

India's Largest Battery Storage Project | Rajasthan | 27 Sep 2025 Why in News?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation for **India's largest battery energy storage project in Bikaner, Rajasthan,** alongside a 1,560 MW solar power plant, a key milestone in enhancing renewable energy and energy security.

 The Prime Minister also inaugurated the Avaada Group's 282 MWp solar power project at a different site in Bikaner, further advancing the region's solar energy infrastructure.

Key Points

- About: The Avaada Group's project integrates a 2,500 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a 1,560 MW-peak (MWp) solar power plant, which is located in Pugal, Bikaner. The combined investment for these initiatives exceeds ₹9,200 crore.
 - The solar power plant and BESS occupy 4,000 acres of land and will be equipped with cutting-edge technology, including Avaada Electro's ALMM-certified, Made-in-India TOPCon N-Type bifacial solar PV modules, designed to maximise energy efficiency and stabilise the grid.
 - The 1,560 MWp solar plant will provide electricity even outside typical solar hours, further enhancing its contribution to grid stability.
- Shri Dungargarh Solar Project: The 200 MW Shri Dungargarh Solar Project, covering 777
 acres in Bikaner, will supply power to Rajasthan Discoms. This initiative ensures a cleaner and
 more cost-effective energy supply to the state.
- State's Support: The project's rapid execution—operational in under a year—was made possible by a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed during the <u>Rising Rajasthan</u> event, reflecting the state's commitment to advancing renewable energy.
- **Significance:** The project will ensure continuous green power, enhance **grid resilience**, and set new standards for India's energy security.
 - Together, the projects will generate over **1,600 green jobs in Rajasthan,** cut CO₂ emissions by 20 lakh tons annually, and **conserve 600 lakh litres of water** each year through **robotic cleaning techniques.**

6th Nadi Utsav | National Current Affairs | 27 Sep 2025

Why in the News?

Union Minister for Jal Shakti, **Shri C. R. Patil,** inaugurated the **6th Nadi Utsav,** stressing the collective responsibility of citizens to **protect and conserve rivers.**

■ He emphasised the Namami Gange project, which focuses on maintaining river cleanliness,

preventing encroachments, and preserving sacred rivers that hold religious and cultural value.



Key Points

- Objective: The Nadi Utsav, organised by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) under the Ministry of Culture, highlighted the importance of rivers as essential lifelines and cultural reservoirs.
 - The festival brought together various aspects of rivers, including ecological, cultural, and artistic perspectives, fostering a deeper understanding of their significance.
- **Event Duration:** The event took place from 25th to 27th September 2025 in Delhi, offering an extensive program that included seminars, film screenings, performances, and exhibitions.
- Seminar: The seminar titled Riverscape Dynamics: Changes and Continuity delved into traditional riverine knowledge, river gods and folk narratives, and the role of rivers in art, craft practices, and science.
- My River Story: This festival segment showcased documentaries focusing on ecological issues and human connections to rivers. Featured films include Gotakhors: Disappearing Diving Communities, River Man of India, Arth Ganga, Molai Man Behind the Forest, Cauvery River of Life, and Ladakh Life along the Indus.
- Nadi Anubhav: Curated by Anuj Agarwal, this exhibition features contemporary artworks, Kalighat paintings, photographs, and poetry, all centred around rivers, blending artistic imagination with ecological awareness.

PDF Reference URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/statepcs/28-09-2025/rajasthan/print