

No respite from power cuts in sight

DC CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU, SEPT. 25

First it was the load shedding that caused power outages and then the regular maintenance work by the Bescom. But seems like the power cuts are here to stay. Friday being a festival day, there were not much power cuts in city, but from Saturday onwards the power cuts are going to be back in city in many areas. This time it is due to cable laying works taken up by the KPTCL in many city areas for which power supply will be irregular, that too without any time schedule.

A senior official from the Bescom admitted that the power shutdown in city would be due to regular maintenance works that are being taken up by the Bescom and adding to that the cable laying works by

the KPTCL. "The ongoing cable laying work is happening in many areas. But once the current work is completed it will ensure seamless power connectivity. "The ongoing cabling work ensures that high-voltage electricity can be carried through these lines in city area and it will help Bescom not to have power cuts during maintenance works. We are getting more than 300 MW of energy from hydel resources and its going to increase in the coming days as the water flow to the dams has been increased in the state. As of now we have no shortage of power as it existed two weeks ago, hence there is no load shedding in city," informed a official.

But the residents in many parts of Bengaluru continue to have power outages throughout the day.

Green power corridors improve solar projects' outlook

Swelect Energy to set up a 20 MW SPV farm

S. Varadharajan

CHENNAI: The outlook for evacuation of power from solar projects has improved as the country has started to work for setting up green power corridors, R. Chellappan, Managing Director of Swelect Energy Systems (formerly Numeric Power Systems) said. Swelect Energy, an integrator of solar power systems and manufacturer of solar photovoltaic (SPV) modules and power converters, on Friday announced that it had successfully commissioned a 10 MW solar power project in Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu recently.



R. Chellappan

Addressing presspersons Mr. Chellappan said this was the first project to receive viability gap funding under the Solar Energy Corporation of India-Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (SECI-

JNNM) phase-2. The total outlay on the 10 MW project was Rs.50 crore and viability gap funding was provided to the tune of Rs.13.5 crore by the Solar Energy Corporation.

The highlight of the project was that more than 6 MW of the installed capacity of 10 MW SPV modules were turned out by HHV Solar Tech-

nologies, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the company in Bengaluru. The high efficiency SPV cells were manufactured locally with 100 per cent domestic content requirement compliance, he said. The power is evacuated through a 33 kV feeder to Tangedco grid. SECI was selling the energy back to Tangedco under a specific power sales agreement at a cost of Rs.5.45 per Kwh, Mr. Chellappan said.

Swelect Energy has been developing power projects for a decade and has installed over 1,700 roof projects, so far, across the country. It has also developed 15 MW modular energy park in Karur (Tamil Nadu). Mr. Chellappan said that the company was in the process of developing a 20 MW SPV farm and several SPV projects for corporates.

Intermittent power supply today

Staff Reporter

BENGALURU: There will be intermittent power supply between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. in many areas on Saturday, according to the Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company.



(Velankani) MUSS: G.B. Palya, Lakshmi Layout, Raghavendra Layout, New MICO Layout, Vajpayee Nagar, Hosur Main

Road, Begur Main Road, Sri-rama Nagara, Hongasandra Village, Balaji Layout, Doddathogur Village, Vinayaka Layout, Celebrity Housing Layout, Konappana Agrahara Village, NGR Layout, Gulbarga Colony, Silk Board junction, part of Bommanahalli, Electronics City.

Station: 66/11 kV Khoday's MUSS: Avalahalli, Anjanapura Village, Brookes Layout, 8th Phase BDA Layout, Royal County Layout, Deepak Layout, Vaddarapalya, Ayalahalli Slum, Bank Officers Layout, BCCH Layout, Thalaghattapura, Judicial Layout, Vajrahalli, Banashankari 6th Stage, Banashankari 8th Phase, BDA Layout, and Gundu Thopu.

Areas that will be affected are: **Station: 66/11 kV Electronics City (Keonics) MUSS:** Electronics City Phase I, Neeladri Road. **Station: 66/11 kV Electronics City Phase 2 Sec 1**

Power interruption in these areas today

Bengaluru: There will be intermittent power supply from 9am to 4pm on Saturday in areas coming under 66/11kv Electronics City (Keonics) MUSS, 66/11kv Electronics City Ph-2 Sec-1 (Velankini) MUSS and Khoday's MUSS. Areas affected: Electronics City, GB Palya, Lakshmi Layout, Ra-

gavendra Layout, New MICO Layout, Hosur Main Road, Begur Main road, Balaji Layout, Vinayaka Layout, Silk Board junction, parts of Bommanahalli, Avalahalli, Thalaghattapura, Judicial Layout, Khoday's Nusery, Banashankari VI Stage, VIII Phase (BDA Layout), TNN

Supersonic car that inspires schoolkids

LONDON, AFP: Don't want to do your maths homework? A rocket-powered car that could break the world land speed record and travel at over 1,000 miles per hour (1,600 kilometres) per hour could be the solution.

