GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
KARTAVYA BHAVAN-2
NEW DELHI-110001

सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग
कर्तव्य भवन-2
नई दिल्ली-110001

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D.O. No. 17-35/2025-Coord

Dated- 27th August, 2026

Respected Ma'am / Sir,

The Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education, has been observing Swachhata Pakhwada every year since 2016 with the active participation of schools, students, teachers, parents and the community across the country. The year 2026 marks the 11th consecutive year of the initiative.

2. As per the Swachhata Pakhwada Calendar, 2026, the Pakhwada for DoSEL is scheduled from **1st to 15th September, 2026**. For observing the Swachhata Pakhwada in a befitting manner, students, teachers and the school management may be encouraged to undertake the following activities:

i. All students, teachers and staff may take the Swachhata Shapath.
ii. Teachers may inspect water and sanitation facilities in schools and make a proposal/ plan for repair and upkeep of the facilities, if required.
iii. Meeting of SMCs / PTAs may be held in the first week of the Pakhwada to highlight the importance of cleanliness & sanitation, hand-washing, water conservation/ Rainwater harvesting among parents, neighbours, local representatives and to encourage them to adopt / continue with the good practices in school as well as the home.
iv. Essay/ Slogan/ Poem writing, Painting, Elocution, Quiz, Model making competition for students on cleanliness may be organised in school.
v. Inter school competitions for clean and well-maintained premises and toilets may be organised by the District Administration
vi. Swachhata awareness messages may be posted on the website of the School, State School Education Department. Photographs on Swachhata may be displayed in schools.
vii. All kinds of waste material like sanitation waste, used masks, broken furniture, unusable equipment, defunct vehicles etc. should be completely removed from the premises of schools / institutions and disposed of as per procedure.
viii. Awareness may be generated about hazards of Single Use Plastic, mitigation of plastic pollution and adherence to 3 R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) principles.

3. The suggested Action Plan for Swachhata Pakhwada, 2026 (1st–15th September, 2026) is enclosed as **Annexure-1**. You are requested to kindly intimate the number of schools and students that participated in the Pakhwada, activity-wise, in your State/UT to this Department. Photographs, videos, films etc. along with highlights of each day of the Pakhwada may be uploaded on Google tracker on a daily basis by 7.00 PM from 1st September, 2026 to 20th September, 2026 for the different activities.

4. Further, you are requested to nominate one Nodal Officer for updating the Google Tracker. The name, designation, email ID and mobile number of the officer may be communicated to this Department at the earliest on swachhatapakhwada.moe2026@gmail.com. The details of the Google Tracker and Drive for uploading the Swachhata Pakhwada activities will be intimated separately.

5. The momentum generated through Swachhata Pakhwada may thereafter be carried forward into Special Campaign 6, with particular emphasis on scientific management of e-waste and its effective collection, segregation and disposal. In this regard, DoSEL, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), is subsequently organising a nationwide E-Waste Awareness and Collection Drive in schools under the aegis of Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE.

6. The E-Waste Drive will be undertaken in two phases: Preparatory Phase from 15th to 30th September, 2026 and Implementation & Collection Phase from 1st to 31st October, 2026. Schools may establish E-Waste Collection Corners, organise awareness/orientation programmes and student activities, and facilitate safe collection and disposal of E-Waste through authorised recyclers/PROs with the requisite documentation. Schools may ensure that students do not dismantle or open electronic devices / hazardous items such as damaged lithium-ion batteries, leaking cells and broken CRTs. A Concept Note/Action Plan for the E-Waste Awareness and Collection Drive is attached at **Annexure-2**.

7. To ensure transparent monitoring, schools may upload details of their participation and activities of Special Campaign 6, on the Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE Portal: https://ecoclubs.education.gov.in

8. States/UTs are requested to issue suitable instructions to all district authorities, schools and educational institutions under their jurisdiction and ensure active participation in both initiatives. The activities may also be given wide visibility

through official social media and other communication platforms, including use of #SpecialCampaign6 from 15th September, 2026 onwards.

