TATA POWER

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POWER MARKET CAPSULE-196th Edition

Issue no: 196th –05th May 2022

TPTCL'S E-NEWS LETTER

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Tata Power Trading Company Limited (TPTCL)

Lighting up Lives!

Power Market News

India's peak power demand at all-time high of 204.65 GW

Power Ministry RK Singh, said that India's peak power demand during the day has risen by more than 12 per cent to a whopping 204.65 gigawatts (GW) till April 28, which is an apt indication of the quick recovery in economic activity in the country "During the current month April 2022 (up to April 28 till 14:50 hrs), the peak demand met during the day increased by 12.1 per cent to 204.653 GW from 182.559 GW during the same period the previous year," said the Power Ministry in a statement.

Commending the quick uptick in demand, Singh told reporters: "The rate at which the Indian economy is growing, it will require more power. This high demand is not a one-off incident, it is here to stay. The demand is growing. My demand is going to be more than 200 GW, going ahead."

The Ministry also estimates that the demand is expected to reach about 215-220 GW in months of May-June. The government and other stakeholders are working together to ensure unhindered power supply, and efforts are being made and measures taken for better utilisation of various resources. "The rising power demand reflects the economic growth in the country. In March, the growth in energy demand has been around 8.9 per cent," it added.

Increasing power consumption

India's electricity consumption has been rising consistently, as the country emerged out of the Covid pandemic with growing economic and industrial activity. For instance, on April 8, the peak power demand met during the day hit 199.58 GW. Though the maximum peak power demand met during the day came down from what was recorded on April 8, the numbers are still high as the average demand met between April 13 and April 4 (10 days) stood at 195.43 GW. Then, on April 20, the peak power demand met during the day was 197.28 GW. On April 25, the peak demand met stood at a little over 199 GW as well. ***Source***

Tariff for merchant power may average more than Rs 6 per unit: Crisil

CHENNAI: Tariff for merchant power sold on exchanges may average more than Rs 6 per unit this quarter — the highest for any quarter in the past five fiscals — driven by high prices of imported coal due to the geopolitical uncertainties stemming from the Russia-Ukraine conflict, and healthy growth in power demand (8-9% on-year) said a latest report by Crisil Ratings.

The high merchant tariffs, together with increasing volumes at exchanges, will benefit 34 giga-watt (GW) out of a total 73 GW private coal-based capacity in India. The remaining private capacity is either fully tied up with discoms or is likely to face coal shortage, said the Crisil analysis. Nearly 100% of the power sold on exchanges by the coal-based gencos is produced using either imported coal or domestic coal procured through e-auctions, whose premiums are linked with imported coal prices.

Consequently, merchant power tariffs have a high correlation with imported coal prices and have, along with coal prices, been on the rise since August last fiscal.

In March, merchant power prices went through the roof to Rs 8.2 per unit as against an average of Rs 4 per unit in the previous 11 months last fiscal. The spurt was due to the RussiaUkraine conflict, which heightened fears of coal shortage as Russia is the third-largest exporter of non-coking coal, with nearly 15% share in global exports.

Imported coal prices were up 50% in March vis-à-vis the previous 11 months. Ankit Hakhu, director, Crisil Ratings, says, “International coal prices have eased from the March peak but may remain over $90/tonne this quarter if the conflict prolongs. Meanwhile, demand at power exchanges is on the rise. In March, the volume of transactions in Indian Energy Exchange (IEX)2 was up 16% on-year across market segments (overall volumes were up 38% on-year in fiscal 2022).

In the current quarter, early onset of summer and a recovering economy will keep power demand high. With growing power demand and coal prices high, merchant tariffs should remain over Rs 6 per unit on average this quarter.”

High merchant rates are a positive for power generators at large, though only some will be able to benefit this quarter, based on their location and ability to sell power on exchange.

At the other end, coal shortage will shut out over 15 GW of private coal-based capacities as these are either in stress and lack adequate working capital to pick up domestic coal at market rates, or rely extensively on imported coal, which will be in short supply. In fact, imports declined by over 40% in fiscal 2022. Inventory at these plants is also at less than critical levels.

A further 24 GW is fully tied up with discoms and hence may not be available for sale on the exchanges (unless approved by the discoms). Snehil Shukla, team leader, Crisil Ratings, says, “Net-net, over 34 GW of private thermal capacities will be able to sell power on exchange, though offtake will depend on the ability of state discoms to purchase this high-cost power or opt for power outage. Plant load factor (PLF) at these plants jumped over 900 basis points (bps) on-year in March and is expected to increase by 200-300 bps more. Higher PLFs will mean improved fixed cost recovery. However, operating margin per unit will remain at similar levels due to higher cost of generation offsetting high merchant prices.” ***Source***

Amid looming power crisis, govt amends methodology for use of coal

Amid fears of a new power crisis that could roil Asia’s third-biggest economy, the Power Ministry amended the methodology for use of coal (allocated to states) by Private Power generating stations (IPPs). Larger visibility has been given to the power plants by extending the period of supply of coal from 1 year to 3 years, the Ministry of Power said in an official statement.

