

## NEHRU ROZGAR YGJANA

The Nehru Rozgar Yojana has been designed to provide employment to the urban unemployed and under-employed poor. The employment contemplated is of two types—setting up of self-employment ventures and provision of wage employment through the creation of socially and economically useful assets and shelter upgradation programmes in urban areas.

2. The Programme has three Schemes :

- (i) Setting up micro enterprises and providing training and infrastructure support for urban poor beneficiaries. This Scheme is operative in all urban settlements.
- (ii) Scheme of wage employment for creation of socially and economically useful public assets in the jurisdiction of urban local bodies. This Scheme is applicable in towns with population of less than 1 lakh.
- (iii) Scheme of employment through Housing and Shelter Upgradation in low income neighbourhoods mainly for the urban poor and economically weaker sections and training and infrastructure support for promotion of construction skills among beneficiaries. This Scheme is applicable in settlements with population between 1 lakh and 20 lakhs.

3. While the target group of the Yojana is urban poor, women beneficiaries and beneficiaries belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes constitute special target groups.

4. The Urban Micro Enterprises Scheme is designated to encourage unemployed and under-employed urban youth to take up self-employment ventures. Under Urban Micro Enterprises Scheme, there are two elements. The first is loan-cum-subsidy assistance for setting up self-employment ventures. This is similar to the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). The second element relates to training where beneficiaries are provided training with a view to upgrading their technical and commercial skills. Infrastructural support would be provided for technological upgradation, designs, marketing etc. The average per-capita training expenditure is expected to be Rs. 1200 per trainee.

5. Under the Scheme of Wage Employment, it is intended to provide wage employment to urban poor beneficiaries by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets, in the jurisdiction of urban local bodies, such as low cost water supply, pour-flush community latrines, drainage related earthworks, community facilities etc.

6. Under the Scheme of employment through Housing and Shelter Upgradation, households belonging to economically weaker section would be assisted to construct simple dwelling or to upgrade their dwellings with improvement of roof, walls, floorings, additional rooms etc. at a cost of Rs. 4,000. 25 per cent subsidy with a ceiling of Rs. 1,000 would be available for this purpose and a loan upto Rs. 9,950 from HUDCO at 10 per cent rate of interest. In case of additional financial requirements, loans would be taken from HUDCO under the scheme for EWS Built Houses or from Scheduled Banks. Training will be provided to urban poor beneficiaries under the scheme of housing and shelter upgradation. On the average, per-capita expenditure of Rs. 1,500 will be incurred on trainees. Fifteen per cent of the funds earmarked for training and infrastructure support will be available for support to training institutions.

7. The Scheme progressed well despite initial difficulties. The main achievements of the Scheme for the period ending November, 1994 are :-

- (i) Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises : Subsidy to the tune of Rs. 125.12 crores and institutional finance (in the form of bank loans) to the tune of Rs. 375.36 crores (approx.) i.e. three times of the subsidy were sanctioned to the beneficiaries. With this, about 6, 19, 706 beneficiaries were assisted. Under the Training and Infrastructure support component, 1,49,399 beneficiaries were either trained or are undergoing training for skill upgradation.
- (ii) Scheme of Urban Wage Employment : Under this Scheme, the States/UTs have reported expenditure of Rs. 211.93 crores with the result that 380.11 lakh mandays of wage employment has been generated.

(iii) Scheme of Housing and Shelter Upgradation : HUDCO has sanctioned schemes from various States/UTs worth Rs. 292.94 crores (subsidy of Rs. 54.36 crores and loans up to Rs. 238.58 crores) involving upgradation of 7.15 lakh dwelling units.

8. According to 8th Plan Estimates the urban poor account for 41.82 million people of approximately 8.36 million families. During 1995-96 it is expected that about 1.98 lakh urban poor beneficiaries will be

assisted to set up self-employment ventures under the scheme of urban micro enterprises. Further, more than 172 lakh mandays of wage employment will be generated under the Schemes of Urban Wage Employment and the Scheme of Housing and Shelter Upgradation during the same period.

9. During the 8th Plan Period, the sharing pattern for all the components of the Scheme shall be 60:40 between the Centre and the State.