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May 01, 2015

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### EU-funded training programme

islamabad (Staff Reporter): The EU-funded Switch Asia Project for High Pressure Cogeneration in the sugar sector of Pakistan (HP Cogen Pak) is undertaking capacity building of Pakistan Boiler Manufacturers on design and manufacturing of biomass based high pressure boilers for power generation in the sugar sector.

According to a press release of European Union, the training programme has been developed in consultation with Pakistani boiler manufacturers and sugar mills, keeping in view their technical capacities and training needs.

The programme includes comprehensive training sessions on thermal and mechanical design of High Pressure (HP) Boilers, design of boiler accessories, material selection, review of existing design procedures, fabrication methodologies and commissioning procedures.

The main purpose of the training is to ensure that essential local capacity is developed in the area of high pressure boiler manufacturing, resulting in reduced cost of technology and its indigenisation.

Furthermore, building upon the training programme, the project will also assist Pakistani boiler manufacturers in establishing sustainable technology partnerships with Indian high pressure boiler technology manufacturers.

Phase-I of the project resulted in-house trainings for 23 engineers from Heavy Mechanical Complex Taxila, 26 engineers from Karachi Shipyard and Engineering Works (KSEW) Karachi and 8 engineers from Fabcon Design and Engineering Private Limited Lahore are being offered by the HP Cogen Pak Project's International Boiler Design Expert.

In the second phase, Descon Engineering Limited Lahore, The Industrial Enterprise Lahore, and Gresham's Eastern Private Limited Karachi will undergo a training programme in New Delhi India, imparted by the National Power Training Institute, New Delhi, and organised by the HP Cogen Pak Project's Indian partner, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

"The HPC Cogen-Pak Project under the EU funded Switch-Asia Programme aims to promote export of surplus electrical power to the national grid through replication of high pressure cogeneration technologies in the sugar sector by supporting sugar mills through technology standardisation, enabling access to finance, and mobilisation of relevant public sector authorities" Omar M Malik, Project Director HP Cogen Pak Project" As availability of reliable local technology resource is instrumental for adoption of high pressure technology in the sugar sector, therefore efforts of HP Cogen Pak will help Pakistani boiler manufacturers in this area", he further added.

Pakistan's sugar sector has an annual availability of 4.4 million metric tons of bagasse, sugar mill waste.

To generate heat and electricity for its energy needs, sugar sector is using inefficient low pressure cogeneration system, consuming 46pc more bagasse compared to High Pressure Cogeneration (HPC).

Adoption of HPC is hampered by high upfront cost, technology risks, low capacity of technology providers, and a lack of financing options.

HPC Cogen-Pak Project under the EU funded Switch-Asia Programme aims to promote export of surplus electrical power to the national grid through replication of high pressure cogeneration technologies in the sugar sector by supporting sugar mills through technology standardisation, enabling access to finance, and mobilisation of relevant public sector authorities.

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