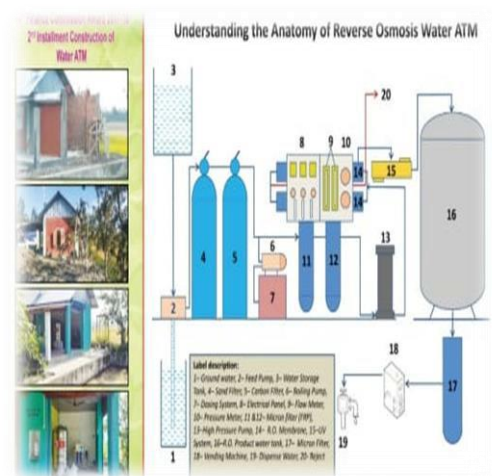


<b>Name of the Gram Panchayat</b>	<b>Keinou</b>
<b>State/UTs</b>	<b>Manipur</b>
<b>Theme</b>	<b>OSR Generation</b>

Keinou Gram Panchayat is awarded under **Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar -2020** as best performing panchayat for their remarkable efforts made in Own Source Revenue Generation. It comes under Nambol CD Block in Bishnupur District of Manipur State, It is located 7 KM towards North from District headquarters Bishnupur and 22 KM from State capital Imphal. As per MA survey (Mission Antyodaya) 2019 Keinou GP has total population of 8788 with literacy rate of 78% and sex ratio of 1000 boys to 990 Girls. It consist of 3 villages and Most of the villagers are employed as agricultural laborer’s in the surrounding paddy fields. The Meetei community is the dominant population in the GP as well as in the district.

In order to strengthen the Gram Panchayats (GPs) financially through Own Source Revenue Generation and with a purpose of providing a measure of unconditional support to the GPs for delivering basic services, Through the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC), A (RO+UV) treated Drinking water plant Kiosk (Water ATM) has been made available at the Panchayat Ghar where citizens can avail 20 litres of Drinking water for 10 Rupees anytime.



The demand-responsive approach for Drinking water supply services in a GP required a joint efforts by community and local government (PRIs) in service design, construction and operation and maintenance (O&M) of water supply services –making community participation through PRIs an integral part of rural water supply schemes.

The major problem faced by Keinou GP is that 90% of the households were lacked of potable tap water and depend entirely on pond water which contains highly toxic due to the presence of radioactive elements and high fluoride content and other water purchases it from water delivery Tankers services. Even the average annual rainfall is more than 1881mm; during winter season almost all the water bodies in the GP runs dry. The GP was not able to construct a water supply even for a single village in the GP and face the lowest Devolution Index in the country from line departments with respect to PHED in this regard. This is becoming a serious constraint in managing the water supply. Around 50 per cent of the total households of GP

Keinou are paying money and buying water at present. Rest of them is not able to buy drinking water in which it leads to give birth to various Water borne diseases in the society.

In November 2017, the newly elected Pradhan (Ngangom Sovana Devi) and the elected body took it as a prestige issue and decided to resolve this problem at the earliest. In the coming Gram Sabha in which all the woman SHG, CBO's senior citizens and the members of important business units were invited. The idea was to understand the intensity of financial crisis and support of different agencies essential to tide over the crisis.

The major strategy adopted by Panchayat was to ensure recoveries, in each of the wards, through the ward members and mobilization of resources from other sources. For identification of problems and resolving Panchayat started to organize ward level meetings of every month. These meetings helped Panchayat in giving awareness on RO+UV treated Drinking water as well as resolving emerging problems. This interaction with voters created confidence among the community that elected representatives are responsive towards their problems and needs. Such interaction also resulted in making Panchayat accountable to the needs of the community. GP Pradhan took advantage of her educational background as a teacher and started mobilizing resources from block and district levels. In this series, GP has communicated their problems to higher officials and leaders.

The GP Pradhan took an initiative and installed the RO plant in the Panchayat Ghar. The funds for installing the RO water plant were managed by the Panchayat funded from 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission. The water supply is done on a vending machine with two 5 rupees coins needs to be inserted in the Kiosk and 20 litres of RO treated water will be delivered. A card is issued for 20 litres of drinking water per day for every ST household in the GP. This plant is in the name as "**Kanglei Eshing**". The water supply starts from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm and the GP people stores the water in tanks at home. In the event of requiring more water it can be further taken. The plant is managed by the Gram Sabha nominee Woman SHG who is paid 1500 Rupees per month. The most significant part of these SHG group woman provides the free delivery of bulk orders of RO water in religious occasions and functions in and around the GP and promotes the ban of use of individual plastic bottles usage and promotes the health benefits of drinking water in Copper vessels.

## RO+UV Treated Potable Drinking Water



(Citizens waiting in queue for availing the RO Water at the Panchayat Ghar)

### Benefits of Best Practice

- The implementation of the scheme brought satisfaction to the people of the village as there is no Drinking water shortage now and there is proper usage of the RO+UV treated water which has brought a lot of healthy benefits to the people.
- Reduction of water-borne diseases and children are healthy and safe. The health problems related to water has reduced by 50 per cent.
- Incidence of cancer has reduced heavily.
- There are no incidents of children getting sick in water born diseases.
- The women are empowered and participating in Gram Sabha meetings putting forth their demands to resolve the problem of Drinking water Shortage. They have become more active in their social and cultural life.
- The economy of the homes has improved as the men and women are able to perform their duties and jobs regularly.
- The RO plant gives clean drinking water 7 days a week with no dispute.
- GP provides 50% discounts to defense, active services & Police personals.

As an outcome of this effort, GP Keinou has both direct as well as indirect benefits.

The efforts immediately paid in form of OSR. Major source of income generated were rise by 65% of this, Different services like water distribution, sanitation and street lights and other services are provided by GP on regular basis. The GP considers generation of resources as an integral part of development. It has identified a Number of sources like drinking water, periodical markets, permanent shop etc., from where revenue can be generated and it also mobilised people to pay tax. As GP follows a transparent functioning process, it declares in Gram Sabha meeting the amount of revenue generated, and expenditure incurred. The outcome of this initiative is the rise in the amount of revenue income of the GP. Now, the villagers pay taxes and fees willingly. Even they themselves come to GP office to take information on the pending amount of revenue.



Figure 1: Defense personal collecting water from the RO Plant

Despite the unrest law & order situation of the State and the poor management systems Keinou GP has put in its best efforts in order to provide basic amenities to the poor. The greatest learning from this GP is the teamwork of the elected representatives for achievement of common good. This clearly shows their commitment and accountability to the people. Having understood that they cannot fight the system as individuals, the members united themselves for a common goal, even if this required them to travel that extra mile in order to achieve the goal of providing RO drinking water to all the remaining villages of the Keinou GP and generate adequate amount of revenues in return. The enlightened approach of effectively leveraging the political influence of the local MLA – not for some personal gain – but for the larger welfare of people has been the hallmark of GP's functioning.

