350+ Utility Officials Converge at Distribution Utility Meet (DUM 2019) in New Delhi

India’s leading Electricity Utilities join hands to discuss collaborative growth and best practices at DUM 2019

India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF) organised the third edition of Distribution Utility Meet (DUM) 2019 from 07 to 08 November 2019 in New Delhi, hosted by BSES Rajdhani Power Company Limited, BSES Yamuna Power Company Limited, Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited and The Tata Power Company Ltd. DUM is a platform that provides a unified voice to influence and enable the DISCOM community to leverage each other’s experiences for successful nationwide smart grid roll outs and to bridge the gap between strategy and execution. Majority of Electric Utilities in India gathered at DUM 2019 and shared their experiences and challenges in Grid Modernization.

DUM 2019 was inaugurated by Shatrujeet Singh Kapur, CMD, UHBVN and DHBVN. Other dignitaries who addressed the audience included PR Kumar, CEO, BSES Yamuna Power Company Limited; Ganesh Shrinivasan, Chief Corp Operations – T&D, Tata Power Ltd.; Amal Sinha, CEO, BSES Rajdhani Power Limited and Jean-Michael Glachant, Global Director, CIGRE (F) Council.
Glimpses of DUM 2019 Conference

Michael, Director, Florence School of Regulations, DUM 2019 was attended by more than 350 Utility Officials from 45+ Indian Utilities. International Utilities such as KEPCO, ENEL, EDF State Grid of China and Nepal Electricity Authority were present in the conference. DUM 2019 addressed themes such as New Programs and Projects for 24x7 Quality Power, Sustainability of DISCOMs, Grid Integration of DER and EVs, New Technologies and Challenges, Utility Enablement and Voice of the Customer in the Digital Era. This year, a Special Session with City Gas Distribution Utilities was also organised during DUM.

ISGF has been organizing DUM since 2017. The first edition of DUM in 2017 was hosted by Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) in November 2017 in Bangalore and the second edition was hosted by The Tata Power Company Ltd., Mumbai and Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited in November 2018 in Mumbai.

Reji Pillai, President, ISGF said that The Story of Haryana Discom’s turn around in last 3 years is very inspiring for other state government owned Discorns in India. From a loss of over Rs. 2200 Crore in 2015, the Haryana Discom’s have made a profit of Rs. 400 Crore in 2018. This was made possible by the management team with focus and dedication who were allowed to execute the plan without political interference. The CMD of the Haryana Discom’s is the same for last 4 years. This is an excellent example that there should be a stable leadership in Discorns. Distribution Utility Meet has emerged as a unified platform of the Discorns in the country to voice their concerns about common issues as well as learn from each other in their grid modernization journey.

DUM 2020 will be held on 27 and 28 November in New Delhi.
Executive Director of ISGF Appointed as Ambassador of Energy Web Foundation (EWF)

Reena Suri, Executive Director of ISGF has been appointed as Ambassador of Energy Web Foundation (EWF). EWF launched in early 2017, co-founded by globally respected energy think-and-do tank Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) and noted blockchain developer Grid Singularity (GSy), along with a cohort of 10 founding Affiliates. EWF is a global nonprofit organisation working towards unleashing blockchain’s potential in the energy sector. With offices in Switzerland, Germany, and the United States, EWF has a team of experienced energy and blockchain professionals to achieve their vision of building open standards based blockchain solutions for the energy sector to reduce transaction costs, enhance data security and transparency and accelerate the transition towards digitalized, decarbonized, decentralized, democratized and resilient energy systems. Over the last three years EWF has put together the largest consortium of energy companies in the space and aims to have 100+ participants by 2020.

ISGF has been a pioneer in promoting Blockchain applications in energy sector and has executed MoUs with EWF (www.energyweb.org), Energy Blockchain Consortium (www.energyblockchain.org), and Power Ledger (www.powerledger.io). ISGF has been chosen by the Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP) to implement a Blockchain Pilot Project in UP for Peer-to-Peer (P2P) trading of Rooftop Solar Energy.

Join the Indian Delegation to DistribuTECH 2020 from January 28 - 30, 2020, San Antonio, TX, USA

ISGF with support from US Department of Commerce (USDOC) of the American Embassy, New Delhi is taking an official delegation from India to the DTECH 2020 which will be held from January 28 - 30, 2020, San Antonio, TX, USA. DistribuTECH (DTECH) is the premier North American trade show for equipment vendors and service providers from across the transmission, distribution, and smart grid technology industries, attracting around 12,000 attendees and around 500 exhibitors from around 70 countries. The event also attracts attendees from electric utilities, water utilities, gas utilities, federal power agencies, energy service companies, energy service providers, energy end users (retailers, hospitals, data centers, etc.) and a wide-range of manufacturers and vendors. Visit the event’s website for additional information: http://www.distributech.com.

