

Press Release

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is one of the important flagship programmes of the Government of India that has been initiated by our Hon'ble Prime Minister to fulfil Mahatama Gandhi 's dream of clean and hygienic India. It was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on the 145th Birth Anniversary of the Father of the Nation Mahatama Gandhi on 2nd October 2014 at Rajghat, New Delhi. It is aimed to make India a 'Clean India' by 2nd October 2019 i.e. 150th birth anniversary of Mahatama Gandhi.

As per schedule drawn by nodal Ministry in the central government Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation a programme of Swachhata Pakhwada in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from 16th-30th April, 2018 was prepared and submitted for consideration and direction of Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Shri Anant Kumar. After detailed consideration and deliberation with Secretary, HMPA directed that the activities relating to Swachhata Pakhwada may be carried out under the guidance and leadership of Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal. Thereafter a detailed discussion was held among MOS(LS), Secretary and officers of the Ministry to decide the manner and ways to observe the Swachhata Pakhwada in the Ministry.

Swachhata Pakhwada in the Ministry started off with an interactive session on 5th April, 2018 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal with Hon'ble Members of Parliament about initiatives undertaken by of government on Swachh Bharat Mission besides the programme and activities relating to Swachhata Pakhwada being observed by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs during 16th-30th April, 2018. The Meeting was attended by Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development, Officers/Staff of Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and following Members of Parliament attended the meeting :-

1. Shri Om Birla, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha);
2. Shri Ramcharan Bohra, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha);
- 3 Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) ;
4. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha).

A Power Point Presentation on Swachh Bharat Mission was made by Shri Parameswaran Iyer, Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation to highlight the initiatives of the Government under the Leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister. He also gave a detailed and elaborate picture of various programmes and activities being undertaken to improve hygiene, sanitation and living conditions of mass population living in Rural and Urban areas of the country. Hon'ble Members of Parliament raised various issues regarding Open Defection and Shortage of Water for proper functioning

of toilets. They emphasized that there should be some agencies to monitor the construction and functioning of toilets in rural areas which are made with the financial assistance of Central Government. Members were of the view that role of Panchayats should be increased in this area. It was suggested that for better implementation of the scheme, manpower should be hired on contract basis. It was also suggested that wages under MNREGA should be increased and the workforce may be utilized for Swachh Bharat Abhiyan also. MPLAD funds may also be allowed to be used for the purpose of this Mission. Hon'ble Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Hon'ble Minister of State for Rural Development apprised about various schemes and their success in different parts of the country and also the steps taken by the Government to remove the difficulties and obstacles coming in the way of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. They appreciated enthusiastic participation of Rural and Urban people in this highly spirited mission.

On 16th April, 2018 a special cleanliness drive was launched in the Ministry with Secretary visiting every section and office of the Ministry to assess the state of cleanliness. He instructed officers and officials to observe cleanliness and hygiene at work place and surrounding areas. Swachhta Competition was started among sections and it was announced that awards would be given for cleanliness efforts during the Pakhwada. Photographs of the state of Cleanliness as on that day were also taken. From that first day itself cleanliness drive was undertaken in all the Sections of the Ministry.

On 17th April, 2018 a Pledge Taking Ceremony was held in the Ministry. At the outset, Joint Secretary of the Ministry detailed the various activities to be undertaken by the Ministry during the Swachhata Pakhwada. Secretary read out the messages received from the Hon'ble Chairman Rajya Sabha and Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha on Swachhata Pakhwada in the Ministry. Hon'ble Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal administered "Swachhata Pledge" to the officers and staff of the Ministry. An interactive session was also held in which Hon'ble Minister of State, Secretary and employees of the Ministry shared their experiences and views about the importance of cleanliness for healthy and prosperous life. Hon'ble Minister of State Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal also quoted real life examples of behavioural changes due to Swachhta Campaign like how Children are the backbone of this campaign and are media of change. He emphasised the role of common man and how an individual is capable of bringing sea change. He also gave the message of Practice what one Preaches should start right from Home and Office. Following the same spirit clear difference can be seen in the level of cleanliness in the Ministry.

In order to derive maximum benefits from Swachhta programme, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs is running awareness programme about Swachh Bharat Mission through the platform of Youth Parliament Competition so as to attract students community towards this mission. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs runs “Youth Parliament Schemes” in association with educational institutions of the Country. The Youth Parliament (earlier called Mock Parliament) was the brain child of 4th All India Whips Conference (AIWC) held in 1962. The recommendation of AIWC to hold Mock Parliament in Educational institutions and through Panchayat in rural areas was translated into reality in the year 1966-67. The Scheme of Youth Parliament has been designed with the purpose of strengthening the roots of democracy, inculcating healthy habits of discipline, developing tolerance of divergent views, making them aware about the working of Parliament. At present, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs runs four separate Competitions of Youth Parliament. They are:- 1. Youth Parliament Competition for Schools of Delhi; 2 National Youth Parliament Competition for Kendriya Vidyalayas; 3. National Youth Parliament Competition for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas; and 4. National Youth Parliament Competition for Universities / Colleges. Besides these, this Ministry also provides financial assistance by the way of re-imbursement to the States/Union Territories for conducting youth parliament competitions.

