

**GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

No. RD-E04/1/2024-Loose Dated: Shimla-2, the 7th May, 2025.

NOTIFICATION

With a view to ensuring systematic, sustainable, and legally enforceable Solid Waste Management (SWM) in rural areas, the Governor, Himachal Pradesh is pleased to notify the "Policy for Solid Waste Management Facilities in Rural Areas, 2024". This policy aims to strengthen institutional mechanisms, enforce financial sustainability, and establish a legally binding framework under the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 and the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 to promote scientific waste disposal and environmental sustainability.

1) Short Title and Commencement

- a) This policy shall be called the "Policy for Solid Waste Management Facilities in Rural Areas, 2024."
- b) It shall come into force from the date of its notification in the e-Gazette and shall remain in force unless modified or superseded by a subsequent order of the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

2) Definitions:

For the purpose of this policy, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) "Gram Panchayat" means a local self-government institution as defined under the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.
- b) "Solid Waste Management (SWM)" refers to the collection, segregation, transportation, processing, and disposal of solid waste in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- c) "Self-Help Groups (SHGs)" means registered community-based groups engaged in economic activities, as per the Himachal Pradesh Self-Help Groups Act, 2018.
- d) "Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMUs)" refers to processing units established under the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.


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3) Applicability of the Policy

This policy shall be applicable to all Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis, Zila Parishads, and rural areas falling within the jurisdiction of the Government of Himachal Pradesh. It shall be binding upon:

- a) Gram Panchayats and rural local bodies, which shall be responsible for implementing solid waste management programs.
- b) Households, commercial establishments, and institutions that generate waste within rural areas.
- c) Waste processing and disposal entities, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and private sector entities involved in SWM operations.

4) Objectives of the Policy:

- a) To establish a structured solid waste management system in all Gram Panchayats in line with Article 243G of the Constitution of India.
- b) To integrate SWM into the Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs) for sustainable and decentralized waste management.
- c) To enforce waste segregation at source and develop processing infrastructure at the Panchayat, Block, and District levels.
- d) To implement financially viable models through the imposition of sanitation fees, utilization of 15th Finance Commission grants, and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP).
- e) To establish Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMUs) and community composting facilities at the Block level.
- f) To promote IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) campaigns for public awareness and behavioral change.

5) Institutional Framework

- a) Gram Panchayats shall be responsible for primary waste collection, segregation, and local processing in compliance with Section 44 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.
- b) Panchayat Samitis shall oversee inter-Panchayat coordination, training, and fund utilization under the 15th Finance Commission grants.
- c) Zila Parishads shall monitor policy implementation, ensure land allocation for PWMUs, and provide financial support to smaller Gram Panchayats.

- d) **The Department of Rural Development** shall formulate the **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** for inter-agency coordination and issue necessary guidelines.
- e) **The Urban Development Department** shall collaborate with **peri-urban Panchayats** to facilitate waste disposal at existing **urban waste processing facilities**.

6) Financial Provisions

- a) **Sanitation Fee:** Gram Panchayats shall impose a **mandatory sanitation fee** on households and commercial entities, as authorized under **Section 44 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994**.
- b) **Utilization of 15th Finance Commission Grants:** Tied grants shall be allocated for **waste collection, transportation, and PWMU operation** at the **Panchayat Samiti level**.
- c) **PPP and CSR Models:** Gram Panchayats may enter into **Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agreements** to enhance financial sustainability.
- d) Beside the above, grants may also be given by the Central or State Governments to the Panchayats and other PRIs for facilitating proper waste collection/segregation/disposal.

7) Waste Segregation and Processing

- a) **Household-Level Segregation:** Waste shall be segregated at the source into **biodegradable, non-biodegradable, and hazardous waste** before collection.
- b) **Processing Infrastructure:**
 - i) **One Plastic Waste Management Unit (PWMU) per Block** shall be established with **shredding, baling, and dust removal machinery**.
 - ii) **Community composting pits** shall be created for biodegradable waste management.
 - iii) **Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Cluster Level Federations (CLFs)** shall be trained in **waste recycling, upcycling, and revenue generation activities**.

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8) Penal Provisions

- a) Gram Panchayats shall impose fines on households and establishments violating waste segregation norms.
- b) Repeated non-compliance may result in the cancellation of trade licenses as per Section 120 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

9) Monitoring and Evaluation

- a) Block Development Officers (BDOs) shall ensure the implementation of waste collection and processing mechanisms at the **Block level**.
- b) Deputy Commissioners shall monitor progress and submit **quarterly reports** to the **Department of Rural Development**.

10) Dispute Resolution

Any dispute arising from the interpretation of this policy shall be referred to the **Secretary (Rural Development), Government of Himachal Pradesh**, whose decision shall be final and binding.

Dr 07/05/25
(Rajesh Sharma), IAS
Secretary(Rural Dev.) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh
7th May, 2025.

Endst. No. As above dated Shimla-171002 the

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

1. The Principal Secretary to Chief Minister for information of Hon'ble CM of H.P.
2. The ACS/ Pr. Secy/ Secy (Finance) to the Govt. of H.P for information.
3. The Accountant General, (A&E), H.P, Shimla-3.
4. All the Divisional commissioners in Himachal Pradesh.
5. The Director, Rural Development, Kasumpti, Shimla with a request to circulate amongst all Districts, Blocks, Gram Panchayats and also upload the Scheme on the website.
6. The Director, IPR, Himachal Pradesh for wider publicity.
7. The Pr. Private Secretary to the Hon'ble RD& PR Minister, Himachal Pradesh for information.
8. All the Deputy Commissioners in Himachal Pradesh.
9. All District Development Officer, Himachal Pradesh.
10. All Block Development Officer, Himachal Pradesh.

