percent)	4	C	Reduction in water-borne disease incidence amongst city population compared to baseline	6
H	Proportion of total solid waste generation that is treated and safely disposed off (4 points for 100 percent)	4			
I	City wastes cause no adverse impacts on surrounding areas outside city limits (5 points for 100 percent)	5			

* The marks for the above indicators will be revised every two to three years. Over time, indicators about more stringent conditions e.g. no-urination, or spitting in open/public spaces, etc. will be introduced as indicators. The weights accorded to each category and specific indicators will also be revised.** In this context, bigger cities may consider instituting good practice systems that comply with ISO (International Standards Organization) and/or BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards) process systems.

- On the basis of the above rating scheme, cities will be placed in different categories as presented in Table 2. National rating survey data will utilize these categories for publication of results.

Table 2: City Color Codes: Categories

No.	Category	Description	Points
1	RED	Cities on the brink of public health and environmental 'emergency' and needing immediate remedial action	<33
2	BLACK	Needing considerable improvements	<34 ≤66
3	BLUE	Recovering but still diseased	<67 ≤90
4	GREEN	Healthy and Clean city	<91 ≤100

- On the basis of plans prepared and implemented, cities will be able to measure the results of their actions, and be able to clearly chart out their improvements over time compared to their baseline situation.
- On achievement of remarkable results, i.e. coming into the Green category (Healthy and Clean City), cities will typically become eligible for the national award. Other cities showing remarkable incremental performance or selective achievements may also be given special or honorary awards. Cities in different size-classes may also be considered for category-wise awards.
- Based on results of the Rating survey and selection of awardees, cities will be invited to participate in a National Urban Sanitation Award ceremony.

Special and Honorary Awards

In order to mobilize cities to participate in the competition, two strategies will be followed:-

- Institution of award schemes as a part of State Strategies
- Institution of special and honorary awards to cities showing spectacular performance in selective dimensions or substantial increments

Special Awards: will be given to recognize special achievements, especially in the initial stages, since achievement of 100 percent sanitation may be difficult especially in the initial stages. For instance, a city may demonstrate remarkable performance in the area of stopping open defecation although 100 percent treatment may be constrained because of lack of time and resources within a given year. In such cases of selective performance, awards will be



instituted – in the initial years, these awards will be to accord recognition to:

- Stopping open defecation.
- Remarkable performance in awareness generation.
- Institutional assignment and implementation of operational procedures.
- Mobilization of community organizations or non-government agencies in sanitation campaigns.

Honorary Awards for Exemplary Performance: It may be difficult for many urban areas to immediately show all-round performance in sanitation. Therefore, cities showing maximum overall improvements in a given year, compared to their baseline situation, may also be given an award with a view to recognition of incremental efforts made.

If State strategies incorporate award schemes, many of the above category of performers will be pre-selected from states, and sent up for the national competition.

Ministry of Urban Development

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi 110 011, India
 Phone: (91-11) 23022199 Fax: (91-11) 23062477
 E-mail: secyurban@nic.in