

SHINEY NIGHTMARE: DIRECTOR PUJA J BEDI SAYS THE ACTOR MISBEHAVED ON SETS OF HER FILM

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TEMP MAX 34 | MIN 23 | HUMIDITY 60%

FORECAST PARTLY CLOUDY SKY | SUNRISE 0612 HRS | SUNSET 1832 HRS | SENSEX 19612.20 ↓ | NIFTY 5891.75 ↓ | GOLD ₹ 21205/100

St Joseph's College an all-solar campus

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The St Joseph's College of Arts & Science will ease some pressure off the Bescom authorities by switching to solar energy, saving 16,000 units of power every month.

It will be the first college campus in the city to do so. Fr Ambrose Pinto, the principal, said the college had planned to go solar eight months ago.

The college, spread across 2.5 acres, comprises the PG department, the arts and science block, the hostel and extensive ground. It has more than 2,500 day scholars and 100 residential

students and gets a fat electricity bill every month.

"On an average, we pay about Rs 1.25 lakh as electricity bill. Just because we can afford it does not mean we should be using it," said Fr Ambrose. Two private firms were roped in to get the project going. The model, which will use a roof-top system, will have 432 panels, each of 230 watt 'peak' power (the unit for measuring solar power), producing 100 KW peak.

This energy can power the entire college, including labs, the hostel, kitchens and the classrooms. "We will not get a Bescom bill. In fact, the energy produced during vacation, which



PIC: KAUSHIK J N

The college saves 16,000 units of power every month

will not be used, can even be given to Bescom," says Fr Ambrose.

Besides, the college can also avail of 30 per cent subsidy given by the Ministry of Renewable Energy. The executive director of Simplex Renewable Resources, David Sagayaraja, who executed the project, says this model can be replicated in all forms of buildings viz., apartments, single unit homes. The college, which has invested Rs 1.75 crore on the project, is expected to reap the returns in just two years. "Anybody who takes it upon themselves to generate energy for themselves will always be welcome," said P Manivanan, Bescom MD.