The Power Ministry has further made amendments in the timeline of bidding process which has been reduced from 67 days to 37 days. The measures have been taken for ensuring more efficient utilisation of domestic coal, the ministry informed. “The Government has taken these measures in order to optimally utilise the railway infrastructure for maximum transportation of coal to the power plants," it further said.

The ministry added that this would enable states to optimally utilize their linkage coal in the plants nearer to the mines as it would be easier to transmit electricity instead of coal transport to far off states. An already sweltering summer and acute coal shortages are triggering blackouts across parts of India. A surge in demand for electricity has prompted states including Punjab and Uttar Pradesh in the north and Andhra Pradesh in the south to cut off supply. The disruption, as long as eight hours in some places, is forcing customers to either endure the heat or look for costlier back-up options. ***Source***

Current power crisis due to sharp fall in generation, not coal shortage

The current power crisis is mainly on account of sharp decline in electricity generation from different fuel sources and not due to non-availability of domestic coal, a top official said. The above statement assumes

significance in the wake of reports of many states, including Maharashtra, facing power outages due to shortage of coal.

In an interview to PTI, Coal Secretary A K Jain attributed the low coal stocks at power plants to several factors such as heightened power demand due to the boom in the economy post COVID-19, early arrival of summer, rise in the price of gas and imported coal and sharp fall in electricity generation by coastal thermal power plants.

"It is not a coal crisis but a power demand-supply mismatch... The power demand has registered an upswing as the economy has bounced back, summers have arrived early and the price of gas and imported coal have shot up sharply," Jain explained. He added that a slew of measures are already under way to enhance total power supply in the country.

The gas-based power generation which has fallen drastically in the country has aggravated the crisis. "Some of the thermal power plants in India were built along the coast so that imported coal could be used, brought from nearby countries like Indonesia... But with the sharp rise in the price of imported coal they have reduced the imports," Jain said.
The coastal thermal power plants are now generating around half of their capacity because of the sharp rise in the prices of imported coal. This has resulted in a gap between the demand and supply of electricity. The secretary further said that States located in the South and West have been dependent on imported coal. And when domestic coal is dispatched through wagons/ rakes to the domestic coal-based plants in these States to make up for the loss in imported coal generation, the turnaround time of rakes is more than 10 days, which creates rake availability issues for other plants.

Since last year, the railways has loaded more coal than ever, even by curtailing rake supply to other sectors to meet the enhanced demand of the power sector. There was good loading of rakes in the month of March. Since Coal India is a government company, it is expected that the PSU will bridge the gap between the demand and supply of fuel by providing additional coal. Last year, around 18 per cent more coal was supplied by CIL to the power sector, as there was a fuel stock of 100 million tonnes.

"And this year also we are ready to give eight per cent over this increased number," the Secretary said. Coal India has produced 25 per cent more in the first half of the current month in comparison to the same period in the last year, and accordingly the dispatches were also up by up to 25 per cent. CIL -- the country's largest producer and supplier of coal -- accounts for over 80 per cent of domestic coal output. Coal minister Pralhad Joshi had said that at present 72.50 MT of coal is available at different sources of CIL, Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) and coal washeries among others. The Minister had also said that 22.01 MT of coal is available with thermal power plants. Stating that there is sufficient availability of coal in the country, Joshi had said that the same will last for a month and availability is getting replenished on a daily basis with record production. As per the government's provisional data, the total coal production in FY'22 was at 777.23 MT over 716 MT in FY'21, registering a growth of 8.55 per cent. CIL's production went up by 4.43 per cent to 622.64 MT during FY'22 from 596.24 MT in FY'21. Total coal dispatch during FY'22 was at 818.04 MT against 690.71 MT in FY'21, registering an increase of 18.43 per cent. ***Source***

NTPC ties up with Delhi Jal Board to convert waste into energy

State-owned NTPC has partnered with Delhi Jal Board to convert sludge produced in latter's sewage treatment plants into energy. In Delhi-NCR alone, Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) produce up to 800 MT of sludge per day. The disposal of the sludge is a major challenge as it contributes towards environmental pollution.

"In an endeavour to reduce the carbon footprint, NTPC Ltd, India's largest integrated energy company has come together with Delhi Jal Board (DJB) to utilise the sludge produced in the STPs of DJB," a statement said. Torrefied waste sludge was fired into NTPC's unit 4 boiler at Dadri for power generation.

Firing sludge into the boiler will reduce net CO2 emission as well as water and land pollution. It will pave the way to utilise the waste and convert it to energy in an environmentally friendly manner, the statement said. NTPC is taking various steps to make its energy portfolio greener and plans to have 60 GW capacity through renewable energy sources by 2032. The total installed capacity of the company is 68,881.68 MW. ***Source***

Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Haryana & Karnataka allow higher tariff for imported coal-based plants

Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Haryana and Karnataka have resolved to allow nearly 8 Gw power plants to recover higher imported coal costs through raised tariffs until December this year.