As part of the Indian Delegation, the delegates will be entitled to the following benefits:

- Complimentary Pre-Registration for the show (value of the exhibit hall access is $125)
- Discounted Registration for full conference
- Pre-arranged and facilitated briefings, meetings (including Meet and Greet meetings) with U.S. Exhibitors and U.S. industry associations, customized according to the delegates interests
- List of exhibitors who export or indicate an interest in exporting to the group’s country and/or region of the world
- Optional site visits to smart grid project sites and technology companies. Please note that the site visit will be organized subject to response received from the delegation.

To join the delegation or for more information, please contact: Ms. Reena Suri (reena.suri@indiasmartgrid.org)
ISGF and European Commission organized 8th EU-India Smart Grid Workshop in Paris 12 – 14 in November 2019, Paris, France

ISGF in collaboration with the European Commission (EC), organized the 8th EU – India Smart Grid Workshop and 3rd EU – India Electricity Market Regulation Workshop in Paris, France. These workshops were held in conjunction with European Utility Week (EUVW 2019) scheduled from 12 - 14 November 2019 in Paris. The workshop was attended by high-level officials from Ministry of Power, Govt of India; Electricity Distribution Companies; Central and State Regulatory Commissions and Technology Companies in India and Europe.

The importance of EU-India cooperation on Smart Grid has been underlined in the Joint Declaration on a Clean Energy and Climate Partnership adopted by EU and India on the occasion of the visit by India’s Prime Minister Modi to the European Leaders in Brussels on 30 March 2016. As a continuation of this dialogue, further projects and research exchanges between EU and India are envisaged in the near future.

In the past, several EU-India Smart Grid Workshops have been organized in Europe and India by ISGF and EC from 2015 onwards: Nice (June 2015), Bornholm, Denmark (September 2016) and New Delhi (March 2016, March 2017, March 2018, March 2019), Florence, Italy (November 2019).

The first day of the workshop of this series focused on the integration of storage and EV in Smart Grids. The trends, issues, policy and regulatory frameworks that dictate the future of ESS and EV were discussed. On second day, a workshop on Electricity Market Design and Regulation focused on the nuances of power sector regulation from both the EU and the Indian perspectives. Over the two days, the topics covered at the workshop are Decentralized Generation, Prosumerism, Rapid Influx of Renewables, Proliferation of Intelligent Devices, Launch of EVs etc., are critical to the success of transformation of Power Sector into a Secure, Sustainable and Digitally enabled Ecosystem that provides reliable and quality power for all.

A site visit to ENEDIS Smart Grid Demonstration Centre in Paris was also organized as part of the workshop on 15 November 2019.
**INDIA**

**Kerala Extends Validity of Consumer Incentives for Off-grid Solar Systems**

The Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission (KSERC) has extended the validity of its incentives for off-grid solar projects by another two years. The commission had directed the licensees to provide generation-based incentive at the rate of INR 1.00/kWh for a period of five years from September 30, 2014, or until Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd. (KSEB) meets its solar renewable power purchase obligation (RPO) for any year. The commission has also stated that the solar power for which the incentive has been paid by the licensee to the consumer should be accounted towards the solar RPO of each licensee. Read More: https://bit.ly/2NUrNSU

**MNRE Issues Framework for Installing Solar Pumps under KUSUM Program**

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has issued guidelines to implement Component-C of Pradhan Mantri Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Component-C of Pradhan Mantri Mahabhiyan (PM KUSUM) program that aims at promoting solar in agriculture with the help of grid-connected pumps. Component-C of PM KUSUM program is a new initiative aimed at ensuring reliable day time power supply for irrigation, reducing the subsidy burden on distribution companies (DISCOMs), and providing additional sources of income to the farmers. Read More: https://bit.ly/37du2Is

**Tamil Nadu allows Parallel Operation for HT Consumers with Solar Systems up to 1MW**

The Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission (TNERC) has passed an order granting an exemption to high tension (HT) consumers installing rooftop solar projects for parallel operation and captive use without the export of power to the grid. The commission further observed that the licensee could use its discretion to approve parallel operation with or without a dedicated feeder in case of projects which do not export power to the grid depending on technical feasibility and observing safety norms. Read More: https://bit.ly/2KunjQG

**CERC details Mechanism for sharing Inter-state Transmission System (ISTS) Charges and Losses from Renewable Projects**

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has issued a draft regulation for sharing Inter-state Transmission System (ISTS) charges and losses. The computation of the share of transmission charges for each designated ISTS customers will be based on the technical and commercial information provided by the designated ISTS customers, inter-state transmission licensees, NLDC, RLDCs, and SLDCs to the implementing agency. The customers will share the charges for the transmission system after it has achieved the date of commercial operation with regular service. Read More: https://bit.ly/2NWhh6m

