

# Bundelkhand Expressway set to become UP's 1st Solar Expressway – Check latest update

Solar Expressway in Uttar Pradesh News: The 296-km-long expressway acts as a catalyst for the establishment of the handloom industry, food processing units, storages, markets, and milk-based industries.



**First Solar Expressway in Uttar Pradesh News:** Big boost to Solar energy sector in Uttar Pradesh! The state is set to get its first solar expressway soon. This will not only improve the state government's goals towards green energy but also a clean environment. The state government will install solar panels on the 296-km-long Bundelkhand Expressway. The road stretches from Bharatkoop of Chitrakoot district to Kudrail village in Etawah district of Uttar Pradesh.

## About Bundelkhand Expressway

Constructed at a cost of around Rs 14,850 crore, the expressway was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 16, 2022. The project forms a key feature towards improvement in road infrastructure. The Bundelkhand Expressway has been constructed by the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA).

The PM laid the foundation stone for the construction on February 29, 2020, and was completed within 28 months. It passes through seven districts -- Chitrakoot, Banda, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Auraiya, and Etawah.

## Bundelkhand Expressway: Latest Update

The installation to set up solar panels on Bundelkhand Expressway will begin soon. With an initial investment of Rs 250 crore under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model, the 296-km-long expressway will generate 450 MW of solar power. The project is part of the state government's commitment to improving industrial growth, facilities, and maintenance in industrial corridors and highways. This ambitious project also will mark a significant achievement of the state towards renewable energy goals.

## Significance of Bundelkhand Expressway

The Bundelkhand Expressway gives a major boost to the economic development of the region, resulting in the creation of thousands of jobs for the local people. The expressway links the Bundelkhand area to the national capital through the Agra-Lucknow Expressway and Yamuna Expressway. The expressway acts as a catalyst for the establishment of the handloom industry, food processing units, storages, markets, and milk-based industries.

## Solar Parks at Bundelkhand Region

Earlier, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy approved eight solar parks with an aggregate capacity of 4995 MW in the Bundelkhand region. These are – Jalaun Solar Park (1200 MW), Chitrakoot Solar Park (800 MW), Kalpi Solar Park (65 MW), Lalitpur Solar Park (600 MW), Jhansi Solar park (600 MW), UP Solar Park (150 MW), Chhatarpur Solar Park (950 MW), and Barethi Solar Park (630 MW).