9. I am confident that with the active participation and cooperation of States / UTs, both the Swachhata Pakhwada and E-Waste collection / disposal drive will be undertaken under the Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE with utmost enthusiasm and will go a long way in fostering environmentally responsible habits among our students.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

27/8/26

(Dr. Amarpreet Duggal)

Encls.: As above

To

1. The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries (School Education) of all States/UTs.
2. The State Project Directors (Samagra Shiksha) of all States/UTs.

Copy for similar action to:

1. Chairman, CBSE
2. Director, NCERT
3. Commissioner, KVS
4. Commissioner, NVS
5. Chairperson, NCTE
6. Chairperson, NIOS
7. Chairperson, NBB

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Shiksha Mantri
2. PPS to Secretary (SE&L)
3. Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation
4. NIC Cell, DoSEL – for uploading on the website.

Annexure-1

Ministry of Education
Department of School Education & Literacy
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Suggested Action Plan for Swachhata Pakhwada (1st – 15th September, 2026)

01.09.2026 (Tuesday)

Swachhata Shapath Day

- Swachhata Shapath function may be organised wherein all students and teachers/staff may participate and take the pledge for Swachhata.
- Swachhata awareness messages may be posted on the website of the Department/States/UTs/Organisations/Schools.
- Electronic banners may be created and uploaded on departmental/state web portals to highlight observance of Swachhata Pakhwada.
- Publicity and awareness generation may be undertaken through social media and electronic/print media.
- **Upload the number of students who took the Swachhata Shapath and number of schools participated on Google Tracker, and photographs, videos and publicity material on the Google Drive.**

02.09.2026 (Wednesday)

Green School Drive Day

- Students may be encouraged to prepare imaginative slogans, posters and pamphlets on themes such as water conservation, elimination of Single Use Plastic and environmental cleanliness.
- Students may be sensitised about conservation of water and the impact of water scarcity.
- Activities promoting minimum wastage and responsible use of water may be undertaken.
- **Upload the number of schools participated on Google Tracker and photos, videos and publicity material on Google Drive.**

03.09.2026 & 04.09.2026 (Thursday & Friday)

Swachhata Awareness Days

- Holding meeting of SMCs/ SMDCs/ PTAs to highlight the importance of cleanliness & sanitation and importance of Hand-washing, promote water conservation/ Rain Water Harvesting practices during the Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTMs), parents and teachers and to encourage and inspire them for hygiene and sanitation in school as well as home.
- Teachers to inspect sanitary facilities in each and every corner of school/ institution to do a quick assessment and make proposal/plan for upkeep of the facilities.
- Adaptation for WASH facilities (hand wash facility, daily cleaning and disinfection, toilet/ urinal use, water facility use, ventilation, waste management etc) may be discussed with the local representatives. This may include ensuring - adequate, clean and separate toilets for girls and boys, supplies like – soap, hand wash and safe water, disinfectants, cleaning staff etc.
- A status check/review can be done for piped water supply connection in the school in view of Jal Jeevan mission.
- Extensive cleaning/disinfection of toilets, MDM kitchen, classrooms, fans, doors, windows, clearing bushes in the campus to be undertaken. The local community may be involved in these activities with the participation of SMCs/PTAs and local representatives.
- Weeding out/recording of the old files, records as per procedure.
- All kinds of waste material like broken furniture, unusable equipment, defunct vehicles etc. should be completely removed from the premises of schools/institutions.
- **Upload number of schools participated on Google tracker and photos, videos and publicity material on Google drive**.

