

Neer Nirmal Pariyojana, Assam

(A World Bank aided project)
Public Health Engineering Department
Government of Assam



Nirmal

Varta

NEWSLETTER

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Editorial...

Welcome to the first edition of the "Nirmal Varta", a quarterly newsletter highlighting the achievements and success stories under Neer Nirmal Pariyojana, Assam.

The objective of Neer Nirmal Pariyojana is to provide 24X7 metered water supply to selected Gaon Panchayats in project districts @70 LPCD in a more sustained manner. The project promotes decentralised service delivery arrangements with increased participation by the PRIs and Communities and placing GPs and communities in the central role. It is envisaged that through this publication, greater awareness will be generated among its various stakeholders and also help in building a consensus for issues that concern the sector.

We value the interests and share the concerns of individuals and organisations having a key role to play in assisting us with or benefiting from our activities

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Introduction to Neer Nirmal Pariyojana, Assam

A Brief Abstract of World Bank Assisted Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Project (RWSSP)-Low Income States (LIS), Assam

The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS) and the World Bank have jointly developed the Neer Nirmal Pariyojana – Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project for Low Income States (RWSS-LIS) with an objective to 'improve piped water supply and sanitation services for selected rural communities in the target states through decentralized service delivery systems'. The Project will support progressive decentralization, with increased responsibility to the PRIs at the district and village levels for designing and implementing the RWSS schemes, and to the State and District Water and Sanitation Missions (DWSMs) for policy and oversight aspects. The RWSSP-LIS is being implemented in the four states of Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Uttar Pradesh.

In Assam Neer Nirmal Pariyojana has been taken in seven Districts of Assam in two batches during the period 2013-2020. The project will cover 5041 habitations of 1275 villages in 173 GP's of 16 Development Block. Total population to be benefited by the project is 12, 27,341 (2011 base) at an estimated cost of Rs. 1474.03 crores. All these seven schemes are formulated primarily for quality and sustainability, and to address the issues and challenges of institutional, infrastructure and service delivery system in rural water supply and sanitation sector. The Project Implementation Period is 8 years – Construction Period is 3 Years, Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Period is 5 Years.

World Bank Credit No: 5345-IN

☑ **Project Cost:**Rs. 1474.03 Crore.

☑ **Fund sharing pattern:**

World Bank	: 50.00%
Govt. of India (NRDWP)	: 44.50%
Govt. of Assam	: 4.50%
Community Contribution:	1.00%

☑ **Component wise share (as per PIP):**

Infrastructure	: 91%
Project Management	: 3%
Capacity Building & Sector Development:	6%

☑ **Project Implementation Period:**

Construction Period	: 3 Years.
O&M Period	: 5 Years.

☑ **Date of Commencement of the Project:**

07th February, 2014.

☑ **IN BATCH-I**, 3 nos. of project in Hailakandi, Jorhat and Kamrup district are under implementation with a total project cost of Rs. 676.03 crore.

Coverage:

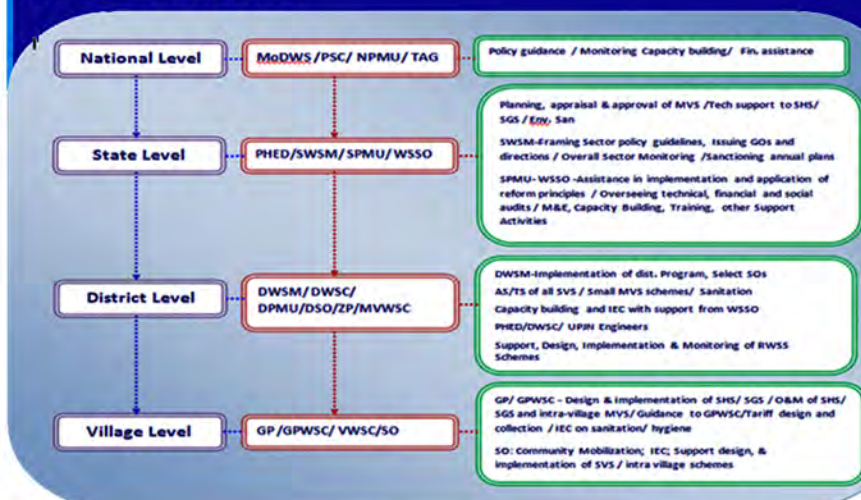
No. of population	: 5,89,283
No. of GP	: 63
No. of development Blocks	: 7

☑ **IN BATCH-II**, 4 nos. of MVS project in Morigaon, Bangaiagaon, Sonitpur & Sivasagar district are to be taken up with tentative estimated cost is Rs.822.67 crore.

