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12th Annual Conference on

POWER DISTRIBUTION IN INDIA

New Initiatives, Best Practices, Promising Technology

November 15-16, 2017, Le Meridien, New Delhi

Organisers:



Partner Exchange*:



*Lead and Co-sponsorship slots are available

POWER DISTRIBUTION IN INDIA

Mission

- The government's most ambitious reform move for the distribution segment, the Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY), is now nearing the two-year mark. While there is still a long way to go, discoms have begun to show some tangible results on the ground.
- Twenty-seven states (including union territories) are now on board UDAY. With financial re-engineering, the composition of discom debt has changed in favour of state-guaranteed debt. The average AT&C losses for UDAY states have come down by 4 percentage points to 20.2 per cent in 2016-17. There has also been a reduction in the gap between cost and revenues as well as in interest costs.
- That said, the most pressing issue, the lack of power demand growth, is yet to be resolved. While there has been an absence of fresh long-term PPA tenders, discoms are also cancelling bids of previously tendered PPAs, or renegotiating contracts in favour of cheaper power from the short-term market. Slow regulatory progress in terms of issuance of tariff orders has been another concern.
- Working in tandem with the UDAY scheme to fix the distribution segment are two other flagship programmes - DDUGJY and IPDS. Under DDUGJY, the current emphasis is on providing access to electricity to all households given that the village electrification targets are nearly met. Under the IPDS, the focus is on building IT infrastructure and strengthening distribution systems in more than 4,000 urban towns across India, much higher than the R-APDRP target, which was restricted to a select number of towns.
- Since the launch of IPDS and DDUGJY, there has been a surge in discom spending on network modernisation, upgradation of transformers, feeder segregation, feeder metering, SCADA, metering, etc. This has created significant opportunities for equipment suppliers, technology providers and EPC contractors across the value chain.
- In order to leverage the infrastructure created under these programmes and upgrade it to the next level to include smart grid capabilities, the National Smart Grid Mission has been a key initiative. Four new projects are currently being implemented under the mission, in addition to the 14 pilot projects approved by the power ministry in 2012. Once completed, these projects are expected to serve as business cases for the introduction of new technologies.
- An integral component of the various government programmes are smart meters. Around 1 million smart meters are proposed to be deployed under the pilot projects and the National Smart Grid Mission projects, while another 1 million are being considered for deployment by various discoms and private utilities. To encourage the uptake of smart meters and remove the cost barrier, the government is working out a business model that would aggregate demand and bring down prices.
- With the roll-out of smart meters and advanced solutions such as DAS, outage management, asset management software, IoT, big data analytics and cloud computing, utilities are expected to progressively move towards the goal of digital transformation. However, as most utilities are still at early stages of digitalisation, they need to evolve their business and operating models to address the issues of costs, skills, cybersecurity vulnerabilities, etc.
- **The mission of the conference is to analyse the key trends and developments in the distribution segment, discuss the impact and progress under key government programmes, and showcase best practices and new initiatives being taken by discoms. It will also highlight new and emerging technology trends and solutions, and examine the potential opportunities and challenges associated with digitalisation.**

