

CM: Aspirational blocks scheme has proved to be a game-changer

Vishnupur Block In Kushinagar Top Performer; To Receive ₹2Cr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said here on Thursday that the aspirational blocks scheme on the pattern of aspirational districts has proved to be a game-changer.

Reviewing the scheme on Thursday, the CM said the implementation of the scheme has been encouraging as all blocks have shown a major improvement over the past one year.

In the first annual ranking of 100 aspirational blocks, Vishnupur in Kushinagar has emerged as the top performer in the state and will be given an award of Rs 2 crore.

During the review, it was discussed that in March 2022, around 50 aspirational blocks were above the national average in 33 indicators but a year down the line, mo-

re than 50 blocks were above the state average in 63 indicators.

The 100 aspirational blocks are spread over 34 districts where work is taking place to improve the situation in areas under 75 indicators like health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, financial inclusion, skill development and basic infrastructure.

In health and nutrition, Majhgaon block in Bareilly has topped while in education, Wazirganj in Badaun has come first. In agriculture and water resources, Ambedkarnagar's Bhati has come first, Fatehganj in Bareilly has topped in financial inclusion and skill development and Sohanv in Ballia has come first in infrastructure development.

The development block which came first overall

will get an award of Rs 2 crore while those which have topped in sector wise indicators will get Rs 60 lakh each.

The report shows that in the first year, all blocks recorded an improvement in seven indicators while 70 showed an improvement in 50 indicators. It says that 99 blocks recorded a reduction in moderate acute malnutrition among children while under health, registration of pregnant women increased to 91%, above the average of 50%. Institutional delivery went up from 44% to 67%.

The distribution of golden cards under Ayushman Bharat scheme has increased from 38% to 73%. In all blocks, every Rajkiya Vidyalayas have drinking water supply. Cow shelters are operational in 99 blocks while in all 100 blocks, each gram panchayat has a jan seva kendra.

The CM directed officials to ensure that a monthly report on the aspirational blocks is sent to Niti Aayog.

He asked the planning department to ensure that the data is proper and verified.

The CM said where there is a shortage of teachers in basic education council schools, officials should consider holding online classes.

"These classes should also be monitored. Loan melas should be held in the aspirational blocks and official should ensure that there is no shortage of manpower. Officials like BDO, education officers, veterinarians, revenue officers etc should be posted there," Yogi said.

"The CM Fellows are doing good work. Their monthly work should be ranked and where necessary, they should be trained. For experienced CM Fellows who apply for permanent government posts, there will be relaxation in age and additional weightage. Ministers in charge of the 34 districts must visit these blocks and interact with the CM Fellows," the CM said.