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## Kisan Suryodaya Yojana: Gujarat

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### Why in News

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Recently, the Prime Minister has launched the '**Kisan Suryodaya Yojana**' aimed at providing **day-time electricity to farmers in Gujarat** for irrigation and farming purposes.

The Prime Minister also launched a **2.3 km-long ropeway project on Mount Girnar** in Junagadh city, a major pilgrimage site.

### Key Points

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### **Kisan Suryodaya Yojana:**

- **Rs. 3,500 crore** will be spent over the **next three years** for providing solar power to farmers for irrigation during daytime (5 AM to 9 PM).
- About **3,500 circuit kilometers (CKM) of new transmission lines** will be laid.
- **10 districts** including Dahod, Gir-Somnath and Tapi have been selected under the Scheme for 2020-21. The remaining districts will be covered in a phase-wise manner by 2022-23.
- **Significance:**
  - It would help in the **expansion of micro irrigation** in the state. Micro irrigation is defined as the frequent application of small quantities of water directly above and below the soil surface; usually as discrete drops, continuous drops or tiny streams through emitters placed along a water delivery line.
  - It would complement irrigation projects of the State- **Sujalam Sufalam** and **SAUNI (Saurashtra-Narmada Avtaran Irrigation) yojana**.
  - It would **complement central government initiatives** like **neem coating urea, Soil Health Cards, KUSUM Yojana**, etc.
  - India has now reached **5<sup>th</sup> position in the world** in the last few years in **solar power** and is advancing fast. Further, it has given the world the plan of **'One Sun, One World, One Grid'**.

### **Note**

- On the **Kisan Suryodaya scheme**, the PM emphasised that farmers should save water and adopt the mantra **'per drop, more crop'**.
- With the objective of "per drop, more crop", **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)** was also **launched in 2015**.
- It is a **centrally sponsored scheme** being implemented to expand cultivated areas with assured irrigation, reduce wastage of water and improve water use efficiency and ensure **"Har Khet Ko Paani"**.
- It was conceived by amalgamating ongoing schemes viz.
  - **Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)** of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (now Ministry of Jal Shakti),
  - **Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)** of Ministry of Rural Development and
  - **On Farm Water Management (OFWM)** of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC).
- The scheme is implemented by the **Ministries of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Jal Shakti and Rural Development**.

### **Ropeway Project on Mount Girnar:**

- The 2.3 km- long ropeway project is being touted as the **longest temple ropeway in Asia**.  
Mount Girnar has **Gorakhnath peak, Guru Dattatreya peak and a Jain temple**.
- It is the **fourth ropeway in Gujarat** along with Banaskantha, Pavagadh and Satpura.
- It will give a **boost to adventure activities as well as tourism** in the state. Sites like **Shivarajpur beach** which has got **blue flag certification** and **Statue of Unity**, provides a lot of employment opportunities to the locals.

**Source: TH**