

Launch of Dumpsite Remediation Accelerator Programme

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1. What is Dumpsite Remediation Accelerator Programme (DRAP) and why is it a game changer?

At the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission–Urban 2.0 in 2021, 2,476 dumpsites containing vast quantities of legacy waste were identified across urban India. Over the past four years, 1,048 dumpsites have been fully remediated, processing 14.33 crore metric tonnes of legacy waste and reclaiming nearly 7,580 acres of land—about 50% of the total identified sites.

To further accelerate this progress, the Dumpsite Remediation Accelerator Programme (DRAP) has been launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). This year-long, mission-mode initiative aims to fast-track the remediation of remaining dumpsites and reclaim valuable urban land for community and infrastructure development, advancing India's vision of achieving "Lakshya Zero Dumpsites" by September 2026.

2. What is the framework for DRAP? / What are the guiding principles of DRAP?

DRAP follows SBM's proven 5P approach: Political Leadership, Public Finance, Partnerships, People's Participation, and Project Management — ensuring leadership oversight, financial backing, and citizen engagement at every stage.

- **Political Leadership** - Senior political and administrative leaders are encouraged to adopt one of the 214 targeted dumpsites. DRAP aims to leverage senior leadership's oversight to drive progress and ensure the programme's success. Union Minister, Shri Manohar Lal adopted Bhalswa on 17th September, 2025, to fast-track and monitor the remediation of the dumpsite and transform them into clean, liveable urban spaces. From 17th Sept., to 6th Nov., 2025 4,79,500 MT waste at Bhalswa dumpsite has been remediated.
- **Public Financing** - DRAP will offer additional financial support for select cities grappling with substantial legacy waste. This support is in addition to the funds already made available to cities
- **Partnerships** - Each dumpsite is envisioned to have one or more partnerships with Corporate/PSUs for financing, State PWDs and State Highways Departments/NHAI to absorb inert waste from dumpsites for road construction, Technical partners for engineering services and iv. NGO Partners for community engagement
- **Public Advocacy** - As communities living near dumpsites are often the most affected, DRAP will encourage partnering with NGOs for awareness drives and health camps, and advocacy activities for SafaiMitras, truck drivers, other workers, and nearby inhabitants.
- **Project management** - DRAP's approach involves timed planning, execution, and monitoring of dumpsite remediation. It involves creating micro-action plans for each site, with clear timelines, resource allocation, and accountability mechanisms.

3. Is DRAP open to all cities and States, or only selected ones?

Currently, 1,428 sites are undergoing remediation, with nearly 80% of the legacy waste concentrated across 214 sites in 202 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). Under DRAP, these high-impact locations—covering approximately 8.8 crore metric tonnes (MT) of legacy waste—will be prioritized for accelerated action.

All States and Union Territories with ongoing legacy waste projects are being encouraged to prepare micro-action plans for every dumpsite to enable close monitoring and faster progress.

The Government has already approved projects worth ₹6,700 crore for the remediation of these 214 sites. Additional support will be extended to other sites as needed, with priority given to those containing over 45,000 MT of legacy waste. For Union Territories and North-Eastern States, there will be no minimum threshold for eligibility.

8.How will the progress of DRAP be monitored?

- 214 cities have already been mapped on the DRAP Portal, and real-time progress updates will continue to be uploaded on the platform.
- A leaderboard will be developed to monitor progress, highlighting top performers and identifying areas that need greater attention.
- Regular reviews and field visits will be conducted to assess on-ground progress and ensure timely resolution of challenges.

12. What will India gain from DRAP? The Next 1 year By 2026:

- 8 Crores MT of waste from these identified sites will be remediated within a year on fast track mode
- Larger dumpsites such as Deonar and Ghazipur may require a longer timeframe for remediation due to their magnitude and local conditions.
- **Where the waste will go** - Inert and C&D waste will find new life in building roads, strengthening embankments, and developing low-lying areas. Meanwhile, Refuse-Derived Fuel (RDF) will help power cement plants, Waste-to-Energy units, and other industries.