Karnataka will invoke a rare legislation to issue directions under extraordinary circumstances to one non-functional imported coal-based generator admitted in NCLT to operate and meet record electricity demand. The states are resorting to these measures as they face record electricity demand and amid projections of further unprecedented rise. The decisions were conveyed at a meeting held last week with Union power minister RK Singh.

Daily electricity demand has touched 4,350 million units in the first two weeks of April, a record of sorts as the average during the same month in 2021 was 3,900 million units. Coal stocks at thermal power stations are low at 35% of the normative requirement. Data available with the power ministry for April 13 showed that imported coal-based projects are operating on average 26% capacity and had an average coal stock of 37% of the normative requirement.

The states and Centre are trying to resolve issues due to which these plants are not operating or running at low capacity, adding to the pressure on domestic coal. Imported coal costs have risen to $288 a tonne from $50 a tonne last year. High electricity demand has led to spot prices averaging at ₹11 per unit after the regulator announced a ₹12 per unit ceiling.

Section 11 of the Electricity Act provides that the government may, in extraordinary circumstances, ask a generating company to operate and maintain any station in accordance with its directions. The directions will ensure fuel cost pass through for the generation companies in extraordinary circumstances. However, imported coal tenders take minimum two months to get finalised.

Sources present in the meeting said three units of Tata Power's Mundra ultra mega power project are operational as Gujarat and Maharashtra are buying power. Tata Power had last month agreed to share its mining profits proportional to coal used in Mundra project from its Indonesian mines with the distribution companies. ***Source***

Amid fear of national energy crisis, government to turn to imported coal

AHMEDABAD: To battle the looming energy crisis in the country due to constraints on domestic coal supply, the central government has decided to take a number of steps to increase the use of imported coal for power generation, including for blending purposes, officials familiar with the matter said.

At a meeting chaired by union power minister R K Singh this week with officials of the Gujarat government and a few other states and also independent power producers (IPP) with imported coal-based (ICB) plants, the minister has asked all the companies to operationalise their power plants at full capacity to reduce pressure on domestic coal demand.

While the Centre has decided to allow the cost of imported coal as a pass-through till December 2022, it has asked all the states and IPP to use imported coal for blending purposes to the extent of 10% instead of only 4% to ensure maintaining adequate coal stocks at the power plant as per the advised coal stock norms, said an official present at the meeting. “At the meeting, it was observed that the coal stocks at the power plant end were only 36% of the normative requirement which would be sufficient for only about 11 days,” said a Gujarat government official aware of the matter.

At the meeting, it was also suggested that the action taken by the Gujarat government to operationalise power plants that are lying idle or under-utilised, will be shared with the other procurer states like Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan so that they can follow Gujarat’s methodology, the official added.

“A total of 7,980 MW capacity of ICB plants was not operational leading to more demand for domestic coal and thereby increasing pressure on the logistics for the domestic coal supply. The government has asked all ICB plants to operationalise at full capacity to reduce pressure on domestic coal demands,” said a company executive present at the meeting.

The meeting was to review capacities of 12,766 MW of power generation using imported coal for which power purchase agreements have been signed with various state Discoms. Of this total capacity, 8,676 MW is generated out of power projects based in Gujarat. Minister Singh, in his opening remark observed that power demand had been increasing continuously due to revival of economy.

“It is expected that the peak demand may increase up to 210 GW in April’2022. Therefore, all the coal-based power plants need to have adequate coal stocks, enabling supply of coalbased power to the extent of about 160 GW during peak hours,” he was quoted as saying in the minutes of the meeting, a copy of which has been reviewed by HT.

The minister also advised states that scheduling for electricity be done one day in advance every day in the morning and non-indented power be sold in the power exchanges, officials said. In the case of companies like Adani Power, Tata Power’s subsidiary Coast Gujarat Power Ltd and Essar Power, the government has decided that the entire cost of imported coal shall be allowed as pass through until December 2022 without any ceiling if the imported coal prices remain above the pre-Covid level. Essar Power, whose power plant at Salaya in Gujarat has been shut for a long time, has been advised to operationalise the plant at the earliest, officials added.

Companies in Gujarat who have plants running on imported coal have made several representations to the state government in the past that coal prices are presently at $200 and higher, and the government should remove the $90 ceiling for reimbursing coal costs as a temporary solution. ***Source***

Telangana 'accepts' power reforms

Hyderabad: The Telangana Government, which had so far refused to implement the power reforms recommended by the Centre, has now taken a near 'U' turn and decided to accept the recommendations but with a rider. It will not install power meters to agricultural pumpsets.

The government, it is learnt, is set to go ahead with enforcing some reforms mainly the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDS) soon. This decision was taken based on the suggestions made by the Telangana Electricity Regulatory Commission to implement power reforms. Following this, the power utilities have prepared a detailed project report (DPR) and a five-year action plan to enforce the power reforms. Officials of the state Energy department said that the DPRs have been forwarded to Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao for consideration. Under the RDS, the states will have to implement proposals like installation of pre-paid power meters in domestic and commercial sectors to ascertain power consumption in advance.

