

# Electricity, an Answer to Prayers



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

Whenever Mohammed Hazibur Rahman, 52, from Palsa village, Kishanganj District, Bihar, bows and prostrates during namaz, he fervently thanks God for letting him see the light before his death.

The light is electricity. “Only the Sun and Moon used to give us light and boats were our only means of transport even to the local haat (open air market) more than 55 kms away. All the village children used to gather in the centre of the village every evening, to study using one or two kerosene lanterns,” says Rahman.

Till April 2015, there was no electricity in 110 villages of Kishanganj, with over two lakh BPL families. But now, after the launch of **DDUGJY**, all the 110 villages have been electrified, benefiting over one lakh BPL and 30,000 APL households. And this has brought about a sea change. Electric pumps have replaced diesel pumps.



सपना नहीं सच्चाई है, बिजली हमारे घर आई है,  
अच्छे दिनों की शुरुआत है, अंधेरे में भी जगमग रात है।





Since April 2015, 845 electric pumps have been purchased. Earlier, there was only one rice mill, now there are sixteen. RO water units and small scale units making paper plates, bakery products, etc. have come up. These, as well as poultry rearing are augmenting incomes. Most importantly, delivery of healthcare has improved.



Thanks to electrification of the local Primary Health Centre (PHC) and other healthcare centres, immunization, hospital deliveries and a neo-natal care centre have become realities. “*Not so many new-borns are dying now,*” says Rahman gratefully.

Now in every prayer, every villager thanks God for letting them see the light.

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

## Kishanganj, Bihar

Kishanganj district forms part of Purnia division in Bihar. As on 1st April 2015, 110 villages and 2,25,259 sanctioned BPL households were un-electrified.

### **BACKGROUND/ INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN**

As on 1st April 2015, total un-electrified villages were 110 and total un-electrified BPL households sanctioned were 2,25,259

For better coordination & monitoring, weekly and monthly meetings were held by district administration with project and supply officials

Mukhiya, ward members and local representatives were actively involved in release of BPL connections

Coverage of all mahadalit tolas and scheduled tribes was undertaken with the help of Vikasmitra

Team of engineers was sent for assessment/ feedback on village electrification and interaction with mukhiyas and ward members

Centralized customer helpline and district customer helpline are in place

Spot meter reading and billing is done through android app by Rural Revenue Franchisees(RRF)

Awareness was created through newspapers, pamphlets, stalls, camps, etc.

Progress was showcased on DISCOM's website

### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS/ IMPACT**

100% villages (110) were electrified during the period of consideration

1,02,300 sanctioned BPL households were electrified during the period of consideration

29,881 connections were released for APL Households

Hours of Supply of Power are 23-24 hours and 18-22 hours in urban and rural area