

# In a solar leap, UP starts generating 528MW power

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Lucknow:** Uttar Pradesh has commenced generating 528 MW of power from its solar power plant, marking a significant milestone in the state's renewable energy endeavours. The state is in the process of establishing nine solar parks with a cumulative capacity of 3,840 MW, primarily situated in the Bundelkhand region and other areas, which has attracted substantial investment in the solar sector.

Uttar Pradesh currently holds the fifth position in the country for large-scale solar

energy production, following Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh.

Over the past year, 528 MW of ground-mounted utility-scale solar projects have been commissioned, with plans in motion to establish an additional 6,800 MW.

Under the govt of India's scheme for developing solar parks and ultra mega solar power projects, a total capacity of 39,250 MW has been sanctioned. So far, solar projects with a capacity of 11,591 MW have been established across 22 solar parks in the co-

untry.

Apart from the development of solar parks, the Uttar Pradesh govt has placed a strong emphasis on promoting rooftop solar installations on residential buildings, developing solar towns, and expanding solar power utilisation for agricultural farms, pump storage, and bio-energy production.

The state currently holds the second position in the nation for biomass energy production. Under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana, solar power plants are being installed on the rooftops of 2.5 million ho-

mes, providing each household with 300 units of free electricity. Uttar Pradesh has set an ambitious target of generating 22,000 MW of solar energy, which includes 6,000 MW from rooftop installations on private and govt buildings and 14,000 MW from solar utility projects and solar parks.

At present, a total of 3,871.17 MW of grid-connected renewable capacity has been installed in the state, with an additional 2,594 MW generated from ground-mounted projects for captive use, third-party sales, and open sa-

les to DISCOM and UPPCL. Furthermore, rooftop solar systems with a capacity of 375 MW have been installed in homes across the state.

Under the PM KUSUM Yojana, 16.17 MW of grid-connected tubewells are now operating on solar energy. The state is also solarising farmers' private on-grid pumps and dedicated agricultural power feeders.

In 61 districts across Uttar Pradesh, solar energy is being harnessed to power drinking water pumping stations with a total capacity of 886 MW.