

**POWER PURCHASE****» Outstanding dues of DISCOMs dip by Rs. 24,689 Cr. in last 6 months – Power Min:**

- As per the Ministry, the outstanding dues of Distribution Licensees towards generators, transmission companies and trades have reduced by Rs. 24,689 Crores to Rs. 1,13,269 Crores within the last 6 months
- Significant improvement is seen in recovery of dues after taking effect of Electricity (LPS and Related Matters) Rules, 2022
- Some DISCOMs have opted to take loan from PFC and REC, while some have made their own arrangements for making payments during this period.
- DISCOMs are also liable to pay the existing dues along with the outstanding dues to avoid any regulation in power supply.
- Currently JBVNL is under regulation of this Rule for non-payment of current dues.

POWER PURCHASE

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- » 9% jump in peak demand expected in April 2023 – CEA
- » Bids Invited by Power Ministry to supply 4.5 GW during coming summer

RENEWABLES

- » MEDA launches Single Window Portal for RE projects under GoM RE Policy 2020
- » MERC accords approval to BEST for procurement of RE power from SECI



**POWER PURCHASE****» 9% jump in peak demand expected in April 2023 – CEA**

- Central Electricity Authority has said that there may be an increase in peak demand by 9% in April 2023 which might take the demand up to 235 GW. CEA has called for proper planning in power supply to avoid any kind of energy crisis.
- There was a crisis situation faced in April 2022 where the peak had reached 215 GW and there was shortfall in coal supply.
- As there are plans to phase out thermal capacity by 2030, its share in total supply quantum is expected to fall to 50% from the current 75% contribution, while its share in terms of installed capacity is to be reduced to 30-35%.
- CEA and Power Ministry are working together for achieving the said target of 500 GW for Renewable Energy and 536 GW for setting up transmission capacity for evacuation.

» Bids Invited by Power Ministry to supply 4.5 GW during coming summer

- Union Power Ministry have called for bids to procure 4.5 GW of power from Power Generation Company (Gencos) to fulfill the high demand in the months of summer season to maintain surplus power supply in all states

- Power Supply would be for 5 years for which additional coal will be provided under Shakti Scheme, which was launched in 2017 to build coal linkages for optimal supply of power
- Union Power Ministry has appointed PFC as the nodal agency for this scheme. Power is expected to commence from April'2023 for which 5 Utilities have showed their interest to be part of Bidding Process.
- Power Ministry had also request Ministry of Coal to provide 27 Million Tons Coal per anum.
- During high demand months of Summer Season, many states had reported low coal stocks which could lead to deficit in power generation
- The Gencos which qualify for bidding will benefit to receive additional coal under the scheme. Ministry of Power has already issued guidelines for procurement of power on competitive basis for 5 years on Finance, Own and Operate (FOO) basis.
- Power requirement can be aggregated for a group of States and procurement can be done through tariff based competitive bidding.



**RENEWABLES****» MEDA launches Single Window Portal for RE projects under GoM RE Policy 2020**

- Maharashtra Energy Development Agency (MEDA) has launched a single window portal for renewal energy projects falling under the Govt. of Maharashtra Renewable Energy Policy-2020.
- Government of Maharashtra has given a target to Set up 17360MW Capacity renewable energy project under the GoM Renewable Energy Policy 2020.
- Under this Policy, Registered Companies, Local / Civic Bodies, Government Organizations, Partnership Organizations, Private Individuals, Semi-Government Organizations, Cooperative Societies, Farmer's Groups are permitted to setup Renewable project.
- Also MEDA is association with MSEDCL, MSETCL, Chief Electrical Inspector, SLDC has already developed a Single Window Web Portal (Maitri Portal) taking approval, Permission, etc from various department of State Government for installation & commissioning of renewable energy project.
- MEDA Single Window Portal will help to streamline the entire process and minimize the timeline of stake holders in approval process. This will help to promote RE Projects in Maharashtra State.
- It will also help to speed up the process and bring transparency in the process. Timelines for coordination with all relevant departments shall be minimized.
- MEDA has appointed Grievance Officer of MEDA & Nodal Officer of MSEDCL, MSETCL, Chief Electrical Inspector, SLDC to resolve the queries in Single Window Portal in time bound manner.



**RENEWABLES****» MERC accords approval to BEST for procurement of RE power from SECI**

- BEST had filed Petition for approval of 300MW Solar Power from Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI).
- However, SECI is in a position to supply power of only 234 MW instead of 300 MW. Accordingly, BEST agreed for the revised quantum.
- MERC therefore approved the proposal for procurement of solar power of 234 MW at a discovered rate of Rs. 2.54 per unit plus a trading margin of 7 paise/unit and additional risk premium of 10 paise/unit for 25 years.
- MERC directed BEST to submit the signed draft Power Supply Agreement of 234MW Solar Power Project to be executed between BEST & SECI for record of the Commission.
- The quantum shall be used to meet RPO requirement of BEST
- MERC directed STU to review the validity of NOC/LTA and also to take the necessary action if it is observed that NOC / LTA has not materialized.

