

## SFD LiteReport

# Tinsukia India

This SFD LiteReport was prepared by Vikash K Agarwal.

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## 2 SFD Lite information

#### **Produced by:**

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#### **Collaborating partners:**

- Centre for Science & Environment, New Delhi, India
- Tinsukia Municipal Board (TMB), Tinsukia, Assam

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## **3** General city information

Tinsukia, the headquarter town of Tinsukia district, is situatedon NH-37 in the north-eastern part of the state of Assam, India. Originally Tinsukia was the capital of Motok Kingdom and was known as 'ChangmaiPathar.' Located at a distance of 491km east of State Capital, Dispur, it is strategically connected to surrounding tea gardens, oil towns, coalfields, orange cultivations and other agricultural products. Tinsukia is considered as a major commercial centre in Upper Assam<sup>1</sup>.

The Urban Local Body (ULB) governing Tinsukia is Tinsukia Municipal Board (TMB) which is divided into 15 wards1.According to 2011 census, the population of the city was 99,448 and total number of households was 26,405 and spread across an area of 10.52 sq. km<sup>2</sup>. The projected population for the year 2020 is 1,39,000<sup>3</sup>. The municipal boundary and current population is used for preparation of SFD. There is anaverage daily footfall of around 10,000 individuals, being a commercial hub and availability of health and community facilities for nearby villages<sup>4</sup>.

Census Year	Population	Growth Rate (%)	Source
2001	82,990		Census 2001
2011	99,448	1.65	Census 2011
2014	105,694	0.59	TMB
2020	1,39,000	2.40	TMB

Table '	1: Population	Growth rate	Tinsukia	(Source:Census,	2011)
					- /

Tinsukia is located at mean elevation of about 116 msl at 27.4886° N, 95.3558° E. The soil type varies from sandy loam to clayey in nature<sup>5</sup>. Tinsukia has a max temperature in summers of 31°C and min temperature in winter less than 10°C and average annual rainfall of about 2,758 mm5. The risk of groundwater contamination is insignificant as the depth of groundwater is considered at >12 metres<sup>6</sup>. Due to presence of contaminants (particularly Fe) in groundwater, boring for drinking water is usually done beyond 12 metres and up to 30 metresdepth6. The water supplied in the city is predominantly through borewells and tubewells6.

<sup>2</sup>District Census Handbook 2011 of Tinsukia

<sup>4</sup> KII-3, 2020; KII-4, 2020; FGD-3, 2020; DPR - ISWM Project (TMB, 2018); Field Observations

https://indikosh.com/city/306217/tinsukia

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> TMB Profile, 2014; DPR - ISWM Project (TMB, 2018)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>ULB data, 2019; KII-2, 2020; KII-3, 2020; KII-4, 2020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>DPR - ISWM Project (TMB, 2018); https://en.climate-data.org/asia/india/assam/tinsukia-24719/;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> CGWB Report (Tinsukia District), 2014; FGD-2, 2020; FGD-4, 2020; FGD-5, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; FGD-7, 2020

### 4 Service outcomes

Tinsukia, Assam, India, 28 Sep 2020. SFD Level: SFD Lite

Population: 139000

Proportion of tanks: septic tanks: 50%, fully lined tanks: 50%, lined, open bottom tanks: 50%

System label	Pop	W4c	W5c	F3	F4	F5	S4e	S5e
System description	Proportion of population using this type of system	Proportion of wastewater in open sewer or storm drain system, which is delivered to treatment plants	Proportion of wastewater delivered to treatment plants, which is treated	Proportion of this type of system from which faecal sludge is emptied	Proportion of faecal sludge emptied, which is delivered to treatment plants	Proportion of faecal sludge delivered to treatment plants, which is treated	Proportion of supernatant in open drain or storm sewer system, which is delivered to treatment plants	Proportion of supernatant in open drain or storm sewer system that is delivered to treatment plants, which is treated
T1A1C6 Toilet discharges directly to open drain or storm sewer	1.0	0.0	0.0					
T1A2C5 Septic tank connected to soak pit	3.0			30.0	0.0	0.0		
T1A2C6 Septic tank connected to open drain or storm sewer	25.0			30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
T1A3C6 Fully lined tank (sealed) connected to an open drain or storm sewer	70.0			30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
T1B10C6 Containment (septic tanks, fully lined tanks, partially lined tanks and pits, and unlined pits) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded to to open drain or storm sewer	1.0			30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2: SFD Matrix for Tinsukia

Overview on technologies and methods used for different sanitation systems through the sanitation service chain is as follows:

#### 4.1 Offsite Systems

There is no sewerage network in Tinsukia<sup>7</sup>. The city is completely dependent on On-site Sanitation Systems (OSS) which may or may not be connected to open drains. The



Figure 2: Night Soil discharged directly into open drains

effectiveness of opendrainsarereduced due to indiscriminate dumping of solid waste and encroachment at different locations of the city. River Dibru (on the north) and river Tingrai (on the south) cater to the run-off from the municipalboundary<sup>8</sup>.



