



# RIGHT TO SANITATION



**National Human Rights Commission  
India**

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**NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**INDIA**

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*“An ideal village will be so constructed as to lend itself to perfect sanitation...The very first problem the village worker will solve is its sanitation”*

*-Mahatma Gandhi*

## INTRODUCTION

Sanitation is one of the most complicated problems in India that remains unresolved despite many efforts by the Government. Lack of public/private toilets, proper drainage facilities, solid waste management and public hygiene are major areas of concern. Lack of proper sanitation has constantly been a burden on public expenditure for health. It is not as if the Government has neglected the sector. However, a large population, the lack of awareness and the general attitude of indifference have complicated the issue further. Access to sanitation is recognized by the United Nations as a human right<sup>1</sup>.

### What is Sanitation?

Sanitation refers to the provision of facilities and services for the safe management of human excreta from the toilet to containment and storage and treatment onsite or conveyance, and eventual safe end use or disposal. Broadly, sanitation includes the safe management of solid waste and animal waste<sup>2</sup>. It is a process of the regeneration of the environment by disposing and managing human waste of all types in a way that makes it fit for human habitation. Sanitation, therefore, is an emphasis on hygiene and good health for a dignified life.

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<sup>1</sup>UN Water, *Human Rights to Water and Sanitation*, UNITED NATIONS , Available at: <https://www.unwater.org/water-facts/human-rights/>

<sup>2</sup>WHO, *Sanitation*, Available at: <https://www.who.int/topics/sanitation/en/>

## Impact

Inadequate sanitation is a major cause of infectious diseases such as cholera, typhoid and dysentery around the world. It also greatly contributes to problems like stunting and impaired cognitive function. Further, it impacts well-being, causing short attendance at school, anxiety and safety concerns, with lifelong consequences, especially for women and girls. Women face several health, safety and dignity related issues, including physical and sexual violence due to a lack of sanitation facilities. For example, a woman living in a rural community, with no indoor toilets, has to travel to a secluded place everyday in order to defecate. In the wee hours of the morning, that puts her in danger of being attacked. Therefore, lack of proper sanitation facilities has far reaching impacts.

## Importance

Improving sanitation in households, health facilities and schools underpins progress on a wide range of health and economic development issues including universal health coverage and combating antimicrobial resistance. **(Footnotes)**

# RIGHT TO SANITATION

According to the UN, the right to sanitation entitles everyone to have physical and affordable access to sanitation, in all spheres of life, that is safe, hygienic, secure, and socially and culturally acceptable and that provides privacy and ensures dignity.<sup>1</sup>

*The human right to sanitation was explicitly recognized as a distinct right by the UN General Assembly in 2015. (UN, 2016), **The Human Right to Water and Sanitation (HRWS)** have been recognized in international law through human rights treaties, declarations and other standards. Some commentators have derived the human right to water beyond the General Assembly resolution from Article 11.1 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, making it binding under international law. Other treaties that explicitly recognize the HRWS include the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).<sup>2</sup> The first resolutions about the HRWS were passed by the UN General Assembly and the UN Human Rights Council in the year 2010. They acknowledged that there was a human right to sanitation connected to the human right to water, since the lack of sanitation reduces the quality of water downstream, so subsequent discussions have continued emphasising both rights together. A revised UN resolution in 2015 highlighted that the two rights were separate but equal<sup>3</sup>*

In order to solidify its intent to work towards the furtherance of the right to sanitation and cleanliness, the United Nations has also included **'Ensure access to water and sanitation for all' as Goal No. 6, in the Sustainable Development Goals**

<sup>1</sup>UN Water, *Human Rights to Water and Sanitation*, UNITED NATIONS, Available at: <https://www.unwater.org/water-facts/human-rights/>.

<sup>2</sup>Office of the High Commissioner, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, UNHRC, Available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cedaw.aspx>

<sup>3</sup>Office of the High Commissioner, *Sanitation recognised as Human Right*, UNHRC, Available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/RighttoSanitation.aspx>

**(SDGs).** It has been noted that “water scarcity, poor water quality and inadequate sanitation negatively impact food security, livelihood choices and educational opportunities for poor families across the world. At the current time, more than 2 billion people are living with the risk of reduced access to freshwater resources and by 2050, at least one in four people is likely to live in a country affected by chronic or recurring shortages of fresh water. Drought, in particular, afflicts some of the world’s poorest countries, worsening hunger and malnutrition. Fortunately, there has been great progress made in the past decade regarding drinking sources and sanitation, whereby over 90% of the world’s population now has access to improved sources of drinking water.

