

LIGHTING LIVES



INDIA'S JOURNEY
TOWARDS 100%
HOUSEHOLD
ELECTRIFICATION





SAUBHAGYA

प्रधानमंत्री सहज बिजली हर घर योजना

SAUBHAGYA

The Gift of Light



From the ramparts of the Red Fort, I announced that every village will be electrified. We walked the talk and went to every village. We not only focused on electrification but also reformed the distribution systems across the country.

Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

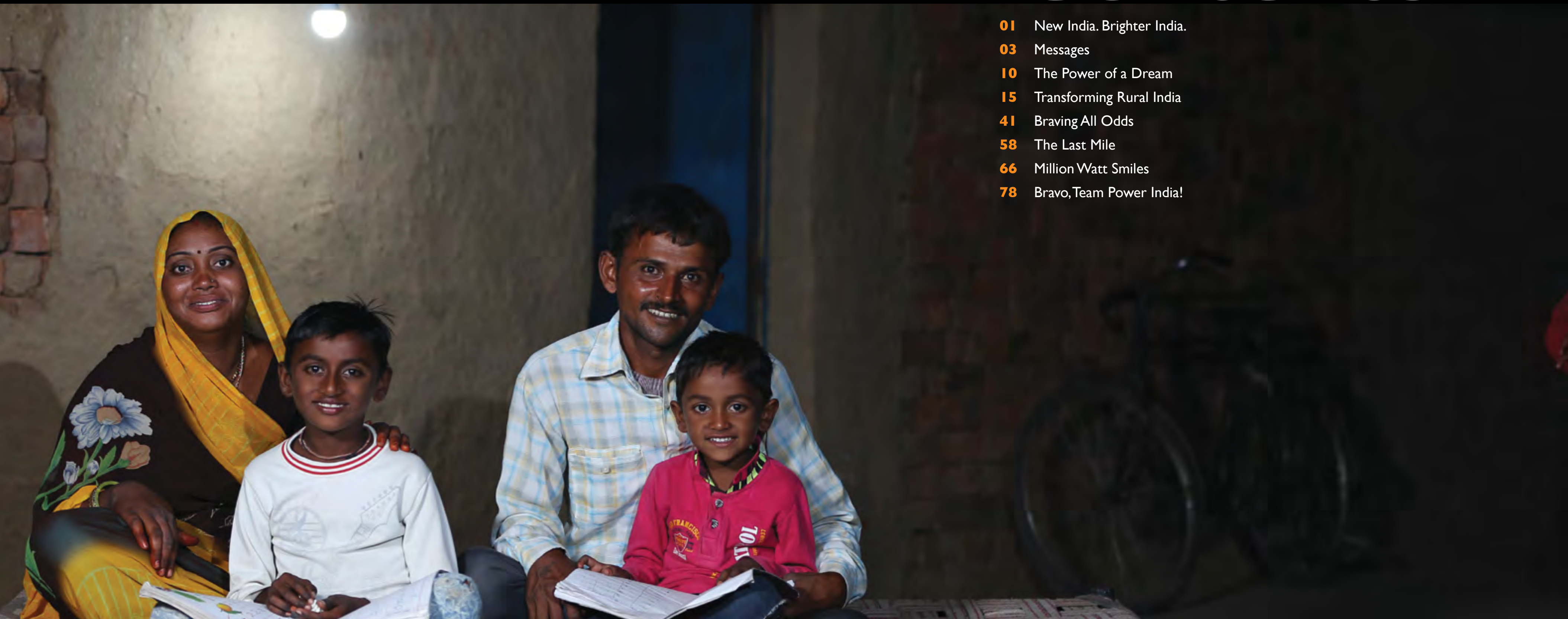


18 July 2018



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New India. Brighter India.

This is the story of a nation's journey. A journey that transformed the lives of millions of Indians and realised their aspirations. The saga of how a challenge of epic proportions was achieved by a nation in just a few months – bringing to life the world's largest household electrification drive.

Electricity access to all remaining inhabited census villages was ensured by 28 April 2018 under 'Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana' (DDUGJY). While completing the daunting task of village electrification, parallelly Government of India converged its focus on Universal Household Electrification through electrification of all households in the country. The Hon'ble Prime Minister launched the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – 'Saubhagya' scheme, whereby calling upon all stakeholders to channelise their energies towards electrification of each and every household in the country, within a challenging timeframe of 18 months.

The daunting task drew to a fruitful completion on 31 March 2019, recording yet another remarkable milestone. The passion, determination, relentless toil, grit, and resolution of all stakeholders made the unthinkable possible – 2.63 crore Indian households were electrified within a record of 18 months' time.

The ensuing pages present an engaging visual narrative of what Saubhagya scheme has been; a blessing, indeed. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every individual and institution involved in this mission, for adding glory to this remarkable journey towards Universal Electrification.



R K Singh
Minister of State
(Independent Charge) for Power,
New & Renewable Energy,
Govt. of India



Electricity has become the basic requirement for all human needs. With the advancements in technology, electricity is indispensable in today's modern world. The Government of India is committed to improving the quality of life of its citizens by providing electricity to each and every household in the country.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – 'Saubhagya' to achieve Universal Household Electrification in both rural and urban areas of the country.

The Saubhagya scheme is one of the largest household electrification drives across the globe. It has played a significant role in shaping a better future for India's citizens.

