

4. Dhordo Solar Village – Economy

PM Modi to dedicate Dhordo as India's newest solar village. Dhordo, Gujarat, has been named a "Solar Village" under the PM Surya Ghar – Muft Bijli Yojana, which solarizes every home to generate clean energy. The national scheme aims to solar-power 1 crore households by 2027, offering subsidies to promote energy self-reliance and reduce carbon emissions.

Dhordo Dedicated as a "Solar Village"

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has officially dedicated Dhordo in Gujarat as a "Solar Village". The dedication took place during the 'Samudra Se Samridhhi' programme held in Bhavnagar, Gujarat.

About Dhordo Solar Village

Status and Location – Dhordo is a remote village located in the Kutch district of Gujarat. It is now the fourth solar-powered village in the state, following in the footsteps of Modhera, Sukhi, and Masali. The village has received international acclaim and was recognized as the 'Best Tourism Village' by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).

Implementation under PM Surya Ghar Yojana – As part of the PM Surya Ghar – Muft Bijli Yojana, every single residential electricity connection in Dhordo has been solarised. This ensures that each home in the village generates its own clean, renewable energy through rooftop solar panels.

Projected Impact – The solar power system in Dhordo is projected to generate 2.95 lakh units of electricity annually. This directly translates into significant economic relief and energy self-reliance for the residents.

About PM Surya Ghar – Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY)

This flagship scheme, launched in 2024, is central to India's push for residential renewable energy.

Primary Aim – To provide free electricity to households across India by facilitating the installation of subsidized rooftop solar panels.

Ambitious Installation Targets –

1. By October 2025 – To reach 40 lakh households.
2. By March 2027 – To achieve the goal of 1 crore solar-powered households.

Financial Support – The scheme offers a substantial subsidy of up to 40% to households, making the transition to renewable energy more affordable and accessible.

Model Solar Village Component – A dedicated allocation of ₹800 crore has been made for this component. Each selected Model Solar Village is provided with ₹1 crore for solarisation.

Qualification Criteria – A candidate village must be a revenue village with a population of over 5,000 (or 2,000 in special category states).

Recent Achievement – The scheme achieved a historic milestone as of March 2025, with 10 lakh homes now solar-powered.

Key Benefits of the Scheme

The PMSGMBY offers a wide range of economic, environmental, and social benefits.

Benefit Category	Specific Advantages
Economic Benefits	Free Electricity – Provides free electricity to households, significantly reducing their energy costs. Government Savings – Expected to save the government an estimated ₹75,000 crore annually in electricity-related expenses.
	Income Generation – Enables households to earn additional income by selling surplus generated power back to the Distribution Companies (DISCOMs).
Environmental Benefits	Renewable Energy Boost – Contributes to increasing the share of renewable energy in India's energy mix. Carbon Emission Reduction – Projected to reduce carbon emissions by approximately 720 million tonnes.
	Capacity Addition – Aims to add 30 GW of solar capacity through rooftop installations in the residential sector alone.
Social & Employment	Job Creation – The scheme is estimated to create around 17 lakh direct jobs in manufacturing, logistics, supply chain, installation, and maintenance sectors.

Benefit Category Specific Advantages

Benefits

Way Forward and Conclusion

On Track for Success – With 10 lakh installations already completed, the PM Surya Ghar – Muft Bijli Yojana is a transformative initiative that is well on its way to achieving its ambitious goal of 1 crore solar-powered homes.

Holistic Impact – Beyond simply reducing electricity costs for citizens, the scheme is a powerful driver for energy self-reliance, environmental sustainability, and inclusive economic growth. It stands as a key pillar in India's ongoing clean energy transition.

Source – <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/gujarat/pm-modi-to-dedicate-dhordo-as-indias-newest-solar-village/article70070091.ece>

