



Transforming Major UP Cities into Solar Hubs

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttar Pradesh government has unveiled plans to develop **17 major cities** of the state as **solar cities**, along with [Ayodhya](#) and **Varanasi**.

Key Points

- The Government of Uttar Pradesh is making efforts to establish Ayodhya as the **state's first solar city**.
 - Preparations are underway to inaugurate a **large-scale solar plant** in **Varanasi**, further cementing **Uttar Pradesh's status** as a **frontrunner** in the **solar energy sector**,"
- A remarkable **14 MW of solar energy** is already being generated in **Ayodhya**, while an additional 40 MW capacity has already been installed and the production is poised to start soon".
- The [Solar City project in Ayodhya](#) encompasses the installation of over **2,500 solar-powered street lights**, underscoring the city's commitment to sustainability.
 - The CM of UP inaugurated a **solar boat** in **Ayodhya**.
- Ayodhya also **boasts solar-powered amenities** such as **ATMs** and **solar trees** adorning its **40 intersections**, epitomizing the city's embrace of **renewable energy solutions**.
- The focus now shifts to **Varanasi**, where plans are to install [rooftop solar plants](#) across government buildings.
 - Varanasi is slated to witness the installation of **25,000 rooftop solar plants**, positioning it as a beacon of **solar innovation**.