To improve sanitation and access to drinking water, there needs to be increased investment in management of freshwater ecosystems and sanitation facilities on a local level in several developing countries within Sub-Saharan Africa, Central Asia, Southern Asia, Eastern Asia and South-Eastern Asia.”<sup>4</sup>

Access to water and sanitation is a human right. This human right is in itself essential for life and dignity, but it is also the foundation for achieving a wealth of other human rights, including the right to health and the right to development. The human right to water and sanitation was explicitly recognized only in 2010 by the UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY and the HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL. Three years later, the Human Rights Council agreed on the comprehensive normative content of this right, and by now many States have incorporated this human right in their constitutions and national legislation. Moreover, at the international level, **the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** came into force in 2013. The Protocol created a complaint mechanism

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<sup>4</sup>Sustainable Development Goals, *Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all*, UNITED NATIONS, Available at: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/>.

allowing individuals or groups to file formal complaints on violations of the human right to water and sanitation, among other rights. The real challenge now is to translate human rights obligations into meaningful action on the ground.

## SANITATION IN INDIA

India has struggled with proper sanitation for a long time. The problem of sanitation in India is related to poor infrastructure, lack of resources and the laidback mindset of the people. There is no doubt that the State spending on sanitation has been inadequate in the past and the lack of resources has contributed to the problem for years, still the major concern is lack of awareness and a passing attitude towards sanitation and hygiene among Indians. For example, the problem of open defecation is related more closely to people's habit and availability of piped water in homes than to the lack of toilets. Even where toilets have been constructed, people prefer to go to open fields.

The level of investment in water and sanitation, albeit low by international standards, has increased since the 2000s. For example, In India in 2019, under *Swachh Bharat Mission*, 98.9% of the population at least has access to “basic sanitation”. Between 2014 and 2018, the Government of India built around 92.2 million toilets<sup>1</sup> all across India, due to which the basic sanitation coverage

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<sup>1</sup>Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), *Household Toilet Coverage Across India*, DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION, Available at: <http://sbm.gov.in/sbmdashboard/IHHL.aspx>.

<sup>2</sup>Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), *Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin – All India) Report*, DEPARTMENT OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION, Available at: <http://sbm.gov.in/sbmReport/home.aspx>.

<sup>3</sup>UN Water, *Human Rights to Water and Sanitation*, UNITED NATIONS, Available at: <https://www.unwater.org/water-facts/human-rights/>.

<sup>4</sup>Sue Cavill with Robert Chambers and Naomi Vernon, *Frontiers of CLTS: Innovations and Insights - Sustainability and CLTS: Taking Stock*, Issue 4, INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES, Available at: [https://www.communityledtotalsanitation.org/sites/communityledtotalsanitation.org/files/Frontiers4\\_Sustainability\\_0.pdf](https://www.communityledtotalsanitation.org/sites/communityledtotalsanitation.org/files/Frontiers4_Sustainability_0.pdf).



went up from 38.7% in October, 2014 to 98.9% in February, 2019.<sup>8</sup>

Despite these efforts, the United Nations states that India faces a significant challenge in the provision of quality water, sanitation, solid waste management and drainage. Although, more than 90% of urban residents have access to sanitation facilities across India, only 39% of the rural population can avail these facilities.<sup>9</sup> This is despite the Government of India having demonstrated significant commitment in this regard.

## **Problem of Sanitation**

The reasons for open defecation are varied. It can be a voluntary, semi-voluntary or involuntary choice. Most of the time, a lack of access to a toilet is the reason. However, in some places, even people with toilets in their houses prefer to defecate in the open.<sup>10</sup>

***Radha lived in a remote village in the Shahjahanpur District of Uttar Pradesh. She was married into a reputed family and her father in law was a Gram Pradhan (Sarpanch) at that time. She was amazed that despite all the resources, their home had no toilet. When she enquired, she was told that a kitchen and a toilet can't exist in the same home.***

The Problem is far worse in rural areas. People in villages often fail to acknowledge that the lack of sanitation is a problem. Many use toilets only in emergencies, worrying that the pits will clog up quickly when, in fact, they are meant to last a family of five about ten years.



