Distribution Utility Meet 2022 ~ 6th Annual Conference of Power Distribution Utilities for Collaborative Growth

ISGF is organizing Distribution Utility Meet (DUM) in Bhubaneswar, Odisha from 17 to 18 November 2022 with Host Utilities TPCODL and The Tata Power Company Limited. The Co-host Utilities are TPNODL, TPSODL, TPWODL and Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited, BSES Yamuna Power Limited and BSES Rajdhani Power Limited. Over 40 of the Indian Power Distribution Utilities (Discoms) will be participating in DUM 2022.

DUM 2022 is supported by NITI Aayog and Central Electricity Authority (CEA) with Knowledge Partners GIZ, NREL, EPRI and Florence School of Regulation (FSR). DUM 2022 will provide a unique platform for all the DISCOM community to witness the transformation taking place in Odisha as well as to share each other’s experiences in dealing with efforts towards automation, grid modernization and digitalization on a fast track as we leapfrog towards a Net Zero power sector in India. In the post pandemic world, it is imperative that utilities do not make the same mistakes but learn from each other’s experiences and also bring global expertise and experiences to India. Experts from leading utilities from overseas have confirmed to participate in DUM 2022 and share their experiences.

Hon’ble Minister of Energy Shri Pratap Keshari Deb, Govt of Odisha has confirmed to inaugurate DUM 2022.

Please visit www.indiasmartgrid.org for more information. To download a high resolution pdf version of the bulletin please visit: http://indiasmartgrid.org/newsletter.php

Please write us at contactus@indiasmartgrid.org for the following:

- For receiving copies of SMART GRID Bulletin
- To place an advertisement in the upcoming issue of SMART GRID Bulletin
- To Contribute/Donate for the Designing, Printing and Publishing in the SMART GRID Bulletin
Esteemed Speakers of DUM 2022

- Ajeet Kumar Saxena, MD, JVJNL, Rajasthan
- Akhilesh Kumar Ambasht, Member, DERC
- Alok Mishra, Business Head – Asia Pacific, DNV
- Anand Menon, Advisor for Digital Energy and Strategy, Powerledger, Australia
- Anant Venkateswaran, ISGF
- Anup Dutta, Director-Engineering, WBERC
- Arun Goyal, Member, CERC
- Arup Ghosh, Non-Executive Director - TPDDL, TPCODL, TPNODL, TPSODL and TPWODL
- Arvind Singh, CEO, TPSODL
- Aseem Goyal, Head Business Development- India, Tabreed
- Ashutosh Sharma, DNV
- Debasish U Banerjee, MD, CESC Kolkata
- Deepi Dutt, Head - Strategic Initiatives - Public Sector, AWS
- Dinesh Prasad Gairola, Member and Acting Chairman, Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission
- Dinesh Waghmare, Principal Secretary - Energy, Maharashtra
- Divyesh Kumar Sharma, Associate Director - Energy, RTI India
- Eman Priyono Wasito Adi, Executive Vice President, PLN, Indonesia
- Gajanan Kale, Managing Director, TPWODL
- Ghanshyam Prasad, Chairman, Central Electricity Authority
- Girish Ghatikar, ISGF Working Group Chair
- Hamid Omar Alawi Al Ibrahim, GM-Planning and Asset Management, DISC, Oman
- Himanshu Khurana, Director and Secretary (Addl. Charge), RERC
- KR Jyotilal, Principal Secretary – Energy, Kerala
- Manjappa, Director -Technical, CESCOM, Mysore
- Manjeet Singh Rahi, Vice President, Pre-Sales & Client Relations, Fluengrid Limited
- Markus Wypior, Principal Advisor, GIZ
- MK Jain, Member, Uttarakhanda Electricity Regulatory Commission
- Murali Shankar Gopalakrishnan, Vice President, Solutions and Product Engineering, Fluengrid Limited
- Nagarjuna, Director-Technical, BESCOM
- Nikunja B Dhal, Principal Secretary - Energy, Govt of Odisha
- Nilesh Kane, Head – Mumbai Distribution, Tata Power Company
- Pedi Sumanto, Vice President, PLN, Indonesia
- PK Pujari, Former Chairperson, CERC
- Prabhav Joshi, Managing Director, UGVCL
- Prabir Neogi, Chief Advisor, RP-SG Group
- Pramod Deo, Former Chairperson, CERC
- Pratap Keshari Deb, Honorable Minister of Energy, Odisha
- Praveen Aswani, Regional Head - India Sub-Continent, Cucuslus GmbH
- Praveer Sinha, MD and CEO, Tata Power Company Ltd
- Rahul Chandra, VP Business Development & Sales – India, gridspertise (ENEL, Italy)
- Rahul Tongia, Senior Fellow, CSEP
- Rajan N Khobragade, CMD, KSEBL
- Rajeev Chowdhary, Head - Regulatory Affairs, BRPL
- Rajeev Sharma, DDG- Standardization, BIS
- Rajesh Goel, Director-Technical, UHBVN
- Ramesh Prasad, Director-Technical, APEPDL
- Ravi Seethapathy, Advisor ISGF and Chairman, Biosirus Inc., Canada
- Reena Suri, Executive Director, ISGF
- RP Singh, Chairman - IIT Kharagpur and IIT - Bhubaneswar; Advisor to Govt of Jammu & Kashmir; and Former CMD, Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd
- RR Mehta, Advisor, Reliance Infrastructure
- S P Kar, CGM, TPCODL
- Sainath Bandhakavi, AWS
- Sanjay Banga, President – T&D, Tata Power Company Ltd
- Sanjay Dubey, Principal Secretary – Energy, Madhya Pradesh
- Satyendra Pandey, Member, GERC
- Shenbagam Manthiram, CEO, TPCODCL
- SL Karwadiya, ED, MPPKVL, Indore
- SN Sahai, Director General, Power Foundation of India and Former Secretary – Ministry of Power
- Sumit Gupta, Co-founder and CEO, AssetPlus
- Swetha Ravikumar, FSR Global
- Tiran Fernando, ISO Asset Management Technical Committee
- V Krishnappa, Managing Director, PCKL, Karnataka
- Venkat Sreedhar, Sr Vice President, BRPL
- Viral Kumar, In Country Lead, MECS Program India
- Vish Ganti, Head of Product, Autogrid
- Vivek Goel, Chief Engineer Distribution, CEA
- Vivek Kumar Dewangan, CMD, REC

