

CMRL steps up renewable energy generation capacity

CHENNAI: Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) has gone ahead to achieve the energy conservation and generation plans. It has now increased its installed capacity of solar roof top power to 1.6MW with the successful commissioning of another 103KWp roof top solar power system in ancillary buildings of underground stations at Tirumanagalam, Anna Nagar Tower, Anna Nagar East and Shenoy Nagar Metro rail stations.

The solar units installed at the four stations would generate around 13,800 units of electricity per month, saving Rs 6.34 lakh per year to the special purposed vehicle launched by the State government to develop and operate metro trains in the city. CMRL has planned to utilise electricity generated through such solar units for technical requirements. CMRL also planned another 6MW roof top solar power installation, which is under progress. The plants under construction would be completed by 2018.

The state-of-art metro trains also have regenerative braking system that produces energy every time the loco pilot applies brakes. The system helps regenerate nearly 30 per cent of the energy consumed by a four-car train by converting kinetic energy to electrical energy using three-phase traction motors in the under gear that act as power generators.



Solar panel installed at Anna Nagar East station