*Illustration: A man going to a field to defecate instead of using the toilets right next to him*

Improper sanitation has led to various social problems. Manual scavenging, law and order issues, eve teasing, spreads of diseases are some of the basic problems that are associated with sanitation and hygiene in India.

World bank suggests that India loses around 5% a year on its GDP in dealing with the problems arising from improper hygiene and sanitation, on a national level. In terms of total cost, India suffers by far the most, with US\$106.7 billion wiped off of the GDP in 2015, almost half of the total global losses, and 5.2% of the nation's GDP.

While India comes out on top with huge losses in both total US\$ economic losses and as a % of GDP, the rankings of countries by GDP and total US\$ diverge significantly due to the relative size of national economies.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>11</sup>LIXIL, *The True Cost of Poor Sanitation*, OXFORD ECONOMICS, Available at: [https://www.lixil.com/en/sustainability/pdf/the\\_true\\_cost\\_of\\_poor\\_sanitation\\_e.pdf](https://www.lixil.com/en/sustainability/pdf/the_true_cost_of_poor_sanitation_e.pdf).

# RIGHT TO SANITATION IN INDIA

The right to sanitation has been recognised in India for more than two decades; however, this Right stems more from judicial activism. There are various judicial pronouncements since the 1990's where sanitation has been recognised as a fundamental right derived from the constitutional right to life. Although, ***The Constitution of India does not recognise the right to sanitation explicitly***, it does recognise the same indirectly in different forms.

Sanitation is also a part of the 'Directive Principles of State Policy' (DPSP) in Part IV of the Constitution. More specifically, it can be read as a part of Article 47, which provides that it is a duty of the government to raise the standard of living. Sanitation is undoubtedly a factor that contributes to a decent standard of living. Sanitation is also a part of Article 48A that makes it a duty of the state to 'protect and improve the environment'. *Directive Principles are not enforceable and therefore no individual can approach a court against the government for its failure to give effect to the above-mentioned provisions.*

## Historical perspective

In 1981, the Supreme Court in a case ruled: *"The right to life includes the right to live with human dignity and all that goes with it, namely, the bare necessities of life, such as adequate nutrition, clothing and shelter and facilities for reading, writing and expressing oneself in diverse forms, freely moving about and mixing and mingling with fellow human beings. The magnitude and components of this right would depend upon the extent of economic development of the country, but it must, in any view of the matter, include the bare necessities of life and also the right to carry on such functions and activities as constitute the bare minimum expression of human self."*

- In 2002, the apex court validated the Sardar Sarovar dam project on Narmada in 2000, interpreting the right

to life to include the right to water. “Water is a basic need for the survival of human beings and is a part of the right to life and human right as enshrined in **Article 21** of the Constitution of India and can be served only by providing a source of water where there is none.”

- In 1990, the Kerala High Court ruling on a groundwater extraction case involving a water supply plan for the island of Lakshadweep ruled that the government should not extract groundwater, impacting the sources in the future that in turn violated Article 21. It ruled: “... the administrative agency cannot be permitted to function in such a manner as to make inroads into the fundamental right under **Article 21**. The right to life is much more than a right to animal existence and its attributes are manifold, as life itself. A prioritizing of human needs and a new value system has been recognized in these areas. The right to sweet water and the right to free air are attributes of the right to life, for these are the basic elements which sustain life itself.
- In 2004 giving verdict on a PIL on fast depletion of groundwater in Delhi, the apex court ruled that groundwater is a social asset. It further said that people have the right to use air, water and earth interpreting the Article 21. It even observed that in groundwater use, domestic and irrigation needs must be prioritized.
- Apart from expanding the content of the right to life as including the right to water, the court has, in the context of water pollution, mandated the cleaning up of water sources including rivers (**MC Mehta v. Union of India (Ganga Pollution – Municipality case), 1988 AIR 1115**), the coastline (**S. Jagannath v. Union of India, AIR 1997 SC 811**) and even tanks and wells (**Hinch Lal Tiwari v. Kamala Devi, Appeal (civil) 4787 of 2001**). The concern about over-pollution of groundwater by unregulated discharge of effluents has led the court to issue mandatory directions for clean

up by the polluter and restitution of the soil and groundwater.

