

Message from Minister of States (Urban Development)

The Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JnNURM), was launched in December 2005 with an objective to bring in efficient, equitable, responsive, and accountable development of select cities in the country. The programme focuses, higher level of resources and management attention to 65 select cities across the country. 35 cities with million plus population, other State capitals and cities of heritage and tourism importance comprise the 65 Mission cities under Urban Infrastructure & Governance (UIG). The other 641 small towns of 31 States are covered under the Urban Infrastructure Development for Small and Medium Towns Scheme (UIDSSMT).

Six years since the launch of the Mission, JNNURM has taken a centre-stage in the overall urban transformation process in the Mission cities. It has triggered the process of urban renewal by improving urban governance, augmenting civic infrastructure and enhancing effective delivery of basic services such as water supply, sewerage, drainage and solid waste management. JNNURM has infused the much need capital in addressing the deficiencies in urban infrastructure creation. Notwithstanding the implementation challenges, it is and will continue to be a primary source of financing urban infrastructure.

As on 23rd June 2011, 533 projects at a total cost of Rs 60,544.73 Cr have been sanctioned under the Urban Infrastructure & Governance, sub-mission of JNNURM. The Additional Central Assistance committed by the Government of India towards meeting the central share of the total project cost for these 533 projects is Rs 27,954.23 Cr, out of which an amount of Rs 13,659.42 Cr has been released to the Mission Cities. Out of the total 533 sanctioned projects, 110 projects have been physically completed. Till 23 June, 2011, 423 projects reported in various stages of implementation, with approximately Rs. 26,422.04 Crore worth of physical works having been implemented.

Apart from the implementation of projects, JNNURM has also given an opportunity to bring substantial transformation in our cities collectively with State Governments and Urban Local Bodies to integrate a number of measures with the urban development process. In terms of reforms, significant progress is noted in state level reforms, where most of the commitments have been achieved. In the 7th Year (2011-12), it is noted that about 64% of the State level reforms and 82% of the optional reforms committed have been completed, as against the 6th Year Commitments. Therefore, it is needless to say that JNNURM does not intend to limit itself to financing infrastructure, but has taken substantial efforts collectively with State Governments and Urban Local Bodies to integrate a number of other measures with the urban development process.

It is heartening to note that cities are eager to showcase their achievements, share and learn from one another. In this context, the initial website for JNNURM had been launched in 2007 to provide information on various aspects of the Mission such as details of approved projects, release of funds, reforms, capacity building initiatives to name a few. It also contained best practices and brochures and guidelines for urban infrastructure in our country.

Let us all reaffirm our collective commitment to work towards making our cities economically productive, efficient, equitable and responsive cities. Our concerted efforts are critical to the future of our cities and towns in India. With these efforts, I hope that we shall be able to even better the performance of the Mission that we have achieved so far.

My best wishes to the success of the website and the Mission.

Saugata Roy
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