

## Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana- Saubhagya Scheme

With an aim to provide last mile electrical connectivity and ensure electrification of all the willing rural and urban households, the Prime Minister launched Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana, also known as Saubhagya Scheme. The funds will be provided largely by the central government to all the States and Union Territories. This topic comes under the Government Welfare scheme section of the General Studies Paper-II in the [UPSC Syllabus](#) for IAS Exam and other government Exams.

### Saubhagya Scheme

It mandates the states and union territories to complete all household electrification. The scheme is in line with the Government's agenda to provide 24/7 power for all by 2019.

- Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) of 2011 will be used as the basis to determine the beneficiaries for free electricity connections. The other un-electrified households are required to bear a charge of Rs. 500 in order to get an electricity connection, which the electricity distribution companies of India (DISCOMS) would recover in 10 instalments as a part of their electricity bill.
- The nodal agency for implementation of the scheme across the country would be the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC).
- Transformers, meters, wires and other such types of equipment will be made available at subsidized prices.
- For rural households without electricity in remote and inaccessible areas, solar power packs of 200Wp-300Wp with battery banks will be provided. The same would be repaired and maintained for 5 years from the date of installation. It will consist of a DC power plug, DC fan and five LED lights.
- A mobile application would be used for the survey of households. It provides for on-spot registration of identified beneficiaries by obtaining their application for electricity connection with identity proof and photograph.
- The Gram Panchayats or Public Institutions in rural areas are required to take care of the application process and documentation. They shall, in consultation with Panchayat Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies be authorized to distribute bills and collect revenue.

Also read **Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY)**, [click here](#).

### Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana Objectives

The scheme aims to fulfil the following goals and objectives:

- Reduced environmental degradation by ruling out the use of Kerosene for lighting purposes.
- Improved educational services.
- Improved health services.
- Improvement in communication.
- Improvement in public safety and quality of life, primarily for women.
- Increased employment opportunities.
- Increased economic activity.

## UPSC questions related to Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana - Saubhagya Scheme

### What is Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY)?

- The Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana is an Indian government scheme intending to provide **uninterrupted power supply to the rural parts of India**. The scheme shortened to DDUGJY is christened in **honour of political thinker Deen Dayal Upadhyaya**. As part of this scheme, the GOI plans an investment of Rs.756 billion for electrification of rural regions.

To read more about [DDUGJY](#), click on the link.

### Why are Sustainable Energy sources important for the country?

- Sustainable and renewable energy sources are a crucial strategic national resource. Creating environment-friendly development programmes is one of the most challenging tasks.
- Harnessing sustainable energy resources becomes important while planning for energy programmes.
- And hence, meeting the nation's energy requirements is high on the agenda of any government.
- Renewable energy sources contribute to a nation's sustainable growth trajectory, in addition to protecting the environment, promoting investment and conserving ecology.

A detailed discussion can be found in [YOJANA Magazine: May 2019](#).

### Related links:

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