

# Ujala program

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**In news:** Recently, the Prime Minister of India, while addressing the World Sustainable Development summit highlighted the Ujala program of Government of India

## **A brief note on Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA)**

**Launch:** The Government of India's zero subsidy Ujala program was launched by the Prime Minister on January 5, 2015. It aims to provide LED bulbs to domestic consumers with a target to replace 770 million incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs by March, 2019.

**Ministry:** Ministry of Power

**Aim:** To promote efficient lighting, enhance awareness on using efficient equipment which reduces electricity bills and helps to preserve the environment.

## **Objectives of the National Programme**

The programme is designed to reduce energy consumption in the lighting sector and to promote LED based efficient lighting products. The key objectives of the programmes are as follows:

- Reduce energy consumption in lighting which helps DISCOMs to manage peak demand
- Promote the use of the most efficient lighting technology at affordable rates to domestic consumers which benefits them by way of reduced energy bill
- Enhance the awareness of consumers about the efficacy of using efficient appliances which in turn could change their buying preferences from low first cost based purchases to lifecycle cost.
- Increase the demand of LED lights by aggregating

- requirements across the country and provide an impetus to domestic lighting industry through economies of size.
- Encourage and support domestic manufacturing of LED bulbs by sustaining demand making it consistent with the 'Make in India' policy of the Government.
  - Provide a sustainable service model that obviates the need for upfront capital investment as well as additional revenue expenditure to pay for procurement of LED lights.
  - Provide a base model which can not only be replicated in lighting energy efficiency but also in host of other energy using appliances in domestic and other sectors.
  - Create robust arrangements for monitoring and verification of energy savings in a simple and transparent manner.
  - Create an enabling environment for private sector investments in the lighting sector

## **Over all targets**

### UJALA LED bulbs

- Overall target of number of LED lights to be replaced in 3 years – 770 million
- Expected annual energy savings – 105 bn KWh
- Expected reduction of peak load – 20,000 MW
- Annual estimated greenhouse gas emission reductions – 79 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>

## **Eligibility of acquiring LED Bulbs**

Every grid-connected consumer having a metered connection from their respective Electricity Distribution Company can get the LED bulbs at about 40% of the market price under the UJALA Scheme. Consumers also have the option of paying for the LEDs in equated monthly instalments.

## **Why does the scheme promote LEDs?**

Under the scheme, 20W LED tube lights and BEE 5-star rated energy efficient fans are also distributed to the consumers. The 20W LED tube lights are 50% more energy efficient than conventional 40W tube lights and are available for Rs. 220/- per tube, as against the market price of Rs. 400-600. The energy efficient fans under the UJALA scheme come with a BEE 5 Star rating. These ceiling fans are rated 30% more energy efficient than conventional fans and are priced at Rs. 1200/- per fan.

### **Implementation**

The Electricity Distribution Company and Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) a public sector body of Government of India are implementing the programme.