

## **Swachha Bhubaneswar Abhiyan**

Provisioning of drinking water and sanitation services are recognised as the responsibility of the states under the Constitution of India. However, Union Government programmes on sanitation have played a significant role in increasing access to sanitation facilities, especially in rural areas where the dependence on public provisioning of essential services is relatively higher than that in urban areas. The Swachh Bhubaneswar Abhiyan, launched on 2nd of October 2014, marks the beginning of the largest programme on sanitation by the Government in Odisha till date. The programme aims to ensure access to sanitation facilities (including toilets, solid and liquid waste disposal systems and village cleanliness) and safe and adequate drinking water supply to every person by 2019.

To facilitate the functioning of Swachh Bhubaneswar Abhiyan (SBA) programme, a team (9 nos) of experts were recruited on contractual basis and stationed at Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation. The activities carried out by SBA cell includes elimination of open defecation, conversion of insanitary toilets to pour flush toilets, eradication of manual scavenging, Municipal Solid Waste Management, bringing about a behavioural change in people regarding healthy sanitation practices, generating awareness among citizens about sanitation and its linkages with public health, strengthening of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation to design, execute and operate systems to fulfil these objectives and creating an enabling environment for private sector participation in capital expenditure and operational expenditure.

SBA cell has given top priority to cleanliness & hygiene of the city. For supervising ward sanitation activities special teams are being formed. The activities of all the Sanitary Inspectors are being monitored through Whats App messenger application through smart phones by SBA cell. All the 67 wards of BMC are now under the supervision of SBA cell. Sanitation inspection work gets started before 6.30 am followed by field observation reports for record and payment deduction. SBA cell also aims in making Bhubaneswar a garbage free city with the message on its tag line: Clean BMC –Green BMC.