

Viability Gap Funding (VGF) Scheme

Source: PIB

The Union Cabinet has recently approved the <u>Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme</u> for offshore wind energy projects with a total outlay of **Rs.7453 crore.**

- The scheme includes the installation and commissioning of 1 GW (Gigawatt) of offshore wind energy projects with an outlay of Rs. 6853 crore, featuring 500 MW wind energy projects off the coasts of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.
 - Offshore wind is a source of <u>renewable energy</u> which offers several advantages such as higher adequacy & reliability, lower storage requirement.
- The VGF scheme, **overseen by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**, is a major step towards implementing the National Offshore Wind Energy Policy **notified in 2015**.
 - VGF is a government grant of up to 40% of the total project cost, provided to support infrastructure projects that are economically justified but not financially viable.
- The VGF support from the Government will reduce the cost of power from offshore wind projects and make them viable for purchase by <u>Distribution Companies (DISCOMs)</u>.

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