

A SURVEY ON IMPACT OF SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN ON SLUM AREA IN JAIPUR CITY

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Abstract : “The Swachh Bharat Mission launched by Our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 2nd October 2014 aims to achieve the vision of a ‘Clean India’ by 2nd October 2019. Shri Narendra Modi led a cleanliness pledge at India Gate, which about thirty lakh government employees across the country joined. By inviting people to participate in the drive, the Swachhta Abhiyan has turned into a National Movement. The objectives of Swachh Bharat include eliminating open defecation through the construction of household-owned and community-owned toilets. The Jaipur city has 238 slums, which are called as “kacchi basti” in local parlance. Here, the development of slum is a big issue because slums are deprived of basic urban facilities, especially water, electricity, road and drainage. In the current paper attempt has been made to represent the impact of **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA)** on the improvement of sanitary conditions of slums. The study was conducted in Jaipur city and the data were collected from 80 slum dwellers of Kachchi Basti area located near Jawahar Nagar, Tila No. 4.

Index Terms: Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Open defecation free, Community toilet, Garbage, Sanitary condition.

INTRODUCTION

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA) or **Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)** is a nation-wide campaign in India for the period 2014 to 2019 that aims to clean up the streets, roads and infrastructure of India's cities, towns, and rural areas. Run by the Government of India, the mission aims to achieve an "open-defecation free" (ODF) India by 2nd October 2019, the 150th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, by constructing 90 million toilets in rural India. The mission will also contribute to India reaching Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6), established by the UN in 2015.

The government has constructed 86 million toilets since 2014, reducing the number of persons who openly defecate from 550 million to fewer than 150 million in 2018. Many people continue to not use toilets despite having them. The campaign has been criticized for using coercive approaches to force people to use toilets.

Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) Mobile app is being used by people and Government organisations for achieving the goals of Swachh Bharat Mission. For this the government of India is bringing awareness to the people through advertisements.

The Prime Minister has helped spread the message of Swachh Bharat by urging people through his words & action. He carried out a cleanliness drive in Varanasi as well. He wielded a spade near River Ganga at Assi Ghat in Varanasi under the Clean India Mission. He was joined by a large group of local people who cooperated in the Swachhta Abhiyan. Understanding the significance of sanitation, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has simultaneously addressed the health problems that roughly half of the Indians families have to deal with due to lack of proper toilets in their homes.

In addition to more than half of Indian homes having no toilets within their premises, access to water supply and drainage facilities is also another serious problem. For example, two-thirds of Indian homes have no drinking water facility from a treated tap source, and four-fifths are devoid of closed drainage connectivity for discharge of wastewater. While 87% of the households now use tap, tube-well, hand-pumps and covered wells as the main source for drinking water, only 47% have the source of water within the premises. A good 36% households still have to fetch water from a source located within 500 meters in rural areas and 100 meters in urban areas. The situation is even worse in areas, which are drought-prone or face perennial water shortage, such as the Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh and states like Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa.

Urban Poverty and slums is one of the most critical problems in urban development today. In Jaipur too, which is state capital of Rajasthan, they are a serious issue. 10 percent of the population is below the poverty line and 22.4 % urban populations have to reside in slum areas in Jaipur city according to Census 2011. 238 slums location are listed by administration in 2011. Processes of slum development are jointly administered by Jaipur Municipal Corporation (JMC) and Jaipur Development Authority (JDA). Jaipur city has enlisted 59476 slums household.

The slum dwellers often get located on any vacant plot in the city convenient to them. These are predominantly the environmentally sensitive locations in the city including forests, flood prone areas, etc. In Jaipur, majority of the slums are located on forestland. 27% are in flood prone areas and 18% along main roads. The present study was conducted in the

biggest katchi basti in Jaipur located in the east of Jawahar Nagar, Tila No 4 along bypass road where about 7000 families are residing. The issues related to the sanitary conditions of slum after the onset of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan were analyzed and shared in this study.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Recent evidence indicates that India is heading towards a major sanitation crisis in the coming years. The fastest growing economy seems to have missed out on having adequate toilet facilities for as high as 65% of its population. For example, nearly half of India's 1.2 billion people have no toilet at home, but more than half of India's people own a mobile phone, indicates the latest census data.

