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## Corporation schools to be solar-powered soon

### Special Correspondent

All corporation schools would soon be solar-powered, if the civic body took forward a proposal outlined in its budget 2013-14. The move comes in the backdrop of the State government's initiative to give a push to renewable energy sources, especially solar power.

The government has already issued an order for establishing solar power systems in all government and civic buildings. The corporation has also announced its intent to put up a solar power system for its main office.

The civic body has now made a budgetary allocation of Rs.1 crore from the education cess for putting up solar power systems in all the 61 corporation schools. These include 31 elementary, 27 middle, two high and one higher secondary schools. Given the power shortage and frequent load shedding, the move is expected to come as a boon for students

of the schools catering largely to the lower-income groups.

The corporation has decided to construct toilets in 14 schools and improve amenities such as drinking water supply and electricity connections.

## Streetlights

The corporation has decided to replace tube lights with LED lamps in all streetlights. The corporation has also planned to invite private participation in the maintenance of the streetlights. It plans to install, through a private partner, energy saving devices such as streetlight controllers, voltage controllers, individual lamp monitoring equipment, and a centralised monitoring station under the project, through which the civic body seeks to reduce its power consumption by at least 35 per cent, and also secure carbon credits.

The civic body has also unveiled a plan to establish a heritage centre at its main office. In an attempt to meet a felt-need, the corporation has decided to put up signboards of important road/street names at 60 places in the city.

