

## Progress of Grey Water / Liquid Waste Management (GWM) under SBM-G Phase II (2020 onwards)

### 1. Policy Context and Programme Objectives

- Under **Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) Phase II (2020–21 to 2024-25/26)**, the focus shifted to **sustaining Open Defecation Free (ODF) status** and achieving **ODF Plus** villages through **Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM)**. Liquid waste, including grey water from kitchens/bathing and storm water, must be managed effectively along with solid waste for a village to achieve rising and model ODF Plus classification.
  - **Grey Water Management (GWM)** and **Liquid Waste Management (LWM)** are key components of SLWM under Phase II, aimed at **managing household waste water and preventing stagnant water**, which is critical for environmental sanitation and public health.
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### □ Progress under SBM-G Phase II — District Level

- District SBM-G data indicates that **a large proportion of villages now have arrangements for liquid waste management**, contributing to widespread ODF Plus status recognition across District.
  - As part of SLWM outcomes, more villages report **LWM/GWM systems** through individual and community assets such as **soak pits, drains, low-cost channels, and community systems**, though complete functional saturation is still in progress.
  - **Funding norms for GWM/LWM** under SBM-G Phase II (2020–25) have been defined with per capita support for grey water systems like **individual and community soak pit and filter chamber**, providing higher support for larger villages.
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### □ Challenges in GWM / LWM Implementation (Rural / Pratapgarh context)

#### 1. Slow Functional Saturation

- Despite progress in sanitation coverage, **LWM / GWM implementation rates across rural India show partial achievement**.
- Many villages still lack fully functional **drainage, soak pits, and grey water channels** for **households and all public places**.

#### 2. Technical Gaps in Asset Planning

- Construction of **individual and community soak pits or other appropriate grey water systems** requires technical design and on-site adaptation. Many GPs and implementers lack technical know-how on system sizing, siting, and execution quality.

#### 3. Awareness & Behavioural Factors

- **Households often discharge grey water unsystematically** into yards, fields or drains, leading to **waterlogging and breeding grounds for vectors** (e.g., mosquitoes) in absence of proper management structures.

#### 4. Finance & Convergence Issues

- Effective implementation depends on **timely release and utilisation of SBM-G funds**, convergence with **15th Finance Commission tied grants** for sanitation, and complementary **MGNREGS** support for labour and trenching work; delays in these affect execution.
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#### □ Way Forward — Covering All Residual Villages & Ensuring Sustainability

##### A. Infrastructure Development & Saturation Planning

1. **GWM Action Plan at District/Village Level**
    - Conduct a detailed **grey water flow and risk mapping** of all residual villages to identify locations lacking soak pits, drainage channels, and public liquid waste management assets.
  2. **Technology Mix & Asset Deployment**
    - Promote construction of **individual soak pits, leach pits, low cost drainage, and bundled systems** for grey water at households level.
    - Where feasible and geographically suitable, develop **community soak pits, constructed wetlands or decentralized wastewater treatment assets** (e.g., shallow drains with sedimentation and biofilters) in larger settlements.
  3. **Standards & Quality Implementation**
    - Apply **SBM-G Phase II operational guidelines** on grey water asset design, spacing, and safety to ensure assets are effective and do not cause undue waterlogging.
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##### B. Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Framework

1. **GP-Level O&M Responsibility**
    - Empower **Gram Panchayats (GPs)** to adopt a **scheduled cleaning and maintenance plan** for community soak pits, drains, and channels, ideally tied to monthly sanitation checks.
  2. **Contracting and Roles**
    - Engage **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)**, local sanitation workers and community volunteers to manage routine **de-siltation, cleaning of drains, and ensure unobstructed flow**.
  3. **User Awareness & Role**
    - Promote awareness campaigns to encourage **households to maintain their connections to soak pits and prevent blockages**, along with safe grey water practices.
  4. **Monitoring & Reporting**
    - Integrate grey water asset functioning into **SBM-G MIS reporting and geo-tagging**, and conduct **third-party verification for ODF Plus indicators** including minimal stagnant water presence.
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##### C. Behavioural Change & Capacity Building

1. **IEC/BCC Campaigns**
  - Promote community messaging on benefits of **grey water management**, role of assets like soak pits, and health/environment protection.
2. **Training of PRI Members**

- Provide **on-site training for GPs and local masons** on implementation of GWM assets—drawing from UP successes where on-site SLWM training centres were established for solid and liquid waste systems.