

## Progress of GWM under SBM(G) Phase II (2020–2026)

Since the launch of Phase II in 2020, District has transitioned from a focus on toilet construction to ODF Plus status, which prioritizes Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM).

- **Saturation Status:** District has declared nearly 99.16% of its villages as ODF Plus. Infrastructure Coverage:
    - Household Level: Implementation of individual soak pits, leach pits, and kitchen gardens.
    - Community Level: Construction of community soak pits, drainage channels, and advanced systems like Waste Stabilization Ponds (WSP) and DEWATS (Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Systems) in larger villages (population > 5,000).
  - **Funding Convergence:** Projects are being executed through a 60:40 fund-sharing ratio between the Centre and State, further supported by 15th Finance Commission tied grants (50% of which are earmarked for water and sanitation).
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## Key Challenges Faced

Despite significant physical progress, the district faces several implementation and sustainability hurdles:

1. **Topographical Constraints:** High water tables in certain regions of District make standard soak pits ineffective, leading to waterlogging.
  2. **Land Availability:** Securing land for community-level treatment plants (WSP/Phytoid) in densely populated villages is often difficult.
  3. **Greywater-Blackwater Mixing:** In many old households, greywater (from kitchens/bathrooms) is still mixed with blackwater (sewage), complicating the treatment process.
  4. **Behavioral Barriers:** Some households remain reluctant to maintain individual soak pits, expecting the Gram Panchayat to handle all liquid waste.
  5. **O&M Funding Gap:** While capital expenditure is provided, the long-term Operation and Maintenance (O&M) funds are often insufficient at the GP level.
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## Way Forward for Residual Villages & Sustainability

To ensure 100% saturation and long-term functionality, the following strategy is proposed:

### 1. Technical Saturation

- **Site-Specific Technology:** Adoption of vertical filter chambers or magic pits in areas with low soil permeability.
- **End-of-Drain Treatment:** Installing silt, oil, and grease chambers before greywater enters community ponds to prevent clogging.

### 2. O&M and Institutional Arrangements

- **Gram Panchayat Ownership:** Entrusting the Village Water and Sanitation Committee (VWSC) with the responsibility of regular cleaning and maintenance of community assets.
- **Business Models:** Exploring "Waste to Wealth" models where treated greywater is sold for irrigation or industrial use, creating a self-sustaining revenue stream.
- **Engaging SHGs:** Involving Women's Self-Help Groups for monitoring and collecting nominal user charges for maintenance.

### 3. Monitoring & Sustainability

- Digital Tracking: Continuous updates on the SBM-G IMIS portal to track the functionality of assets, not just their construction.
- Convergence: Strengthening the link between Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and GWM, as the increased tap water supply through JJM directly increases greywater output.