

## UP'S SUCCESS STORIES

### Bundelkhand: UP's powerhouse

P.C. DMP, UTTAR PRADESH GOVT



400 MW Metalia dam & reservoir floating solar project; 37 MW Jamini dam & reservoir floating solar project, Lalitpur; 27 MW Arjun Sagar floating solar project, Mahoba

Once perceived as an overlooked and backward region of UP, today Bundelkhand, under the leadership of CM Yogi Adityanath, is leaping forward in becoming the new powerhouse of Uttar Pradesh. With the ground-breaking ceremony of projects worth more than Rs 10 lakh crore, the entire region is set to become the new energy hub of the state. Around 10 solar energy projects have been launched in Bundelkhand, which will generate over 3,000 megawatts of electricity. The solar energy production

plants will be established in Jalaun, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Banda, Chitrakoot, and Mahoba districts of the Bundelkhand region. Three solar power units are being set up in Jhansi district alone.

The Yogi Adityanath-led government launched several development and infrastructure projects in Bundelkhand to encourage investors to set up their enterprises in this region since 2017. Furthermore, the Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA) is establishing a land bank of government revenue land in

**With 10 big solar projects, Bundelkhand is at the cusp of becoming the new power bank of UP**

the Bundelkhand region. The agency has partnered with the Tata Group to install rooftop solar panels on 10 lakh houses in the state and commenced with the initiative in Varanasi. Additionally, UP recognises the necessity for a robust transmission system for power generation and supply. To address this, a Green Energy Corridor with a capacity for evacuating 4,000 MW of power is coming up in Bundelkhand.

- Jhansi, Lalitpur and Chitrakoot being established as hub for ground-mounted ultra mega solar parks—with 2,000 MW solar plants
- These solar parks to be set up on 9,000 acres; land acquisition from 32 villages underway
- Will create jobs for 18,000+ workers

The first phase, with a capacity of 2,000 MW, is targeted for completion by 2026. The state is also persisting in its endeavours, particularly in economics, storage, and infrastructure. To encourage the adoption of renewable energy, Uttar Pradesh offers various subsidies and fiscal incentives. For instance, the state provides a subsidy of Rs 30,000 per consumer, in addition to central subsidies, for installing solar rooftop systems.

- BSJL establishing 1200 MW Jalaun solar park in Jalaun district
- In Jhansi district, a 600 MW solar plant is being established by Tusco for Rs 3,430 crore, with the potential to create 300 job opportunities
- Fourth Partner Energy Private Ltd setting up a 100 MW solar plant at Rs 1,200 crore
- Sun Source Energy has commissioned three open access solar power plants totaling a capacity of 45 MW, expected to generate 1.5 million megawatt-hours (MWh) of solar energy
- A 600 MW solar power plant is being established by Tusco in Lalitpur district at the cost of Rs 3,450 crore
- 10-15 MW solar power project being established by Surya Urja Four Private Ltd at a cost of Rs 150 crore, which will generate employment opportunities for 200 people
- Aavaad Group has started 70 MW solar power project in Banda
- A 15 MW solar power project being established by Suresure Solarpark Five Private Ltd at a cost of Rs 62 crore
- In Chitrakoot, Tusco Ltd setting an 800 MW solar power project for Rs 4,700 crore, which will provide employment to 400 people. Foundation stone laid
- Shree Cement Private Ltd setting a solar power plant worth Rs 202 crore
- THDC establishing 464 MW Arjun Sagar Floating Solar Power Project worth Rs 1008 crore in Mahoba

### A new horizon shines: Solar cities of Uttar Pradesh

With Ayodhya and Kashi as the frontrunners, Uttar Pradesh set to develop 17 major solar cities across the state



Solar panels at KGMU building in Lucknow

To augment the adoption of solar energy, UP government has unveiled its plans to develop its 17 municipal civic bodies in the state as solar cities, including Ayodhya and Varanasi. Solar power plants are coming up in Agra, Aligarh, Bareilly, Firozabad, Ghazipur, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Meerut, Moradabad, Prayagraj, Saharanpur, Shajahanpur, and Mathura Vrindavan. Under the initiative, the development of solar cities will take place, followed by building solar villages on the same pattern. Notably, the administration has already established Ayodhya as the inaugural solar city. Hence, Ayodhya stands at the forefront of these efforts, with the successful commencement of solar energy production. Nearly 14 MW of solar energy is being generated in Ayodhya, while an additional 40 MW capacity has been established. Varanasi is also slated to witness the installation of 25,000 rooftop solar plants.



### SOLAR INITIATIVES IN AYODHYA

Solar-powered boat operational on the Saryu

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Ayodhya's solar city project encompasses the installation of over 2,500 solar-powered streetlights, enhancing the government's commitment to sustainability. CM Yogi Adityanath launched a solar boat service in Ayodhya earlier this year. The city boasts of solar-powered amenities such as ATMs and solar trees adorning its 40 intersections.

Meanwhile, the UP government has marked a significant milestone by achieving 40 MW power generation capacity through solar energy. This accomplishment has earned Ayodhya the prestigious designation of a 'Model Solar City' under the Uttar Pradesh Solar Energy Policy 2022.

According to the policy, a solar city is defined as one where renewable energy plants can reduce the estimated total de-

mand for conventional energy by at least 10%. Ayodhya has surpassed this benchmark, achieving double the required capacity. Notably, Ayodhya's estimated power demand is 198 MW. To meet 10% of this demand, the capacity of the solar power plant has reached

**Ayodhya's solar city project encompasses the installation of over 2,500 solar-powered streetlights, enhancing UP's commitment to sustainability**

40 MW. The plant was set up by NTPC Green Energy Limited near the Saryu River in the villages of Majha Rampur Halwara and Majha Sarairasi.

The UP government has leased 165.10 acres of land to NTPC Green Energy Limited for 30 years.

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