TATA POWER

TATA

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TPTCL'S E-NEWS LETTER

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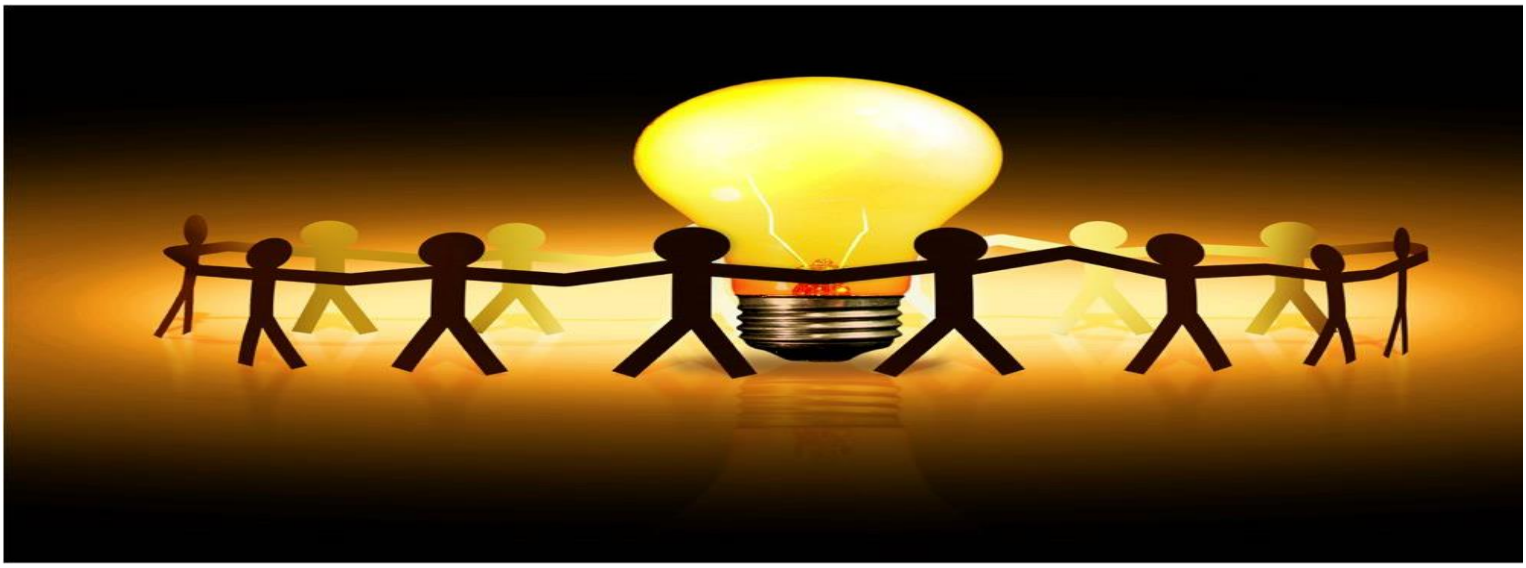
Tata Power Trading Company Limited (TPTCL)



Lighting up Lives!

Regulatory News

Procedure for STOA in ISTS through National Open Access Registry (NOAR)

In reference to the Regulation 4 of the Fifth Amendment Regulations 2018 (Open Access in inter-State Transmission regulation), NLDC has issued the detailed procedure to operationalise open access through NOAR.

Key Highlights of the procedure:

1. NOAR is a single point, common electronic interface, for all the stakeholders, availing short term (ST) open access in inter-State transmission system, which includes ST customers, DISCOMs, Generators, Trading Licensees, Power Exchange, NLDC, RTDCS, SLDCs, RPCs etc.

2. ST customers shall be able to make an application for seeking standing clearance or applying for STOA transaction, both bilateral and collective, only after successful registration on the NOAR platform.

3. **Functions of NOAR:**

    - To automate the administration of STOA Interstate Transmission system.
    - Exchange data with the scheduling software applications of the RLDCs and SLDCs and exchange data with STOA application software of SLDCs.
    - Repository of information, facilitate Market monitoring by the Market Monitoring Cell (MMC) of CERC.
    - Interface with the Power Exchange(s) for data exchange and validation of standing clearance to facilitate processing of transactions through the Power Exchange(s), platform.
    - Conducting e-bidding for congestion management.
    - Gateway for making payments related to STOA transactions disbursement, facilitate financial accounting and tracking of the STOA transactions and reconciliation of such payments.
    - Generate MIS reports for NLDC, RLDCs and SLDCs.
    - Any other function, as assigned by the Central Commission from time to time.

4. **Scope of NOAR:**

    - Bilateral applications including standing clearance related to the STOA (bilateral or collective transaction) in the inter-State transmission system shall be made through the NOAR.
    - Approval for Bilateral Applications & Standing Clearance.

5. **Registration in NOAR:**

    - Registration shall be done through the registration link: https://noar.in/
    - The registration fee of Rs. 5000/- shall be paid through electronic payment gateway of NOAR.
    - Applicant shall e-verify the filled-in application on the NOAR platform.
    - In case of a short term customer which is a regional entity, the application for Registration shall be processed by the host RLDC, for intra-State entity the application shall be processed by the host SLDC & intra-State entity the application shall be processed by the NLDC.