Once the government approves the DPRs, the state and Union Governments and the power utilities will enter into tripartite agreement and start installing prepaid meters to all domestic power connections, the authorities said that the pre-paid meters will help the utilities to reduce the losses incurred due to factors like the gap between expenditure incurred on power supply and revenue generation and the utilities will turn into profitmaking organizations. It now remains to be seen whether implementation of power reforms minus installation of meters on agricultural pumpsets would qualify the state to get additional 0.5 per cent loans over and above the FRBM limits or not. ***Source***

Centre allocates 207 MW of additional power to J-K to meet increasing demand

In order to meet the increasing electricity demand, the Centre has allocated 207MW of additional power to Jammu and Kashmir. According to the Union Ministry of Power, the move will substantially increase the availability of power in the union territory. Meanwhile, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the investment of Rs 4,526.12 crore for the 540 Megawatt (MW) Kwar Hydro Electric project located on river Chenab, in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The project will be implemented by Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Limited (CVPPPL), a joint venture company between NHPC Limited and Jammu and Kashmir State Power Development Corporation (JKSPDC) with equity contributions of 51 per cent and 49 per cent, respectively. The project shall generate 1975.54 million units in a 90 per cent dependable year, according to an official statement released after the cabinet meeting.

The Government of India is extending a grant of Rs 69.80 crore towards the cost of Enabling Infrastructure and also supporting the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir by providing a grant of Rs 655.08 crore for the equity contribution of JKSPDC (49 per cent) in CVPPPL. NHPC shall invest its equity (51 per cent) of Rs 681.82 crore from its internal resources. The Kwar Hydro Electric Project shall be commissioned with a span of 54 months. The Power generated from the Project will help in balancing of Grid and will improve the power supply position, the statement said.

The construction activities of the project will result in direct and indirect employment to around 2,500 persons and will contribute to the overall socio-economic development of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. ***Source***

Power crisis: States turn to idle plants to avoid a grid collapse

States have now turned to idle thermal plants in search of additional electricity after the national grid operator warned them against overdrawing power and risking a grid collapse. Several states have asked such plants to resume operations and are willing to pay a higher price for power generated from costlier gas and coal.

Sources in the Union power ministry said the power crisis in western states is not due to coal shortage but on account of lack of foresight as arrangements were not made even as power demand soared and imported coal plants stopped operations amid high fuel cost. Power System Operation Corp (Posoco), the grid operator, wrote to states earlier this month, warning load dispatch centres in the western region against drawing excess power.

"Maharashtra has resorted to high overdrawing from the grid against stipulated schedule," Posoco said in one such letter. "Such large overdrawing by Maharashtra contributed in grid frequency excursions below the IEGC (Indian Electricity Grid Code) band." Sources said Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and Dadra & Nagar Haveli are resorting to overdrawing, putting the national grid in trouble. The Western Region Load Dispatch Centre (WRLDC) even filed a petition in the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) against overdrawing of power.

The first hearing was held and the CERC has sought more details and facts from the WRLDC to be able to pass orders, sources said. "The dip in system frequency to the level of 49.97 Hz has made the grid potentially vulnerable to any large contingency," another Posoco communication to states read. Due to the ongoing dry spell and heatwave in various parts of the country, there has been a sharp rise in electricity demand that is expected to continue in the coming summer months.

Sources in electricity grid management agencies said western states had to resort to power cuts after the warnings. The grid operator has asked the states to explore all avenues, including requisition of additional power from gas-based stations in the western region and procure electricity through bilateral transactions as well from the market well in advance. States should expedite the revival of units under forced outage and commercial reasons, it said.

"This wouldn't have happened if states imported coal for blending in time. Many states have huge outstandings to private power plants and coal companies," said a senior official at the Centre. The Gujarat government placed imported coal orders for two units of the stateowned GSECL 500 MW Sikka power station that were "likely to be scrapped," according to CEA data. "The imported coal is expected to arrive at port anytime now," a state government official said. "We are committed to operationalise the plant this week."

The Maharashtra government has reached out to idling and underutilised coal and gas projects to restart them at the earliest. The state's idling plants include Wardha Warora, Nashik and the gas-based Pioneer Gas Power Plant that's been shut for many years now. Similarly, Tamil Nadu has started the process to restart the 600 MW Coastal Energen Ltd, which is not operational as it's undergoing bankruptcy resolution. The Gujarat government has also sought operationalisation of Essar Power's 1.2 GW Salaya power plant. ***Source***

India risks power outages again amid scorching heat

India risks a repeat of last summer’s power outages as soaring temperatures boost demand for coal that’s used to generate about 70% of the country’s electricity. The hottest March in more than a century has heralded an early start to summer, increasing power consumption by air conditioners and refrigerators. While state-run miner Coal India Ltd. is producing at record levels this month, that may not be enough to replenish power plant stockpiles that dwindled to barely a third of required levels at the start of this week.

