



Policy & Regulatory Updates



Issued by Central Government & its organizations:

I. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)

1. New Solar Power Scheme (for PVTG Habitations/Villages) under PM JANMAN:	04th January 2024
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Ministry on 4.1.2024 issued Administrative Approval and Implementation Guidelines for the implementation of a New Solar Power Scheme (for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) Habitations/Villages) under Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN) during 2023-24 to 2025-26.

The Scheme will cover electrification of One Lakh un-electrified households (HHs) in PVTG areas identified by Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and located in 18 States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal, and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, by provision of off-grid solar systems where electricity supply through grid is not techno-economically feasible. In addition, the scheme includes a provision for providing solar lighting in 1500 Multi-Purpose Centres (MPCs) in PVTG areas where electricity through the grid is not available. The total approved financial outlay of the Scheme is Rs. 515 Cr.

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/01/2024010413610627.pdf>

2. Setting up of a Dispute Resolution Mechanism to consider the unforeseen disputes between Renewable Energy Power Developers/ EPC Contractors and SECI/ NTPC/ NHPC/ SJVN/ any other Renewable Energy Implementing Agency (REIA), designated by MNRE. Members-regarding:	01st January 2024
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With reference to the MNRE order dated 07.06.2023 for setting up of a Dispute Resolution Mechanism to consider the unforeseen disputes that may arise in implementation of contractual agreements

and also for dealing with issues which are beyond the scope of Contractual Agreements between RE Power Developers/EPC Contractors and REIA.

The members of the Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) would be Shri M.F. Farooqui, IAS (retired), Shri Rajesh Bhushan, IAS (retired) & Shri Kumar Alok, IAS (retired)

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<p>3. Setting up of a Dispute Resolution Mechanism to consider the unforeseen disputes between Renewable Energy Power Developers/ EPC Contractors and SECI/ NTPC/ NHPC/ SJVN/ any other Renewable Energy Implementing Agency (REIA), designated by MNRE. <u>Nodal Officers</u> -regarding:</p>	<p>12th January 2024</p>
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With reference to the MNRE order dated 07.06.2023 for setting up of a Dispute Resolution Mechanism (DRM) to consider the unforeseen disputes that may arise in implementation of contractual agreements and also for dealing with issues which are beyond the scope of Contractual Agreements between RE Power Developers/EPC Contractors and REIA.

Details of the Secretary of respective REIAs are provided and the nodal officer from MNRE for DRC/DRM is Shri Sanjay Karndhar, Scientist 'E'.

The meetings of the DRC shall be organized in the premises of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan (Meeting Room No. 611).

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/01/20240115549076536.pdf>

<p>4. Scheme Guidelines for Implementation of Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) Programme Component-II: Incentive Scheme for <u>Green Ammonia Production and Supply</u> (under Mode 2A) of the National Green Hydrogen Mission:</p>	<p>16th January 2024</p>
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The Union Cabinet has approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission with an outlay of ₹ 19,744 crore up to FY 2029-30. The Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) programme is a major financial measure under the Mission, with an outlay of ₹ 17,490 crore. The programme proposes two distinct financial incentive mechanisms to support the domestic manufacturing of electrolyzers and the production of Green Hydrogen. Outlay for Incentive Scheme for Production of Green Hydrogen and its derivatives (all modes): ₹ 13,050 crore

The objectives of the scheme are:

- To maximize the production of Green Ammonia in India.
- Enhance cost-competitiveness of Green Ammonia vis-a-vis fossil-based alternatives.
- Encourage large scale utilization of Green Ammonia.

The scheme will be implemented through a transparent selection process for award of incentives, details of which are furnished in this Section. The Scheme will be implemented by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) through Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) as the Implementing Agency.

To be eligible for incentives, bidders must adhere to the criteria outlined in the 'National Green Hydrogen Standard' notified by MNRE. The incentive will be provided directly in terms of ₹/kg of Green Ammonia produced and supplied for three years. The incentive amounts are set at ₹ 8.82/kg in the first year, ₹ 7.06/kg in the second year, and ₹ 5.30/kg in the third year.

MNRE, through SECI, will invite bids for competitive selection under this mode. The bidders will be required to quote the following:

- Annual production capacity of Green Ammonia to be supplied, for which incentive is sought. The capacity quoted should be constant over the period of Ammonia Purchase Agreement (APA) (in thousand Metric Tonnes {MT}); and
- Price quoted, in ₹/kg for the supply of Green Ammonia (exclusive of taxes).

Qualified bidder(s) will be allocated capacities in the order of the Quoted Price of Supply (in ₹/kg). It must be noted that only a single price should be quoted by the suppliers for the supply of Green Ammonia over the period of APA. The bidder quoting the least price of supply (L1) will be allocated its admissible capacity first. Subsequently, the bidder quoting the next lowest price of supply (L2) will be allocated its admissible capacity, continuing until the total available capacity is exhausted.

