

# Progress of FSM under SBM-G Phase-II (2020–Present)

## 1. Policy and Programme Background

- SBM-Grameen Phase II (2020–21 to 2025–26) was approved to **sustain ODF status and transition villages to “ODF Plus”**, with a key component being safe **Faecal Sludge Management (FSM)** alongside Solid and Liquid Waste Management.
- FSM is recognized in the SBM-G Phase II **operational guidelines** as critical to eliminate unsafe disposal of faecal sludge from septic tanks, single pits, and OSS systems and protect public health and environment.

## 2. National / State Progress Highlights

- Nationally, a large majority of rural villages have been declared ODF Plus (sustained ODF plus SLWM systems), but **progress in FSM infrastructure and service chains lags behind overall ODF Plus status**.
- PPP and convergence with 15th Finance Commission funds, CSR, etc., have been promoted to support FSM technology and desludging services.

## 3. Pratapgarh District Status (UP)

- According to the local FSM note for Pratapgarh:
  - **7407 septic tank toilets without leach pits** are planned under FSM coverage in FY 2026-27.
  - **37077 single-pit toilets** are to be converted into **twin-pit toilets** (which enable safer in-situ treatment).
  - Deep Row Entrenchment practice is being used where treatment infrastructure is limited, which offers a low-cost interim containment solution.

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## □ Challenges in FSM Implementation

### 1. Limited FSM Infrastructure and Services

- Most rural areas, including Pratapgarh, lack **mechanized desludging services** and local **Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs)**; rural linkages to urban FSTPs/STPs are limited, reducing proper treatment capacity. This situation necessitates interim measures like deep trench entrenchment and on-site twin pit conversions.

### 2. Low Investment and Slow Uptake of FSM Components

- Nationally, SBM-G Phase II has faced **slow allocation utilization and uneven progress** across sanitation components including FSM, partly due to funding stagnation relative to Phase-I momentum.

### **3. Awareness and Service Delivery Gaps**

- Rural communities and service providers often have limited awareness of FSM value chains, resulting in low demand for properly managed desludging and unsafe practices persisting.

### **4. Technical and Logistical Constraints**

- Lack of trained technicians, equipment for desludging, and suitable sites for new treatment plants hampers rapid deployment of FSM infrastructure. Coordination with urban STPs/FSTPs is also complex.