05.09.2026 & 06.09.2026 (Saturday & Sunday)

Community Outreach Days

- All teachers may visit nearby villages to address the local communities on Swachhata, with special focus on sustaining toilet usage, and taking up waste management work in their areas. They may also sensitize local community to stop wasting of water resources and to make them aware about water conservation and ongoing Jal Shakti Abhiyan.
- Teachers and students in association with local representatives should propagate the theme of Swachhata Pakhwada among public in local areas.
- **Upload number of teachers participating in the community outreach activities on Google Tracker and photos, videos and publicity material on Google Drive.**

07.09.2026 & 08.09.2026 (Monday & Tuesday)

Hand Wash Days

- Create Awareness on the need for proper hand wash in daily life.
- Children should be taught proper method/steps/moments, timings of hand washing with soap before and after eating.
- Barrier free access to the drinking water and toilet facilities for Divyang students may be reviewed and ensured.
- Students may be taught about checking wastage of water.
- Water from hand washing unit to be channelled to school gardens.
- Children may be taught about the water borne diseases/diseases, safe handling of drinking water so that they practice proper hand and oral hygiene.
- **Upload number of schools participated on Google tracker and photos, videos and publicity material on Google drive.**

09.09.2026 & 10.09.2026 (Wednesday & Thursday)

Swachhata Participation Days

- Competitions can be held in districts/blocks/clusters for clean and well-maintained premises and toilets in schools.
- Essay, Slogan, Elocution, Quiz, Painting, Skit, Poem, slogan writing competitions and Model making competition on Swachhata.
- Debates on Swachhata.
- **Upload number of schools participated on Google tracker and photos, videos and publicity material on Google drive.**

11.09.2026 (Friday)

Personal Hygiene Day

- Audio visual programme to be undertaken to motivate students/employees and other for maintaining cleanliness.
- Students will learn about proper way of cutting and keeping nails clean, daily bathing with clean water, wearing clean cloths, no spitting in open, wearing shoes/ slippers etc.
- Students will be taught the hygienic manner of using toilets and drinking water facilities.
- Students may be made aware of the importance of brushing teeth twice a day by making it routine habit.
- **Upload number of schools participated on Google tracker and photos, videos and publicity material on Google drive.**

12.09.2026 (Saturday)

Swachhata School Exhibition Day

- Essay/ Slogan/ Poem writing, Painting, Elocution, Quiz, Model making, Photographs, Cartoons etc. made by students on Swachhata activities may be displayed in School/ Education Department's website.
- State may document some of these exhibits.
- Making artefacts at home using local recycled-raw material for storage of waste i.e., artistic dustbins using local skills promoting their culture.
- **Upload number of schools participated on Google tracker and photos, videos and publicity material on Google drive.**

13.09.2026 & 14.09.2026 (Sunday & Monday)

Swachhata Action Plan Days

- SMC/SDMC to create awareness among students, parents and local people about the Swachhata Action Plan of the school under the Samagra Shiksha scheme.
- Convene small group meeting of Bal Sansad/ School Cabinet specially to discuss the Swachhata Pakhwada activities in the school.
- Encourage community members and students to make suggestions as to what new activities can be included under Swachhata Pakhwada and forward such suggestions to DoSEL, MoE.
- **Upload number of schools participated on Google tracker and photos, videos and publicity material on Google drive.**

15.09.2026 (Tuesday)

Prize Distribution & Pakhwada Conclusion Day

- Prize distribution for participation of children, teachers and parents in competitions viz. Painting, Essay, Debate, Quiz, Slogan, Inter-school and Crafting, model making etc. using waste to encourage Swachhata.
- All Schools/educational institutions may sum up their activities and work undertaken during the Pakhwada and select best activity for forwarding to district/state authority for uploading on the website i.e. in public domain.
- **Upload number of schools participated on Google tracker and photos, videos and publicity material on Google drive.**

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Annexure II

CONCEPT NOTE

E-Waste Awareness and Collection Drive in Schools under Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE

- E-Waste Threat: India generates millions of tonnes of e-waste annually. Unofficial handling and backyard recycling release hazardous toxins into soil, air and groundwater, impacting child development and public health.
- NEP 2020 Integration: NEP 2020 advocates for integrating environmental awareness across subject areas, shifting learning away from rote memory toward practical, action-oriented civic duty.
- Mission LiFE Alignment: Directly supports Mission LiFE Theme 6: "Reduce E-Waste" by promoting repair, reuse, and safe channelization of electronic gadgets.

