



POWER SECTOR

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POWER PURCHASE

- » **TSERC SETS Rs. 1.40/KWH ADDITIONAL SURCHARGE FOR OPEN ACCESS POWER CONSUMERS**
 - > The Telangana State Electricity Regulatory Commission (TSERC) instituted an additional surcharge of Rs. 1.40/kWh, effective from April 1, 2024, applicable up to September 30, 2024.
 - > DISCOMs, including the Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana (TSSPDCL) and the Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana (TSNPDCL), sought this surcharge based on the statutory provisions in the Electricity Act of 2003 and the Tariff Policy of 2016.
 - > Stranded capacity is determined through a comparison of available capacity and scheduled capacity, averaging 113.89 MW over a six-month period from April 2023 to September 2023.
 - > Fixed charges for the stranded capacity were computed at Rs. 6.8 million/MW, totalling Rs. 483 million for 71.05 MW, based on the reported fixed charges of Rs. 59.48 billion for April 2023 to September 2023.
 - > Exceptions to the surcharge include green energy open access consumers, waste-to-energy projects, green hydrogen and ammonia production, and offshore wind projects commissioned up to December 2032.



POWER PURCHASE

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- » **CERC APPROVES TARIFF FOR NTPC'S 1.25 GW SOLAR POWER PROJECTS**



RENEWABLES

- » **MNRE INVITES PROPOSALS FOR INNOVATIVE SMALL BIOGAS PLANTS**
- » **MNRE EXPANDS SOLAR MODULE CAPACITY, ADDS NEW MANUFACTURERS TO ALMM**



Policy And Regulatory

- » **CERC NOTIFIES CERC (TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF TARIFF) REGULATIONS, 2024**
- » **MNRE ISSUES GUIDELINES TO SET UP GREEN HYDROGEN HUBS IN INDIA**



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POWER PURCHASE

» CERC APPROVES TARIFF FOR NTPC'S 1.25 GW SOLAR POWER PROJECTS

- > Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) approved tariffs for NTPC's procurement of 1,250 MW power from grid-connected solar projects.
- > Successful bidders include Solairedirect Energy (300 MW), ReNew Solar Power (400 MW) with tariffs of Rs. 2.55/kWh and NTPC Renewable Energy (550 MW) with tariff of Rs. 2.56/kWh.
- > The bidding process was conducted by REC Power Development and Consultancy (RECPDCL) on NTPC's behalf.
- > NTPC issued a request for proposal in December 2022. Nine bids were received, with three bidders securing letters of award after e-reverse auction process on July 28, 2023.
- > Commissioning date for full capacity was set 18 months from the signing of the power purchase agreement (PPA) once CERC approves the tariff.
- > CERC's hearing commenced on September 20, 2023, with directives to include beneficiaries of thermal generating stations affected by the solar power projects.
- > CERC approved the tariff under the "Program for Flexibility in Generation and Scheduling in Thermal/Hydro Power Stations through Bundling with Renewable Energy and Storage Power".





 **RENEWABLES**

» MNRE INVITES PROPOSALS FOR INNOVATIVE SMALL BIOGAS PLANTS

- > The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has issued an open invitation for proposals for innovative small biogas plants.
- > The size range for these biogas plants is from 1 to 25 cubic meters of biogas generation per day.
- > Developers, manufacturers, organizations, universities, R&D institutions, and industry players are all invited to submit proposals.
- > MNRE is seeking simple, efficient, and cost-effective designs that offer significant improvements over existing approved designs.
- > Designs should be made from materials such as HDPE/PVC/LDPE or eco-friendly alternatives, and they must be durable and sustainable.
- > Proposals should be capable of anaerobic fermentation and able to process various wastes, including cattle dung, organic/biomass waste, and waste from sanitary toilets and kitchens.



- > MNRE will review, analyse, evaluate, and validate the proposals, and promising designs may be approved for benefits under the Biogas Programme.
- > Proposals are to be submitted in the prescribed format available on the MNRE website by April 2, 2024.



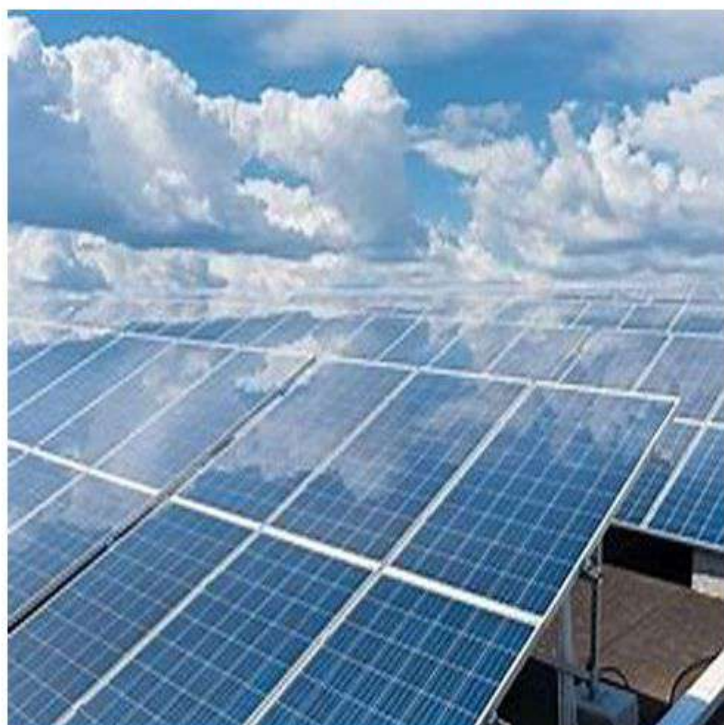
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RENEWABLES

» MNRE EXPANDS SOLAR MODULE CAPACITY, ADDS NEW MANUFACTURERS TO ALMM



- > Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) expands Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) by adding 3,501 MW of new solar module capacity.
- > Tata Power Solar accounts for 2,525 MW and Goldi Solar accounts for 976 MW of the newly added capacity.
- > Cumulative module manufacturing capacity now stands at 37,421 MW.
- > ALMM now includes 81 module manufacturers; still no foreign manufacturers listed.
- > MNRE introduces changes including adding cadmium telluride thin film-based models to ALMM.

