

# SAUBHAGYA SCHEME - Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana

Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – ‘Saubhagya’ a new scheme was launched by the Hon’ble Prime Minister on 25th September, 2017.

Under Saubhagya Scheme free electricity connections to all households (both APL and poor families) in rural areas and poor families in urban areas will be provided. There are around 4 Crore un-electrified households in the country and they are targeted for providing electricity connections by December 2018.

**Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)** has been designated as nodal agency for the Saubhagya scheme.

The **total outlay of the project is Rs. 16, 320 crore** while the Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) is Rs. 12,320 crore.

## Scope of the Saubhagya Scheme:

Providing last mile connectivity and electricity connections to all un-electrified households in rural areas.

Providing Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) based standalone system for un-electrified households located in remote and inaccessible villages / habitations, where grid extension is not feasible or cost effective.

The prospective beneficiary households for free electricity connections under the scheme would be identified using SECC 2011 data. However, **un-electrified households not covered under SECC data would also be provided electricity connections under the scheme on payment of Rs. 500 which shall be recovered by DISCOMs in 10 instalments through electricity bill.**

In case of un-electrified households located in remote and inaccessible areas, **power packs of 200 to 300 Wp(with battery bank) with a maximum of 5 LED lights, 1 DC Fan, 1 DC power plug etc. may be provided along with provision of Repair and Maintenance (R&M) for 5 years.**

## **Maximum Grant by GOI (including additional grant on achievement of prescribed milestones)**

- Special Category States: 90%
- Other than Special Category States: 75%

## **Award Scheme under Saubhagya Scheme**

Minister of State for Power and Renewable Energy RK Singh on October 15, 2018 launched an award scheme under the umbrella Saubhagya Scheme, also known as Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana.

**The Saubhagya award scheme will felicitate the power distribution companies (DISCOMs) and Power Department of the States and their employees for achieving 100 percent household electrification.**

Eight States which have already achieved more than 99 percent household electrification prior to launch of Saubhagya scheme are ineligible for participation under the award scheme. These eight states are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab and Tamil Nadu.

**Award will be given in three categories. These categories are:**

- (i) DISCOMs / Power Departments of Special Category States (Seven North Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K and Uttarakhand)
- (ii) DISCOMs / Power Departments of Non-Special Category States having more than 5 Lakh un-electrified households (Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telengana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal)
- (iii) DISCOMs / Power Departments of other than Special Category States having less than 5 Lakh un-electrified households

**Two quantum of award**

**There will be two quantum of award in each of the three categories.**

Under first quantum of award, **the 1st DISCOM or Power Department that achieves 100 percent household electrification by November 30, 2018** would be provided **cash award of Rs 50 Lakh**.

The Principal Secretary (Power) of the State will distribute this cash prize amongst employees of the concerned DISCOM / Power Department.

From this amount, **Rs. 20 Lakh will be given to the division of DISCOM/Power Department with highest number of households electrified.**

Certificate of appreciation would be given to five officials of concerned DISCOM of any level from managing Director to Lineman.

**The second quantum of award includes cash award of Rs 100 crore as grant to the concerned DISCOM to be spent in distribution infrastructure development in their area of operation.**

**Other DISCOMs or Power Department of the States that achieves 100 percent household electrification by December 31, 2018** would be provided certificate of appreciation for five officials of any level from Managing Director to Lineman.

**DISCOM:** Distribution Companies of India (Electric)