Bids will be invited for an initial capacity of 5,50,000 MT per annum of Green Ammonia under Tranche I of Mode 2A, with the possibility of additional capacity in subsequent tranches.

A Scheme Monitoring Committee (SMC) will oversee the implementation and performance of Green Ammonia production and supply capacities. This strategic intervention underscores India's commitment to green hydrogen and sustainable energy practices, aligning with global efforts to combat climate change.

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/01/202401161392592585.pdf>

<p>5. Scheme Guidelines for Implementation of Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT) Programme Component-II: Incentive for Procurement of <u>Green Hydrogen Production</u> (under Mode-2B) of the National Green Hydrogen Mission:</p>	<p>16th January 2024</p>
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The scheme will be implemented by Oil & Gas companies and the Centre for High Technology (CHT), acting as the aggregators of demand and facilitators for bids in a competitive selection process.

Under Mode 2B, the focus is on aggregating demand and calling for bids for Green Hydrogen production and supply at the lowest cost, specifically for a single refinery or multiple refineries. The

objective is to provide a fixed incentive to encourage the production of Green Hydrogen. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has issued this scheme with the approval of the Honorable Minister of New and Renewable Energy.

The Oil & Gas companies, as implementing agencies, will aggregate demand, examine applications, issue acknowledgments, and play a crucial role in the scheme's execution. CHT will provide secretarial, managerial, and implementation support, including the examination of beneficiaries' claims, verification, and reconciliation of disbursement claims. Administrative charges equal to 0.5% of the incentive amount shall be disbursed, distributed equally between the concerned Oil & Gas Company and CHT on annual basis.

The selection process involves competitive bidding, with bidders quoting annual production capacity and the price per kg for the supply of Green Hydrogen. Qualified bidders are allocated capacities based on the quoted price of supply, ensuring the least quoted price is prioritized. The net worth of the bidder and the capacity available for bidding under Tranche I of Mode 2B are crucial considerations.

To qualify for incentives, bidders must adhere to the criteria outlined in the 'National Green Hydrogen Standard' notified by MNRE. Incentives, provided for three years, are directly linked to the production and supply of Green Hydrogen. The incentive amounts are set at Rs. 50/kg in the first year, Rs. 40/kg in the second year, and Rs. 30/kg in the third year.

The capacity available for bidding under the Tranche I of Mode 2B is 2,00,000 MT per annum of Green Hydrogen. Additional capacity of Green Hydrogen, may be decided by MNRE for subsequent tranches, if any.

Allocated capacity remains constant throughout the Hydrogen Purchase Agreement, with incentives disbursed annually based on successful bidder claims. Bidders are required to submit Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) at the time of bid submission. Forfeiture conditions, penalties, and compliance requirements are specified in the tender document.

A Scheme Monitoring Committee (SMC) will periodically review the status of implementation and performance of Green Hydrogen production and supply capacities awarded under the scheme. The committee will recommend measures to resolve difficulties.

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/01/202401162011958904.pdf>

<p>6. Comprehensive guidelines for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM) Scheme:</p>	<p>17th January 2024</p>
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To facilitate all the stakeholders, a comprehensive guidelines for implementation of PM-KUSUM Scheme has been issued incorporating all the amendments

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/01/20240118413909461.pdf>

7. Constitution of “Wind Repowering Committee” - Reg.	17th January 2024
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As per National Repowering & Life Extension Policy for Wind Power Projects - 2023 issued vide circular of even no. dated 07.12.2023 the constitution of Wind Repowering Committee (WRC) has been done.

Download link:

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3716e1b8c6cd17b771da77391355749f3/uploads/2024/01/202401181390244639.pdf>

Important announcement:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the "Pradhanmantri Suryodaya Yojana" to install rooftop solar systems in 1 crore homes. This scheme aims to reduce electricity bills for the poor and middle class, while making India self-reliant in the energy sector.

Link: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1998623>

II. Ministry of Power (MoP)

1. Electricity (Amendment) Rules, 2024:	10th January 2024
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The Ministry of Power has amended its Electricity Rules by incorporating new provisions. These rules may be called the Electricity (Amendment) Rules, 2024.

The existing rule 21 has been re-numbered as rule 24 and three new rules numbered 21, 22 and 23 have been inserted.

Rule 21 is related to dedicated transmission line (DTL) and as per rule, a generating company or a person setting up a captive generating plant or an Energy Storage System or a consumer having load of not less than 25 Megawatt in case of Inter State Transmission System and 10 Megawatt in case of Intra-State Transmission System shall not be required to obtain license under the Act for establishing, operating or maintaining a DTL to connect to the grid.

