



POWERLINE

Video Webinar Series on **'METERING IN INDIA'**

The union government's budget announcement to replace all conventional electricity meters with smart prepaid meters over the next three years is expected to create a demand for close to 300 million smart meters. Although similar targets were set earlier as well, the fresh reinforcement is likely to speed up the pace of deployment.

In the past, government schemes have been the key drivers of smart meter deployment. These include the Ujwal Discom Assurance Yojana (UDAY), wherein 6 per cent of the target has been achieved so far. Smart meters have also been installed under the National Smart Grid Mission's pilot projects (157,000) and the Integrated Power Development Scheme (98,000). Also, under the Smart Meter National Programme being implemented by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), 250 million smart meters are envisaged to be installed across states.

Robust and efficient meter communication technologies are a vital component of smart metering infrastructure. Similarly, given that smart meters generate a huge amount of data, meter data management systems, which help in data acquisition and storage, will be of critical importance to utilities. However, while the roll-out plans in the next few years are ambitious, interoperability issues, meter tampering and theft, cybersecurity threats, and technology obsolescence are some challenges that utilities will need to address as they scale deployment.

The webinar will provide a platform for key stakeholders to discuss the metering needs and requirements as well as opportunities in India. The webinars will enable knowledge sharing in the areas of utility experience and plans, progress under government programmes, emerging technology solutions, and key issues and challenges.

These focused sessions will give an opportunity to hear from key stakeholders in times when travel has become almost impossible and it is uncertain when it may open up. We hope that the webinar/video interaction will provide a platform for a very useful exchange of information and ideas.

The four live video webinar sessions are as below:

Government Perspective:

(This will be an interaction with a senior government official from the Ministry of Power/CEA)

- ❖ What has been the progress in metering under various government schemes?
- ❖ What are the targets for the roll-out of smart meters? Is there likely to be any impact on the smart metering plans and targets of utilities owing to Covid-19?
- ❖ What are the key issues and concerns?
- ❖ What is the government's outlook for the smart metering segment?

Progress under the Smart Meter National Programme:

(This will be an interaction with a representative from EESL)

- ❖ What has been the progress under the Smart Meter National Programme?
- ❖ What are EESL's future smart metering targets?
- ❖ What have been the key issues and challenges?

Utility Viewpoint and Future Plans:

(This will be a panel discussion amongst representatives from three to four public and private discoms)

- ❖ What has been the utility experience in smart metering so far?
- ❖ Has there been any impact of Covid-19 on the utility's smart metering plans and targets?
- ❖ What are the key metering technologies being adopted?
- ❖ What are the utility's new and emerging metering requirements? What are the future plans?

Focus on IPDS:

(This will be an interaction with a senior official from Power Finance Corporation)

- ❖ What has been the progress on the metering front under the IPDS?
- ❖ What is the target for smart metering and what has been the progress so far?
- ❖ What has been the implementation experience and what are the key learnings?
- ❖ What are the next steps? What are the key areas of concern?

REGISTRATION

The fee for participating in this 4-video webinar series is Rs 10,000 plus 18 per cent GST per login/delegate. There is a 20 per cent discount for registering before April 28, 2020. For group subscriptions (upto 5 logins), the price will be twice that of a single login.

There is a special low fee of Rs 3,000 plus 18 per cent GST per participant for state-owned discoms, regulatory authorities, academic institutions and government agencies (not public sector corporates).

Registration will be confirmed on receipt of the payment. To register online, please log on to http://indiainfrastructure.com/shopping_cart.php?id=3

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