



## PRESS RELEASE

### RTPV: A Catalyst for Net-Zero Emissions

**Bangalore, May 27, 2021:** One of India's leading think tanks, Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), organised a virtual discussion on 26 May on how the rooftop solar segment could contribute to achieving the Net-Zero aspirations of India.

Speakers at the programme included key representatives of energy organisations, including the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA), that are playing a pivotal role worldwide and in India to ensure that Net-Zero becomes a reality.

Setting the tone for the discussions, Mr Subrahmanyam Pulipaka, Chief Executive Officer, National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI), said, "People conveniently ignore how rooftop solar can be leveraged to achieve Net-Zero emissions". Calling for a strong policy push, he pointed out that it is necessary to create a win-win-win situation for developers, consumers, and utilities. Making affordable finance available to MSME players, along with aggregation of demand, could lead to a higher uptake of rooftop photovoltaic (RTPV), he added.

Echoing the sentiment, Mr Heymi Bahar, Senior Renewable Energy Analyst at the International Energy Agency, said that RTPV can not only create jobs but also improve energy access, and, thus, play an important role in decarbonisation efforts.

Mr Bahar said that the IEA would like to see distribution companies (DISCOMs) engage as players in the RTPV market along with private enterprises. This would ensure greater competition, enable access to low-cost financing and innovative business solutions, and, also, help businesses evolve. He added that policies needed to focus on financing aspects, eliminating subsidies, and creating an ecosystem that enables the financial sustainability of entities.

India Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) Director (Technical) Mr Chintan Shah said that a 'Do-it-Yourself' (DiY) model could work in India's residential arena. He also observed that green hydrogen was increasingly becoming a viable option for Net-Zero emissions. "An increasing number of studies are pointing towards it," he said.

Utility-driven models with on-bill finance can encourage RTPV adoption in the residential segment, Mr Manu Maudgal, Director (Clean Power Programme) at Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, said.

India is looking at installing 450 GW of renewables by 2030 and reducing the emissions intensity of its GDP by 33-35% of 2005 levels. Despite its immense solar potential, the country's targets have proven harder to achieve, especially when it comes to the rooftop solar segment.

Net-Zero emissions by 2050 is at the core of debates on climate action today, with US President Joe Biden setting the stage for enhanced global commitments at the World Leaders Summit on Climate Change in April 2021.



## Note for Editors

### About [CSTEP](#)

Headquartered in Bengaluru, the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) is one of India's leading think tanks with a mission to enrich policymaking with innovative approaches using science and technology for a sustainable, secure, and inclusive society. CSTEP's areas of focus are Climate, Environment and Sustainability, Energy and Power, AI and Digital Labs, Materials and Strategic Studies, and Computational Tools. Follow @CSTEP\_India on Twitter for the latest news. Contact: [cpe@cstep.in](mailto:cpe@cstep.in)