- The court has also applied the ‘*precautionary principle*’ to prevent the potential pollution of drinking water sources consequent upon the setting up of industries in their vicinity (**A.P. Pollution Control Board v. Prof. M.V. Nayudu, 1994 (3) SCC1**). Various judicial pronouncements have recognized that water is a community source which is to be held by the state in public trust in recognition of its duty to respect the principle of inter-generational equity.
- On sanitation issues also, courts have given verdicts interpreting it as a right under **Article 21**. In 1988 the Rajasthan High Court ordered the Jaipur municipality to ensure proper sanitation within six months. In 1980 the Supreme Court in a case involving Municipal Council of Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh and a citizen, ruled: “*Decency and dignity are non-negotiable*”

### IMPORTANT CASES RELATED TO THE RIGHT TO SANITATION

- **LK Koolwal v. State of Haryana, High Court of Rajasthan, AIR 1988 Raj 2, 1987 (1) WLN 134** - Maintenance of health, preservation of sanitation and the environment falls within the purview of **Article 21** of the Constitution as it adversely affects the life of the citizen and amounts to slow poisoning and reducing the life of the citizen because of the hazards created, if not checked.
- **Virender Gaur v. State of Haryana, Supreme Court of India (1995)2 SCC 577- Article 21** protects the right to life as a fundamental right. Enjoyment of life and its attainment, including the right to life with human dignity encompasses within its ambit...sanitation without which life cannot be enjoyed.

• ***Municipal Council, Ratlam v. Vardhichand, Supreme Court, AIR 1980 AIR 1622-*** A responsible municipal council constituted for the precise purpose of preserving public health and providing better finances cannot run away from its principal duty by pleading financial inability. Decency and dignity are non-negotiable facets of human rights and are a first charge on local self-governing bodies. Similarly, providing drainage systems-not pompous and attractive, but in working condition and sufficient to meet the needs of the people cannot be evaded if the municipality is to justify its existence.

## Responsibility

The Constitution of India says that the supply of water and sanitation are state subjects which mean that states regulate and provide these services. The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India is primarily responsible for policy planning, funding, and coordination of programs for:

- (i) safe drinking water; and
- (ii) sanitation, in rural areas

Presently, the Ministry oversees the implementation of two key schemes of the government:

- (i) Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G), and
- (ii) National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP).

## Policies

The state is the primary duty bearer in the context of the right to sanitation. In 1999, a demand-driven and people-centred sanitation program was initiated under the name **Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)** which has some similarities with **Community-led total sanitation (CLTS)**, but is not the same. It evolved from the limited

achievements of the first structured programme for rural sanitation in India, the Central Rural Sanitation Programme, which had minimal community participation.

In November 2008 the government of India launched a national urban sanitation policy with the goal of creating what it calls “**totally sanitized cities**” that are open-defecation free, safely collect and treat all their wastewater, eliminate manual scavenging and collect and dispose solid waste safely. As of 2010, 12 states were in the process of elaborating or had completed state sanitation strategies on the basis of the policy. 120 cities are in the process of preparing city sanitation plans.

## **LAWS REGULATING SPECIFIC PREMISES/ PLACES**

There are some statutes that recognise the rights and duties relating to sanitation in some specific places or premises such as workplaces and schools. These statutes recognise the right to sanitation by prescribing sanitation duties.

(a) **Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009** specifies norms for schools to provide toilet facilities for children and separate provision of toilets for girls.

(b) Labour laws address the sanitation needs of workers in workplaces. For example, it is mandatory for factories to have separate latrines and urinals for men and women under the Factories Act, 1948.

(c) According to **The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970**, it is the duty of every contractor employing contract labour to provide ‘a sufficient number of latrines and urinals of the prescribed types, so situated as to be convenient and accessible to the contract labour in the establishment’ (section 18).

(d) According to the **Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996**, it is the duty of the employer to provide sufficient latrine and urinal facilities at work place which can be accessible to the building workers at all times (section 33).

(e) According to the **Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995**, the government is responsible for ensuring 'barrier-free environment in public places, work places, public utilities, schools and other institutions' which inevitably includes sufficient facilities at toilets according to the requirements of persons with disabilities (section 8).

