

HSL to double solar generation

The yard has the largest rooftop green energy plant

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After installing the State's largest-ever rooftop solar power plant with a capacity of two megawatts in September last year, Hindustan Shipyard Limited is now going about doubling its capacity.

HSL has entered into a buyback arrangement for 25 years with Clean Max, one of the cost effective projects for any industry.

The company will bear the expenditure incurred on the project and the only commitment for HSL is to provide its vacant roofs, offer administrative support and buy the power generated for its consumption at a fixed rate of ₹3.9 per unit.

Expansion drive

HSL Chairman-cum-Manag-

ing Director Rear Admiral L.V. Sarat Babu told *The Hindu* that they had already launched work on increasing the capacity by one megawatt. After its completion in the next few months, the work on the next phase would be taken up, he stated.

Clean Max, as per the MoU entered into by HSL, will design, supply, erect, test and commission with warranty, operate and maintain without any operation and capital expenditure from the yard.

HSL has a power requirement of five megawatts. The yard also consulted Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd on foraying into green energy production.

Now, HSL is incurring a monthly power bill of about

₹65 lakh and it could reduce the expenditure on account of power substantially as the bill is in the range of ₹45 lakh to ₹50 lakh. For getting power from the State grid, one has to pay ₹6 per unit in addition to some surcharges.

For generating two megawatts, Hindustan Shipyard Limited has given seven buildings on whose rooftops solar panels can be installed.

'Impressive look'

HSL is pioneering not only in solar power generation but also in maintaining its image of a neat and clean yard. Rear Admiral Sarat Babu said due to initiatives taken to increase greenery and erection of a huge signboard, the premier shipyard was now sporting a very impressive look.