



Rooftop Solar Scheme

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Why in News

Recently, the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** has released an advisory on the **rooftop solar scheme**.

Key Points

- **Objective:**

To generate solar power by installing **solar panels** on the roof of the houses, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing **Grid-connected Rooftop Solar Scheme (Phase II)**.

- **Grid-Connected Rooftop Solar Scheme (Phase II):**

- It aims to achieve a cumulative capacity of **40,000 MW from Rooftop Solar Projects by the year 2022.**
- In a grid-connected rooftop or small Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) system wherein **the DC power generated from the SPV panel is converted to AC power** using the power conditioning unit and is fed to the grid.
- The **major objective** of the programme includes:
 - To promote the **grid-connected SPV rooftop** and small SPV power generating plants among the residential, community, institutional, industrial and commercial establishments.
 - To **mitigate the dependence on fossil fuel based electricity generation** and encourage environment-friendly Solar electricity generation.
 - To create an **enabling environment for investment in the solar energy** sector by the private sector, state government and the individuals.
 - To create an enabling environment for the **supply of solar power from rooftop and small plants to the grid.**
- This scheme is being implemented in the state by **distribution companies (DISCOMs).**

Under this scheme the Ministry is providing a **40%** subsidy for the first 3 kW and **20%** subsidy beyond **3 kW** and upto **10 kW** of solar panel capacity.
- The **residential consumer has to pay the cost of rooftop solar plant by reducing the subsidy amount** given by the Ministry as per the prescribed rate to the vendor.

- **Other Schemes for Promoting Solar Energy:**

- **Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM):**

The scheme covers grid-connected Renewable Energy power plants (0.5 – 2 MW)/Solar water pumps/grid connected agriculture pumps.

- **Scheme for Development of Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Parks:**

It is a scheme to develop Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Parks (UMREPPs) under the existing Solar Park Scheme.

- **National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy:**

- The main objective of the National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy, 2018 is to provide a framework for **promotion of large grid connected wind-solar PV hybrid systems** for optimal and efficient utilization of wind and solar resources, transmission infrastructure and land.
- The wind - solar PV hybrid systems will help in reducing the variability in renewable power generation and achieving better grid stability.
- The policy also aims to encourage new technologies, methods and way-outs involving combined operation of wind and solar PV plants.

- **Atal Jyoti Yojana (AJAY):**

The AJAY scheme was launched in September 2016 for the installation of **solar street lighting (SSL)** systems in states with less than **50%** households covered with **grid power** (as per Census 2011).

- **International Solar Alliance:** The ISA, is an Indian initiative that was launched by the Prime Minister of India and the President of France on 30th November 2015 in Paris, France on the side-lines of the Conference of the Parties (COP-21), with 121 solar resource rich countries lying fully or partially between the tropic of Cancer and tropic of Capricorn as prospective members.

- **One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG):** It focuses on a framework for facilitating global cooperation, building a global ecosystem of interconnected renewable energy resources (mainly solar energy) that can be seamlessly shared.

- **National Solar Mission (a part of National Action Plan on Climate Change)**

- **Suryamitra Skill Development Programme:** To provide skill training to rural youth in handling solar installations.

Source:PIB