The herculean task of electrifying each and every household was fulfilled thanks to the dedication and commitment of the entire 'Team Power India', who, along with the cooperation and collaboration of State Governments, achieved this objective in record time, resulting in the electrification of 2.63 crore households in the country.

This publication highlights the journey of the Saubhagya scheme and stands testimony to not only our commitment towards national development, but also to the fulfillment of the faith and hopes of millions of people.





The year 2019 has been a landmark year in the power sector as more than 2.63 crore households were provided electricity connections in a record time of 18 months. We owe it to the people of India and to the resolve of the Hon'ble Prime Minister for achieving Universal Household Electrification in the country through the launch of the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – Saubhagya.

Electricity is the backbone of the country's economy and a propeller for its overall development. The success of 'Saubhagya' was only possible through a creative approach as well as usage of non-conventional solutions and concerted efforts of all stakeholders.

I convey my best wishes and appreciation to every member of the State DISCOM and REC. I hope that this publication throws light on the journey of providing electricity to millions of people living in every nook and corner of this vast country.



Sanjiv N Sahai
Secretary,
Govt. of India
Ministry of Power



The Saubhagya scheme was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to achieve the objective of Universal Household Electrification in the country. This scheme envisages an upliftment in the lives of millions of households, by connecting them with the country's electrical infrastructure, and the nation's growth story – ushering in a new era of opportunity, development, prosperity, and happiness.

REC Limited has been the Nodal Agency for the Saubhagya Scheme. The mammoth task of electrifying every household located in even the most inaccessible areas was accomplished in a record timeframe of 18 months, with the support and concerted efforts of the Government of India, the State Governments, the Power Utilities, and other stakeholders.

I convey my best wishes and appreciation to every member of the State DISCOMs and acknowledge the guidance of the Ministry of Power, and the faith bestowed on 'Team Power India' by our Hon'ble Prime Minister that kept us motivated throughout this journey.

From darkness to light, our motto for sustainable development has come true.



S K Gupta
Chairman & Managing Director
REC Limited

“
To succeed in your mission, you must
have single-minded devotion to your goal.
Dr.A P J Abdul Kalam
”



The Power of a Dream





Installation of distribution transformer, Bihar



Transformer mobilisation, Jammu & Kashmir

Electrification opens up a world of opportunities. It empowers citizens, transforming their quality of lives like never before. Extended working hours for small and emerging businesses; empowered learning opportunities for children across geographic zones; and enhanced security solutions for communities in both urban and rural areas – among host of other unprecedented possibilities, electrification brings with it renewed hope for a brighter, more sustainable future.

It is worth underlining how the power of electrification catapults growth and boosts a nation's holistic development. Nearly 70 years post India's Independence, 28 April 2018 will remain historic in the nation's timeline, thanks to the achievement of a new milestone: every

inhabited census village in the country is today power-ready and enabled with access to electricity.

The newly launched scheme SAUBHAGYA, driven by the relentless efforts of Team Power India, took the dream to the length and breadth of the country. Absolute transparency of processes, stakeholder accountability, and manpower empowerment from ground up ensured coverage of inaccessible areas.

Supply-chain process efficiencies and support from all corners of the Government machinery, including the Indian Railways and Air Transport services, extended Team Power India's reach right to the remotest corners and far-flung geographies.



Transformer in Mizoram



Transformer erection in Uttar Pradesh

A photograph of a woman and a young child in a rural Indian setting at night. The woman, wearing a blue sari with a red border and a red headscarf, is sitting and smiling. The child, wearing a yellow shirt, is sitting in front of her, looking towards the camera. To the left, there is a purple metal structure with a television set on top. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The text "Transforming Rural India" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Transforming Rural India



Over hills and fields: electrical infrastructure finds its way to the hinterlands of Assam

Stronger Systems

Future load demands were accommodated in the system network design and planning, in order to ensure continuous and quality power supply. The power system network was strengthened with the creation of new sub-stations and augmentation of existing sub-stations' capacities.



Winding through hills and rocky terrains, Odisha



Substation in Nagaland

Greater Transparency
Greater Accountability

An all-new milestone-based reporting mechanism was devised. The entire process of village electrification was divided into 12 categories. The end-to-end process was monitored and captured – covering Award of work, Survey, Material procurement, Erection, Commissioning, Energisation, et al. Rigorous use of Project Management Techniques were adopted to ensure project completion on time.

Milestones

M1	Awarded
M2	Receipt of poles in the village and enroute to villages for 11KV & LT Line
M3	Erection of poles for 11KV line & DTR substation and earthing
M4	Erection of poles for LT Line
M5	Receipt of line material, including conductor and cable
M6	Conductor Stringing of 11KV Line
M7	Conductor/Cable Stringing of LT Line
M8	Receipt of distribution transformer substation at site
M9	Erection of distribution transformer substation equipment (DTR, LTDB, LA, AB switch, cables meter, fuse, earthing)
M10	Completion of electrification works in village, including BPL service connections
M11	Energisation of village, including BPL service connections
M12	Handing over villages



Gram Vidyut Abhiyantas: our foot soldiers

Our Foot Soldiers

More than 350 Engineers viz., Gram Vidyut Abhiyantas (GVAs) were deployed at Block/District level to assist States/DISCOMs in monitoring and the expeditious implementation of projects. Battling the toughest challenges, including terrain and weather, the team captured the entire progress on mobile tablets, uploading photographs on real-time basis.





