FAecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM)

Case study: Sinnar city

Location: 30 Km south-east of the city of Nashik in Maharashtra
Population: ~ 72,000 (65,251 in Census 2011)
Area: 51 sq. km

Sinnar became ODF in June 2017 and is fast on the way to becoming ODF+ by implementing Faecal Sludge and Septage Management Plan.

More than 75% of households have individual household toilets. The rest have access to well maintained community toilets.

The city does not have any underground drainage system and toilets in city are connected to septic tanks and pit latrines.

**Situation before intervention**

Access:
- Open defecation
- Pour flush toilets

Collection:
- Septic tanks & pits

Conveyance:
- Open/covered drains in old towns
- Soak pits in parts of new town area
- Irregular cleaning by emptier trucks

Treatment:
- No treatment facility

Disposal/Reuse:
- Into river or natural drain
- Dumped along with solid waste

Swachh Maharashtra Mission, Urban
**1. FSSM Resolution**

Sinnar Council signed a resolution for FSSM covering these aspects:
- Citywide FSSM
- Involving Private sector
- Scheduled cleaning
- Land for treatment facility
- Taxes to be levied

1st city to pass such a resolution

**2. Scheduled Emptying of Septic Tanks**

Moving from a consumer complaint system of demand based emptying to a regular service oriented emptying system. Developed a plan for scheduled septic tank emptying. All tanks to be emptied once every 3 years. 3 trucks to desludge ~ 4000 septic tanks annually. Schedule emptying to begin soon.

**3. Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant**

For treatment and safe disposal of collected septage, a Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant is under construction through private sector participation.

Municipal Council allocated land near the solid waste processing site for the FSTP.

The FSTP uses UASB technology.

This was fully financed by the ULB using 14th FC funds.

**4. Private Sector Participation**

For the FSTP, a tender was floated on MahaTenders website and a Design-Build-Operate-Transfer (DBOT) contract was done after selection of a private operator through transparent bidding process.

Similarly for scheduled emptying a private operator was engaged.

An Escrow account was created for payments to remove late payment risk.

**5. Financing through Sanitation Tax**

A small Sanitation Tax was levied for financing scheduled emptying as well as FSTP operations. This amount is less than what citizens were paying as charge for each cleaning.