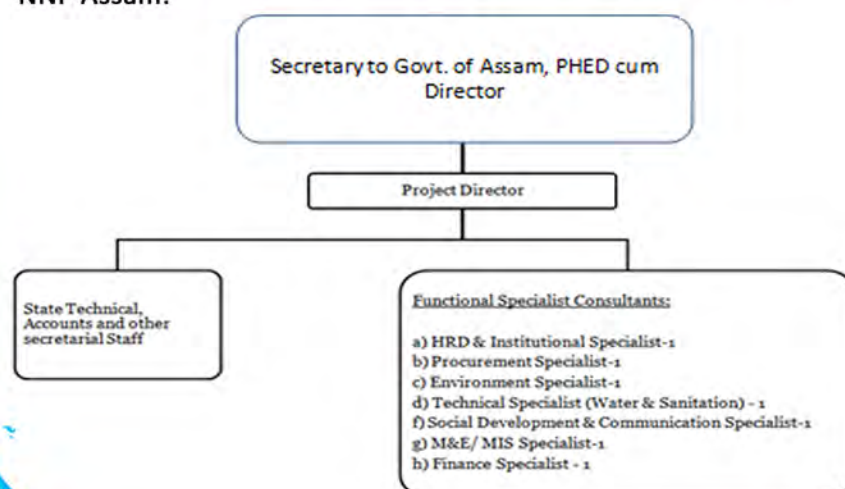
Coverage:

No. of population	: 6,82,183
No. of GP	: 110
No. of development Blocks	: 9

Institutional Structure:

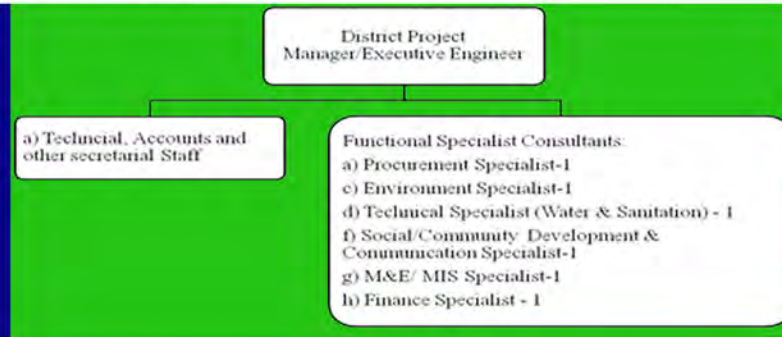


Administrative Structure of state Project Management Unit for NNP Assam:





Structure of District Project Management Unit



There are two committees at the district level and Gram panchayat level envisaged for sustainability of the project.

Multi Village Water Supply & Sanitation Committee (MVWSC) At the district Level

Sl. No.	Constitution	Formation
1	Chairman	Zilla Parisad President
2	Vice Chairman	Zilla Parisad, CEO
3	Member Secretary	Executive Engineer (PHE) of the project executive Division
4	Member	President from project area GPs, Anchalic Panchayat member & Zilla Parisad
5	Selected member (At least 2)	Representatives of NGO/SHG/Youth group/Citizen group (from project area)

Main Functions of MVWSC

- Coordinate with PHED and GPWSC to carry out O&M of common facilities of MVS
- Handle complaints of GPWSC related to bulk water supply and o&M of common facilities
- To collect bulk water charges from the respective GPs as per bulk water tariff policy for MVS towards O&M, if entrusted
- To ensure that each and every household/section have adequate access to water supply facilities and those resources are put to an efficient usage
- To ensure the quality and sufficient quantity of drinking water
- To prepare and revise, as and when necessary, water distribution management plan