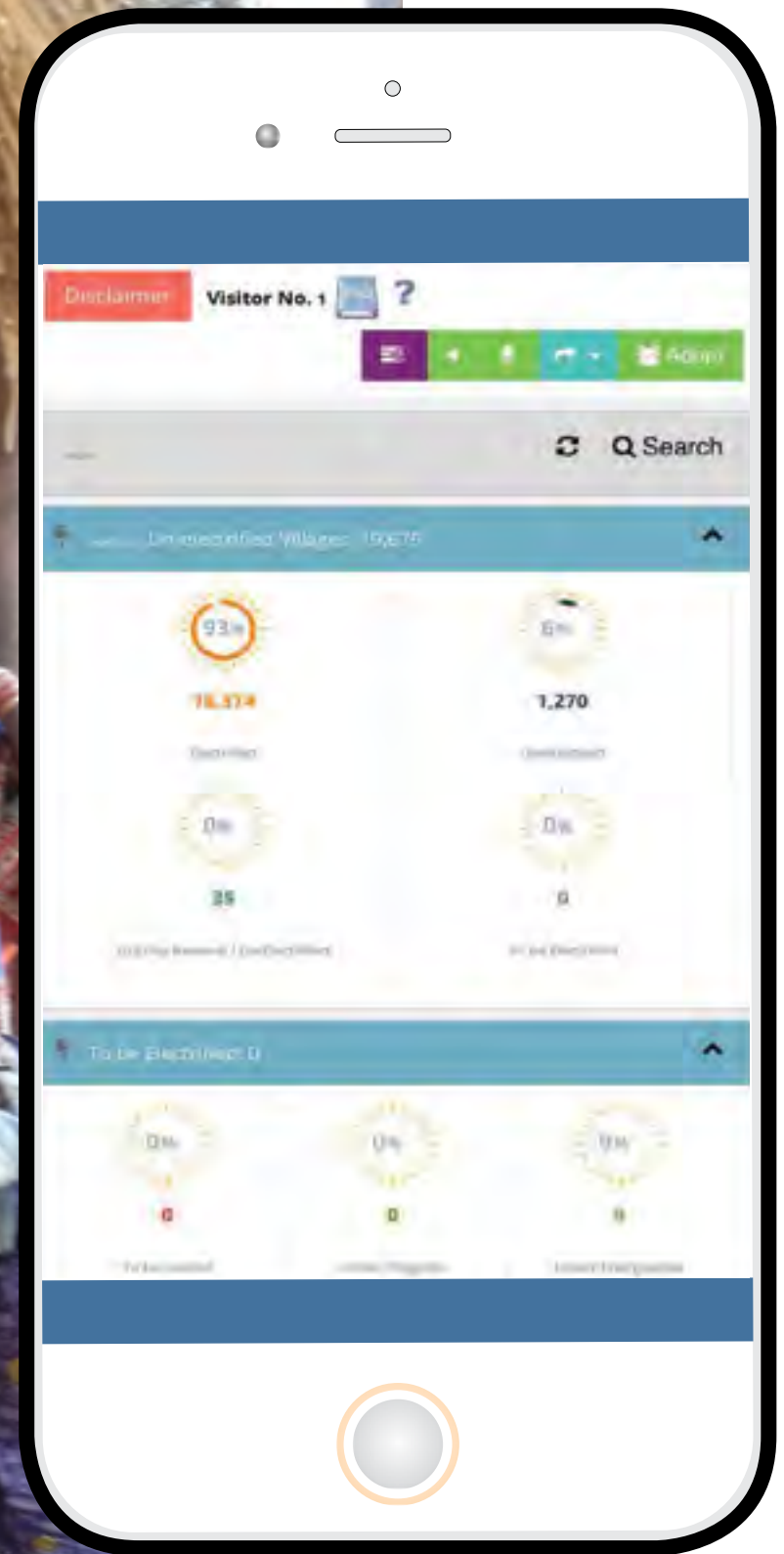
Innovation On The Go

In circumstances where the solutions were not techno-economically viable due to scattered households, stand-alone Solar PV-based systems were installed.



GARV

GARV, an exclusive web-enabled portal (garv.gov.in) and mobile application was launched by the Power Ministry to monitor the entire process of village electrification on a real-time basis. All stakeholders and beneficiaries could track real-time data and progress updates.



A Vision come true

Villages Transformed

The Honourable Prime Minister of India pledges in his Independence Day address a vision to bring light to all un-electrified villages across India in 1000 days.



Monthly
Milestones



India's move to energise every village in the country with electricity is one of the greatest success stories in the world in 2018.

International Energy Agency (IEA), 2018



The launch of the Saubhagya scheme: 25 September 2017



Maharashtra

Launching Saubhagya

- With the objective of achieving Universal Household Electrification in the country, through last mile connectivity and electricity connections to all un-electrified households in rural areas and poor households in urban areas.
- Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) based standalone systems for un-electrified households located in remote and inaccessible areas.



Uttar Pradesh



Assam

One Team. One Dream.

Seamless coordination and cooperation between the Government of India, State Governments, DISCOMs, REC, Implementing Agencies, and the on-ground workforce ensured the timely achievement of targets.





