

UP set to get 16 more solar cities: Minister

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Lucknow: Besides meeting growing demand, Uttar Pradesh is revamping its power infrastructure under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) scheme, transitioning to renewable alternatives and increasing compressed natural gas (CNG) production, said UP's power minister Arvind Kumar Sharma.

He was speaking at the Distribution Utility Meet, in presence of union power minister Manohar Lal Khattar in Lucknow on Thursday.

Sharma said, "Uttar Pradesh ranks first in the production of compressed bio gas (CBG) and is among the top three states in rooftop solar installation. Substantial enhancements have been implemented in power consumer services. Consumers can now generate their own bills."

He said, "Ayodhya has been developed as the country's first solar city, with a 40 MW solar plant installed. Streetlights, high masts, and boats in the Sarayu are also solar-powered. Sixteen other cities in the state will also be developed as solar cities. The installation of smart metres is progressing expeditiously, and a technology-based billing system is be-



UP energy minister Arvind Kumar Sharma with Union minister Manohar Lal Khattar in Lucknow on Thursday

ing established."

Speaking as the chief guest, Khattar said UP is doing a commendable job in infrastructure development, especially in the power sector.

Meanwhile, UP power regulatory commission chairman Arvind Kumar stated that reducing power costs is the paramount challenge in the state, which has over 3.45 crore consumers to serve.

Additional chief energy officer Narendra Bhushan emphasised the necessity for modern technology to expeditiously resolve consumer issues and ensure electricity supply. There is a focus on increasing electricity production and solar energy.

UPPCL chairman Ashish Kumar Goel mentioned endeavours to rescue all DISCOMs from losses to provide round-the-clock electricity to people.