Working on policy to achieve net zero by 2050, says Tamil Nadu's IT Minister

Our Bureau
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Tamil Nadu aims to achieve net zero by 2050, the State's IT minister, Palanivel Thiagarajan said here on Monday.

Pointing out that India has set a target of 2070 to become 'net zero', Thiagarajan said that the country cannot meet the target unless a progressive State like Tamil Nadu does it early.

He was speaking at IIT Madras Research Park, on the occasion of the visit of Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, USA.

ENERGY POLICY

Later, answering a question, Thiagarajan said that the State was working on a policy to achieve the target. He said it could take a year for the State to come up with the policy.

Thiagarajan said that Tamil Nadu was the "No.1 State in the country" in terms of renewable energy capacity but acknowledged that there was room to grow further.

(According to data provided by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Tamil Nadu, with 22.75 GW of renewable energy capacity, ranks behind Gujarat (28.40 GW) and Rajasthan (28.17 GW)).

Speaking on the occasion, Chris Hodges, Consul General of USA in Chennai, said that he was "excited" about the opportunities for new partnerships between Tamil Nadu and New Mexico in the areas of green tech and clean energy.

Palanivel Thiagarajan, Tamil Nadu Minister of Information Technology

"We are working constantly at the Consulate across a variety of fronts to promote new partnerships with American universities, American graduate students, American start-ups, and businesses in the arena of green technology. We believe Tamil Nadu holds promise as a "green tech" destination, building upon its presence in solar and wind as well as an industrial base well suited to support new green-forward investments," he said.

1 MWHR BATTERY

Coinciding with the visit of the Governor of New Mexico, IIT Madras Research Park (IITMRP), which is an incubation centre run by a not-for-profit company, unveiled its home-grown, 1 MWhr Lithium-ion battery.

The storage system, developed by the IITMRP's Center of Excellence for Energy and Telecom (CEET), is for its own use, but the technology is available for license.

Professor Ashok Jhunjhunwala, President of IITMRP, told media that the cost of stored power worked out to be around ₹2 less than the cost of power supplied by the State's utility.