Gram Panchayat Water Supply & sanitation Committee

At the Gram Panchayat Level

Sl. No.	Constitution	Formation
1	Chairman	President of Respective GP
2	Vice Chairman	Vice president of the respective GP
3	Member Secretary	Sectional Officer (Assistant Engineer/Junior Engineer of PHE) in charge of the jurisdiction
4	Member	President of Village level health and sanitation committee of NRHM
5	Member	Anchalik Panchayat Member of the GP
6	Member	All Ward Members
7	Member	President(s) of VWSC under GPWSC
8	Member	Secretary(s) of VWSC under GPWSC
9	Member	Secretary of the respective GP
10	Member	ASHA/Anganwadi workers within the GP
11	Member	Swachhata Doot of the GP

Main Functions of GPWSC

- To plan for operating and maintaining the GP water supply through MVS and sanitation facilities in the village/ habitations under its jurisdiction, in consultation with the Gram Sabha.
- Operation & Maintenance activities shall include water treatment, chlorification, minor repairs, cleaning of pipes apart from normal O & M activities.
- To sign contract with Private Operators selected for O&M of intra-village facilities of MVS.
- To fix, revise and collect water and sanitation charges from the community for the purpose of sustainable O&M of the all the infrastructure created for water supply and sanitation under MVS as per guidelines
- To ensure the quality and sufficient quantity of drinking water supply to household
- To prepare and revise, as and when necessary, water distribution and sanitation management plan.





Project's Physical and Financial Progress

Projects Physical Progress

Sl No.	Activities	Progress in P.C.			
		Kamrup Project		Jorhat Project	Hailakandi Project
		Chandrapur	Dimoria		
1	Approach Road	100%	80%	80%	50%
2	Boundary Wall	95%	90%	80%	80%
3	Staff Quarters	100%	90%	40%	40%
4	Barge	70%	70%	10%	-
5	Procurement of D.I. pipe (RW/CW)	100%	80%	20%	30%
6	Procurement of Diesel Generating Set	100%	100%	Nil	Nil
7	CWR	60%	Nil	15%	10%
8	Intake	Nil	50%	20%	Nil
9	Pre settling tank	25%	60%	Nil	Nil
11	Aerator	30%	25%	Nil	Nil
12	Flash Mixer	30%	30%	Nil	Nil
13	Clarifloculator	25%	25%	Nil	15%
14	Filter	25%	30%	Nil	Nil
15	Chemical House	10%	40%	Nil	Nil
16	Laying of Raw water pipe	Nil	15%	Nil	30%

Project Financial Progress

Upto April 30 th 2016 Rs. in Lakh		
Funds Received:		
1	State Government	508.40
2	GOI/World Bank	10045.00
3	Community Contribution	9.53
Grand Total		100562.93
Expenses :		
1	Component (A): Capacity Building	Rs. 167.65
2	Component (B) : Infrastructure	Rs. 9757.40
3	Component (C) : Project Management	Rs. 304.09
Grand Total		Rs. 10229.14





Community Mobilizer: The front line workers of Neer Nirmal Pariyojana

Community Mobilizers: The Frontline Workers

Neer Nirmal Pariyojana is being implemented with the objective to 'improve piped water supply and sanitation services for selected rural communities in the target states through decentralized service delivery systems'. To achieve this goal the project has a multi-pronged approach including technical and social process in planning, implementing, operating and maintaining the project with substantial focus on community participation, transparency and ownership building among the primary stakeholders. Technical expertise for the project is chiefly provided by the PHED, while the social and institution development skills are being addressed by an innovative approach – the Community Mobilizer Model.

Community Mobilizers are community best practitioners of social mobilization and motivators for collective behavior change. Community Mobilizers are being envisaged as the key instrument for mobilizing the community to avail improved piped water supply and sanitation services under NNP. To achieve the goals of the project, Community Mobilizers are engaged to expedite the process of social mobilization in order to stimulate demand for the intervention, mobilize communities around the project and trigger collective behavior change across communities in the project districts. Community Mobilizers are the bridge between the department, GPWSC and community as a whole. They are at the forefront in generating awareness among the masses regarding services of water supply and sanitation under NNP.

A systematic process of identification and selection is conducted for the engagement of Community Mobilizers. Through an innovative and participatory selection process the candidates are assessed in terms of leadership, communication skills, motivation, team work, public speaking and attitude. The selected Community Mobilizers then undergo an intensive residential induction process followed by a structured field-assignment. The induction programme and field assignment are aligned towards equipping and building the capacities of the Community Mobilizers as local resource persons in implementing the project.