- Post receipt of application by NLDC/RLDC/SLDC as per applicability, same shall be approved by respective authority as per the timeline after conducting a preliminary scrutiny of the application, to ensure application form is complete.
- The registration shall be valid for a period of 3 (three) years and may be renewed thereafter on payment of renewal charges of Rs.2000/- (Rupees Two Thousand only)

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The detail procedure of NOAR shall be assessed through link: *Source 1*, *Source 2*

CERC Regulation on (Open Access in inter-State Transmission) (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 2018 shall be assessed through link: *Source1*, *Source 2*

Power Market News

CERC steps in to keep power prices in check

The power sector regulator has lowered the cap on exchanges to ₹12 from ₹20 a unit, responding to frantic purchases by state electricity distribution companies to meet an unanticipated surge in demand as summer temperatures spike with a heatwave expected in northern India. The first such intervention after 13 years has been made in the consumer interest and reduces the chances of profiteering by power generating companies, said people with knowledge of the matter.

The Union power ministry had expressed its concerns over high spot prices on power trading exchanges in a communication to the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) on March 26. The Indian Energy Exchange, the largest electricity bourse, said on Saturday that the change will take effect at 10:45 pm for the real-time market (RTM) and Sunday onward for the day-ahead and green day-ahead markets (for renewable energy).

Some power companies expressed concern over the CERC intervention, saying it sends the wrong signal to investors. However, the CERC and market observers do not expect the moderation to have a significant impact on trade on the exchanges. In its order issued late Friday, the commission said buy bids on power exchanges have been more than double the sell bids. ***Source***

Electricity mission on cards to cut oil dependence

The government is planning a mission to increase electricity penetration from 17% to 27% in the next 10 years to reduce oil usage and cut dependence on imported crude. The government is identifying areas with low to medium heating requirements where such a shift is possible. Activities in domestic and commercial consumer sectors such as cooking and transportation, and solarising agricultural pumps are areas where the maximum focus is expected.

The electrification mission targets the maximum possible shift to electricity use from diesel, petrol and LPG consumption, a senior government official told ET. Increasing renewable energy capacity can ensure decarbonisation of the electricity sector, he added. The target is in the line with the transition goals of some of the developed nations. The EU, for instance, has made a significant transition with 24% electrification of its energy needs and has an ambitious 60% electrification target by 2050. India's electrification mission comes amid a sharp rise in oil prices in the country.

Petrol and diesel prices were raised for the ninth time on Thursday in the last 10 days. In Delhi, petrol and diesel prices are up ₹6.40 per liter each as the state-owned oil marketing companies adjust for sharp rally in crude prices since prices were last revised on November 2. India imports 85% of its oil demand

and 55% of natural gas requirements, making it vulnerable to high international prices. Increasing energy efficiency in commercial, residential and agricultural sectors through effective implementation of buildings code and star labelling on appliances and buildings will also be part of the proposal. ***Source***

Salient features, implementation, and current status of Integrated Power Development Scheme in the country

Government of India launched the Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) in December, 2014 under which Distribution Infrastructure projects for strengthening of subtransmission and distribution networks in urban areas metering of distribution transformers / feeders / consumers in the urban areas, IT enablement works; Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP); smart metering; Gas Insulated Sub-stations (GIS); and, Real Time Data Acquisition System (RT-DAS) were executed.

Under IPDS, Central funding is being provided for strengthening of sub- transmission & distribution networks in the urban areas and metering of distribution transformers/feeders/consumers for reduction of Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses. Funds have also been sanctioned under IPDS for underground (UG) cabling and Aerial Bunched (AB) cables and metering, which help in reducing AT&C losses.

Under IPDS, System Strengthening and Distribution (ST&D) projects covering 547 Circles in 33 States/UTs were taken up. Out of these, the distribution system strengthening works in 546 circles have been successfully completed.

Apart from IPDS, the Government have recently launched a Reforms based results-linked Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) for Distribution Utilities and a scheme for additional borrowings, both of which have linked financial incentives to reform in the areas of AT&C losses reduction and reliability of power supply. Reforms and financial incentives have been made inextricably linked to release of funds to Distribution Utilities and States in this regard. This information was given by Shri R.K Singh Union Minister for Power and MNRE in a written reply in Lok Sabha today. ***Source***

Centre invites bids for pilot power manufacturing zone

The government has invited bids for setting up a manufacturing zone on a pilot basis for the power and renewable energy sectors. The Union power ministry had earlier issued orders conveying the implementation of a scheme for setting up a manufacturing zone for the power and renewable sector on a pilot basis with a budgetary outlay of Rs 400 crore over a period of five years.

This is a central sector scheme and the duration of the scheme is five years from FY 2022-23 to FY 2026-27. The last date for submission of an Expression of Interest is June 8, 2022, an official statement said. As per the bid documents, each proposer is required to submit a single proposal. The manufacturing zone aims at promoting local manufacturing of the latest clean and energy equipment technologies to minimise dependence on imports for the power sector.

The bids will be evaluated based on low electricity and water charges, the length of the proposed area, and the connectivity of the zone. Priority will be given to zones with land free from encumbrances, proximity to ports, competitive electricity and water tariffs, and proposing earmarking of areas above 150 acres.

