

MINUTES OF THE CONFERENCE OF POWER, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES MINISTERS OF STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES (UTs) HELD ON 16th -17th JUNE, 2016 AT GOA

The conference of Power, Renewable Energy and Mines Ministers of States/UTs was held on 16th -17th June at Goa. The Conference was chaired by Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy and attended by Ministers from States/UTs and 27 State/UTs were represented by Secretaries/Pr. Secretaries along with heads of power utilities.

Address by Secretary (Coal)

2. Secretary (Coal) highlighted the developments and initiatives undertaken in the coal sector and informed that there is no shortage in supply of coal. He advised the State GENCOs to reduce imported coal as Coal India Ltd (CIL) is in a position to supply enough coal to Power Sector. He urged State GENCOs to come out with the realistic future requirements so that the coal production targets can match with the future requirements. He informed that the Ministry of Coal (MoC) has setup a process of auction of coal to the private sector by CIL. Also decision has also been taken to rationalize coal linkages to improve efficiency, bring down cost of power by saving cost on transportation of coal and a dispute resolution mechanism to settle the disputes have also been put in place.
3. He further informed that MoC aims to provide good quality coal to State GENCOs and allocate the coal in a transparent manner. However, despite allocation of coal blocks, some organisations have not started producing coal from the allocated coal blocks.
4. He informed that the total dues of CIL are about Rs. 12000 crores and urged the State GENCOs to clear the dues for financial viability of CIL.

Address by Secretary (MNRE) & in-charge Secretary (Power)

5. Secretary (MNRE) highlighted the developments and initiatives in the renewable energy sector and informed that MNRE has brought out a transparent mechanism in all decision making processes with the involvement of the State Governments and other stakeholders.
6. The renewable energy share in the Power sector is increasing day by day and assimilation/integration of this power into the grid is the real challenge before us. He demonstrated through a video, a remote village in Rajasthan and emphasized the importance of off-grid solution to power supply in remote places like deserts and hilly terrains and also recalled the provision of deploying one trained solar mechanic in every village planned to be electrified through off-grid solution.

7. He stated that it was a matter of great pride for the nation that Head Quarter of International Solar Alliance has been set up at Gurugram in Haryana. This will be the platform for exchange of ideas and learning for the Indian utilities in solar energy from the experiences of 121 participating countries. A “solar library” with 1000 best practices is also being set up.
8. He suggested that a ‘Whatsapp Group’ of all State Power Secretaries may be set up for continuous dialogue for addressing the issues and problems of the state governments and also for sharing the best practices amongst the States.

Address by Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy

9. Hon’ble Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy extended a warm welcome to all the participants and delegates. He stressed that the conference should not be a monologue and requested all the participants to have a healthy and useful participation. He also requested the representatives of various states to share their best practices for others to emulate.
10. The Hon’ble Minister informed that after his assumption of charge as Power, Coal and NRE Minister, so far, he has conducted three Power Ministers Conferences in (i) Delhi (August, 2014), (ii) Guwahati (April 2015) and (iii) Kochi (November, 2015) at regular intervals. All the conferences were held with detailed agenda and deliberated on various subject matters pertaining to Power, Coal and NRE sectors. Experience sharing by various States also helped in improvement of the power sector as a whole.
11. The Hon’ble Minister further stated that his Government is committed to making a difference in the life of economically backward citizens, particularly farmers of the country, by providing affordable, sustainable and environmental friendly power and urged all the States to participate and cooperate in this endeavour with the Central Government. He also inquired about the reasons for non-participation of some of the States. Laying emphasis on development of the North Eastern States, he said that unless the Northern Eastern states are developed, we will not be able to develop India.
12. The Hon’ble Union Minister stated that this 4th Conference at Goa will review the UjwalDiscom Assurance Yojana (UDAY) and 24x7 power for all with special focus on Hydro and Wind Power. Additionally, we would commit to embark on the programme of 100% electrification of each and every home of the country with adequate and timely power to each farmer of our country.
13. He emphasised the need for transparency in all processes thereby eliminating corruption. In this regard, he highlighted the new initiative of centralized procurement of high value material

in Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) and DeenDayalUpadhyaya Gram JyotiYojana (DDUGJY) schemes in a transparent manner. The stringent technical specifications and economies of scale helped in getting low rates in the procurement process. However, the states are welcome to purchase their requirements if further cheaper rates are discovered for the same technical specifications.

14. The Hon'ble Minister informed the gathering that Karnataka and Goa were signing the UDAY documents during the Conference itself.
15. He urged the States to control the power theft prevalent in most parts of the country. He said that all the States may take a clue from Gujarat in controlling power theft and making their DISCOMs a profitable entity and urged the states to adopt techniques to control the power theft.

Distribution

16. JS (Distribution), MoP stated that the UDAY scheme is the most comprehensive and globally acclaimed reform scheme and informed that 10 States have already joined the scheme. Other states could not join due to administrative approvals. Therefore, MoP is working to get approval for extension of timeline. Further, he urged all the States to join the scheme for reaping its benefits.
17. He informed that all flagship programmes in the distribution sector viz. IDPS and DDUGJY, including UDAY, have the ultimate goal of "24x7" power for all. He mentioned that the implementation of "24x7 Power for All" documents was being monitored on a regular basis.
18. He stated that in rural electrification, the last mile connectivity has now been defined as last home connectivity. The focus should now be on feeder monitoring and management. In the urban areas, the emphasis is on the achievement of global standards and IT enablement, smart metering and IEC campaigns for controlling power theft. Further, he requested the State representatives to give useful suggestions and have fruitful deliberations on the subject matter so that the goal of having 24x7 power for all can be achieved at the earliest.
19. ED(REC) made a presentation on the overall power scenario in the country, highlighting the areas where improvements are required and enumerated the status of Generation, Transmission, Distribution, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency measures of various States. She also highlighted the financial status of the DISCOMs, namely financial and operation aspects, outcomes and benefits of UDAY and structure / outcome of monitoring at various levels.

