

Jharkhand organizes orientation on SBM-G Phase II & FC grants

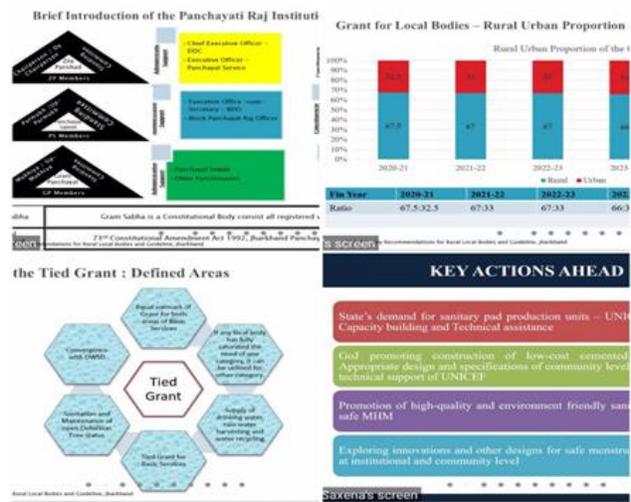


Jharkhand organized a one-day orientation on provisions related to Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Phase-II activities and the 15th Finance Commission grants that districts can avail of for their ODF Plus initiatives. The focus would be on ODF sustainability and solid and liquid waste management, it was emphasised.

The virtual meeting was organized by the Directorate of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Government of Jharkhand on 14th July 2021.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairperson, **Sri Indra Deo Mandal** (Director In charge cum Joint Secretary of the Directorate of SBM-G) said, “During the financial year 2021-22 we will focus on Solid and Liquid Waste Management only. Although there are some gaps in IHHL which will be completed during the financial year, as announced by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, we will work extensively on infrastructure pertaining to solid and liquid waste management which will be covered by 15th FC funds.”

He called for the need for the existing District Project Management Units of all 24th districts to work in close coordination with the Rural Development Department of Jharkhand to achieve positive results. He stressed the importance of ensuring that work at the grassroots level is not replicated. The way forward was to achieve the dream of effective solid liquid and waste management was through mutual understanding and proper coordination.



In his session, **Mr. Sajjad, State Consultant**, Department of Panchayati Raj highlighted the key recommendations of 15th Finance Commission. He also illustrated the major points of the guidelines notified to execute the recommendations of 15th Finance Commission in the state.

On the other hand, **Mr. Saket Bharti**, State Consultant-HRD-Cum-CB, provided a brief on the key activities for the Financial Year 2021-22 as per the SBM-G Annual Implementation

Plan. He said that work pertaining to SLWM infrastructure will need to be done through convergence mode by the Rural Development Department and close coordination with officials at the village/Gram Panchayat level. He also stressed the importance of timely updates on SBM-G IMIS.

Meanwhile, UNICEF WASH specialist, **Mr. Kumar Premchand**, outlined the activities that can be carried out under the 15th FC-tied Funds. He suggested activities such as Dobha, Community soak pit, Community leach pit, NADEP and others. He explained that this year the ministry has released more than Rs. 300 Crore under the 15th FC for sanitation related work. Given that the State has separate teams for rural development and SBMG, there was a need to work closely to avoid duplication of work. He also called for the need to strengthen capacities of all teams to ensure better results.

FC Tied grants can be used for Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and handwashing which are important components of ODF Plus, said **Mrs. Luxmi, WASH Officer–UNICEF**

Jharkhand. To ensure proper MHM management, they could set up napkin vending machines and incinerators at girls' schools, AWCs, hospitals and Gram Panchayat Bhawans, and handwashing stations at schools, GPs and public spaces in the villages, she added.

Mr Sanjay Pandey, State Consultant-SLWM (UNICEF) talked about the types of infrastructure for SLWM and status of the same under SBM-G and 15th FC funds in the State. He explained that the Directorate of SBM-G Jharkhand will organize various types of workshops/training on SLWM. In this regard, various IEC materials were being development to build awareness and support the work of all levels of functionaries.

