

6th NLSC meeting of Atal Bhujal Yojana on 7th June, 2024

The sixth meeting of the National Level Steering Committee (NLSC) for implementation of Atal Bhujal Yojana was held on 7th June 2024 in Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC), New Delhi. The meeting was held under the Chairpersonship of the Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, MoJS, GoI. Senior officers from the participating States, representatives from various Ministries / Departments, officers of the World Bank and NPMU attended the meeting.

The Joint Secretary (A, IC &GW) and the National Project Coordinator, Atal Bhujal Yojana in his welcome remarks highlighted that the scheme is in the fifth year of implementation and the last year shall be optimally utilized to show the impact of the scheme so that it can be demonstrated in other areas. He also emphasized that the community participation is the fundamental aspect of the scheme and Community Resource Persons in each Gram Panchayat should take up the activities of the scheme beyond its scheduled end.

Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR in her opening remark highlighted that Atal Bhujal Yojana is the only program targeting towards demand side groundwater management and focusing on behavioral change of the community. It was also emphasized that the States should utilize the remaining scheme period to enhance the efforts for achievement of targets. The importance of analysis & utilisation of data for assessing the impact of the scheme in the selected areas was also highlighted. States were directed to document the best practices being implemented under the scheme. Further, all participating States were requested to integrate WSPs in the Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) to provide sustainability to the approach followed by the scheme even after completion of Scheme period.

The committee reviewed the overall progress of the scheme and directed the States to expedite all the activities including convergence for implementation of the interventions proposed under Water Security Plans (WSPs) to see the impact of the scheme in the form of arrest in decline of groundwater levels. Brief presentations were made by NPMU on Impact Assessment of top performing GPs in the States and adoption of micro irrigation by the States which provided interesting insights.



6th National Level Steering Committee Meeting, Atal Bhujal Yojana



Ms. Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, DoWR, RD&GR, GOI, addressing the participants during the 6th NLSC Meeting



Sh. Subodh Yadav, Joint Secretary (Admin, IC & GW), DoWR, RD & GR & the National Project Coordinator, Atal Bhujal Yojana addressing the participants during the 6th NLSC meeting