20. Hon'ble Union Minister requested the Hon'ble Minister of Power (Andhra Pradesh) to share his experience on 100% electrification of all households in the State. Hon'ble Minister of Power (Andhra Pradesh) replied that a survey of each house at Mandal level was carried out and a certificate of electrification from all households were obtained and thereafter an advertisement was issued inviting the consumers to apply for anyone who left out in electrification in any village. He informed that at present, the state has 100% metering tagged with Aadhar & Mobilenumbers.
21. The Hon'ble Power Minister of Bihar stated that one of the priority of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar is, "हरघर बिजली लगातार " and informed that the aim is to electrify each and every household by December, 2018. Further, he informed that they are charging a flat rate of Rs.3,000/- per connection from APL households. JS (Distribution) urged upon States to have a re-look into the supply code for a uniform load based rate of Rs.3,000 or any other fixed amount for domestic connection to APL households & free electricity connection for BPL households.
22. The Hon'ble Power Minister of Arunachal Pradesh informed that a total of 1508 villages are left out for electrification. The approval of award of works for balance rural electrification will be completed in about 10 days. Hon'ble Union Minister requested the states to award the works for balance rural electrification works in a month's time.
23. Principal Secretary (Power), U.P. informed about the status of electrification in U.P. and sought clarification on definition of Un-Electrified (UE) villages in various documents of MoP. He also informed that the "24X7 Power for All" documents could not be signed by UP because of the additional funds required for 60 lakh UE households in the State. In response, Hon'ble Union Minister reiterated the benefits of bulk & transparent procurement and resultant savings from it. He said that in future, all Intra-State transmission lines should be built on Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) to save the resources. Principal Secretary, UP, further stated that the price discovered in their tender is lower than that discovered in Central Procurement. It was decided to review this issue separately.
24. JS (Distribution) explained that large number of villages was sanctioned under intensive electrification earlier and system strengthening component of DDUGJY also serves the same purpose. He requested the States to leverage the schemes and connect all households. Uttarakhand requested to readjustment of certain fund from feeder separation to system strengthening under DDUGJY. Hon'ble Union Minister assured that MoP would look into it.

25. The Hon'ble Power Minister of Assam informed that they were joining UDAY Scheme soon. The status of rural electrification / off-grid solution was shared by Assam, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal & Rajasthan States.
26. Hon'ble Union Minister stated that a mechanism can be worked out to incentivise those states which are working efficiently under the UDAY Scheme. He further emphasised that all states should understand the benefits of UDAY and may join the scheme at the earliest so as to reap the benefits of the scheme.
27. ED (PFC) made a presentation on Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS), feeder monitoring, Urban JyotiAbhiyan (URJA)App and campaign against power theft. It was informed that the URJA App that will cover data on consumer complaints, connections released, power reliability, scheduled outages, e-payment, power loss/theft and IDPS parameter would be launched during the Conference. The importance of consumer connect through "1912" IEC campaign against power theft was also highlighted.
28. Hon'ble Union Minister requested the States for early implementation of "1912" IEC campaign and for making the number toll free. He further informed that the States completing IDPS scheme in all census towns before 25th December, 2016 would be incentivised.
29. The representative from Telangana requested for fundrelease under IDPS scheme for SCADA implementation for industrial feeders/sub-station as it is one of the requirements under "Ease of doing business". Hon'ble Union Minister asked MoP to look into the matter.
30. Director(Dist), MoP made presentation on smart meters, wherein he highlighted features and benefits of smart meters. It was informed that the pan India requirement under the IDPS and DDUGJY schemes are 3.5 crores meters and there are indications of price point around Rs.1000.
31. Smart meter implementation was discussed in detail and all States agreed that all meters to be procured henceforth under IDPS & DDUGJY should be smart meters only. Hon'ble Union Minister further requested all the States to procure only the smart meters for all the future projects, considering the benefits of smart metres. He further indicated that the manpower after deployment of smart meters might be re-trained and re-deployed in other areas. This suggestion was unanimously accepted by all the States/UTs.

Presentation by Bankers

32. A presentation was made by the Bankers regarding the current status and issues related to financing the power sector projects. They highlighted issues like low PLF, no long term PPAs, fuel supply agreement, land issues and environmental clearances for power projects. Secretary (Coal) stated that individual state level issues be taken up in Project Monitoring Group under PMO for fast tracking the projects by resolving the issues.
33. Hon'ble Union Minister indicated that Mega Policy would be put up to the Cabinet shortly. Coal linkages' without penalty would be auctioned soon and Mid Term Bidding platform would also be launched. He assured the Bankers that there would not be any shortage of coal.
34. Hon'ble Union Minister also suggested that there should be only one PPA in place of 3 separate PPA documents for imported coal, linkage coal and captive coal. He further suggested that bankers should accept the 7 years PPA in place of 25 years PPA. Old un-operative Plants may be taken over by the banks for recovering their loans.
35. JS (OM) MOP requested that States may finalize their PPAs shortly as an app would be launched in July.
36. Hon'ble Power Minister of Gujarat informed that a 500 MW Gas based plant in the state are lying idle due to non-availability of gas and bankers are asking for their money. He urged that some assistance may be given for gas power plants also.

Rural Electrification

37. JS (Distribution), MOP made a presentation on the status of rural electrification in the country. Hon'ble Union Minister desired that the intensive electrification of the villages needs to be carried out in a comprehensive manner. JS (Distribution) also outlined a simple action plan for electrification of remaining Household. States discussed the same and agreed to complete electrification of all household by March, 2019. Hon'ble Union Minister suggested that a special scheme be prepared for LWE areas with 30% funding from the State Government and the balance portion by REC with a repayment period of 15 to 20 years.
38. ED, REC shared the details of remaining award of contracts for UE villages and also targets for village electrification. After discussion, States agreed on the timelines.
39. Hon'ble Union Minister urged all Power Ministers to expedite the electrification of UE villages and households as per the timelines, so as to achieve Hon'ble PM's target of "24X7 Power for All". It was decided by all the States that with the exception of LWE areas, all the States would achieve their targets by March, 2019.

40. Hon'ble Union Minister desired that the villages where the electrification has been completed, sign boards may be placed in those villages declaring that the village is fully electrified and also displaying control room numbers for feed-back by public in case of any deficiency.