Dr 07/05/25
(Rajesh Sharma), IAS
Secretary(Rural Dev.) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP) FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY IN RURAL AREAS

1. Introduction

The **Department of Rural Development, Government of Himachal Pradesh**, has developed this **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)** to ensure the effective implementation of the **Policy for Solid Waste Management Facilities in Rural Areas, 2024**. This SOP provides a structured approach for **Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis, Zila Parishads, and line departments** to achieve systematic, sustainable, and legally enforceable **solid waste management (SWM)** in rural areas.

2. Objectives

The primary objectives of this SOP are:

- a) To establish a **clear execution plan** for rural SWM as per the policy guidelines.
- b) To define the **roles and responsibilities** of various stakeholders.
- c) To ensure compliance with the **Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016**, and **Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994**.
- d) To streamline **fund utilization, monitoring, and evaluation** of SWM initiatives.

3. Implementation Mechanism

3.1 Role of the Department of Rural Development

- a) Develop and issue **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** for SWM implementation.
- b) Coordinate with the **Department of Urban Development** for peri-urban waste disposal.
- c) Allocate **financial resources from 15th Finance Commission Grants** for infrastructure development.
- d) Conduct **State-level training programs** for PRIs, BDOs, and sanitation workers.
- e) Issue necessary **guidelines for inter-agency coordination** between Gram Panchayats, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), and waste management agencies.
- f) Develop **IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) materials** for public awareness campaigns.

3.2 Role of Zila Parishads

- a) Provide **technical and financial support** to Gram Panchayats for SWM implementation.
- b) Monitor and evaluate **district-level SWM activities**.


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to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh

- c) Allocate funds for **capacity building, IEC activities, and infrastructure creation.**
- Ensure proper utilization of **PWMUs and Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs).**

3.3 Role of Panchayat Samitis

- a) Oversee and support **Gram Panchayats** in **waste collection, processing, and infrastructure development.**
- b) Conduct **periodic training programs** for **Gram Panchayat officials** and **sanitation workers.**
- c) Ensure **timely utilization of 15th Finance Commission grants** for **SWM projects.**

3.4 Role of Gram Panchayats

- a) Implement **door-to-door collection** of **segregated waste** through **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)** or **outsourced waste collection agencies.**
- b) Set up **community composting units** for **biodegradable waste management.**
- c) Identify and allocate land for **Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMUs)** and **waste segregation centers.**
- d) Impose and collect a **mandatory sanitation fee** from **households** and **commercial establishments.**
- e) Conduct **awareness campaigns** on **waste segregation and disposal** through **Gram Sabha meetings.**
- f) Enforce **penalties for illegal dumping, non-segregation, and burning of waste.**

4. Waste Collection, Processing, and Disposal

4.1 Waste Collection

- a) Households and businesses must **segregate waste** into:
 - i. **Biodegradable Waste (Green Bin)** – **Food waste, garden waste, paper.**
 - ii. **Non-Biodegradable Waste (Blue Bin)** – **Plastic, glass, metal.**
 - iii. **Hazardous Waste (Red Bin)** – **Batteries, chemicals, medical waste.**
- b) Waste shall be collected **daily or as per the schedule decided by the Gram Panchayat.**
- c) Waste collection shall be managed by **SHGs, CLFs, or designated waste collectors.**



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4.2 Waste Processing

- a) **Biodegradable waste** shall be composted at **household or community composting units**.
- b) **Non-biodegradable waste** shall be transported to **Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMUs)**.
- c) **Hazardous waste** shall be disposed of as per guidelines from the **Pollution Control Board**.

4.3 Waste Disposal

- a) Gram Panchayats shall ensure **scientific disposal of non-recyclable waste**.
- b) Peri-urban Panchayats shall **coordinate with Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)** for waste disposal in municipal waste disposal plants.

5. Financial Mechanism

- a) Gram Panchayats shall levy a **sanitation fee** as per **Section 44 of the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994**.
- b) Funds from the **15th Finance Commission** shall be used for **waste collection, transportation, and setting up PWMUs**.
- c) **PPP and CSR models** shall be encouraged for additional funding.

6. Monitoring and Accountability

- a) **Block Development Officers (BDOs)** shall monitor SWM activities at the **Block level**.
- b) **Deputy Commissioners** shall submit **quarterly reports** to the **Department of Rural Development**.
- c) **Gram Panchayats** shall **maintain records** of waste collection, fees collected, and infrastructure maintenance.
- d) **The Law Department** shall **finalize the Model Bye-Laws for SWM** to enable enforcement.

7. Enforcement and Penalties

- a) **₹200 fine for failing to segregate waste** at the household or commercial level.
- b) **₹500 fine for burning or illegally dumping waste**.
- c) **Cancellation of trade licenses** for repeated non-compliance by businesses.

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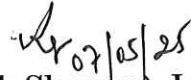
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to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh

8. Capacity Building and Public Awareness

- a) **Regular training programs** for PRIs, sanitation workers, and SHGs.
- b) **IEC campaigns** through Gram Sabha meetings, posters, and radio messages.
- c) **Promotion of best practices in waste reduction and recycling.**

9. Dispute Resolution

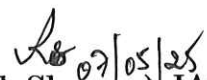
Any disputes arising under this SOP shall be resolved by the **Secretary (Rural Development), Government of Himachal Pradesh**, whose decision shall be final and binding.


(Rajesh Sharma), IAS
Secretary(Rural Dev.) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh
May, 2025.

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