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**Bihar Announces Mega Renewable Power Policy**

The Bihar government has come up with a new renewable power policy for the state where it looks to set up over 3,400 Megawatt projects based on non-fossil fuel-based resources in the next five years. The policy is likely to spur investments to the tune of Rs 20,000 crore in energy projects. Under the policy, the state government is mulling setting up 2,994 MW capacity based on solar energy, 282 MW on biogas and 200 MW small hydropower plants. Of the total solar capacity, the state plans to set up 1,000 MW rooftop solar projects and 1,00 MW mini grid projects. Read More: https://bit.ly/2Xkc3KJ

**Maharashtra’s Draft Policy Sets Solar RPO Target for the Next Five Years**

The Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC) has issued a draft policy announcing its renewable purchase obligation (RPO) from 2020 to 2025. The solar RPO targets mentioned in the policy draft will start at 4.5%, going up to 13.5% over the next five years. According to the draft policy, an obligated entity can use surplus solar energy up to 15% of the total RPO targets to meet the shortfall in its non-solar target and vice versa. Obligated entities can also aim at achieving the total RPO targets notified by the central government, and for doing that, there is an incentive of ₹0.25/kWh for meeting the targets. Read More: https://bit.ly/2OxKnp

**Uttar Pradesh allows Domestic Consumers to Pay Power Dues in Installments**

Under the scheme launched by Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL), domestic power consumers in urban areas will be able to pay their pending electricity bills in easy instalments in 12 months while those in rural areas can clear their dues in 24 months. It is mandatory to pay the particular month’s bill along with minimum Rs 1,500 out of the total pending electricity bill. However, if a person misses paying that particular month’s electricity bill, he/she will have to pay two months’ bill and two instalments in the next months or else he will not be counted as beneficiary of the scheme. Read More: https://bit.ly/2NSCiw4

**Reconstitution of National Committee on Transmission**

The power ministry recently said that it will reconstitute the National Committee on Transmission (NCT) with amended composition and terms of reference (TOR). Under the revised TOR, the NCT will evaluate the functioning of the national grid on a quarterly basis and consider the review of the Regional Power Committee for Transmission Planning (RPCTP) for system expansion and strengthening of the transmission system. The central transmission utility (CTU) is required to carry out periodic assessment of transmission requirements under inter-state transmission system (ISTS). Read More: https://bit.ly/37hd38i
INTERNATIONAL

Japan Strengthens Local Offshore Renewables Market with Coastal Waters Law

Japan is promoting the use of marine areas for the development of offshore renewable projects in a law that was implemented in April 2019. The law was formed as a resolve to both systemic and technological issues that have hindered efforts to develop Japan’s offshore renewable market despite its potential capacity. It addresses some of the key issues affecting offshore renewable projects, such as occupying general sea areas, or “general waters”; obtaining a consensus among project stakeholders; and selecting project operators under the Japanese feed-in tariff (FIT) system. Read More: https://bit.ly/35eDPMn

Power Africa and Africa50 announce Partnership to Implement Energy & Transmission Projects

Power Africa and Africa50 signed a memorandum of understanding for a new partnership focused on attracting power sector financing and developing innovative public private partnership models in sub-Saharan Africa. Africa50 will be the nineteenth development partner to join the Power Africa initiative. This new partnership between Power Africa and Africa50 provides a foundation for collaboration in the energy sector at the country and regional level throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Read More: https://bit.ly/2Xol5a1

Grid Modernization and Smart Metering

Department of Energy Announces $80 Million For New Grid Modernization Lab Call Projects

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the results of the 2019 Grid Modernization Lab call with funding of approximately $80 million over three years. This funding aims to strengthen, transform and improve the resiliency of energy infrastructure to ensure the nation’s access to reliable and secure sources of energy now and in the future. The 2019 Grid Modernization Lab Call is the latest solicitation released over the past four years by the Grid Modernization Initiative (GMI), a crosscutting effort that focuses public and private partnerships to develop a portfolio of new tools and technologies that measure, analyze, predict, protect, and control the grid of the future. This solicitation is focused on developing projects in resilience modeling, energy storage and system flexibility, advanced sensors and data analytics, institutional support and analysis, cyber-physical security, and generation. Read more: https://bit.ly/2K1o4Mb

Rocky Mountain Power to use IoT to Modernize its Electricity Grid in USA

Itron has announced that Rocky Mountain Power will deploy its OpenWay Riva IoT solution and 250,000 OpenWay Riva electricity meters to modernize Rocky Mountain Power’s existing electricity system. The aim of the new project is to harness Internet of Things technology in order to improve service reliability and also to reduce costs. Rocky Mountain Power, which is part of PacifiCorp, operates throughout the U.S. states of Utah, Wyoming and Idaho. With the new partnership, Itron will deploy its OpenWay Riva IoT advanced metering infrastructure solution in Idaho. The company will also help to integrate the utility’s existing Itron automated meter reading solution in Utah into the OpenWay Riva network. Read more: https://bit.ly/2Q9h6z