Two-Phase Action Plan

Phase 1: Preparatory Phase (15th September – 30th September)

- School Level Action: Establish a dedicated E-Waste Collection Corner equipped with secure, dry containers marked for obsolete electronics (cables, old phones, calculators, chargers, keyboards etc.).
- Nodal Mapping: District authorities connect school clusters with CPCB (Central Pollution Control Board)/SPCB (State Pollution Control Board) authorized recyclers or PROs (Producer Responsibility Organisations).
- Webinars/Workshops: Conduct student/teacher orientation sessions around e-waste dangers, responsible disposals and circular economy principles.

Phase 2: Implementation & Collection Phase (1st October – 31st October)

- Co-Curricular Activities: Inter-house poster-making, e-waste art installations, essay writing.
- Student Participation: Students are encouraged to audit their homes for end-of-life electronics and deposit them safely at school collection points with parent consent.
- Collection & Logistics: CPCB-certified recyclers collect accumulated e-waste from designated schools or cluster hubs.
- Real-Time Tracking: School Eco Club Coordinators log metrics (number of student participants, workshops held, kilograms collected etc.) onto https://ecoclubs.education.gov.in Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE Portal.
- Communication & outreach: For larger publicity and outreach of the campaign, States/UTs/ABs to post best practices on social media platforms with **#SpecialCampaign6**

Roles & Responsibilities Matrix

Stakeholder	Key Responsibilities
DoSEL (Ministry of Education)	• Overall national monitoring and policy oversight. • Webinar/workshops/handholding sessions.
MoEFCC & CPCB	• Mandating CPCP/SPCBs to facilitate certified recycler tie-ups. • Providing technical awareness material and safe handling guidelines.
State/UT/AB Education Depts	• Issuing state circulars and appointing State/UT/AB/District Nodal Officers. • Monitoring 100% participation of schools Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE.
School Principal & Eco Club for Mission LiFE	• Designating Eco Club for Mission LiFE in-charge teacher. • Ensuring safe collection (no hazardous dismantling) and entry on Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE portal.
Certified Recyclers / PROs	• Transporting and safely recycling collected e-waste. •Issuing official Certificates of Recycling to participating schools. (please refer to)

CPCB & STATE-CERTIFIED RECYCLER ENGAGEMENT PROTOCOL

To guarantee that collected e-waste ishandled strictly under the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, all authorities must abide by the following safety guidelines:

E-WASTE SAFE DISPOSAL WORKFLOW

[Student / Home] ──► [School E-Waste Bin] ──► [School/Cluster/Block Collection Point]
│
▼
[Recycling Certificate] ◄── [CPCB/SPCB Recycler] ◄──┘

1. Authorized Channels Only:
   - Schools must strictly refrain from selling or handing over e-waste to unorganized scrap dealers (*kabadiwalas*).
   - Drives must operate strictly in partnership with recyclers listed on the CPCB Official Portal or state SPCB registries.

2. Safety Protocols for Schools:
    - Permitted Items: Small gadgets, wires, circuit boards, discarded phones, remote controls, computer accessories, IT peripherals, ear buds etc.
    - Restricted / Hazardous Items: Damaged lithium-ion batteries, broken cathode-ray tube (CRT) monitors, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), or leaking cells must not be handled by children.
    - Zero Dismantling Rule: Students and staff are strictly prohibited from opening, breaking, or dismantling electronic devices.
3. Verification & Chain of Custody:
    - Upon collection, certified recycler must weigh the e-waste in the presence of the School Nodal Officer.
    - The recycler provides a formal E-Waste Handover Receipt & Recycling/dismantling/refurbishing Certificate, as proof of compliance.

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