Run for Sun Marathon

Prelims: Current events of national importance | Polity & Governance

Why in News?

Run for Sun Marathon was organized on the Occasion of International Sun Day on March 3rd *celebrating India's solar achievements under the (PM-SGMBY).*

- **Organized by –** Ministry of New & renewable Energy (MNRE)
- **Venue -** Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi.
- **India's Focus -** 2026 event emphasized a **citizen-centric** clean energy transition, moving from aspiration to large-scale public ownership.

PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana – It is an initiative to provide subsidies to 1 crore households to install rooftop solar panels and provide up to 300 units of free electricity.

- **Aim –** To increase the adoption of solar rooftop capacity and empower residential households to generate their own electricity.
- **Type –** Central Sector Scheme.
- **Launched in –** February 2024
- **Nodal Ministry –** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- **Target –** The scheme aims to achieve a total installation of 30 GW rooftop solar capacity in the residential sector by the financial year 2026-27

India's Solar Progress

- **Capacity rise** - As on March 2026 India's cumulative solar capacity reached 150 GW a 53 fold increase since 2014 when it was 2.82 Gw)
- **Phenomenal Growth -** In last 15 months 50 GW of solar capacity was added.
- The last 50 GW of solar capacity was added in just 15 months, the fastest such addition in India's history.
- **Global Ranking -** In terms of Installed Renewable Energy India currently Ranks at 3rd positron globally.
- **Energy Mix-** Around 50% of Nations installed electricity capacity now comes from non-fossil fuel sources, achieving the target well ahead of the 2030 timeline.
- **Policy Linkage** – Reinforces India's commitment under National Solar Mission and Paris Agreement targets.

The marathon celebrated the transformative progress of the PM-SGMBY scheme:

- **Installation record -** 2.7 lakh rooftop solar installation was done just in a single month in April 2026
- **Total impact -** Under the scheme total 30 lakh installations have been completed, benefitting

more than 45 lakh households across India.

- **Significance -** The scheme reinforces India's clean energy push and aims for *Atmanirbharata* (self-reliance) in the power sector, especially amidst energy uncertainties in West Asia.

International Sun Day

- ***Observed on*** *- 3rd May annually.*
- ***Objective -*** *To raise awareness about solar energy and its potential as a sustainable, clean source of power*

Reference: **Hindustan Samachar | IAS Parliament**

Jharkhand state news | IAS Parliament

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