Concentrating Solar Thermal System using process heat application at Natural Capsule Ltd, Puducherry

Location: Pichaiveerampet, Puducherry	Type of Technology: Paraboloid dish
Type of Industry: Pharmaceutical	Technical and Financial Support: MNRE-GEF- UNIDO project
Configuration: 64 No's Paraboloid dishes with collector area 281.6 m ²	Supplier: QuadSun Solar Pvt. Ltd, Gurugram, Haryana
Application: Process Heating	Year of Installation: March 2021

Beneficiary Details:

Natural Capsules Limited is a Public Limited Company established in the year 1993 in Bangalore and the year 2003 at Pondicherry. The company is a well-equipped modern manufacturing plant to manufacture hard Gelatin capsule shells, hard cellulose capsule shells, and pharmaceutical dosage forms in Capsule.

NCL has become the first in Puducherry to adapt Concentrating solar thermal (CST) system which is used for process heat application.

The CST system supported under the MNRE-GEF-UNIDO project on *promoting business models for increasing penetration and scaling up of solar energy in India* and the purpose to reduce the dependence of fossil fuels using in the existing boiler.



Picture of the installation

Beneficiary Contact Natural Capsule Pvt., Ltd., Contact Person: Mr. Sunil L. Mundra, Managing Director

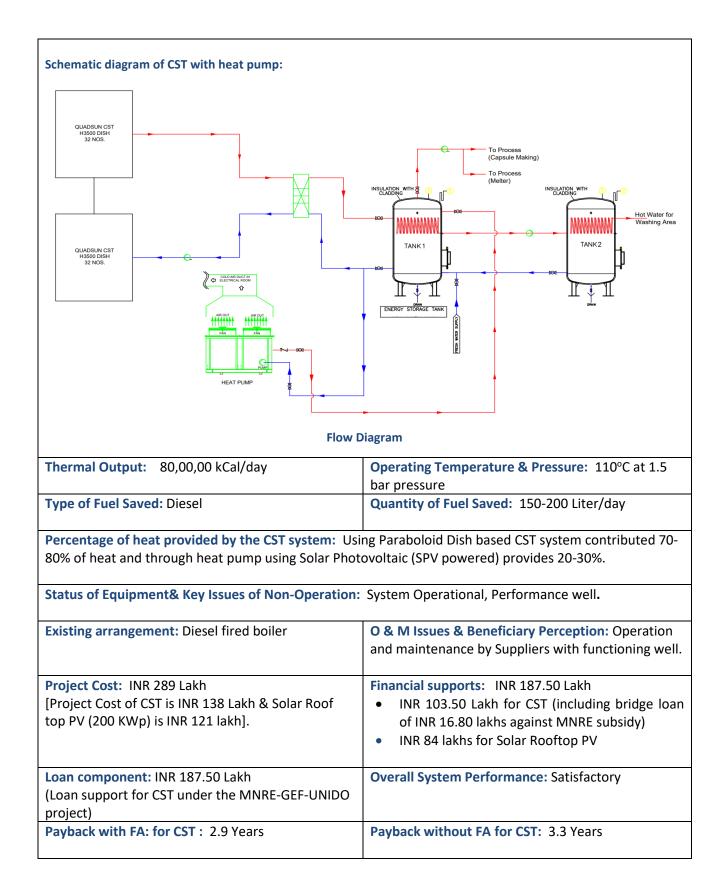
Natural Capsule Limited R.S.84, Perambai Road, Pitchavaiveeranpet, Pondicherry- 605010

System Details:

A highly efficient single Paraboloid dish solar concentrator with a dual-axis tracking mechanism generates 3.8kW of thermal energy at a standard test condition. The technology uses a curved mirror which reflects the radiation over a receiver to generate high-temperature heat energy in the range of 110-120°C at 1.5 Bar pressure.

Timings & System Application Details:

The operating hours of the installed CST system are 8-9 Hours from direct CST and 12 - 14 hours of pressurized hot water supply during good sunny days. The system is also provided with a heat pump for backup. The application is to supply hot water at a constant temperature of 61°C for capsules manufacturing and washing processes. CST system designed to deliver average thermal energy of 8 Lakh kCal/day for pre-heating boiler feed water for the process of capsules treatment.



Date of Visit:

- 1. CST plant inaugurated on 16 March 2021 by Ms. Smitha R (IAS), Secretary, Department of Science, Technology & Environment, Government of Puducherry in presence of Renewable Energy Agency Puducherry (REAP) and UNIDO India office.
- 2. Dr. Rene Van Berkel, UNIDO Country Representative in India visited CST plant on 25th June 2022 for the performance monitoring of installed CST system. The installed CST system under the UNIDO project is functioning well and is being used as a show case demonstration project in pharmaceutical sector.





Photo -1 CST project inaugurated by Secretary, DSTE on 16th March 2022

Photo -2 CST project performance monitoring by UNIDO Country's 25th June 2022

Other comments by beneficiary/ project developer:

- Beneficiary is satisfied with the performance of the CST system after the installation project and saving approximately 150 liters of diesel amounting to INR 3.5 lakh per month with a payback period of 2.9 years.
- The industry is also reducing electricity bills due to cooling load using through CST system as it is installed on the rooftop and covers the open surface area.

Updated Version 20.09.2022