Bio Fuels

41. A presentation was made by Shri Anna SahebPatil, former Union Minister for Rural Development and Dr. Y B Ramakrishna, Chairman, Working Group on Biofuel, MoPNG on bio fuels. JS, MNRE informed that a Bio- Energy Advisory Committee was set up in MNRE to take up new initiatives for all aspects of Bio energy including Bio fuels. Under the Committee, there are three sub-committees on Bio Mass, Bio Fuels and Bio-Gas. Under the Integrated Bio-Energy Mission, MNRE proposed to extend support to the existing Bio-Fuel Boards in four States, namely, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. This support could be extended to other States also for setting up Biofuel Boards. This would have a positive impact on farmers' income through creation of a crop management system and supply chain of feedstock.

Hydro Power

42. Additional Secretary, MoP made a detailed presentation on hydropower development in the country. The presentation touched upon hydroelectric potential of the States and development, declining share of hydropower in the energy mix, policy initiatives for hydropower, issues involved in slow pace of hydropower development, and need for comprehensive policy for the sector.
43. Hon'ble Union Minister desired that wherever larger Hydro projects are stuck, the State Governments should take expeditious action with the developers to resolve the issues. He stated that the possibility of extending the benefits of Renewable Energy to Hydro Electric Projects of capacity 25 MW and above is also being explored.
44. Secretary (P), Uttarakhand raised the issue of various litigations and problems faced by the State in the development of the hydro sector. He requested the Hon'ble Union Minister to take steps to resolve such issues by pursuing them at his level with the Cabinet.
45. Regarding the solar power obligations for Hydro power rich States, which are meeting most of their demand through Hydro Power, it was decided that the issues would be taken up separately, as getting land for installation of solar panels is difficult in States like Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh etc. UP requested that under RPO, upto 100 MW hydro plants may be allowed. In response there on, it was informed that the issue was being examined by MoP.

46. It was also decided that MoP would take up with the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change regarding the mandatory requirement of holding one public hearing instead of two hearings for the same projects before granting environmental clearance. Regarding the Union Cabinet clearance for Lakhwar Project on Yamuna River and various other projects stuck in Uttarakhand, MoP would take up the issue with Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation.

Transmission

47. Hon'ble Union Minister suggested that the states should plan for their transmission networks around their cities in a manner such that it would be able to serve future growth as land will become scarce for setting up sub-stations and it would also be very difficult to get RoW (Right of Way) for laying out transmission networks in urban areas.
48. He further stated that DEEP (Discovery of Efficient Electricity Price) Portal would be available for Medium Term Biddings from July, 2016 onwards. He also added that a system should be set up to expedite approvals regarding railway crossings by transmission lines. It was emphasised that the States should plan their intra-state transmission system well in advance as it takes 3 to 4 years from conception to commissioning of a transmission project.
49. He further suggested to States to implement their intra-state transmission systems through TBCB route so that the investment planned by States for transmission system could be utilized for other schemes like rural electrification and efficiency improvement.

Flexible Utilization of Coal

50. Hon'ble Union Minister stated that flexibility in utilization of coal has been initially rolled out to central sector generation plants and based on the experience; it would be subsequently rolled out to private sector as well. It was clarified that the coal prices have not increased but has been rationalized as it is basically GCV linked coal price. He asked Ministry of Coal to examine if the penalty on off-take of coal above ACQ can be waived by CIL. He further directed CMD, CIL to talk to coal importers and study their coal pricing and try to rationalize the domestic coal prices.
51. The States were requested to clear their outstanding dues with CIL else CIL would be forced to regulate the coal supply to defaulting states.

Energy Conservation

52. Secretary, Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) made a presentation on Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC). The presentation highlighted that there is an opportunity to design energy efficient future buildings for energy conservation. It was informed that the implementation of ECBC would reduce the electricity consumption by 20% to 30% in the buildings. ECBC has been developed by BEE and includes standards for building walls, roofs, windows, lighting, heating and air-conditioning system, solar hot water system and electrical systems etc, but the adoption of ECBC has to be ensured by the States. He informed that 10 States/UTs have already notified ECBC in their states and another 11 States are in process of notifying the same. He requested the remaining States to notify these codes on priority basis.
53. MD, Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) made a presentation on agricultural Demand Side Management by use of energy efficient agriculture pump sets. He mentioned that, at present, about 2 crore agriculture pumps in the country consume about 173 Billion Units and a total subsidy of about Rs. 65000 crores per year is being provided by the States for agriculture sector. The replacement of old inefficient agriculture pumps by BEE 5-star agriculture pumps may save about 30% energy consumption in agriculture sector along with a subsidy saving of about Rs. 21,860 crores per annum. He further explained the business model of EESL for providing 5 star rated agriculture pump sets free of cost to the farmers with five-year maintenance. He also informed about the pilot projects in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. He indicated that these agriculture pump sets would have a smart mobile operated control panel and can be operated through the mobile app by the farmers at their convenience. He presented a live demonstration on the switch on/off operation of the pump sets installed at Maharashtra through mobile app. He further informed that Andhra Pradesh has already signed an agreement for procurement of 2 lakh energy efficient pump sets and Maharashtra has agreed to sign the agreement for replacement of 5 lakh pump sets. In principle approval has also been given by the Punjab State Government for supplying one lakh energy efficient pump sets. The other 5 States are under advanced stages of finalization of the procurement of these energy efficient pump sets.
54. He also indicated the present status of UJALA scheme through which more than 11.8 crore LED bulbs have been distributed in 17 States/UTs. It is targeted to cover the entire country in 2016-17 with distribution of atleast 15 crore LED bulbs. He requested states to expedite the proposals for distribution of LED bulbs on priority.

55. Government of Gujarat indicated that the cost of these pump sets are high and the difference between the conventional & energy efficient pump set is not known. Some inefficient pump sets/scrap may come in place of energy efficient pump sets. Responding to this, MD, EESL informed that states may procure these energy efficient pump sets under supervision of State Government to reduce the re-entry of old pump sets. He also indicated that in case these pumps are purchased in bulk, then the cost of these pump sets may come down.
56. Government of Andhra Pradesh informed that they are planning to distribute about 12 lakh energy efficient pumps to the farmers during next two years.
57. Hon'ble Union Minister indicated that no State budget would be required for supplying of these pumps initially and the money may be paid by the States through savings in their subsidy by reduction of energy consumption by these pumps over next 5-10 years. These pumps apart from remote switch on/off would have smart meter and flow meter to check water conservation. He suggested that Maharashtra may take up these pump sets to deal with the drought in the State. He declared that a competition would be launched on 'my gov' website for proposing a suitable name for the scheme.
58. Government of UP informed that the tube wells with solar energy have been launched and a 30% subsidy is requested from MNRE for this scheme. MNRE may expedite the subsidy for this scheme.
59. Government of UP suggested that an association of Discoms may be formed for central procurement of the major items in the country and also a Committee of Secretaries of States may be made for implementation of energy efficient agriculture pump sets in the States.
60. In his response, Joint Secretary, MoP informed that a draft MoU for association of Discoms would be circulated by MoP shortly seeking views of the States.
61. Hon'ble Union Minister suggested that in place of multiple meetings at various places, meetings for these associations may be done through video conferencing.

