Trichy, a major city corporation is a partially sewer ed city that is implementing Fecal Sludge Management (FSM) solutions to become 100% sanitation secure. Trichy has been ranked among the top few cities with improved sanitation since 2010. Hence, it was chosen to be a demonstration city, and will provide the basis for state-wide scaling up in other city corporations. It has also been selected for the City-wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) programme.

Population\(^1\) 916,857
Households\(^1\) 233,947
Households using public/community toilets\(^2\) 17%
Access to Individual Household Toilets\(^3\) 83%

4\(^{th}\) Largest Municipal Corporation in the State

146.9 sq.km

Swachh Survekshan 2018 ranking\(^4\) 13

18km stretch of the Uyyakondan canal flows from the old Trichy town towards the eastern part of the city

Sources: \(^1\)Census 2011; \(^2\)Swachh Bharat Mission 2014; \(^3\)Swachh Bharat Mission 2017; \(^4\)Swachh Bharat Mission 2018
There are four decanting stations in Trichy city. Currently, some of the septage from the septic/holding tanks is co-treated with sewage at the city's sewage treatment plant (with the technology of waste stabilisation pond).
ASSESSMENT & STUDIES

Numerous studies were conducted to understand sanitation in Trichy. Some of the key findings are listed below.

Trichy has been a model for provision of good quality community toilets for its poor residents. The Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SHE) Teams, formed by the women members of Self Help Groups (SHGs), carry out the upkeep, maintenance and management of about 180 community toilets with the support of TCC. They were organised into a city level federation known as Women’s Action for Village Empowerment (WAVE) federation.

Public/Community Toilets Assessment

- The SHE team managed toilets are operating well, although there is potential for further strengthening.

- Record and account keeping is not systematic or uniform across the SHE team managed toilets.

Desludging Operators Study

- Though installation of GPS devices in desludging vehicles is mandated as per the licensing agreement with TCC, no vehicles had installed tracking devices.

- Personal protective equipment such as gloves, masks and boots were not used by desludging operators.
Assessment of Fecal Sludge Receiving Facilities for Co-treatment

- There is a need for infrastructure improvement at all four pumping stations that act as receiving facilities for fecal sludge, e.g. construction of an unloading ramp to contain and manage spillage.

- Operations can be strengthened through a set of measures like improved record keeping and introduction of a screening and testing protocol to allow only fecal sludge in the facility.

- Infrastructure deficiencies like non-functional flow measuring devices were identified at the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP).

- Regular maintenance activities like upkeep of head-works and periodic desludging of the ponds were not being carried out.

Assessment of Waste Stabilisation Ponds

Storm Water Drain (SWD) Pollution Study in Select Catchment Area

- The objective of the study was to assess and identify contributors to SWD pollution in one micro-catchment, with a view to develop options to address the pollution through decentralised liquid waste management interventions at the property and micro-catchment level.

IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE SANITATION CHAIN

Access

- Community toilets: TNUSPP provided renewed thrust to the existing SHG managed model by bringing in additional toilets into the SHE model.

- Improvement of community/public toilets: An improvement plan which includes improving containment structures and developing a financial model to cross-subsidise between high and low revenue toilets is being prepared. Pilots will also be set up to make toilets more inclusive and gender friendly.

Containment

- Improvement in the Uyyakondan Canal: In order to reduce pollution load in the canal, options for managing grey and black water are being developed by the TNUSPP team.
• **Sanitation strategy for bulk fecal waste generators:** A study is being undertaken to develop an in-depth understanding of bulk generators of fecal waste such as apartments, schools, hostels, restaurants, hospitals etc. This will form the basis for developing a strategy to serve the sanitation needs of bulk generators.

• **Desludging operators:** While most operators are already registered with TCC, the process is being streamlined. GPS installation in desludging vehicles is being explored.

• **Improvements in waste stabilisation ponds:** An action plan for the STP improvement at Panjappur, Trichy has been prepared. It includes infrastructure requirements like flow measurement and modified pond outlet structures; maintenance requirements like reconditioning valves, screen & grit removal systems. Further, an Operation & Maintenance (O&M) plan is being developed.

![Waste Stabilisation Pond, Panjappur](image1)

**Treatment**

• **Improvements at the decanting station at Anna Stadium:** Infrastructure improvements like construction of ramp will be carried out to contain and manage the spillage of septage. A safe environment for desludging operators will also be provided with wash facilities and toilet revamping.

![Decanting station at Anna Stadium](image2)
ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION

A ‘Working Group’ has been formed to ensure that sanitation priorities are aligned with TCC and to enable coordination of the programme. The group comprises of TCC officers, representatives of the Technical Support Unit (TSU) and partner organisations.

TNUSPP works closely with the city corporation and has prepared a City Sanitation Plan, which comprehensively addressed all actions across the full sanitation chain.

![Working group meeting in progress](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholders</th>
<th>Number of people trained</th>
<th>Focus Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desludging Operators</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Orientation on Government of Tamil Nadu’s Operative Guidelines on Septage Management and Occupational Safety Standards (OSS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masons</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>Construction of proper septic tanks and twin pits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Capacity Building
TOWARDS INCLUSION

- A gender assessment is being carried out which will help in understanding intersectionality of gender with socio-economic status, caste and disability. In addition, it will also look into the resultant differential sanitation needs and its impact on women. A gender strategy will be subsequently prepared.

- Pilots for improving occupational safety of workers will be conducted. Social welfare, particularly, health and education will be strengthened by orienting sanitary workers on their entitlements and establishing linkages as necessary.

- While health camps are being conducted by the TCC, an attempt will be made to make these more systematic and comprehensive, and extend the same to all sanitary workers irrespective of their employment status.
Slum Improvement Plan

- Slums will be selected with partner organisations for targeted interventions on sanitation and hygiene. These include retrofitting of community toilets, improvements in solid and liquid waste management, formation of community groups for awareness generation and monitoring, etc.

Location of slums in Trichy

Source: TNUSSP analysis, 2018