And many more................................
DUM 2022 Program

Day 1: 17th November 2022 | 10:00 ~ 20:00 (IST)
- 10.00 ~ 11.00 | Inaugural Session
- 11:30 ~ 13:00 | Session 1: Energy Transition Challenges To DISCOMs
- 14:00 ~ 15:30 | Session 2: AMI Rollout Plans and Challenges for DISCOMs
- 15:30 ~ 17:00 | Session 3: New Electricity Act Envisaging Separation of Carriage and Content and Retail Competition
- 17:30 ~ 19:30 | Special Plenary Session (With Regulators and Policy Makers): Distribution Sector Reforms – Recent Experiences and Challenges

Day 2: 18th November 2022 | 09:30 ~ 18:00 (IST)
- 09:30 ~ 11:30 | Session 4: Model Asset Management Guidelines for Indian DISCOMs (in Partnership with GIZ)
- 11:30 ~ 13:30 | Session 5: Climate Change Readiness of Discoms
- 14:30 ~ 16:00 | Session 6: Customer Expectations, Supply Reliability and Service Delivery Challenges (In Partnership with RTI, India)
- 16:00 ~ 17:30 | Session 7: New and Emerging Technologies for Electric Utilities
- 17:30 ~ 18:00 | Valedictory Session

Day 3: 19th November 2022 | Visit to Puri and Konark
GSEF Successfully Conducted a Virtual Webinar on Artificial Intelligence and Robotics in Power Sector on 03 November 2022

Global Smart Energy Federation (GSEF) successfully conducted a virtual Webinar on Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (AI & R) in Power Sector on 3rd November 2022.

Topics of the webinar included Machine Learning and Deep Learning for Energy Forecasting, Advanced Analytics for Metering Billing and Collection, Network Monitoring through Drones, Asset Management, Digital Twins and Metaverse, Quality Assurance and Solar Panel Inspection, Land and Facility Survey through Robots etc.

Global experts shared their insights and knowledge on different applications of AI&R technologies in the power sector and explained them with successful use cases.

Reji Kumar Pillai, Chairman Global Smart Energy Federation; Ravi Seethapathy, GSEF Ambassadors for Americas; Amit Kumar Pandey, Co-Founder, being AI Limited and Head of the Working Group on AI & Robotics of GSEF; Nick Singh, Head of CoE for Smart Grids, ESKOM; Laurent Schmitt, CEO, Dcbel Europe; Davide Coppola, Head of Space Application Initiatives, ESA Space Solutions; Sumit Gupta, CEO AssetPlus, India; Jayanth Balaji, Application Engineer Mathworks; Thomas Lacroix, CTO CosmoTech were the expert presented at the webinar.

The webinar highlighted the need to create empowered teams on AI&R technologies that could critically evaluate different solutions for their business needs. Webinar promoted capacity building in the industry, academia, and amongst the student community to design and implement AI&R solutions in utilities.

The webinar was a huge success and recorded an impressive 500+ registrations. It was concluded that Robotics, IoT and AI can help to simulate the entire ecosystem better than human senses. It reduces the risk and makes deployment faster and also takes care of the security concerns. Digital Twins have been playing very critical role in larger simulations and also help to achieve net zero in the energy sector. The space applications can be a very good reference for the energy sector to achieve adequate automation.
Enlit Europe formerly known as European Utility Week (EUW) is the largest event in Europe for the entire smart utility sector, accumulating over 10,000 international smart energy stakeholders and 500+ exhibitors. Enlit Europe offers a notable multi-track strategic conference programme, a free 3- day utility case study programme on the exhibition floor and a highly revered innovation hub.