Feedback Energy Distribution Company Ltd (FEDCO) Signs Pact with Australia-based Village Energy to Install Smart Meters

Energy distribution company FEDCO on 13 November 2019, it has signed an initial pact with Australia-based Village Energy to install smart meters in its areas of operation. Under the MoU, Village Energy will implement next-gen technology along with smart meters for better consumer service in FEDCO’s rural areas of operation. Feedback Energy Distribution Company (FEDCO), a 100 per cent subsidiary of Feedback Infra, provides electricity in some pockets of Odisha and Meghalaya. FEDCO will roll out a pilot phase that will involve implementation of the Village Energy platform at distribution transformers within a single feeder system. A Village Energy smart meter and control device will be installed and maintained at each supply point. This will be a revolutionary step towards better consumer delight and a step towards making real-time technology viable for rural consumers. Read more: https://bit.ly/2XISELh

Fluentgrid in Partnership with L&T Provides Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Solutions for Smart Metering at NDMC and KESCO

Smart metering and AMI implementation is essentially aimed at regulating power consumption pattern, bringing-down AT&C losses, promoting online and mobile based billing experience for end consumers. As part of the EESL rollout of Smart meters, Fluentgrid as a partner of L&T, rolled out its flagship AMI products

CPUC Acts to Ensure Electric Grid Reliability

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) took actions to support electric service reliability for 2021-2023, while keeping the electricity sector on a path to meeting the state’s clean energy goals. The CPUC decision orders procurement by California’s load-serving entities to ensure electric system reliability beginning in 2021, including requiring all load-serving entities to procure 3,300 MW of new, non-emitting electricity resources. Load-serving entities must make 10-year, long-term investments in new in-state generation that maintains reliability and keeps California on its present trajectory toward meeting its greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. Read More: https://bit.ly/2QrS1xr

European Commission Publishes 4th list of Projects of Common Interest

The European Commission adopted the fourth list of Projects of Common Interest (PCI) for implementing cross-border energy infrastructure in the EU. This list reflects the importance of infrastructure for the energy union and represents a careful balance among its three key objectives: sustainability, affordability and security of supply. Electricity and smart grids account for more than 70% of the projects, mirroring the increasing role of renewable electricity in the energy system and the need for network reinforcements enabling the integration of renewables and more cross-border trade. Read More: https://bit.ly/2CTmDzX
at NDMC that included UHES (Unified Head End System), MDMS (Meter Data Management System), Analytics, Consumer energy portal, Mobile application & Help desk. This implementation manages close to 56,000 smart meters of NDMC. KESCO (Kanpur Electricity and Supply Company) is another major milestone in the Smart metering/AMI space, where close to 67,000 Smart meters are managed through a full-stack of Fluentgrids’ CIS & AMI products that include Billing solutions, UHES, MDMS, Analytics, Consumer Energy portal, Mobile application and Helpdesk. KESCO implementation will eventually cover about 160,000 consumers through Smart meters. The results have been quite encouraging, with a significant reduction in Transmission and Distribution losses, improved revenue collections and management, and an enhanced customer experience. Read more: https://www.fluentgrid.com/ndmc-becomes-the-first-indian-municipality-to-go-for-100-smart-metering/

Energy Storage and Electric Vehicles

KSEB Plans EV Charging Units at Auto Stands, Malls
Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) said the demand for extra energy to be created by EVs during the initial phase could be handled easily. The government is planning to introduce as many as 2,59,100 EVs on the road during the pilot phase. Demand could well be below 1.43 million units per day, smaller than KSEB’s current daily energy demand fluctuation. The state’s average power demand is 70 MU. However, if people start dumping fossil-fuelled vehicles and opt for EVs, the situation might change dramatically. If all vehicles plying on Kerala’s roads were to turn electric vehicles, the state’s power demand would double. Currently, the state transport utility registers 97 lakhs vehicles. The energy demand for EVs alone would be 71.44 MU in Kerala if they all switch to EVs. The board hopes to manage demand through a variety of means, including increased renewable energy generation. Read more: https://bit.ly/2OKTZGT