Strategy Formulation

Review meetings and National workshops were conducted to deliberate on the strategies to be adopted to achieve Universal Household Electrification in the country within the stipulated timeline.

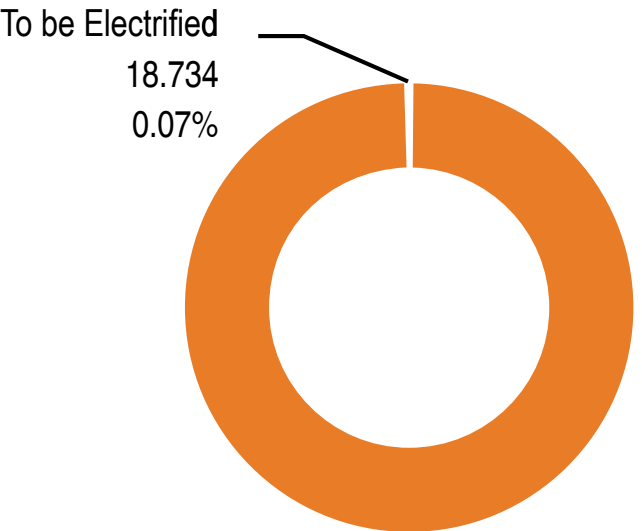


Rural Household

Household Electrification Status
(as on 31 March 2019)
Total Households: 21,44,91,777

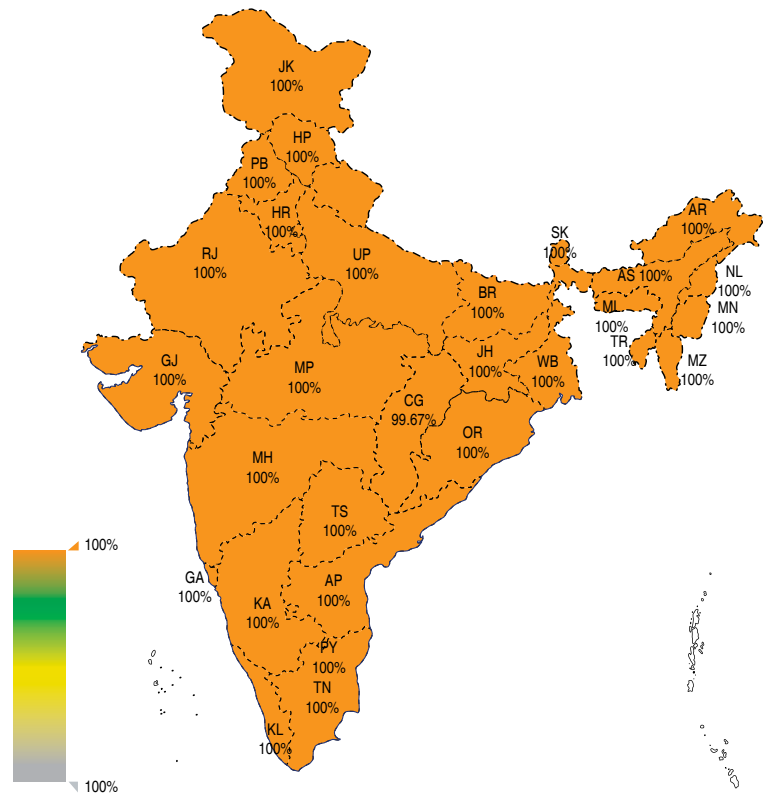


Household Progress from 31 March 2019
Household Electrified: 2,62,84,350



Household electrification level All India

Electrification Status (%)

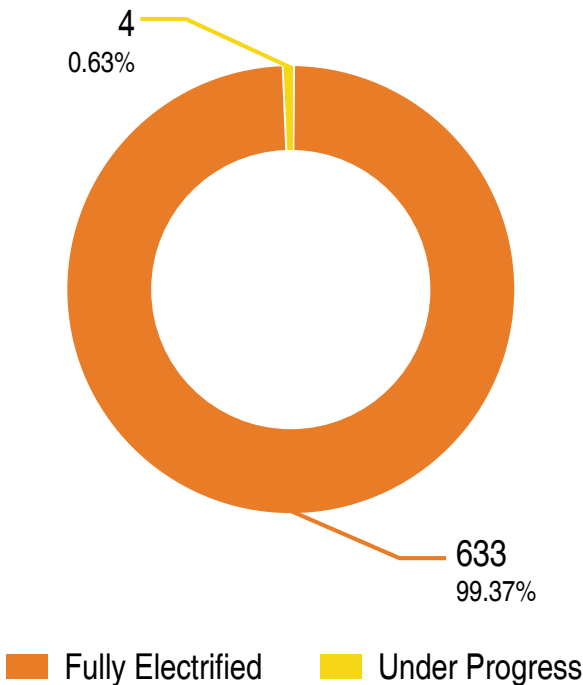


The Saubhagya Portal
A dedicated Mobile App and web-portal (saubhagya.gov.in) was developed to monitor the progress of Household Electrification across the country.

