

Central Sector

❖ **NTPC Limited's second unit of 800 MW capacity at 2x800 MW Darlipali Super Thermal Power Station in Odisha has successfully completed its trial operation.** With this, the total installed capacity of NTPC group has become 66,875 MW. Currently, NTPC group has 71 power stations including 29 renewable energy projects.

❖ **NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (NTPC REL) has emerged as the winning bidder in the auction conducted by Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Limited for 450 MW of solar projects at the Shajapur Solar Park in Madhya Pradesh.** NTPC has won a capacity of 105 MW by quoting Rs 2.35 per kWh and a capacity of 220 MW quoting Rs 2.33 per kWh. The next bidder SolarArise won a capacity of 125 MW by quoting Rs 2.339 per kWh. The tender had received a massive response from the bidders and was oversubscribed by 5.8 GW.

❖ **Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL) has achieved the milestone of distributing 1 million LED bulbs in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, under its Gram UJALA scheme.** As of July 20, 2021, 593,130 LED bulbs have been distributed in Bihar, covering 119,532 households and 435,746 LED bulbs have been distributed in Uttar Pradesh, covering 87,546 households. The programme aims at providing superior illumination at an affordable price of Rs 10 per bulb thereby ensuring significant savings per household.

State Sector

❖ **Gujarat and Haryana discoms have secured the highest rating in the Ministry of Power's (MoP) Ninth Integrated Ratings for State-owned Power Distribution Utilities** covering 41 state power discoms for the rating period 2019-20. The top A+ rating has been given to five discoms – Uttar Gujarat Vij Company Limited, Madhya Gujarat Vij Company Limited, Dakshin Gujarat Vij Company Limited, Paschim Gujarat Vij Company Limited, and Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited. At the other end of the spectrum with C rating are Eastern Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Limited, Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited, Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited, Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited, Manipur State Power Distribution Company Limited, Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited, Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, and Jodhpur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited. According to the MoP, the losses of state-owned discoms have declined by 37 per cent to Rs 380 billion in 2019-20 from Rs 613.60 billion in 2018-19.

❖ **Rajasthan government has released the Rajasthan Electric Vehicle Policy, 2021** for adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in the state. As per the policy, the state will subsidise the upfront cost of EVs for early adopters by offering to reimburse the state Goods and Service Tax as well as extending a one-time incentive, that is decided on the basis of battery capacity of the vehicle sold. The subsidy is valid from April 1, 2021, until March 31, 2022, on all registered electric two wheelers and electric three wheelers in Rajasthan.

Private Sector

❖ **BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) and BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) have entered into power sale agreements (PSA) with the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to buy 510 MW of solar and bundled hybrid power.** The contract will include 300 MW solar power and 210 MW hybrid power bundle comprising a mix of solar and wind-based energy capacity. The discoms will procure solar power at Rs 2.44 per unit, and hybrid power at Rs 2.48 per unit. In a separate development, BYPL and BRPL are looking to give up purchasing electricity from more plants located outside Delhi and have initiated the process for exiting the power purchase agreements (PPAs) with the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC). The PPAs with NTPC Limited's Unchahar-I, Farakka, Auraiya, and Anta thermal power plants have already crossed their shelf life of 25 years. Earlier, the discoms had exited the PPA with NTPC's Dadri-1 plant.

❖ **ReNew Power has won a 200 MW interstate transmission system connected solar generation project in an auction conducted by the Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL).** ReNew Power is likely to sign a 25-year PPA with MSEDCL by the third fiscal quarter of 2022, to supply power to Maharashtra at a tariff of Rs 2.43 per kWh. The project is expected to be constructed in Gujarat or Rajasthan and completed by the first fiscal quarter of 2024.

Note: Rs 1 crore = Rs 0.01 billion; Rs 1 lakh = Rs 0.1 million; Rs 1,000 million = Rs 1 billion

❖ **Tata Power** has tied up with **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)** to provide **end-to-end EV charging stations at HPCL's retail outlets** in various cities and major highways. Under the agreement, Tata Power will provide state-of-the-art EV charging infrastructure at HPCL pumps for EV users. The charging will be enabled with the Tata Power EZ charge mobile platform which makes it a seamless experience for vehicle owners. Tata Power currently owns a network of over 500 public chargers in over 100 cities.

