

KSK Surya, Applied Materials in pact for solar power farms

Our Bureau

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KSK Surya Photovoltaic Venture today announced that it has signed a contract with Applied Materials Inc, to purchase two of the latter's SunFab Thin Film Lines for manufacturing solar panels and in setting up solar farms.

These SunFab lines will be installed at the Fab City coming up near Hyderabad, wherein the company, part of KSK Power Venture Inc, plans to invest up to \$500 million. The

project envisages an annual capacity of about 150 MW.

The KSK Group Chairman, Mr T.L. Sankar, in a statement said: "The alliance with Applied Materials will help play a big role in the country's mission to build 20,000 MW through solar plants."

The company said that these large panels would enable them to quickly build PV capacity and supply renewable energy at an affordable cost. The company expects to apply its power generation

experience in deployment of solar farms.

The Senior Vice-President and General Manager of Applied Energy and Environmental Solutions Group, Dr Mark Pinto, said these fully integrated SunFab lines would enable KSK to rapidly and cost-effectively deploy solar farms to meet the fast growing energy needs.

KSK Surya also signed a service contract with Applied Materials covering the first five years of production. This

includes support and preventive and corrective maintenance, spare parts and other services to optimise equipment performance and output.

"Compared to crystalline silicon technologies, our SunFab thin film modules will be capable of producing more power at high ambient temperatures and under diffused light, maximising the energy yield from our solar farms," Mr Anil Kutty, Managing Director of KSK Surya, said.