

ENERGY



Gunkul chief executive Sopacha Dhumrongpiyawut (far left) and Mr Sukhawat (far right), CPF chief executive, attend the signing.

# CPF, Gunkul unite for solar

POST REPORTERS

<sup>B4</sup> Charoen Pokphand Foods Plc (CPF) has reached an agreement with Gunkul Engineering Plc to install CPF's largest solar rooftop project to date, with total capacity of 40 megawatts.

The companies signed a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) to install solar rooftops at CPF manufacturing plants as part of the food conglomerate's energy-saving and self-reliance plan.

So far, the company has reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by more than 79,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalent, similar to planting 4 million teak trees. The solar rooftop project will enable CPF to reduce GHG emissions by 28,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalent per year.

"Using clean energy, like solar power generation, is a strategic move that will promote CPF's sustainable growth on the global stage. CPF is looking forward to implementing new eco-friendly energy sources to achieve its sustainable growth goals," said Sukhawat Dansersuk, chief executive of CPF's food business.

Gunkul has 36 years of experience in renewable energy and solar power plants. The company's business generates more than 300MW of solar grounds and solar roofs.

The MoC with CPF includes the installation of solar rooftops for 34 projects with 40MW. This cooperation will mark an important step in proving that solar energy can be used commercially in the industry, said Mr Sukhawat.

The solar rooftop project will take the form of a power purchase agreement valued at 1.4 billion baht. Under the terms of the agreement, Gunkul will pay for the entirety of the project's design, construction and system maintenance throughout the duration of the 15-year contract.

Construction will include 120,000 solar cells on roofs covering four business units: livestock, aquaculture, food processing and ready-to-eat meal plants, with a total instalment area of 230,000 square metres.

CPF is committed to conducting a sustainable business with environmentally safe policies in accordance with the UN's sustainable development goals, he said.