

SESI Newsletter

A Monthly Newsletter of Solar Energy Society of India

Vol. II • Issue-5

November 2011

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Design & Printed by: Celluloid - 9873798727



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SESI Organizes ICORE-2011 & Trade Show at Tezpur University



Shri Ajay Prakash Shrivastava, lighting the ceremonial lamp

The International Congress on Renewable Energy (ICORE)-2011 & Trade Show was organized successfully on 2-4 November, 2011 at Tezpur University, Assam jointly by Solar Energy Society of India (SESI) and Tezpur University.

The three day Congress had a theme of "Renewables: Growth through Academia- Industry Interface". There was extremely good response for the Conference.

The Inaugural Session began by lighting of lamps and Saraswati Vandana. Mr. V.S. Verma, Member, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission was the Chief Guest in the Inaugural Session. Mr. Ajay Prakash Shrivastava, President, SESI in his welcome address emphasized urgency of using renewable energy in various forms and also explained how SESI over the last three decades had been advocating the cause of renewable energy at all available forums. He also expressed his happiness by the participation of large number of delegates and speakers from various parts of the country especially looking in to the fact that quite a number of persons had to come by road who had reached Guwahati by Air/Train from differ-



(from L to R) Shri Ravi Khanna, Prof. Amarjyoti Chaudhari, Shri V.S. Verma, Shri Tarun Kapoor, Shri Ajay Prakash Shrivastava and Prof. S.K. Samdarshi

ent places. Mr. Tarun Kapoor, Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Govt. of India in his address explained perspective plan of MNRE regarding various efforts being made throughout the country and especially in the North Eastern Region for the promotion of various RE technologies. He also spoke briefly about the National Solar Mission indicating that there was encouraging response in both the grid connected solar power plants and off grid solar applications. Mr. Ravi Khanna, CEO, Solar Power Business, Aditya Birla Group in his keynote address spoke about the co-operation between the various research institutes and industry in the developed countries and especially in Germany about the development of solar power. He underlined the importance of similar co-operation in India between the various research organizations including IITs and industry regarding development and deployment of RE technologies. Prof. Amarjyoti Chaudhari, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Tezpur University in his special address thanked SESI for organizing this event of great importance in Tezpur University thus bringing North-Eastern Region in the calendar of International Conference. He exhorted the participants to

actively take part in the various sessions and clarify all their apprehensions/ doubts about using of renewable energy.

Following three SESI awards were given to the eminent persons/organizations during ICORE – 2011:

- Prof. S.C. Mullick, Emeritus Fellow & IREDA Chair Professor, IIT Delhi for the K.S. Rao Memorial Award. Prof. Mullick himself received the award.
- Dr. B.C. Jain, Managing Director, Ankur Scientific Energy Technologies, Vadodara for the SESI Award for Life Time achievement in RE. Prof. G.D. Karhadkar, Department of Mechanical Engineering, M.S. University of Baroda received the award on behalf of Dr. B.C. Jain.
- Chhattisgarh Renewable Energy Development Agency (CREDA), Raipur for the SESI Award for RE Financial Innovation. This award was received by Er. Shailender Kumar Shukla, Director, CREDA, Chhattisgarh.
- At this occasion proceedings of



ICORE – 2011 were released by the Chief Guest Mr. V.S. Verma and other dignitaries on the dais. In his inaugural address, Mr. Verma explained at large the commendable achievements in electricity generation in the country since independence. He, however, indicated that there were still huge shortages in the peak power and energy demand of the country and renewable energy sector was playing a significant role in meeting those shortages. He also intimated that electricity regulators both at the central and state levels were encouraging the renewable energy sources and specially the solar power by way of fixing attractive tariffs. The inaugural session drew to a close with the vote of thanks by Prof. S.K. Samdarshi.

108th Governing Council Meeting and 35th AGM of SESI held on 2nd November, 2011

The 108th Governing Council Meeting was held in Tezpur University, Assam on 2nd November, 2011. Shri Ajay Prakash Shrivastava, President, SESI chaired the meeting. Other members of the G.C. who participated in the meeting are Mr. Ravi Khanna, Mr. Rajinder Kumar Kaura, Dr. S.M. Ali, Dr. Ash-

vini Kumar, Mr. Prafulla Pathak, Prof. S.S. Murthy, Er. S.K. Shukla, Ms. Vanita Thakkar, and Dr. S.K. Samdarshi. The important points discussed in the meeting were matters relating to ICORE-2011, Annual Financial Statement of SESI for the year ended on 31st March, 2011, Annual Report of SESI, Appointment of Auditor for

SESI, holding of ICORE-2012, etc. After the G.C. Meeting, AGM of SESI was held and 24 members participated. Apart from considering the above mentioned points, reappointment of M/s Arun Deepak & Co. was approved for the next financial year.