The 2022 edition scheduled from **29 November to 01 December 2022 in Frankfurt, Germany**, will see the launch of new initiatives including the Energy Revolution, Intelligent Buildings and a revamped Innovation Programme, all under one roof.

GSEF, ISGF and many more of our members will be exhibiting at this event. Visit the event website for more information: [https://www.enlit-europe.com/welcome](https://www.enlit-europe.com/welcome)

---

**Join ISGF Online Training Programs**

**Self-paced Online Learning**

- Supported By: National Institution for Transforming India
- Knowledge Partners: SUMMER OIL, PATHFINDER, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF POWER

- **Advanced Metering Infrastructure**
- **Cyber Security for Power Systems**
- **Electric Mobility and Charging Infrastructure**
- **Artificial Intelligence and Robotics for Utilities and Smart Cities**
- **Block Chain for Energy and Utilities**
- **Smart Grid Foundation Course**

**Register Now At:** [https://indiasmartgrid.org/onlinetrainingprogram/](https://indiasmartgrid.org/onlinetrainingprogram/)

**For Queries, please write to:** team@indiasmartgrid.org
INDIA

MoP Proposes Draft Amendment in Electricity Rules, 2005 Related to Captive Generating Plants

Ministry of Power (MoP) has proposed a draft amendment in Electricity Rules, 2005, related to captive generating plants. In the amendment, a proviso is proposed to be added that the consumption by a subsidiary company as defined in clause 87 of Section 2 of the Companies Act, 2013, of a company which is an existing captive user shall also be admissible as captive consumption by the captive user. The proviso will be added after the explanation of the term captive user. The ministry has sought comments, if any, by December 1, 2022.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6151

SECI Refunds INR 54 million in Subsidy for Rooftop Solar Program in September 2022

The Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) released INR 8.93 billion (~$108.61 million) in payments to solar and wind power generators for the power purchased in September 2022. The disbursement accounted for nearly 83% of the total amount paid by the nodal agency during the month. The agency disbursed a total of INR 10.82 billion (~$131.52 million), including payments towards solar and wind power purchases, reimbursements to developers and duties in September.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6152

CERC Issues Draft Terms and Conditions for Dealing in Energy Savings Certificates (First Amendment) Regulations, 2022

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has issued draft CERC (Terms and Conditions for Dealing in Energy Savings Certificates) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2022. As per the draft amendment, the floor price for the trading of energy saving certificates as mentioned in the energy conservation rules will be fixed at 10 percent of the price of one metric tonne of oil equivalent of energy consumed as may be notified by the central government, by notification in the official gazette for every perform, achieve and trade (PAT) cycle. Floor price means the minimum price at which the energy savings certificate shall be traded on the power exchanges. The comments have been sought on the draft amendment latest by November 02, 2022.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6153

Maharashtra Regulator Orders Wind Developer to Pay Deviation Charges

Maharashtra Electricity regulatory Commission (MERC) directed Sterling Argo Industries to pay deviation charges of INR 1634494 (~$19747) for the period between January 6, 2022 to June 28, 2020, for deviation at the Dahiwadi pooling substation, due to the lack of forecasting and scheduling. The forecasting and scheduling regulations provide that the qualified coordinating agency (QCA) must provide real-time data relating to the power generation parameters and weather-related data to Maharashtra State Load Despatch Centre (MSLDC).

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6154

Smart Grid Updates: Projects and Technology

GRID MODERNIZATION

Massachusetts Approves $470 Mn in Electric Grid Improvements

The Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities approved utility company investments totaling more than $470 million to modernize the electric distribution system in an attempt to improve reliability and accommodate what is expected to be a growing reliance on clean energy. DPU’s order related to the utilities’ 2022-2025 Grid Modernization Plans granted final approval for Eversource, National Grid and Unitil to collectively invest up to $472.47 million in grid modernization technologies over the four-year term.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6155

PNM Files Grid Modernization Plan for Resilient Electric System

Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM), wholly-owned subsidiary of PNM Resources, filed a plan with the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) to modernize its grid through infrastructure investments designed to use state-of-the-art technology for a resilient, reliable, efficient and decarbonized electric system. The plan is part of a longer-term grid modernization deployment and identifies the investments necessary to achieve New Mexico’s clean energy transition, including smart meters and greater physical security and cybersecurity infrastructure to protect the data and information generated by the new metering capabilities.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6157

GridPoint Partners with SMG Energy to Drive Sustainability Solutions

GridPoint, a leader in building energy management and optimization technology that decarbonizes commercial buildings and drives grid modernization partners with SMG Energy, a leading provider of customized energy and sustainability solutions designed to lower costs, manage risk and improve branding, delivering sustainability solutions to small- and medium-sized businesses (SMBs). A referral partner supporting GridPoint through its install network, SMG Energy works to understand individualized sustainability goals, costs and energy consumption profiles to create unique solutions tailored to specific financial and environmental targets.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6158
REC’s Subsidiary RECPDCL Hands Over SPV to Power Grid Corporation of India Limited

REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited (RECPDCL), a wholly owned subsidiary of REC Limited – A Maharathn CPSE under the aegis of Ministry of Power, got handed over the project specific SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle), formed for construction of Transmission Project viz., ‘ER NER Transmission Limited’ to M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Limited. The work involves establishment of 2 X 500 MVA ICT (AIS) at Banka S/s along with associated works, upgradation of Namai S/s and associated works including around 77 Kms of 220 kV double circuit transmission lines. The project for implementation is targeted in 36 months. With the handing over of the above SPV, RECPDCL successfully handed over 41 transmission projects till now costing around ₹54,642 crore under TBCB route.

