

EASE OF DOING BUSINESS – GETTING ELECTRICITY

BACKGROUND

World Bank “Ease of doing business” initiative ranks countries on the basis of ten parameters. ‘Getting Electricity’ is the one of these parameters. For ‘Getting Electricity’, World Bank measures the performance on 4 parameters: (i) Number of procedures; (ii) time for obtaining a commercial electricity connection; (iii) Cost for obtaining a commercial electricity connection upto 140 KVA; and, (iv) Reliability of power supply.

India has made several reform initiatives because of which India’s ranking has improved from 137 IN THE REPORT 2015 to 24 IN THE REPORT 2019.

| | Report 2015 | | Report 2019 | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| Overall rank | 142 | | 77 | |
| Getting Electricity rank | 137 | | 24 | |
| | Mumbai | Delhi | Mumbai | Delhi |
| Procedures (no) | 7 | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| Time (Days) | 67 | 140 | 82 | 31 |
| Cost (% of per capita income) | 84 | 846 | 10.4 | 46.4 |
| Reliability of supply and transparency of tariff index | - | - | 7 | 6 |

These initiatives include regulatory easing as well as reforms measures:

REGULATORY REFORMS MADE BY CENTRAL ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY AND REGULATORS

- CEA regulations amended for allowing installation of transformers up-to 500 KVA on double pole structure.
- CEA notification to waive off electrical inspector approval for 11 KV installations carried out by DISCOMs and allowing self certification by DISCOMs engineers in such cases
- Changed Tariff Regulation in Delhi to allow LT connection up-to 150 KVA and rationalized LT Tariff for taking LT connection up-to 150 KVA.
- Change in Supply code in Delhi to facilitate reduction in cost and time for new connection

REFORMS REPORTED BY DELHI AND MUMBAI IN THE CURRENT YEAR

- In Mumbai and Delhi, applications are to be applied mandatorily online and only two documents are required for obtaining electricity connection.
- Mumbai has reduced the no of procedures from 4 to 3. MERC has issued new practice direction under Electricity Supply Code Regulation, 2005 on 25th March 2019. Now submission/ uploading of electrical installation’s test report is not required. It is now a part of self-declaration at the time of submitting the online application. Delhi has already adopted this practice in previous years.

- DERC vide its 2nd amendment regulations has amended existing provisions of Supply Code and Performance Standards Regulations, 2017 for acceptance of bank guarantee from the interested applicants having contract demand of 100 kw & above. This is being followed in Mumbai since last years.
- In Delhi, connection charges are now not charged upfront. It is charged in first running bill. Mumbai is doing this practice since last year.
- Dig and restore has been made operation in Delhi. Also online ROW, permission is operational in Delhi. In Mumbai also online ROW permission is operational and commitment is there to provide such permission within 2 days.
- In Delhi, SCADA has been upgraded to ADMS (Advanced Distribution Management System) which facilitate quick response and restoration to supply interruptions.

RESOURCES FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION ON ADANI ELECTRICITY, MUMBAI AND TATA POWER, DELHI

- For Adani Electricity, Mumbai
 - <https://www.adanielectricity.com/EaseofDoingBusiness>
 - <https://iss.adanielectricity.com/mumbainsc/>
- For Tata Power, Delhi
 - <http://www.tatapower-ddl.com/showcontent.aspx?this=760&f=CUSTOMER-ZONE&s=EODB&t=Ease-of-Doing-Business> (for Tata Power, Delhi)
 - <http://tatapower-ddl.com/showcontent.aspx?this=541&f=CUSTOMER-ZONE&s=Apply-for-Connection&t=Non-Domestic>