

13th Jan 2017

An **Industry-Academia Meet** was organized at IIT Bombay today by **NCPRE** (National Center for Photovoltaic Research and Education). NCPRE is now considered one of the leading research centers in India conducting basic and applied research in Solar Photovoltaics. The center has been conducting an Industry Affiliate Program to increase its interaction with solar industry. The main objective of the Industry Academia Meet was to bring the Solar Industry in India closer to Research Community. The Industry-Academia Meet was attended by 40 participants including representatives from Indian solar manufacturers, system integrators and project developers. Industry participants included large organizations like Waaree Energies, E I DuPont India and RenewSys as well as medium/small enterprises like Sowin Power and BigSwitch along with some startups.



Solar industry in India has faced many challenges. In order to help sustain and grow the industry, NCPRE is offering a platform to jointly work on most critical problems facing the industry, particularly relevant to India. The Industry Affiliate Program started in 2012 is one such channel for interaction between the industry and NCPRE.



Prof. Suryanarayana Doolla, who heads the Industry Affiliate Program said, “NCPRE is offering the IAP members usage of its facilities at reduced rate and also many other benefits like knowledge sharing from experts, ability to sponsor research projects etc.”



“We have collected extensive data from our Field Surveys of solar modules installed in various climatic zones in India. The techniques we have developed can help ensure good quality and performance of modules.” said Prof. Vasi who heads the Module Reliability Program at NCPRE.



Industry veteran, Mr. Bhupendra Rawat (Head – Business Development, RenewSys) commented, “We definitely need systematic studies to assess impact of transportation and packaging of module on its field performance and degradation.”

During the Industry-Academia Meet, participants were given a tour of NCPRE Lab facilities and many have expressed interest in taking up collaboration projects.