

# **ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION FOR CLEAN INDIA ABHIYAN**

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### Introduction

India is a country having seventh largest landmass in the world. It has ancient tradition, largest population, illiteracy and environmental sanitation is poor. The constitution of India explicitly makes environment was established by the Government of India in 1980 and a Ministry formed in 1985. The Central Government and all States within India now have a Ministry of Department of Environment. Education departments recognize Environmental Education (EE) as an essential part of Education.

#### The Concept

"Environmental education appears to be process that equips human being with awareness, knowledge, skills, attitude and commitment to improve environment." Environmental education gives us an idea about the balance in the eco system which is being

disturbed due to interference. Environmental Education teaches us about everything that is not about the species Homo sapiens i.e. man, but everything that influences a man's life on this earth.

#### Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is started by the government to make India a completely clean India. Clean India was a dream seen by the Mahatma Gandhi regarding which he said that. "Sanitation is more important than Independence." During his time he was well aware of the poor and dirty condition of the county that's why he made various efforts to complete his dream however could not be successful. As he dreamt of clean India a day, he said that both cleanliness and sanitation are integral parts of healthy and peaceful living. Unfortunately, India became lack of cleanliness and sanitation even after 68 years of independence. It is a programme run by the government to seriously work to fulfill the vision of Father of Nation (Bapu) by calling the people from all walks of life to make it successful globally.

This mission has to be completed by 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Bapu (2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019) in

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next five years (from the launch date) It is urged by the government to people to spent their only 100 hours of the year towards cleanliness in their surrounding areas or other places of India to really make it a successful campaign. This campaign is covering 4041 legal towns in order to clean roads, streets and infrastructure of the India. It is a mass movement has run to create a Clean India by 2019. This mission was stared by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi from the Valmiki basti new Delhi. He himself swept the path way of valmiki basti after paying tribute to Memorial of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shashtri on their birth anniversaries.

## Necessity of Clean India Abhiyan

- 1. It is really very essential to remove the open defecation in India as well as making available toilets facility to everyone.
- 2. It is needed in India to convert the insanitary toilets into flushing toilets.
- 3. It is to implement the proper waste management through the scientific processes, hygienic disposal, reuse and recycling of the municipal solid wastes.
- 4. It is to bring behavioral changes among Indian people regarding maintenance of personal hygiene and practice of healthy sanitation methods.
- 5. It is to create global awareness among common public living in rural areas and link it to the public health.
- 6. It is to support working bodies to design. Execute and operate the waste disposal systems locally.
- 7. It is to bring private-sector participation to develop sanitary facilities all through the India.
- 8. It is to make India a clean and green India.
- 9. It is necessary to improve the quality of life of people in rural areas.
- 10. It is to bring sustainable sanitation practices by motivating communities and Panchayati Raj Institutions through the awareness programmes like health education.

## **Objectives of Clean India Mission**

- 1. To improve quality of life of people living in the rural areas.
- 2. Motivate people to maintain sanitation in rural areas to complete the vision of Swachh Bharat by 2019.
- 3. To motivate local working bodies (such as communities, Panchayati Raj Institutions, etc.)
- 4. Develop advance environmental sanitation systems manageable by the community

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especially to focus on solid and liquid waste management in the rural areas.

5. To promote ecologically safe and sustainable sanitation in the rural areas.

### Health and Sanitation Awareness

The following point must be emphasized for providing health and sanitation awareness.

### A. Mass education

About 82% of people in India live in the villages, So, the country on the whole is obviously rural and it cannot make sound progress unless the rural conditions are improved.

They should be given the knowledge of health and healthy living. This can be best done through slides, lectures, films, poster, pamphlets in different local languages, etc. A premier in simple language for imparting knowledge on hygiene and preventable diseases should be introduced in village schools.

### **B.** Rural town planning

In a majority of cases, villages have been developed in a haphazard manner. There is no systematic plan or design or nobody to guide the villagers. Cattle and other domestic animals are kept in the same room where food is stored or cooked. The government should construct some model villages and provide some agency for giving advice to the villagers on the planning of village and construction of houses.

## C. Prevention of infections

Most of the infections can be avoided by taking simple precautions.

- 1. The importance of washing hands and safe drinking water.
- 2. Use of the toilet, Environmental cleanliness etc.
- 3. Common causes of diarrhea and parasitic infection to prevent these.
- 4. Prevention against other infections.