❖ **Vikram Solar** has inaugurated a new manufacturing facility of **1.3 GW capacity for solar photovoltaic (PV) module at Indospace Industrial Park, Oragadam in Tamil Nadu**. Alongwith an existing 1.2 GW facility in Falta, West Bengal, Vikram Solar's cumulative PV module manufacturing capacity has now reached 2.5 GW, which is presently the largest in India. It is equipped with high-tech automation and is compliant with industry 4.0 standards. It has forward compatibility with upcoming technologies such as M12 cell modules, high-efficiency bi-facial and smart modules, and is also capable of handling module wattage up to 640 watts.

Projects and Ventures

❖ **GE Renewable Energy's Grid Solutions business** has secured orders to supply 13 units of **765 kV transformers** and 32 units of **765 kV reactors** from **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (Powergrid)**. GE's transformers and reactors will be installed in the new substations that will be set up in Rajasthan by Powergrid to evacuate 8.1 GW of power from the state's solar energy zones under Phase-II of the Transmission System for Evacuation of Power from Solar Energy Zones in the Rajasthan Project.

❖ **Godrej Electricals & Electronics' Power Infrastructure and Renewable Energy (PIRE)**, an arm of Godrej & Boyce, has secured an order for the construction of a **greenfield 400 kV gas insulated switchgear (GIS) substation** in Vikhroli, **Mumbai**. The project will also include the construction of a 400kV bay extension in Kharghar. On completion, 1,500 MVA transformation capacity will be added to Mumbai. The project is valued at over Rs 1 billion, and would enable additional power to be brought into Mumbai to meet future demand.

❖ **Siemens Gamesa** has secured a deal with **ReNew Power** to supply turbines to the **322 MW wind project** in Tondehal, Koppal district, in **Karnataka**. Earlier in July 2021, Siemens had secured an order from ReNew for a 301 MW wind project in Hombal, Gadag district, in Karnataka. In total, the company will be delivering 180 units of its SG 3.4-145 wind turbines in the state of Karnataka, of which 93 units will be for the Tondehal project and 87 units for the Hombal project.

❖ **Tata AutoComp Systems** along with US-based charging infrastructure company **Tellus Power Green** has executed a supply order for **64 200kW DC fast chargers to Tata Power**. Tata Power is setting up charging stations for EV buses in Mumbai as well as Ahmedabad. Already, 50 of these chargers have been commissioned and for the balance, installation is in progress and will be completed very soon.

Debt and Equity

❖ The **central government** has plans to raise **Rs 70 trillion** through **asset monetisation of state-owned power companies** like Powergrid, NTPC Limited and REC Limited over the next five years. Nearly Rs 35 trillion may go into strengthening the transmission and distribution infrastructure in the states as intra-state power transmission, sub-transmission and distribution infrastructure remains largely under-invested, leading to technical losses and power outages. The other half will be utilised in greenfield and brownfield projects.

❖ **Adani Electricity Mumbai Limited (AEML)** has set up a **USD 2 billion global medium-term notes bonds programme (GMTN)**. AEML also settled the maiden takedown of USD 300 million under the programme. The order-book for the takedown was oversubscribed by 9.2 times by global investors. The global geographical split of the investors was Asia (49 per cent), Europe, Middle East and Africa (27 per cent) and North America (24 per cent).

❖ **MYSUN**, a rooftop solutions company, has tied up to raise **Rs 150 million in debt funding** from **Tata Cleantech Capital (TCCL)**. The company had recently launched its solar asset vehicle MYSUN+ to develop projects under the distributed and open access models with an investment of Rs 6 billion in the first phase. This term loan will be used to fund the existing projects of MYSUN+ and the credit line will be used to develop its pipeline projects.