



Swacch Bharat Abhiyan – Patna A Case Study

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Abstract: *Cleanliness is the degree to which people keep themselves and their surroundings clean. It is both the abstract state of being clean and free from dirt, and the process of achieving and maintaining that state.*

India is a beautiful country and is often visualized as a salad bowl of culture, colour, craft and chaos! The Prime Minister's 'Swacch Bharat' campaign to clean India is a call to us all to realize the relevance and significance of 'Swacchta' or cleanliness in our culture.

The study explains whether the Swacch Bharat Abhiyan is anywhere close to attaining its objectives in Patna or is it just

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on papers. The research also gives an insight into the present works of Patna Municipal Corporation, its efforts to achieve the Swacch Bharat deadline by October next year, areas to be focused and deficiencies which have to be looked into.

Keywords : *Swacch Bharat, Sanitation, Manual Scavenging, Solid Waste Management, Equipment, Manpower, Waterlogging, Garbage,*

Introduction :

A clean environment and workplace is essential for a healthy workforce. In India, 53 per cent of households or 600 million people defecate in open, out of which 69.3 per cent belong to rural areas and 18.6 per cent belong to urban areas. This unhygienic practice is one of the reasons for high prevalence of diarrhoeal diseases and helminthic (caused by parasitic worms) diseases in the country.

Addressing the issue of sanitation is the need of the hour which not only helps in reducing the burden of the communicable diseases like diarrhoea but also provides the scope for Gross Domestic Product growth, reduction in infant and under-5 mortality rates, reduction in healthcare costs, and a source of employment.

Above all, cleanliness is woven into the ethos of Indian life. Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, once said cleanliness is more important than independence.