



Essay on Saubhagya Yojana

Key Points

1. Introduction

- 1) Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – ‘**Saubhagya**’ a new scheme was launched by the Hon’ble Prime Minister on 25th September, 2017 (birth centenary celebration of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya).
- 2) Aim is to provide free electricity connections to all households (both APL and poor families) in rural areas and poor families in urban areas by December 2018.
- 3) There are around 4 Crore un-electrified households in the country.
- 4) Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has been designated as nodal agency for the Saubhagya scheme. Ministry of Power would be the implementing authority of the scheme.

2. Body

- 1) The **total outlay of the project is Rs. 16, 320 crore.**
- 2) The beneficiaries for free electricity connections would be identified using Socio Economic and Caste Census (**SECC**) **2011** data.
- 3) Providing Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) based standalone system for un-electrified households located in remote and inaccessible villages / habitations.
- 4) Scheme aims to achieve **24x7** power for all by **2019** by providing electricity connection to each household across the country. Scheme will provide subsidy on equipment such as transformers, wires and meters – Benefits to Power Distribution Companies.
- 5) Electricity will provide access to various benefits like – information, education, healthcare, entertainment, improved agriculture techniques, fabrication workshops, Improved quality of life especially for women etc.
- 6) Implementation of scheme itself would result into **employment generation** in view of the requirement of semi-skilled / skilled manpower.

- 7) It will help to meet India's **global climate change commitments** as electricity will substitute kerosene for lighting purposes.

3. Conclusion

- 1) For easy & accelerated implementation of the Scheme got should regularly monitor its progress.
- 2) Only beneficiaries should get connection without any corruption.
- 3) DISCOMs should work efficiently to fulfill this dream. State Govts and UTs should work unitedly.
- 4) It is a major step towards clean energy and sustainable development.

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