Each project GP has 2 (two) Community Mobilizers – 1 (one) male and 1 (one) female – selected through a participatory selection process. Hence, with 63 GPs in Batch-I, the total number of Community Mobilizers selected and deployed are 126. Coming from the same background and facing similar issues, it is envisaged that they will be able to create greater impact by sharing their experiences as frontline workers as well as beneficiaries under the project.



Role of Community Mobilizers

- i. Sensitize project stakeholders including GPWSC, GP, Community and others on principles and design of the project, implementation, O&M through IEC and capacity building as per stakeholder needs and training modules.
- ii. Conduct awareness camps and training programmes for GPWSC, GP and Community on project objectives, community monitoring, implementation process, O&M, sanitation and hygiene.
- iii. Ensure regular meetings of GPWSCs are conducted.
- iv. Facilitate preparation of Water Security Plan (WSP) for the villages/GPs with assistance from DPMU.
- v. Facilitate preparation of Community Action Plan (CAP) for sanitation and SLWM for the villages in project GPs with assistance from DPMU.
- vi. Facilitate individual to take-up household based piped water supply connections provided.
- vii. Facilitate construction of household latrines so as to make the GPs ODF
- viii. Facilitate community based monitoring of construction work related to piped water supply, environmental sanitation & SLWM.
- ix. Facilitate development & operationalization of CAPEX and OPEX collection mechanism in project GPs.





Bhabesh Bora, a 42 year old street theatre artist was engaged in the awareness campaigns organized by Jorhat DPMU to generate awareness among the masses on Neer Nirmal Pariyojana and the benefits of 24x7 household piped water supply connection under the scheme. As a member of a local theatre group, Bhabesh was actively involved in performing street plays in the project GPs of Jorhat where he urged the people to participate in the project and avail the benefits of the scheme. His interest in the project grew and he wished to be engaged with the project more extensively so that he could actually implement all that he was demonstrating through his plays. When the process for selection of Community Mobilizers was conducted in his GP No. 27 Choukhat Hatigarh, he actively participated and also got selected as a Community Mobilizer.

“ I have seen and faced the problems myself, of not having clean water to drink and use. I am a beneficiary myself under this project and I have taken this as an opportunity to work as a Community Mobilizer and fulfill the dream of having clean water not only at my house but in all the houses under my GP. ”

~ Bhabesh Bora~

“There were people who didn't talk to me earlier. They saw me as a poor widow, weak and good-for-nothing. Now they talk to me with respect. They have started to trust me and I will not let them down. Being a Community Mobilizer is hard work and I will work doubly hard to see them happy when the water reaches their homes.”

~ Junmoni Rahan~

Junmoni Rahan, a widow of 36 years leaves with her mother and two children. The elder son studies in Class VII and the younger boy has just started kindergarten. After the demise of her husband she was struggling to make ends meet by working as a wage earner. She heard from her Gaon Panchayat about Neer Nirmal Pariyojana, an initiative by Govt. of India and World Bank to provide improved drinking water and sanitation services in her GP. They were looking for individuals who could work as Community Mobilizers to help the villagers to get the best of this scheme. She saw this as an opportunity to do some good for her people and also earn a better livelihood. She was eventually selected as a Community Mobilizer of her GP Nartap, Kamrup (M) district. She has since been engaged in organizing training and awareness camps in her GP to discuss about Neer Nirmal Pariyojana. One of her primary duties as Community Mobilizer has also been to collect community contribution and she started the same from her own house.

Debajani Bora, a Community Mobilizer of No. 67 Panichokuwa GP of Jorhat Development Block has been working hard to mobilize the community around the project and enhance community participation. For the purpose, she organized a meeting of No. 67 Panichokuwa GPWSC on 9 April 2016 that was attended by all members including the ASHA, Poornima Bora where she reiterated the project development objectives and its benefits. During the meeting the members decided to reach to every household in the village with the same information through community meetings at village and hamlets to increase community participation and expedite community contribution. Poornima Bora, the ASHA took the initiative to organize a meeting in Namoni Panichokuwa hamlet of Panichokuwa village jointly with Debajani as that area was remote and information regarding the project had not reached them yet. As planned, they organized a meeting on 22 April 2016, where around 30 villagers participated. Together they made a presentation on the project, its benefits and also on the importance of drinking clean water and safe handling of water. The deliberation ended with villagers coming forth with their contribution and agreeing to not only participate in the project but also motivate other villagers to join in.