Coal India, which accounts for four out of every five tons of the fuel mined in the country, boosted its output by 27% in the first half of April from a year earlier. Still, escalating demand seems to “dwarf" that supply increase, the Kolkata-based company said in a stock exchange filing

The miner is prioritizing shipments to power plants, which raised electricity generation by about 6% in the same period this month. That's leaving aluminum smelters, cement factories and steel mills facing a supply crunch for the fossil fuel. If India can't close the shortfall, the nation will be threatened by power outages and the economy will take a hit as industrial output suffers and electricity costs rise, according to economists at Nomura. "This could become another stagflationary shock," Nomura economists Sonal Varma and Aurodeep Nandi wrote in a research note. ***Source***

Digitalisation of India's power sector with smart meter infrastructure critical

India's power distribution forms the weakest link in the power value chain. Yet, the success of the ongoing energy transition efforts would depend a lot on enabling the sector to undergo financial and operational efficiency improvement. While technology has been the key driver of transformation across the power sector, the distribution sector has not seen much change when it comes to using technology as a transformational tool. With the policy and regulatory framework for making systemic efficiency improvements in the sector being put in place and financial commitments being demonstrated by the central government, there is an allaround realisation now in the sector that without modernisation of the power distribution system, the national vision to ensure power for all round the clock and the systemic drive for rapid socio-economic development of the country cannot be achieved.

Smart Meter National Program (SMNP), being positioned and promoted through the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS,) is the key program to mobilize resources, technology and processes, and the flagship endeavour of the administration to drive transformation in the sector and bring in digitalization and technology as enabling tools in this mission program.

Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) & Digitalising Power Sector
The AMI system infrastructure, which seeks to deploy smart prepaid meters at scale, is the foundation on which the Government of India's modernisation efforts of the power distribution system are being based. This is because smart metering plays a crucial role in addressing some of the fundamental issues that are troubling the distribution sector, starting with the operational and financial concerns of the DISCOMs that have created a regressive ripple effect across the power value chain.

AMI – an integrated system of equipment, communications, and information management systems – can play a significant role in addressing these challenges. The end-to-end AMI includes smart electric meters, which are supported by technologies such as communication network, HeadEnd System (HES), Meter Data Management System (MDMS), and Cloud systems. It has the capability to record and store consumer's energy usage data and communicate to utility's legacy system at regular intervals. It can similarly allow Discoms to read and interpret consumer's energy consumption pattern and generate accurate bills as well as optimise electricity supply. The entire AMI system is cloud based, making the digital infrastructure highly secure and scalable as per the demand situation.

Benefits of AMI-backed Digitalised Power Sector
A robust AMI infrastructure, at the very least, enable DISCOMs to enhance their operational and financial productivity by significantly improving billing and collection efficiency. Smart meter AMI can reduce current cumulative AT&C losses significantly. Billing and collection losses, which make about 50% of the total loss, can be directly reduced by more than 98% with the smart metering program, if deployed in its right spirit across the DISCOMs. Besides DISCOMs, it is the end consumers as well as the larger economy that will benefit from the smart metering program.

The smart metering ecosystem allows DISCOMs to accurately read and gauge consumer's energy consumption and generate exact bills – a far cry from the current situation where bills are inconsistent, and consumers continue to pay in an ad-hoc manner. In the long run, DISCOMs will be able to utilise the data to even customise electricity supply to meet the exact demand.

With time, the burgeoning grid-interactive rooftop solar PV system will pave the way for consumers to turn into prosumers – who produce solar energy and also consume electricity from the grid. With energy imported from the grid and exported from the PV system valued at different tariffs, the implementation success of concepts like gross metering, net metering and net billing hinges considerably on the uptake of smart meters and a strong supportive system infrastructure.

Counting the National Gains

A World Bank report estimates that if the entire Indian population gets connected to one digitalised national grid with round the clock power supply, it will increase annual rural household income by $9.4 billion and reduce business losses by $22.7 billion per year. At the very foundation of a digitalised smart grid lies smart metering and a capable AMI architecture.

There is another important reason for India's smart metering and digitalisation of its grid network requirement. Like any responsible nation, India is taking essential steps to reduce its carbon footprint and ensure sustainable development to combat global climate change. India's commitment to achieve net zero by 2070 and target to get 50% energy from renewable sources mean the grid needs to attain demand-side flexibility. Demand-side management of the grid based on granular data harvesting and building the components of digitalisation is the only way to manage the issues and meet the decarbonisation commitments.

Digitalisation of power sector with AMI and Smart Meters is critical and beneficial for the entire energy value chain starting from generation companies to end consumers. Besides mitigating electricity theft, wastage and losses to DISCOMs, it protects consumers against inflated bills, boosts energy efficiency, responsible power consumption behaviour, and importantly, turns the whole system profitable. In the 21st century, the implementation of AMI is crucial not just for power sector's health but also for India's sustainable growth and development. ***Source***

Coal India to launch its own e-auction platform, asks bidders to register

Coal India Ltd is set to launch its own e-auction platform, and the mining major has informed new and existing bidders to register on the portal, a top company official said. At present, the e-auction portal is managed by mjunction and state-owned MSTC Ltd. E-auction sales account for around 120 million tonnes annually for Coal India, while the rest is sold through fuel supply agreements and other special sales windows. The miner's dedicated e-auction portal has been developed by National Informatics Centre and supported by CIL subsidiary Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd.

