

250 MW solar power project to be built on defence land

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In a first-of-its-kind project undertaken by the Ministry of Defence, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday approved the setting up of a 250 MW solar power project with battery energy storage systems (BESS), spread over 850 acres, at Sitapur in Uttar Pradesh.

LAND LEVERAGE

The MoD has 18 lakh acres of land, of which it has identified 45,906 acres as surplus.

These land holdings can be utilised for other initiatives, such as setting up solar and wind power projects, compressed biogas (CBG) plants, and afforestation and floriculture.

The initiative reflects the government's commitment to clean energy, sustainability, and reducing dependence on conventional en-



Defence Minister
Rajnath Singh

ergy sources. Besides strengthening long-term energy security for the defence forces, the project is expected to substantially reduce expenditure on the procurement of conventional grid power for defence establishments, resulting in significant savings to the government exchequer over the life cycle of the project.

COMPETITIVE BIDDING

State-run NTPC is implementing the project through a competitive bidding process to achieve optimal energy pricing and savings for defence establishments.

The project will be implemented in close coordination with the Integrated HQ of the Ministry of Defence (Army) and the Directorate General Defence Estates (DGDE).

The project represents a convergence of national security, energy security, technological innovation and environmental sustainability, highlighting the Ministry of Defence's commitment to leveraging its assets to support national development goals while safeguarding strategic interests.

The Ministry of Defence, the NTPC, the IHQ of the Ministry (Army) and the DGDE will work together to ensure the timely implementation of the project.