“It was a very fruitful meeting and it was mostly possible because of the support I got from Poornima Baidew, the ASHA. There was some information that I brought to the people and there was some knowledge that she added. Together, the outcome was very effective and useful for the people. We have planned to work in coordination as a team in future as well, to bring the best to the people.”

~ Debajani Bora~



Reaching out through IEC

A Brief sketch on IEC : NNP GPs in Assam



“Sanitation is more important than independence”

~ Mahatma Gandhi ~

Water, Sanitation and hygiene are the hallmarks of a civilized society which are critical for health and sustainable socio-economic development. For the marginalized communities, lack of clean water and adequate sanitation acts as an impediment for the Human Development growth in the communities across the world. In the post globalization scenario, water and sanitation have become important agendas for every developing country. These are not only a development issue, but also an empowerment tool for the development of society and it has now turned into a multidisciplinary subject in the global development sector. Cleanliness and hygiene are important from not only the public health point of view, but also socio and economic development of the family.

Esteemed organisations like the World Bank and other multi donor or finance organisations are promoting quality water and sanitation activities. They are also concentrating on awareness generation and construction of infrastructure for providing better facilities. The RWSSP-LIS project is aimed at providing rural water supply and sanitation facilities. It includes capacity building and institution strengthening efforts, as well as community mobilization, sanitation, and hygiene education programmes. The purpose is to enhance the health of low-income communities in rural areas by improving their hygiene, drinking water, and sanitation facilities which will, in turn, benefit the environment.

The National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) of the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, has recently prepared a long term strategic plan (2011-2022) to ensure drinking water security to all rural households. The plan aims to cover 90% of households with piped water and at least 80% of households with tap connections during this period including sanitation coverage, both household toilets and SLWM across the villages.

To achieve these set objectives and while working on development front communication needs to be put at heart place. Information Education and Communication (IEC) in NNP intend to create sustainable behavioural change, not just to facilitate project implementation, but to ensure long term successful water supply scheme run by the village itself and sanitation & healthy, hygiene practice in village. Past experiences in water supply and sanitation sector result in adoption of new demand driven and public contribution base system. In this project, IEC include developing strategies, approaches, campaign and methods that enable individual, families, groups, organization and community to play an active role in achieving sustainable development.

However, it was revealed through interaction with the community people that there are major gaps in the understanding of the community on water supply schemes and options available, health hazards of sanitation, economic efficacy of the construction. And that's why massive IEC & BCC strategies and activities along with the Capacity Building activities needs to be taken up at the village/GP level so that the people have a complete and concrete understanding about the projects, pros and cons of the acts they are performing, which will also increase the awareness and knowledge level of the community. There were some set objectives under the project as ---to address the community population by having access to the existing IEC strategy, communication plan, tools and materials, capacity building for communication activities of various stakeholders, the IEC strategy that has been developed defines the approaches as how the districts, GPs and the grass root level functionaries should implement the IEC activities and Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) activities in their specified geographical areas which will facilitate in managing IEC activities, maintaining uniformity in messages, producing high quality, cost effective, target specific IEC/BCC products based on the key messages and to disseminate appropriate communication strategy for NNP for its effective field level implementation.



To achieve the targets and goals certain IEC and BCC activities were conducted at district level under Batch I through the involvement of DPMU and the different stakeholders. Street plays/nukad natak have been conducted at GP level to make the people aware on the NNP project, Sanitation & SLWM activities in Jorhat, Kamrup (M) and Hailakandi districts under Batch I. At GP level IPC meetings on sanitation, & SLWM were conducted by the district consultants especially with the women stakeholders and community people, opinion leaders.





At the same time orientation workshops have been conducted for GPWSC & MVWSC members in every dist headquarter where display of Pamphlets, posters, leaflets and brochures have been done on both Water & Sanitation (including Environmental Sanitation). Rallies involving school children, teenagers and other stake holders and school level programmes were done. An innovative approach was done as on the Republic Day a tableau was launched in Hailakandi dist with display of models on toilets, water supply schemes, and community people participating in the activities which moved around the entire district.



