

Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY)

June 24, 2019

The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY), the sub-scheme under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) to facilitate transport facilities in the rural areas and also provide job opportunities to members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) under DAY-NRLM.

The scheme was launched in August, 2017.

AGEY has the following two objectives:

- **To provide safe, affordable and community monitored rural transport services to connect remote villages with key services and amenities** (including access to markets, education and health) for the overall economic development of the area by making use of the supports available within the framework of DAY-NRLM.
- **To provide an alternative source of livelihoods to members of Self Help Groups (SHGs)** and their families under DAY-NRLM by facilitating them to operate public transport services in backward rural areas, as identified by the States.

The scheme is currently being implemented in **18 States and 624 vehicles** are operational under the scheme as on 30th November, 2018.

AGEY was to be implemented in **250 blocks across the country** on a pilot basis. Rajasthan was allocated 9 blocks under AGEY. The responsibility of identifying the blocks lies with the State government.

There is no separate budgetary allocation under AGEY. Under

the programme, the Community Investment Fund (CIF) provided to Community Based Organisations (CBOs) under the existing provisions of DAY-NRLM are utilised for providing interest free loans to the SHG members.

AGEY is already under implementation in 18 States.

AGEY aims to provide connectivity to rural areas through vehicles operated by SHG members. State Rural Livelihoods Missions (SRLMs) in consultation with Community Based Organisations (CBOs) under DAY – NRLM identify routes where roads have been constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) but has poor transport services. SHG members are then provided interest free loans by the CBOs for operating vehicles on the identified routes based on financial viability.