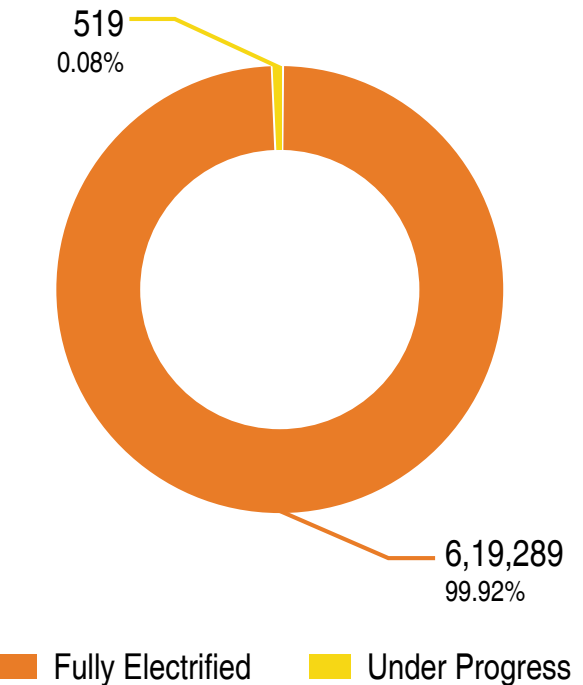
* Across Chhattisgarh, all households except 18,734 in LWE areas, were electrified.

Household Electrification Status (as reported by States)

District Saturated in Electrification

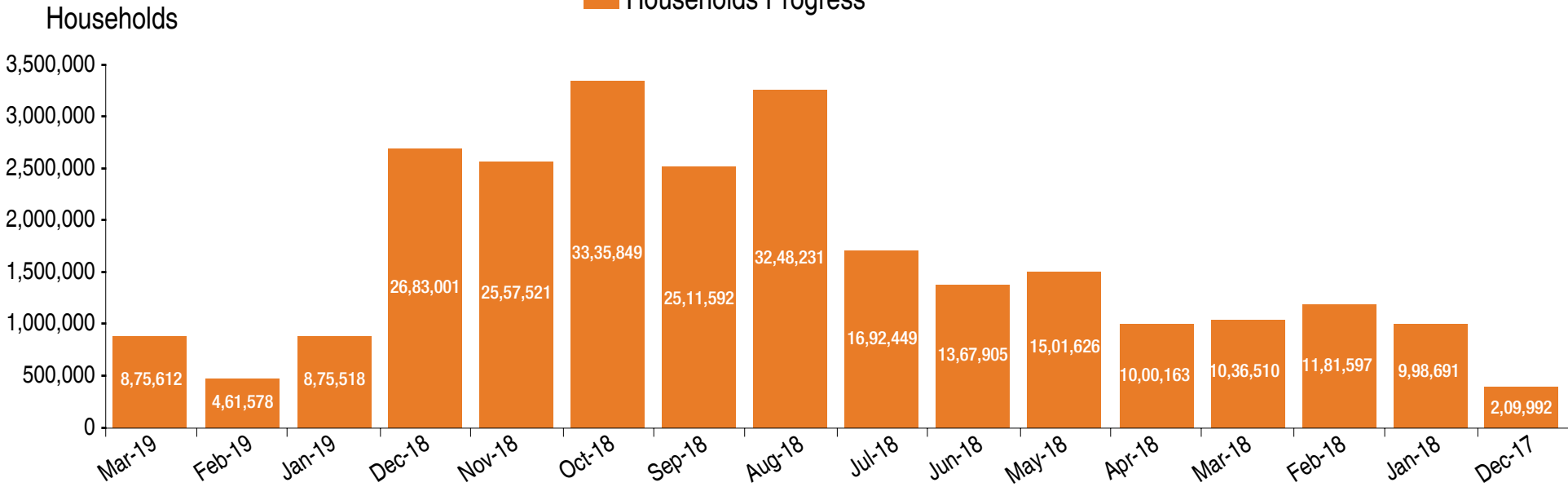


Villages Saturated in Electrification



Household Electrification Progress (as reported by States)

Monthly Household Electrification
Households Progress



Braving All Odds

Transcending glaciers, mountains, deserts, riverine belts and more.





Meeting challenges face to face



Material mobilisation in Chhattisgarh

Beyond Barriers

India's journey towards Universal Household Electrification was not an easy task. The mission came with a gamut of challenges for the team – across the remote and inaccessible areas of the country, covering treacherous mountain ranges, riverine locations, dense forests, extremist territories etc.

The team braved all odds ensuring that the length and breadth of the nation was covered – from the deserts of Rajasthan to the inaccessible areas of Arunachal Pradesh; from the snow-clad peaks of Jammu & Kashmir to the flood-affected terrains in Assam. Heavy loads were transported to the remotest areas in Arunachal Pradesh, which demanded a trek of over a week. Helicopters and support from the Indian Railways were instrumental in transporting the essential goods to the unexplored geographies.

Today, the team proudly looks on as these gallant efforts bloom into smiles and India gallops towards the fulfillment of a dream of achieving Universal Household Electrification.



Transportation of poles in an innovative way, Jammu & Kashmir



Breaking bottlenecks, come rain or shine, Bihar



The villages of Chayang Tajo block are situated in the remote area and it takes a 2-day trek to reach there. The entire district is almost mountainous and an extension of the North-eastward Himalayan range. The northern boundary of the district also touches the McMahon line (international boundary).

In view of the technical issues in adopting conventional system, off-grid solutions were adopted to electrify the households. There was happiness in the eyes of the people after electricity arrived.