According to the census of 2011, 53.1% (63.6% in 2001) of the households in India do not have a toilet, with the percentage being as high as 69.3% (78.1% in 2001) in rural areas and 18.6% (26.3% in 2001) in urban areas. Furthermore, field studies indicate that even the use of the existing toilets in both rural and urban areas is very low.

These facts have also been reconfirmed by another report released on 6th March 2012 by the WHO/UNICEF's Joint Monitoring Programme on sanitation for the Millennium Development Goals, which has also indicated that 59% (626 million) Indians still do not have access to toilets and practice open defecation and that majority of them live in rural areas.

It was in 1986 that the Indian government launched the Central Rural Sanitation Programme—the first nationwide sanitation programme. The programme had no target year and in vague terms spoke about improving the quality of life. Several other sanitation programmes were launched in the next 28 years, like the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan in rural India and Basic Services for Urban Poor in urban India. But India's hope to be ODF remained as bruised as its millions of toilets that were built but never used.

Open defecation and sewage contamination of drinking and bathing water has been an endemic sanitary problem in India. In 2014, India was the country with the highest number of people practicing open defecation, around 530 million people.

On 1 April 2000, the Government of India restructured the Comprehensive Rural Sanitation Programme and launched the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) which was later (on 1 April 2012) renamed "Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan" by then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. A limited randomized study of eighty villages in rural (Madhya Pradesh) showed that the TSC programme did modestly increase the number of households with latrines, and had a small effect in reducing open defecation. However, there was no improvement in the health of children."

The earlier "Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan" rural sanitation program was hampered by the unrealistic approach. Consequently, Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan was restructured by Cabinet approval on 24 September 2014 as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

The tumultuous history of India's sanitation programmes also flags a note of caution on where this feat could go wrong. India built 61 million toilets after the first programme in 1986 (but before SBM) spending close to Rs 1, 00,000 crore. But the march to ODF halted just after building the toilet. First, because the usage was not consistent and there was slippage in ODF status, and add to it the rampant fudging of data to chase target. Second, millions of toilets built became dysfunctional adding to the problem. Third, we couldn't avail water supply and ensure proper solid and liquid waste management to ensure safety. It is no wonder that India missed its earlier deadline of 2017 to make the country ODF.

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out at Kachchi Basti area in Jaipur city. The study slum is located in the east of Jawahar Nagar, Tila No. 4. The data was collected from 80 respondents which included housewives, vendors and other residents of the study slum through structured household level questionnaire and qualitative discussion with respondents. Each respondent was separately interviewed. The questionnaire included 30 questions in all related to following topics:

1. Education & qualification
2. Awareness about Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
3. Collection and disposal of daily waste
4. Construction and use of community toilets
5. Maintenance of community toilets
6. Significant difference in sanitary condition

The views of the people were marked in the questionnaire and their suggestions for further improvement were also taken and noted.

OBSERVATION & RESULTS

In order to have a feed forward about current sanitary conditions through residents of study slum a random survey was conducted through questionnaire to know about their views regarding Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and its effect in their area. In all 25 different questions related to the new system of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan were asked from the 70 slum dwellers. It helped in finding out the changes in sanitary conditions of the slum area at Jawahar Nagar, Tila No. 4 in Jaipur and the reasons contributing to it. Apart from that their suggestion for further improvement were also asked and shared in this paper.

Around 50% of surveyed people have attended the school till primary education and most of others were illiterate. 56% were engaged in some private job and others included unemployed housewives. All of them have been residing there for more than five years and most of them were aware of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan through the clean drive song played by garbage van and a few through advertisements on radio.

