



7 Years of UJALA Scheme

Why in News

Recently, the **Ministry of Power** has successfully completed seven years of distributing and selling LED lights under its flagship **UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All) programme**.

- The initiative **evolved into the world's largest zero subsidy domestic lighting programme** with more than 36.78 crore LEDs distributed across the country.

Key Points

▪ About:

- **Launched in 2015** and initially labeled as the **LED-based Domestic Efficient Lighting Programme (DELP)**, it aims **to promote the efficient usage of energy for all** i.e., its consumption, savings and lighting.
- **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**, a government company under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power, has been designated as the **implementing agency** for this programme.
- **Every domestic household having a metered connection** from their respective Electricity Distribution Company is eligible to get the LED bulbs under the Scheme.

▪ Achievements:

- UJALA **succeeded in bringing down the retail price of LED (Light-Emitting Diode) bulbs** from INR 300-350 per bulb to INR 70-80 per bulb.
- Apart from **making affordable energy accessible to all**, the programme also resulted in **massive energy savings**. As of today, 47,778 Million kWh per annum energy has been saved.
- Further, there has been 3,86 crore tonnes of reduction in CO2 emissions.
- It provides **an impetus to the domestic lighting industry**. It encourages Make in India as domestic manufacturing of LED bulbs has increased from 1 lakh per month to 40 million per month.

Other Initiatives Related to Energy Efficiency/Conservation

- **Gram Ujala**: Under the initiative, LED bulbs will be distributed at a highly subsidised rate at Rs. 10 across 2,579 villages in five states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka.
- **Perform Achieve and Trade Scheme (PAT)**: It is a market based mechanism to enhance the cost effectiveness in improving the Energy Efficiency in Energy Intensive industries through certification of energy saving which can be traded.
- **Standards and Labeling**: The scheme was launched in 2006 and is currently invoked for equipment/appliances.
- **Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC)**: It was developed for new commercial buildings in 2007.
- **Street Lighting National Programme**: EESL replaces the conventional street lights with LEDs at its own costs.

Source: PIB

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