Ram Bagang
East Kameng, Arunachal Pradesh



Leh and Ladakh region is famous for its snow-capped mountains, the scenic Nubra valley, and its immaculate natural beauty. The remote villages of Ladakh, like the Diskit village, are located at over 10,000 feet above sea level. Bringing electricity to the gentle people of Ladakh has been a privilege and gives a sense of fulfillment.

Muzafar Ali
Leh-Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir





I am engaged in the electrification works of Barpeta district. Here, I share the story of Palthalia Para, a village surrounded by the mighty Brahmaputra river. The village was electrified using a solar mini-grid. It was a challenging task to transport the materials and bring power to this village. Electrification of the village is improving the quality of life of many people and empowering them towards a brighter future.

Nawab Sergen Islam
Barpeta, Assam



Dhubri district of Assam is one of the most flood-prone districts of Assam and bringing electrification to the villages in these regions was quite a difficult task.

The transportation of material through the river was very challenging but electrifying these villages was a major achievement.

The villagers are also grateful to the Government for bringing electricity to their homes. The happiness in the eyes of the people brings immense satisfaction.

Pradeepta Kumar Mallik
Dhubri, Assam



Reaching Every Corner



When the going gets tough, the tough get going, Jharkhand



Working through sub-zero temperatures in Jammu & Kashmir

Transportation in toughest terrains, Jammu & Kashmir



Stringing transmission lines, Bihar





Electrifying the 'abode of the clouds', Meghalaya



Sparking new dreams where the hills are alive with tribal music, Nagaland



No hurdles left unconquered, Jammu & Kashmir



Inching towards a common goal, Odisha

**Target Electrification:
Support by CPSUs**

All eyes were on achievement of target with the CPSUs coming on board. While REC Power Distribution Company Limited (RECPDCL) procured materials for Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, and Tripura states in a span of mere 4 months, prominent Power Sector CPSUs such as NTPC Limited, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and NEEPCO pitched in, taking up rural electrification projects across Odisha, Jammu & Kashmir, and Tripura.



Crossing over: The journey towards light



In the heart of the desert: powering up Barmer District, Rajasthan

Enabling Infrastructure

Infrastructure Support ₹72,702 Crore sanctioned to the states to enable Universal Household Electrification.

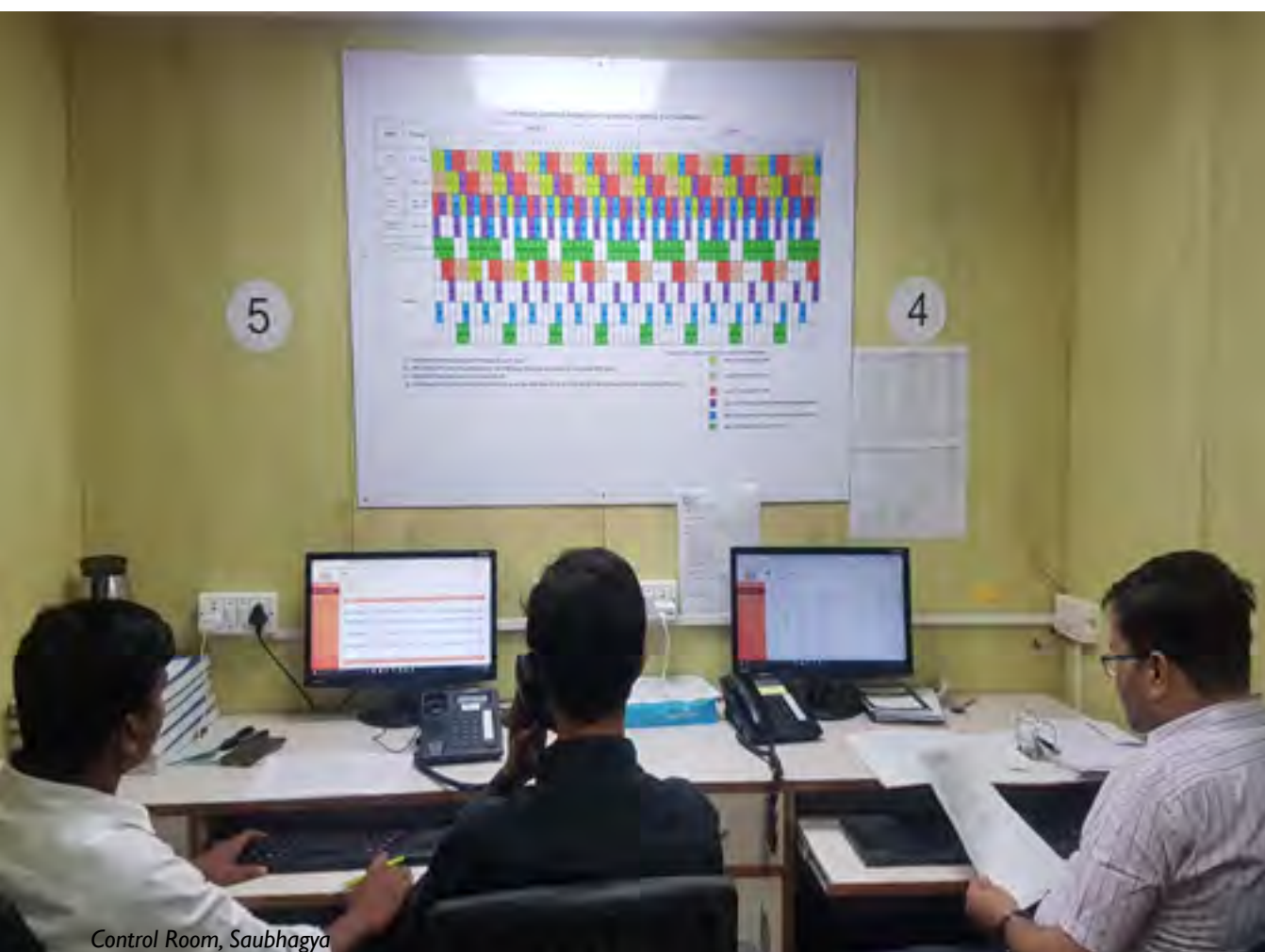
DDUGJY	₹44,416 Crore
Saubhagya	₹14,108 Crore
Additional Infrastructure	₹14,178 Crore



