

7. Shortnews

1. ANGIKAAR 2025

The Ministry for Housing and Urban Affairs, launched “Angikaar 2025”, a last-mile outreach campaign under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0), to accelerate scheme implementation and awareness across urban India.

Objectives of Angikaar 2025

Awareness – Create widespread awareness about PMAY-U 2.0 and fast-track verification of applications.

Housing Completion – Expedite completion of already sanctioned houses under PMAY-U.

Credit Guarantee – Inform stakeholders about the Credit Risk Guarantee Fund Trust for Low Income Housing (CRGFTLIH) scheme.

Last-Mile Delivery – Ensure last-mile delivery and holistic development through community mobilisation, targeted engagement, and convergence with other Government of India schemes.

Inclusive Benefits – Provide benefits of PM Surya Ghar – Muft Bijli Yojana to PMAY-U beneficiaries and prioritise housing for Special Focus Groups under PMAY-U 2.0.

Flagship Events under Angikaar 2025

PMAY-U Awas Diwas – Celebrated on 17th September 2025 to mark the first year of PMAY-U 2.0 launch.

PM Awas Mela – Shehri – Anchor event at District Headquarters or Municipal Corporation level in larger cities.

Implementation Strategy of Campaign

Campaign duration – 2 Months

Coverage – Over 5,000 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) nationwide.

Outreach methods – Door-to-door awareness, camps, loan melas, cultural events, and community mobilisation under the Jan Bhagidari movement. State/UT officials to coordinate with ULBs to ensure effective implementation.

About Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0)

Aim – To provide all-weather pucca houses to all eligible urban households under the vision of Housing for All.

Implemented by – The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Launch – PMAY-U was launched on 25 June 2015, with the revamped PMAY-U 2.0 commencing in September 2024.

Financial assistance through four verticals –

Beneficiary Led Construction (BLC) – Up to ₹2.5 lakh support for EWS families to build pucca houses on their own land.

Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP) – Public/private agencies build affordable homes for EWS families with subsidy up to ₹2.5 lakh.

Affordable Rental Housing (ARH) – Rental homes for EWS/LIG, migrants, and workers with basic civic and social amenities ensured by States/UTs.

Interest Subsidy Scheme (ISS) – Interest subsidy on home loans for EWS, LIG, and MIG households for buying or building houses.

2. Port-Based Green Hydrogen Pilot Project

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways inaugurated India’s first Port-based Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port, Thoothukudi, marking a milestone in India’s clean energy transition.

Green Hydrogen – Green hydrogen is produced by splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen through electrolysis powered by renewable energy like solar or wind.

About Green Hydrogen Pilot Project

Project Cost – Built at a cost of ₹3.87 crore.

Capacity - 10 Nm³/hr.

Applications - Used for powering streetlights and an electric vehicle charging station in the port colony.

Milestone - VOC Port becomes the first Indian port to produce green hydrogen.

About V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust (Tuticorin Port)

It is the second-largest port in Tamil Nadu and the third-largest container terminal in India.

Location - Located in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, V.O. Chidambaranar Port is a major seaport declared on July 11, 1974.

History - Formerly Tuticorin Port, it was renamed in honour of freedom fighter and maritime pioneer V.O. Chidambaram Pillai, remembered as "Kappalottiya Thamizhan."

3. India's First Lithium-Ion Battery Plant

Union Minister for Electronics & IT inaugurated India's first advanced lithium-ion battery manufacturing plant in Sohna, Haryana.

Manufacturing Plant Details

Investment - ₹3,000 crore.

Capacity - 20 crore battery packs annually (to meet ~40% of India's requirement of 50 crore cell packs/year).

Products - Lithium-ion batteries for mobile phones, wearables, hearables (watches, earbuds, AirPods), and laptops.

Employment - Expected to create 5,000 jobs.

Timeline - Initial production to begin in Q4 2025, gradually scaling to full capacity.

Scheme - Established under the Centre's Electronics Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) scheme.

Significance of the Plant

Self-Reliance - Marks a major step towards self-reliance in electronics manufacturing.

Reduced Imports - Lowers dependency on imported key components.

Global Hub - Supports India's goal of emerging as a global hub for electronics and semiconductors.

About Lithium-ion battery

A Li-ion (lithium-ion) battery is a rechargeable battery that stores and releases energy using lithium ions, widely used in electronics, electric vehicles, and renewable energy storage due to its high energy density and long life.