

1. Department: Electricity

2. a) Sector: Energy

b) Sub-Sector: Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

3. Scheme No: NRSE- 4

4. Name of Scheme: Popularisation of Improved Chulhas under NPIC scheme in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

5. OBJECTIVE OF THE 9TH FIVE YEAR PLAN :-

This programme as a part of the Govt. of India's National Programme on Improved Chulha was introduced in these Islands during the 7th five year plan with the major objectives of fuel wood conservation, environmental protection, reduction in women's drudgery, reduction in kitchen smoke, improved health status of women, creation of rural employment, utilization of saw dust and agrowaste etc. So far this department has installed / distributed 31731 Nos. of improved chulhas upto 31st March 1999. This programme is becoming popular in these islands particularly in areas where there is a crisis in availability of fuel wood. The demand for saw dust model improved chulhas are also increasing from the areas wherever saw dust available at zero cost. Most of the rural house holds are still not coming forward to purchase the chulhas at a lower cost. Considering the many benefits to rural house holds specially for the women, it is proposed to implement the scheme at highly subsidised pattern with minimum contribution from the beneficiaries. This scheme is covered under the 'Minimum Needs Programme'. The new 20 point programme of the G.O.I. is implemented in association with the Panchayati Raj Institution. The PRIs are involved in identification of beneficiaries, training of rural youth specially women as self-employed workers and as an outlet of the improved portable chulhas.

In addition to the Central subsidy an additional subsidy is provided to the tune of Rs. 98.50 in Northeastern States like Meghalaya. Such additional subsidy is provided by the UT Administration like Chandigarh also. It is proposed to provide subsidy to the extent of 60% to 70% of the cost price of improved chulhas so that the beneficiaries will get the saw dust, priagni, harsha and improved mud chulhas with chimney @ Rs. 40/- and improved fixed chulha without chimney @ Rs. 20/-. It is also proposed to meet 100% transportation cost from manufacturing and to beneficiaries premisses out of the scheme.

6. Approved Outlay for 9th Five Year Plan: Rs. 6.25 Lakhs.

7. Principal Targets for the 9th Five Year Plan:

- I). Upgradation of chulha production centre by providing lathe machine, cutting and spray painting facilities etc.
- II). Fabrication and distribution of 2000 Nos. improved saw dust chulhas with MNES subsidy and 60% U.I. subsidy on production cost (with beneficiaries minimum contribution of Rs. 40 per chulha).
- III). Fabrication and distribution of 1500 Nos. 'Priagni' model big size improved metallic chulhas with MNES subsidy and (with beneficiaries minimum contribution of Rs.40/- per chulha).
- IV). Purchase and distribution of 1000 Nos. 'Harsha' model improved metallic chulhas with MNES subsidy and 60 % subsidy on purchase cost (with beneficiaries minimum contribution of Rs.40/- per chulha).
- V). Installation of 500 Nos. fixed improved mud-chulhas with chimney by providing 70% subsidy on production cost (with minimum beneficiaries contribution or Rs.30/- per chulha) and with MNES subsidy.
- VI). Installation of 1000 Nos. improved fixed mud chulha without chimney by providing 60% subsidy on production cost (a minimum beneficiaries contribution of Rs.20/- per chulha) and with MNES subsidy.
- VII). Deputing staff for advanced training.