



MoU being signed between Punjab Government and German Company AEG on Solar Power. Chief Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif is also present.

## Punjab signs MoU with German Company for solar energy projects

STAFF REPORTER

LAHORE—A memorandum of understanding was signed between Punjab government and German company AEG for cooperation in solar energy sector under which solar energy projects of at least 50 to 100 megawatt will be set up in Punjab in 2013 and of at least 300 megawatt in 2014.

Secretary Energy Jehanzeb Khan signed the document on behalf of Punjab government and the representatives of AEG Karsten Weltzien on behalf of the German company. Chief Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif, Edward

Wagner of IRGS, Advisor Zaeem Hussain Qadri, Secretary Planning & Development, Chief Coordinator of Chief Minister in Germany Shahid Riaz Gondal and other concerned authorities were present on the occasion.

Talking to media representatives at the signing ceremony, the Chief Minister said that the agreement between Punjab government and the renowned German company AEG for cooperation in solar energy sector is a welcome step. He said that Germany has made remarkable progress in solar energy sector and the 125-year old German company AEG has

expertise in solar technology from which Punjab government wants to benefit. He said that the German company has generated 30 thousand megawatt power in Germany which has comparatively lesser sunlight and is almost double of the total power generated in Pakistan. He said that the agreement signed with the German company will be implemented expeditiously and solar energy projects to be executed with the collaboration between Punjab government and the German company will be completed speedily.

He expressed the hope

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## Minimum purchase price of sugarcane fixed

STAFF REPORTER

LAHORE—Punjab Government has fixed minimum purchase price of sugarcane at the factory rate as well as at the Cane Purchase Centres, for the crushing season 2012-13 at Rs.170/- per 40 kg or Rs.425 per 100 kg (per quintal) or Rs.4250 per metric ton.

However, the Sugar Factories may deduct from the purchase price, the transportation charges incurred by them on the cane purchased at purchase centres and other locations away from the factory gate at the rate of Rs.1.25/- per quintal (100 kg) per kilometer subject to a

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that more power generation companies of Germany will come to Pakistan and invest in energy sector. He said that Punjab government is working with Turkey, Germany and China in energy sector. He said that there is a vast scope of setting up solar energy projects in Cholistan. He said that the solar energy projects are durable and completed speedily due to which precious foreign exchange can be saved. He said that earlier solar energy projects were costly but now there has been a substantial decrease in their cost. He said that solar energy projects of 50 to 100 megawatt will be set up in Cholistan while solar energy projects of 20 megawatt each will be established in industrial estates which will benefit industrial sector.

Appreciating the services of Chief Coordinator to Chief Minister in Germany Shahid Riaz Gondal, the Chief Minister said that he is a patriotic Pakistani and a great ambassador of the country in Germany. He said that Shahid Riaz Gondal arranged his meetings with the German authorities during his visit to Germany and the efforts made by him for promoting bilateral cooperation between Germany and Pakistan should have been made by Pakistani ambassador.

Replying to questions of media-men, Shahbaz Sharif said that the country is plunged in darkness while its economy has been ruined by the loot and plunder and wrong policies of Zar Baba & 40 Thieves who will be held accountable by the people in the forthcoming general elections.