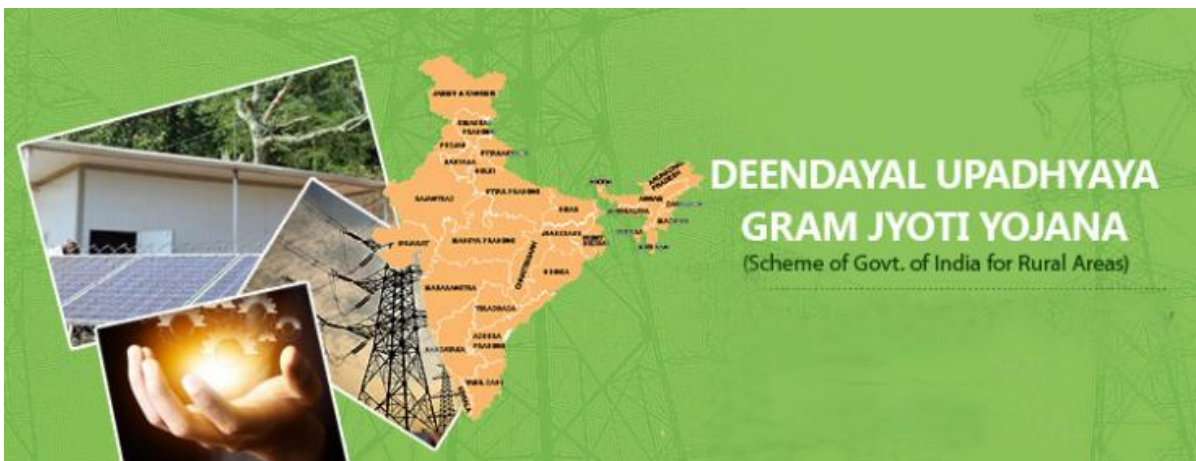


No More Dreading the Dusk



SOURCE: E-BOOK ON SUCCESS STORIES RELEASED BY THE PRIME MINISTER ON CIVIL SERVICES DAY 2017

Sivasagar is one of the main districts of Assam. It was the area from where the Ahom rulers ruled Assam in the days of yore. Life in the district before the [Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana](#) (DDUGJY) was mainly limited to the daylight hours.



Illumination after dark was dependent on kerosene lamps. Kerosene was costly and moreover not easily available. The economy here being mainly agrarian, electricity was also needed for irrigation purposes as diesel gen sets are expensive. Man-animal conflicts were also common as elephants frequently entered the villages, causing large-scale destruction. All these are now things of the past.

Thanks to the ambitious plans of rural electrification under DDUGJY, Sivasagar district shines with a different light today. These benefits have been numerous. With farmers having electricity to run their water pumps, agricultural productivity has increased. Handloom and domestic weaving is a tradition in Assam, done mainly by women. Today with electrification, they no longer work only during the day but can work way past sunset. One of the benefits of electricity is the feeling of safety and comfort. The well-lit roads have instilled a sense of confidence and truly empowered the womenfolk. The crime rate has fallen due to illumination of public areas.



At home, children can study longer and don't have to depend on kerosene lanterns for light. Man-animal conflict has seen a decline as elephants avoid the illuminated villages, thereby saving crops and humans.

Primary health care is better, thanks to facilities for storing medicines and vaccines under refrigeration. The biggest change has been in the worldview of the inhabitants. Today, they are aware of all the changes in the world and are up-to-date on news, making them feel empowered and confident. After all, that's what electrification should do bring light into people's lives.

Courtesy: <http://darpg.gov.in>

Sivasagar, Assam

Sivasagar, a town in upper Assam, had 145 un-electrified villages and 47,803 un-electrified sanctioned BPL households, as on 1st April 2015.

BACKGROUND/ INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN

As on 1st April 2015, total un-electrified villages were 145 and total un-electrified BPL households sanctioned were 47,803

Complaint booths are set up at Sub-Divisional level for complaint redressal

There is 24X7 centralised customer care number. Additionally, other numbers are provided to receive complaints from customers

Local Gram Panchayats are involved for identification of BPL beneficiaries, priority areas for electrification and settlement of disputes

Damaged distribution transformers are replaced by the turnkey contractors during the warranty period. Post warranty period,

damaged transformers are replaced by Assam Power Distribution Company Ltd.(APDCL) within 7 days

Grass root level participants are also being involved in implementation of the programme

Geographical Information System (GIS) has been used for survey of existing networks and the networks to be constructed under the Scheme

Awareness is created through programmes at Gram Panchayat level

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS/ IMPACT

135 villages were electrified during the period of consideration

24 hours power supply is available during the normal season

Faulty meters are generally replaced within seven days