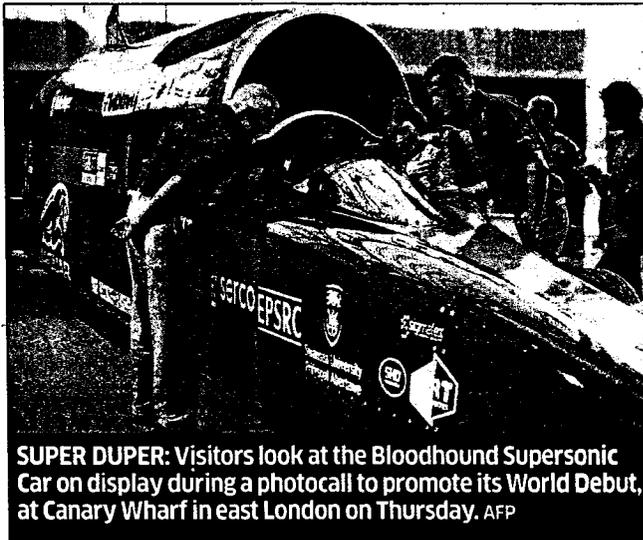
The Bloodhound Supersonic Car (SSC) unveiled in London on Thursday is an engineering marvel that its builders hope will inspire a new generation of engineers like the Space Race during the Cold War.

With a fighter jet engine and rockets, the sleek 135,000-horsepower car is as powerful as 180 Formula One racing cars and will go faster than a bullet.

In 1997, Royal Air Force pilot Andy Green established the current record of 1,228 kilometres per hour – faster than the speed of sound – in the Nevada desert in the United States on board the Thrust SSC.

Almost 20 years later, Green is planning to get behind the wheel and beat his own record.

The plan is to reach 1,287 km per hour next year in South Africa and then shatter a world



SUPER DUPER: Visitors look at the Bloodhound Supersonic Car on display during a photocall to promote its World Debut, at Canary Wharf in east London on Thursday. AFP

bending 1,000 miles per hour threshold in 2017.

"We want to set the bar so high that it will be very difficult for anyone to take, it," project director Richard Noble said.

The £15-million (20 million euro, \$23 million) car is a jumble of hi-tech that relates as much to aeronautics and aerospace as to the automotive industry.

The car has three power

plants - a Rolls-Royce EJ200 jet from a Eurofighter Typhoon, a cluster of Nammo hybrid rockets and a Jaguar V8 engine that drives the rocket oxidiser pump.

The cockpit looks like the one on a jet, including the oxygen mask. "It's like an airplane but on four wheels," said Mark Blackwell, a technician on the project.

Beating the record is a big

motivator for the team but is not an end in itself – their aim is also to give a taste for science to a new generation.

"We had a meeting with the Ministry of Defence and they said we have a terrible problem – we can't recruit scientist engineers," Noble said.

"In the US during 1961 to 1972, the number of PhD achieved in science education increased by 300 pc" because of the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union, he said.

More than 100,000 children from 6,000 schools in Britain and 1,000 in South Africa are involved in an education project around the Bloodhound (www.bloodhoundssc.com).

"Kids respond very well, set up rocket clubs, do more maths," said Kirsty Allpress from the Bloodhound Education Team, which visits schools to talk about the car.

Noble said that footage of the car and data relating to the project is all uploaded onto the website and this information is then used by teachers for classwork.

D.C. Purillo **BHEL'S 250 MW power plant started**

New Delhi: State-run BHEL on Friday said that it has commissioned a 250 MW coal-based thermal power unit at Sikka in Gujarat. It has been commissioned at Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Ltd's (GSECL) Sikka Thermal Power Station on Engineering, procurement and Construction basis. "BHEL has achieved one more milestone by successfully commissioning a 250 MW coal-based thermal power plant in Gujarat," BHEL said in a statement. This is the second unit of 250 MW to be commissioned by the state-owned firm at Sikka TPS, located near Jamnagar. — PTI

City going green: Buildings to be energy efficient

■ Environment Ministry lays down 30 parameters ■ Stress on management of energy, water, land and solid waste

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BENGALURU, SEPT. 25

The latest guidelines on building construction by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change will soon be implemented in the state. Local agencies such as BBMP and the Pollution Control Board will oversee the construction sector to ensure the new norms are followed.

'Environmental Guidelines for Buildings' contains about 30 parameters to be complied with for efficient management of energy, water, land, solid waste, air quality and noise levels during pre-construction, construction

and post construction period. The Ministry noted that there is a need to sensitize the States and other stakeholders to the need for 'green construction' in view of the fact that building sector consumes 40% of electricity generated in the country, 30% of raw materials and 20% each of water and land resources besides generating 30% of solid waste and 20% of effluents.

