## ODF (OPEN DEFECATION FREE) ANNOUNCEMENT IN BIRGUNJ SUB-METROPOLITAN CITY 2<sup>ND</sup> FALGUN 2071 (14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2015)

With the full participation of local communities, civil societies, government and non-government agencies, I/NGOs, UN agencies, political representatives, school students, media and CBOs of Birgunj Sub-Metropolitan city, the Massive Campaign of ODF got successfully when the City Announced the four wards (4,7,8,11) as ODF in Birgunj Metropolitan City. Around 1300 people, students, women, WCF/CAC members, officials, civilians etc. gathered this ODF



announcement with theme of development with celebration. Chief Guest and honorable former Prime Minister Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal opened this ceremony where our executive officer, Mr. Bishnu Prasad Koirala briefed the overall objectives, efforts and progress of ODF and its celebration announcement. Other guests were represented from different government agencies, I/NGOs, political parties, media etc.

The celebration were started with rally from different school students, women groups, child clubs etc. gathered into assembly at Maisthan, Birgunj.





Urban Governance Expert (UGE), Mr. Bitu Shreevastav, briefed on the whole process, preparedness of ODF including mass media campaign, which is going on massively since last month in all community, settlement, door to door, empowering people about the importance of toilet and construction of new toilet at every household with people's own costs. We would like to thank all stakeholders who continuously supporting this whole ODF campaign. *This campaign is being getting succeeded with keeping following some principles:* 

- Toilet construction with zero cost intervention (no any external financial supports);
- All stakeholders' joint supports provided for this ODF campaign;
- Development with Celebrations;

The mass media campaign is being initiated with mobile campaigning (i.e. vehicle with ODF songs, slogan in local language) at door to door starting every day since morning @ 5 am to evening @ 10 pm even with live movie showing (i.e. Sugandhapur-Durgandhapur , directed by Madan Krishna and Haribansh). And rapid result is being observed as local people started to collect/deposit money themselves on spot for constructing their toilets. We would like to thank whole staffs, team of Birgunj SMC, NGO (BIJAM) which is very actively supporting the whole campaign, UN agencies (UNICEF, UN Habitat) for their financial supports, M-WASH CC, D-WASH CC, Ward-WASH CC for their rapid



coordination and technical supports.

Mr. Sunil Karna, from WASH secretariat, Birgunj SMC briefed the whole process and methodology of ODF campaign.

At last but not the least, this is the first initiations of announcing ODF for four wards and Birgunj SMC is committed and mobilized all joint efforts (with all agencies and sectoral, local, civilians, political, Government and I/NGOs, UN) to announce ODF to all remaining wards by 26<sup>th</sup> Asadh 2071. As per the

strategically policy of Government of Nepal to declare ODF (Open Defecation Free) by 2017 A.D., Birgunj Sub-Metropolitan City has triggered the massive effort for the preparation/preparatory works through mass media campaign. The Mass media campaign with mobile campaigning has been started since 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015 throughout the city including all 30 wards in Birgunj Sub-metropolitan city areas.

Birgunj SMC heartily welcomes and requests all stakeholders to have their moral and logistic supports, together joint their hands to achieve this motto of all wards ODF announcement.



Rally from School student and Community people joined their hands for ODF announcement



Mobile vehicles intensively moved for ODF mass campaign throughout the Birgunj Sub-Metropolitan City areas.