## **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**Solid waste management is another big problem related with sanitation in India. The major problems affecting solid waste management are unscientific treatment, improper collection of waste, and ethical issues. This in turn leads to environmental degradation, water pollution, soil pollution, and air pollution. To deal with this, Solid Waste Management Rules were drafted in 2016.**

### **Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2016**

- Waste segregation at source is mandatory. Waste generators have to segregate waste into three streams - Organic or Biodegradable waste, Dry waste (plastic, paper, metal, wood, etc.) and Domestic Hazardous waste (diapers, napkins, mosquito repellents, cleaning agents etc.). Further, bulk waste generators such as hotels, hospitals etc. are expected to treat organic waste either on site or by collaborating with the urban local body.
- Municipalities and urban local bodies have been directed to include informal waste pickers and rag



pickers into their waste management process. This is the first time that national policy has acknowledged and included the informal sector into the waste management process. India has over 1.5 million subsistence informal waste pickers and including them into the formal waste management system represents an opportunity for urban local bodies to streamline their operations, while providing the waste pickers with better income opportunities.

- FMCG product manufacturers that use non-biodegradable packaging for their products must put in place a system to collect the packaging waste generated due to their production.
- Urban local bodies have been given a provision to charge bulk generators a user fee to collect and process their waste. Additionally, spot fines may be levied on user's burning garbage or throwing it in a public place.
- No non-recyclable waste having a calorific value of 1,500 Kcal/kg or more should be disposed in the landfills. It should either be utilized for generating energy or can be used for preparing refuse derived fuel. Or it can be used for co-processing in cement or thermal power plants.

## **The Swachh Bharat Mission**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2014, Sri Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India, with the goal of achieving an **Open Defecation Free (ODF)** India by 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019, launched the **Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)**. In rural India, this would mean improving the levels of cleanliness through Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities and making villages Open Defecation Free (ODF), clean and sanitised.



## Objectives of Swachh Bharat Mission

- To bring about an improvement in the general quality of life in the rural areas, by promoting cleanliness, hygiene and eliminating open defecation.
- To accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas to achieve the vision of Swachh Bharat by 2nd October 2019.
- To motivate communities to adopt sustainable sanitation practices and facilities through awareness creation and health education.
- To encourage cost effective and appropriate technologies for ecologically safe and sustainable sanitation.
- To develop, wherever required, community managed sanitation systems, focusing on scientific Solid & Liquid Waste Management systems for overall cleanliness in the rural areas.
- To create significant positive impact on gender and promote social inclusion by improving sanitation especially in marginalized communities.

## The key elements of the Strategy include

- Building the institutional capacity of districts for undertaking intensive behaviour change activities at the grassroots level.
- Strengthening the capacities of implementing agencies to roll out the programme in a time-bound manner and to measure collective outcomes.
- Incentivizing the performance of State-level institutions to implement behavioural change activities in communities.

Behaviour change has been the key differentiator of Swachh Bharat Mission and therefore emphasis is placed on **Behaviour Change Communication (BCC)**. BCC is not a 'stand-alone' separate activity to be done as a 'component' of SBM-G. It is about nudging communities towards adopting safe and sustainable sanitation practices through effective BCC.

Emphasis is placed on awareness generation, triggering mindsets leading to community behaviour change and demand generation for sanitary facilities in houses, schools, Anganwadis, places of community congregation, and for Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities. Since Open Defecation Free villages cannot be achieved without all the households and individuals conforming to the desired behaviour of toilet use every day and every time, community action and generation of peer pressure on the outliers are key.

### Impact

Since the launch of the SBM, India's rural sanitation coverage has increased from 39% in 2014 to over 99% as of June 2019.<sup>1</sup> On October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019, the Prime Minister declared that India is now **Open-Defecation Free (ODF)** and cited it as a global benchmark.

Although, there are still houses that have been left behind under the **Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)** and there are some gaps which need to be addressed.

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<sup>1</sup>Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, *Home Page*, MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Available at: <https://jalshakti-ddws.gov.in/>.

# ROLE OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

The **National Human Rights Commission** has made various efforts to make this right a reality. The National Human Rights Commission has issued recommendations for the public authorities from time to time. Most important among these are the guidelines dealing with issues on Manual Scavenging and Sanitation.