The proposed funding would be kept flexible for supporting common infrastructure facilities and common testing facilities. The interested special purpose vehicle will be responsible for the preparation of a detailed project report, obtaining clearances and land acquisition for the manufacturing zone. “The state government will be responsible for providing encumbrances free land. The SPV will also be responsible for the operation and management of assets created under the scheme,” an official said. According to the expression of interest, the grant will be released by the central government in four installments – three of 30% each and the last of 10%. ***Source***

Power sector lenders weigh takeover of stressed assets

Lenders to stressed power assets are considering takeover of such plants in partnerships with central public sector undertakings (PSUs) such as NTPC and Power Grid Corporation of India to avoid distress sale owing to the expected surge in demand for power and coal-based stations in the coming years. Power sector financiers Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and REC Ltd had earlier discussed the possibility of creation of an asset management company (AMC) to take over viable projects through bidding or change of management route. A senior government official, however, said it has been decided to have a case-by-case resolution rather than creating an AMC.

The lenders are looking at a case-by-case solution instead of taking a one-size-fits-all approach. NTPC and lenders to the Avantha Group's 600-MW Jhabua plant have decided to jointly take over the stressed asset. Similar negotiations are on for Lanco Infratech's troubled Amarkantak project. The proposal is to hold the projects for sale at a better price in future. In the case of Jhabua plant in Madhya Pradesh, NTPC will hold a majority 51% stake and operate the project while lenders will own the rest. "The lenders have sought approval from National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) for the lender-based resolution plan," said an official, who did not wish to be identified., FY21 could not see much progress on the TBCB front owing to the pandemic-induced lockdown. ***Source***

Working on providing 300 units of free power to every household: Punjab Govt

The newly-elected Aam Aadmi Party government in Punjab is working on providing 300 units of free power to the domestic consumers in the state, one its key poll promises, said state government officials. According to state government officials, the scheme is expected to be launched soon. Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann is scheduled to meet Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)’s national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in the national capital later in the day to finalise the modalities for the initiative.

Mann-led AAP government in Punjab has faced flak off late as it has not announced the scheme of free power up to 300 units for every household even after nearly a month of coming to power. Mann was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Punjab on March 16, 2022. On the other hand, the promise of free electricity and waiver of past dues for electricity are expected to take a heavy toll on the already debt-laden state. The state has a debt of about ₹3 lakh crore.

Further, at a time when the government plans to offer free power, the state is witnessing power outages with the rise in power demand and shortage of coal. According to reports, the state exchequer would have to bear a cost of ₹1,300 crore per month due to the subsidy on power. ***Source***

A look at the looming power crisis in India

Temperatures have shot up throughout many elements of the nation with the early onset of summer season, resulting in an increase in the demand for power. Instances of power outages have been reported in a number of states. Mint takes a have a look at the demandsupply state of affairs:

Why is there a priority round power provide?

The demand for power has soared. New Delhi's peak power demand touched 5,460 megawatts (MW) on Monday, the highest ever in April's first fortnight. On 8 April, after a spot of three years, Delhi's peak power demand crossed 5,000 MW in April. The nationwide capital's peak power demand had not crossed this mark in both 2021 or in the earlier yr. Several states, together with Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Telangana, and Maharashtra, are dealing with power outages. The coal inventory with power technology corporations (gencos) shouldn't be sufficient to satisfy the rising demand.

How unhealthy is the coal scarcity?

Normally, a power plant should preserve 26 days of coal inventory. However, at current, a number of power vegetation are reporting vital ranges of coal inventory. Data from the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) exhibits that 97 power vegetation out of the 173 that the CEA tracks have vital ranges of coal stock. Of the 173, there are 155 non-pithead vegetation or power vegetation that aren't close to coal mines. These have a median of 28% of the inventory in comparison with the regular situation. The 18 vegetation which are close to coal mines have a median inventory of 81% of the regular requirement.

Is coal scarcity the solely motive for a power disaster?

No. The lack of railway rakes to move coal can be a serious drawback. The state power distribution corporations (discoms) have additionally not been capable of clear their dues to power technology corporations. The covid-19 pandemic has now weakened the funds of many states, elevating doubts about the potential of state-owned discoms to clear their dues.

What has led to the coal scarcity?

Several components have led to the scarcity, together with the stagnation of manufacturing by Coal India Ltd (CIL) after the bumper manufacturing in FY15 and FY16. In FY22, nonetheless, the manufacturing rose 4.4% to 622.6 million tonnes. Former coal secretary Anil Swarup has pointed to the tussle between the Centre and non-Bharatiya Janata Party coal-rich states, which may delay surroundings and land acquisition clearances. High dues of discoms in direction of gencos and the eventual delay in gencos paying CIL has sophisticated the situation.

How has the Centre responded?

CIL has made efforts to lift provide to the power sector by lowering its dispatch to different industries. On Wednesday, the power ministry stated that to keep away from lengthy distance transport, 'tolling' facility can be allowed. In this technique, state gencos can enable different thermal power vegetation close to a coal mine to make the most of their coal linkages to generate and transmit power again. This is a neater different in comparison with transportation. Further, the states want to make sure that imported coal-based vegetation function at affordable tariffs. ***Source***

Cabinet approves policy for use of land acquired under Coal Bearing Areas Act

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a policy for use of lands, which are mined out or are practically unsuitable for mining, to develop and set up infrastructure relating to coal and energy. The policy entails the use of land acquired under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & Development) Act, 1957. The Act provides for the acquisition of coal-bearing lands and their vesting in a government company, free from any encumbrance.

"With the objectives of facilitating utilisation of lands which are mined out or are practically unsuitable for coal mining and for increasing investment and job creation in coal sector, the Union Cabinet... has approved the policy for use of land acquired under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & Development) Act, 1957 (CBA Act)," the coal ministry said in a statement.

