

KARNATAKA LEADS INDIAN STATES IN POLICY FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY**FEBRUARY 4, 2016**[**YOUR STORY**](#)

INVEST KARNATAKA

Karnataka leads Indian states in policy for renewable energy

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Did you know that Karnataka is home to Asia's first major hydro-electric power station, which was established back in 1902 at Shivanasamudra, and is currently working on plans to build the world's largest solar park? The state also has an active policy for converting waste to energy, and provides concessions for companies who use recycled water from sewage. Karnataka continues to pioneer other initiatives and has been named a leader in the country in terms of renewable energy policy by two panels of experts from industry and government. This makes it all the more attractive for investors in this sector, especially with incentives such as reducing VAT for manufacturing of photo-voltaic cells.

During his opening remarks at the 'Energy' panel of [Invest Karnataka 2016](#), P. Ravi Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Energy, Government of Karnataka, promised that every household in the state will have access to electricity by 2020.





Tech trends

On the technology front, the reduction in energy storage costs should also be a driver for the renewable energy sector, says Tarun Kapoor, Joint Secretary, MNRE. Other emerging technologies are increasing panel efficiency by five per cent.

Tracking technology will also improve solar power facility management, said Arul Shanmugasundaram, CTO & EVP, Tata Solar.

IoT is also playing a key role in generating data for pattern-driven insights, said Mariasundaram Antony, Head, India Engineering Centre, GE-Power. Analytics can help with efficient usage of power grids and wind data can help predict power output. GE's engineers in Bangalore are also working on low-wind speed wind turbines.