

PRESS RELEASE

Gurgaon..... Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation are the need of the hour for sustainable future. This was stated by the Power & Renewable Energy Minister, Haryana while inaugurating a two day Energy Mela at the **Rajiv Gandhi Renewable Energy Park (RGREP), City Centre, Sector-29, Gurgaon**. The Mela has been organized by the Haryana Renewable Energy Development Agency (HAREDA) and the Advit Foundation, Gurgaon jointly to create awareness about renewable energy and energy conservation related issues and develop an interface between the technical experts and general public.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that present 110 MW energy is being produced from renewable energy sources in the State and in near future 200 MW capacity will be added with setting up of various biomass and solar energy based projects in the State. He said that while the Govt. and Power Producers need to take necessary steps for large scale power generation from renewable energy and energy sources, at the same time, general public need to be educated about the benefits of renewable energy and energy conservation. He further said that the Haryana Govt. is committed for promotion of renewable energy and energy conservation in the State and every possible step will be taken to ensure that the existing potential of renewable energy and energy conservation is tapped at the earliest. He said that State Govt. has created the State Energy Conservation Fund for supporting energy conservation and demand side management activities. During the current financial year, an amount of Rs.2.5 crores will be available in the Fund from the State and Centre contributions. Appreciating the concept of Energy Mela he said that similar events should be organized in every district of the State to create awareness about renewable energy and energy conservation.

Addressing the gathering , Dr.Ajay Mathur Director General, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power, Govt. of India said that Haryana has always played leaders role in implementing Govt. policies for better quality of life for its people. He appreciated the initiative of Energy Mela of such a large scale.

Speaking on the occasion, Smt. Sumita Misra, Director, HAREDA said that the Haryana Govt. has adopted a multi-pronged strategy for promotion of renewable energy and energy conservation which include regulatory measures, incentives in the form of financial assistance, promotional measures by creating awareness and playing leaders role. She said that the HAREDA is geared up to take the responsibility under the National Solar Mission and expects to add about 100 MW solar power by 2013 in the first phase. It has already taken initiatives for fixation of tariff and grid connectivity. She further said that the State will see manifold rise in power generation from renewable in near future.

She said that the Haryana govt. has an attractive renewable energy power policy under which many incentives have been given to the Independent Power Producers like wheeling and banking, exemption from change of land use charges, electricity duty and status of an industry as per industrial policy, 2005. Besides this, Haryana Govt. has been pro-active in its approach towards promoting renewable and energy efficiency. She said that the best way to practice energy efficiency is to evaluate our procedures and methods to check any wastage of energy and make plans for optimizing the same. For such energy audits, HAREDA has a scheme under which 50% cost of the energy audit limited to Rs.50,000/- is available for industries/institutions/commercial establishments.

Outlining the concept of the Mela, Smt. Charu Jain said that this activity has been organized for the first time in the State to popularize Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation in a most innovative way. She said that puppet shows and street plays on the theme of the mela, hands on workshops on solar cooking, waste recycling and energy efficiency in homes will organized to make the students understand these concepts in easier ways. In addition to this, short duration movies on renewable energy, energy conservation and related issues will be screened to present an overview of these topics to the public in the simplest and interesting way. On this occasion, an exhibition of energy devices like CFLs, LED lights, solar cookers, solar water heating systems, solar lantern, solar home lighting systems etc. on discounted rates has also been organized. Many leading manufacturers like Central Electronics, Ghaziabad, RGVP, Ahmdabad, Synergy Solar, Chandigarh, Asian Electronics, Nasik, Ritika Systems, Gaziabad, TRA International, Navdany, New Delhi, Electrical Control systems, Gurgaon, Development Alternatives, New Delhi, Adhyan,, New Delhi. Many children have also exhibited their models on renewable energy and energy conservation. A musical evening has also been arranged on 17th April 2010.

Presenting Vote of Thanks, Sh.R.K.Kataria, Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon said that Gurgaon is the centre of urban development in the State and efforts are being made to provide world class facilities to its citizens. At the same time, the citizens also have a responsibility to abide by the rules and regulations formulated for development by various departments. He said that various mandatory provisions for solar water heating systems and energy efficiency are being enforced strictly. He said that the district administration every possible step to make Gurgaon solar city project a success. He thanked the department for giving priority to Gurgaon for various projects on renewable energy and energy conservation.

Speaking on the occasion Sh.B.S.Yadav, Additional Director, Renewable Energy Department said that the Rajiv Gandhi Renewable Energy Park has been set up at a cost of about Rs.2.5 crore by the Haryana Government to create awareness among the masses about the new technologies developed in the area

of renewable energy, to demonstrate the working of these technologies through working models & to educate students regarding application of various renewable energy sources, energy conservation technologies and their socio-environmental benefits. The Park has working models of various renewable energy and energy generating devices. The most attractive feature of the park is that its building have been constructed with solar passive design concepts and green roofs which will make the buildings cool in summer and warm in winter. The park also has an energy information centre to provide advisory services to the public.

Earlier Sh. Singh also inaugurated the 'ROOTS' café. ROOTS signifies the origin of the universe, sun and water. Food served here will be "low carbon food" – minimum packaging, organically grown & only vegetarian to reduce green house gas emissions. In addition many of the recipes will be prepared using solar cookers & dryers. While inaugurating the Café, 'Kheer' prepared on solar cooker was served.

On this occasion, Sh.Robert Angioletti from French Environment and Energy Management Agency expressed the hope that the energy information centre concept will gain momentum in India also like in France where such centres are a success. Smt Anita Yadav, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon, Sh.D.K.Chopra, Project Director, renewable Energy Department, Haryana, Sh.P.K.Yadav, SE, HAREDA, Sh.P.K.Nautiyal, Senior Technical Manager, HAREDA , Sh.Tilottam Kolani, Greentech and other officers were also present on this occasion.

Advit Foundation, a not for profit organization, works with the people towards environment conservation. It aims to promote effective lifestyle changes that will allow society to move along the positive path of energy efficiency. Advit's team members also strive at other myriad complexities of environment sustenance by working with the local rural population; teaching and training new skill sets that lead to a sustainable livelihood that reflect healthily on our environment.

Rajiv Gandhi Renewable Energy Park – Energy Centre, Gurgaon (RGREP), an initiative of Haryana Renewable Energy Department (HAREDA) and Advit Foundation, works towards promoting the use of renewable energy sources. It serves as a one-stop solution for public sector, community, industry, bi-lateral and multi-lateral development agencies for creating, implementing and monitoring sustainable development initiatives

For more information contact: Mathangi R, Programme Co-ordinator, Advit Foundation
Email: info@advit.org; mathangi@advit.org; Tel: 0124-4309490/1/2; Fax: 0124-4309493; Web: www.advit.org