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Jt Secretary (Media)

**Vipin Bansal**  
Jt. Secretary(PR)

To,

**The Secretary,**

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE),

Atal Akshaya Urja Bhawan,

CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003

**Subject: Request for Addressing benchmark cost calculation by MNRE and price hike by manufacturer issue**

Respected Mam,

I am writing to draw your attention to the significant challenges faced by rooftop solar vendors under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana. While this scheme has been instrumental in promoting renewable energy adoption, the current implementation framework presents critical issues that threaten its long-term success and the sustainability of vendors.

### **Key Challenges:**

#### **Unrealistic Cost Benchmarking:**

The MNRE has set an official benchmark cost of ₹50/Wp for the first 2 kW and ₹45/Wp for the next 1 kW, with subsequent reductions in per-Wp costs made without sufficient due diligence. Considering the current prices of domestically manufactured (DCR) solar modules, the rates displayed on the PM Surya Ghar Portal calculator are approximately 20–30% lower than prevailing market prices. benchmark cost of ₹4 lakh for a 10 kW rooftop solar plant does not reflect the prevailing market conditions. The cost of material procurement alone, particularly solar modules, exceeds ₹4.5 lakh. This leaves no room for vendors to sustain their operations while fulfilling additional obligations such as installation, five-year operation and maintenance (O&M), and compliance with licensing and bank guarantee requirements.

#### **Public Perception Issues Due to Benchmark Costs:**

The benchmark figures are frequently referenced in awareness campaigns, media reports, and official documents, which creates unrealistic cost expectations among consumers. Consequently, when vendors provide market-driven quotations, it often leads to mistrust and dissatisfaction among consumers.

#### **Impact of Rising Manufacturer Costs:**

Solar module manufacturers have significantly increased prices, but the MNRE benchmarks have not been updated to reflect this reality. Vendors are left to bear the brunt of this price volatility, further eroding their margins.

# Renewable Energy Association of Rajasthan (REAR®)

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Rooftop solar vendors are pivotal to achieving India's renewable energy targets. Addressing these challenges with urgency and sensitivity will ensure the continued success of the PM Surya Ghar Yojana and strengthen the nation's clean energy transition.

I kindly request MNRE to take immediate steps to resolve these issues and support the vendors who are essential to this program's implementation. I would be happy to provide further insights or participate in discussions aimed at resolving these challenges.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

For **Renewable Energy Association of Rajasthan (REAR)**

**Ajay Yadav**  
(President)

