

GOING GREEN WITH SOLAR ENERGY

A seminar on 'Going Green with Solar Energy' was organised by Society of Indian Aerospace Technologies and Industries (SIATI) in association with i2g and Enerpack Energy Pvt Ltd., on 13 April 2019. A large number of industries including SMEs participated. Spreading awareness on reducing pollution and creating clean environment being one of its objectives, the Society For Professional Ethics and Management participated and supported the event.

Presentations by experts highlighted the responsibility of 'going green and clean energy' for sustainable development and promotion of clean environment. Technology for solar power generation and utilisation has advanced considerably and the cost of power has come down drastically. Getting electricity at half the cost with nil capital investment from the user industry was a highlight of the presentation and discussion. Under the OPEX model, an entrepreneur - an independent power producer, will finance 100 per cent investment for

installing roof top or other space provided by the industry and the industry shall pay only for the units consumed at almost half the present cost. Installation of roof top solar panels will also lead to slight air conditioning effect inside the hangar.

It was pointed out that solar energy is a major and compelling power option for India with about 300+ clear and sunny days a year. Increasing cost of fossil fuel for power generation and resulting high pollution can be eliminated by switching over to solar energy. Karnataka State is the leading State in solar energy utilisation with over 5000MW installed capacity at the end of 2018. Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) is the world's first and only (so far) airport totally powered by solar energy with 14MW installed capacity and planning to upgrade to 50 MW. In India private airports owned by GVK and GMR groups also are utilising more and more solar power. Among Public Sector Undertakings HAL has taken the lead in installing solar power plants of 2 to 2 MW each in some of its Divisions.

