

ENABLING RENEWABLE ENERGY GROWTH IN ASSAM

27th March 2024 | Vivanta, Guwahati



Meeting Note

- Assam has set itself an ambitious target of expanding the state's installed renewable energy capacity to 1,200 MW by 2027, under its new renewable energy policy launched in 2022 to fulfil its commitments under sustainable development goals and for ensuring energy security.
- At present, RE contributes 9% of the state's installed capacity of 2,037 MW (January 2024), while 69% is accounted for by coal and thermal capacities, and the remaining 26% is accounted for by hydro.
- Since the announcement of Assam Renewable Energy Policy 2022, there has been substantial momentum in large RE investments driven by state intervention, with nearly 2,000 MW of solar capacity in the pipeline (as ground-mounted, floating and agri-PV projects).
- While consistent efforts towards RE expansion are visible, structural challenges limiting sector growth persist, and the state's potential in large and distributed RE deployments remains underutilized.
- In the large RE segment, the challenges of perceived limited potential, high material costs and high grid integration costs persist.
- Meanwhile in the distributed RE segment, despite many successful deployment models and technology innovations, scale-up remains a challenge due to lack of institutional strength, interdepartmental coordination, and vendor ecosystem.
- In this background, the stakeholder meeting on 'enabling RE growth in Assam' is proposed as a dialogue platform to understand the progress made so far, deliberate on key opportunities and challenges for large and distributed RE growth in Assam, and to provide feedback on state-specific solutions.

Agenda

9:30 AM-10:00 AM	Registration
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	Session 1: Inaugural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Context setting presentation by Ms. Mandvi Singh, Programme Director, Energy, iFOREST • Welcome address by Dr. Jaideep Baruah, Director, Assam Energy Development Agency • Opening remarks/presentations by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shri Bibhu Bhuyan, Managing Director, Assam Power Generation Corporation Limited ○ Dr. Debajit Palit, Professor, NTPC School of Business • Address by chief guests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shri Rakesh Kumar, IAS, Managing Director, Assam Power Distribution Corporation Limited* ○ Smt. Laya Madduri, IAS, Secretary, Department of Science, Technology & Climate Change • Q&A
11:00 AM- 11:15 AM	Tea break
11:15 AM- 12:15 PM	Session 2: Developing utility-scale RE projects in Assam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation/remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Prasana Gogoi, Chief General Manager (NRE), Assam Power Generation Corporation Limited ○ Mr. Bedabrata Sinha Chaudhary, Chief General Manager (RE), Assam Power Distribution Corporation Limited* ○ Ms. Pranati Goswami, Chief General Manager Electrical, Oil India Limited ○ Ms. Mandvi Singh, Director, Clean Energy Programme, iFOREST • Q&A • Moderated by Mr. Tutika Bhanu Prakash, Regional Director, Clean Energy Programme, iFOREST
12:15 PM to 1:15 PM	Session 3: Scaling-up sustainable DRE deployments in Assam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation/remarks by:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Gunajit Sarma, Project Manager, SELCO Foundation ○ Mr. Fazle Mustaba, CEO and Founder, Envo Renewables ○ Mr. Pranjal Chakravarty, Vice-President and Founder, Gramya Vikash Manch ○ Mr. Masfick Hazarika, Programme Manager, WRI India <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Final remarks by Shri Mrinal Krishna Chowdhury, Ex-Director, AEDA ● Q&A ● Moderated by Ms. Mandvi Singh, Director, Clean Energy Programme, iFOREST
1:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Summary of discussions and Vote of Thanks by Ms. Mandvi Singh, Director, Clean Energy Programme, iFOREST ● Invitation to lunch

*Tentatively confirmed