

New 660MW unit of Panki power plant in Knp gets operational

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Kanpur: The new 660MW unit at Panki power plant, which was shut down in 2016 due to outdated machinery, began operations on Friday.

In 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation of the new unit. With the 660 MW supercritical thermal power plant operating at full capacity, approximately 396MW (60%) will be allocated to Uttar Pradesh significantly aiding in alleviating the state's power crisis, while 40% will go to the central govt.

The plant, commissioned by Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd, is spread across 80 hectares. Officials said the plant, costing Rs 5,816 crore, was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019 and approval to dismantle old units and build new ones at the Panki power plant was granted in 2018. Spanning about 80 hec-

tares, the plant will directly employ 600 people and indirectly provide jobs to around 3,000.

Officials said that after a 72-hour final trial, production began late Friday evening, and a formal inauguration would be done soon.

Panki power plant CGM GK Mishra said, "Electricity production has started at Panki power plant. Initially, electricity production will be started for eight hours which will be utilised locally for Kanpur."

In Nov 2024, a trial of a new 135 MW unit was conducted, and it is now fully operational. The electricity currently being produced is sent directly to the grid. The new unit will receive coal from Coal India Ltd in Dhanbad.

One important feature of the project is that it is using the 40 MLD treated water from Bingavan STP set up by Namami Gange Jal Nigam unit.