

Workshop on Strategies for implementation of UDAY Scheme in Karnataka

Date: August 29, 2017

Venue: Vivanta by Taj, M G Road, Bengaluru

CSTEP with support of Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (SSEF) conducted a study for developing a strategic roadmap for effective implementation of UDAY Scheme for Mangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (MESCOM) and Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation Limited (CESC) in Karnataka. A workshop was conducted on Aug 29, 2017 with the primary objective of disseminating the findings of the study undertaken by CSTEP.

UDAY Scheme was launched by Government of India in Nov 2015 for improvement in the financial and operational parameters of state owned DISCOMs. The purpose of the study conducted by CSTEP was to identify challenges in implementing select initiatives and provide a roadmap for improving operational efficiency of MESCOM and CESC.

Some of the key points discussed during the workshop include:

- AT&C loss reduction is identified as a vital element for improving health of distribution sector as it could aid in enhancing both operational and financial efficiency of DISCOMs
- 100% metering, Distribution Transformer (DT) level auditing and DT preventive maintenance are some of the key measures for bringing down the AT&C losses
- There is an urgent need for identifying high loss feeders in each DISCOM through detailed energy auditing process. Mitigation measures should be adopted to ensure that revenue is realised for all the units sold for each feeder
- Establishing power purchase planning cell in DISCOMs would enable better forecasting of the demand requirements at the DISCOM level
- In order to ensure 100% collection efficiency, vigilance units should be established to monitor the energy auditing activities more regularly and stringently. Further, regular checks of accuracy class of meters (installed at feeders, distribution transformers and consumer premises) should be conducted
- A monthly review mechanism should be introduced along with target setting/goal plans for employees at all levels in the organisation. Workload norms should be followed for setting of targets especially at the operational level
- Performance based incentives and penalty mechanisms should be introduced to make employees more responsible and accountable
- Regular training sessions should be conducted for all employees including field level functionaries
- Integration of data (presently existing in multiple softwares) is a challenge being faced by the DISCOMs. Use of data management tools and data analytics for mitigating this challenge should be explored by the utilities
- A project based approach should be followed by focusing on implementation of select initiatives under UDAY scheme for a specific geographic area. Lessons learnt from such focused projects could be used as a model for replicability in the rest of the DISCOMs/other states in the country

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