

2 MW rooftop solar plant at HSL to be powered up in July

Project Is Said To Be Largest In The State

Prasad.Nichenametla
etimesgroup.com

Visakhapatnam: A 2 MW solar power project being built at the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, touted as the largest rooftop solar plant in all of Andhra Pradesh, is all set to commence production of electricity from July.

Solar photovoltaic panels are being installed on the huge blue coloured iconic sheds under which the ships are built and repaired. The panels will also be installed atop other administrative buildings of HSL.

"Work on the 2 MW power project began last month and is expected to be completed in July," an official told ET.

The solar project is being executed through the Solar Energy Corporation of India. CleanMax Solar is the company that has bagged the contract, and will maintain the project for 25 years.

"As per our agreement,

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₹4 per unit will be the flat price that HSL will pay to solar energy firm CleanMax for a period of **25 years**

► This is cheaper by Rupee 2 per unit that HSL currently pays to discoms

25 years is the expected shelf life of the project

2MW project will supply **28 lakh units** per annum - almost **30%** of HSL's total power consumption in a year

► Thanks to solar power, around 2,300 tonnes of CO2 will be offset every year

we would be buying the solar energy from CleanMax at a flat rate of ₹4 per unit for 25 years. This would be about ₹2 cheaper than the price we are paying to regular discoms now," the official said.

CleanMax is said to be investing about ₹12 crore on the project. The 2 MW project is capable of producing 28 lakh units per annum, making up for almost 30% of the total power consumption at HSL. This would offset a whopping 2,300 tonnes of CO2 per annum, officials said.

"As solar power itself would not be sufficient for our needs, we would still be dependent on APEPDCL, the government power distribution company," officials said.

According to CleanMax, once commissioned, the HSL project would be the largest rooftop solar plant in all of Andhra Pradesh, and one of the largest on any government facility across India.

"This project is an example of the enormous potential of government rooftop projects for harnessing

the power of the sun to generate clean energy at a very affordable cost, and we commend HSL for their leadership and initiative in doing so," said Andrew Hines, co-founder of CleanMax Solar.

Meanwhile, on Saturday, the foundation stone for a 5 MW solar power plant was laid at the ONGC's Tatipaka complex in East Godavari district by S K Moitra, director (Onshore) of ONGC, accompanied by DMR Sekhar, ED Asset Manager, Rajahmundry Asset.