State-run companies such as Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and its subsidiaries will remain owners of these lands acquired under the CBA Act and the policy will only allow leasing of the land for the specified purposes. These companies can deploy private capital in joint projects for coal and energy related infrastructure development activities.

The government company which owns the land would lease it for a specific period given under the policy and the entities for leasing will be selected through a transparent, fair and competitive bid process and mechanism in order to achieve optimal value. The lands will be considered for activities such as setting up washeries, coal gasification and coal-to-chemical plants and to set up or provide for energy-related infrastructure.

The lands which are mined out or are practically unsuitable for coal mining are prone to unauthorised encroachment and entail avoidable expenditure on security and maintenance. Under the approved policy, establishment of various coal and energy related infrastructure, without transfer of ownership from government companies, would lead to generation of a large number of direct and indirect employment, the statement said.

This unlocking of non-minable land for other purposes will also help CIL in reducing its cost of operations as it will be able to set up coal related infrastructure and other projects such as solar plant on its own land by adopting different business models in partnership with private sector. It will make coal gasification projects viable as coal need not be transported to distant places. The proposal to utilise land for rehabilitation purpose would ensure proper utilization of land and would eliminate wastage of all-important land resource, avoid acquisition of fresh chunk of land for rehabilitation of project affected families, eliminate loading of additional financial burden on the projects and increase profit. ***Source***

Stringent financing norms to hit PSU power companies: Banks

Banks have told the finance ministry that most public sector power entities including state distribution companies will be ineligible for bank finance under the additional prudential lending guidelines suggested by the power ministry. The issue was raised in an interaction between officials from various departments including the finance ministry and bank executives last month, a government official told ET.

Banks have been asked to suggest options without diluting the guidelines. Inability to access bank funds could adversely impact these power utilities already facing high electricity demand. "There is a concern that if the additional regulations are implemented, it may also impact the existing exposure and make those accounts stressed," he added. The power ministry had last year warned banks about the financial position of distribution companies, urging them to be cautious while sanctioning loans as it could potentially impact the banking system adversely.

Nudged by the power ministry, state-run Power Finance Corp (PFC) and REC had approved more stringent prudential lending norms, which linked further finance to electricity distribution companies to more operational and financial efficiency. Union power secretary Alok Kumar had then written to various financial institutions asking them to follow additional prudential norms introduced by PFC and REC Ltd before sanctioning loans to state electricity distribution utilities.

Possible options

A senior bank executive aware of the developments said that there are around 10 norms specified in the additional guidelines for mandatory implementation. "Most of the state power entities may not be complying with all the norms thus making them ineligible for any credit," he said. Banks say these additional guidelines can be considered while carrying out due diligence along with other relevant factors like the availability of government guarantees, but suggest meeting these additional norms should not be mandatory for taking credit exposure to power distribution companies.

Factors such as external rating and repayment track record can be taken into account if the utility firm is not able to meet all the set criteria, said a banker. Another banker said that if banks were also allowed to set up an escrow mechanism like that for PFC there could be some safeguard for the commercial lenders. The dues of distribution companies to power generation companies rose by more than 23% to Rs 1.03 lakh crore at the end of March as compared with Rs 83,709 crore a year ago. ***Source***

Maharashtra cabinet allows MSEDCL to buy power from private players

MUMBAI: The state cabinet on Friday cleared a proposal to allow Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd (MSEDCL) to purchase additional power from private players till at least June 15, when the power generation situation is expected to improve. At present, there is a shortfall of 1,000-1,500MW in power demand and supply during peak hours owing to the sweltering heat and coal shortage. A senior official said 400-500MW electricity is being saved through 'load relief' in areas where distribution losses are high.

Energy minister Nitin Raut said the electricity available with the power exchange is costly, so they will purchase it from private players at half the cost. "Due to the scorching heat, peak power demand has reached 28,489MW, which is 8.2% higher than the previous year. The 1,900MW Koyna hydel project is running at full capacity, but there are limitations in use of water," he said, adding that the hydel project requires 1 TMC water daily and only 17 TMC stock is available. "We are trying to avoid loadshedding," said Raut. The peak demand is estimated to touch 30,000MW in the next few weeks.

Officials said that the coal situation at many power plants is 'critical' and they have been coordinating with the Centre to tide over the crisis. Accusing the state government of failing to manage the coal stock and water stock for the hydel plant, former energy minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule from BJP said the state is facing "unannounced loadshedding". ***Source***

Cabinet approves granting one-time window to Government Companies to surrender non-operational coal mines without penalty

On April 08, 2022, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the Ministry of Coal's proposal for providing a one-time window to the Central and State PSUs to surrender non-operational mines without penalty (forfeiture of bank guarantee) and without citing any reason. This may release several coal mines which the present Government PSU allottees are not in a position to develop or are disinterested and could be auctioned as per the present auction policy. A three months' time will be granted to the allottee Government Companies to surrender the coal mines from the date of publication of the approved surrender policy. ***Source***

Fuel supply crisis at gencos: Many states face power outage

A peaking summer, coupled with an industrial revival, has led to a huge power shortage in the country. Even as the government claims it is pulling out all the stops to avoid a nationwide power crisis, worsening of fuel stocks at thermal stations is likely to cripple electricity supplies in the weeks ahead, slowing economic activity. Electricity shortage rose to 80 million units (MUs) on April 7, close to an all-time high of 82 MU seen on October 12, 2021, and up from a daily average of just 19.7 MU in March. Supply shortage during peak hours was 6,124 mega watt (MW) on April 7, even higher than the recent high of 5,591 MW (October 12).

