

PSCDCL, SPPU join forces for on-campus rooftop solar plant

Plan to generate 602 Kwh

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AFTER THEIR successful joint venture — public bicycle sharing — the Pune Smart City Development Corporation Ltd (PSCDCL) and the Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) have decided to extend their partnership towards deployment of rooftop solar plants.

The SPPU has signed a 25-year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Cleanmax Enviro Energy Solutions Pvt. Ltd (Developer) and one of the empaneled firms in the Solar Energy Space, with which PSCDCL has signed an MoU to set up solar rooftop plant on 14 of its buildings.

The project is conceptualised as part of the scheme launched by

Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to enable government agencies to embrace non-renewable energy at its campuses and offices. The project of around 602 Kwh will be commissioned under the RESCO model of SECI, an agreement for which was signed last week.

Vice-Chancellor of SPPU Dr Nitin Karmalkar said, "We are making the university campus eco-friendly with the help and support from PSCDCL. In aligning with this goal, our stepping stone through Public Bicycle Service has already been highly-successful and we are now taking steps towards making the university entirely powered by solar energy. I am glad and extremely grateful to the PSCDCL for giving us this opportunity to partner with them and we will ensure that every department in the university becomes eco-friendly..."

CEO, Pune Smart City, Rajendra Jagtap, said, "The initia-

tive to make the university campus is the start of the efforts to make Pune a Smart Solar city."

This one-of-a-kind project in Pune, is being undertaken at no cost to SPPU, wherein the developer will bear the entire cost of Rs 3.2 crore and will operate and maintain the project for 25 years. The project will generate up to 600 kwh of clean energy, equivalent to approximately 10 per cent of SPPU's monthly energy consumption. For this, SPPU will pay a subsidised tariff of Rs 3.62 per unit for the next 25 years.

"PSCDCL is also in discussions with various other government institutions and agencies for deployment of rooftop solar plants. The firm will also work with private sector entities in implementing similar projects, thereby leading to the achievement of Pune's vision to become India's first 1 Gigawatt city based on renewable energy," said Jagtap.