Switch Expo Presentation

62. Gujarat made a presentation of "Switch Expo" to be held in Vadodara during 6th to 10th Oct 2016. Hon'ble Power Minister Gujarat extended the invitation to all the state delegates and requested Hon'ble Union Minister to hold the next Power Minister's Conference during the Switch Expo in Vadodara.
63. Hon'ble Union Minister accepted the invitation and decided that next Power Minister's Conference would be held at Vadodara, Gujarat.

Power Demand

64. JS (Trans), MoP made a presentation on POWER DEMAND highlighting the fact that the average per capita electricity consumption in India was about 1010 units which was much lower than the world average. The demand growth during last two years has been in the range of 6 to 7%. It was indicated that the present installed generation capacity is 303 GW (as on 30.04.2016) against the demand of 150 GW during the year 2015-16 resulting in low PLF of TPS of 62.29% during 2015-16. The suggestions were requested from the States regarding the policy interventions required from MoP for increasing the power demand.
65. It was indicated that some States have surplus generating capacity but there are power shortage/load shedding in some other States. Upon successful implementation of "24x7 Power for All" plan by 2019 and addition of 175 GW renewable energy by 2022, the country would have surplus power with essential infrastructure in generation, transmission and distribution sector. Government of India has taken an initiative under Digital India Programme and launched a Mobile App named as "VidyutPravah" to make general public aware about the electricity availability, price of the electricity in power exchange, real time demand and demand comparison with previous day etc. In addition, information pertaining to peak and energy shortage for previous day at all India and State level was also being provided by the App.
66. As some states have surplus power, this extra power may be used by the States to substitute other forms of energy being used in the States like DG sets etc. The states may also take steps to increase the industrial demand in their state for utilizing the surplus power in the State.
67. Hon'ble Power Minister, Delhi, indicated that electricity rates should be reduced for increasing the power demand in the state. The state may also take efficient measures to reduce the power demand at peak time.
68. In response, Hon'ble Union Minister informed that the Ministries under him have taken various steps for reduction of cost of power like allowing flexible utilization of coals. He clarified that the coal prices has not increased but rather rationalized and linked to GCV (Gross Calorific Value) of coal. He further emphasised the need to reduce the AT&C losses in Delhi to reduce the price of electricity. He also informed that cheap power is available in the market which may be used to replace the power generated by DG sets.
69. Hon'ble Power Minister, Haryana, stated that as per HERC regulation, the units at Panipat TPS are being run at 35% PLF which requires oil support. Each unit requires around 60 kL of oil

and it amounts to about Rs. 40 lakhs. Hon'ble Union Minister requested Haryana to give the details of the issue to JS (Trans) for looking into the matter.

70. Hon'ble Power Minister, Arunachal Pradesh, stated that in North Eastern states, there was power shortage whereas in other part of the country surplus power was available and they were not able to import power.
71. Hon'ble Union Minister clarified that NE States were not able to import the power from other parts of the country because intra-state transmission system was not in place. Also high AT&C losses to the tune of 70% in some NE States have to be reduced in a progressive manner. The Central Government is already implementing a comprehensive scheme thorough PGCIL for augmentation of sub-transmission and distribution system in North-Eastern States.
72. Hon'ble Power Minister, Gujarat stated that the power demand and the cost of power go together. There has to be a political will to further bring down the cost of power supply. The agriculture supply and T&D loss together accounts for 40 to 45% of the power supply. The agriculture consumption has to be brought down by using energy efficient pumps. The T&D losses have to be reduced. The State Governments, Central Government and regulators have to work together for achieving the same. Incentives may be given to industries to increase the demand to absorb the excess power availability in the State. Govt. of Gujarat have raised the issue that the tariff for the private DISCOMs are higher than the Govt. DISCOMs even when the private DISCOMs do not have any agriculture consumption in their account.
73. Hon'ble Union Minister directed that the meetings of Forum of Regulators may also be arranged during the next Power Minister's Conference in October 2016 to discuss the matter with them. All the States were requested to give in writing all the issues related to Regulators to discuss the same in that meeting. He further insisted that target taken in UDAY for reduction of AT&C losses should be met by the States to give benefits to the consumers.
74. Government of Gujarat further informed that they have reduced the agriculture consumption in the state by reducing the supply hours from 14 hrs. to 8 hrs. which resulted in reduced consumption in agriculture sector and also the water conservation in the State. In addition to this, drip irrigation scheme has been implement in Gujarat which covers about 2 lakh hectare area.
75. Hon'ble Union Minister directed EESL to send a team to visit Vadodara in Gujarat and Jalgaon in Maharashtra to study the drip irrigation scheme and explore the possibility of using solar powered pumps along with drip irrigation so as to save water as well as power.