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This is to inform our readers that the **First Plant in India** to manufacture Crosslinked EVA Sheets for cell encapsulation has been installed. The product has been developed from material supplied by multinational companies like **DuPont** & others. It meets the international quality standards & has been certified on **ISO & ASTM** standards by various renowned institutions in India.

The entrepreneurs are already into processing of EVA for multiple applications for last more than 20 years and this new innovation will help in easy procurement for module manufactures, reduce Inventory management overhead's and reduce overall cost of the module, benefiting the industry. Samples are also available for testing.

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Renewable energy ministry seeks 10-fold increase in fund outlay

The renewable energy ministry has sought a 10-fold increase in fund outlay for the next five years. The ministry estimates requirement of ` 40,000 crore to ramp up its capacity to 30,000 MW by 2017. An outlay of ` 4,000 crore was earmarked for development of renewable energy in the 11th plan period of 2007-12. India's present renewable energy capacity is over 20,000 MW of which wind farms alone generate 14,000 MW while the rest is shared between biomass, small hydro and urban-industrial waste. Solar energy Capacity currently stands at 35 MW.

150 MW solar power plant to be set up at Dhule soon

A 150 MW solar power plant will be set up in Dhule with financial assistance of Euro 250 million from KFW, a German investment bank. The project is claimed to be one of the biggest in the country. The project is expected to start generation by the end of 2012. This would be the first solar project that will be connected to the national grid.

IFC, SEWA in pact to promote green products in Raj, Guj

International Financial Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank group, signed an agreement with self-help group SEWA under which two lakh women in Gujarat and Rajasthan would be provided energy-efficient cooking stoves and solar lanterns. Under the memorandum of agreement (MoU), IFC will guarantee a loan from local banks to members of the

Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA). The project named 'Hariyali', which will be spread over next three years, is intended to promote the strategy of clean growth and reduce emission of greenhouse gases. Local women will be provided not only with the such energy efficient products but also trained to develop them indigenously and market them locally. The project is expected to generate carbon credits by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the credits will be shared among the SEWA members which will help to generate income for them. Top

SunEdison secures 5 bn funding for 50 MW solar projects in Gujarat and Rajasthan

Solar energy services provider SunEdison has announced it has secured project financing of more than 500 crore from Overseas Private Investment Corporation, L&T Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd and Infrastructure Development Finance Company Ltd for a series of solar photovoltaic projects in Gujarat and Rajasthan. The likely capacity of these projects will be 50 MW.

Tamil Nadu to add 8 GW Clean Energy in 5 years

After leading the country in development of wind energy, Tamil Nadu seeks to make quantum leap in harnessing power through both wind and solar energy over next five years. The state is preparing to announce a separate renewable energy policy with a goal to add about 8,000 MW of capacity through wind and solar in the next five years. Tamil Nadu has a very good solar potential with longer and clearer sunny days as it receives very high solar radiation. The southern districts of the state have a high solar radiation and

some locations have very high solar radiation of 5.8kw per hour a day. The transmission infrastructure of the state electricity board is able evacuate only 2,000-3,000 MW of wind power as against the required capacity of 6,000 MW. The state electricity board, which is under severe financial stress, has sought assistance to the tune of about ` 4,000 crore from central government's clean energy fund.

RPower to get 5.2 bn from ADB, US Exim Bank for solar project

Reliance Power has tied up funds for its 40 MW solar power project, with loans worth ` 525 crore coming from the Asian Development Bank and the US Exim Bank. The plant, coming up at Jaisalmer district in Rajasthan, would also be the first Indian power project to get financing from only global lenders. The project -- India's largest solar PV initiative -- entails a total capital cost of about ` 700 crore to be financed at a debt-equity ratio of 75:25. Reliance Power would pump in ` 175 crore into the project. This is the first sanction by ADB as a direct loan to a private sector solar project in India. Confirming the development, Reliance Power said this is the first solar power project to achieve the financial closure with global lenders only, resulting in substantial savings. The foreign financing route would result in significant savings for the company since overseas loans have a tenure of 18 years with lending rates of 3-4 per cent. On the other hand, loans from Indian banks generally have a tenure of 13 years and lending rate close to 13.5 per cent. The project is scheduled for commissioning in 2012. The long term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for PV project has been signed with Reliance Infrastructure. Solar panels for the project would be imported from US-based First Solar.

India solar projects face financing crunch as banks near limits

Government-sponsored banks that funded India's nascent solar industry when commercial lenders were wary may begin curbing financing. The Overseas Private Investment Corp. (OPIC), based in Washington, is close to its limit for lending to projects in India. The banks were some of the earliest to finance solar power generation in Asia's third-largest energy consumer. Projects in India now account for 8.5 percent of OPIC's total loan book, nearing its 10 percent limit for any one country. India aims to complete its first major round of solar photovoltaic plants by January and hold its second national auction of permits to build another 350 megawatts of capacity this month. Total solar installations reached 125 megawatts as of the end of October after more than doubling since June. The progress shows it may be time for development banks to start withdrawing support for the industry. Solar power proponents currently building plants that have been backed by the development banks include Reliance Power Ltd. (RPWR) and New Delhi-based Azure Power.

