

Indian Intervention on the agenda item 3(a): 3rd Session of Committee on Energy of UNESCAP

3(a) Follow-up on and review of progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 7 in Asia and the Pacific

- Sustainable Development Goal-7 (Affordable and clean energy) includes three targets to be achieved by 2030: 7.1 Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services; 7.2 Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix; and 7.3 Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.
- The Government of India is committed to improving the quality of life of its citizens by ensuring adequacy of electricity availability. The aim is to provide each household access to electricity, round the clock. The ‘Power for All’ by 2022 program is a major step in this direction.
- Indian experiences can be taken up as a case study for Universal Access to Energy as we have taken some landmark initiatives towards this endeavour like Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana - DDUGJY and Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – ‘SAUBHAGYA’. Under DDUGJY electricity was provided to all villages in the country. On 28th April, 2018 all inhabited census villages in the country were declared electrified.
- Under Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – ‘Saubhagya’ free electricity connections to all households were provided. There were around 3 Crore un-electrified households in the country as on October 2017 and as on March 2019, almost 100% electrification of households have been achieved.
- In an attempt to empower rural India with the clean fuel of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana was launched under which around 85 million LPG connections have been provided to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. The Government of India through its ambitious programmes has also brought the issue of Access to Clean Cooking into mainstream discussions, promoting an understanding of clean cooking energy among the masses.
- There is no congestion in transmission of electricity, and today, at the transmission level, we are one-nation; one-grid; one-price. Regional connectivity is an important aspect of India’s international economic initiatives. However, such connectivity must be based on universally recognized international norms, good governance, rule of law, openness, transparency and equality. They must follow principles of financial responsibility and must be pursued in a manner that respects sovereignty and territorial integrity.

- The web of transmission lines laid during the last six years have also achieved a true level of integration of India, as the electricity generated from the eastern part is available for lighting up houses in the western part of India.
- Govt. of India has also designed many innovative energy efficiency mechanisms and programs and successfully implemented several national energy efficiency programs like the Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT), Energy Conservation Building Codes (ECBC), Standards and Labelling for Energy Efficient Appliances among others.
- Standards and Labelling (S&L) scheme is a flagship initiative of GoI that was launched with the key objective of providing consumers an informed choice regarding the energy savings and thereby the cost-saving potential of various energy consuming appliances. This scheme prescribes minimum energy performance norms for appliances/ equipment, rating the energy performance on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the most energy efficient one. As on January, 2020 the programme covers 28 appliances out of which 10 appliances are under the mandatory regime while as the remaining 18 appliances are under the voluntary regime. The programme resulted in savings to the tune of 55 Billion Units of electricity during FY. 2018-19.
- The updated Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC) launched in the year 2017 and its adoption by the states would result in more than 25% energy savings. Presently, 17 States and UTs have notified ECBC for their states. As on December, 2020, 48 ULBs from 8 states have incorporated provisions of ECBC for building approval process. BEE has also launched the residential building energy conservation code and labelling program for residential building. Star Rating Program for buildings which is based on the energy usage in the building over its area expressed in kWh/sqm/year. This program rates buildings on 1-5 scale, with 5 star labelled buildings being most efficient. 264 commercial buildings have been star rated under different categories of buildings as on date.
- The Street Light National Programme (SNLP) has been instrumental in replacing over 1.14 crore LED street lights across India as on December, 2020. This has led to energy saving of 7.7 Billion Units with avoided peak demand of 1,284 MW and estimated GHG emission reduction of 6 million tonnes CO₂ per year.
- Successful implementations of programs on energy efficiency have led to:
 - a) Electrical energy savings of 147 Billion Units, worth INR 72,440 Crores (USD 10.34 billion) and resulted in reduction of 121.1 Million tonne of CO₂ emissions.
 - b) Thermal energy savings of 12.00 Million Tonnes of oil Equivalent, worth INR 22,083 Crores (USD 3.15 billion) and resulted in reduction of 39.91 Million tonne of CO₂ emission.
 - c) Total energy savings of 24.58 Million Tonnes of oil Equivalent i.e., 2.71% of total primary energy supply of the country.

- d) Total cost savings worth INR 94,523 crores (USD 13.50 billion) approximately.
- e) The equivalent reduction in CO₂ emission is around 161 Million Tonnes annually.