New substation in West Bengal

The Last Mile





Control Room, Saubhagya



Saubhagya Rath, Uttar Pradesh



Saubhagya camp, Assam



A Saubhagya Camp in progress, Gram Swaraj Abhiyan, Uttarakhand

Rural Household Survey

A survey was conducted through the Department of Posts for firming up the number of un-electrified households. 'Sankhya', a Web Portal and Mobile App, was exclusively developed for the survey.

Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (GSA)

A mammoth initiative of Government of India for overall development of the backward districts to reach out to the underprivileged households. Thus, convergence of benefits of Government of India's various schemes. Saubhagya Scheme had also been covered in the GSA initiative, and its intensive review and monitoring pushed the progress to the maximum.

Saubhagya Camps

Saubhagya camps were organised at village level to reach out to the beneficiaries and to facilitate on-the-spot electricity connections – reaffirming that no household was left out.

Saubhagya Rath

A special fleet of 'Saubhagya Raths' were flagged off across various states in the country to create awareness by reaching out to the people, and also identify every household without electricity that may have failed to register under the scheme initially.

Electricity, Just a Call Away

A Control Room that worked 24x7 with helpline number 1800-121-5555 was set up to assist the beneficiaries on all scheme-related queries, address their grievances, and also provide electricity connections with the support of DISCOMs for speedy resolution.

Home across States lit up since launch of Saubhagya

State	Households
Uttar Pradesh	79,80,568
Bihar	32,59,041
Odisha	24,52,444
Madhya Pradesh	19,84,264
Rajasthan	18,62,736
Assam	17,45,149
Jharkhand	15,30,708
Maharashtra	15,17,922
Chhattisgarh	7,49,397
West Bengal	7,32,290
Telangana	5,15,084
Jammu & Kashmir	3,87,501
Karnataka	3,56,974
Uttarakhand	2,48,751
Meghalaya	1,99,839
Andhra Pradesh	1,81,930
Tripura	1,39,090
Nagaland	1,32,507
Manipur	1,02,748
Haryana	54,681
Arunachal Pradesh	47,089
Gujarat	41,317
Mizoram	27,970
Sikkim	14,900
Himachal Pradesh	12,891
Punjab	3,477
Tamil Nadu	2,170
Puducherry	912

Total 2,62,84,350

As on 31.03.2019





Saubhagya - the progress in Milestones

Number of Electrified Houses	Achievement Date
Launch	25.09.2017
1 Crore	05.08.2018
1.5 Crores	28.09.2018
2 Crores	19.11.2018
2.5 Crores	16.02.2019

Average no. of households electrified/per day : 49,000 (approx)

Million Watt Smiles





“The villagers are happy and satisfied with the electricity connections under Saubhagya scheme and now the children can study even after sunset. The villages have developed in every field because of uninterrupted power supply.

Latbar Boro
Barbari Pathar, Morigaon,
Assam

”

“After electrification through Saubhagya Yojana, people feel safe at night and the children can now study under LED lights after the sunset.

Anarkali
Shiv Nam Barabanki,
Uttar Pradesh

”





After electrification, villagers started using rice and flourmills, which have made the work easier and less time-consuming. This has increased income levels of rural masses manifold.

Rashad Latif
*Fazal Abad
Poonch, Jammu & Kashmir*



With electricity, women do not have to rely on lanterns after sunset, and instead of grindstone, they can purchase electric grinders and make life much easier.

Mukhtyar Singh
*Chhimka Bhind,
Madhya Pradesh*





People are able to run tea stalls even after sunset. My wife has also started her own tailoring shop and is able to extend additional financial support to the family.

Kriti Bala Chakma
Deo RF, Unakoti, Tripura



Prior to electrification, we had a tough life, especially surviving the scorching summers. Now, we are happy and can lead a comfortable life.

Ajay Kumar
Bhorahar Mal, Sitamarhi, Bihar





Meghalaya



Tripura



West Bengal



Karnataka



Chhattisgarh



Chhattisgarh



Bravo, Team Power India!

It was a dream that was waiting to unfold, and sure enough, it did. In less than 18 months, Team Power India's persistent efforts have come to fruition, making the world's most extensive household electrification programme an absolute reality.