Figure 1: Open drains in slum area of Tinsukia

Around 1% (T1A1C6) of the population are connected to toilet discharges directly to open drain i.e. Night Soil disposed in Open Drain (NSOD)<sup>9</sup>. This can be majorly attributed to the presence of poor toilet infrastructure in the slum areas located within the municipal boundary9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> KII-3, 2020; FGD-1, 2020; FGD-2, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; FGD-7, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> TMB Profile, 2014; DPR - ISWM Project (TMB, 2018); KII-3, 2020; KII-4, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> FGD-1, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; KII-3, 2020; KII-4, 2020; Field Observations

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Tinsukia generates an average of 15 MLD of wastewater<sup>10</sup>. Presently, the wastewater/supernatant from households is directly discharged into open grounds/nullahs<sup>10</sup>. Therefore, the variable W4c& W5c is considered 0% in SFD matrix.

#### 4.2 ,On-site Sanitation Systems

*Containment:* Based on sample household surveys, KIIs and FGDs with relevant stakeholders, it was concluded that approximately 99% population of the city is dependent on the On-site Sanitation Systems (OSS)<sup>11</sup>.The containment systems prevalent in the city areseptic tank connected to soak pit (T1A2C5, 3%), septic tank connected to open drain or storm sewer (T1A2C6, 25%), fully lined tank connected to an open

drain or storm sewer (T1A3C6, 70%) and containment failed or damaged connected to an open drain or storm sewer (T1B10C6, 1%).

The general size of on-site containment system varies from 3 cum to 10 cum depending upon the household size, income level, community, etc.<sup>12</sup>The minimum and maximum depth of on-site containment system ranges from 1.8 m to 2.4 m<sup>12</sup>.The STsare mostly two or three chambered with sealed vaults including plastered bottom. However, these septic tanks do

not necessarily adhere to the design specification of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and are usuallybuilt according to the general designs followed by masons and architects<sup>12</sup>.

The containment (fully lined tanks, partially lined tanks and pits, and unlined pits) failed, damaged, collapsed or flooded connected to open drain or storm sewerare more prevalent in slums or in low-income areas<sup>12</sup>.Few households with sufficient open land space have also built soakpitswhich are not confined to one particular locality<sup>12</sup>.

*Community Toilets/Public Toilets*: Under the recent scheme of Swachh Bharat Mission, TMB has constructed 196 individual household toiletsconnected to twin pit latrine within the administrative boundary<sup>13</sup>. There aretwo community toilets (CTs) and seven public toilets (PTs) in the city which have STs connected to open drain or storm sewer<sup>14</sup>. CTs are more prevalent inslums<sup>14</sup>.

The average size of septic tanks in community toilet is  $3.0 \times 1.8 \times 2.1$  m and the average size of septic tanks in public toilet is  $1.8 \times 1.2 \times 2.4$  m which is manually emptied in 2-3 years<sup>14</sup>.



Figure 3: Septic Tank (3-chambered) in Ward no. 9



Figure 4: Septic Tank (3-chambered) in Ward no. 13 (Vikash/CSE/2020)



Figure 5: Community Toilet in Ward no. 13 (Vikash/CSE/2020)



Figure 6: Public Toilet in Ward no. 10 (Vikash/CSE/2020)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>TMB Profile, 2014; DPR - ISWM Project (TMB, 2018); FGD-4, 2020; FGD-5, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; FGD-7, 2020; KII-3, 2020; KII-4, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>FGD-4, 2020; FGD-5, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; FGD-7, 2020; KII-3, 2020; KII-4, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> KII-3, 2020; FGD-1, 2020; FGD-2, 2020; FGD-5, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; FGD-7, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> KII-3, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> KII-3, 2020; FGD-3, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; FGD-7, 2020; Field Observations

Tinsukia was declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) in 2018<sup>15</sup>. However, during field visit, it was observed thatpoor toilet infrastructure or lack of adequate alternative toilet facilities in form of community/public toilets in slum areas (like Mazdoor Colony) can result in behavioural issueand such individuals have no choice other than defecating in open<sup>16</sup>. Also, during rainy season, flooding is prevalent in majority of the slum areas which results in waterlogging, exposing the population to a high risk of contamination<sup>16</sup>.

*Emptying:* The city is dependent onmanually operated emptying services<sup>17</sup>. The emptying isinfrequent and usually carried out at the time of backflow or damaged. However, the emptying frequency varies from 5-10 years (demand based) depending upon the nature and the size of containment system<sup>18</sup>. Manual emptying is carried out by 200 workersand charges are varying from INR 2,000 – 15,000 based on the containment size and service area<sup>18</sup>. These manual emptiers are primarily the habitants of one of the slum, *Harijan Colony*<sup>18</sup>. Around 2-8 workers are involved for one emptying service which iscarried out by using spade and buckets<sup>18</sup>.

