

This Sunday Column (in two parts) is a compilation of how firms are reducing their environmental impact.

30 Jun 2019 | By Noel D'Cunha

## B Manoharan, Hitech Print Systems, Andhra Pradesh



We've commissioned a 160KWph solar plant with panels over the sheds at our second plant in Telengana, Hyderabad – 24,000 sq.ft. on Block 1 and 13,000 sq.ft. on Block 2 – for captive requirement, reducing the draw of power from state grid to almost nil.

Frequent power failures resulted in several breakdowns, which also negatively affected the functioning of our machines. However, the area where our plant is located is very high on solar efficiency, which made us look into the solar project. The plant was installed with the help of our expert team.

We've also planted over 300 trees, including mango saplings, along the internal roads and buildings. We've also incorporated interlocking tiles for the rainwater to reach the ground. The site where the plant is located was once a dry and rocky land. So, to improve the environment and air quality for those working in that premises, we planted 300 trees in two phases — 115 in the first phase and 185 on the occasion of Harithaharam, an initiative by Telangana State Government on August 7, 2018.



We even sought help from a horticulture expert for finding out suitable trees that could grow in that area. Thereafter, we involved our entire workforce to plant the trees, which was tagged with names of each employee who would then take care of the tree every day.

By using solar power, we managed to reduce power consumption from the grid, which relies mainly on coal to generate electricity. Meanwhile, the trees along the road until the plant provide shadow and fresh air, thus contributing to greenery and clean environment.

With a strong commitment to improving the environment in and around the workplace, every manufacturing industry can contribute to a better environment and a better world.