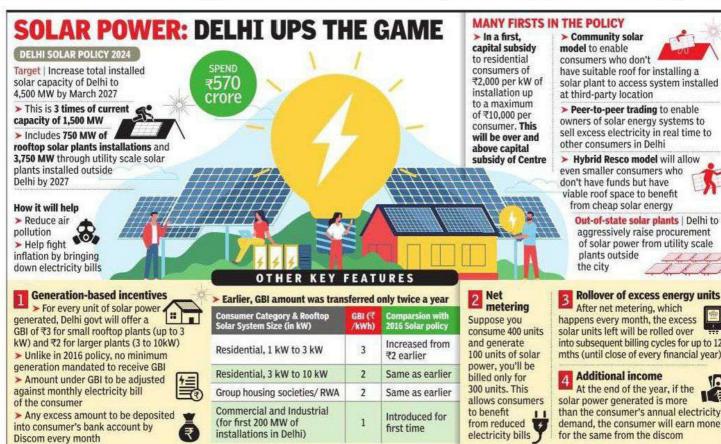
How Rooftop Solar Panel May Bring Power Bill Down To Zero

As Part Of 2024 Policy, Get Paid For Generating Electricity At Home: Kejriwal



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New Delhi: Delhi government has finalised the new solar policy under which people installing solar panels on their rooftops will get more generation-based incentives (GBI) than the 2016 policy, capital subsidy and facility to sell the excess generated electricity in real time to other consumers in the capital.

Under the Delhi Solar Policy 2016, the consumers got Rs 2 per unit of solar energy conditional to generating 1,100 units per kw per annum. The new policy offers an increased Rs 3 per unit for small rooftop plants (up to 3 kW) and Rs 2 per unit for larger plants (3-10kW). The 2024 policy also does away with the riders of the earlier policy, leaving no conditions on minimum generation to receive GBI.

Announcing the chief minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "The aim of Delhi Solar Policy 2024 is to reduce the city's air pollution and help fight inflation by bringing the electricity bills of non-subsidised residential consumers to zero and for commercial or industrial consumers to 50% of their current bill."

The policy, passed by the cabinet, will now go to LG for approval. Under the new policy, all existing government buildings with a rooftop area bigger than 500sqm will have to mandatorily install solar plants within the next three vears. Keiriwal estimated Delhi to have an installed solar capacity of 4500MW by 2027 after the implementation of the policy

The CM explained, "Let us say a residential consumer's average monthly consumption is 360 units and the consumer installs a 2kW rooftop solar plant at an approximate cost of Rs 90,000 with taxes and subsidy included. The consumer will start getting zero electricity bill right away (saving Rs 1,370 per



KEJRIWAL SAYS

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month) as well as a GBI of approximately Rs 700 per month. This savings of Rs 2.000 per month, or Rs 24,000 per year, means the initial cost of Rs 90,000 will be recovered in four years.'

He added, "After the four

into subsequent billing cycles for up to 12 mths (until close of every financial year)

than the consumer's annual electricity demand, the consumer will earn money

> the new policy allows them GBI of Rs 1 per unit for the first 200MW of installation.

There are other firsts in the GBI will be adjusted agapolicy. The community solar inst the monthly electricity model will enable consumers bill of the consumer and any who do not have a suitable roof excess amount will be deposifor installing a solar plant to be ted into the consumer's bank part of a community-owned soaccount every month. This lar system installed at a thirdagain is a change from the party location and still avail beearlier policy under which innefits like GBI and net-metecentives were transferred at ring. Also, 'peer to peer' trading has been introduced to Unlike the earlier policy, enable owners of solar energy systems to sell their excess ge-Deli government this time will also give a capital subsidy to nerated electricity in real time residential consumers of Rs to other consumers in Delhi via a P2P energy trading platform. 2,000 per kW of installation up

Leader of the Opposition in Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri said there was nothing new in the new policy. "Other state governments are running similar schemes. When at the helm in MCD, BJP also encouraged solar plants atop schools," he claimed. "Kejriwal government should announce at least a 50% subsidy on the cost of solar panels.'

The aim is to reduce

to a maximum of Rs 10,000 per

consumer. This will be over and above the capital subsidy

offered by the central govern-

ment, which, under the Roof-

top Solar Programme Phase-

II, provides Rs 14,588/kW for

3kW capacity and Rs 7,294/kW

years, the consumers will

continue enjoying zero bill

for the life of the solar panel,

which is 25 years.

half yearly periods.