*Transportation:* The emptied faecal sludge is transported through drums which requires 50 trips for the emptying of one containment system<sup>19</sup>. The drums have varying capacity of 20 litres to 210 litreseach<sup>19</sup>. The manual emptiers use around 2 drums for each



Figure 7: Manual emptying of septic tank (Vikash/CSE/2020)

emptying service which is being discharged into open ground or open drains as per their convieniencewhich does not attract any public attention<sup>19</sup>.As a consequence, there is considerable public health hazard in the neighbourhood.

The open drains carrying faecal sludgeis conveyed into big drains/nullahs which ultimately ends up inRiverDibru (on the north) and River Tingrai (on the south)<sup>20</sup>. Also, some of the drains overflow into open grounds, ponds or are stagnant, owing to blockage or encroachment<sup>20</sup>.Therefore, variable F4 & S4e is considered 0% in SFD matrix.

*Treatment/Disposal:*Tinsukia Municipal Board has no designated site and treatment facility for the disposal and treatment of Faecal Sludge<sup>21</sup>. Therefore in the absence of such provision, the manual emptier discharge the faecal sludge in open ground, nullahs etc. Since there is no proper treatment of emptied faecal sludge, F5& S5e is considered 0% in SFD matrix.



Figure 8: Faecal sludge discharged into open drains (Vikash/CSE/2020)

<sup>17</sup>KII-2, 2020; KII-3, 2020; FGD-1, 2020; FGD-3, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; FGD-7, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>18</sup>KII-4, 2020; FGD-1, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; FGD-7, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> KII-2, 2020; KII-3, 2020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> FGD-6, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>FGD-1, 2020; FGD-6, 2020; FGD-7, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>DPR – ISWM Project (TMB, 2018); KII-3, 2020; FGD-1, 2020; Field Observations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>KII-2, 2020; KII-3, 2020; KII-4, 2020; FGD-1, 2020; Field Observations

## 5 Data and assumptions

Census 2011 was considered as the baseline and the data for all the stages of sanitation chain were updated based on the data collected from field through KII, FGDs, observations and secondary data collected from relevant stakeholders. Following assumptions were made for developing the SFD for Tinsukia.

- 50% of the contents of Septic tanks and Fully lined tank is Faecal sludge
- Volume of wastewater generated is 80% of water supplied
- Effective population is calculated on the basis of KII with relavant stakeholders
- Proportion of OSS emptied is considered as 30% based on the average no. of households emptied on annual basis divided by total no. of households while considering 3 years ofmiumum required emptying process



## 6 Contextadapted SFD Graphic

Figure 9: Context adapted SFD Graphic for Tinsukia

The only difference suggested in the context adapted SFD Graphic is at containment stage for correctly designed septic tanks, though connected to open drains. With an earlier assumption of 50% of the proportion of the content of the septic tank which is solid FS, generated and collected inside the septic tanks. 50% of the content is supernatant which attributes to be 48% of the population flows through open drains hence, not contained. The solid FS collected in the septic tank is considered to be contained and hence 16% of FS is contained (represented green in colour at containment stage). Followed by this, 4% FS contained is emptied, remaining 11% is FS remains in the tank which is contained and never emptied. The supernatant generated from the septic tank connected to open drain is not contained and hence considered to be unsafely managed (represented red in colour). Overall, excreta of 89% population is not managed according to the context adapted SFD.

## 7 List of data sources

#### **Reports and literature**

- Household amenities and assets table HH-08: Percentage of households by availability of the type of latrine facility <a href="https://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/Hlo-series/HH08.html">https://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/Hlo-series/HH08.html</a>
- Tinsukia Municipal Board Profile, 2014
- Tinsukia Slum Profile, 2012
- DPR Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) Project (TMB, 2018)
- TMB data, 2019

#### Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

- KII-1, 2020; Interview with Mr Prasanta Kr Gogoi, Former Executive Officer; TMB
- KII-2, 2020; Interview with MrNabjyoti Das, Junior Engineer; TMB
- KII-3, 2020; Interview with MrNitumaniPatowary, City Project Officer; TMB
- KII-4, 2020; Interview with Dr Sanjay K Gupta, Director; Care North East Foundation (NGO) and Project In-charge; ISWM Project of TMB

#### Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

- FGD-1, 2020; Focus Group Discussion with Manual Scavengers
- FGD-2, 2020; Focus Group Discussion with Mason
- FGD-3, 2020; Focus Group Discussion with maintenance staff of public toilets
- FGD-4, 2020; Focus Group Discussion with Plumbers
- FGD-5, 2020; Focus Group Discussion with Architects & Engineers
- FGD-6, 2020; Focus Group Discussion with Random HHs in Slum Areas
- FGD-7, 2020; Focus Group Discussion with Random HHs in Municipal area

#### **Field Observations**

- Survey of public toilet (5nos) and community toilet (2 nos)
- Visit to approximate 70 households covering Lower Income Groups (LIG), Middle Income Groups (MIG) and Higher Income Groups (HIG) spread throughout the city

Tinsukia, India, 2020

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