

Target to install solar panels in over 1 lakh Prayagraj houses

K Sandeep Kumar

ksandeep.kumar@livehindustan.com

PRAYAGRAJ: A target has been set to install solar panels in more than 1 lakh houses in Prayagraj district under the 'PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana'.

The registration process for this scheme has also started and so far, 1,773 connections have been granted under this initiative, as per district officials.

The central government issued operational guidelines for the implementation of incentives to discoms under this scheme on July 22.

The scheme was approved by the Central government in February 2024, with the aim to increase the share of solar rooftop capacity and empower residential households to generate their own electricity.

Under this scheme, apart from 300 units of free electricity, the rural consumers are also being given a subsidy of up to Rs 78,000 by the government for installing solar panels.

Project manager in-charge of Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA) in Prayagraj Gaurav Kumar informed that under PM Surya Ghar Yojana, the central government was providing a subsidy of Rs 30,000 per kilowatt for a solar panel of up to 1 KW capacity, Rs 60,000 per kilowatt for a solar panel of up to 2 KW capacity and Rs 78,000 per kilowatt for a solar panel of up to 3 KW capacity or more. In this, 50% subsidy was from the Central Government and 25% from the state government, he shared.



The central government issued operational guidelines for the implementation of incentives to discoms under this scheme on July 22.

FOR REPRESENTATION

POSTAL DEPT TO DO ITS BIT

The Department of Posts would also play a vital role in not just spreading awareness among people regarding the 'PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana' but registering interested eligible people for it through their postmen. The postmen will assist households in free registration for this scheme through mobile app.

On an average, 0-150 units, 150-300 units and more than 300 units of electricity could be generated respectively from these solar panels per month, he added.

Subsidies are also available for installations in group housing societies and resident welfare associations for common facilities, such as lights in shared spaces and electric vehicle charging stations. These communal installations, up to a

capacity of 500 KW, receive a subsidy of Rs 18,000 per kW.

This initiative aims to help Indian households by providing them with rooftop solar panels at a subsidised cost. The main goal is to make it easier and more affordable for families to use solar energy, a clean and renewable power source, as per officials.

By installing these solar panels, families can generate their own electricity, significantly lowering their electricity bills. Additionally, if they produce more electricity than they need, they can sell it back to the electric grid, earning extra money.

The government provides financial help directly to the families' bank accounts. It offers low-interest loans to support this cause, ensuring that the cost of installing solar panels doesn't burden them. This scheme is especially focused on helping poor and middle-class households by reducing their energy costs and promoting the use of sustainable energy sources.