

Mukhya Mantri Karma Tatpara Abhiyan (MUKTA)

Background

- The Covid -19 pandemic has severely impacted the livelihood opportunities of the urban poor including the vulnerable groups like migrant labourers, women, transgender and persons with disabilities worldwide and pushed them deeper into poverty.
- In Odisha, about 1/3rd of the people living in the urban areas (approximately 2 million) are informal economy workers and particularly vulnerable because of lack of social protection, lack of access to productive assets, reduction of working hours, decrease in wages and abrupt layoffs.
- In this context, Government of Odisha launched an urban public works initiative named "**Urban Wage Employment Initiative (UWEI)**" on 18th April, 2020 across the 114 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Odisha. UWEI aimed to create rapid, immediate and mass employment opportunities for urban poor, informal and migrant labourers, rendered unemployed and vulnerable in the face of Covid-19 infused crisis while addressing the needs of creation of durable community assets.
- Twelve months on, with more than 7500 projects worth Rs. 122 crores being implemented across 114 ULBs and more than 15 lakh man-days generated, the State Government has now decided to convert the UWEI into a full-fledged state sponsored scheme called "**Mukhya Mantri Karma Tatpara Abhiyan (MUKTA)**". MUKTA aims to achieve the objective of providing sustainable livelihood opportunities to the urban poor, informal and migrant labourers and create & maintain ecological sustainable and climate resilient community assets, critical to ensure inclusive, sustainable and equitable urban development.
- The Scheme is unique as its bottom-up, people centred design is distinct and unprecedented. It attempts to achieve convergence of a number of critical areas of urban development i.e., sustainable livelihood to the poor, vulnerable and marginalised people living in the urban centres, protection of environment, creation of climate resilient community assets, building trust-based partnership with community-based organisations, thereby strengthening the fourth tier of governance and achieving community centric and community led development.

2. Nodal Department and Agency

- The scheme will be implemented by the Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD), as a nodal department across all the ULBs of Odisha. The State Urban Development Authority will act as a State Level Nodal Agency.

3. Vision of MUKTA

- The vision of MUKTA is to alleviate problem of unemployment, inequality and poverty in urban areas and build sustainable community resilience through an integrated urban public works programme.

4. Objectives of MUKTA

- The core objectives of MUKTA are as following:
 - Create decent wage employment opportunities in urban areas and ensure sustainable livelihoods for urban poor including vulnerable groups like migrant labourers, women, transgenders and persons with disabilities, thereby enhancing human capabilities.
 - Ensure creation as well as maintenance of inclusive, sustainable, climate resilient community assets, thereby improving quality of life for the urban citizens.
 - Build sustainable community resilience by enhancing capacities of community-based organisations, building trust-based relationships and promoting local leadership, thereby strengthening the fourth tier of governance and furthering synergies for long term development.

5. Expected outcomes of MUKTA

- MUKTA aims at achieving the following:
 - Creation of sustainable wage employment opportunities for urban poor.
 - Increased participation of women, transgenders and persons with disabilities in works undertaken in the urban areas.
 - Creation and maintenance of sustainable and resilient community assets in all the wards of the ULB including construction of one "Mission Shakti Griha" per 10000 population in non-slum areas of the ULB and construction of one "Parichaya" centre for each slum of the urban area subject to availability of suitable Government land.
 - Increased involvement and empowerment of community-based organisations like Mission Shakti Women Self-Help Groups (Mission Shakti Groups), Slum Dwellers Associations (SDAs), Area Level Federations (ALFs) and City Level Federations (CLFs).

6. Guiding principles for implementation of MUKTA

- MUKTA is a scheme of the community, by the community and for the community. Under this scheme, the community will identify and prioritise the work to be taken up in the ward. The works taken up will be executed directly by the community-based organisations of the wards under the general control and supervision of the ULBs, as far as possible. Furthermore, unemployed persons from ULBs will also be identified by the community and engaged directly in various urban infrastructure development works taken up under the Scheme based on their skillsets.
- Engagement of contractor in any form including labour contract for execution of works under the Scheme is strictly prohibited.
- As far as practicable, a work funded under the Scheme shall be performed by using manual labour and not machines.
- Efforts shall be made by the ULBs, wherever it is possible, to select & implement projects in the areas predominantly inhabited by SC, ST, minorities and workers engaged in unorganised sectors of the economy.

7. Identification of the public works

- The upper financial limit of public works to be taken up under MUKTA shall be X15 Lakhs initially which may be revised by the Department from time to time.
- Keeping in view the overall objectives of the Scheme, potential of the local area and its needs, technical feasibility and financial limit of the projects, public works shall be identified and prioritised by the Ward Level Committee after a systematic and participatory planning exercise.
- Such identified public works shall be finalised by the **ULB** Level Committee after necessary consultations with the concerned Assistant Engineer (AE)/Joint Engineer (JE) and field level officials of the respective wards and taking into consideration the priority.
- Each finalised work will have a unique identification number electronically generated by the ICT solution, MUKTA-Soft and updated with all necessary details.
- An illustrative list of the works that can be taken up as part of the Scheme are given

Below:

- a. Drainage and sewerage work [Except de-siltation]
- b. Sanitation work [Except road sweeping]
- c. Water conservation and rain water harvesting structures
- d. Development and renovation of water bodies
- e. Development and maintenance of public parks and playgrounds
- f. Wall paintings
- g. Beautification of parks, canals, rivers, gardens, roads and plantation of trees
- h. Construction and maintenance of micro community centres and open space development including Mission Shakti Grihas & Parichaya centres

i. Various labour-intensive urban infrastructure development projects taken up by ULBs

- Adequate shelf of works shall be maintained by the Ward Committees in such a way that at least one labour intensive work is ongoing at all times to provide employment to the urban poor and other vulnerable groups.

8. Preparation of the plan & estimates

- After finalisation of the public works by ULBs, the AE/JE in charge of the respective ward shall be responsible for preparing detailed plan and estimate of all the public works. All applicable charges shall be taken care of while preparing the estimates.
- The work estimates for each of the finalised work shall be generated from the ICT solution, MUKTA-Soft with the help of back-end standard template which will be designed for each kind of work.
- Technical sanction of the approved works shall be accorded by the appropriate authority in accordance with the applicable codal provisions. While sanctioning the estimates, the following are required to be considered:
 - For all works involving construction, cost-effective, labour-intensive technologies and usage of local materials shall be employed as far as possible
 - The bill of quantities shall be detailed for easy understanding of all stakeholders

Achievements

As of now puri municipality has undertaken different developmental works under MUKTA . The projects includes wall painting under UWEI , Rain water harvesting strictures, Mission Shakti Gruhas ,Micro activity centre , Minipark with children parks, open air gym , jogging track etc.

Garbage venerable points have been transformed in to mini park and the area have been beautified .