Read more: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6159

SMART METERING

LF Energy Launches Open-Source Smart Meter Data Gateway

ELinux Foundation (LF) Energy has announced the Super Advanced Meter (SAM), an open-source specification and reference software project focusing on a widely applicable smart meter data gateway. The new software is hoped to boost the development of the meter as a reliable virtual node in the energy grid and drive the energy transition. The project focuses on a widely applicable smart meter data gateway. It aims at the central device that is installed with almost every energy consumer and thereby serves as the edge device to provide services to customers world-wide. The SAM distinguishes itself by adhering to open interfaces, modularity, and customer empowerment.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6137

Smart Meters for All Farm Connections Soon in Andhra Pradesh

Energy Minister Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy has asserted that smart meters for agriculture power connections are beneficial to farmers as the move will not only make the Discoms more responsible and accountable, but also provide farmers the right to question the service providers in case of any lapse. The Energy Minister said a pilot project of installing smart meters for agriculture power connections was successfully implemented in Srikakulam district. “The results are encouraging. We are able to save 30 to 33% of power, which otherwise goes unaccounted or pilfered,” he explained.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6138

Smart Meters to Replace Electronic Meters in Goa, India

Power Department says 7,41,158 consumer meters will be replaced with smart meters in pre-paid mode; total cost of the project is Rs 46,742 crore which will be executed in TOTEX/ OPEX mode. The State’s Electricity Department will soon install smart meters to over 7.41 lakh consumers replacing the existing electronic meters. According to information provided by the department officials, as many as 7,41,158 consumer meters will be replaced with smart meters in pre-paid mode. The total cost of the project is Rs 46,742 crore and will be executed in TOTEX/ OPEX mode.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6139

Adani Transmission Secured a Deal to Install and Maintain 1.08 million Smart Meters for BEST Undertaking, Mumbai

The deal value for the multi-year-old engagement by Adani Transmission’s distribution platform at Rs 1,300 crore. The current contract involves installing the smart meters over a 30 months period and maintaining them for 90 months. The smart metering project, undertaken on a design, build, finance, own, operate, transfer (DBFOOT) basis also involves setting up of communication and other cloud-related infrastructure. It will also provide an option to opt for pre-paid billing and net-metering facility for housing societies and commercial buildings with the rooftop solar facility.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6140

Germany Announces Relaunch of Smart Meter Roll-Out

The so far installation of smart meters in Germany is to be accelerated, economy minister Robert Habeck has announced. Installation of smart meters, which allow for a digitalised and efficient operation of the electricity grid, has so far been slowed down by legal uncertainties and bureaucratic hurdles, according to the German energy agency (dena). The availability of real-time data provided by the digital meters is a prerequisite for flexible electricity tariffs. Smart meters allow for efficient energy consumption and help people benefit from cheap electricity from renewable energies through intelligent control.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6141

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Mahindra & Mahindra Partners with Statiq for EV Charging

Electric vehicles-network provider Statiq has partnered with automobile giant, Mahindra & Mahindra for EV infrastructural solutions. As part of this collaboration, Statiq will help Mahindra with charging point operations and the two entities will together focus on various e-mobility tech integration projects. This partnership will provide EV users a robust, accessible, affordable, and reliable mobility network across the country.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6160

Bharat Electronics Signs MoU with Triton Electric Vehicle

Bharat Electronics has signed an MoU with Triton Electric Vehicle (TEV), for manufacture of Hydrogen Fuel cells by BEL with technology transfer from TEV, to meet the requirements of Indian market and mutually agreed export markets. The MoU aims at tapping the demand for clean energy solutions for various applications including for E- Mobility, by leveraging Government of India’s thrust for adoption of clean energy fuels for applications in transport, energy storage etc.

Read more: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6161

Delhi to Get 100 More Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Delhi is soon going to get 100 more electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. 11 high-tech low-cost stations started at Indraprastha Metro station. The 11 charging stations were launched as part of a larger project to establish 100 more charging stations across the city. The main aim behind it is to push the public to shift to EVs and make Delhi pollution free as well as the EV capital of India.

Read more: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6162
Bharat Petroleum Aims to Offer EV Charging at 7000 Fuel Stations Across Country

India’s state-run Oil & Gas explorer and producer ‘Bharat Petroleum’ aims to convert 7,000 of its conventional retail outlets into energy stations providing multiple fuelling options. In the medium to long term, this will also include the facility to charge electric vehicles. The company plans to provide EV charging stations of CCS-2 standard at its fuel pumps at periodic intervals on all major national highways connecting major cities and economic centres in the country.