76. Government of Gujarat further informed that UMPPs should be on pit-head to reduce the tariff and states should plan their demand of loan term basis. It is also indicated that Gujarat is offering night tariff at Rs.2.20/unit for industries. Power Minister of Gujarat suggested that power from many of the gas plants, lying idle, may be traded among SAARC countries.
77. In response, JS, MOP informed that MoP has prepared a draft MOU for trading with SAARC countries and it would be circulated for comments of all the states.
78. Government of Madhya Pradesh indicated that for increasing the HT consumption in the State, they had introduced two schemes. Under one scheme, subsidy of 50 paisa/ unit is being provided for incremental consumption by HT consumers and to new consumers while under the second scheme, in case any open access consumers comes back, then a subsidy of Re.1/unit is being given to them. If the states have surplus power and they sell this power in exchange at the lower rate, then it would be better to supply this surplus power within the State to the industrial consumers at some reduced rate so that the industry maybe promoted and there would be additional employment generation.
79. Hon'ble Union Minister suggested that open access industrial consumers may be given the subsidy by the surplus States and this would also benefit them by generation of more employment and collection of additional taxes through sale of additional power and goods.
80. Govt. of Haryana informed that the tender for smart grid project of Gurugram would be finalized by end of July, 2016.
81. Hon'ble Union Minister requested all the States to adopt a transparent process for all the bids in all projects to save money and time.
82. He further suggested that the states may approach MoP for multilateral funding for the schemes which requires funding over and above the centrally sponsored funding and state funding. Director(OM), MoP would act as the Nodal Officer for this.
83. Further, he suggested the States to make efforts to extend electricity to the consumers who are presently meeting their demands through diesel pumps, diesel inverters and diesel generators. This would benefit the consumers, environment, reduced FOREX burden and increase the demand of DISCOMs.
84. Hon'ble Union Minister informed that some states have raised objections on Electricity Amendment Act for allowing multiple distribution companies in one area. He requested that all the States should give their comments on the Electricity Amendment Act to MoP, on priority, as this act is necessary for empowering consumers to choose the distribution licensee as per his choice.

Renewable Energy

Solar Power

85. JS, MNRE made a presentation on the status and future plan of solar power in the country. It was indicated that presently the total installed capacity of solar was 7564 MW in the country and India stands at 8th position in the world. It was indicated that the current year target is of 10,500 MW for Grid Connected solar power and states should take all efforts to meet the targets. Already, 820 MW has been commissioned by 31st May 2016.
86. He enumerated the state-wise break-up for 2016-17 target and reviewed its position. Most of the States indicated that they would meet the targets given to them in spite of some issues regarding land acquisition and evacuation.
87. Secy (MNRE), suggested creation of 'WhatsApp Group' of Secretaries of states and senior officials of Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd. (SECI), NTPC for quick exchange of information.
88. It was informed by MNRE and SECI that during the current year, the target for SECI is 3000 MW and for NTPC is 2500 MW. SECI is providing solar power @ Rs 4.50 / unit to the states with VGF funding while NTPC is targeting the prices between Rs 4 to 5/ unit through tendering. SECI informed that they still had some spare capacity, so states may give their requirement for purchasing solar power at this rate. States requested that VGF funding should also be provided in the NTPC power.
89. CMD, NTPC Ltd raised the issue that after signing the PPAs, some States had submitted PPA to the Regulators and some of the Regulators had reduced the cost of power after PPA were signed by the States. In Andhra Pradesh, the Regulator has reduced the rate by 10 paisa / unit. This process was delaying the projects and the revised rate may not be viable for the development. NTPC Ltd further informed that some projects were ready for commissioning but their evacuation transmission lines were not ready. States/ PGCIL should take prompt action for completion of evacuation system. In response, PGCIL informed that works would be completed by PGCIL on time in case RoW is provided within the time limit.
90. SECI requested that States should identify and come up with the list of Sub stations which had some spare capacities before tendering the projects. SECI also informed that they had tendered 500 MW for Odisha but now Odisha is interested only in 300 MW. Odisha agreed to look into the matter.

91. West Bengal requested that VGF might also be provided for pumped storage system using solar plants. West Bengal had already taken solar based pumped storage projects with assistance from State Govt. but VGF would help in reducing the cost of pumped storage power.
92. Secretary, MNRE indicated that the State wise targets for a total grid connected solar capacity of about 15,565 MW has been given as against 10,500 MW and these targets given to the States were to be maintained strictly. He requested the States to take all necessary actions for meeting the targets during the year in spite of issues raised by some states regarding land, evaluation of tenders & Regulatory issues etc. He also requested that advance action should also be taken for tendering the 31,800 MW during 2017-18 and complying with new RPO regulations to be notified at the earliest.

Solar parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power projects

93. The scheme for development of Solar parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects was launched by MNRE during 2014-15 to support the states in setting up the solar parks at various locations in the country. It would also enable states to attract investment from project developers. Under this scheme, 34 Solar Parks with an aggregating capacity of 20,000 MW in 21 states have been sanctioned. The solar park of 1500 MW in Andhra Pradesh would be the largest in the world.
94. Govt. of Assam indicated that they have identified some land for 69 MW solar parks and SECI had agreed to provide help for development of the same. However, there were some issues with SECI regarding terms and conditions of JV Company for this purpose. Secretary MNRE directed SECI for resolving the issue bilaterally.
95. Govt. of Gujarat indicated that they would identify the 500 acers land for solar power projects which may supply the power to other states. It was also informed that a 220/400 KV Substation has already been approved by the Standing Committee for Solar Park in Gujarat.

Solar PV Plants on Canal Banks and Canal Tops

96. JS (MNRE) informed that Govt. of India had approved the implementation of Pilot cum Demonstration project for development of grid connected solar PV plants on Canal Banks and canal tops. Under the scheme, financial assistance of Rs 3 Crores/ MW or 30% of the project cost whichever is lower for Canal top projects and Rs 1.5 Crores/ MW or 30% of the project cost whichever is lower for Canal bank projects was provided. Under the scheme, 50 MW canal top projects and 50 MW canal bank projects have already been approved.

Solar Pump sets

97. It was informed that about 65000 Solar based pump sets have been sanctioned for irrigation purposes for 19 states under which 30% funding was being provided by MNRE. Secretary MNRE requested the states that they might consider additional subsidy to make total subsidy in the range of 70-80% for making it more attractive. Odisha and Andhra Pradesh requested MNRE for sanction of more Agriculture solar pump sets under the scheme.

Roof top Solar

98. It was informed that about 10 sq meter space is required for 1 kw roof top solar plant with no T&D losses and bench mark cost is Rs 75000/kw. MNRE is providing 30% subsidy for domestic use/ Govt. institutes. Projects of 3500 MW have already been approved and out of which 300 MW have already been commissioned. It was also indicated that 25% subsidy is being provided for solar roof top on Govt. /PSU buildings. SECI has already sanctioned solar roof top of 1000 MW for Govt. buildings. It was informed by JS MNRE that about \$ 2.5 Billion loan was made available from foreign institutes for development of solar plants in the country.