The states that have already started witnessing temporary power outages in the last few days are Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh. Maharashtra, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, the most industralised states in the country, are trying to hard to avoid load shedding by letting the state-run utilities buy expensive power – from gencos under short-term arrangements and even from the spot market.

Stating that the current situation is a “fallout of a high prices of imported coal and gas, which increased the pressure on domestic coal suppliers” rather than any laxity on the domestic coal front or on the part of railways in transporting the fuel, Union power secretary Alok Kumar told FE that the current level of coal stocks at power plants (24.5 million tonne) would suffice for 12 days, at the current level of consumption. He added that it was ‘almost impossible’ to change the logistics design in a short term, but listed out the steps taken by the government to avert a major power crisis. “Domestic coal production and transportation by the railways are being increased to the maximum level possible in the short term. We have also advised states and power companies owned by the Centre like NTPC and DVC to import coal for blending, and this has started happening. Our utilities will also import around 9 million tonne of coal by June, without putting any additional pressure on transportation of domestic coal by the railways.”

Kumar noted that imported coal-based power plants of Adani and Tata Power in Gujarat started generation in March. “We have been working with them (units relying on imported coal) and the ministry will convene another meeting with them next week to address certain pending issues.” The official added that all the ministries concerned – coal, railways and power – were working collectively to see that there was no disruption of power supplies “That is our highest collective priority. We are trying to address the issue in the best possible manner,” he said. The secretary said the railways has committed to induct 0.1 million more wagons in the next 2-3 years and identified several places in their rail network to enhance capacity of loading and transportation.

To address the power shortage, the Maharashtra Cabinet on April 9 approved purchase of 760 MW of power from Coastal Gujarat Power, a subsidiary of Tata Power. Under the agreement to be valid till mid-June, the state distribution utility MahaVitaran will get power at Rs 5.5-5.7/ unit against the spot power price of `12/unit. The deal will help Tata Power’s loss-making 4,000 MW ultra mega power project in Mundra to recoup part of its under recoveries. The company is currently operating three of its six units to supply power to the Gujarat discom on a supplemental basis.

Although high cost of coal has made operations difficult for plants that use imported fuel, JSW Energy and JSPL have been supplying expensive power to spot buyers on power exchanges in recent weeks. GVK Power that supplies power to Punjab from the Goindwal Sahib Thermal project is operating at a 10% PLF as the state government has stopped purchases due to the higher tariff of Rs 5-6/unit.

Issac George, CFO of GVK Power, told FE: “Transport of coal to a land-locked state like Punjab increases the fuel costs further. Also, the state government only purchases as per its requirements, forcing us to operate at a very low PLF." George added that if domestic natural gas was made available to the company, it could have produced power from combined cycle gas-based plants at a cost of `1/unit lower than the coal-based ones.

According to the Union power secretary, since 'some (coal demand-supply) imbalances' persist in many areas of the country, states have been given the flexibility to re-allocate coal lifted within their quotas among their different plants. "It's a matter of optimisation and the unloading infrastructure. At some of the plants in Maharashtra and Gujarat, for instance, the consumption level is high. So, there is a pressure on unloading of rakes. The rakes' detention time is sometimes much higher than the norm. We are conscious of the need to give coal to power plants which are low on coal stocks," he said.

Kumar said power consumption in FY23 would be in sync with projections. As against a CAGR of 4.5-5% in recent years, the consumption may grow at 7-8% in the current fiscal, he said. Going by the projections, supply could be less than demand by 9%, he noted. Imported coal prices, which used to be in the range of $50-60 per tonne, have been ruling consistently above $100 per tonne for the last ten months. The current prices are even higher at $150- 160 per tonne.

Similarly, the landed cost of LNG, which used to be available at $8-9 per mmBtu, have recently been very high at around $40, owing to the Russia-Ukraine war.

In Tamil Nadu, the average daily power consumption has increased from 290-300 MU in 2021-22 to a level of 320 MU now and could rise to 390 MU over the next few days. While the state's installed thermal power capacity is 16,219 MW, the average power demand is around 15,000 MW and the peak summer demand is 17,000 MW. According to the state government officials, low availability of coal is putting pressure on the operations of staterun TANGEDCO's thermal power stations in the state. The total coal required for TANGEDCO's power plants is 72,000 tonne per day and annual requirement is 26.28 million tonne. Fuel supply agreements (FSAs) available with coal companies at present is for 23.8 tonne per annum. Recently, chief minister MK Stalin met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and urged him to ask Coal India to allot entire quantum of coal under FSAs to the state and additional quantities to meet its balance requirements.

"Short supply of rakes causes insufficient supply of coal to TANGEDCO. The gap in power generation is thus being filled by buying power at exorbitant rates at energy exchanges, the state had pointed out to the Centre. It requested the Centre to provide at least 20 rakes for transport of 72,000 tonne coal per day from Talcher /IB valley to Paradip and Visakhapatnam ports. Further, the state wanted the railways to allot adequate quantum of coal rakes to realise entire quantum of allotted linkage coal.

