

[Bengal]

## **WBREDA expertise to travel beyond state boundaries**

Soma Mookherjee/SNS

KOLKATA, March 4. — West Bengal Renewable Energy Development Agency (WBREDA) will provide technical assistance in setting up energy parks at Port Blair and Pondicherry. An energy park at Nagpur has already come up with WBREDA's assistance.

Detailed project reports (DPRs) for the parks at Port Blair and Pondicherry have been prepared by WBREDA at the Union Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy's request.

The park at Port Blair will come up on a four-acre plot at a cost of Rs 1.6 crore, while Rs 1.42 crore has been allotted for the Pondicherry park.

WBREDA, in return, will be paid Rs 10 lakh for preparing the DPRs and offering technical assistance for the two parks.

The park at Port Blair will be based on the theme of ocean power and for the Pondicherry park it is wind power, said Mr SP Gon Chowdhury, WBREDA's managing director.

Mr Gon Chowdhury said the Port Blair park would have a simulated version of a model of Ocean Thermal Energy Conservation. Mr Gon Chowdhury said research is on to derive energy from temperature difference between surface water of the ocean and deep sea.

He said that water, when exposed to sun rays, gets heated and the deep sea water remains cool. Power can be generated from the temperature difference, called Ocean Thermal Energy Conservation (OTEC).

There will be a mini tidal wave generation plant where power would be generated from tidal waves. This power would be used for electrification of the energy park, auditorium and storage of water.

In Pondicherry, the energy park will have a wind tunnel. Besides, there will be an computer-based energy library for postdoctoral students on non-conventional energy. It will also have an auditorium powered by solar energy.

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