- > Minimum efficiency requirements set for different categories:
 - Category I (grid-scale power projects): 19%
 - Category II (rooftop and solar pumping): 18.5%
 - Category III (solar lighting): 18%
- > Only models with efficiency $\geq 18\%$ considered for enlistment under ALMM List-1 as of March 22, 2024.
- > Credence Solar Panels provisionally approved for various capacities, including 670W modules surpassing current highest enlisted module capacity of 650W.
- > The ALMM Order has been kept in abeyance for this financial year i.e. up 31st March 2024. Project commissioned before this date are exempted to procure solar modules from ALMM.



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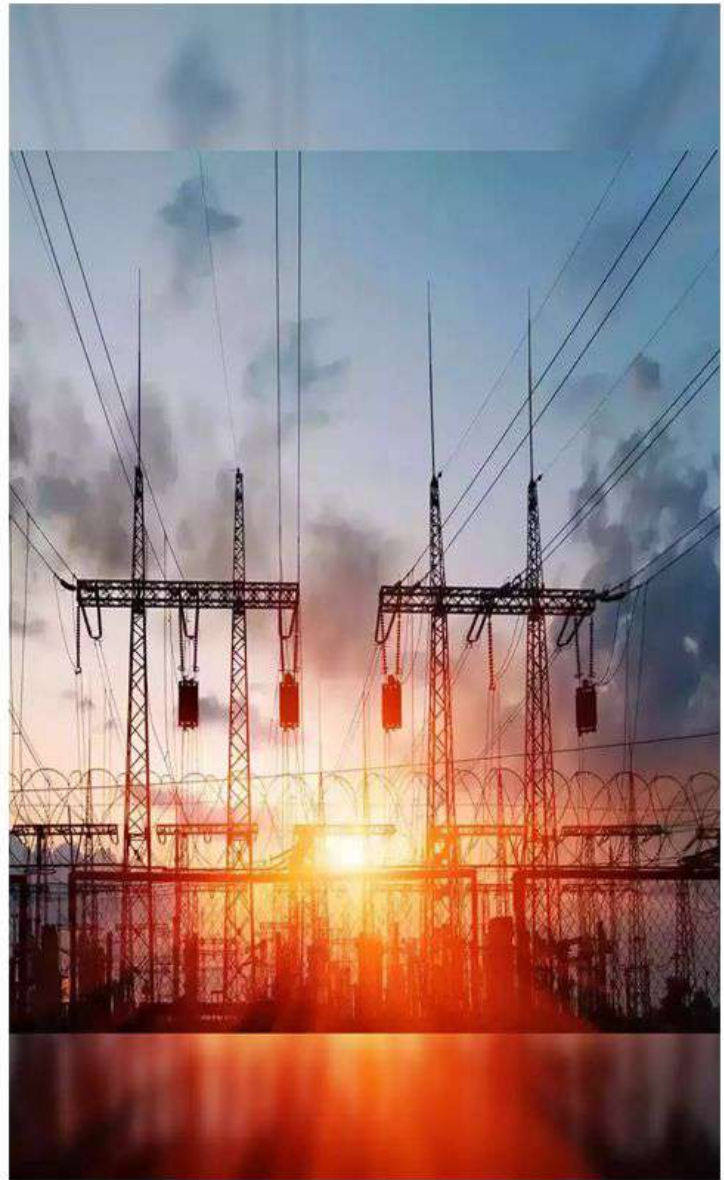
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POLICY AND REGULATORY

» CERC NOTIFIES CERC (TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF TARIFF) REGULATIONS, 2024

- > CERC has notified the CERC (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024.
- > According to this notification, the determination of the commercial operation date (COD) for a generating station or unit, transmission system or element, and associated communication system will be guided by the provisions outlined in the Grid Code.
- > In cases where there's a disparity in COD among associated transmission and/or generating stations, the responsibility for transmission charges will align with the regulations outlined in the Sharing Regulations, 2020, as revised periodically.
- > Additionally, tariff assessments for a generating station and its emission control system (where applicable) may encompass the entirety of the station or its units. Similarly, tariff evaluations for a transmission system may encompass the entire system, its elements, or associated communication systems.





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POLICY AND REGULATORY

» MNRE ISSUES GUIDELINES TO SET UP GREEN HYDROGEN HUBS IN INDIA

- > Guidelines for establishing green hydrogen hubs have been released by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) as part of the National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- > Responsibility for these hydrogen hubs lies with the MNRE and the designated scheme implementing agencies.
- > The initiative aims to provide support for setting up crucial infrastructure at hydrogen hubs, which includes storage and transportation facilities, pipeline infrastructure development, refuelling stations, as well as technologies for hydrogen compression and liquefaction, among others.
- > The scheme's objective is to encourage the development of regions with significant potential for large-scale hydrogen production at specified hubs.
- > The ultimate goal is to maximize the production of green hydrogen and its by-products within the allocated financial framework.
- > This involves enhancing cost competitiveness, promoting integrated development of green hydrogen projects within these hubs to facilitate resource pooling, encouraging extensive utilization and exports, and strengthening the viability of green hydrogen assets throughout the value chain.

