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Smart Utilities

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16th EDITION | VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ON

POWER DISTRIBUTION IN INDIA

PROGRESS AND REFORMS, OUTLOOK AND OPPORTUNITIES

October 21-22, 2021

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MISSION

- Power distribution is one of the key focus areas of government reforms and rightly so.
- The government, in June 2021, launched its largest ever scheme in the power sector - the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) - with an outlay of over Rs 3.04 trillion. Like earlier schemes launched over the past decades to revive the ailing discoms, RDSS also seeks to improve the operational efficiency and ensure the financial viability of the state discoms. With facilitative mechanisms and conditional funding support, the new scheme provides discoms yet another opportunity to turn the corner, but as always on-the-ground implementation will hold the key to its success.
- Notably, the financial performance of discoms saw some improvement in 2019-20 with the loss after tax declining by 34 per cent to Rs 329 billion from Rs 496 billion in the previous year. Meanwhile, the AT&C losses declined marginally to 21.83 per cent from 22.03 per cent during the same period, varying widely across states. However, the financial losses are expected to increase in 2020-21 owing to revenue shortfall due to a dip in demand in the C&I segment following the lockdown, inadequate tariff revisions and increase in interest cost. The RDSS aims to reduce the AT&C losses to 12-15 per cent and the ACS-ARR gap to zero by 2024-25.
- Steps are also being taken to bring in customer centricity to distribution operations. To this end, the power ministry has notified the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 laying down the minimum standards of service for power supply to consumers across the country. Meanwhile, the government's initiative to privatise distribution operations in union territories is progressing at a slower pace than expected owing to legal challenges, but the private sector's interest remains strong.
- On the technology front, smart metering has the potential to cut AT&C losses. A few discoms have already implemented successful smart metering projects, but many others are yet to follow suit. Digitalisation efforts are also gaining momentum among discoms, driven to some extent by the Covid-19 pandemic, the evolving load profile and growth in distributed generation. Some promising technologies are remote monitoring, advanced distribution management system, IoT/AI/ML-enabled asset management and load forecasting, big data analytics and blockchain-based P2P trading. On the network side, discoms are likely to invest in system strengthening works such as underground/aerial bunched cabling, HVDS, reconductoring, feeder segregation and substation capacity augmentation.
- Net, net, the distribution segment is likely to witness a major shift in the coming years with an expected increase in private participation, greater technology adoption, and growth in network infrastructure, thereby benefitting consumers and discoms alike.
- **The mission of the conference is to focus on the key trends and developments in the distribution segment, analyse the impact of key government programmes, and highlight best practices as well as the new initiatives being taken by discoms. It will also provide an update on promising automation technologies, examine the various issues and challenges and provide an outlook on future growth areas.**

TARGET AUDIENCE

The conference will draw participation from:

- Government & policy makers
- State discoms
- Private discoms
- Distribution franchises
- Equipment manufacturers
- Technology providers
- Reaulators
- IT-based product and service providers
- Marketers of enterprise software solutions
- Communication/connectivity solution providers
- Financial institutions
- Meter manufacturers
- EPC contractors
- R&D organisations
- Sector consultants
- Cyber security solution providers, etc.

TENTATIVE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

KEY TRENDS AND OUTLOOK
- What have been the key trends in the power distribution segment?
- How has been the operational and financial performance of discoms?
- What are the opportunities and threats for the segment going forward?

GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE
- What are the government's views on the current state of the distribution segment?
- What is the update on the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme as well as UT privatisation efforts? What are the expected outcomes?
- What are the government's key focus areas for the segment going forward?

DISCOMS' PERSPECTIVE
- Special sessions with senior officials of six to eight leading public and private discoms discussing
- Key initiatives and achievements
- Future focus areas and targets
- Capex plans

PRIVATE SECTOR EXPERIENCE AND OPPORTUNITIES
- How has been the experience of private discoms and distribution franchisees?
- What are the opportunities for private sector participation in the segment in the near future?

REGULATORS' PERSPECTIVE
- What is the perspective of regulators on the power distribution segment?
- What are the key issues and areas of concern for regulators?
- What is the outlook for the segment?

SMART METERING: POTENTIAL AND PROGRESS
- What are the growth drivers of smart metering? What has been the progress made by utilities?
- What are the implementation challenges?
- What are the expected targets, investments and timelines for smart metering by utilities?

OUTLOOK ON FINANCES, COSTS AND TARIFFS
- What is current state of discom finances and what is the future outlook?
- What has been the trend in the power purchase cost and tariff revisions of discoms?
- What would be discoms' power procurement strategy going forward?

NSGM AND SMART GRID UPDATE
- What have been the key results and takeaways from completed pilot projects?
- What has been the progress on smart grid projects under the NSGM?
- What are the new technologies being adopted? What are the next steps?

GOING DIGITAL: FOCUS ON AI, ML AND BLOCKCHAIN
- What are the key use cases of new technologies such as AI, ML and blockchain?
- What are the issues and concerns related to these technologies?
- What strategies need to be adopted by utilities to deploy AI and ML?

DISTRIBUTION AUTOMATION
- What are the key distribution automation technologies adopted by utilities and what are their benefits?
- What are some of the upcoming technologies for outage management, asset and load management, etc.?
- What are the key focus areas of utilities with respect to automation?