"We expect to commence in-house coal e-auction in the next six months. Let the auction happen with volume, and then we will come to know about the cost benefits," the official told PTI. E-auction of Coal India is executed in a 60:40 ratio between mjunction and MSTC. "We value Coal India's decision. We had designed, developed and introduced the e-auction 15 years ago, and are still carrying on with the service without any grievance," a senior executive of mjunction said on the development.

The Centre is also planning to introduce a coal exchange after taking into account consumer feedback. It had appointed Crisil as consultant for the proposed exchange, and a report in this regard is expected in the next six-nine months. We want to create a robust platform for private coal mining companies where

buyers and sellers can meet when there is a lot of coal on offer after commercial mines begin production. It will have a regulatory oversight, Coal Secretary A K Jain had recently said in Kolkata. ***Source***

Power, Railways Ministry discuss strategies to deal with coal-supply crisis

The Power Ministry and Railways held talks to deal with the coal-supply crisis. The deliberations were led by Power Minister RK Singh and Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. Besides, Power Secretary Alok Kumar, Coal Secretary AK Jain and senior officials from Power, Coal and Railways were present. Representatives from the coal and power PSUs and Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra also joined virtually, said the Power Ministry in a statement.

Rake management

"Singh urged all stakeholders at the Centre and State-level to work hand-in-hand for unhindered power supply. He urged power gencos to own freight rakes under the scheme of Ministry of Railways to deal with logistic constraints in coal supply," the Power Ministry added. The issues discussed included increasing operational efficiency for loading and unloading of coal, increasing percentage of rakes allotment for power sector, and other logistics issues.

Meanwhile, the Railways, said that to ensure swift supply of coal across power plants, additional trains and rakes have been initiated to augment transportation of coal. The Railways has ramped up the coal transportation, resulting in 32 per cent more coal freight loading between September 2021 and March 2022. There has also been an increase in 10 per cent freight by efficiently mobilising resources after April 2022, it said in a statement.

In FY22, Railways augmented the transportation of coal by a record 111 million tonnes (MT) and loaded a record 653 MT, compared to 542 MT in the previous year, a growth of 20.4 per cent. In April 2022, Railways took many steps to prioritise the loading of coal to power sector, which has led to an increase in supply of coal of more than 10 per cent within a week's time.

The movement of coal trains has been prioritised and trains are being intensively monitored during the entire cycle, from loading to movement, and finally unloading. Through this prioritization and monitoring the transit time of coal trains to long distance Power has been reduced significantly by 12-36 per cent for critical power plants, it said. "Railways has prioritised the movement of coal to long distance Power houses as well which is reflected in the fact that the average lead of coal trains has increased by 7 per cent in the last 5 days as compared to the average leads of 1st to 10th April," said Railways. Despite this increase in the average lead of coal trains the time taken between two successive loading of the same rake for these stocks has reduced by 10 per cent, it added.

Deteriorating coal supplies amidst rising power demand

The meeting comes at a time when coal supplies are lagging, while power demand is increasing. For perspective, on April 24, the maximum demand met during the day stood at 186.92 gigawatts (GW), whereas on the same day, the peak shortage recorded was 2,648 megawatts (MW). Similarly, on the same day (Sunday), the coal and lignite based generation stood at 3,432 million units, while energy shortage was recorded at 56.04 MU. Likewise, due to shortage of coal and lignite, the outages impacted power units with 8,430 MW capacity.

On April 24, 86 DCB plans and 12 imported coal based (ICB) power plants had critical supplies (less than 25 per cent of the normative requirement). DCB plans had stocks for just about 8.2 days. Four days back, on April 20, the peak power demand met during the day was 197.28(G) and on the same day, peak shortage recorded was 7,681 M), among the highest for April. Similarly, coal-based generation stood at

3,432 MU, but energy shortage was also among the highest for the month at 105.24 MU. Likewise, coal stocks at DCB and ICB plants was at 7.9 and 8.9 days, respectively with 86 DCB plants and 11 ICB plants having critical stocks. ***Source***

Transmission charges payable by DICs for the billing month of May'22

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses), Regulations 2020 came into force with effect from 1.11.2020. In these New Regulations, STOA charges will be determined based on monthly state transmission charges and there shall not be any separate injection and drawl PoC charges, for STOA. Further, DISCOMs having long term Access are not required to make any payment against POC charges for STOA transaction.

