

Lucknow leads solar power mission, 11K units installed

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: The state capital has emerged as the vanguard in installation of rooftop solar panels under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana, a pioneering initiative launched earlier this year. The city has outpaced its counterparts, as Varanasi, Kanpur, Agra, and Kanpur Nagar follow closely behind, constituting the top five districts in the state.

The scheme, which aims to resolve permanently the predicament of availability of electricity in the country through solar energy and provide nearly gratuitous power to the public, is making significant headway in UP under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who has

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set district-specific targets for all 75 districts to install solar rooftop panels on residential buildings and the progress is being monitored meticulously.

During a recent review conducted by chief secretary Manoj Kumar Singh, it was observed that Lucknow had the highest number of operational solar rooftop panels in the state, with 11,435 installations. Varanasi, the parliamentary constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, secured the second position with 4,088 installations, while Kanpur,

Agra, and Prayagraj reported 1,909, 1,364, and 1,349 installations, respectively.

Power department has been directed to expedite work in other districts as well, as the campaign gains momentum across the state.

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The scheme offers substantial subsidies, with Central govt providing ₹30,000 and sta-

te govt contributing ₹15,000, totaling ₹45,000 for a 1-kilowatt rooftop installation.

Subsidy amount increases proportionally for higher capacity installations, with a combined subsidy of ₹90,000 for a 2-kilowatt installation and ₹1.08 lakh for installations of 3 kilowatts and above.

Launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Feb 15, the PM Surya Ghar Yojana has an ambitious target of installing rooftop panels on 1 crore homes across the country by 2027.

CM Yogi has set a formidable target of installing solar panels on 25 lakh homes in the state, assigning specific targets to all seven DISCOMs and each district.