Boost for UP's energy sector with thermal projects' launch

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kanpur: PM Narendra Modi on Friday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 15 mega development projects, including those of thermal power, worth over Rs 47,000 crore in Kanpur.

He inaugurated a 660-MW Panki thermal power extension project in Kanpur worth over Rs 8,300 crore and three 660-MW units of Ghatampur thermal power project worth over Rs 9,330 crore.

The PM also inaugurated rail over bridges over Panki Power House Railway Crossing and over Panki Dham Crossing on Panki Road at Kalyanpur Panki Mandir in Kanpur. It will support the Panki Thermal Power Extension Project's logistics by facilitating coal and oil transport while also alleviating traffic congestion for the local population.

These projects mark a historic milestone in the state's energy sector, setting the foundation for unprecedented growth in electricity production and distribution. They are expected to add 3,081 megawatts of additional electricity generation capacity, representing a 24.89% boost in the state's total power output. This will strengthen UP's ability to meet its rising energy demands, particularly in the industrial, agricultural, and domestic sectors.

UP is set to gain many benefits. The most important is the move towards becoming self-reliant in electricity production. The state's total power generation capacity has risen from 15,916MW in 2017 to 24,868MW, and by the end of this year, it is expected to reach 27,184MW. All new projects use supercritical technology, which generates more electricity using less coal.



PM Narendra Modi with a beneficiary in Kanpur on Friday

This significantly reduced carbon emissions and supported environmental protection.

Of the electricity produced by the new projects, 75.11% will be used in UP and 24.89% will be supplied to Assam. This will not only earn the state income but also help balance energy distribution. Stronger power supply will directly help farmers, households, and industries.

Modi inaugurated the new underground section of the Kanpur metro rail project worth over Rs 2,120 crore from Chunniganj to Kanpur Central. This section includes five new underground stations — Chunniganj, Bada Chauraha, Naveen Market, Nayaganj and Kanpur Central. It will include 14 planned stations with five new underground stations integrating key city landmarks and commercial hubs into the metro network. Additionally, he also inaugurated road widening and strengthening work of GT Road. With this extension, important city landmarks such as Lal Imli, Z Square Mall, Green Park Stadium, Parade Ground, Book Market and Somdutt Plaza will be directly connected via metro.

Modi laid the foundation stone for a 220 kV substation in Sector 28 at Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA), Gautam Budh Nagar to meet the growing energy demands of the region. He also inaugurated 132 kV substations worth over Rs 320 crore at Ecotech-8 and Ecotech-10 in Greater Noida.

PM inaugurated a 40 MLD tertiary treatment plant at Bingawan in Kanpur worth over Rs 290 crore. It will enable reuse of treated sewage water, promoting water conservation and sustainable resource management in the region. In a boost to road infrastructure, Modi laid the foundation stone for widening and strengthening of Gauria Pali Marg for industrial development, and widening and strengthening of the road to connect Narwal Mode (AH-1) on Prayagraj Highway to Kanpur Defence Node (4 lane) under Defence Corridor, both in Kanpur Nagar.

He also distributed certificates and cheques to the beneficiaries of PM Ayushman Vay Vandana Yojana, National Livelihood Mission and PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.