Net Metering regulations

99. JS, MNRE informed that although several states have taken steps for promotion of solar roof top plants in their states, 9 states have still not notified net metering regulations. They were requested to notify the same within 3 months.
100. As regards the development of small hydro projects in the country, Hon'ble Union Minister informed that he had already taken a meeting for discussing the financial viability of the small hydro projects. He suggested that small projects might be bundled in one project for taking loan from banks and MoP would provide all the necessary cooperation for taking up the small hydro projects in the states.
101. Many states requested Hon'ble Union Minister for inclusion of all hydro projects in RPO. He directed MNRE/MOP to look into the matter.

Wind Power

102. JS, MNRE made a presentation on potential and status of wind power in the country. It was indicated that out of 302 GW wind power potential in the country, 297 GW is only in 8 states. There is a need to transmit the wind power to non-windy States to fulfil their non-solar PRO requirement. It was informed that SECI is coming out with a scheme for selling wind power to the non-windy states. Bidding for sale of inter-state wind energy would be done by SECI and

power would be supplied to States at a pool price. As wind tariffs are already much lower than solar tariffs in many parts of the country, and wind power is available in peak summer at peak time of the day, it is of great value for non-windy states. The National Tariff Policy provided for socialization of inter-state transmission charges and losses to facilitate this. Further, the inter-state scheduling and forecasting mechanism already in place guarantees delivery of firm scheduled power to the buying state.

103. To promote the solar wind hybrid system in the country, MNRE had formulated a draft National Wind Solar Hybrid policy and put up on their website for comments of stake holders. All the states were requested to give their comments on the draft policy.
104. The issues of high potential sites blocked due to non-completion of projects by the developers were raised.
105. Hon'ble Union Minister stated that States must have a clear time line to cancel the projects which were not being taken up and issue the notices to non performing developers. He further suggested that these wind projects may also be bid out as has been done in solar projects.
106. UP requested that PFC/REC may also finance the wind projects. REC/PFC may lend money to states through credit enhance bonds with Govt. guarantee for RE projects also. Tamil Nadu also informed that REC/PFC are not giving loans for wind projects.
107. Hon'ble Union Minister stated that if States were not ready to join UDAY, no funds would be made available for those states.
108. On the issue of delay in development of transmission system for evacuation of wind power, he further stated that developers might develop the transmission lines and hand over the same to the ISTS. MoP may look into the matter.
109. Arunachal Pradesh requested that MNRE should help to find out wind potential sites in the state. MNRE agreed for the same.
110. Hon'ble Union Minister stated that bidding of wind plants should be done at National level to discover the best prices. He further suggested that hydro power might be used as spinning reserve for renewable energy and a study may be carried out by MNRE for pumped storage system using incremental thermal power or solar & wind hybrid system for pumping the water.
111. It was also decided that a group would be formed for studying wind related issues under Shri. Manish Gupta, Hon'ble Minister (Power) ,West Bengal. The Group would have the members from MOP, POSOCO, MNRE, CEA and state representatives from Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu. The group would submit its report within 4 months.

Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPOs)

112. It was informed that as per new tariff policy, the RPO has been fixed as 8% for all states as SERC had notified different RPOs for different states. At present, 1.44 Crores RECs are still unsold in the market and states may buy RECs to fulfil RPO obligation without investing capital in Renewable energy projects.
113. A presentation was made by PFC for launching the REC fund. It was informed that the plan was still at conceptualization stage and it would be finalized after considering the comments of all the stake holders.
114. This fund would be used to buy RECs from Developer. The proposed size of Fund would be Rs.1000 Crores and PFC, REC and IREDA would be the partners in this fund. The fund may be used to buy solar and/or non solar RECs from the developers on the confirmation from States. However, it was indicated that certain amendments would be required in CERC regulations regarding expiry date of RECs.
115. Hon'ble Union Minister stated that under UDAY scheme, only last 3 year's RPOs are to be met by the States in next 3 years for amnesty of fulfilling previous RPOs.
116. He further stated that under the proposed funds, REC/PFC may buy in advance the RECs at discounted prices and those RECs would be unaffected in case of price increase in the market. He further suggested that to check the reselling and expiry of RECs, the details of all RECs along with their registration number would be put up on a website for checking expiry/ reselling of the RECs.

Other issues:

117. Govt. of Delhi requested that Power tariff should not go up due to coal price rationalisation. NTPC may be given a common pooled price in country. UDAY may be extended to private GENCOs & TRANSCO's also apart from the state Gencos.
118. Hon'ble Union Minister stated that the quantity of high grade and low grade coal may be rationalised by States so that overall cost of transportation of coal to states like Delhi which are far off from pit head, should not increase. He further informed that if all the States agreed, there should be no objection to pooled price of NTPC. Upon request of Delhi, for renewal of old contracts for power purchase with NTPC and other CPSU, he informed that contractual obligations have to be honoured.
119. Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir informed that power budget has been separated and power subsidy has been brought to 54%. State has accepted UDAY and states bonds are to be issued

for Rs.7000 crores liability. It was suggested that there is big solar potential in Ladakh and a transmission line may be planned through proposed tunnel at Zozila Pass. State told that snow covered areas may be given the benefits like the one that are given to Left Wing Extremism (LWE) areas. Hon'ble Union Minister agreed to get the transmission through Zozila tunnel examined.

120. Govt. of West Bengal expressed that power price may increase if Railways increase freight rates. They also mentioned about the slippage in grade of coal. State informed that CBM as alternative energy sources are being utilized locally; however there is need to have policy on that. This alternate energy source may be looked into to ensure peak power availability. Lands having illegal mining of coal may be given back to States. In response, Hon'ble Union Minister directed that Chairman CIL, Govt. of West Bengal & MoC should coordinate & chalk out solutions to illegal mining problem. Price rationalization is in the interest of Country so that dependence on imported coal may be reduced. Secretary (Coal) would take up the case with the Chairman, Railway Board for rationalization of freight charges. He requested that issue of CBM may be taken up with the Ministry of Petroleum.

