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“State tops in wind energy”

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CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu is a leader in wind energy and this has to be replicated in sectors such as solar and bio-mass, said speakers at a conference on ‘Mainstreaming Green Energy – wind, biomass and solar’ on Thursday.

Delivering the keynote address, Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TNE-DA), Chairman and Managing Director, R. Christodas Gandhi said, “Tamil Nadu has been playing a key role in renewable energy. We have nearly reached 100 per cent of our

wind mill potential. Out of the 5,000 MW assessed in the State, we have an installed capacity of 4,889 MW as of March 2010. This accounts for 30 per cent of renewable energy installed capacity in the country and its contribution to the southern grid is 11 per cent.”

In his special address, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) Secretary Deepak Gupta said around 10 MW was generated through poultry waste, while 150 MW could be generated through units based in Namakkal and Salem districts.

Responding to the call, TNEDA officials said steps were being taken to establish 60 to 100 units this year to produce energy from poultry waste-based power projects. Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy, Farooq Abdullah said, “We also should think of installing wind mill where wind is there.” Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry, General Committee member, T. Shivaraman said to sustain the growth and to keep the environment clean, one should adopt more and more of renewable energy.