



TOWARDS CITY WIDE SANITATION

National Urban Sanitation Policy Rating of Cities 2010 Towards city wide sanitation



Methodology and Process for Rating of Cities, 2010

The first round of the rating of cities was conducted between December 2009 and April 2010 under the guidance of the National Advisory Group on Urban Sanitation (NAGUS) and in consultations with the state governments and urban local bodies. All 436 Class I³ cities have been rated and this will be scaled-up to cover the remaining urban centers in the subsequent rounds. The 436 cities include metros, Big Class I cities and Other Class I cities, covering almost 72 percent of India's total urban population⁴. (Refer to Table 1)

Table 1: Distribution of Cities across Population Size – Classes

Population Size Class	Population Size	No. of Urban Agglomerations/Towns	Population (in million)
Metros	More than 5 million	6	60
Big Class I	One to 5 million	29	47.8
Other Class I	1,00,000 up to One million	401	98.8
Total		436	206.6
Total Urban Population (Census 2001)			285
Percent of Total Urban Population			72%

Source: Census of India, 2001.

The country was divided into five zones, North; South; West; East and North East and Central and South Central (Refer to Table 2), and each zone had a mix of cities ranging from approximately 70 to 100 cities.

Table 2: Distribution of Cities across 5 Zones

Zone	States	No. of Urban Agglomerations/ Towns
North	Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Delhi	88
East and North East	North Eastern States, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal	93
Central and South Central	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa	104
West	Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan	69
South	Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry	84

³ Class I cities are those with population over 100,000 and above.

⁴ India's urban population according to census 2001 was approximately 285 million people or 54 million households.

Cities to get sanitation ratings

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After seeing a lot of volatility in the

City Rating

The ministry of urban development has launched an initiative to give ratings to cities in terms of their sanitation standards. The move aims at strengthening implementation of the safe sanitation initiative, the National Urban Sanitation Policy launched by the government in 2008. All 25 cities that have been made by the government to start the programme.

The rating will be conducted in 443 cities that have a population of over one lakh, based on 2001 population census. These agencies have been directed to do the rating (A/C) (Water, Development and Research Services and Centre for Environment

SAFE CITY



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Planning Directorate), said urban development minister Sajid Jaidoo.

The ministry has also launched a national communication campaign under the National Urban Sanitation Policy in which the urban development ministry will do such campaign on civic sense and will try and make the urban citizens aware about keeping the city clean and healthy.

Now, cities to be rated on sanitation

Mahendra Kumar Singh

New Delhi: With sanitation target of 100% sanitation, Urban Urban Development Ministry on Wednesday launched a series of programmes, starting with the launch of a 'SAFE CITY' initiative. The ministry will give ratings to 443 cities that have a population of over one lakh. The move aims at strengthening implementation of the safe sanitation initiative, the National Urban Sanitation Policy launched by the government in 2008. All 25 cities that have been made by the government to start the programme.

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Each city has been scored under 19 indicators which are divided into three categories of Output (50 points), Process (30 points) and Outcome indicators (20 points).

The methodology was designed incorporating the comments received from state governments and after approval from the National Advisory Group on Urban Sanitation. Standardized methods for measurements and scoring and the sampling varied according to size classes⁵.

The five zones were assigned to three agencies to carry out the rating after a competitive selection process by an independent evaluation committee. These were:

- AC Nielsen ORG MARG: North zone, Central and South Central zone
- Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT): West Zone
- Development Research Services (DRS): South, East and North East zone

Each agency followed the prescribed methodology, while data was collected from cities in a consultative and collaborative manner. This included collection of data from the ULBs and was supplemented by field visits and observations. Based on the scores for output, process and outcome indicators, cities were then classified under four color categories. (Refer to Table 3)

Table 3: City Color Codes: Categories

No.	Category	Description	Points
1	Red	Cities needing immediate remedial action	< 33
2	Black	Needing considerable improvement	34-66
3	Blue	Recovering	67-90
4	Green	Healthy and clean city	91-100

⁵ For details refer to Annexure III, National Urban Sanitation Policy and for the methodology refer to the Ministry of Urban Development website.



Preliminary Results and Next Steps

- The national rating exercise will be carried out periodically. It is designed as a self assessment tool to encourage cities to prioritize the achievement of outcomes. Being the first round, this rating exercise also sets out the baseline to measure achievements in the future. Cities need to use these results to prioritize areas of improvement by developing and implementing city sanitation plans as well as to raise the awareness of city stakeholders (households, establishments, industries, municipal functionaries, media, etc.)
- The preliminary results of the rating show that every two of five cities are in the red category; and more than half fall currently in the black category. There are a handful of cities in the blue category. This signals the challenges that cities are facing, as well as the opportunity for improvements in the future.
- **Access to community/ public toilets, elimination of manual scavenging and open-defecation:** It is excellent to note that almost all cities report complete elimination of manual scavenging. However, improvements are required to improve access to community and public toilets for the urban poor and to stop open-defecation.
- **Safe management of human excreta:** More than 50 cities report 90 percent or above safe collection of human excreta, showing that improvements in this area can be achieved by the rest of the cities. However, wastewater treatment poses considerable challenges - 380 cities collect and treat less than 40 percent of their human excreta, but there are nearly six cities that treat more than 90 percent of their human excreta. More than 40 cities also report recycling and reuse of wastewater for non-potable applications after treatment (more than 20 percent).
- **Solid waste collection and treatment:** Twenty four cities report collecting more than 80 percent of their solid wastes, another six show an outstanding performance of nearly 100 percent primary collection. While treatment is a big challenge for most, 17 cities are treating at least 60 percent of their wastes.
- **Good process indicators:** Most cities appear to have performed well in the process indicators, especially the larger cities.

Summary

The National Urban Sanitation Policy has set its goal high and the development of state sanitation strategies and city sanitation plans as an integral step in the process of improving urban sanitation. Priority must be accorded to urban sanitation and it is opportune to target improvements using software and hardware resources which are available from local, state and national sources and programs. This rating exercise serves as a baseline for self assessment of cities, and highlights the areas where improvements are required. The rating is meant to serve as a catalyst to states and cities to create more awareness on sanitation and its impact on public health and the quality of its water resources. However it is not sufficient to target mere infrastructure and the success of any plan must be measured by the outcome it achieves by way of public health improvements. The goal of achieving Nirmal Shahars must be done in a consultative and participatory manner and it is essential to involve all stakeholders, especially the households. Households must be encouraged to become active partners in the up-keep, health and quality of life that the city offers to its citizens.





TOWARDS CITY WIDE SANITATION

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The Water and Sanitation Program provided the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India with technical support and guidance for designing the methodology for the rating of cities.

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