

Modi launches missions for better cities

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the second phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation would be aimed at making cities free of garbage and ensuring safe drinking water. It would also be ensured that no untreated water was discharged into any of the rivers in the country.

Launching the second edition of the mission, he applauded the country for fulfilling the pledge of making it free of open defecation.

Mr. Modi said that people came to cities seeking a better life. Even if they managed to find employment, their living standards often suffered. It was a double whammy for workers: first they were away from their homes and then they were forced to live in deplorable conditions, he stated, adding that the missions would improve cities.

India was processing about one lakh tonnes of waste every day. Under the new phases of the two missions, the garbage mountains that pile up at the borders of cities would be processed and completely removed, the Prime Minister said.