



Mauritius Advances in Solar Energy with International Solar Alliance (ISA) Cares Initiative at Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital

New Delhi, India | 5 June 2024: The solarising initiative at Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital in Mauritius was inaugurated on 3 June 2024 by Dr the Hon. Kailesh Kumar Singh Jagutpal, Minister of Health and Wellness and Hon Georges Pierre Lesjongard, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities in the presence of Hon. Mahen Kumar Seeruttun, Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security; Hon. Naveena Ramyad, Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives; Hon. Teenah Jutton, Parliamentary Private Secretary; and H.E. K. Nandini Singla, the High Commissioner of India in Mauritius, and senior officials from the Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Health, Mauritius Development Bank and the International Solar Alliance.

Mauritius, in line with the ISA Cares Initiative, launched in October 2020, has made significant strides in solarising its primary healthcare facilities. This initiative, aimed at solarising primary health care centres in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Member Countries, has not only seen Mauritius receive a substantial grant to further its clean energy goals but also brought about tangible improvements in the healthcare facilities. The Ministry of Health and Wellness, in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, the Central Electricity Board and the Development Bank of Mauritius, implemented the project promptly and efficiently, enhancing the healthcare services in the process.

Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital currently consumes 141,846 units of electricity monthly, costing approximately 1.2 million Mauritian rupees. With the newly installed solar PV panels, the hospital is set to produce 3,200 units of electricity per hour, substantially reducing its fixed electricity costs. This reduction in energy costs will enable the hospital to reallocate funds towards enhancing the quality of healthcare services provided to the public.

In 2021, Mauritius was awarded a grant of 50,000 US Dollars (approximately 2.3 million Mauritian rupees) to install around 25 kilowatts of solar panels at Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital. This pilot project, co-financed by the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Development Bank of Mauritius, has successfully installed a 26.4 kW solar rooftop system. The success of this project has not only bolstered confidence in the feasibility of replicating such initiatives across public buildings in the country but also defined the path towards a sustainable and brighter future for all Mauritians. The formal grant agreement between the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the International Solar Alliance was signed on October 31, 2023, marking a significant milestone in the collaboration. These aspects were touched upon by the Hon'ble Ministers of Health and Wellness & Energy and Public Utilities in their inaugural remarks announcing the solar project's successful completion and operationalisation.

Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General of ISA, noted, “This initiative highlights Mauritius's commitment to renewable energy and the successful implementation of solar technology in public health infrastructure, showcasing the country's progress towards sustainable energy solutions. Floating solar, agro-photovoltaics, and rooftop solar are innovative solutions that can enhance earnings for the Mauritian people, provide new jobs, and help the government secure its goal of generating 60% of its electricity by 2030 with solar. My congratulations to the government and the people of Mauritius. ISA remains a steadfast partner in Mauritius's clean energy transition journey, enthusiastically supporting the nation's efforts to meet its renewable energy goals by 2030.”

In the long term, the Mauritian government is committed to maximising the use of solar PV panels across all government institutions, including public health infrastructure. This initiative aligns with Mauritius's target of achieving 60% renewable energy in its electricity mix by 2030. The maturity and viability of rooftop solar technology make it a pivotal solution for increasing solar energy penetration in Mauritius.

About the International Solar Alliance

The International Solar Alliance is an international organisation with 119 Member and Signatory countries. It works with governments to ease solar deployment and promote solar power as a sustainable transition to a carbon-neutral future. ISA's mission is to unlock US\$ 1 trillion of investments in solar by 2030 while reducing technology and its financing costs. It promotes the use of solar energy in the agriculture, health, transport, and power generation sectors. ISA Member Countries are driving change by enacting policies and regulations, sharing best practices, agreeing on common standards, and mobilising investments. Through this work, ISA has identified, designed and tested new business models for solar projects; supported governments to make their energy legislation and policies solar-friendly through Ease of Doing Solar analytics and advisory; pooled demand for solar technology from different countries; and drove down costs; improved access to finance by reducing the risks and making the sector more attractive to private investment; increased access to solar training, data and insights for solar engineers and energy policymakers. ISA is one of the first international intergovernmental organisations headquartered in India. It is partnering with multilateral development banks (MDBs), development financial institutions (DFIs), private and public sector organisations, civil society, and other international institutions to deploy cost-effective and transformational solutions through solar energy, especially in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS). More information at <https://isolaralliance.org/>

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