TECHNOLOGIES FOR GIS AND FIBER NETWORK MAPPING
- What are the key applications of GIS in the Power Distribution sector?
- What are the technology requirements?
- What has been the experience so far? What are the key issues and challenges?

FOCUS ON POWER QUALITY
- What are the key issues and challenges related to power quality?
- What are the best practices being followed for improving power quality?
- What are the promising technologies and solutions in this regard?

ENHANCING CONSUMER SERVICES
- What are key measures by discoms to enhance consumer services?
- What are some of the new technologies and solutions being adopted in this regard?

AT&C LOSS REDUCTION
- What steps are being taken by utilities to reduce AT&C losses?
- What are the best practices being followed for revenue management?
- What are some of the novel approaches for loss reduction?

CYBERSECURITY
- What are the key cybersecurity-related risks and concerns of utilities?
- What initiatives are being planned for strengthening cybersecurity?
- What are some of the emerging technologies and solutions in this regard?

PREVIOUS PARTICIPANTS

The participating organisations in our previous conferences on "**Power Distribution in India**" include Adani MPSEZ Utilities, Adani Transmission, Advanced Amorphous, Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam, Anchor Electricals, Altec, Anvil Cables, APEPDCL, APSPDCL, Apar Industries, Applied Materials, Arfin India, Arunachal Pradesh State Electricity Regulatory Commission, Assam Power Distribution Company, AutoGrid India, Bihar Electricity Regulatory Commission, Brookings India, BSES Rajdhani, BSES Yamuna, C&S Electric, Cargill, CEA, CESC (RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group), CESU, CLSA, Crompton Greaves, CSPDCL, Cyient, DVVNL, Deloitte, Eaton Power, EESL, Efficienergi Consulting, Elara Securities, Essel Utilities,CESC, FEDCO, Feedback Infra, Fortum India, GE T&D, India, GESCOM, Godrej & Boyce, Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission, Gupta Power, H.P. State Electricity Board, Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission, Hitachi ABB Powergrids , Holoflex, Hongfa, ICRA, IEX, India Power Corporation, India Smart Grid Task Force, Indo-German Energy Program, Infosys, International Copper Association India, Iskraemeco India, Itron, Jaipur Discom, JVVNL, JSW Power Trading Company, JUSCO, KEI, KFW, KPIT, Lara Global, Larsen & Toubro, M&I Materials, M.P. Paschim Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Company, M.P. Madhya Kshetra Vitaran, Mahindra Susten, Magnatech Smart Grid Solutions, Ministry of Power, Motilal Oswal Securities, MPPKVVCL Indore, MSEDCL, Naina Power, North Bihar Distribution, Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana, Nortex Marketing, Norwegian Embassy, NTPC, NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam, Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission, Oracle, Orange Renewables, Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam, Phoenix Contact, Power Grid Corporation of India, Prayas(Energy Group), Powerlinks Transmission, Powertech Consultants, Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission, Raychem RPG, REC Power Distribution Company, Reliance Infrastructure, ReNew Power, Research Triangle Institute Global India Private, Resonant Electronics, RTI Org, Sai Electricals, Schneider Electric, Secure Meters, Shyam Indus Power Solutions, Siemens, Smart Energy Systems, Smart Power India, South Bihar Power Distribution Company, Stanelec, Sterlite Power, Tata Consultancy Services, Tata Power Delhi Distribution, Tata Projects, Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company, Tirumala, Tristar Technocrates India, Uttar Gujarat Vij Company, Uttar Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission, Uttarakhand Power Corporation, WBSEDCL, etc.

DISCOMS IN INDIA

Some of the previous participants from Discoms include:

DELEGATE FEE

Logins	INR	GST @ 18%	Total INR	USD
1 Login	9,000	1,620	10,620	150
2-3 Logins	15,000	2,700	17,700	250
4-5 Logins	21,000	3,780	24,780	350
6-9 Logins	27,000	4,860	31,860	450
10-20 Logins	33,000	5,940	38,940	550

- GST @18 per cent is applicable on the registration fee.
- Registration will be confirmed on receipt of the payment.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Payment Policy

❖ Full payment must be received prior to the conference. For discounted rates, the payment must be received on or before the discount expires.

❖ Substitution and name changes are welcome at no extra charge.

Disclaimer

❖ Indian Infrastructure shall assume no liability whatsoever in case the event is postponed or cancelled due to a fortuitous event or unforeseen occurrence that renders the performance of this conference impracticable, illegal or impossible. For purpose of this clause, a fortuitous event shall include, but not be limited to: war, fire, labour strike, extreme weather or other emergency.

❖ Please note that it may become necessary for reasons beyond the control of the organisers to make alterations to the content and timing of the programme or speakers.

GET IN TOUCH

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Organiser

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). It also publishes a series of reports on the energy sector including **Power Distribution in India, Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles, Operational and Financial Performance of Discoms, Electricity Tariff Trends,** and **T&D Equipment Market**. The company also publishes **Power News** (a weekly newsletter) and the **Power Line Directory and Yearbook**. **India Infrastructure** has recently organised virtual conferences in Power which includes the **8th edition of Metering in India, 14th Edition of Power Transmission in India, Digital Power Plants Asia, 14th edition of Solar Power in India, 18th edition of Hydro Power in India, 2nd edition of Hydro Power Asia, Hydro Power Africa, 4th edition of Fuel Gas Desulfurization & the 2nd edition of Air Quality Control Systems.**