Officials from the West Bengal government, however, say they saw little possibility of power outages in the state since its power plants are not much dependent on supplies from Coal India. West Bengal Power Development Corporation sources only a third of its coal requirement from CIL and meets two-third of its requirement from captive sources. Same is the case with CESC, generating 1,225 MW with its command area limited to Kolkata and adjacent areas. DVC, generating 5,750 MW of power from West Bengal, is the mainstay industrial supplier. It sources 50% coal from CIL, imports some and gets the rest from its captive mines. "West Bengal can more or less meet the peak demand of 7,000 MW and is not subject to coal shortage," an official said.

"Last year, around September, when the entire country was facing a power crisis, West Bengal was the only state which ensured steady supplies even amid the extra load of the power required for the Durga puja. In some cases, we purchase spot power to meet our demand, but hardly resort to power cuts. Only a system default can lead to power cuts in the state now," state's power minister Aroop Biswas told FE. ***Source***

5 new sites approved for locating nuclear power plants in future: Minister

Centre has accorded 'in-principle' approval for five new sites for locating nuclear power plants in the future, said the Union Minister of State for Atomic Energy and Space, Jintendra Singh. Singh, who also holds the independent charge for the ministries of science & technology, earth sciences said in a response to Lok Sabha that the government has accorded administrative approval and financial sanction for the construction of 10 indigenous 700 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) to be set up in fleet mode.

He said, on progressive completion of the projects under construction and accorded sanction, the nuclear capacity is expected to reach 22,480 MW by 2031. Singh, who is also the Minister of State for PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions said in a written reply that there are presently 22 reactors with a total capacity of 6780 MW in operation and one reactor, KAPP-3 (700 MW) has been connected to the grid on January 10, 2021.

In addition, there are 10 reactors (Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP) 3&4, KKNPP 5&6 - 4x1000 =4000 MW, 5 indigenous PHWR of 700 MW - 3500 MW, 500 MW PFBR) which are under various stages of construction, which will add a total capacity of 8000 MW. Further, in order to produce fuel for all indigenous PHWRs, fuel fabrication capacity is augmented in the facilities available at Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), Hyderabad and the upcoming facilities at Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), Kota, Rajasthan in order to match with the requirement of existing PHWRs and upcoming PHWRs.

The requirement of uranium for domestic safeguarded nuclear reactors is met by indigenously mined and produced uranium. Moreover, Natural Uranium Ore Concentrate (UOC) is being procured from countries having Inter-Governmental Agreement for the supply of nuclear fuel. Efforts have been made to procure nuclear fuel from Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Canada. ***Source***

Nuclear capacity expected to reach 22,480 MW by 2031: Govt

In-Principle' approval has been accorded for five new sites for locating nuclear power plants in future and on progressive completion of the projects under construction and sanctioned, the nuclear capacity is expected to reach 22,480 MW by 2031, the Parliament was informed on Wednesday. "The government has accorded administrative approval and financial sanction for construction of 10 indigenous 700 MW Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) to be set up in fleet mode," Atomic Energy and Space Minister Jitendra Singh told the Lok Sabha in a written reply.

He said that there are presently 22 reactors with a total capacity of 6,780 MW in operation and one reactor, KAPP-3 (700 MW) has been connected to the grid on January 10, 2021. There are 10 reactors (Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP) 3&4, KKNPP 5&6 – 4×1,000 4,000 MW, five indigenous PHWRs of 700 MW, making 3,500 MW & 500 MW PFBR) which are at various stages of construction and which will add a total capacity of 8,000 MW.

Further in order to produce fuel for all indigenous PHWRs, fuel fabrication capacity is augmented in the facilities available at Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), Hyderabad and the upcoming facilities at Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), Kota in order to match with the requirement of existing PHWRs and upcoming PHWRs.

The requirement of uranium for domestic safeguarded nuclear reactors are met by indigenously mined and produced uranium, Singh said. "Moreover, Natural Uranium Ore Concentrate (UOC) is being procured from countries having Inter Governmental Agreement for supply of nuclear fuel. Efforts have been made to procure nuclear fuel from Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Canada," he added. ***Source***

Transmission charges payable by DICs for the billing month of Apr'22

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses), Regulations 2020 came into force with effect from 1.11.2020. In these New Regulations, STOA charges will be determined based on monthly state transmission charges and there shall not be any separate injection and drawl PoC charges, for STOA. Further, DISCOMs having long term Access are not required to make any payment against POC charges for STOA transaction.

Transmission Charges for Short Term Open Access (STOA)			
Sl. No.	**State**	**Region**	**STOA rate (paise/kWh)**
1	Delhi	NR	40.68
2	UP	NR	41.14
3	Punjab	NR	37.96
4	Haryana	NR	47.07
5	Chandigarh	NR	35.71
6	Rajasthan	NR	57.11
7	HP	NR	36.86
8	J&K	NR	38.50
9	Uttarakhand	NR	47.06
10	Gujarat	WR	44.18
11	Madhya Pradesh	WR	43.65
12	Maharashtra	WR	47.35
13	Chhattisgarh	WR	35.70
14	Goa	WR	39.11
15	Daman Diu	WR	41.34
16	Dadra Nagar Haveli	WR	44.95
17	Andhra Pradesh	SR	63.41
18	Telangana	SR	44.44
19	Tamil Nadu	SR	40.10
20	Kerala	SR	38.57
21	Karnataka	SR	42.73
22	Pondicherry	SR	34.29
23	Goa-SR	SR	28.05
24	West Bengal	ER	36.14
25	Odisha	ER	45.29
26	Bihar	ER	38.84