Whereas certain intensive activities are in process which shall be done such as Kiosks, Display Boards, Banners, rally and backlit Glow Signs at various Railway Stations, Public Bus Stands, Market places under the project area to gauge the effectiveness of the campaign. The content of the messages are developed keeping in mind the target audience and demand of the community. These have resulted in generating awareness on the need of quality water, hygienic and healthy life and clean village. Moreover the community were sensitized and informed on their role, functions and the project as a whole. These activities have resulted in establishing the Brand building of *Neer Nirmal Pariyojana* (NNP) was done.

In a nutshell, the launch of effective IEC and BCC campaign has established the image of NNP in the mindset of the people leading to the changed behaviour. They have accepted the 24 X7 70lpcd piped water supply services and willing to pay community contribution for the services.





M&E Activities

Neer Nirmal Pariyojana – Online Reporting & Monitoring System, Assam

NNP-ORMS is a digital initiative to capture all relevant information, data and reports related to the various activities under the project. It is a single window web-portal that assists in tracking the progress and status of NNP, Assam including Capacity Building, Infrastructure Development, Financial Management & Project Management.

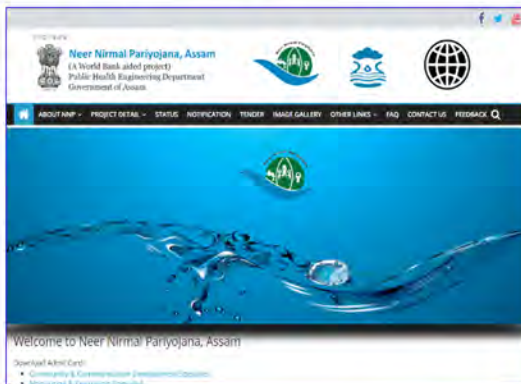


NNP-ORMS ASSAM

Module name	Objective
Monthly Progress Reporting System (MPRS)	The system will capture the monthly physical and financial progress under NNP Assam where each District /DPMU will enter their progress against each defined activity (Component wise) in a given standard format.
Project Management System (PMS)	PMS will capture the progress under Infrastructure development and also acts as an interface between "OPERATORS" – "DPMU" – "TPQAC" – "SPMU".
Capacity Building Management Information System (CBMIS)	CBMIS will capture all the important indicators /information related to various Capacity Building activities (e.g. Training, awareness camp etc) conducted at various levels.
Financial Monitoring System (FMS)	FMS is to keep a track of inflow and outflow of fund at SPMU and DPMU levels. For having accurate and upto date information of the financial position of any expenditure unit (SPMU /DPMUs) at given point of time.
Tour Reporting System (TRS)	The system is to record and monitor the outcome of field visits /exposure visit/tours etc.

Official website for Neer Nirmal Pariyojana, Assam with district specific pages

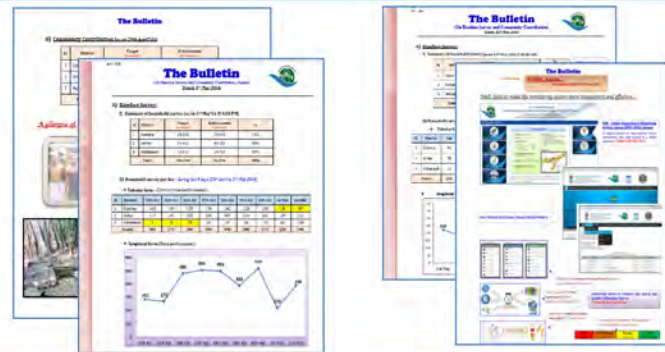
The NNP, Assam website is an interface between the project and the general public. The website holds pertinent information related to the project and its varied components along with videos & photographs. It also publishes news and notifications from time-to-time for its various stakeholders. A provision to submit Feedback on the project has also been made available in the website.



NNP, ASSAM WEBSITE

"The Bulletin" – a weekly bulletin to reflect the progress on Baseline Survey, Community Contribution, initiatives and success stories

"The Bulletin" is an information sharing platform wherein progress related to Community Contribution, Baseline Survey & other components are mentioned. It also shares testimonies of Community Mobilizers and success stories under the project on rural water supply and sanitation.

