

Swachh Bharat Diwas was celebrated countrywide on Oct-2



Like every year, the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) celebrated the birth anniversary of the Swachhata inspiration and Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on 2nd October 2021 as Swachh Bharat Diwas (SBD). The programme held under the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Phase II while strengthening the people's movement or Jan Andolan for comprehensive cleanliness also celebrated the commemoration of 75 years of India's Independence under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) initiative.

Various events were held throughout the day in all the States that included:

Satyagraha se Swachhagrah Rath Yatra: As part of the AKAM celebrations, States and UTs launched Swachhata Raths which visited their districts/blocks and GPs before concluding their journey at the state/UT capital. More than 800 Swachhata Raths were flagged off by elected representatives/locally elected leaders (CM/MP/MLA/Sarpanches) at various levels. The Raths played a significant role in spreading mass awareness on Swachhata, influencing behaviour changes for effective Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) and ODF Sustainability. On 2nd October 2021, around 34 Raths were flagged off across the country.

Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2021: During the SHS 2021 fortnight, various activities were organized to promote community mobilization where over 60 lakh people participated and contributed to over 1.5 lakh Shramdaan activities. Overall, more than 43,000 Gram Sabhas were held for passing SUP ban resolution. On Swachh Bharat Diwas, approximately 6.4 lakh participated in over 2.4 lakh Shramdaan activities, and there were around 1125 Swachhata

Jagrati Yatras held, while around 11 Gram Sabhas passed SUP ban resolutions and more than 350 wall paintings were created.



Swachhata Samvads: DDWS has been organising virtual discussions, or ‘Samvads’ with Sarpanches, Collectors, Zilla Parishad officials, BDOs and other sanitation stakeholders since April 2020. So far, over 700 Samvads have been conducted by states and districts and attended by over 75,000 sarpanches. On 2nd October 2021, more than 4500 Sarpanches attended the Samvad.



Sthayitva evam Sujalam Abhiyan: Launched on 25th August 2021 for a period of 100 days, the Sthayitvaevam Sujalam Abhiyan has focused on liquid waste management by targeting construction of 1 million soak pits, retrofitting of toilets and ODF Sustainability. Under this campaign, construction of approximately 1658 community soak pits and 418 household soak pits were reported on SBD.

Further, on Swachh Bharat Diwas, the citizens once again made a commitment towards achieving the dream of Mahatma Gandhi for a clean society and country by taking a vow to ensure comprehensive cleanliness in all villages by achieving the ODF Plus goal.