Transmission Charges for Short Term Open Access (STOA)			
Sl. No.	**State**	**Region**	**STOA rate (paise/kWh)**
1	Delhi	NR	45.57
2	UP	NR	55.05
3	Punjab	NR	43.68
4	Haryana	NR	53.03
5	Chandigarh	NR	40.78
6	Rajasthan	NR	57.68
7	HP	NR	40.64
8	J&K	NR	42.01
9	Uttarakhand	NR	52.74
10	Gujarat	WR	46.86
11	Madhya Pradesh	WR	48.44
12	Maharashtra	WR	51.69
13	Chhattisgarh	WR	40.88
14	Goa	WR	51.47
15	Daman Diu	WR	47.19
16	Dadra Nagar Haveli	WR	49.02
17	Andhra Pradesh	SR	52.91
18	Telangana	SR	39.77
19	Tamil Nadu	SR	47.32
20	Kerala	SR	46.47
21	Karnataka	SR	45.45
22	Pondicherry	SR	40.98
23	Goa-SR	SR	32.85
24	West Bengal	ER	44.62
25	Odisha	ER	48.47
26	Bihar	ER	45.97
27	Jharkhand	ER	46.29

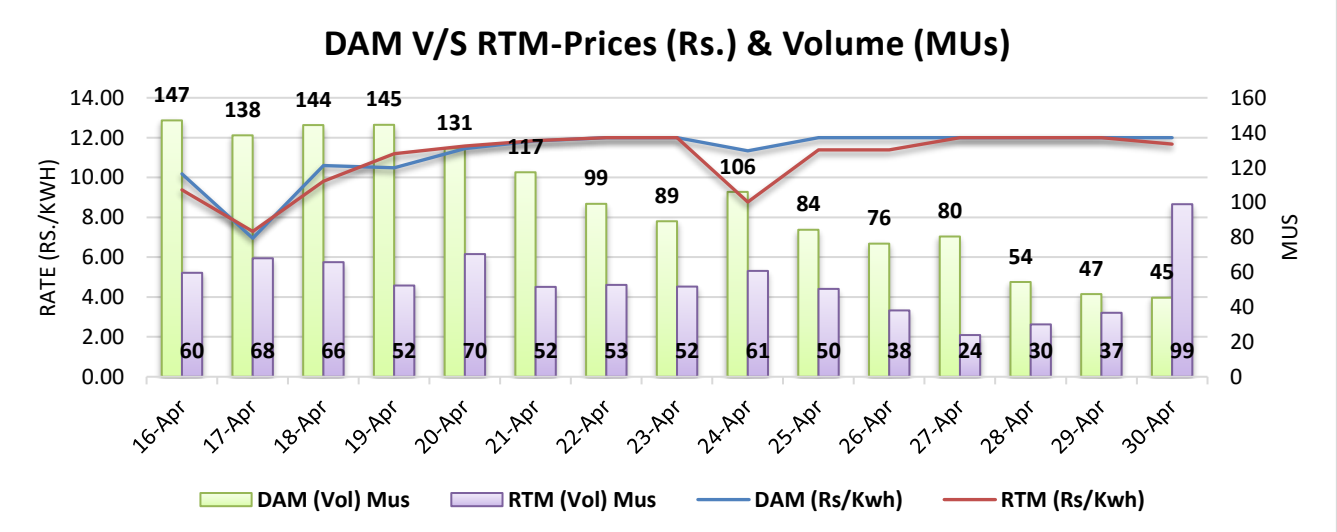
28	Sikkim	ER	38.77
29	DVC	ER	45.56
30	Bangladesh	ER	36.67
31	Arunachal Pradesh	NER	42.51
32	Assam	NER	41.85
33	Manipur	NER	41.98
34	Meghalaya	NER	40.60
35	Mizoram	NER	41.38
36	Nagaland	NER	56.70
37	Tripura	NER	46.18