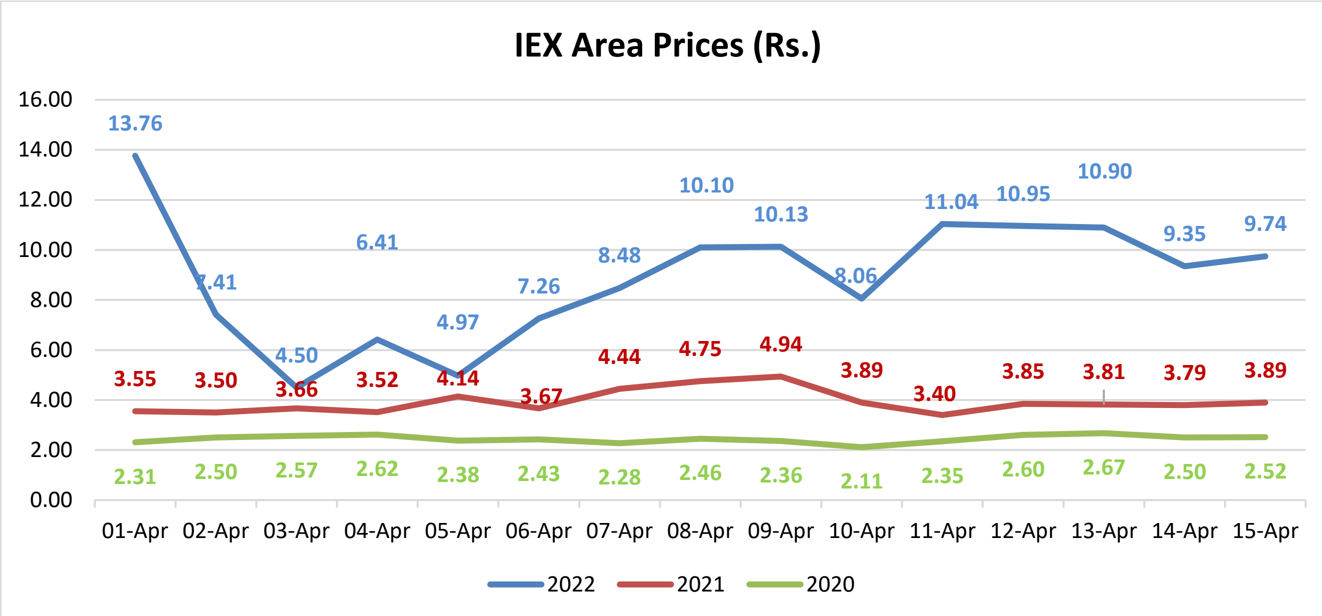
27	Jharkhand	ER	40.02
28	Sikkim	ER	34.59
29	DVC	ER	38.64
30	Bangladesh	ER	30.56
31	Arunachal Pradesh	NER	36.85
32	Assam	NER	34.66
33	Manipur	NER	38.94
34	Meghalaya	NER	34.87
35	Mizoram	NER	39.69
36	Nagaland	NER	50.35
37	Tripura	NER	39.25