None of them was aware about Swachhta hi Seva activity which is related to public participation in maintaining cleanliness irrespective of work done by Nagar Nigam workers. All of them accepted that the garbage van comes at least twice a day for the collection of waste. 65 % replied that they have hired a private sweeper for door to door collection of their waste. 40% of them keep the waste at a place in their home in case the sweeper doesn't come and 35% were having the habit of collecting the garbage at a designated place outside the house in such case

When asked about dry and wet waste none of them was in a habit of keeping it separately. 56% didn't even understand the concept of Blue and Green colored waste bins provided by Nagar Nigam on roadsides. When asked about the different types of waste, polythene and vegetable waste topped the list. This indicates that almost all of them were contributing significantly to the most hazardous non biodegradable waste i. e., Polythene bags.

80% of them have toilet constructed inside their house and 68% of them got financial help from government for constructing house owned toilet under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. 64% were not in a habit of using community toilets and 60% of them felt the need for constructing even more community toilets because the number of community toilets constructed under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is very less as compared to the number of slum residents.

When asked about the sanitary conditions of the community toilets 90% of them admitted that every morning the toilets are cleaned by Nagar Nigam Workers and 96% accepted that the construction of these toilets have significantly improved the sanitary condition in their area. 94% of them were not sure about the availability of water in community toilets.

96% of them refused to defecate in open and 98% admitted that their area is still not open defecation free and also they still find heaps of waste collected on roadside.

None of them has ever registered any complaint against the current system and they even didn't know how and where to register a complaint if needed.

92% admitted that the construction of community toilets has significantly improved the sanitary condition but 65% are not satisfied by the waste collection system because the Nagar Nigam workers do not collect the waste from door to door and moreover the garbage van doesn't wait for sufficient time so that they themselves can come out to dispose off their waste as they have to cover long distance to reach the van.

The views of the people are depicted in Table-1.

Table-1: Views of the people

S.No.	Activity	Maximum score of the Study	Percentage
1	Maximum Qualification	Primary	50
2	Occupation	Private	56
3	Duration of residing in that particular area	>5 years	100
4	Awareness about Swachh Bharat Abhiyan	Yes	100
5	Sources of information about SBA	Clean Drive Song	95
6	Involvement in "Swachhhta hi Seva" activity	Not aware	100
7	Frequency of van coming for garbage collection	At least 2 times/ day	100
8	Option opted for disposal of waste on missing the van	Hired private sweeper	65
9	Is there any significant difference in waste disposal habit with new system?	No	65
10	Are dry and wet wastes kept separately?	No	100
11	Is the concept of Blue and Green dustbins clear?	No	56
12	Which waste is produced in significant amount?	Polythene & Vegetables peelings	80
13	Is toilet constructed inside house?	Yes	80
14	Frequency of using community toilets.	Never	84
15	Did government help in construction of toilet in house?	No	68
16	Is there any need of community toilets in your area?	Yes	60
17	Construction of new community toilets under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan	Yes	100
18	Is there any improvement in sanitation in your area due to construction of toilets?	Yes	96
19	Is the cleaning of community toilets done daily by Nagar Nigam workers?	Yes	90
20	Is your area open defecation free?	No	98
21	How frequently you defecate in open?	Never	96
22	Is availability of water is sufficient in community toilets?	Not sure	94
23	Do you feel significant cleanliness in your area?	Yes	90
24	Do you still find waste collected on roadside?	Yes	98
25	Have ever registered/ felt need to register complaints against new system?	No	100

DISCUSSION

The slum improvement programmes have been initiated in the Jaipur city from 1973 onwards. The main programme includes the National Slum Development Programme (NSDP), Valmiki-Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY), Basic Services to Urban Poor (BSUP), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNRUM) and other improvement programmes by JDA. Though, BSUP has great potential to improve the condition of slum dwellers of Jaipur in mission mode. But, unfortunately benefits of BSUP have not been much utilized. However, large numbers of slums have been benefited with basic infrastructure i.e. pucca pathways, public stand posts for drinking water, streetlights, public latrines and open drains, primary health care centres and shelter.