Rule 22 is related to Open Access Charges as under:

1. Wheeling charges shall be computed as per following formula:

$$\text{Wheeling Charge} = \text{ARR towards wheeling} / \text{Energy wheeled during the year}$$
2. The charges for using STU network by the consumers availing STOA or T-GNA, as the case may be shall not be more than 100% of the charges levied on consumers using STU network on long-term basis or on GNA basis, as the case may be.
3. The additional surcharge levied on any Open Access Consumer should not be more than the per unit fixed cost of power purchase of the distribution licensee concerned. It would be linearly reduced from the value in the year in which GNA or Open Access was granted so that, if it is continued to be availed by this person, the additional surcharge shall get eliminated within four years from the date of grant of GNA or Open Access. Provided further that the additional surcharge

shall not be applicable for Open Access Consumer to the extent of contract demand being maintained with the distribution licensees and also the additional surcharge shall be applicable only for the Open Access Consumers who are or have been consumers of the concerned Distribution licensee.

Rule 23 is mainly related to gap between approved Annual Revenue Requirement and estimated annual revenue from approved tariff –

The tariff shall be cost reflective and there shall not be any gap between approved Annual Revenue Requirement and estimated annual revenue from approved tariff except under natural calamity conditions. Such a gap, created if any, shall not be more than three percent of the approved ARR.

Download link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17ZveJLdynfxKJshMH2Y5ewn0EJ7jmr2u/view?usp=sharing>

III. Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)

<p>1. Guidelines on “Availability of Communication System” under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Communication System for inter-State transmission of electricity) Regulations, 2017. <i>Download Link -</i> https://cercind.gov.in/regulations/Guidelines_Availability%20of%20Communication%20System.pdf</p>	19 th January 2024
<p>2. Guidelines on “Interface Requirements” under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Communication System for inter-State transmission of electricity) Regulations, 2017. <i>Download Link -</i> https://cercind.gov.in/regulations/Guidelines_Interfacing%20Requirements.pdf</p>	19 th January 2024
<p>3. Procedure on “Centralized supervision for quick fault detection and restoration” under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Communication System for inter-State transmission of electricity) Regulations, 2017. <i>Download Link -</i> https://cercind.gov.in/regulations/Procedure_Centralized%20Supervision%20of%20Quick%20Fault%20Detection%20&%20Restoration.pdf</p>	19 th January 2024
<p>4. Procedure on “Procedure on Maintenance and testing of Communication System” under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Communication System for inter-State transmission of electricity) Regulations, 2017. <i>Download Link -</i> https://cercind.gov.in/regulations/Procedures_Maintenance&Testing.pdf</p>	19 th January 2024

IV. Central Electricity Authority

1. Guidelines for Recognition of Training Institutes in the field of Generation of Electricity including details of Training Curriculum for Engineers, Supervisors and Technicians: <i>Download Link - https://cea.nic.in/whats-new/?lang=en</i>	12 th January 2024
2. Guidelines for Recognition of Training Institutes in the field of Transmission of Electricity including details of training Curriculum for Engineers, Supervisors and Technicians. <i>Download Link - https://cea.nic.in/whats-new/?lang=en</i>	12 th January 2024
3. Guidelines for Recognition of Training Institutes in the field of Distribution of Electricity including details of Training Curriculum for Engineers, Supervisors and Technicians. <i>Download Link - https://cea.nic.in/whats-new/?lang=en</i>	12 th January 2024
4. Statutory Guidelines for Training and Certification of Load Despatchers & Recognition of Training Institutes. <i>Download Link - https://cea.nic.in/whats-new/?lang=en</i>	12 th January 2024
5. Electricity Distribution Network Planning Criteria. <i>Download Link - https://cea.nic.in/whats-new/?lang=en</i>	12 th January 2024
6. Technical Specifications For 1 Phase Electronic Net Energy Meter For Solar Metering Application & Technical Specification For Static 3 Phase 4 Wire Direct Connected Static Trivector Net Energy Meter. <i>Download Link - https://cea.nic.in/whats-new/?lang=en</i>	12 th January 2024



Issued by State Governments & their organizations:

I. Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission

1. Madhya Pradesh Electricity Supply Code 2021, (Second Amendment) <i>Download Link - https://mperc.in/uploads/regulation_document/MPERC_SUPPLY_CODE_2nd_AMD_ARG_II_ii_2024_English.pdf</i>	17 th January 2024
2. Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure for filing appeal before the Appellate Authority) Regulations 2004 (2 nd Amendment) <i>Download Link - https://mperc.in/uploads/regulation_document/MPERC_Procedure_Filing_Appeal_Before_Appellate_Authority_AG_15_ii_2024_English.pdf</i>	19 th January 2024

Important announcement:

Delhi government is finalizing a new solar policy offering increased incentives for rooftop solar installations. The policy aims to reduce air pollution and bring electricity bills to zero for residential consumers.