Read more: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6163

Autonomy and Nova Credit Launch Partnership to Expand Access to Electric Vehicles

Nova Credit, the world’s leading consumer-permissioned credit bureau, and Autonomy, the electric vehicle subscription company, announced a partnership to help make access to electric vehicles easier for credit customers with ‘thin file’ or no credit history. The partnership will enable Autonomy’s application process with Nova Credit’s cash flow underwriting solution, Cash Atlas, allowing Autonomy to qualify a greater number of customers with ‘thin file’, or no credit history for a vehicle subscription. This streamlined, data-driven process will help Autonomy sustain rapid yet qualified customer growth as it expands into additional geographies and other in-demand electric vehicles.

Read more: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6164

BMW Invests $1.7 Bn to Build Electric Vehicles in U.S.

BMW will invest $1.7 billion to build electric vehicles in the United States. The company was making a new $1 billion investment in its Spartanburg, South Carolina plant to prepare for EV production and will spend $700 million on a new high-voltage battery assembly facility in nearby Woodruff, South Carolina, and create at least 300 jobs.

Read more: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6165

Germany to Spend 6.3 Bn Euros for EV Charging Points

The German government approved a plan to spend 6.3 billion euros ($6.1 billion) over three years to rapidly scale up the number of charging stations for electric vehicles across the country, as part of its push towards net zero emissions. The plan envisages a 14-fold increase in the number of charging stations, climbing to 1 million by 2030 from around 70,000 now. It would focus on building them in local municipalities which are currently undersupplied.

Read more: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6166

Tesla Unveils Home Charging Station Works with Other Electric Vehicles

Electric vehicle company Tesla has launched a home charging station or Wall Connector that works with other electric cars too, not just Tesla vehicles. The company has launched a brand new version of its J1772 Wall Connector for $550 on its website. With up to 44 miles of range added per hour, a 24-foot cable, multiple power settings and a versatile indoor/outdoor design, the J1772 Wall Connector provides unparalleled convenience.

Read more: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6167

TeraWatt Announces First Interstate EV Charging Network for Trucks

San Francisco startup TeraWatt Infrastructure developing the first network of electric vehicle-charging centers for heavy-duty and medium-duty trucks along the Interstate 10 highway, stretching from Long Beach, California, to the El Paso, Texas, area. The company raised more than $1 billion this year to build charging infrastructure. Medium and heavy trucks make up only about 4% of vehicles in the U.S., but because of their larger size and greater travel distances the vehicles consume more than 25% of total highway fuel and represent nearly 30% of highway carbon emissions, according to the Department of Energy.

Read more: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6168

ENERGY STORAGE

Kyoto Group Signs LoI to Deploy 88 MWh Thermal Energy Storage System in Spain in 2023

Kyoto Group has signed a letter of intent (LoI) to deploy an 88 MWh system in Spain in the second half of 2023. The agreement, if followed through, will see Kyoto Group deploy an 88 MWh energy storage system at one of the company’s facilities in Spain, providing emissions-free heat production 24/7. Major owners of combined cycle gas turbine plants in the country include Naturgy, AES, Endesa and Iberdrola. Kyoto’s Heatcube product is a modular storage solution for thermal energy, which works by heating salt to – currently – 415 degrees Celsius, which is then used to produce steam for industrial production processes.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6169

Tunisian Utility Planning 600 MW Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Plant

Tunisian utility STEG is planning to build a 400-600 MW pumped hydro energy storage plant, for a 2029 commissioning date. STEG, or the Société tunisienne de l’électricité et du gaz (Tunisian Company of Electricity and Gas), is currently undertaking studies for the project. The project is being planned for a location on the Oued El Melah river, 17km from the nearest town, Tabarka, and will have a power of 400-600 MW. A MWh capacity was not revealed, but pumped hydro energy storage technology’s typical duration of between 6-20 hours would equate to potentially anywhere between 2.4 GWh and 12 GWh. The French Development Agency (AFD), the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the German Development Bank (KfW) are all contributing to the cost of the studies.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6170

On Energy Deploying 39MWh of Battery Storage Projects at Airports in LATAM

The Miami-based company is deploying the units at 11 undisclosed airports across Latin America. The energy storage systems will provide the airports with improved grid reliability in the event of blackouts, reduce their annual emissions and reduce their utility bills by up to 25%. The 39 MWh deployments add to five airports BESS systems that are already operational or in the final stages of commissioning. The projects are being deployed through a collaboration with Skysense, a Mexico-based developer of solar, storage and green hydrogen projects. On.Energy raised US$100 million from UK fund SDCL Energy Efficiency Income Trust plc (SEEIT) in August for its US and Canada energy storage project deployments.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6171
Enel and Brenmiller inaugurate 24MWh thermal energy storage system in Italy