Kerala Government Partners with Toshiba for Manufacturing Li-ion Batteries
The Kerala Government has announced in the last week of November 2019 that it has signed an Expression of Interest with Toshiba for the technology transfer and manufacturing of lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries for electric vehicles. The agreement is a result of the Japan visit by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at the head of a high-level state delegation and was signed in Tokyo at the investment seminar organized in the Japanese capital as part of the visit. Vijayan addressed the Kerala State Investment Promotion Seminar organized with the participation of 150 major Japanese investors at the Indian Embassy, Tokyo. The Vijayan delegation, which includes two state Ministers and senior bureaucrats, will travel next to South Korea and is expected to return here on December 4, 2019. Read more: https://bit.ly/2rbYAtW

Renewable Energy and Microgrids

Egypt Prepares for a Renewable Energy Revolution
Mohamed Shaker, the Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy, Egypt, announced in mid-October that the country is to inaugurate the 1.4-GW Benban Solar Park by November. Located in the Aswan Governorate in Upper Egypt, the solar park has attracted some $2bn in investment, with around 30 companies already establishing energy projects and commercial operations at the site. An important aspect of Benban’s success has been the government’s commitment to purchase electricity produced at the site for the next 25 years, which has helped to incentivize foreign companies. On top of attracting international investment, the project has involved more than 100 Egyptian companies, creating 640 permanent jobs and 18,000 temporary ones. Read more: https://bit.ly/2JN88Se

PSEG Considering Partnering with Ørsted on Offshore Wind Venture
New Jersey (USA) -based utility holding company Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG), is negotiating with Danish energy infrastructure firm Ørsted about investing in an offshore wind project. PSEG is exclusively talking with Ørsted about taking a 25 percent stake in Ocean Wind. It is a planned 1,100-MW farm which would be 15 miles off the coast of Atlantic City, USA. If developed and commissioned by 2024, as planned, Ocean Wind would supply enough power for more than 500,000 New Jersey homes. Ørsted is awaiting permitting approvals and a final investment decision. PSEG will complete its due diligence and wait for the required regulatory approvals before finalizing the joint venture agreement. Earlier this year, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities selected Ocean Wind for its offshore energy project. At the time, PSEG was already working with Ørsted to support the project on energy management services and potential lease of land for the development and execution phases. Read more: https://bit.ly/2JN8xFe

PM Narendra Modi Announced that India is increasing its Renewable Energy target to 450 gigawatts as a part of a stronger climate action plan, up from its present target of 175 GW by 2022 during the United Nations Climate Action Summit India is showing political will to develop renewable energy despite challenges such as land regulations. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced at the September United Nations Climate Action Summit that India is increasing its renewable energy target to 450 gigawatts as a part of a stronger climate action plan, up from its present target of 175 GW by 2022.

The USD cost of solar PV in India has come down by 79 per cent per kilowatt hour and 24 per cent for onshore wind in 2018 from 2010

The USD cost of solar PV in India has come down by 79 per cent per kilowatt hour and 24 per cent for onshore wind in 2018 from 2010, according to the IRENA report. Likewise, the onshore wind and solar PV cost in China was also down by 32 per cent and 77 per cent in 2018 from 2010 and down by 9 per cent and 71 per cent for onshore wind and solar PV in other parts of Asia. Overall, the renewable energy will need USD 110 trillion by 2050 or equivalent to around 2 per cent of the global GDP/year over the period, up from the current plans of USD 95 trillion. The USD 110 trillion will cover shift in investments toward renewables, energy efficiency, electrification of heat and transport applications and enabling grid infrastructure. Read more: https://bit.ly/2N2Tz3J
Hydrogen Microgrid Demonstrated at Thailand Botanical Park and Research Center

A botanical garden in Thailand is trying to give a boost to the hydrogen microgrid concept, an approach that is still nascent. The 600-acre Nongooch Tropical Botanical Gardens in Pattaya set up a demonstration microgrid in early October to show that hydrogen can act as an energy storage solution for local grids, one that doesn’t require fossil fuels. Nongooch partnered on the project with Enapter, a manufacturer of modular hydrogen systems using AEM electrolysis. Nongooch’s hydrogen microgrid isn’t the first Enapter has installed. In collaboration with Electricité de France and hydrogen power systems specialists Powidian, Enapter deployed an off-grid microgrid that has been operating since 2017 at the Cirque de Mafate caldera on Reunion Island, a French overseas territory in the southern Indian Ocean. Dubbed SAGES (Smart Autonomous Green Energy System), it provides 10-days of energy storage capacity, does not use any fossil fuels and provides electricity to several houses, a school, a workshop and medical dispensary, said Enapter co-founder Vaitea Cowan. Read more: https://bit.ly/2q8SF8c

