

F. No. 26/9/2015-IPDS
Government of India
Ministry of Power

New Delhi, the 16th August, 2018

To

Pr. Secretary/Secretary (Energy) of all States/MDs of all DISCOMs

Subject – Road map for shifting over to smart/prepaid meters within the next three years-reg.

Sir,

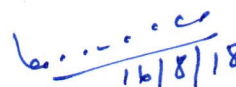
Kindly refer to DO letter dated 28.05.2018 from Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Power and New and Renewable Energy requesting drawing up a road map for shifting over to smart/prepaid meters within the next three years. The National Tariff policy, 2016 already mandates installation of Smart meters for consumers drawing upto 200 units per month by December, 2019. It also indicates that progressively all the meters for all consumers should be converted to Smart meters progressively.

2. Based on the requirements projected by the States, the Government of India has sanctioned funds to the tune of Rs. 830 Crores for Smart metering under IPDS. Funding has also been done for Smart meters under the National smart Grid mission under Smart grid projects. Besides this, it is understood that several States have also started projects of Smart metering under business models with EESL as well as under multilateral funding.

3. Smart meters have an added benefit of possibility of operation in prepaid mode. Smart meter in the prepaid mode or simple prepaid meters will do away with the problems of meter reading and billing. Smart meters in prepaid mode will detect thefts as such meters would enable real time energy audit, thereby being a major enabler for reduction of AT&C losses. Prepaid mode also empowers the consumers, including those in rural areas, to use electricity as per need, and would enable energy conservation measures by making the cost of electricity salient to them in real time.

4. It is therefore advised with the approval of Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power that States may consider switching over to Smart meters in prepaid mode/simple prepaid meters over a period of next three years, say by March, 2021. A roadmap for the same may please be sent to this Ministry at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,



(G. Swan Za Lian)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

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