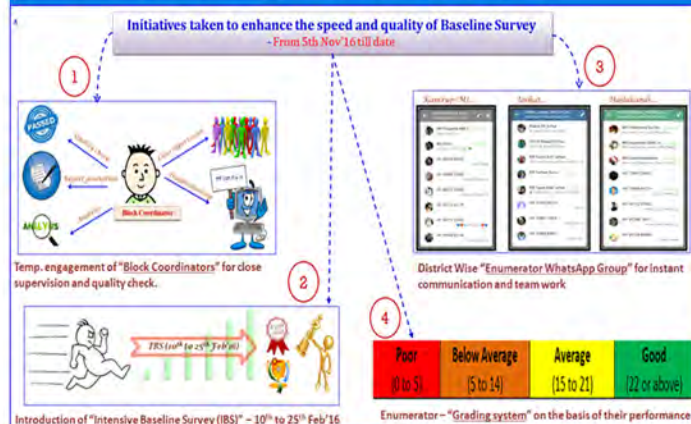


The Baseline Survey:

The Baseline survey is undertaken to commence the NNP operations in the project areas. The survey is conducted using web-based software through Tablets.

Some of the requisites for baseline survey:

- GP wise habitation list for Survey Application
- Engagement of Enumerators for survey
- Awareness Meeting with respective GP Presidents /GPWSC Members
- Proper Monitoring and Guidance
- Proper Training and Review meetings





Sanitation Success Stories

Nirmal Kurmi resides in Barkhat Gram Panchayat of Dimoria block, House No 44. Kurmi's family belongs to tea garden community. His family consists of 7 members of whom 4 are male and rest female members. Nirmal Kurmi's earns his livelihood by working as daily wage labourer, which is seasonal. The family has no permanent source of income when health issues arise, faces acute monetary hardships. Recently Kurmi's family installed a sanitary toilet which was made available through Swachha Bharat Mission. Earlier the family had no sanitary toilet and used a kaccha toilet for the purpose or would go to the fields to defecate. Now Kurmi's family is happy. They feel that their quality of life has improved considerably; otherwise it would not have been possible for them to construct.

Mohan Pendu, is a neighbor of Mohan Kurmi. He too resides in Barkhat Gram Panchayat of Dimoria block, House No 48. This family is also large with 7 members. Mohan Pendu works as a rickshawala at Barkhat GP. They too belong to tea garden community but now have left their traditional work and rest of his sons work as daily wage earner. Pendu's family is very satisfied and uses the sanitary toilet installed by NGO, through Swachha Bharat Mission. The next door neighbor of Pendu who are better off and been using sanitary toilet remarked that this initiative from SBM is appreciable as they too are benefitted in the process since the environment has become more hygienic.

Nirmal Kurmi & his family from Barkhat GP- Dimoria Block



Mohan Pendu the rickshawala from Barkhat GP along with his family

Drainage outlet at Kurmi's residence



SBM Toilet constructed by Pendu's Family



Nirmal Kurmi with his newly installed sanitary toilet from SBM





Photo Gallery

Photos showing progress of works - Jorhat



Site Office At WTP Site 02/02/2016



Progress Work of WTP Staff Quarter 02/02/2016



CWR & Pump House at WTP 02/02/2016



Staff Quarter room at Intake 02/02/2016



Progress of Laboratory Room at WTP Site 02/02/2016



Clariflocculator 02/02/2016



Progress of Utility Cum Operator Room at Intake 02/02/2016



Retaining Wall structure at Intake 02/02/2016

Photos showing progress of works - Kamrup



Pre-settling Tank Raft at Chandrapur 02/02/2016



Rapid Gravity Sand Filter at Dimoria W.T.P 02/02/2016



Flash Mixer at Chandrapur 02/02/2016



Aerator at Chandrapur W.T.P 02/02/2016



Clear Water Reservoir at Chandrapur 02/02/2016



Chowkidar House at Dimoria 02/02/2016



Clear Water Reservoir at Chandrapur W.T.P 02/02/2016



DI Pipes Different Sizes at Dimoria Stack Yard 02/02/2016

Photos showing progress of works - Hailakandi



Staff Quarter 02/02/2016



Boundary Wall 02/02/2016



Pipe Staking 02/02/2016



For further information

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