Tata Power Launches a new arm to set up 10,000 Microgrids in India

Tata Power launched an arm, TP Renewable Microgrid, to set up 10,000 microgrids to provide power to five millions homes across the country. The TP Renewable Microgrid has been set up in collaboration with Rockefeller Foundation, which will provide technical support to the offshoot for achieving its objective. However, Rockefeller Foundation will not have any stake in the venture. The TP Renewable Microgrid represents important scaling up of efforts to provide access to affordable, reliable and clean electricity in India, and will serve as a model for expanding access to more than 800 million people who are without power worldwide. The TP Renewable Microgrid is expected to reduce carbon emissions by one million tonne per year as well as diesel consumption by 57 million litres yearly. The TP Renewable Microgrid will be operated and managed by Tata Power with about 11,000 MW of installed power generation capacity and over 2.6 million customers under management across Delhi, Ajmer and Mumbai. Read more: https://bit.ly/32a8usI

Cyber Security

New IEC report offers Cyber Security Guidelines for the Energy Sector

The IEC Systems Committee, Switzerland on Smart Energy has published a new Technology Report on best practices for protecting the electric grid against cyber-attacks. Cyber security and resilience guidelines for the smart energy operational environment. The new IEC Technology Report outlines five critical concepts for addressing cyber security. They are: resilience; security by design; the fundamental importance of understanding the difference between information technology (IT) and operational technology (OT); risk assessment, risk mitigation, and continuous update of processes; and the role of international standards. Read more: https://bit.ly/2Xoz0xC

FBI, Federal Agencies Brief Energy Sector on Data Breaches, Cyberattacks

FBI and federal agencies held a discussion for leaders of Texas pipeline and oil and gas enterprises on physical and cyber threats to the U.S. energy infrastructure. According to the FBI, Houston’s Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Perrye K. Turner welcomed representatives from the National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The briefing took place on November 6, 2019 within the FBI Houston Field Office. As per FBI, they will continue to be partners with both the public and private sectors to provide counterintelligence tools and awareness training that helps American energy companies increase their understanding of the threats posed, especially by foreign adversaries. These briefings and trainings enable American companies to better protect their information, technology and facilities. Read more: https://bit.ly/33L6ybs

North Korean Hackers targeted Tamil Nadu Nuclear Plant, top Nuclear Scientists: South Korean Intel Group

A non-profit intelligence organisation in South Korea has shared evidence online claiming that the malware attack on the administrative network of Tamil Nadu’s Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) was done from North Korea. The North Koreans targeted their system through malware laced emails. The South Korean intelligence group also said that one of the hackers is using a North Korean self-branded computer, produced and used only in North Korea and one of the IP was also from North Korea. Read more: shorten.at/aFEJ6

Smart Cities

Kanpur Smart City, Uttar Pradesh, India, launched Smart City App to address Civic Grievances

An app named ‘Kanpur Smart City’, launched in October 2019, will enable the residents to register their complaints related to sanitation, dilapidated roads, strewn garbage, leakage in the water pipeline, encroachment, choked drains, stray animals and others to get them resolved. The app, developed by Kanpur Smart City Limited, was launched by mayor Pramila Pandey at Kanpur Municipal Corporation office. A complainant can register his/her complaint while uploading a photograph of the dilapidated road or strewn garbage. This will make the complaint more effective and the app user would soon get the problem resolved. This is for the first time that such an application has been launched in the interest of the locals. The app will also register the complaints launched in Kanpur smart city. Read More: https://bit.ly/2X35n4x

Government releases INR 1860 Million for Smart City Project in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India

The Smart City project works got a big push with the government releasing 1860 Million for Visakhapatnam Smart City Corporation. It includes the Central share of 1000 Million and the State margin money. 10,000 Million worth works have been proposed under the project. The project includes smart streets, 24x7 water supply, semi-automatic multi-level parking and solar power unit. The indoor sports arena project undertaken at MVP Colony at a cost of 250 Million is one of them. Construction of additional classrooms at Dandu Bazaar GVMC School will be expedited. Read More: https://bit.ly/2QdP8Ah
China launches Blockchain-based Smart City ID System for Interoperability

China has launched a blockchain based smart city identification system to support interoperability between infrastructure, data and cities. The City ID code identification system was launched by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Zhongguancun Industry & Information Research Institute of Two-dimensional Code Technology (ZI2OT) and the Global Urban Smart Engineering Technology Research (Beijing) Centre. The system developed, distributed and managed in China, is based on blockchain technology and underpinned by unified issuing rules, distributed storage analysis and ‘tamper-proof’ security. Each city, department and piece of infrastructure will be assigned a unique global digital identification code. For example, the city code of Shijiazhuang is MA.156.1301. Read More: https://bit.ly/2rKiHPV

