

NCL to annually save ₹40L on electricity bills

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PUNE: Taking a step towards renewable energy harvesting, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL), Pune, signed a power purchase agreement with M/s Cleanmax Enviro Energy Solutions Pvt Ltd on September 4.

As part of this agreement, NCL will be installing a rooftop (RT) photo voltaic (PV) solar power plant in the Renewable Energy Service Company (RESCO) model of Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) facilitated by the subsidy scheme of the Government of India.

Due to this agreement which will be valid for the next 25 years, the organisation will save up to Rs 40 lakh on electricity bills, said an official. The rooftop power plant installation is expected to reduce about 500 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission per annum.

Professor AK Nangia, director of CSIR-NCL, said, "Reducing the

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carbon footprint and dependence on conventional fossil fuel energy sources is a necessity for sustainable development and a switch to solar panels is one way to mitigate the load on energy grid as part of the CSIR-NCL efforts towards renewable energy harvesting."

Photo voltaic solar panels will be installed on eight different buildings of CSIR-NCL laboratories and offices. The total estimated capacity of the RT solar power plant is 430 KWp (kilowatt peak).

With the plant in place, about 6.4 lakh kilowatt hour (KWh) units of solar electrical energy is expected to be generated annually. The PV panels will be installed before the end of the next month.