Utility and power generation company Enel Group and Brenmiller Energy have inaugurated a thermal energy storage system in Italy using the latter’s proprietary bGen technology. Israel-based Brenmiller’s energy storage unit has been deployed at a power plant in Santa Barbara, Tuscany, and will help the plant to use renewable energy, by enabling reduced startup times and greater speed in load variations. The system charges heating rocks using steam from the facility, and discharges by releasing the accumulated heat to heat pressurized water and generate steam for electricity. It can store up to 24MWh of heat energy at 550°C for five hours. The partnership between Enel and Brenmiller was first announced in 2018, they were exploring the possibility of deploying a 60MWh system at an Enel site. The firm expects to have an annual production capacity of 4,000MWh by the end of 2023 from its facility in Dimona, Israel.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6172

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MICROGRIDS

Ameresco Building Solar + Storage Microgrid at Joint Base McGuire

Ameresco will install a solar+storage microgrid system at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey as part of a USD 140 million investment in resiliency and energy efficiency measures. The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Energy executed a USD 92 million second phase designed to add more onsite solar power, energy efficiency measures, and infrastructure upgrades to an initial USD 48 million task order issued in 2021 for on-site solar generation. The total solar capacity to be deployed amounts to 32 MW—one of the largest solar PV installations that Ameresco has installed at a federal site. Ameresco is also installing a 2MW/4MWh battery energy storage system and integrating the solar, storage, and backup generation assets within the new microgrid.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6173

SB Energy to Sell Power to Google from its 1.2 GW Solar Projects in Texas

Renewable energy developer SB Energy Global announced that Google will buy approximately 75% (942 MW) of the clean energy produced by the company’s four Texas based upcoming solar projects with a combined capacity of 1.2 GW. The four projects – Orion 1-3 and Eiffel are likely to operational by mid of 2024. The four solar projects will primarily utilize US made first solar modules, which will be produced at the manufacturers Ohio plant.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6174

Oregon DOE Grant Fully Funds Ashland Community Resilience Microgrid

The Oregon Department of Energy (DOE) will fully fund a microgrid project to support critical infrastructure in the city of Ashland. The USD 940,000 community resilience project will be implemented by Stracker Solar, an Ashland-based solar company. The microgrid, which is expected to generate 170,000 kWh of electricity each year, will include a 75 kW dual-axis solar tracking system and lithium battery storage. The installation will be located at the City Service Center and will allow continued operations for the city’s police and electric departments, as well as a fiber network, in case of a grid outage.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6175

ADB Approves USD 18 Million for Bhutan’s First Utility Scale Solar Power Project

Bhutan is set to get its first utility scale solar photovoltaic (PV) power project with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approving financing of USD 18.26 million for its construction. The project will have a capacity of 17.38 MW and will produce 25 GWh of power annually. The project will help diversify Bhutan’s energy mix, which relies on hydropower making the sector vulnerable to variations in climate. The Bhutan government will contribute USD 990,000 to the project. The financing from ADB also includes an USD 8.26 million concessional loan and an ADB administered USD 10 million grant from the Asian Development fund.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6176

GREEN HYDROGEN

EU Signs ‘Strategic Partnership’ with Kazakhstan on Green Hydrogen, Raw Materials

At the COP27 conference in Egypt, EU President Ursula von der Leyen and Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Alikhan Smailov signed an agreement establishing a partnership between the EU and Kazakhstan in order to ensure a supply of raw materials, together with batteries and renewable hydrogen. The partnership establishes “closer economic and industrial integration” in raw materials, batteries and renewable hydrogen through the identification of joint projects, the alignment of environmental and social standards as well as the modernisation of mining and refining processes. As part of the partnership, the EU and Kazakhstan have committed to develop a roadmap for 2023-2024, with concrete joint actions agreed within six months of the signature of the partnership.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6178

Indian Government Identifies 10 States for Green Hydrogen Manufacturing: MNRE officials

The government of India has identified 10 potential states that could be the key enablers in manufacturing green hydrogen in India to kickstart its National Green Hydrogen Mission. These include Karnataka, Odisha, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal. These states have been identified on the basis of the existing steel and fertiliser industries, refineries and ports located there, along with the operational and potential renewable energy generation capacity in the regions. At some locations, we have also incorporated the city gas distribution network as that is another sector that can offtake green hydrogen. On November 2, the Karnataka government signed a set of agreements worth Rs 5.20 lac to PREM during the inaugural day of the three-day Invest Karnataka 2022 – Global Investors Meet. Of the Rs 5.20 lac, Rs 2.9 lac is worth investments will be in the green hydrogen and derivatives sector alone, through which the Karnataka government aims to build India’s first green hydrogen manufacturing cluster or zone.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6179
First Hydrogen’s Green Hydrogen Powered Van Ready for Maiden Test Run

First Hydrogen Corp. is a Vancouver and London UK-based company focused on zero-emission vehicles, green hydrogen production, and distribution and supercritical carbon dioxide extractor systems. They are pleased to announce that its first zero-emission light commercial vehicles (LCVs) will shortly undergo test runs at the HORIBA MIRA Proving Ground and test track located near Birmingham. In November’s first week, the first of the Company’s demonstrator vehicles has completed hydrogen fueling at 700 bar pressure at the ITM/MOTIVE site in Rainham, Essex, close to the AVL facility in Basildon. The 700-bar fill is a key performance parameter as it is the pressure rate that supplies enough energy to give the vehicle a 400-600km range within a few minutes.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6180

