

KEC 2012

**ENERGY FOR AGRICULTURE IN A
SUSTAINABLE SCENARIO**

R V G MENON

Formerly,

Principal, Govt Engg College, Kannur,

Director, ANERT, Director, IRTC

- THE RECENT BLACK OUT IN NORTH INDIA SHOULD BE AN EYE OPENER
- MANY OBSERVERS ARE OF OPINION THAT THIS WAS CAUSED BY GRID INDISCIPLINE ON THE PART OF SOME STATES
- ALL OF THEM ARE PREDOMINANTLY AGRICULTURAL STATES WHICH HAVE LARGE PROPORTION OF AGRICULTURAL LOAD

- THE EXTENDED DROUGHT AND FAILURE OF MONSOON CAUSED A HEAVY PUMPING LOAD
- THIS COULD NOT BE IGNORED BY THE GOVERNMENT
- INTERESTINGLY, THE IRRIGATION PUMPING LOAD IS COINCIDENT WITH INCIDENT SOLAR ENERGY
- IF THE DROUGHT LASTS LONGER, MORE SOLAR ENERGY WILL BE AVAILABLE

**THE SITUATION IS TAILOR-MADE FOR
SOLAR ENERGY UTILIZATION IN A LARGE
WAY**

IN A PRESENTATION MADE IN THE LAST KEC, I SAID:

- **CURRENT COST OF PV CELLS IS
\$3.5 PER W_p**
- **THIS HAS TO COME DOWN TO \$1 PER
 W_p TO MAKE IT COMPETITIVE**
- **(OR, THE COST OF OIL HAS TO
GO UP!)**
- **THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT BOTH
ARE ALREADY HAPPENING !**

IT HAS HAPPENED!

- THE PRICE OF SOLAR PANELS HAVE CRASHED TO LESS THAN \$1 /W_p IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET
- IN THE SECOND ROUND OF BIDDING IN THE JN NATIONAL SOALR ENERGY MISSION, THE LOWEST RATE QUOTED WAS Rs 7.49/KWH FOR RAJASTHAN
- GUJARAT HAS RECENTLY COMMISSIONED A SOLAR FARM OF 600 MW CAPACITY

- **THERE IS A RESURGENCE IN SOLAR PV WORLDWIDE**
- **GERMANY HAS CONNECTED 28000 MW TO THE GRID FROM SOLAR PV INSTALLATIONS**
- **CALIFORNIA IS PROCEEDING WITH ONE MILLION SOLAR HOMES PROJECT – ROOF TOP SOLAR PV SYSTEMS CONNECTED TO THE GRID – WITH NET METERING**

**CAN KERALA HAVE A
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SCENARIO
WITH SOLAR PV AS THE MAJOR
INPUT?**

- **KERALA HAS REASONABLE HYDEL RESOURCES, ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT 3000 MW**
- **PRESENT INSTALLED CAPACITY IS 1933 MW, CONTRIBUTING ABOUT 6000 MU / YR. ANOTHER 280 MW (822 MU) IS IN PIPE LINE.**
- **KSEB HAS SOME MORE PROPOSALS, BUT MOST ARE MIRED IN CONTROVERSIES, HAVING UNACCEPTABLE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT.**

- **CONSUMPTION FOR 2010 WAS 17335 MU, WITH A PEAK DEMAND OF ABOUT 2800 MW**
- **THAT MEANS ABOUT TWO THIRDS OF OUR ELECTRICITY IS PURCHASED FROM CENTRAL PLANTS OR OTHER SEBs OR IPPs – MOST OF IT COMING FROM NON RENEWABLE SOURCES.**
- **AND OUR DEMAND IS GROWING!!!**

- **THIS IS CLEARLY UNSUSTAINABLE !**
- **A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SCENARIO CAN ONLY BE BASED ON SOLAR AND ITS DERIVATIVES, LIKE WIND, WAVE OR BIOMASS, AND OF COURSE, HYDEL, TO THE EXTENT IT IS ACCEPTABLE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

SOLAR PV

ADVANTAGES:

- NO MOVING PARTS, DIRECT CONVERSION TO ELECTRICITY.**
- ONLY ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS: LIKELIHOOD OF DRAMATIC COST REDUCTION VERY HIGH.**
- CAN ACCEPT DIFFUSED RADIATION ALSO, NO TRACKING REQUIRED.**
- AMENABLE TO DECENTRALIZED POWER GENERATION.**

Olmedilla Photovoltaic Park, 60 MWp



An installation in Germany



Tata Power plans India's largest solar PV installation(50MW) in Gujarat



DECENTRALIZED GENERATION

- ONE EXCITING POSSIBILITY OF SPV IS THAT IT IS AMENABLE TO DECENTRALIZED GENERATION**
- CALIFORNIA HAS LAUNCHED A PROJECT CALLED ONE MILLION SOLAR ROOFS, TO EQUIP 1 M HOUSES WITH ROOF TOP SOLAR PV ARRAYS**
- THEY ARE GRID CONNECTED, AND HOME OWNER HAS TO PAY ONLY FOR THE EXCESS ENERGY CONSUMED**

House top Mounted SPV



AT KEC 2011, I SAID:

**IF THIS CLAIM IS TRUE,
THE SOLAR ERA IS HERE!**

**KERALA HAS TO PLAN NOW
FOR THE ARRIVAL OF SOLAR
PANELS AT \$1 PER W_p**

- **DEFINITELY, HOUSE TOP MOUNTED DECENTRALIZED POWER GENERATION, CONNECTED TO THE GRID THROUGH DIFFERENTIAL METERING, IS AN OPTION.**
- **BUT EQUALLY IMPORTANT IS CENTRALIZED GENERATION TO FEED DIRECTLY INTO THE GRID**

CAN WE DO IT IN IDUKKI?

- **IDUKKI RESERVOIR HAS A SURFACE AREA OF 60 SQ KM OR 60 MILLION SQ M**
- **THE SOLAR ENERGY FALLING ON THIS SURFACE IS @ 60 million kW**
- **OR 60,000 MW**
- **IF WE FILL ONLY A THIRD OF THE SURFACE AREA WITH SPV PANELS HAVING 10% EFFICIENCY, THE YIELD WILL BE 2,000 MW**

“Floto Voltaic”?

- An Italian company is currently exploring the potential of using expanses of water to host solar power systems. Scienza Industria Tecnologia is developing the Floating Tracking Cooling Concentrator (FTCC) System; created for use on lakes and small basins.



- **THE ADVANTAGE OF FLOATING SOLAR PANELS IS THAT THEY CAN EASILY BE TILTED TO TRACK THE SUN**
- **SO AS TO ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY BY AT LEAST 10%**

CAN WE DO IT IN IDUKKI OR PEPPARA OR MALAMPUZHA?

PRIORITY

- PILOT PLANTS TO BE ESTABLISHED AND FEASIBILITY TO BE STUDIED**
- WILL WE DO IT?**

THANK YOU!