

Scheme to give wind power firms leg up

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Chennai

THE introduction of generation-based incentive (GBI) scheme to spur investments by independent power producers (IPPs) and FDI into wind power generation will boost the wind power sector, Indian wind turbine manufacturers association (IWTMA) has said.

"The present GBI is a commendable step by the Union ministry of new and renewable energy and will attract investments from non-depreciation customers such as IPPs and foreign investors. GBI scheme alone may spur investments to the tune of about Rs 4,500 crore and result in capacity addition of 700-800 MW by the end of next fiscal," D V Giri, chairman, IWTMA, said.

With expected addition of about 1,700 mw capacity by depreciation projects, IWTMA expects wind power capacity addition of about 2,500 mw by 2011.

The cabinet committee under the chairmanship of prime minister has sanc-

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■ Generation-based incentive scheme alone may spur investments worth Rs 4,500 crore

■ Capacity addition in wind power in the country is likely to be about 2,500 mw by '11

tioned GBI incentives for a maximum capacity addition of 4,000 mw with an outlay of Rs 2,500 crore. However, the Centre has indicated an allocation of Rs 380 crore for this scheme during the remaining eleventh plan period (2007-12).

"We expect the first project to get registered for the new GBI scheme by the end of this month," said Giri.

The existing GBI scheme is a pilot project aimed at attracting large IPPs and energy utilities to invest in

wind energy. The scheme will provide 50 paise per kilowatt hour through the Indian renewable energy development agency under the ministry of new and renewable energy, for ten years.

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