STANDARDS AND CYBER SECURITY

Trilogue on CO2 Standards Concluded: 100% Target Requires Matching Ambition For Charging And Refueling Infrastructure and a Thorough Review

The European Commission, the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament reached an agreement in Trilogue on CO2 emission standards for cars and vans. The co-legislators confirmed the 100% reduction target in 2035, the revision of the text in 2026 and the rectal 9a on the role of CO2-neutral fuels after 2035. The regulation foresees a review in the year 2026, which shall cover not only the deployment of zero-emission vehicles but also of charging infrastructure, availability of green energy and fuels, affordability of vehicles and the impact on the industry.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6142

Singapore to Introduce New Emissions Rules for Fossil-Fuel Power Plants

Singapore’s energy regulator will be introducing new emissions standards for new and repowered fossil fuel-fired power generation units in 2023. The new rules are part of the implementation of a law the city-state passed last year that allowed the EMA to set greenhouse gas emissions standards. The measure also follows Singapore announcing plans to reduce its emissions target for 2030 to 60 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO2). The city-state will also enhance the efficiency of its power plants “by requiring all new generation units to use the best-in-class technology available,” said Low, without elaborating on the technology required.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6143

US DOE Seeks Input on Bolstering Cybersecurity for Public Power

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recently issued a request for information (RFI) seeking public input on a new $250 million program to bolster the cybersecurity posture of rural, municipal, and small investor-owned electric utilities. The Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance (RMUC) Program will help eligible utilities cyber harden energy systems, processes, and assets; improve incident response capabilities; and increase cybersecurity skills in the utility workforce.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6144

DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Government of Uganda to Start Testing Technology Aided Electricity Mini-Grids

The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development is considering the use of Artificial Intelligence to locate sites and suitable energy modes for mini-grids in different rural areas. A recent household survey by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics indicates that the national electricity access rate stands at 57%. This comprises 19% and 38% of on-grid and off-grid connections respectively. 43% of households remain in the dark. Data from the pilot project in Lamwo District in Northern Uganda once validated will be scaled countrywide paving the way for more mini-grids in the country.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6146

Holographic Digital Twin Aids Infrastructure Planning in Florida

New holographic digital twin technology has been announced for three counties in the state of Florida to better enable utility infrastructure planning and decision making. The Orlando Economic Partnership (the Partnership) is funding the fully realised digital twin that will showcase the entire region with input from multiple stakeholders. The 3D tech is claimed by the Partnership as the first to allow users to incorporate real-time, interactive data that can help them map out different scenarios with climate change, infrastructure, available real estate and more.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6147

China’s State Grid Corporation to use Nokia IoT Across Power Infrastructure

The State Grid Corporation of China (SGCC) will deploy a Nokia solution, aiming to use automation to better monitor electrical power production and distribution status in real time, using IoT sensors throughout their infrastructure. Nokia is extending its relationship with the world’s largest power utility through the selection of its Optical Transport Network (OTN) solutions, which will be used by SGCC across its power grid infrastructure. SGCC will deploy Nokia’s optical technology across Hubei, Hunan and Jiangxi provinces, which is hoped to create an OTN backbone with the capacity, operational efficiency and intelligence required to support the Chinese power grid and provide highly-reliable service to its customer base.

Read More: https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6148
**IP/MPLS Secures the Journey To the Net-Zero Emissions Future**

With the increasing amount of DERs coming onto the grid, upgrades to the utility’s communication network are becoming more of a priority. Dominique Verhulst, head of utilities for Nokia, writes on how, in line with this need, utilities are turning to IP/MPLS networks for their grid modernisation. Around the world, governments, enterprises and utilities have set ambitious goals to reduce carbon emissions on their journey toward net zero in 2050. This transition from fossil fuels, which in Europe has accelerated with Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, is driving the electrification of transportation, home heating and cooking, agricultural production and many industrial processes from concrete to steel worldwide.

Read More: [https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6149](https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6149)

**Smart Home Security via Private Blockchain**

Samsung company unveiled its new smart home security strategy: link all of your devices to a private blockchain so they’re all monitoring each other. If one smart appliance gets compromised, the others kick it out of the smart home club. As Samsung expects bad actors to compromise personal devices at an increasing rate, the company considered several options to protect the many parts of a smart home, like phones, routers, TVs, and even appliances that could serve as vectors for attack.


**SMART WATER AND SMART GAS**

**AG&P Pratham Launches Tamil Nadu’s First Liquified and Compressed Natural Gas (LCNG) Station**

AG&P Pratham, a leading player in the Indian City Gas Distribution (CGD) industry, has launched Tamil Nadu’s first Liquified Compressed Natural Gas (LCNG) station near Manthangal Village, Walajah Taluk, Ranipet District. The LCNG Station was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, M.K. Stalin, in a virtual event which was also graced by Thangam Thennarasu, Minister of Industries and V Irai Anbu, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu.