"It's good that the government has now come up with the guidelines and they must be implemented in the best of spirits. Karnataka already has numbers of strong laws in urban sector where the builders can be prosecuted for causing problems to others



dump construction debris on the footpaths and roads, but not many cases are booked in Bengaluru though such acts blocks traffic around the construction sites."

6 Carbon footprint assessment in Bengaluru reveals that zones with tall buildings with glass facades are energy guzzlers evident from the ten times higher electricity consumption

— Dr T.V. Ramachandra

said an urban expert. The Ministry stated that the states have broadly agreed to comply with the proposed guidelines for construction projects in

urban areas stating that the stipulations are feasible for implementation.

Scientists from Indian Institute of Science (IISc) who have been criticizing the construction sector for not following the present norms which are listed by the Pollution Control Board, have welcomed the new directions.

Dr T V Ramachandra from IISc said the recent workshop by the Ministry appears to be "business as usual" and do not show any effort towards eco friendly architecture. "Carbon footprint assessment in Bengaluru reveals that zones with tall buildings with glass facades are energy guzzlers evident from the ten times higher

electricity consumption.

Residents in the zones consume about 1400-1600 units (kWh) of electricity/person/year compared to the zones dominated by glass facades buildings where consumption is 14,000-17,000 units per person per year. Higher the electricity consumption means higher carbon footprint and greater contributions to global warming and consequent changes in the climate. These architects and glass facades are required in temperate climate (cold regions) whereas they should be conserved and not suitable for tropical climate (like Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, etc)," he said.

D/H 26/9

Jindal to revive West Bengal project with Rs 2,700 crore

KOLKATA, DHNS: Eight years after it had shelved its flagship project in Salboni in West Bengal, Sajjan Jindal's Jindal Steel Works (JSW) has announced its plan to revive it by lining up an investment worth Rs 2,700 crore.

The project in West Midnapore district, set to be complete in a year, is expected to boost the ailing industrial scenario of the state. JSW will initially set up a 2.4 metric tonne cement grinding unit, followed by a 300 megawatt captive power plant at Salboni, Jindal said on the sidelines of a seminar organised by a city-based commerce body.

Although the company had initially planned a steel plant at the site, Jindal said the project would have to wait due to unavailability of iron ore and the "global oversupply in steel".

"I was very keen to set up the steel plant but unfortunately I couldn't do it. But I've decided to start with a cement plant," said Jindal, adding that JSW will invest Rs 700 crore in the plant for which clinker will be imported from Thailand.

Company officials said Jindal met state Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday with the proposal to lay the foundation stone of the cement plant in January 2016.

JSW had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the previous Left Front government in 2007 for the integrated steel, cement and power plant spread over 4,300 acres, involving a total investment of Rs 35,000 crore. The foundation stone of the steel plant was laid on November 2, 2008, the day Maoists instrumented a

landmine blast. The project met several roadblocks and in 2014, JSW decided to put it on hold due to "uncertainties over raw material linkages".

The company also decided to return 294 acres to farmers as it decided that it only needed 150 acres for the cement plant and another 100 acres for power plant. "We'll start the process for the power plant after three months," said Jindal, who also called Bengal "one of the best places" to set up an industry.

"The government is giving full support to industry. Once the new Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation Act is in place, we'll look at the steel plant. Under the Act, we can get iron ore from other states and the royalty is also much higher for respective states," he said.

D/H 26/9

Take note of MHA's intimidation, Greenpeace India tells Modi

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Greenpeace India on Friday asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to "take note" of the intimidation campaign unleashed against it by the Home Ministry, warning such actions would tarnish India's standing abroad.

In an open letter from Executive Directors of Greenpeace India and US at a time Modi is in the US, the NGO said the UN Special Rapporteur has "recently criticised" India's actions in "suppressing" civil society and "vilifying" voices of dissent.

"In fact, on the very eve of the Prime Minister's address to the United Nations, the organisation's primary bank account was frozen, once again denying Greenpeace access to donations

received directly from its Indian supporters," the letter said.

"The actions of some officials in the MHA, and the resultant shrinking of the space for constructive dialogue have served to tarnish India's international standing as a country that respects free speech and democracy. At a time when we need to focus instead on the imperatives of the environmental issues facing us all, these actions serve merely as a distraction, and raise serious questions about your government's commitment to democracy and to addressing environmental issues," it said.

The letter signed by Vinuta Gopal, Interim Executive Director of Greenpeace India,

and Annie Leonard, Executive Director of Greenpeace US, said they looked forward to working with the Indian government on common objectives of ensuring clean, affordable renewable energy for all.

Greenpeace also lent its support for India's ambitious new renewable energy goals and hoped Modi would be able to secure support from global partners, civil societies and investors to realise them.

"We congratulate you on setting new and ambitious renewable energy targets and urge a focus on decentralised renewable energy as the fastest most cost-effective way to tackle India's energy poverty challenge," said the letter.