On 18th April, 2018 Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs organized a Swachhata Awareness Programme in association with Bharti Public School, Swasthra Vihar Delhi who is also the winner of 52nd Youth Parliament Competition 2017-18 for Delhi schools. Hon’ble Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Shri Vijay Goel, presided over the programme. Shri S N Tripathi, Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Dr Satya Prakash, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs were also present in the programme. Hon’ble MOS addressed the gathering of the children and encouraged them to become the leader of the ‘Clean India Campaign’. He emphasised on the need of inculcating the spirit of hygiene and cleanliness in the children. He said that Children are the biggest ambassadors of the ‘Swachh Bharat Abhiyan’ who can play a vital role to fulfil the dream of Hon’ble Prime Minister and Father of the Nation, Mahatama Gandhi. He lauded the efforts of the School to attract young students towards ‘Swachh Bharat Misson’. He said that he was delighted to see that Teachers and Students of the Schools have joined this ‘Clean India Campaign’ very actively with great fervour and joy. He administered ‘Swachhata Pledge’ to the students. On this occasion, students’ also presented theme based songs on ‘Swachh Bharat Campaign’. The progamme ended with plantation of trees by Hon’ble MOS, Secretary, MPA and Joint Secretary, MPA.

As Nodal Ministry for e-Vidhan Mission Mode Project which aims to digitize and make the functioning of State Legislatures paperless as a part of the broader Digital India Programme the Ministry is taking all the necessary steps for rolling out the Project in all the States at an early date. One of the key component of the strategy devised for implementation of the project is to create Project Monitoring Units both at Central as well as State level. Since, digitization of the State Legislatures is likely to contribute to the cleanliness of environment by reducing the use of papers to a great extent, therefore keeping in view the objective of Swachhata Pakhwada new office of Central Project Monitoring Unit (CPMU), e-Vidhan has been set up at First Floor in Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi. on 19th April, 2018. Hon'ble Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Shri Vijay Goel inaugurated the new office of Central Project Monitoring Unit in the presence of Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs Shri Surendra Nath Tripathi and Joint Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs Dr. Satya Prakash. Ms. Nandita Chaudhri, DDG, NIC was also present on this occasion.

On 20th April, 2018 as part of Swachhata Pakhwada entire waste material/ obsolete office equipments lying in various rooms of the Ministry were removed and kept in the store in Jam Nagar House office of the Ministry for e-auction thereof at the earliest as per prescribed procedure.

On 23rd April, 2018 new website of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs with Swachhata Logo was launched by the Secretary. Officers of the Ministry were present during the launch of the new website.

On 24th April, 2018 a cleanliness drive was undertaken by the officers/staff of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in its office located in Jam Nagar House Barracks. Under the leadership of the Secretary, rooms, corridors, furniture, almirahs, and all equipments of the office were cleaned. Waste materials and equipments which are not in use were collected for disposal/auction.

A Workshop on Yoga was organised On 25th April, 2018 for the officers/officials of the Ministry. In the Workshop, Dr. Yogi Udai, Principal, Morarji Desai National Yoga Institute, New Delhi explained the importance of cleanliness for healthy life and how it can be achieved through yoga. Various asanas and pranayamas were performed by the officers and staff of the Ministry under his guidance.

Parliamentary Consultative Committee and were instituted in 1969 with a view to create awareness among the Members of Parliament about the working of Government, to promote informal consultation between the Government and the Members of Parliament on policies and programmes of the Government and the manner of their implementation and also to provide an opportunity to Government to

benefit from the advice and guidance of the Members of Parliament in relation to policy matters and implementation of programmes and schemes. At present there are 34 such Consultative Committees attached to various Ministries/Department. This Ministry provide secretarial assistance to these Committees. During this Pakhwada a meeting of the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Tourism held on 26th April, 2018, the message of Swatchh Bharat Abhiyan was also spread.

Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs being the Nodal Ministry for e-Vidhan Project is taking all the necessary steps for rolling out the Project in all the States at an early date. Role of Nodal Officers appointed by the State Governments for the Project and State NIC Officers is paramount for the success of the e-Vidhan MMP. Shri Surendra Nath Tripathi, Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs interacted with the Nodal Officers from all 31 States/ UTs with Legislatures as well as respective State NIC Officers through Video Conferencing (VC) from NIC Headquarter on 26th April, 2018. On this occasion, Dr. Satya Prakash, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Ms. Nandita Chaudhari, DDG, NIC and other senior NIC Officers were also present. During this interaction Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs gave great emphasis on the role and to be played by the Nodal officers as well as that of State Informatics Officers (SIOs) for the success of the project. Secretary explained in details the features of National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA), which is being developed as a core product to be deployed on cloud (Meghraj) mirrored to the local State servers. NeVA would be a lite, simple, easy to download & operate Application. Purpose of the NeVA is to reduce the use of papers and bring automation in managing Legislative business in the House(s). Most of the features where no editing is required would be available for use by the Citizens without any key/password. It would have very few features for exclusive use of Legislatures/ Legislators to be accessed through ID & password. Secretary emphasised on the special role to be played by SIOs/ other State NIC Officers as it would be a National Project. They would be associated with the project for initial period of 2-3 years. Since, digitization of the State Legislatures is likely to contribute to the cleanliness of environment by reducing the use of papers to a great extent, keeping in view the objective of Swachhata Pakhwada being observed by the Ministry from 16th to 30th April, 2018, 26th April, 2018 was specially chosen for interaction with State Nodal Officers through Video Conferencing.

For the first time this year Swachhata Awards have been initiated by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. In this connection awards were given away among the winner participants in the Swachhata Completion based on performance of different sections and participants in this programme. An evaluation was undertaken to assess the contribution made by them for achieving the objectives of the programm

and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. It was decided to award three prizes received from the Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation to :

1. Bal Bharti School, Swasth Vihar, Delhi
2. General Section
3. Implementation I&II Sections

These prizes were distributed to the winners by chief guest Shri Ramesh Bidhuri, Member of Parliament. Shri Ramesh Bidhuri lauded the efforts made by the Ministry for making Swachhata Abhiyan successful besides congratulating the winners. Secretary in his welcome speech congratulated winners and all the officers and staff of Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for their active and Meaningful participation in Swachhata Pakhwada. Joint Secretary gave account of activities done by the Ministry during the whole Pakhwada.