

# Bolster infra, ensure 24x7 power supply in Uttar Pradesh, says CM Yogi Adityanath

TNN | Apr 26, 2022, 03:46 AM IST



LUCKNOW: Taking note of the increasing complaints of power cuts, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday directed the officials to take steps to ensure round-the-clock electricity supply in the state. Holding a review meeting with senior officials of the power department on Monday, the CM said that arrangements should be made to procure necessary resources and ensure that the supply roster is maintained as per the original plan.

To meet the increasing demand due to extreme weather conditions, the power department has been resorting to unannounced cuts and shutdown.

Yogi also asked the officials to expedite the process of the installation of smart meters and bring down line losses.

Officials were also asked to disconnect power supply of consumers who were yet to make payment despite warning. The CM asked officials to procure coal from the central government and increase production. "Make efforts to improve infrastructure and shift supply cables underground. Ensure that round-the-clock supply is provided all over the state in the long term," Yogi said.

To cater to the rural population which lacks metered connections, the CM asked officials to provide new connections under the Saubhagya Scheme under which free meters are installed in economically poor households while a nominal charge of Rs 500 is taken and adjusted for other families.

For recovery of bills and charges in rural areas, Yogi asked officials to intensify its outreach and take support from self-help groups. "Camps to offer one-time settlement facility should be organised in urban areas to provide relief to consumers who have defaulted on payments," he said. Energy minister AK Sharma and senior officials of the power department were present in the meeting.

"Demand peaks up during the night when families switch on airconditioners. Majority of households are running multiple ACs leading to increased demand. Last year, unseasonal rain kept temperature under control but this time it was difficult to meet the demand in the first half of April.