GMR plans 17.5 bn investment in Solar power projects

GMR Group plans to invest 1,750 crore over three years to take its renewable energy generation capacity, mainly solar, to 200 mw by 2014-15. The company, part of the Bangalore-based infrastructure major GMR Group, said its 25 MW solar power project in Gujarat is expected to be commissioned next month. It is looking to raise the renewable energy capacity to 200 MW at an estimated investment of 1,750 crore

in three years. The company is pursuing solar power project opportunities in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. GMR will not venture into wind energy area as plant load factors are not high and good sites have already been occupied by other players.

Investors seek extension for solar project commissioning

At least thirty solar project developers have decided to file a petition before the state electricity regulator to seek extension of the current tariff regime. Developers of close to 450 MW of solar projects fear of their investments of ` 6,750 crore becoming unviable as they are not in a position to commission their capacities before December, a deadline set by the Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (GERC). They have already roped in a legal expert for 'mass-petitions'. Moser Baer, Lanco, Kiran Energy, GMR, Sun Edison and Emco met at Ahmedabad Management Association to decide the future course of action for the struggling solar project developers. Developers will get tariff of ` 15 per unit for the first 12 years and ` 5 per unit from 13th to 25th year for solar power units based on PV technology. Majority of the developers are expected to miss deadline in December. GUVNL will impose penalty per day on the projects to be commissioned after the deadline. Also, the late project developers will get less return in new tariff regime, which is expected to come in place from January 2012. It is learnt that developers will plead before the GERC to extend the deadline till March end and implement new tariff regime from April 1, 2012. Developers will contend that late allocation of land besides other procedural issues resulted in delays of their project. Some of the develop-

ers are claiming that they were asked to change their location twice or thrice in the state promoted Solar Park. Earlier, the government Gujarat owned Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited inked long term power purchase agreements with over 83 developers to commission 950 MW of solar projects in the state. However, only 250-300 MW of projects will be commissioned before the deadline.

Rajasthan exempts entry tax on solar photovoltaic goods

The Rajasthan government has decided to fork out entry tax exemption on capital goods brought into the state for initial setting up of the solar power plants based on photovoltaic technology. Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation said that the state government will provide a tax exemption of 4% on entry of 43 capital goods like solar PV module, battery, inverter, lighting panels and solar monitoring stations among other goods used in solar power plants. At present, 22 solar photovoltaic power plants of 5 MW each and one 40 MW plant are under the installation stage. For solar thermal power, the state has got five projects of total 400 MW, including three projects of 100 MW each and two projects of 50 MW each. The state government has recently come out with its solar policy which aims at creating solar power generation capacity of 10,000 to 12,000 MW in the next 10-12 years. The policy, besides attracting developers for setting up solar power plants, also envisages setting up solar parks of more than 1000 MW capacity in identified areas of Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Barmer. These solar parks would consist of power plants, manufacturing units, R&D units and training centers.

Intersolar India Prepares for Round Three

This year, Intersolar India enters its third round. The business-to-business industry platform focuses on the latest trends and technological developments in the fields of photovoltaics and solar thermal technology. Over 6,000 trade visitors are expected to attend the event in Hall 1 of the Bombay Exhibition Centre (BEC) in Mumbai, India from December 14–16, 2011. Intersolar India is the international meeting point for solar companies who are looking to contribute to the rapid development of the Indian solar market.

Exhibition and Market on an Upward Trajectory

Thanks to the National Solar Mission, launched last year by the Indian government, which fast-tracked the country's transition into the solar age,

the Indian solar market has now become extremely dynamic and is gaining the attention of the international industry. As an international exhibition and conference for the solar industry, the aim of Intersolar India is to promote cooperation between key players from industry, commerce, the service sector and politics to drive growth in the Indian solar market and beyond the subcontinent's borders. Indian Federal Minister for New and Renewable Energy, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, emphasized how important international networking is for the Indian government during his visit to Intersolar Europe in Munich six weeks ago. The upward growth of Intersolar India underlines India's ambitions, with 250 expected exhibitors – a 70 percent increase over last year – set to present their products and services in Mumbai. The exhibition space has also increased to 20,000 square

meters, doubled in size compared to last year.

Intersolar India Conference

From December 13–14, 2011, around 700 expected industry experts are meeting at the Intersolar India Conference to discuss and expand on topics from the exhibition – the conference starts a day prior to the exhibition and runs one day into the event. Around 100 Indian and international-based speakers are providing a comprehensive insight into advances in technology and policy within the Indian and international solar industry. The conference is being held at the Leela Kempinski Hotel, Mumbai.

For more information on Intersolar India please visit: www.intersolar.in



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- Power Evacuation
- Sales and Marketing
- Project Delivery