BSES launches Blockchain Tech Platform for Power Trading

Delhi DISCOM, BSES on 13 November 2019 announced that BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd (BRPL) has partnered with Australia based company Power Ledger, a global leader in blockchain technology, to launch consumer-to-consumer (peer-to-peer or P2P) solar power trading on a trial basis. According to the company, BRPL has, thus, become India’s first Discom to use a blockchain-based platform for P2P solar trading. The pilot project will initially be carried-out amidst the existing and select group of gated community (CGHS) solar consumers in Dwarka who generate around 5-6 MW of solar-power. These consumers will be able to trade solar power their neighboring apartments and buildings using this platform rather than letting it spill-back to the grid. This technology is a transactive layer that utilizes close to real-time data from smart meters to facilitate the P2P trading environment. Read More: https://bit.ly/2XeyuS9

SMART CITY IoT Project Launches for New York City, US

Transition Networks, a provider of IoT and edge connectivity solutions, recently announced the start of an intelligent transportation project with New York City’s transportation agency to connect, power and manage traffic data via its hardened TAA-compliant, Power-over-Ethernet (PoE+) switches. This application is designed to deploy intelligent transportation infrastructure citywide and reinforce the relevance and timeliness of Transition Networks’ strategy of developing Smart City Internet of Things (IoT) solutions. Transition Networks’ PoE solution will connect and power cameras and sensors at over 10,000 traffic intersections that collect this vital information. In addition, key features on the Transition Networks’ switches reportedly will save the agency time and costs associated with maintenance. Transition Networks’ Auto Power Reset (APR) feature provides the ability to remotely reboot or manage Transition Networks’ equipment fixing the issue within minutes and eliminating all of the lane closure requirements. The included Device Management System (DMS) software is designed to create an interactive map to see all connected devices, enabling the agency to pinpoint issues and quickly take action. Read More: https://bit.ly/2rKHiHPV

SMART GAS

Megha Gas to expand its Footprint in Hyderabad, India

Hyderabad-based Infrastructure Company Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Limited’s (MEIL) hydrocarbon division is going to expand its ‘Megha Gas’ distribution network across 16 districts in Andhra Pradesh (AP), Telangana and Karnataka following project approvals from the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB).

MEIL Vice-President in a press release announced that Megha Gas has established a network for distribution of piped natural gas (PNG) and compressed natural gas (CNG) to domestic, commercial, industrial and automobile sectors. The company launched its operations in Krishna district and Tumkur and Belgaum districts in Karnataka, India and is planning to enter 13 districts in Telangana including the suburbs of Hyderabad. In addition to an existing 1,200 km pipeline, MEIL is going to lay a 5,000 km pipeline in A.P., Telangana and Karnataka, India. Read More: https://bit.ly/2OtPuF
Electric and CNG bus service to be launched in Uttarakhand, Dehradun, India

In a bid to reduce air pollution and improve public transport facilities in the state, Uttarakhand Transport Corporation (UTC) has announced to include Electric and CNG buses in its fleet. The state plans to get 50 electric and 10 CNG buses by 2020. The decision comes after UTC officials received overwhelmingly positive response following the trial run of electric buses between Dehradun and Mussoorie last year and between Nainital and Haldwani earlier this year.

Shri Deepak Jain, General Manager, UTC informed Times that if everything goes as planned, the corporation will receive the electric and CNG buses very soon. “All the new buses will be operated under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. Read More: https://bit.ly/2XqmS3c

Appointment of Luciano Martini as the New Chair of International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN)

Luciano Martini, Director Transmission and Distribution Technologies, RSE has been appointed as the Chairman of the International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN), a technology collaboration program of the International Energy Agency (IEA) and a strategic platform to support high-level government attention and action for the accelerated development and deployment of smarter, cleaner electricity grids around the world. It is an intergovernmental body that brings together the 26 countries responsible for 90% of global investments in green technologies. Created in 2011 from a joint idea of the United States, Korea and Italy.

The appointment of new chair, Luciano Martini took place during the Executive Committee meeting held in October 2019. Martini was the former Vice Chairman, succeeded by Karin Widegren. Martini has 25+ yearlong working experience and he is actively engaged in many interesting and challenging national and international initiatives and Research & Development projects in the field of smart grids, applied superconductivity and renewable energies. Over the years he developed both technical and managerial skills collaborating in international environments as the International Energy Agency (IEA), CIGRE, CIRED and IEC working groups, and he has been repeatedly recruited by organizations as the European Commission and the US DOE as independent expert to review research proposals and publicly funded R&D projects.

WBTC receives the Prestigious C40 Award for “Green Mobility - Low Carbon Commute Transition

West Bengal Transport Corporation (WBTC) rolled out 80 electric buses (40 nos. electric buses of 9 meter length and 40 nos. electric buses of 12 meter length) and 80 charging stations across the city of Kolkata and adjacent towns since February 2019. The electric buses are running successfully since then which is the largest fleet of electric buses in India. For this exceptional achievement and WBTC’s dedication towards green mobility, they have been awarded the prestigious C40 award for Green Mobility - Low Carbon Commute Transition in October 2019. The award was received on behalf of WBTC by the Honorable Mayor of Kolkata, Shri Firhad Hakim at the ceremony in Copenhagen.

