



## Intersolar India – A Platform of exchange for knowledge, business and recognition

MANSHI PAWAR, ENERGETICA INDIA

Manshi Pawar visited the InterSolar India 2013 event in Mumbai and brings back a brief overview from the event

The Intersolar India Exhibition and conference which commenced on the 11th November 2013 and concluded on 14th November 2013, witnessed an overwhelming response from the industry. There were close to 100 speakers and 700 attendees present at the conference to share their latest insights on photovoltaic's (PV), PV production technologies, energy storage and solar thermal

technologies. The exhibition showcased close to 170 exhibitors and visitors from more than 80 nations.

The two day event also included Intersolar Awards for the category of Solar Projects in India. The shining jewels in this category were "Barefoot Power"- Enhancing productivity among weaving communities in Erode, Tamil Nadu, "Chemtrols" Solar Private Limited - India's First MW Scale PV-

Diesel Hybrid Solar Power Plant and "L&T Construction"- Solarisation of L&T CSTI & CDC Campus at Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu.

Commenting on the event Mr. Anurag Garg, Vice President, Solar Business, Schneider Electric India said, "Intersolar event is a good and dedicated event for the Solar Industry. Intersolar India is trying to bring the SOLAR community together for business support.



Intersolar exhibition provided us a good platform to showcase our range of innovative solar products and solutions in front of industry experts and customers. At Intersolar, the focus was on the Solar Inverter Substation (SISS), and the XC Range of Inverters for the Grid market and the Conext Range of Inverters for the Off-Grid market. SISS is a one of its kind unique offer which reduces the execution time of solar projects to a great extent with its modular design. The SISS offer is developed in 3 options 1.08MVA/ 1.26MVA/ 1.36MVA. XC Series Solar PV Grid Connected Central Inverter is indigenously manufactured, best in class and designed to meet harsh requirements in Indian environment. The newly introduced offer- Solar Water Pumping Solution-Vilaya was a crowd puller. This solution is suitable for 1HP to 7.5 HP surface mount and submersible pumps.”

According to Mr. Ravi Shankar, Business Unit Head - Systems and Projects SBU, Pennar Industries, “Inter Solar event was a good platform for Pennar to gain visibility and interact with potential customers and also get an understanding of new developments in the overall solar power ecosystem in India. There is a growing interest in Tracker based ground mounted solar projects. A number visitors showed interest in smaller scaled (100 KW – 1 MW) projects, both rooftop as well as well ground mounted. However, the mood was slightly subdued because of the prevailing business environment but there is a positive buzz about the future of the solar market. We noticed a number of new companies.”

Indian Solar market has gained momentum in past few years. The growing technologies and developments in the

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field have provided a vast space for the solar savvy industries all around the globe. “Renewable energy sector has been a focus area of growth since last few years whether it is wind, hydro or solar. The objective is reduction of power deficit and reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> which comes with increased consumption of power. While wind and hydro had some MW installed in last few years, solar has taken lead only last year under JNNSM Phase-I in India and support of Central & State Governments considering the huge untapped potential that comes with high irradiation levels in most part of India and also the cost of solar drastically reducing, with grid parity not being far from conventional sources of power. So far market developments have been encouraging for solar with various incentives/schemes being provided by Central & State Government to promote solar power and also interest of developers and manufacturers of components like So-

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lar Panels and Inverters to participate and support this initiative.” said Mr. Anurag Garg, Vice President, Solar Business, Schneider Electric India.

Highlighting the conference opening, Mr. Sudhi Ranjan Mohanty, Principal Secretary, NRED, Govt of Madhya Pradesh, presented a brief scenario of Solar Developments in the state. According to Mr. Sudhi the total project installed capacity in Madhya Pradesh is expected to be 1147MW by May 2015. Currently, MP shares 153 MW (80%) out of 191 MW Pan-India addition in June-Sept quarter of 2013. Also, Diken village in Neemuch district of Madhya Pradesh homes the country's largest Single Destination Solar project of 130 MW spread over 900 acres of land which was completed 8 months ahead of its schedule.

Apart from Mr. Sudhir the event also had Mr. Tarun Kapoor Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) talking about the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM). Mr. Tarun disclosed that the MNRE's strategy for Off Grid technology is to modify the existing scheme for simpler administration and introduce new schemes for Energy Access and Roof top. Solar cities will also be one of the MNRE's strategies in the Off Grid Section. He also hinted that, to accelerate the growth to achieve manufacturing level of about 4-5 GWepq per year by 2017-2020, a Solar Energy Industry Advisory Council was to set up.

MNRE plans to set up Ultra Mega Solar Projects of 4GW in Sambhar Lake, 3GW solar park in Bandhala, Jodhpur, 4GW solar and 700MW wind power system in Karaghoda, Gujarat and 2GW solar power project in Ladakh region of Jammu & Kashmir.