India's journey towards Universal Electrification, both at the State and Central level over the last few decades, reached its pinnacle. With the multitude of innovative schemes and programmes, including Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) and Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – 'Saubhagya', supported by relentless teamwork and dedicated resources across the States, the stage was set to augment electricity access across the length and breadth of India, covering all the remotest corners.

In April 2018, India achieved the 100% village electrification milestone. This effectively meant that every inhabited census village in the country has electricity infrastructure and was ready to achieve the next major milestone of Universal Household Electrification.

Keeping this in view, as a well-planned approach for the journey towards electrification, the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – 'Saubhagya' scheme was launched with the express aim of achieving Universal Household Electrification in the country by March 2019.

The world's largest rural electrification programme 'Saubhagya' is unique in its scope as it expands beyond

village-level infrastructure development and includes all un-electrified households in the country. The philosophy behind 'Saubhagya' was to 'leave no one behind.'

2.63 crore households were electrified since the launch of 'Saubhagya' scheme – a remarkable progress made in a record 18 months. The sheer number of connections that needed to be covered – over and above the diverse geographical challenges, extreme weather conditions, and limited time-frame – made it a daunting task.

The concerted efforts by States/DISCOMs to make things happen has been immense, especially in states with high concentration of households.

States/DISCOMs had adopted various process improvements and technology innovations; like developing advanced IT-based energy, revenue management systems to improve consumer interface and revenue collections, creating a customer-centric approach to services through the use of mobile applications, expediting distribution transformer replacements, capacity building of newly outsourced workforce, and intensifying monitoring and governance for better transparency and accountability. States, on their part, have further invested in strengthening their network infrastructure, ensuring that all electricity connections are metered.

The commitment of both States and DISCOMs in supporting and executing this initiative resulted in the achievement of Universal Household Electrification by all the States, barring some LWE areas.



DISCOM with more than 5 lakh un-electrified households: Madhya Pradesh Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Company Ltd. (MPMKVVCL)



DISCOM with less than 5 lakh un-electrified households: Madhya Pradesh Paschim Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Company Ltd. (MPPsKVCL)



Team Power Jammu & Kashmir (special category state)



Team Power Arunachal Pradesh



Team Power Jharkhand



Team Power Karnataka

“
In a gentle way,
you can
shake the world.
”

Mahatma Gandhi

Team Power Bihar



Team Power Maharashtra



Team Power Odisha

Team Power Rajasthan



Team Power Sikkim





Team Power Telangana

Team Power Uttar Pradesh



Team Power West Bengal



Team Power Tripura

Team Power Uttarakhand



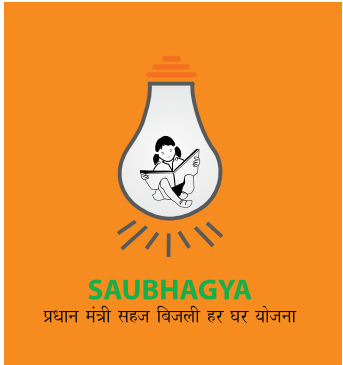
Team Power



Team Power PGCIL



Team Power NEEPCO



Team Power NTPC



Team Power REC Limited



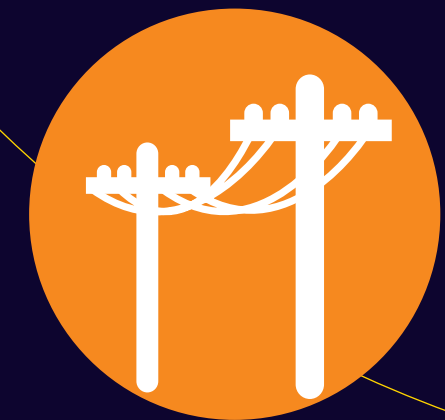
Lighting Up
New Milestones
Infrastructure &
Households



2.63 Crore
Households electrified
since the launch of
SAUBHAGYA



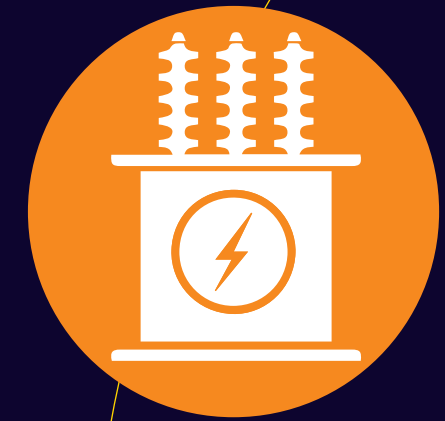
3,527
Substations built
under DDUGJY



2,64,748
Ckms of LT Lines erected
under DDUGJY



1,30,365
Ckms of HT Lines erected
under DDUGJY



3,48,010
Transformers installed
under DDUGJY



SAUBHAGYA
प्रधानमंत्री सहज बिजली हर घर योजना



I salute the efforts of all those who worked tirelessly on the ground, including the team of officials, the technical staff and all others, to make this dream of a powerful India a reality. Their efforts today will help generations of Indians in the coming years.

Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India







Ever since I got married and came here, there has been no electricity in my house. But now, my dream has come true. My house is electrified. There is brightness everywhere. Now, I can complete the daily household chores without any difficulty.

Kamla Devi

Haja, Dehradun, Uttarakhand



SAUBHAGYA

प्रधान मंत्री सहज बिजली हर घर योजना