

# Govt nod to solar power projects worth around ₹10,000 crore

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The Uttar Pradesh government has approved solar power projects worth around Rs 10,000 crore to achieve the state's renewable energy capacity of 22,000 megawatts. The new solar power projects of 2,000 MW would be set up in Jhansi, Lalitpur, and Chitrakoot districts in Bundelkhand region. While NTPC green energy will develop 800 MW and 600 MW solar power plants in Chitrakoot and Lalitpur, respectively, Hinduja Group has been chosen to develop a 600 MW unit in Jhansi.

The Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNE-DA) has picked the two companies to develop three solar power projects, which are expected to become operational by December 2025. The Uttar Pradesh New and

Renewable Energy Development Agency has floated bidding documents for another 1,200 MW solar power plant at Jalaun, Bundelkhand. Similar projects have been proposed in other places, including Mirzapur, Kanpur and Prayagraj.

The state government is also planning to set up floating solar plants across reservoirs in partnership with NTPC, Tehri Hydro Development Corporation and Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam.

The government has also drawn plans to expand compressed biogas capacity to 1,000 tonnes per day (TPD), bio coal to 4,000 TPD, and biodiesel to 2,000 kilo litres per day in the next two years. According to official sources, to cater demand, the government has drafted a blueprint for enhancing power infrastructure over the next

decade.

This includes setting up modern power plants and upgrading existing ones to ensure uninterrupted energy supply for industrial growth.

UP has estimated to save one trillion rupees by trimming costs through the replacement of conventional energy with solar power. The state has integrated solar energy into the Jal Jeevan Mission that currently has a portfolio of 41,000 projects. It is expected to save the exchequer one trillion rupees by cutting down on energy bills.

Moreover, these projects will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 1.3 million tons (MT) annually, while solar energy-based schemes are expected to earn 39 million carbon credits over 30 years. The government has set a production target of 1 MT per year of green hydrogen/green ammonia by 2029.