

Press Release

‘Solar Equinox Day’: A Mega Event on Rooftop Solar Energy for Surat Smart City

Surat, 22 September 2016: In-order to meet the 40GWp rooftop solar aim set by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India (GOI) by 2022, and target perceived by the Gujarat Energy Development Agency (GEDA) to install rooftop solar PV power plants in 1,00,000 households in Gujarat, Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) decided to take up the aforesaid initiative through the mega-launch of ‘Solar Equinox Day’ today in Surat, Gujarat. Supporting the initiative, The Energy and Resources Institute has engaged with SMC as a Knowledge Partner to promote the programme within Surat Smart City through various means i.e., Online Single Window Platform for the Consumers, Outreach Materials, and Capacity Building Programmes, etc.

On 22 September, which is also the ‘Solar Equinox Day’, Hon’ble Mayor of Surat Municipal Corporation inaugurated this topical event through the official launch of the following first-of-kind ICT initiatives and other promotional materials to promote rooftop solar in Surat:

- Single Window Knowledge Portal on rooftop Solar Energy for Surat;
- Online Application-cum Interest Forms for the Consumers of Surat;
- Rooftop Solar Calculator, specific to the City of Surat;
- Releasing of Guidebook and Pamphlet on Rooftop Solar Energy;
- Engagement of ‘Solar Friends’ across the City, and
- Mobile Application and Social Media Platform for Surat Smart City.

The Mayor also inaugurated the rooftop solar exhibition, which consisted of various industry players, financial institutions/banks (such as State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank) with the aim to showcase the benefits of solar energy, especially for Surat Smart City. The above stated online tools/ICT initiatives were demonstrated by TERI officials later in the course of the programme.

Dignitaries present at the event included Deputy Mayor and Standing Chairman of Surat Municipal Corporation, Ruling Party President of BJP, Commissioner of SMC, Director MNRE, Deputy Director, GEDA, Director, TERI, Addl. General Manager (Solar), SECI Limited, and representative from the city utilities i.e., from Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Limited (DGVCL) and Torrent Power Limited (TPL).

About TERI

The Energy and Resources Institute is an independent, not-for-profit research institute focused on energy, environment, and sustainable development and devoted to efficient and sustainable use of natural resources. Since its inception in 1974, TERI has emerged as an institution of excellence for its path-breaking research, and is a global brand widely respected by political leaders, policy makers, corporate entities as well as the civil society at large.

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