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INDIA: HARNESSING THE SUN'S RAYS

VIDEO

GUJARAT STATE

S.S. RATHORE ON-CAMERA

INTRO SHOTS OF RATHORE
(RATTORE)

S.S. RATHORE ON-CAMERA

SOLAR PANELS/WORKERS

AUDIO

NARRATION

In Gujarat State, western India, the sun shines practically all year long. (8)

RATHORE: (In English) M

"The State is located in a place where we get 300 days of suitable sunlight." (8)

NARRATION

S. S. Rathore is the Chairman and managing Director at Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited in Gujarat. (8)

RATHORE: (In English) M

"...and the wind position is also favorable to solar production." (6)

NARRATION

So why not harness the sun's rays to generate power to boost the State's electrical output and at the same time reduce its' dependency on fossil fuels which contribute to global warming? (12)

VASTNESS OF PROJECT
BAN KI-MOON AT INAUGURATION
HYDRO DAM
WATER/SUN

NARRATION

It's an idea that Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon endorses through the Sustainable Development Goals recently launched at the United Nations. Ban Ki-moon has called on all nations to limit the rise in the earth's temperature to below two degrees Celsius by exploring the use of alternative, efficient and clean sources of energy. (21)

CANAL TOP PROJECT
DRONE/SLIDER SHOTS

And India is attempting to answer that call by creating the world's first 10-megawatt canal top solar project that stretches for some 3.6 kilometres over a canal that passes through the City of Vadodara. // Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon attended the inauguration in January 2015 and encouraged India to further increase its use of solar energy in the future. (28)

SANGUI INTRO SHOTS

Director of Canals, K.V. Sangui, knows the benefits of solar energy. But it takes creativity to build a solar park without using up valuable land. (10)

SANGUI ON-CAMERA

SANGUI: (In English) M

"The advantage over here is we don't have to acquire the land. We are using the canal top bridge which otherwise has got no other use. We are putting it to use for generation and indirectly it's saving the water. It reduces evaporation." (20)

NARRATION

PROJECT
NATIONAL GRID

The project is using some 35,000 solar panels to generate 10 megawatts of energy. Most of the energy is used to power the solar park, which initially depended on the national power grid for its energy supply. Now that saved portion of energy is being redistributed cheaply to the local community. And people can rely on the availability of electricity, which was somewhat unreliable in the past. (25)

PARTH AND HIS MOTHER
CLEANING PANELS

Parth, who works on maintaining the solar panels every week, has seen an improvement in electricity in his home since the project had been implemented. (8)

POWER LINES, ETC.

PARTH: (In Gujarati) M

"First, there was a problem. They used to cut the electricity. But now the houses have lights continuously." (10)

PARTH AND HIS TEAM

NARRATION

As a consequence of the project, Parth and other young men, who were unemployed before can now make 7,000 rupees per month cleaning solar panels. (9)

PARTH ON-CAMERA

PARTH: (In Gujarati) M

"Because of pollution and mud, dust remains on the panels. To remove it, we have to keep washing the panels continuously." (19)

NARRATION

Because of the success of the canal top project in Vadodara, the Government is encouraging

GENERAL VIEWS OF INDIA

other States to introduce similar systems in their communities. (7)

RATHORE ON-CAMERA

RATHORE: (In English) M

“The Government of India has put out a scheme wherein they will provide 30 percent of the cost of such projects to all States which take up similar projects and I hope that others take this up.” (14)

TIME LAPSE OF LIGHTS OF
AND ON

NARRATION

The Vadodara Canal top solar project proves that creativity, political will, and support from the community can help to reduce greenhouse gases and limit the impact of climate change worldwide. (13)

This report was produced by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4.5)

UN LOGO