

# Hindustan commissions Anuppur thermal unit

**SUBHASH NARAYAN**

*New Delhi*

RENEWABLE power developer Hindustan Power on Thursday announced formal entry into conventional energy with commissioning of phase 1 (1,200 mw) of its 2,520 mw Anuppur thermal power project in Madhya Pradesh. The company also plans an initial public offer (IPO) next year to mobilise funds required for becoming an integrated energy player.

The company, which has a portfolio of 500 mw of solar power projects, has been pursuing thermal projects for past few years and commissioned first 600 mw of Anuppur in May last year. It is also pursuing hydro projects in HP and Sikkim.

“The company will look into the option of equity infusion, if needed. Sometime in 2017, depending upon capital need, we may look at an IPO,” Hindustan Power chairman Ratul Puri said at a press conference here.

Anuppur project phase one has been completed with Rs 8,000 crore investment. The project has direct connectivity to the national grid and is situated close to coal source. It has entered a power purchase agreement with MP and UP for supply of power. Construction for the second phase of the 1,320 mw project could start in three months, Puri said.

Asked why the company had gone slow on solar project bidding, Puri said the tariff there has become too aggressive. “The rational rate of tariff for solar tariff is Rs 5-5.5 per unit,” he said.

On the government’s 175 gw clean power capacity addition target, Puri said the plant load factor or capacity utilisation of renewables is about 20 per cent.

subhashnarayan  
@mydigitalfc.com