

**Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Project Management cell**

MoU Signed for Megawatt Level Biomass Gasifier Plant for Power Generation in Soya Industry

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Govt. of India, has a wide range of programmes for harnessing energy as well as grid interactive and off grid power from biomass which is renewable in nature, carbon neutral and has the potential to provide large productive employment in rural areas using commercially available thermal and biological conversion technologies. A cumulative generation capacity of over 3700 MW through biomass power including bagasse cogeneration has been so far established in the country. In order to address the barriers which impede its deployment, this Ministry is currently implementing a UNDP / GEF assisted Project on **Removal of Barriers to Biomass Power Generation in India**. The aim of the Project is to accelerate the adoption of environmentally sustainable biomass power technologies by removing the barriers identified, thereby laying the foundation for the large scale commercialization of biomass power through increased access to financing.

As part of this Project, a one MW fluidized bed biomass gasification plant is planned to be set up at M/s Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd. (RSIL) premises at Washim, Maharashtra as a Model Investment Project (MIP). The plant will be executed by M/s Thermax Ltd., Pune based on the technology acquired by them from the Energy Research Centre (ECN) and M/s Dahlman of the Netherlands.

M/s Thermax Limited, and M/s Ruchi Soya Industries Limited, Mumbai signed an MoU in the presence of Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Secretary, MNRE on 5th July 2012 in New Delhi to formally kick start the project implementation. The proposed gasification system is claimed to have a higher conversion efficiency (>95 %) as compared to 80-85 % of the existing gasification systems and also an advanced gas cleanup system and will overcome the existing barriers such as -non availability of

proven single module of gasifier and gas clean up unit of capacity 1MW or above, standardization of MW capacity systems, generation of operating data required as input for determination of separate tariff and demonstration of tri-generation, besides demonstration of biomass gasification technology for generation of grid quality power.



The Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan witnessing the signing of an MoU between M/s Thermax Ltd., Pune and M/s Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd. , Mumbai in New Delhi on 5th July, 2012.