Previous Participants

The participating organisations in our previous conferences on "Power Distribution in India" include: 3M Electro & Communication, ABB, AES, Ajmer VVNL, A2Z, Alstom T&D, Analogics, Applied Materials, Arfin India, Axis Bank, APCPDCL, APEPDCL, APNPDC, APTranco, AWWNL, Bajaj Electricals, Bank of America-Merill Lynch, BESCO, BEST Undertaking, Bihar ERC, BNP Paribas, BPL Telecom, BSES Rajdhani Power, BYPL, Cable Corporation of India, Cargill, CDAC, CEA, CERC, CESC, CES, CESU, Chloride Power, Chrys Capital, CPRI, CRISIL, Crompton Greaves, C&S Electric, CSPDCL, Cyient, DABS, Datagen, Delhi Transco, Deloitte, DGVCL, DERC, Deloitte, DHBVN, DPSC, DNVL, Dow Chemical, DVC, DVVNL, Easun Reyrolle, E.I. DuPont, EIU, EMC, EMCO, ENSTO, Entity Solutions, Escorts, Essar Power, Essel Utilities, Fedco, Feedback Infra, Fortum, GE Energy, GE Industrial, GESCOM, Genus Overseas, Genus Power, GETCO, GIFT, GIZ, GMR, Godrej & Boyce, Gupta Power Infrastructure, HERC, HESCO, HCL Technologies, Holoflex, HPERC, Honeywell, HPL SOCOMEC, HPSEB, HSBC, Hughes, HVPNL, IBM, ICICI, Icomm Tele, Iera, IDBI, IDFC, IEX, IEEMA, IFC, IFS Solutions, IL&FS, Infosys, India Power Corporation, India Smart Grid Forum, IPGCL, ITRON, IRCON, JSEB, JSERC, JSW, JSW PTC, JUSCO, JVVNL, Kalpataru, KEC International, KEI Industries, KERC, KESCO, KLG Systel, KPIT, KPTCL, KSEB, Kocos Intrax, PSEB, L&T ECC, Lanco, LandisGyr, Lara Global, M&I Materials, Marson's, MECON, MERC, Mercados, MESCOM, MGVCL, Mittal Processors, MP Madhya Kshetra, MP Poorvi Kshetra, MoP, Motilal Oswal Securities, MPP Technologies, MPERC, MPKVCL, MSEDCL, MVVNL, M&M Machinecraft, MTE, Naina Power, Navi Mumbai SEZ, National Instruments, NDPL, Nelco, NESCO, NHPC, Noida Power Company, NPPTI, NTPC Electric Supply Company, Nucleo, OERC, Omni Agate Systems, Oracle, Patel Engineering, PFC, PGCIL, PGVCL, Phoenix Contact, Phoenix IT, Powergrid, Power Sense, Powertec Energy, Prayas, PSEB, PSERC, PSPCL, PTC, PVVNL, Puducherry Power Corporation, PVVNL, PwC, PXIL, Quantum, RAD Data, Ramco, Raychem RPG, Reliance Infrastructure, REC, REC PDCL, RERC, Regen Powertech, R Systems International, Resonant Electronics, Sai Computers, Sai Electricals, SAP, Satyam Computers, SAS, SBI Caps, Schneider, School of Petroleum Management, Scope T&M, Secure Meters, Servomax, Siemens, Spanco, SNC Lavalin, Shyam Indus Power, SJVNL, Southco, Sterlite, Tata Power, Tata Power Delhi Distribution, TBEA, Technical Associates, Technofab Engineering, Techno Shares, Telangana Southern Power Company, Torrent Power AEC, Tirupathy, TNEB, TNERC, Tyco Electronics, UB Engineering, UHBVN, UGVCL, UPERC, UPVNL, Uttarakhand Power, Utility Powertech, Vijai Electricals, Viola Systems, Wartsila, WBERC, WBSDCL, WESCO, Wipro and Woodward India.

AGENDA/STRUCTURE

KEY TRENDS AND OUTLOOK

- ❖ What have been the key trends in the power distribution segment over the past one year?
- ❖ What has been the performance on key parameters (network growth, operational performance, financial performance, etc.)?
- ❖ What are the key issues and challenges? What is the outlook for the segment?

GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE

- ❖ What has been the progress under key government initiatives UDAY, IPDS and DDUGJY?
- ❖ What has been the outcome so far? What have been some of the key challenges in their implementation?
- ❖ What are the new initiatives proposed to be taken in the next couple of years?

DISCOM PERSPECTIVE

- ❖ What is the perspective of discoms on the state of the distribution segment?
- ❖ What new initiatives have been taken in the recent past?
- ❖ What are their future plans? What are the key issues and challenges?

REGULATORY PERSPECTIVE

- ❖ What is the perspective of regulators on the current state of the sector?
- ❖ What are the steps being taken for tariff rationalisation, introduction of smart metering, loss reduction, etc.?
- ❖ What is the outlook for the segment? What will be the key focus areas?

FOCUS ON SMART GRIDS

- ❖ What has been the progress under the National Smart Grid Mission and pilot projects?
- ❖ What are some of the key technologies and functionalities being adopted? What would be the quantum of smart meters deployed in these projects?
- ❖ What has been the project experience so far? What are the key challenges being faced in implementation?

