

B'luru cricket stadium to light up with solar power

Bengaluru: The Chinnaswamy cricket stadium in the heart of this tech hub has introduced modern technology, with photovoltaic cells fixed on its circular rooftop to generate solar power, an official said on Thursday.

"Our stadium is the first in the country to install solar panels on the rooftop above the eastern stands to generate about 1,700 units of power daily to meet a part of our energy requirements," a Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) official said.

Set up under the Indo-German environmental partnership and installed by RonXSol Ecotech ahead of the IPL T20 tournament, the solar panels will generate 440 kilowatts or six lakh units per annum. "Going forward, similar panels will be installed on the western side rooftop to generate an additional 850kw after this summer," KSCA spokesman Vinay Mrutyunjaya noted.



GREEN ENERGY: The Chinnaswamy stadium has become the first in India to install rooftop solar panels

The combined solar panels will have the potential to generate 18-lakh units per year to meet about 40-50% of its peak requirement annually. "We

have invested Rs 3 crore to install the solar cells on top of eastern stands and will invest Rs 7 crore for similar panels on top of western stands by this year-end," Mrutyunjaya said.

Maximum energy is consumed for lighting the ground, stands, dressing rooms, pavilion and other facilities when hosting IPL matches in summer and day-night one-day international matches.

"Though the city is located at about 3,000 feet and has the most salubrious climate in the country, sunlight is available in abundance for about 10 months a year, as we are in the tropical region to generate plenty of clean energy," Mrutyunjaya said. By using solar energy, the association will cut its expenditure on power supplied to it at commercial rate. "We will be saving Rs 40-50 lakh on electricity bills by using solar energy for our power needs," Mrutyunjaya added. TNN & AGENCIES