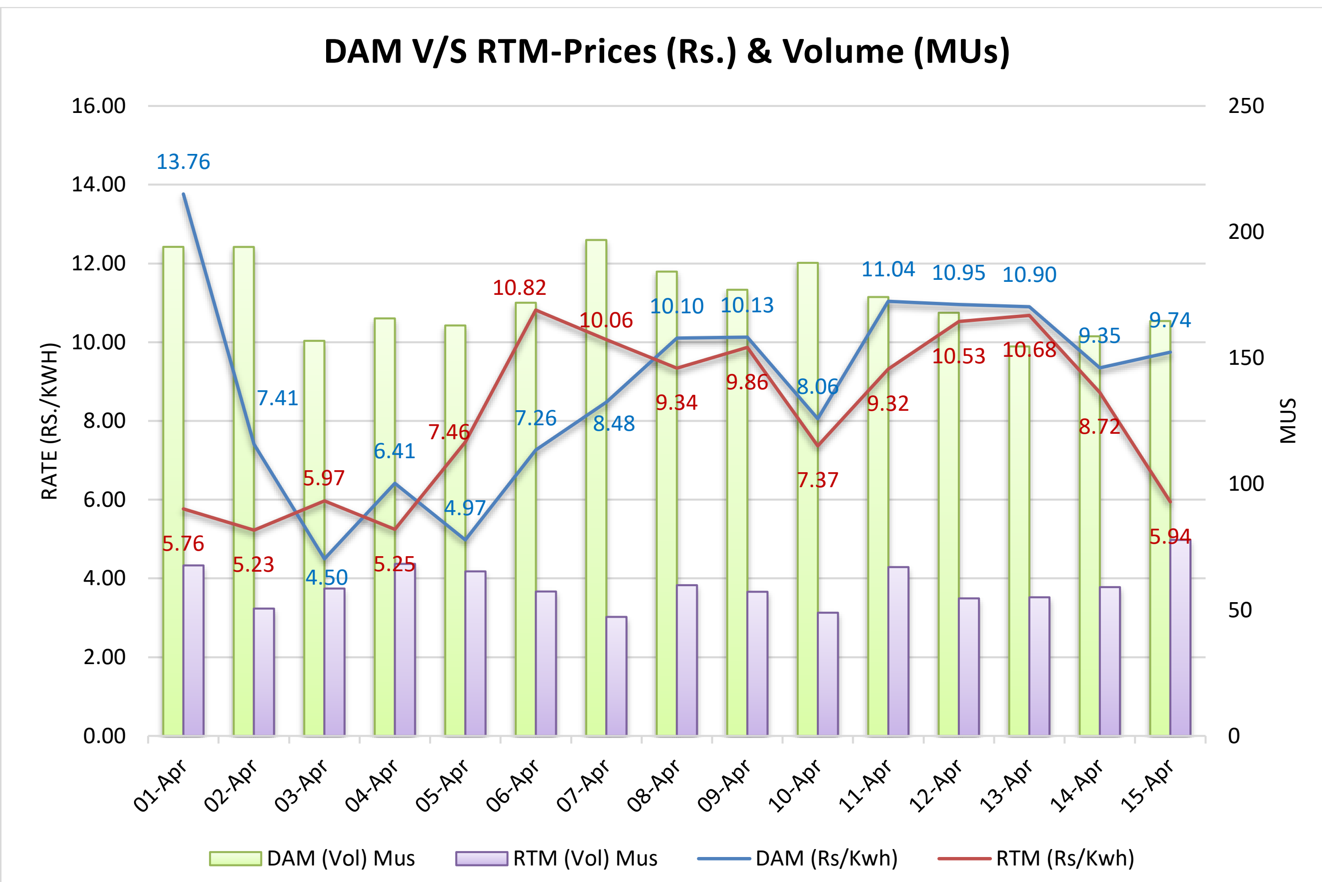
Bilateral Tender Results: -

Sl. No.	Tender Quantum (MW)	Supply Period	Time Blocks (Hrs.)	Price (Rs./kWh)	LOI Status
TATA POWER DELHI DISTRIBUTION LIMITED/Short/21-22/RA/13					
1	25	01.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	-	Awaited
2	25	01.06.2022 to 30.06.2022	00:00 to 24:00	-	
3	25	01.07.2022 to 31.07.2022	00:00 to 24:00	8.19	
4	25	01.08.2022 to 31.08.2022	00:00 to 24:00	10.23	
5	25	01.09.2022 to 30.09.2022	00:00 to 24:00	10.23	
Andhra Pradesh Power Co-Ordination Committee (APPCC)/Short/22-23/RA/22					
1	800	07.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	8	Awaited
TATA POWER DELHI DISTRIBUTION LIMITED/Short/22-23/RA/15					
1	150	16.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	-	LOI Issued
2	150	01.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	-	
3	150	01.06.2022 to 30.06.2022	00:00 to 24:00	-	
4	150	01.07.2022 to 31.07.2022	00:00 to 24:00	5.99	
5	150	01.08.2022 to 31.08.2022	00:00 to 24:00	5.99	
6	150	01.09.2022 to 30.09.2022	00:00 to 24:00	5.99	
7	150	01.10.2022 to 15.10.2022	00:00 to 24:00	5.99	
UPCL/Short/22-23/RA/23					

1	200	01.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.01	Awaited
2	200	01.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.01	
3	200	01.06.2022 to 30.06.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.01	
4	200	01.07.2022 to 31.07.2022	00:00 to 24:00	9.4	
5	200	01.08.2022 to 31.08.2022	00:00 to 24:00	10.44	
6	200	01.09.2022 to 30.09.2022	00:00 to 24:00	10.59-10.6	
7	200	01.10.2022 to 31.10.2022	00:00 to 24:00	10.59-10.6	
8	200	01.11.2022 to 30.11.2022	00:00 to 24:00	8.27	
9	200	01.12.2022 to 31.12.2022	00:00 to 24:00	7.93	
10	200	01.01.2023 to 31.01.2023	00:00 to 24:00	7.03	
11	200	01.02.2023 to 28.02.2023	00:00 to 24:00	7.03	
12	200	01.03.2023 to 31.03.2023	00:00 to 24:00	9.93	
TATA POWER DELHI DISTRIBUTION LIMITED/Short/21-22/RA/12					
1	300	16.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.03	Awaited
2	300	01.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.03	
3	300	01.06.2022 to 30.06.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.03	
4	300	01.07.2022 to 31.07.2022	00:00 to 24:00	9.00-12.00	
5	300	01.08.2022 to 31.08.2022	00:00 to 24:00	9	
6	300	01.09.2022 to 30.09.2022	00:00 to 24:00	9.00-10.25	
7	300	01.10.2022 to 15.10.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.03	
Tamil Nadu Electricity Board/Short/22-23/RA/28					
1	500	11.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	9.65-9.68	Awaited
2	500	01.05.2022 to 20.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	9.65-9.68	
RUVNL/Short/22-23/RA/27					
1	800	11.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	11.5	Awaited
2	800	01.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	10.00-11.00	
KRC Infrastructure and Projects Pvt Ltd/ Short/22-23/RA/30					
1	19	01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	00:00 to 24:00	6.8	Awaited

IEX Price Trends





Weather (Estimated for next fortnight)

City	Max Temp	Min Temp	Precipitation (Probability)
DELHI	41	25	2%
MUMBAI	34	27	1%
KOLKATA	36	28	8%
CHENNAI	37	28	5%

(Source - Accuweather)

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