## The NHRC Guidelines on Manual Scavenging and Sanitation

1. Though surveys on manual scavenging have been conducted, several anomalies have been found. Therefore, periodic comprehensive survey, at least once in three years, should be conducted in collaboration with credible NGOs. It should cover dry latrines, manual scavengers and alternative livelihood options for rehabilitation.
2. As per the information available with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India, there are dry latrines in

UP, Bihar, J&K and Assam. Therefore, these four States should take all necessary measures for the complete conversion and demolition of dry latrines and rehabilitation of manual scavengers in their respective states. Based on a comprehensive Survey, all other States should also take necessary steps.

- It is a mandatory duty to provide basic sanitation facilities, that is a right to have separate toilets for women/girls and men/boys at public places, schools and workplaces.
- The law prohibiting manual scavenging adds the important caste and dignity dimensions of sanitation to the framework of the right to sanitation. It also brings the rights of sanitation workers within the framework of the right to sanitation.

3. Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi must quicken the pace of adoption of the Act, which should be done at the earliest.
4. The definition of manual scavengers is different from sanitary workers and all authorities may restrict to the definition of manual scavenging as given in the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993.
5. The involvement of too many agencies has often delayed the elimination of the practice of manual scavenging and the rehabilitation work. Therefore, District Magistrates should be made the nodal agency and joint instructions from the three Central Ministries concerned with manual scavenging should be issued to the States/ Union Territories and the District Magistrates to take necessary steps for coordination and convergence of efforts. At State level also, there should be a

coordinating body to monitor framing of appropriate rules and regulations, survey as envisaged in recommendation 1, conversion or demolition of dry latrines, rehabilitation of manual scavengers, prosecution of defaulters etc.

6. The issue of lack of space and scarcity of water in some pockets in some States have to be addressed by adopting appropriate technology and methodologies.
7. The municipal and panchayat rules of the States should have provisions not to allow the construction of any new house with dry latrine or without a water shield latrine or sanitary latrines with appropriate technology and measures should be taken so that dry latrines made in the past can be demolished and new water shield latrines or sanitary latrines with appropriate technology be constructed. There should be a time bound limit for conversion of dry latrines into wet latrines and construction of new latrines. It should be one of the criteria for deciding grants to Municipal bodies and there should be some measures to take penal action against municipalities for not fulfilling their obligations in this regard.
8. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment may evolve modalities for payment of immediate relief of Rs.10,000 to manual scavengers as in the case of bonded labour, pending their rehabilitation.
9. The scholarship to the children of manual scavengers should not be stopped even after their parents have been liberated from manual scavenging and rehabilitated.
10. It should be ensured that the identified manual scavenger families who are entitled to get the BPL cards are issued the BPL cards.

11. Banks must simplify their procedure for giving loans to manual scavengers for their rehabilitation.
12. State Governments must issue advertisements in leading newspapers about cases of manual scavengers and dry latrines and also publish the same on the notice boards of the Panchayat/ Municipal bodies. The list of identifying manual scavengers should be displayed on the website and at important public places for inspection by the public at large and must be given wide publicity. Any person who is left out can approach the notified authority. After identification, the District Magistrate should issue a certificate to the manual scavenger based on which all concerned agencies should extend benefits to which he or she may be eligible.
13. The State Human Rights Commissions should start monitoring the elimination of manual scavenging and consequent rehabilitation of manual scavengers in the States.







WALDEN IS BEHIND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT  
A WISDOMY ACT AND FIRM BELIEF AND IDEAS

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RIGHT TO FOOD  
AND  
RIGHT TO SHELTER

National Human Rights Commission  
India

RIGHT TO SANITATION

National Human Rights Commission  
India

KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION,  
TRAFFICKING (ITPA AND IPC);  
WRONGFUL CONFINEMENT

National Human Rights Commission  
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RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE POLICE  
TOWARDS  
THE VULNERABLE SECTIONS OF SOCIETY

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THE EMPLOYER'S RESPONSIBILITY AS PER  
THE MINIMUM WAGES ACT,  
THE PAYMENT OF BONUS ACT,  
THE PAYMENT OF GRATUITY ACT,  
THE PENSIONERS ACT

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RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE POLICE  
(MCDLRA ACT, 1976)  
AND  
THE RIGHTS OF THE VULNERABLE  
AND MARGINALISED GROUPS AND  
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Constitutional and Civil Rights  
to Promote Scheduled Caste And  
Scheduled Tribes Through Various  
of His Law against Child Marriage

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India

RIGHTS OF SENIOR CITIZENS

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RIGHT TO WATER

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