The current survey revealed that though the garbage van takes at least two rounds per day for the collection of waste even then there is no change in waste disposal habit of slum residents. The reason being the failure of the system in door-to-

door collection of waste because of the congested lanes inside the slum area. For this reason they all have hired a private sweeper for daily disposal of their waste. Moreover there are open drains inside the slum area which are not cleaned by nagar nigam sweepers and frequently get choked every alternate day. The choking of drains has created unhygienic conditions and has become a source of mosquitoes and flies which may pose severe health problems.

According to this study Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has increased access to toilets and reduced open defecation in Jaipur city but not to the extent that the government claims. While toilets are an important first step for sanitation, they still need to be used because reducing open defecation needs behavioral change. Whatever improvements are there in the study area are entirely by the construction of latrines inside the house or outside for community use rather than any change in behavior. While building more toilets has undeniably helped India's sanitation challenge, the impact would be far greater if these initiatives were combined with interventions targeting behavioral changes.

The results of the survey showed that 98% of surveyed people believe that most of the slum dwellers defecate in the forest area located near the slum despite having access to toilets. The study finds that the primary factor contributing to the prevalence of open defecation was unhygienic conditions of community toilets. People believed that defecating in forest area was a cleaner practice compared to using toilets.

Also, toilets built with government subsidy were either incomplete or had poor construction quality. The absence of sanitary pipes and distant water source are also significant deterrents. Most of them replied that the capacity of the pits connected to the toilets was small and hence, they frequently get filled up if used regularly.

The study revealed that the open defecation has become a habit of these slum dwellers which is now difficult to change. The reason for this may be a total lack of understanding of health consequences associated with defecating outside and how the practice pollutes the environment.

The 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' is not the first aimed at freeing the country from this malpractice. Many previous programs, driven by supplies from the government like subsidized latrine construction, have failed at eliminating the problem of open defecation.

The findings of the study show that instead of constructing more and more toilets, the authorities should focus on spreading awareness among the people about the consequent environmental/ health hazards of this malpractice to achieve a sustainable, open-defecation free society.

One step towards cleanliness is the motto of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Due to illiteracy the improper habitual activities of most of the slum dwellers may not be given up in a short span of few months or years. However the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has achieved a great success in spreading awareness across the country to get rid of many wrong and unhealthy practices.

The study came to the conclusion that the biggest challenge to the project is bringing about behavioral change. In villages which failed to eliminate open defecation, the idea of regular toilet usage is still not considered a social norm. "Even after toilet construction at home, people prefer defecating in the open. Cleanliness is both the abstract state of being clean and free from dirt, and the habit of achieving and maintaining that state. The success of the mission depends upon the collective efforts and not merely on criticizing the campaign by many of those who believe in speaking instead of doing positive. Public awareness and effective community participation can only bridge this gap.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND FUTURISTIC APPROACH

1. **Ban on throwing of waste on the streets** - No waste should be thrown on the streets, footpaths, open spaces, open drains or water bodies.
2. **Storage of waste at source** – Waste should be stored at source of generation in two bins/ bags, one for food/ biodegradable waste and another for recyclable waste. Additional community bins should be provided in slums by Nagar Nigam for the community storage of waste by slum dwellers.
3. **Doorstep collection of waste** – Waste should be collected from the doorstep. Small motorized vehicles should be used for doorstep collection of waste inside the slum areas.
4. **Sweeping of streets and open drains** – Sweeping of streets and cleaning of open drains should be done on all days inside the slum areas.
5. **Provision of litter bins** – Provision of litter bins at certain distance may be made to prevent littering of streets.
6. **Ban on defecating in open areas** – No one should be allowed to defecate in open areas like ground or forest area.
7. **Public Awareness strategy** – Public awareness campaign using information, education and communication (I-E-C) techniques may be used. Waste reduction, reuse, recycling (R-R-R) may be advocated to reduce the burden on the

local body and the residents of slum may be motivated to store waste at source and co-operate with the waste collection system to keep the city litter free. They should be motivated to use toilets for defecation instead of going to open places which will help to maintain hygienic conditions in their area.

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