

# Study on Current Community Access to and Practices on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Villages of Chargawah Block

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**Introduction-** UNICEF estimates that more than 90 percent of deaths from diarrheal illnesses in young children can be attributed to unsafe or inadequate water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) practices.

**Objectives-** To study current levels of community access to and Knowledge, Attitude & practices related to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities.

**Methodology-** Cross sectional survey of 200 household conducted in selected villages of chargawah block through Multistage sampling using both probability and non probability sampling. Sample size was calculated using epi info with confidence limit of 10% , Confidence level of 95% with design effect. Semi structured questionnaire is used as study tool . Data will be analysed by using SPSS software (latest trail version).

**Result:** The baseline study was conducted from april –september 2015 in 14 villages, 200 household (14 household from each village).51% of people still rely on unprotected hand pump as a source of water for drinking. . Based on observation, only 40% had clean containers and 66% had covered containers. A majority of the population defecates in the bush/backyard/field (79%). Baby faeces are disposed off in the garbage pit (40%), bush (25%, or just on the ground or in the open field (18%). Hand washing with soap and water is widely practiced as claimed by 21% of the respondents, though hand washing with water only is practiced by 67%.The main reasons why people do not wash hands with soap is the cost of soap (44%) and the belief that water alone cleanses the hands (36%). Based on observation, only 10% was observed to soap within or near water source.

**Recommendation** - New construction, repair and technical assessment of water source and its maintenance. Sanitation & Hygiene Promotion and Community Mobilisation through IEC activities