

Now, farmers can set up solar plants on uncultivable land

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Govt grant for setting up solar plants

Lucknow: Under the PM Kusum Yojna which allows farmers to set up solar projects on uncultivable and barren land, the Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL) has entered into a power purchase agreement with farmers in six districts for 7 MW solar power generation projects.

The districts include Bijnor, Hathras, Mahoba, Jalaun, Deoria and Lucknow.

Under this project, farmers will set up solar power generation centres on their barren or uncultivable farmland with the help of finance from banks and subsidies from the government.

A government spokesperson said that the farmers would be able to sell electricity produced on their land to the government or private power companies and earn additional income.

Chairperson, UPPCL, M Devraj said that a solar power generation centre of 1.5 MW would be set up in Vilaspur village of Bijnor, 0.5 MW

Lucknow: The state government will provide grants to powerloom weavers for setting up solar power plants under the Chief Minister Weaver Solar Energy Scheme. Women weavers will be given special benefits. Arun Kumar Kuril, assistant commissioner of Handloom and Textile Industries of Varanasi zone, said that for general weavers, 50% of the total cost of solar plant would be given as grant. The remaining 50% cost would be borne by the beneficiary directly or through a bank loan. For SC/ST weavers, this grant will go up from 50% to 75%. "Solar power plants with capacity of upto 10KW will be proposed by a zonal level committee while those above 10KW will be proposed by a state level committee. The scheme will incorporate at least 10% women weavers as beneficiaries," Kuril said. Around 2.5 lakh powerloom units are functional in UP, through which 5.50 lakh weavers are earning their living, he added. TNN

in Mauhari village of Hathras, 1 MW in Devgaon village of Mahoba, 1 MW in Khuksis village of Jalaun, 1 MW in Bariyarpur village of Deoria and a 2 MW solar power generation centre in Parseni village of Lucknow.

"The programme will help farmers use solar-powered irrigation pumps in place of outdated diesel irrigation pumps. Moreover, by selling electricity produced by the solar plant to power providers, they can make additional Rs 80,000 every year," he

said. The government will give 90% subsidy on the total cost of the solar pump to farmers. The spokesperson said that under the Kusum Scheme, 5 acre land is required to set up a 1 MW solar plant. One acre land generates 0.2 MW of electricity. "Through this scheme, farmers can also eliminate the problem related to shortage of electricity in their area. The pumps given under this scheme will be installed in place of agricultural pumps that run on electricity and diesel," he said.