

# Solar Pump Set Subsidy in Karnataka: Boosting Sustainable Agriculture with Government Support

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### Why Karnataka Farmers Are Switching to Solar Water Pumps

With 60% of Karnataka's workforce engaged in agriculture and 72% farmland dependent on erratic grid power, farmers face crippling irrigation costs. The solar pump set subsidy in Karnataka offers a lifeline - slashing energy bills by 80% while aligning with India's target to achieve 50% renewable energy in agriculture by 2030.

### The Crisis Driving Change: INR18,000 Cr Annual Irrigation Burden

Traditional diesel pumps consume 34 liters daily (INR2,500/month) while grid-powered alternatives suffer 6-8 hour daily outages during critical crop cycles. Karnataka's agricultural sector wastes INR420 crore annually in lost productivity from power cuts - enough to irrigate 18,000 hectares of drought-prone land.

"Our solar pump runs 10 hours daily without fuel costs - I reclaimed INR68,000/year to educate my children."  
- Rajesh Patil, Belagavi farmer

### Karnataka's Solar Pump Revolution: How the Subsidy Works

The state government's solar agriculture pump subsidy Karnataka covers 90% of system costs for SC/ST farmers and 70% for others. With tiered subsidies based on pump capacity:

- 3 HP systems: INR1.05 lakh subsidy
- 5 HP systems: INR1.75 lakh subsidy
- 10 HP systems: INR3.50 lakh subsidy

### Beyond Subsidies: 5 Hidden Benefits Farmers Overlook

While the Karnataka solar pump subsidy scheme attracts immediate attention, adopters report unexpected advantages:

- 18-month payback period via diesel cost savings
- 30% higher yields from scheduled irrigation
- Water table preservation through controlled usage
- Carbon credit eligibility (1.2 tCO<sub>2</sub>/year reduction)
- 25-year system lifespan with 5-year maintenance warranty

### Installation Insights: Navigating the Subsidy Process

Approved vendors like Tata Power Solar and Cauvery Solar complete installations in 21 days post-approval. The application process involves:

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Land record verification at Gram Panchayat  
Feeder separation certificate from BESCOM  
Soil/moisture content analysis report

Pro Tip: Farmers installing micro-irrigation alongside solar pumps qualify for additional 55% subsidy under the PMKSY scheme.

## Why Gujarat's Model Matters for Karnataka's Future

Gujarat's solar pump adoption reduced agricultural power subsidies by INR7,200 crore since 2018 - a model Karnataka aims to replicate. With 23,000 solar pumps installed statewide in 2023 alone, experts predict 90% groundwater-dependent farms will transition by 2027.

## Q&A: Solar Pump Subsidy Essentials

What's the maximum subsidy for a 5HP solar pump?

SC/ST farmers receive INR2.62 lakh (90% of INR2.91 lakh system cost), others get INR2.04 lakh (70%).

Can leased farmland qualify for subsidies?

Yes, with notarized lease agreements exceeding 7 years and landowner consent.

Are subsidies available for existing pump conversions?

25% subsidy applies for solar retrofits to functional diesel/grid pumps through the Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (KUSUM) scheme.

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