

Awareness Programme for RWAs on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Club PATIO, South City-I, Gurgaon

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The Rajiv Gandhi Renewable Energy Park, Energy Centre, set up by the Haryana Renewable Energy Development Agency (HAREDA) and managed by Advit Foundation organized a first of its kind programme to sensitize citizens on the need to become energy efficient. Charu Jain, Director Advit Foundation, in her opening remarks emphasized the need to overcome ignorance and strive to be part of the climate change mitigation solution. “The problem of climate change and no power exists. But as citizens what are we doing? We need to take all steps at our end to help reduce our energy consumption and become efficient. Today’s programme is one such step forward by Advit and RGREP to link the solution providers with the society”. Shri Rajender Kataria, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon, graced the occasion with his presence. During his inaugural speech he emphasized that HUDA is giving all support to RGREP and he hopes that Gurgaon will set a precedent in the country of how civil society, Government and citizens can work together to help reduce energy consumption and lower carbon footprints.

Mr D K Chopra, Project Director, HAREDA presented to the audience the various schemes that the Government of Haryana provides to aid spreading of renewable energy and energy efficient devices and appliances. Consultants from Kalpakrit Sustainable Environments and Lighting Consultants shared case studies on how to make homes and apartments green.

Several organizations with energy efficient products and renewable energy products made presentations on the various technologies that exist and are suitable for residences and societies. The companies included – Su-kam, Compact Lighting, Angstrom, Advait Energy and Gurgaon’s first carpooling website – Easy2Commute. The programme ended with a visit to the RGREP in Leisure Valley, Gurgaon, which is a working example of a solar passive building – totally off-grid generating its own electricity from the sun. “One needs to capitalize on energy efficient and renewable energy sources and help solve serious energy and environmental issues. Such a goal would do job creation among the underserved and also create new entrepreneur models based upon renewable energy”, added Bhavesh Swami, Manager at the Rajiv Gandhi Renewable Energy Park.

Concluding the programme the participants agreed that the need for energy conservation in India assumes greater significance because of increasing gap between demand and supply of

energy. “Technologies and solutions exist to reduce our energy consumption – be it simple energy conservation or use of renewable energy”, added Anirudh Kabra, a Gurgaon resident working for a KPO in Gurgaon. He emphasized that the time has come for one and all to take action. There is no scope for in-action today.

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

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