



Model Solar Village

Why in News?

Every village in Ayodhya with a population of **5,000** will be developed as a **model solar village**, with a goal of installing **50,000 solar homes**.

Key Points

- The **PM Solar Home scheme** aims to turn **Ayodhya** into a **solar city** by **equipping 50,000 homes with solar panels**.
 - The **Model Solar Village** scheme will select one village of **5,000 residents from a list of 42** to promote widespread installation of solar panels.
- Each family for **1 kilowatt solar panel** will incur a cost of **Rs.65,000, with Rs.30,000** subsidized by the central government and **Rs.15,000** by the state government.
 - Farmers installing solar pumps will receive extra grants under the **KUSUM scheme**.
- The central government has **allocated Rs.1 crore for each Model Solar Village**, which will be transferred to the gram panchayat to fund its development.

What is PM-KUSUM?

- **About:**
 - The **PM-KUSUM** is a flagship scheme initiated by the Indian government in 2019 with the primary objective of transforming the **agricultural sector** by promoting the adoption of solar energy solutions.
 - It operates on a demand-driven approach. Capacities are allocated based on the demands received from various states and union territories (UTs).
 - Through various components and financial support, **PM-KUSUM** envisions achieving a significant **solar power capacity** addition of **30.8 GW** by March 31, 2026.
- **Objectives of PM-KUSUM:**
 - **Reduce the Farm Sector's Reliance on Diesel:** The scheme aims to reduce the dependence on diesel for irrigation by encouraging the use of **solar-powered pumps** and other renewable energy sources.
 - It also seeks to increase farmers' income by reducing irrigation costs through the use of solar pumps and enabling them to sell surplus solar power to the grid.
 - **Water and Energy Security for Farmers:** By providing access to solar pumps and promoting solar-based community irrigation projects, the scheme aims to enhance water and energy security for farmers.
 - **Curbing Environmental Pollution:** Through the adoption of **clean and renewable solar energy**, the scheme aims to mitigate environmental pollution caused by conventional energy sources.
- **Components:**
 - **Component-A:** Setting up of **10,000 MW** of Decentralized Ground/Stilt Mounted Solar Power Plants on barren/fallow/pasture/marshy/ cultivable land of farmers.
 - **Component-B:** Installation of **20 Lakh Stand-alone Solar Pumps** in off-grid areas.
 - **Component-C:** Solarisation of 15 Lakh Grid Connected Agriculture Pumps through Individual Pump Solarisation and Feeder Level Solarisation.

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