

Renewable Energy Association of Rajasthan (REAR)

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Ref: - REAR/2025/0170

Date:- 06.08.2026

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To,
The Mission Director
PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSG: MBY)
Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)

Subject: Suggestions for Uniform Nationwide Digital Implementation Framework under Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

Respected Sir,

On behalf of the **Renewable Energy Association of Rajasthan (REAR)**, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the entire Mission Team on the remarkable achievement of **crossing 50 lakh rooftop solar installations** under the **Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana**.

This milestone is a reflection of the visionary leadership of the Government of India and the dedicated efforts of MNRE, State DISCOMs, financial institutions, empanelled vendors and millions of citizens who have embraced clean energy. PM Surya Ghar has not only accelerated India's rooftop solar movement but has also emerged as a flagship initiative showcasing the convergence of renewable energy and Digital India.

As an industry association actively engaged with consumers and vendors at the grassroots level, we have witnessed the transformative impact of the Scheme. We are equally confident that with a few implementation-level reforms, the Mission can achieve its remaining targets even more efficiently while significantly enhancing the consumer experience.

Need for Uniform Digital Implementation

The PM Surya Ghar ecosystem has already established a robust digital infrastructure through the National Portal and integration with the JanSamarth Portal. However, the implementation practices continue to vary across States and DISCOMs.

In several instances, consumers and vendors are still required to submit physical documents, visit DISCOM offices multiple times and, in certain cases, banks continue to undertake physical site inspections despite the availability of comprehensive digital information on Surya Ghar Portal.

While these practices may have evolved based on local administrative requirements, a uniform nationwide digital framework could further simplify implementation, reduce duplication and improve efficiency.

Availability of Comprehensive Digital Information

The PM Surya Ghar National Portal already captures and stores detailed project information, including:

- Consumer and electricity connection details
- Geo-tagged photographs before and after installation
- Solar module make, capacity and serial numbers
- Inverter make, capacity and serial numbers
- Vendor details
- Technical specifications
- Quotations
- Installation details
- Subsidy-related information

Similarly, the **JanSamarth Portal** captures:

- Aadhaar-based KYC
- Property ownership documents
- Bank account details
- Financial information
- Loan-related documents

Further, before commissioning, the rooftop solar installation is physically verified by the concerned DISCOM, and the installation of the net meter serves as confirmation that the system has been installed and commissioned in accordance with the prescribed procedures. Hence, there appears to be an opportunity to further optimise the implementation process by **reducing duplicate documentation and verification** wherever feasible.

Opportunity for Process Optimisation

We respectfully submit that there may be merit in examining whether certain physical processes could be replaced with authenticated digital workflows.

For example:

- Physical submission of Work Completion Reports, Bank details etc at Discom, despite the same information already being uploaded on the National Portal.
- Physical site visits by banks in cases where geo-tagged photographs, equipment serial numbers, digital installation records and DISCOM verification are already available.

A more integrated digital approach could reduce timelines while maintaining the integrity and robustness of the verification process.

Environmental Perspective

PM Surya Ghar has been launched with the objective of promoting clean energy and reducing carbon emissions. It presents an excellent opportunity to make not only the outcome but also the implementation environmentally sustainable.

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Based on field experience, a typical rooftop solar project may involve approximately **50 sheets of paper** in the form of applications, declarations, photocopies, work completion reports, property documents, quotation, KYC documents and supporting documentation.

If this trend continues across the Scheme's target of **one crore installations**, it could potentially result in the use of nearly **50 crore sheets of paper**.

Similarly, repeated visits by consumers and vendors to DISCOM offices and bank branches for document submission and procedural compliance also result in **additional fuel consumption, travel expenditure, loss of productive time and avoidable carbon emissions**.

A Green Energy Mission can create even greater environmental value if its implementation process also becomes increasingly **paperless, faceless and digital**.

Suggestions for Consideration

With utmost respect, we request the Ministry to consider the following measures for uniform implementation across the country:

1. Issue a **Uniform Digital Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)** applicable to all States, DISCOMs and participating financial institutions.
2. Enable **acceptance of digitally uploaded documents** available on the PM Surya Ghar Portal without requiring physical copies unless specifically warranted.
3. Permit **digital acceptance of Work Completion Reports** uploaded through the National Portal.
4. Strengthen digital integration between the **PM Surya Ghar Portal, DISCOM systems and JanSamarth Portal**, enabling authenticated information to flow seamlessly among authorised stakeholders.
5. Encourage banks to rely upon authenticated Government digital records and DISCOM verification, thereby minimising duplicate physical site inspections wherever policy permits.
6. Promote **risk-based inspections** instead of routine inspections for every installation.
7. Encourage digital approvals, acknowledgements and document management throughout the project lifecycle.

We once again congratulate the MNRE Team on the outstanding success of PM Surya Ghar and wish the programme continued success in transforming India's clean energy future.

With highest regards,

For Renewable Energy Association of Rajasthan (REAR)

Ajay Yadav
(President)

