## 'U.P. marching ahead in solar energy field'

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LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh was establishing nine solar parks with a total capacity of 3840 MW, out of which 528 MW of electricity production had already started, energy minister AK Sharma said here on Wednesday, claiming that the state had taken significant strides in the field of renewable energy.

"Uttar Pradesh stands fifth in the country, following Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, which have the best natural potential for solar energy. Large-scale investments have been received for the establishment of solar parks, particularly in Bundelkhand and other regions of the state," he said.

These, according to energy minister AK Sharma include not only the establishment of solar parks but also the installation of rooftop solar panels atop houses, establishment of solar cities, providing electricity to agricultural farms through solar energy, pump storage and biomass energy production. Uttar Pradesh also ranks second in the country in biomass energy production.