

## Two-layer Solar Panels to Save Space, Cut Cost

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Visitors examine solar equipment at a stall during an awareness programme on ‘Solar Energy’ at Tummalapalli Kalakshetram in Vijayawada on Monday | Express Photo

VIJAYAPURA: Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are facing the highest deficit of 3.2 GW every year in the country,” said Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute (GERMI) director T Hari Narayan.

Speaking at an awareness programme on ‘Solar energy’ organised by the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC), NABARD and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy at Tummalapalli Kalakshetram here on Monday, he said in India about 255 GW of electricity is generated every year, 72 percent of which comes through non-renewable energy resources and 28 pc through renewable energy resources. “The demand will rise up to 603 GW in 2024 and unless the available renewable energy resources are used for electricity generation, it will be impossible to meet the demand,” he said.

Explaining the results of the latest research at GERMI, Hari Narayan said with two-layer solar panels with plane mirrors attached to them, one can reduce the rooftop space and also cost.

Acharya Nagarjuna University principal P Siddaiah said it takes `84,000 to instal one solar panel of 1KW capacity and the government is providing 15 percent subsidy. Each panel generates 4 units of electricity per day.

ANU Vice-chancellor K Viyanna Rao said the students who are interested to undergo training in photovoltaic rooftop solar installation could take the certification course being provided by the university and become solar entrepreneurs.

VMC commissioner G Veerapandian said asked the CREDAI and APREDA members to prepare building designs with rooftop solar panels. Later, senior scientist at GERMI Sagar Agarwal gave a powerpoint presentation on the grid connected roof system. An exhibition held on the occasion displayed a variety of solar panels and their benefits. Mayor Koneru Sridhar, NREDCAP project director G Harinadha Babu and others were present.