CMRL to generate 2.77 cr units of power per year in Phase 2

Out of the 128 stations proposed - Madhavaram to SIPCOT (Sinner), Lighthouse to Poonamallee Bypass and Madhavaram to Sholinganallur - 80 are elevated stations and the rest are underground. The DPN proposes to set up three depots at Madhavaram, SIPCOT and Poonamallee. Based on the solar radiation intensity in Chennai, the peak solar power generation of Chennai Metro Phase II is expected to be about 50 kWp for the elevated stations and about 300 kWp for maintenance depot," he said.

A CMRL official said that the cost of electricity is a significant part of the operation and maintenance expense. "We would be able to significantly reduce it through rooftop solar power generation," the official said.

For the solar energy harvesting system, CMRL official said that they would select the rooftop to the project developer responsible for the PV installation. "The power would be purchased by CMRL on the basis of the unit rate specified by Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). This is the model adopted in Phase I of the project as well," the official noted.

In the Phase I, the Metro rail has so far installed solar plants with a capacity of 4.1 MW, and work on 2.5 MW is under progress.