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SOLARIZATION OF AAI AIRPORTS

AAI initiated Solar Power Projects by harnessing the Solar Energy, the best available renewable energy source way back in 2010 with visionary approach towards "INVEST IN THE SUN" solar revolution & commitment to sustainability. In this endeavor, AAI had signed MoU with Solar Energy Corporation of India (a subsidiary of MNRE). To enhance the pace of this endeavor, the roof top of AAI Headquarters' was selected to set up environmental friendly 250 KWp grid interactive solar system under "Build Own and Operate Model (B.O.O), as an initiative under Clean Development Mechanism. This model is re-christianized as "RESCO Model" subsequently by MNRE.

AAI has already completed 4.8 MWp roof top solar projects at 13 different Airports/ Units across India and has further awarded another 4.9 MWp solar roof top plants works which are in progress at 14 other airports irrespective of climatic conditions/ radiation levels of the states. The solar energy generation so far is 51 Lakhs units (Approx.) from the completed solar power plants at various airports.

In a matching response to Prime Minister's visionary steps towards solarization to meet rising demand of power and to reduce carbon foot print, AAI further expanded their horizon by awarding ground mounted solar PV plants of 19.8 MWp capacity at its 03 Airports viz Kolkata, Chandigarh & Jaipur, which are going to be completed shortly. In addition, the feasibility studies to enhance the capacity of ground mounted Solar Projects are in progress to install Solar Power Plants at all major airports. Further, AAI is in the process of formulating new methods to utilize the available vacant land in the premises of the airports for solar projects under the guidance of MNRE/ SECI with an aim of energy neutrality. Underlying the need for reduction in carbon foot print which is a major factor of concern for climate change now a days, AAI has reduced 4600 Metric Tons of carbon emission solely from the installed solar plants, which is equivalent to growing of 1,17,949 tree seedlings for 10 years.

AAI's efforts towards solarization have been recognized by Ministry of New And Renewable Energy and conferred the National Award for Best Performing Central PSU for Green Energy initiatives recently.