



URBAN WAGE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME (UWEP) - SCHEME

This scheme has been launched under Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY). The objective of this scheme to address Urban Poverty alleviation through gain employment to the urban unemployed or underemployed poor. The delivery of inputs under the scheme shall be through urban local bodies.

1. This programme seeks to provide wage employment to beneficiaries living below the poverty line within the jurisdiction of urban local bodies by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. These assets may be Community Centres, Stormwater Drains, Roads, Night Shelters, Kitchen Sheds in Primary Schools under Mid-day Meal Scheme and other community requirements like Parks, Solid Waste Management facilities, as decided by the community structures themselves. The Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) will be applicable only to towns/cities with population upto 5 Lakhs, as per the 1991 Census.
2. UWEP will provide opportunities for wage-employment, especially for the unskilled and semi-skilled migrants/residents by creation of community assets. Special emphasis will be on the construction of community assets in low-income neighbourhoods with a strong involvement and participation of local communities.
3. The material : labour ratio for works under this programme shall be maintained at 60:40. However, States/UTs can relax this material : labour ratio up to 10% (either way), wherever absolutely necessary. The prevailing minimum wage rate, as notified from time to time for each area, shall be paid to beneficiaries under this programme.
4. Community Development Societies (CDSs) shall survey and draw up a list of available basic minimum services in their areas. Missing basic minimum services shall be first identified. Other requirements of physical infrastructure shall be listed thereafter.
5. As far as possible, works are to be executed through CDSs, under the general control and supervision of the ULBs. ULBs are expected to maintain a close watch over the quality of construction. Work must be done departmentally and detailed guidelines as regards maintenance of muster rolls, social audit etc. will be issued in this regard by the concerned State/UT Governments. To the extent possible, even the material component of the work should be done



- departmentally. Where departmental work is not possible due to the specialized nature of the work involved, such material component of the work may be got done through agencies by following proper tendering/ Government procedure.
6. In all cases it must be ensured that the works undertaken under UWEP are brought to a safe stage and no work is left incomplete or pending half-way. In case of cost escalation, or expansion in the nature of the work, or increase in the project estimate for any other reason whatsoever, and if additional funds are not available under this programme, it shall be the basic responsibility of the sanctioning authority/implementing authority i.e. Urban Local Body /District Urban Development Agency to ensure the completion of such works by bringing in additional resources from other programmes / own resources, if so required.
 7. Wage employment should be used very sparingly, only for short-term measures till the beneficiary is able to get the benefits of skill development for self-employment ventures or employment in the formal sector.