AG&P Pratham is developing CGD networks in 6 districts of Tamil Nadu including Kanchipuram, Chengalpattu & South East Chennai, Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupattur and Ramanathapuram. By consistently expanding its footprint in the state, AG&P Pratham aims to cover 1 lakh domestic connections within a year and shall cover 22 lakh households across Tamil Nadu in the next eight years.

Read More: [https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6181](https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6181)

**Spain, France and Portugal Agree on Gas Pipeline Link**

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez recently announced that Spain, France and Portugal had agreed to build an energy pipeline linking the Iberian peninsula to the rest of Europe, reviving a project long-resisted by Paris. The new project, which Sanchez dubbed a Green Energy Corridor, would replace an earlier plan dubbed MidCat that emerged a decade ago but was dropped in 2019 over regulatory and funding issues. Russia withholding gas deliveries to most of Europe in reaction to sanctions over its invasion of Ukraine, there has been a resurgence of interest in a link to bring in much-needed supplies from Spain to the rest of the continent.

Read More: [https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6182](https://indiasmartgrid.org/viewnews.php?id=6182)

**Gujarat Achieves 100% Household Tap Water Connections under Jal Jeevan Mission**

Gujarat has achieved another milestone under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and chief minister Bhupendra Patel in its development journey.

Launched by Prime Minister Modi in 2019, the mission targeted to make available 5 litres of water per person every day to each rural household through household tap connections by 2024.

“In Gujarat, a total of 91.73 lakh households in rural areas are provided water through tap connections under the mission. The 100% coverage of rural households is possible by laying 63,287 kilometres of distribution pipelines, 3,498 underground pumps, setting up 2,396 high tanks, 339 wells, 3,985 tube wells and 324 mini schemes and 302 solar-powered drinking water distribution systems.


**Jal Shakti Ministry to Launch Survey to Monitor Water Standard Under Har Ghar Jal Scheme**

With water quality a key concern, the government is now all set to launch a country-wide ground survey to check the implementation of Har Ghar Jal scheme in all states, and the quality of water being provided through the newly installed tap connections across villages.

The three-month-long mega exercise is likely to be launched on 2nd October 2022 and will monitor not just the quality of water being delivered but the frequency of availability as well as the service delivery under the scheme, including promptness of repairs.

According to sources, a standard questionnaire has already been prepared which citizens in villages would be asked to fill out to rate the water quality and Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) infrastructure in their village. The data collection exercise will be conducted by water works department officials of each state. The questionnaire will also be put up online for citizens to submit their assessment of the work done and share feedback. This data collected at the village and district level would then be sent to the Centre, which also plans to finalize the two best districts in each state with respect to JJM implementation. The best districts will be awarded at the national level, as will be the best states with respect to JJM implementation.

Announcing India Smart Utility Week 2023

India SMART UTILITY Week 2022
01 - 04 March 2023
New Delhi

ISGF Innovation Awards 2023

INNOVATION AWARDS 2023
03 March 2023 | New Delhi

Last Date to Submit Nominations 20 December 2022

For Queries, please write to us at awards@isgw.in

ISGF Innovation Awards instituted in 2017 is aimed to recognize and to celebrate organizations (utilities and technology companies), projects, products and personalities that have set a new benchmark in Electricity, Gas, Water and E-Mobility domains. Till 2022, ISGF had selected and recognized more than 207 such organizations/ individuals. The 7th Edition of ISGF Innovation Awards 2023 will be conferred to the Winners on 03 March 2023. India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF) invites public and private utilities, urban local bodies, technology companies, start-ups, incubators, researchers and academia to submit their nominations. Please refer below table for award categories:

For more details, Winner selection procedure and to submit nomination, please visit: http://www.isgw.in/isgf-innovation-awards-2023/

Award Categories | Last Date to Apply for Online Nominations 20 Dec 2022

- Best Smart Grid Project in India
  a. Utility
  b. Technology Company/Implementing Agency

- Most Innovative Renewable Energy Programs/Projects in India
  a. Solar (Utility Scale)
  b. Wind (Utility Scale)

- Smart Start-up of the Year

- Emerging Innovation in Electric Mobility Domain
  a. Electric Vehicle (2/3/4 Wheelers and Public Transportation)
  b. EV and EVSE Rollouts
  c. EV and Charging Technology/Solution Providers
  d. Battery for Electric Mobility
  e. Smart Innovations in Smart Charging Infrastructure (including Smart Business Models)

- Adoption of Disruptive Technology/Solution
  a. Utility
  b. Industry

- Smart Technology
  a. Electricity – Generation
  b. Electricity – Transmission
  c. Electricity – Distribution
  d. Energy Storage Systems (ESS)
  e. Smart Gas Distribution
  f. Smart Water Distribution

- Best Business Growth and Innovation amongst previous years’ ISGF Innovation Award Winners

- Smart Incubator of the Year

Direct link for nomination form: https://forms.gle/bHpfgMRT4ukhqdSLA | For queries, please write to us at awards@isuw.in