



MESSAGE

On Independence Day, I had made commitment to you on behalf of my colleagues in the Parliament. I laid out my dream of Adarsh Grams as the nucleus of health, cleanliness, greenery and cordiality within the community. The Guidelines that follow are based on these principles and present the complete blueprint of the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana for each Member of Parliament to make one village of his or her constituency a Model Village by 2016 and two more model villages by 2019.

I have been deeply inspired by the ideology of Mahatma Gandhi. He had the foresight to realise that you do not only need electricity poles to bring light to a village but that true enlightenment will come from shaping values, community spirit and promoting good education. I too believe that inspiring values of national pride, patriotism, unity, self-confidence is as important as developing infrastructure. In other words, develop the value chain through value change; value chain is a management term that describes every step a business needs to go through to maximize its value and efficiency.

The Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, unlike other Schemes, does not look at the beneficiaries as receivers and the Government as the doer. The Yojana aims to empower the villagers to make choices and provide them with opportunities to exercise those choices. The Scheme will give direction and I am certain that our ingenuous villagers will pave their own path through their hard work and entrepreneurial skills.

When I was the Chief Minister of Gujarat, I had the opportunity of supporting the development of one such village, Punsari, in my State. Punsari is often referred to as the No.1 village in the country. It also gives me great pleasure to observe that other model villages like Gangadevipally in Telangana and Hiware Bazar in Maharashtra are doing brilliant work as well. I hope that the implementers of this Scheme will look at these villages and learn from them. I am certain that in the next few years we will have hundreds of innovations and stories of success from these model villages.

We have focused in particular on the aspect of community participation, i.e. Jan Bhagidaari. In fact the auspicious beginning of the Scheme was made through an online competition for selection of the logo. As part of the Scheme, the villagers will prepare their own development plan, activities and fix targets for achievement.

I am also particularly excited and keen on the initiatives that we intend on taking for supporting children's education, for example smart schools, e-libraries, green schools, under this Scheme. It is important for our young generation to inculcate a sense of confidence and values such as respect for women, martyrs and elders, good hygiene, respect for the environment, good reading habits etc.

I am happy to release the Guidelines of the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana; a Scheme that will actualise the dreams of rural India.

11th October 2014

Narendra Modi

Prime Minister of India