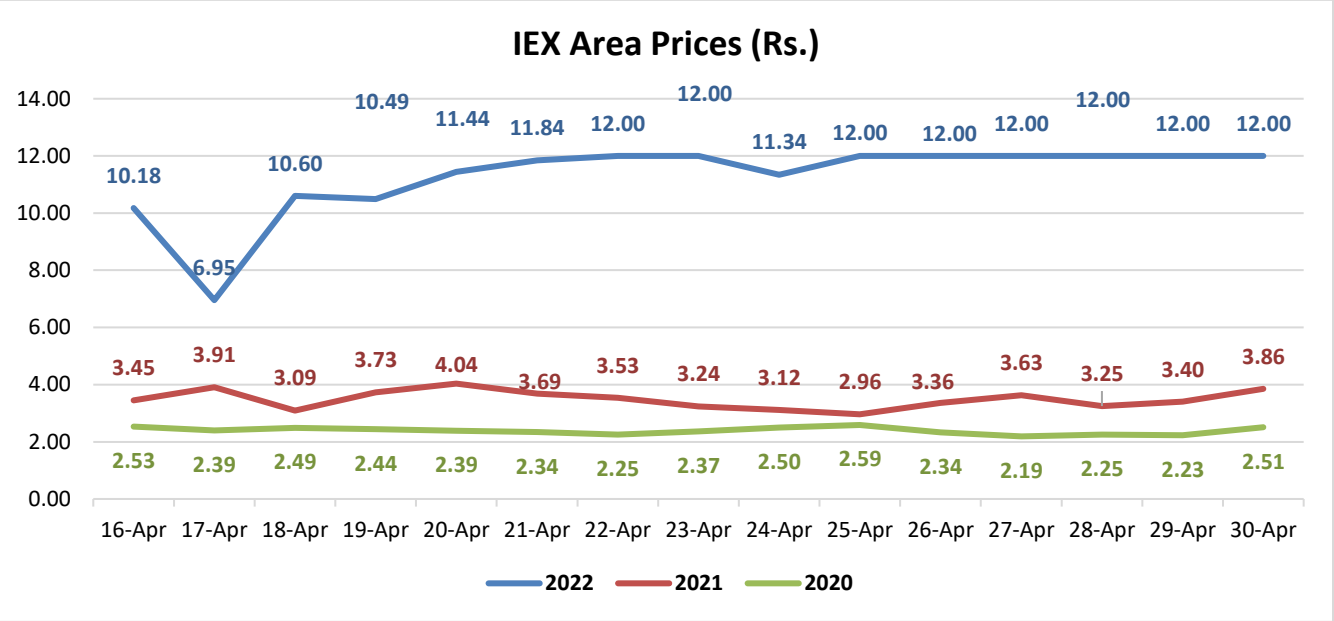
Bilateral Tender Results: -

Sl. No.	Tender Quantum (MW)	Supply Period	Time Blocks (Hrs.)	Price (Rs./kWh)	LOI Status
PSPCL/Short/22-23/RA/8					
1	1000	10.06.2022 to 30.06.2022	00:00 to 24:00	14.63	Awaited
2	1000	01.07.2022 to 31.07.2022	00:00 to 24:00	14	
3	1000	01.08.2022 to 31.08.2022	00:00 to 24:00	14	
4	1000	01.09.2022 to 30.09.2022	00:00 to 24:00	14	
5	1000	01.10.2022 to 20.10.2022	00:00 to 24:00	14.63	
PSPCL/Short/22-23/RA/31					
1	500	18.04.2022 to 23.04.2022	22:00 to 06:00	12	Awaited
2	500	24.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	22:00 to 06:00	12	
3	500	01.05.2022 to 08.05.2022	22:00 to 06:00	12	
4	500	09.05.2022 to 15.05.2022	22:00 to 06:00	12	
5	500	16.05.2022 to 23.05.2022	22:00 to 06:00	12	
6	500	24.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	22:00 to 06:00	12	
7	500	01.06.2022 to 09.06.2022	22:00 to 06:00	12	
8	300	18.04.2022 to 23.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
9	300	24.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
10	300	01.05.2022 to 08.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
11	300	09.05.2022 to 15.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
12	300	16.05.2022 to 23.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
13	300	24.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
14	300	01.06.2022 to 09.06.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
MP Power Management Company Ltd/Short/22-23/RA/38					
1	500	19.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	-	Awaited
2	500	01.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	14	

3	500	01.06.2022 to 15.06.2022	00:00 to 24:00	14	
PFC Consulting Limited/Short/22-23/RA/39 (UPPCL)					
1	600	01.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 06:00	15	Awaited
2	1500	01.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	19:00 to 24:00	15	
3	1600	01.06.2022 to 30.06.2022	00:00 to 06:00	15	
4	2150	01.06.2022 to 30.06.2022	19:00 to 24:00	15	
5	1100	01.07.2022 to 31.07.2022	19:00 to 24:00	-	
6	1050	01.08.2022 to 31.08.2022	19:00 to 24:00	-	
7	500	01.09.2022 to 30.09.2022	19:00 to 24:00	15	
Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited/Short/22-23/RA/43					
1	300	16.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.50-12.99	Awaited
2	300	01.06.2022 to 30.06.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.00-12.99	
3	300	01.07.2022 to 31.07.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.00-12.99	
4	300	01.08.2022 to 31.08.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.00-12.99	
5	300	01.09.2022 to 30.09.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.50-12.99	
6	300	01.10.2022 to 15.10.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12.00-12.99	
HARYANA POWER PURCHASE CENTRE(A JOINT FORUM OF UHBVN&DHBVN)/Short/22-23/RA/34					
1	750	22.04.2022 to 30.04.2022	00:00 to 24:00	-	Awaited
2	750	01.05.2022 to 31.05.2022	00:00 to 24:00	-	
3	750	01.06.2022 to 30.06.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
4	750	01.07.2022 to 31.07.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
5	750	01.08.2022 to 31.08.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	
6	750	01.09.2022 to 30.09.2022	00:00 to 24:00	-	
7	750	01.10.2022 to 15.10.2022	00:00 to 24:00	12	

IEX Price Trends





Weather (Estimated for next fortnight)

City	Max Temp	Min Temp	Precipitation (Probability)
DELHI	42	28	4%
MUMBAI	33	29	7%
KOLKATA	34	28	53%
CHENNAI	38	30	18%

(Source - Accuweather)

TPTCL offers comprehensive consultancy for Connectivity Long term Medium Term & short term Open Access- For details please contact px@tatapower.com; For any suggestions and feedback Please write to us on pmc@tatapower.com

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