

Bihar's scheme on providing water connections to all households

Summary:

The Bihar State Government has introduced **Mukhyamantri Shahri Peyjal Nishchay Yojana** under **Ghar Nal Ka Jal'** scheme to provide clean and safe drinking water to all households in urban areas with water pipeline connection by 2019-20. Under this Scheme, it is targeted to remove all the handpumps, on which the urban people depend for their water needs. It is roughly estimated that around 1.95 lakh households would benefit under this programme.

Objective and rationale:

To provide potable water facilities to rural and urban areas along with community participation.

Key stakeholders:

The Panchayati Raj Department, The Public Health Engineering Department in the rural areas, The Urban Development and Housing Department in the urban areas - Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad (BRJP), Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation (BUIDCO), Public Health Engineering Department (PHED).

Implementation strategy:

To fulfil these goals, the state government has launched three schemes, of which two are meant for rural areas and the third one for the urban area. In the rural areas, two of these schemes, Mukhyamantri Gramin Peyjal Nishchay Yojana (Quality Affected Areas) and Mukhyamantri Gramin Peyjal Nishchay Yojana (Non-quality Affected Areas) are being implemented, the first one covering those areas where the quality of water is infected by arsenic, fluoride or iron and the other covering non-quality affected areas. The scheme is being implemented through Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad (BRJP), Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation (BUIDCO), Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) and Urban Local Bodies. All projects have been allotted the funds as per following norms: 30 percent of the total fund required would come from the Fifth State Finance Commission, 2.30 percent of the fund required would come from the Fourteenth Central Finance Commission, and the rest of the funds would be provided from the State plan head. Funds have also been raised through the convergence with AMRUT scheme and bi-lateral agency. A snapshot of funding strategy is shown here.

Funding Strategy

- 99,079 HH in 32 towns under State Plan being executed by BRJP
- 6,05,148 HH in 21 towns under AMRUT being executed by BRJP
- 1,44,504 HH in 2 ADB schemes and 3 JnNURM Schemes being executed by BUIDCO
- 7,22,912 HH in 116 ULBs under Nishchay Yojana being executed by ULBs

In the FY 2019-20, it is observed that work has been started in 2,034 wards out of 3340 wards and 3 lakhs households have been provided with potable water supply.

In order to provide clean and safe drinking water to all households in rural areas through community participation, the State Government introduced **Mukhyamantri Gramin Peyjal Nishchay Yojana**. The scheme is being implemented by the Panchayati Raj Department. This scheme is being implemented in phase wise by taking up small and micro water supply schemes. The requirement of water will be fulfilled through boring, submersible pumps and distribution pipelines. The cost of water supply works will be met by convergence of funds available on the recommendation of the 14th Finance Commission and 5th state finance commission and the state plan fund.

Resource utilization:

The State planned projects by taking up projects in complementary areas using complementary funding sources/schemes. This approach ensured that the State achieves larger geographical coverage of water supply projects.

Impact:

In the FY 2019-20, total 26.39 lakh households have been provided with potable safe & drinking water facilities out of 71.16 lakh households and out of 58,612 rural wards, work is under progress in 35,775 rural wards and has been completed in 28,665 rural wards.

Furthermore, Public Health Engineering Department is also mandated to provide potable safe & drinking water facilities to 3814 Fluoride affected rural wards, 5,085 Arsenic affected rural wards, 21,598 Iron affected rural wards and 25,582 non quality affected wards respectively under the **Mukhyamantri Gramin Peyjal Nishchay Yojan** in quality affected area across the State.

Key challenges and Lesson learnt:

Alignment of State government schemes helps expand coverage to areas beyond the scope of AMRUT scheme.

Replicability and sustainability:

The approach taken by Bihar state government is being replicated by other States as well (Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, etc). It requires robust planning of coverage of the identified projects- this requires coordination at the State-level among the various agencies. The SLNAs take up this role of coordination and ensuring complementary nature of projects or the convergence of funding.

With this approach of complementary coverage and convergence in funding, the governments can aim to reach out to a larger population. Since the Central government cannot fund all the projects, this approach will help in a sustainable strategy to providing basic services to more citizens.

Fact Sheet:

Thematic area	Convergence with State government schemes
First-year of the program	2016
Responsible institution	Bihar Rajya Jal Parishad (BRJP), Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation (BUIDCO), Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) and Urban Local Bodies
Target audience	All ULBs
Coverage	Bihar, India

Source: <https://www.adriindia.org/images/report/1549963202Economic-Survey-2019-EN.pdf>,
<https://www.bvm.bihar.gov.in/nishchay/content/OFZZNXFGZSsvV3pkNmRha2ZzZ3hvUT09>,
<https://www.bvm.bihar.gov.in/content/3751/drinkingwatersanitationruralandurbandevlopment>