



Bihar's Free Electricity and Solar Power Initiative

Why in News?

The Bihar government will offer **125 units of free electricity** to 1.67 crore families and **install solar power plants** over the next three years with consumer consent.

Key Points

Key Highlights of the Announcement

- **Free Electricity Scheme:** Starting 1 August 2025, 1.67 crore families in Bihar will receive up to 125 units of free electricity, offering **significant financial relief** to domestic consumers.
 - **Financial Impact:** The state government will bear the cost of providing free electricity, estimated to result in an **additional burden of approximately ₹3,375 crore** on the state exchequer. A total subsidy of around ₹19,370 crore will be required for this initiative.
- **Solar Power Plant Installations:** Over the next three years, with the consent of domestic consumers, the state government also plans to **install solar power plants** on rooftops and at nearby public spaces.
 - This initiative aims to provide **sustainable energy solutions** and reduce the dependency on **conventional electricity sources**.
 - **Financial Support:** The Bihar government will fully bear the cost of installing solar power plants for **extremely poor families** under the ongoing **Kutir Jyoti scheme**.
 - For other consumers, the government will provide financial assistance to install solar power plants.
 - **Target for Solar Energy Production:** It is projected that up to **10,000 megawatts of solar energy will be available** in the state over the next three years, marking a significant step towards enhancing the state's renewable energy capacity.

About Kutir Jyoti Scheme

- **About:** The Kutir Jyoti Scheme is a government initiative in India primarily aimed at **improving the quality of life for rural families** living **below the poverty line (BPL)** by providing them access to electricity.
 - **Launched in 1988-89** as a centrally financed program, the main objective of the scheme was to extend single-point light connections to BPL households in rural areas, including those belonging to **Scheduled Castes (SC)** and **tribal communities**.