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Pune Municipal Corporation to install 10,000 LED streetlights

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PUNE: The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) plans to install about 10,000 Light Emitting Diodes (LED) streetlights across the city, replacing the existing high pressure sodium vapour lamps (HPSV) wherever possible. The budget allocated for the same is Rs 3.70 crore for 2012-13.

"The current energy consumption with sodium vapour streetlights in various parts of the city is about 421 lakh kilowatt hour (kWh) annually. The LED technology, wherever applied, will reduce the current consumption by approximately 40-45%," said an official from PMC's electrical department, adding that there are currently about 1 lakh sodium vapour streetlight fittings in the city.

The official said that replacing these lamp fittings with LED streetlights is an initiative that began in 2010-11 and aims to conserve energy. "We replaced about 5,000 sodium vapour fittings with LED fittings last year in areas such as Warje, Karvenagar, Tingrenagar, Yerawada, Gokhale Nagar, Apte Road and Ghole Road, among others."

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However, he said it is impossible to replace all sodium vapour lamp fittings with LED fittings as roads with high amount of traffic need sodium vapour lamps, which have more luminance in comparison to LED lights.

"LED streetlights will come up wherever possible, such as secondary roads with less traffic," he said.

An energy audit undertaken in 2010-11 had also identified various areas where energy consumption can be reduced, including sewage pumping stations, water pumping stations, street lighting and civic body's administrative buildings, including auditoriums and crematoriums as well as hospitals.

In 2010-11, the civic body installed as many as 985 LED fittings across the city, followed by another 5,000 in 2011-12. The official said that as part of the initiative, a 250 watt sodium vapour lamp will be replaced by a 90 watt LED light. "A 150 watt sodium vapour lamp will be replaced by a 70 watt LED light and a 70 watt lamp will be replaced by a 50 watt LED light, so on and so forth; thus saving about 40-45% energy," he added.

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