Agenda on the sidelines of the conference

121. Goa and Karnataka signed agreements for joining UDAY.
122. The six States/UTs viz. Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi, J&K and Arunachal Pradesh signed the 24X7 Power for All documents. With signing of documents by these states, 27 States/UTs have made plans for ensuring 24X7 Power for All.
123. Hon'ble Union Minister launched a mobile app called URJA (Urban JyotiAbhiyan) aimed at enhancing consumer connect with the urban power distribution sector.
124. Hon'ble Union Minister launched e-SARINI app, which is inland with Vidyut PRAVAH application and developed by Andhra Pradesh Eastern Power Distribution Company Ltd (APEDPCL). This app takes the transparency to the next level to make power utilities more accountable by facilitating consumers/stakeholders to visualize power supply position at DISCOM/District/Town/Village level till the individual consumer level.
125. Hon'ble Union Minister in the presence of Chief Minister and Power Minister of Goa launched the UJALA (UnnatJyoti by Affordable LEDs for All) scheme for Goa, for distribution of LED bulbs at a subsidised rate of Rs. 25/- per bulb as against the market price of Rs.300/-.

Conference Resolutions

126. After deliberating all the agenda items, the Conference adopted 42 resolutions. The resolutions adopted in the Conference are giving in **Appendix**.

**CONFERENCE OF POWER, MINES AND NRE MINISTERS OF STATES/UTs
HELD AT GOA ON 16TH -17TH JUNE 2016
RESOLUTIONS**

DISTRIBUTION

- 1) States concerned resolve to electrify all remaining un-electrified villages by 31st December, 2016 except LWE areas. *For targets of August 2016 see Annexure 1.*
- 2) The States discussed in detail measures to provide 100% electricity access to all households and resolved to achieve the same as per the details mentioned *in Annexure 2.*
- 3) The States resolve to achieve 24x7 'Power For All' in their respective States by March, 2019 or earlier. Further the States, whose PFA documents have not been prepared, resolve to complete them by August, 2016.
- 4) The participating States resolve to ensure that the operational and financial milestones decided in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under UDAY would be strictly implemented. Ministry of Power would take up the issue with banks for subscribing the DISCOMs bonds.
- 5) The States/UTs resolve to submit Feeder Data in appropriate Format to PFC/REC/NIC on monthly basis to implement 11 KV Feeder Monitoring on National Power Portal (NPP) by July, 2016. Ministry of Power will support the extension of IT enablement in 2,600 additional towns under IPDS, for States/UTs who will complete the work within 6 months.
- 6) The States/UTs resolve to complete the projects sanctioned under IPDS (erstwhile R-APDRP component) by March, 2017 including declaring balance 183 towns Go-Live to enable feeder monitoring.
- 7) The States/UTs resolve to procure only Smart Meters after a cut-off date as may be notified by CEA. All States further resolve to send their revised proposal under IPDS/DDUGJY to cover procurement of Smart Meters by end of June, 2016.
- 8) The States/UTs resolve to ensure implementation and effective system for reporting of power theft on Short Telephone No. 1912 and to conduct IEC campaigns. States shall make it toll-free.
- 9) States resolve to award all remaining contracts for projects sanctioned under DDUGJY/IPDS latest by 31st August, 2016.
- 10) The States resolve to identify habitations (Majra, Tola, Dhani etc.) which, are yet to be provided access to electricity, match them with already sanctioned villages under intensive electrification and system strengthening component of DDUGJY, intimate REC by 31st July, 2016, and to complete electrification of all the remaining habitations by 31st March, 2019.

HYDRO

- 11) It is resolved to formulate a pro-active comprehensive hydropower policy to revive the Hydropower sector. The policy shall also explore possibility of providing benefits of Renewable Energy to Hydroelectric Projects beyond 25 MW.
 - 12) It is resolved that Ministry of Power shall raise the issue of public hearings being required twice for Hydro Projects with Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
-

13)The States resolve to make all-out efforts to resolve the issues related to the stalled projects.

TRANSMISSION

14)State/UTs resolve to estimate their load-demand projections and to timely submit their applications for Long Term Access to Central Transmission Utility (CTU), PGCIL so that the transmission system augmentation can be undertaken to meet projected demand. States also resolve to timely plan the intra-state transmission systems to effectively utilise the ISTS systems.

15)States/ UTs resolve to implement the Intra-State Transmission system as far as possible through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) route. The State may combine small projects for larger participation of bidders and get better price.

16)Ministry of Power would request Ministry of Railways to evolve institutional mechanism for quick approval of Railways, if required, for transmission projects.

POWER DEMAND

17)In line with the '*APVidyut PRAVAH*' application developed for Andhra Pradesh DISCOMs, the other States/UTs resolve to adopt a similar approach to facilitate all the consumers/stakeholders to view the power availability and power supply position at DISCOM/ District/ Town/ Village level, and to make the power utilities more accountable.

18)The States/UTs resolve to take initiative in making innovative schemes to enhance electricity consumption particularly in Industries by giving long-term incentives in terms of lower tariff. The State/UTs also resolve to endeavour to substitute diesel consumption with electricity by taking all necessary initiatives, which will not only save foreign exchange but will lower the cost of power to diesel consumers.

19)The State/UTs resolve to reduce AT&C losses so as to make power affordable to consumers.

COAL RELATED ISSUES: REDUCING COST OF POWER

20)The States resolve to take necessary action for allowing flexibility in utilization of domestic coal amongst generating stations to reduce the cost of power generation.

21)The States resolve to furnish proposals under the above policy to Ministry of Power for recommendation to Ministry of Coal, and to furnish proposals for rationalisation of linkages to Ministry of Coal/Coal India Limited, if any, including under the policy on optimum utilization of coal.

22)It is resolved that state entities shall clear outstanding dues to Coal India Limited expeditiously, failing which, Coal India Limited may consider coal supply regulation.

23)Coal India Limited shall work out coal import substitution strategy with individual public sector, GENCOs.

24)CIL will appropriately address the performance incentive issue under efficiency based coal optimization upon ACQ aggregation since the objective is to optimise the power tariff for consumers.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

- 25) States/UTs resolve to mandate ECBC with the objective to ensure that new commercial buildings are ECBC compliant.
- 26) States resolve to implement state-wide regulatory mechanism for mandating the use of BEE Star Labelled pump sets, as far as possible for every new agriculture pump connection.
- 27) States/UTs are encouraged to implement the Agriculture Demand Side Management projects through Savings based model or Annuity based model as suitable for their States.

PROMOTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

- 28) States resolve to make efforts to get RPOs fixed by respective SERCs in accordance with the provisions in National Tariff Policy and devise an action plan to achieve or exceed these RPOs.
 - 29) Total of 20,906 MW of solar capacity was tendered during 2015-16. States resolve to facilitate setting up of these power plants and sign PPAs/PSAs as may be required.
 - 30) It is resolved to tender out an additional capacity of 15,000-20,000 MW of solar in this financial year. States are urged to make all out efforts to facilitate PPAs and help in this effort.
 - 31) It is urged that States ensure speedy implementation of Solar Parks and Canal-top projects. Issues of land acquisition and grid interaction also be addressed.
 - 32) It is resolved that R.E. projects, which have must-run status, will not be backed down in case of excess generation.
 - 33) In August 2013, the Forum of Regulators had developed the model Net Metering Regulation for grid inter-connective RTS projects. Based on this, till now, 26 States/UTs have notified net metering regulations. The remaining States of Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Jharkhand and Telangana are requested to take necessary action for issue of net metering regulations within next three months.
 - 34) The states resolve to make available the evacuation and transmission facilities to RE developers in time.
 - 35) The States resolve to identify the Wind potential areas and carryout advance planning of transmission system based on estimated generation capacity likely to come up in the area.
 - 36) The States resolve to start forecasting and scheduling of Wind Power at an early date to enable better balancing and absorption of wind energy, and to create the communication infrastructure required for the purpose.
 - 37) The States resolve to take a stock of wind power projects already commissioned / ready to be commissioned and waiting for PPA to be signed. The issue of signing PPA will be resolved in a time bound manner.
 - 38) The States resolve to evolve a mechanism for timely payment to all RE generators and will ensure that priority will be given to RE to bring down the cost of renewable energy.
 - 39) The States resolve that intra-state transmission & wheeling charges will be levied on Kwh basis to facilitate both Intra and Inter-state sale of renewable power in the State.
 - 40) Water being State subject, SHP projects are governed by State policies and potential sites are allotted by the State Governments to the developers. States resolve to develop mechanisms like single window for allotment of SHP Projects, which will make the allotments faster and in a transparent manner. States also resolve to make a detailed list of SHPs of both Government
-

& Private Sectors, which have not taken-off due to pendency of one or other clearances required to start implementation of the projects.

41) The States resolve to adopt & promote solar rooftop for all sectors (Residential, Institutional, Government, Commercial & Industrial) and to submit the commitment certificate for Government sector in a time bound manner.

42) MNRE undertakes to be in touch with States via fortnightly video conferencing, *whatsapp* groups etc. so that issues & problems are addressed instantly.

Annexure 1: Village Electrification

States that will ensure award of contracts for execution of electrification works for the remaining 4648 villages (out of 18452) within next 30 days i.e. latest by 15th July, 2016 as per following details:

Sr. No.	State	Villages yet to be awarded
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1294
2.	Assam	822
3.	Chhattisgarh	382
4.	Jharkhand	433
5.	Odisha	830
6.	Uttar Pradesh	2
7.	Meghalaya	549
8.	Uttarakhand	13
9.	Mizoram	29
10.	J&K	107
11.	Madhya Pradesh	154
12.	Karnataka	33

- (i) States will ensure electrification of all 18452 villages latest by December 2016.
- (ii) States that will achieve electrification of 12,300 villages (2/3rd of 18452) by 15th August, 2016 as mentioned below:

Sr. No.	State	Targets for additional village electrification by 15 th Aug.16
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	486
2.	Assam	684
3.	Bihar	379
4.	Chhattisgarh	247
5.	Jharkhand	700
7.	Odisha	800
8.	Uttar Pradesh	144
9.	Rajasthan	143
10.	Meghalaya	279
11.	Manipur	103
12.	Uttarakhand	35
13.	Himachal Pr.	16
14.	Nagaland	44
15.	Mizoram	24
16.	Tripura	11
17.	Madhya Pradesh	93
18.	West Bengal	11

Annexure 2: Household Electrification

- (i) States will ensure access to electricity to 100 % households in 18452 villages by 1st May, 2017. State must ensure 100% household electrification in 18452 villages on a mission mode. Hoardings will be displayed in such villages for declaring them as fully electrified and appealing people to avail electricity connections if any household has not yet availed. States will organize camps in these villages for motivating households to avail electricity connections with on-spot completion of necessary formalities and release of electricity connections on priority with the support of DISCOM staff for all the villages.
- (ii) Un-electrified households data of States has to be finalised in consultation with and with support of States within 3 months.
- (iii) States will ensure electrification of 100% households as per target/timeline indicated below:

S.No.	State	Target/ Remarks
1.	West Bengal , Haryana, Kerala, Goa, Himachal Pradesh,Tamil Nadu and UTs	March 2017
2.	Maharashtra, Telangana and Chhattisgarh	March 2017 (Except LWE Areas) March 2018 (LWE Areas)
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	15 th August 2017
4.	Sikkim	March 2018 Necessary support to be provided for off-grid solutions.
5.	Assam, Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh	March 2018
6.	Bihar	20 lakh Households by March 2017 and all remaining households by December 2018
7.	Uttar Pradesh	90 Lakh Households by March 2018 and for all remaining households (approx. 60 lakh) sources of funds to be explored
9.	Uttarakhand and other remaining States	December 2017

- (iv) To ensure 100% household electrification on priority, MOP will consider adjustments in inter-component allocation of funds sanctioned under DDUGJY. States will submit their requests to REC/MoP and after due diligence, the process will be completed expeditiously within 30 days from receipt of request from States.
- (v) States will take up with respective SERCs to fix load-based charge for new electricity connection charges (including smart meters) and encourage APL consumers to take connections through appropriate instalment based schemes, if necessary. States may create projects for the purpose and approach REC/PFC for cost effective financing.
-

- (vi) States will make all out efforts to effectively utilize funds already available for electrification of 162 Lakh BPL households. States will be allowed to utilize savings from this component in other areas if all BPL households in the corresponding project areas have been already electrified and States furnish a certificate in this regard, after approval from REC/MOP, which will be finalised within 30 days.