DISCOM COSTS, FINANCES AND TARIFFS

- ❖ What has been the performance of state discoms on cost coverage, tariff increases and profitability at an aggregate level?
- ❖ What has been the impact of the UDAY scheme on their operational and financial performance so far?
- ❖ What are the near- and long-term outlook and projections?

UPDATE ON DISTRIBUTION FRANCHISES

- ❖ What has been the experience with the franchise models adopted by various states?
- ❖ What are some of the upcoming opportunities in this segment?
- ❖ What are the key issues in the uptake of distribution franchises? What is the outlook?

SMART METERING

- ❖ What has been the trend in the uptake of AMR and AMI by Indian utilities?
- ❖ What are the advantages of these solutions? What are the successful case studies?
- ❖ What are some of the major barriers in the uptake of smart meters? What are the strategies needed to fast-track the roll-out of AMI?

CYBERSECURITY AND COMMUNICATIONS

- ❖ What are the concerns arising from the integration of communication infrastructure?
- ❖ Which functions/areas are at maximum risk from cyberattacks? What are the key cybersecurity concerns for discoms?
- ❖ What are some of the solutions that can help discoms mitigate such risks?

PROMISE OF IT

- ❖ How can discoms use cloud computing, big data analytics and other technologies?
- ❖ What are the key issues and challenges?
- ❖ What has been the experience so far?

METERING, BILLING AND COLLECTION

- ❖ What are the key issues and challenges?
- ❖ What are the best practices?
- ❖ What are some of the innovations and noteworthy initiatives?

ASSET MANAGEMENT

- ❖ What are the needs and requirements for asset management by utilities?
- ❖ What are the technology solutions and tools available for asset management?
- ❖ How are these technologies and tools helping to pre-empt equipment failures, condition monitoring, etc.?

FOCUS ON SCADA

- ❖ What has been the progress in the deployment of SCADA by utilities so far?
- ❖ What have been the key advantages of using SCADA?
- ❖ What are the plans of utilities going forward?

LOAD MANAGEMENT

- ❖ What are the emerging requirements for load management and forecasting?
- ❖ What has been the experience and key learnings of discoms in load management?
- ❖ What are the key challenges? What is the way forward?

IMPROVING CUSTOMER PROCESSES

- ❖ What are the technology solution and tools available for improving processes in customer management and billing?
- ❖ How do these help in cutting costs and improving customer satisfaction?
- ❖ What are the key challenges?

CABLES AND CONDUCTORS

- ❖ What are the new and emerging utility needs and requirements?
- ❖ What are some of the latest designs and technologies for cables and conductors?
- ❖ What are the market opportunities going forward?

TRANSFORMERS AND SUBSTATIONS

- ❖ What are the key trends in the transformer and substation market?
- ❖ What are new technology developments with regard to transformers and substations?
- ❖ What are the solutions being deployed to make such equipment smarter, flexible and environment-friendly?

Target Audience

- The conference is targeted at officials and managers from:

- Discoms and SEBs
- Equipment manufacturers
- Potential new distribution players
- Regulatory institutions
- Existing private utilities
- Technology providers
- IT providers
- Funding agencies
- Government agencies (central/state)
- Contractors
- Research organisations
- Consultancy organisations, etc.

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One delegate	23,600 or \$393	29,500 or \$492
Two delegates	37,760 or \$629	47,200 or \$787
Three delegates	51,920 or \$865	64,900 or \$1,082
Four delegates	66,080 or \$1,101	82,600 or \$1,377

Note: All prices are inclusive of 18 per cent GST.

- There is a special low fee of Rs 6,000 per participant for the state electricity boards and their successor units (state-owned gencos, transcos and discoms), regulatory authorities and academic institutions.

A service tax of 18 per cent is applicable on the registration fee.

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Organisers

The conference is being organised by **India Infrastructure Publishing**, the leading provider of information on the infrastructure sectors. The company publishes **Power Line** (India's premier power magazine), **Indian Infrastructure** (a magazine on infrastructure policy and finance) and **Renewable Watch** (covers the entire spectrum of renewable energy). It also publishes a series of reports on the energy sector including **Power Distribution in India**, **Power Equipment Market in India**, **Electricity Market in India** and **Power Transmission in India**. The company also publishes the **Power Line Directory and Yearbook**.

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