



Man makes own power for his flat

Ni Yinbin

Solar panels are set up on the roof of Dang Jihu's apartment building in Songjiang District.

DANG Jihu, a local resident who has installed a solar power generating system on top of his apartment building, has been enjoying free power for two months.

Dang's "family power station," comprised of several solar panels, occupies 2 to 3 square meters on the roof of his apartment building in Jiuting Town, Songjiang District.

In the last two months, this quiet station has generated 407 kilowatt hours of power, which has covered most but not all of his needs, he said.

The monthly average power consumption for a resident in the city is 260 kilowatt hours.

His 2,500-watt solar photovoltaic setup cost him 25,000 yuan (US\$4,019).

He lives on the first floor of his six-story building.

"The equipment is not complicated. I just spent a day putting it together," Dang told the Oriental Morning Post.

"But it cost me some effort to put it on the roof. I hired a crane truck to lift the equipment to the roof instead of moving it from my window to avoid breaking others' windows," Dang said.

Current policies let a resident install

an individual solar power generation system as long as they have the ownership of their residence and the permission of the local neighborhood committee or the property management company.

The property management company told Dang he needed to get the approval of two-thirds of the households in his building.

"There are 12 families in my building and I only needed nine signatures and all the nine neighbors I went to were supportive of my idea," Dang said.

It is also equal to planting 14 trees in terms of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which Dang considers his contribution to the environment.

The city has now six sets of private solar power generating system, including Dang's.

Meanwhile the government adopted a new policy last year to grant individual access to the State electrical grid, enabling people to sell the surplus power to the State grid.

However, detailed provisions for people selling solar power to the State grid have not yet been written in Shanghai.

Although a family solar power

Vocabulary

- solar power 太阳能电力
Heat radiation from the sun converted into electrical power
- panel 板
A comparatively thin, flat piece of wood or the like, as a large piece of plywood
- greenhouse 温室
A building with transparent walls and roof, usually of glass, for the cultivation and exhibition of plants under controlled conditions

generating system is environmentally friendly and saves money for families, the high cost of the equipment may become an obstacle, according to Zhao Chunjiang, director of the solar energy research institute of the Shanghai University of Electric Power.

Zhao, who has a solar power generating system at home, said a family usually needs a 3,000-watt system to cover daily needs, which should cost about 30,000 yuan. It would take 10 years at present power rates for the system to cover its cost.

This page is compiled and edited by Shanghai Daily.



Editor's Note:

In this column we aim to offer insight to improve the English rendering of new Chinese phrases or terms popping up frequently in daily conversation.

Please check out more buzzwords at our Website: www.shanghaidaily.com

比特素养 Bit literacy

This indicates know-how in using computers through a play on a bit — the basic unit of information in computing.

驾驶肩 Driver's shoulder disorder

This is discomfort in the shoulder joints of drivers who damage the tendons through reaching to the back seat to get belongings.

职场跳水 Job-hop down

Some people go job-hunting, only to find their salaries and positions decline.

素人经纪 Guest agent

The popularity of matchmaking programs on Chinese provincial television has led to a job of finding guests for producers.

唱商 Singing quotient

This refers to how well a singer understands and executes a song, which determines to a large part of the audience reception.

北京咳 Beijing cough

The term "Beijing cough" has been in use since as early as the 1990s among foreigners, many of whom experienced respiratory problems in Beijing's dry and polluted air. But it did not become widely known until recently, when more health problems attributable to the capital's pollution were reported.

转行焦虑症 Industry-switch anxiety

This refers to people feeling anxious when they are considering changing jobs in order to progress their career. Although a new job may further their development, they worry about the uncertainty and are unwilling to give up the former one.



celebrating city peach blossoms

Ye Zhen

all rural villages, Shanghai Pudong New Area Tourism Bureau said.

Visitors should be able to see flowering peach orchards earlier this year due to earlier spells of warm weather, organizers said.

In Chinese culture, peach blossoms signify longevity, prosperity and luck in love. Admiring peach blossoms has become part of city residents' springtime itineraries.

During the flower festival, visitors

can stroll in the countryside, meet welcoming farm families, sample local delicacies and enjoy demonstrations of folk arts, handicrafts and music.

The bureau has also launched a website for Pudong tourism at mice.pudong.gov.cn.

It provides travel consultant services, customized travel planning and integrated traveling information including accommodation, catering, transportation and activities.

PEACH blossom is coming into bloom, giving city residents another option for spring outings.

An ideal way to catch the spring color is through the annual Shanghai Peach Blossom Festival, which runs from March 27 through April 15 in Pudong New Area.

Now in its 23rd year, the festival is held in peach orchards in Datuan, Nanhui, Xinchang, Binhai and Heqing,