India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF) has supported WBTC from the beginning in this journey towards Green Mobility and achieving this milestone. ISGF had carried out a study and developed an implementation plan for electrification of public transportation in Kolkata in 2017. shorturl.at/fpqxO and the recommendations of the study was accepted by WBTC. This study was funded by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (SSEF). Per the recommendations of the ISGF study, WBTC agreed to introduce electric buses in the ten most congested routes in the city. They applied for grant under FAME scheme of Government of India under which they were awarded 80 electric buses – highest given to any city in India under that scheme because of their preparedness to roll out the buses. ISGF also assisted WBTC in planning the deployment of these electric buses and installing 80 charging stations in 10 bus depots and 7 bus terminuses. This technical assistance to WBTC was funded by World Bank. We thank SSEF, World Bank and congratulate WBTC in bagging this prestigious C40 Award.

Smart Water

Senet and MeterSYS Partner to Deliver Smart City Solutions and Advanced Water Metering Infrastructure (AMI)

Senet, Inc. announced its partnership with MeterSYS®, a trusted innovator of advanced smart city and metering technology solutions for public utilities. Collaboration between the two companies will focus on deploying LoRaWAN® enabled networks for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) and IoT devices across the United States through the MeterSYS IoT service program SentiSYS™. The partnership between Senet and MeterSYS will provide utilities and local governments with IoT solutions for a broad range of municipal services including water distribution, sewer collection, storm and flood water management, solid waste management, parking controls, fleet management, public safety, energy conservation, and climate monitoring. Read More: https://bit.ly/2QDBpTP
**Smart Grid Events**

**INDIAN**

- **January 03 – 04 2020**: International Conference on Frontier Areas in Power, Energy and Control, New Delhi, [https://confintl.org/icfapeco/](https://confintl.org/icfapeco/)
- **February 19 – 21 2020**: Internet of Things India 2020, New Delhi, [https://www.iotindiaexpo.com/](https://www.iotindiaexpo.com/)
- **March 03 – 07 2020**: India Smart Utility Week 2020, New Delhi, India, [www.isuw.in](http://www.isuw.in)
- **March 06 2020**: ISGF Innovation Awards 2020, [http://www.isgfinnovationawards.in/](http://www.isgfinnovationawards.in/)

**INTERNATIONAL**


**Appointments and Transfers**

- **Arvind Kumar** has been appointed as the Chairman of Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited
- **Justice CV Nagarjuna Reddy** has been appointed as Chairperson, Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission
- **T Sriranga Rao** has been appointed as Chairperson, Telangana State Electricity Regulatory Commission
- **Arvind Mallappa Bangari** has been appointed as Managing Director, Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd.
- **Shashi Bhushan Pathak** has been appointed as Member (Law), Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission
- **MD Manohar Raju** has been appointed as Member (Technical), Telangana State Electricity Regulatory Commission
- **Pulak Kumar Tewari** has been appointed as Member, West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission
- **M Devaraj** has been appointed as the Managing Director of Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited
- **PW Ingty**, IAS, has been appointed as Chairperson, Meghalaya State Electricity Regulatory Commission
- **K Balaji** has been appointed as Managing Director, Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd.
- **Saumya Agarwal** has been appointed as Managing Director, Dakshinanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd.
- **Roland Keishing** has been appointed as Member (Legal), Meghalaya State Electricity Regulatory Commission
- **Bandaru Krishnaiah** has been appointed as Member (Finance), Telangana State Electricity Regulatory Commission

**KEY CONTACTS**

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<td>Ajay Rajani</td>
<td>Reena Suri, ISGF</td>
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<td>Reji Kumar Pillai</td>
<td>Asst. Editor</td>
<td>Bindeshwary Rai</td>
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<td>Sneha Tibrewal, ISGF</td>
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(For suggestions and feedback on the ISGF SMART GRID Bulletin, please write to contactus@indiasmartgrid.org)

India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF), registered under Indian Societies Registration Act (Act XXI) of 1860 is a Public Private Partnership initiative of Ministry of Power, Government of India for accelerated development of Smart Grid technologies in the Indian power sector.


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## SMART UTILITY Week 2020

**03 - 07 March 2020**
New Delhi, India

### International Conference & Exhibition on
SMART UTILITIES FOR SMART CITIES

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### INNOVATION AWARD 2020

**06 March 2020**
New Delhi

Submit Nomination at: awards@isuw.in
Visit: www.isgw.in/isgf-innovation-awards-2020

LAST DATE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS 15 DECEMBER 2019

www.isuw.in isuw@isuw.in @isuw2020