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# Smart solar lamp for museum campus

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Thiruvananthapuram: The capital city may soon boast about being the first city in the country to have solar energy-powered street lamps, which can be monitored and maintained from a distance using remote sensing technology.

A city-based private company has already given a proposal to the state local self-government department to install the innovative lamps which work on a technology platform with pre-set timers to automatically switch it on and off, at public places including parks and roads.

"The company has successfully installed and tested its first solar street lamp at the city museum recently and the authorities concerned have tested and verified the efficacy of the technology," said S Narayanaswamy, the director of Eram Scientific Solutions, which has developed the product under the brand name 'Ecosis'.

The street lamp installed on an experimental basis stands near the Band stand, adjacent to the entrance of the garden. The lamp also has a feature to detect presence of people near it and the lamp glows brighter whenever there are more people near it.

The proposal before the government is a two-year free annual maintenance contract, though the company offers only a one-year contract to private entities. "Our aim is to deploy the solar powered street lamps running on this novel technology throughout the country in association with various government agencies, civic bodies and non-governmental organisations," said the director of the company.

The product has been developed giving priority to public security and cost efficiency, Narayanaswamy said. The technology takes note and records timing, energy consumption and duration of lamps in operation as well as detect and rectify any defect.

"Based on these operational data, the company can fine tune the working of the lamps if and when required. The firm has developed add-on services such as mobile applications and web-based applications to monitor, maintain and control the operation of the new product, thus overcoming the shortcomings of traditional streetlamps," he pointed out.

"Despite ensuring public safety during nights, the Ecosis will also help save precious energy in a big way. Since the lamps work on a fully automated platform, there is no need for any manpower to operate and maintain the product, thus minimising the recurring cost," he added.