### **D.** Safe drinking water

The water should be taken from either the municipal system, a deep well or a deep bore with a hand pump. It should be stored in covered pots, Often the source of water is safe, but gets contaminated from the environment. If the source of water is unsafe, then use slow sand filtration, chlorination and use of alum to purify it.

#### Bal Swachhata Abhiyan

Bal Swachhata Abhiyan or Mission was especially launched on the birth anniversary of the

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first Indian Prime Minister. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (also called as Chacha Nehru) because of his love and devotion toward children. Chacha Nehru was a great person who loved children so much that's why children's day event and Bal Swachhata Abhiyan has been launched on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November, his birth anniversary. The celebration of this mission takes place from 14<sup>th</sup> of November to 19<sup>th</sup> of November means from birthday of first Indian prime minister to birthday of first woman Indian prime minister (Indira Gandhi).

This mission was launched by the Indian Union Minister of Women and Child Development, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi in New Delhi at Maidangarhi anganwadi on 14<sup>th</sup> of November, 2014 This abhiyan is stared as an initiative programmed of nationwide sanitation. The objectives of this mission are more likely matches with the purposes of Swachh Bharat Mission launched by Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. Both of the missions have purpose of achieving a cleanliness and sanitation all through the India as well as motivate others in maintaining the cleanliness of homes. Surrounding, environment, schools, etc.

Children from all schools actively take part in the ongoing cleanliness drive to make India a clean India as well as make cleanliness a vital part of daily life. Cleanliness is a campaign. The purpose of which can be fulfilled only when every Indian citizen takes part and do their best to maintain the cleanliness in daily routine. This five days lon mission has following themes according to the date of celebration in 2014.

The theme of 14<sup>th</sup> November was "Clean Schools, Surroundings and Play areas".

The theme of 15<sup>th</sup> November was "clean Food".

The theme of 17<sup>th</sup> November was "Clean Self".

The theme of 18<sup>th</sup> November was "Clean Drinking Water".

The theme of 19<sup>th</sup> November was "Clean Toilet".

Different themes of particular dates were decided by the government to make the celebration more enthusiastic, effective, targetable and purposeful. All the students took park actively in the cleanliness drive and followed strict instructions to undertake activities of garbage removal from the surrounding areas. Students are motivated, directed and inspected by their teacher and principals to perform the many activities related to event.

#### Swachh Bharat Swachh Vidyalaya

Swachh Bharat swachh vidhyalaya is the national campaign driving 'Clean India: clean school.' The key feature of the campaign is to ensure that every school in India has a set of

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functioning and well maintained water, sanitation and hygiene facilities.

The technical components includes drinking water, hand washing, separate toilet and soap facilities in the school compound for use by children and teacher. The human development components are the activities that promotes conditions within the school and practices as children that help to prevent water, hygiene and sanitation related diseases. Safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation is every child's right.

The Benefits of water, Sanitation and hygiene to school children

- 1. It gives a healthy school environment and to protect children from illness and exclusion.
- 2. Children who are healthy and well nourished can actively participate in school activities
- 3. When the schools have appropriate, gender-separated facilities, the obstacle to attendance is removed.
- 4. Having gender segregated toilets in schools particularly girl their dropout rate will be decrease, they stay in school and complete their education.
- 5. Hygiene in school also support school nutrition. The simple act of washing hands with soap before mid day meal assists to break disease transmission.
- 6. Children get the nutritional benefits intended, rather than ingesting bacteria germs and viruses.
- 7. Having safe water, toilet and hygiene in schools promotes equity.
- 8. Children with special needs to attend school and further contribute to the development of their society.
- 9. Having a clean school fosters a child's pride in his or her school and community. It enables an agent of change for improving water, sanitation and hygiene practices in their families and communities.
- 10. Accessible School facilities are a key to school attendance for children with disabilities.

#### Conclusion

We can say Clean India abhiyan, a nice welcome step to the clean and green India till 2019. As we all heard about the most famous proverb that "Cleanliness is Next to Godliness", we can say surely that clean India campaign (swachh bharat abhiyan) will really bring godliness all over the country in few years if it is followed by the people of India in effective manner. As the work of cleaning India cannot be done by one person, or by Government alone- it has to be done by 125 crore people, who are sons and daughter of Mother India. So the cleanliness activities to warm

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welcome the godliness.

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