

Now, installing solar roof panels becomes easier

Applications can be made through state government's online portal for solar rooftop installation; govt to provide 40 per cent subsidy for up to 3KW installation and 20 per cent for 3- 10 KW

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Want to go the sustainable energy way? Here's your chance. Gujarat government is providing 40 per cent subsidy on solar rooftop panels for up to 3KW installation through its ambitious Surya Gujarat scheme. It plans to achieve the target of 2 lakh solar rooftop panels by March 31.

Target: 2 lakh houses

Those interested can put in their requests for installation of solar rooftop panels on the online portal. Energy minister Saurabh Patel said, "We are aiming for the target of 2 lakh households by the end of March to maintain the top position with maximum solar rooftop systems installed in the country. The state government has allocated Rs 1,000 crore budget for subsidy towards the installation of the system. The citizens will not have to bother about paper work and subsidy; the company that is installing the system will take care of all the formalities."

Can sell for Rs 2.25 per unit

Gujarat government is aiming for production of 1800 MW electricity through solar rooftops under Surya Gujarat initiative. The users will get 40 per cent subsidy for up to 3 KW installation of solar rooftops and 20 per cent for up to 10 KW. The citizens can consume power produced through the system and sell it at the rate of Rs 2.25 per unit under 25-year contract.

To ensure clean and green energy in the co-

ming years, the Chief Minister had recently announced that the state government will not give permission to new thermal power projects in the state. Instead, the use of unconventional energy generation methods will be promoted to contribute to clean and green environment.

Talking about the target, Patel said, "Gujarat is on the top in the country with 326.57 MW capacity

of solar rooftop panels installed so far. Till March 31, next year, the target is 2 lakh households on first-come-first-served basis and 8 lakh in the next three years to reach the target of 1800 MW power generation."

The state government has simplified the process for the applications.

Cost of installation

Solar system capacity Installation rate per KW in Rs

● 1 to 1.5 KW	46,827
● 1.51 to 2.50 KW	46,555
● 2.51 to 3.50 KW	46,337
● 3.51 to 4.50 KW	45,738

Benefits of using the system

- Housing society, flats etc can install up to 500 KW, 10 KW per home for general usage. They get 20 per cent subsidy on total cost
- They can operate lifts, swimming pools, street lights, gardens and water works with the solar rooftop panels
- 1KW system can save up to Rs 1,000 a month and Rs 3 lakh in 25 years of its lifetime.
- According to users, 1KW system is enough to run two fans, lights and refrigerator in three-bedroom-hall-kitchen residence.

450 vendors chosen

The applicant can log on to solar rooftop web portal and make an application. Patel confirmed that his department has selected 450 vendors based on tender process, 70 have already signed contract with the government.

As and when contracts are signed, their names will be in the list on the online portal that will start from Tuesday. The applicant can select the vendor who will be responsible for processing the subsidy and providing five years of free maintenance.

Patel also added, "The application can install solar rooftop panels of required capacity without any restrictions."

He further added, "Housing societies or residential welfare associations can install up to 500 KW system, 10 kw per house. They will get 20 per cent subsidy on total cost."

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