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BHEL secures major turnkey contract for setting up Grid-Interactive Solar Power Plants in Lakshadweep

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (**BHEL**) has won a major contract for setting up eco-friendly Grid-Interactive Solar Power Plants of 1100 kW capacity on turnkey basis, in the Lakshadweep islands. Valued at around Rs.350 Million, the order for setting up the Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) Power Plants at eight islands of Lakshadweep including the capital Kavaratti, has been placed on the company by Lakshadweep Administration. In addition, the order envisages renovation of existing solar power plants of 800 kW at these islands. **BHEL**'s scope of work in the contract envisages design, manufacture, supply and installation of new solar power plants of 1100 kW and renovation of existing solar power plants of 800 kW at various islands of Lakshadweep. While all the new plants will be set up by May, 2011, the renovation job will be completed progressively by February, 2012. **BHEL** is presently executing another turnkey contract for setting up a 3 MW eco-friendly Grid-Interactive Solar Power Plant of capacity at Yapalaniddi village in Raichur District of North Karnataka for Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL). As part of India's largest solar power-based Island electrification project in India, **BHEL** has commissioned a total of eleven Solar Power Plants in the Lakshadweep islands, adding over 1MW of Solar Power to the power generating capacity of the coral islands in the Arabian Sea. Notably, **BHEL**'s Solar Power Plants cater to about 15% of the Union Territory's energy demand. Backed by a vast experience of over three decades, **BHEL** is one of the few leading players in the field of Solar Photovoltaics and SPV power plants in India. The SPV modules are manufactured at its ultra-modern manufacturing facility located at Bangalore. As another step towards supporting Government of India's Green Energy Initiative, **BHEL** has enhanced its SPV Module manufacturing facility from 3 MW to 8 MW per annum. The additional PV manufacturing facility has enabled **BHEL** to handle larger and thinner solar-grade mono/multi-crystalline silicon wafers, for which process optimisation trials have been successfully completed. Starting from small applications like Solar Powered Street Lighting, Rural Water Pumping Systems, Railway Signaling, Offshore Drilling Platforms, etc., **BHEL** has supplied and commissioned large size Stand-alone as well as Grid Interactive Solar Power Plants in a number of major cities and remote areas of the country. The company's SPV plants have enabled the people of Lakshadweep, Sagar Islands of West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, tribal areas of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, etc., to vastly improve their quality of life. Solar cells and modules manufactured by **BHEL** are also exported to various countries like Germany, Australia and Italy. The company's PV modules are certified to international standards by JRC, Ispra, Italy.

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