Bhutan solar city

Can solar power plants help Bhutan achieve energy security?
The Solar Plant in Rubesa is one such initiative that takes Bhutan a step closer to achieving energy securitythrough a diversified and sustainable energy supply mix. The project particularly demonstrates the viability of solar power plants on a utility-scale.

Does Bhutan have a solar energy project?
The project was executed by the Bhutanese government's Department of Renewable Energy in collaboration with the Bhutan Power Corporation, a public utility. It received funding support from the Japanese government and was supported by the United Nations Development Programme in Bhutan. Is this the start of a solar energy rollout in Bhutan?

How is Bhutan achieving energy security?
Bhutan is undertaking various initiatives to broaden its energy mix by exploring other clean,renewable energy sources. The Solar Plant in Rubesa is one such initiative that takes Bhutan a step closer to achieving energy security through a diversified and sustainable energy supply mix.

Why is solar energy a problem in Bhutan?
The pilot solar plant at Rubesa,Wangduephodrang,revealed a need for skilled workers and expertise in Bhutan (Image: Bhutan Power Corporation) An additional problem is that the current low cost of powermeans people are not incentivised to explore solar energy,according to Adhikari.

Why should Bhutan invest in solar energy?
Like hydropower,sun is a bountiful resource Bhutan can tap into for producing renewable energyin keeping with our carbon neutrality commitments and also for enhancing energy security through diversification of energy sources.

Why is Bhutan building a solar plant in Rubesa?
Phuntsho Namgyal said that the solar plant in Rubesa is part of the country's plan to diversify its energy sources and enhance energy security. In 2019,the International Renewable Energy Agency carried out a Renewable Readiness Assessment of Bhutan.

The Sephu Solar Project in Bhutan will be the first utility-scale alternative renewable power plant in the country and the first step to diversify the generation portfolio of Bhutan"s hydropower dominated energy sector.

The first phase of Bhutan"s first utility-scale solar power project at Sephu in Wangdue Phodrang is set for completion by March next year. A utility-scale solar facility generates solar power and feeds it into the grid.

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However, Bhutan is on the brink of a significant change with the Sephu Solar Project. Set to begin operations in early 2025, it will mark a milestone in the country"s energy history as the first commercial renewable energy source in Bhutan.

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