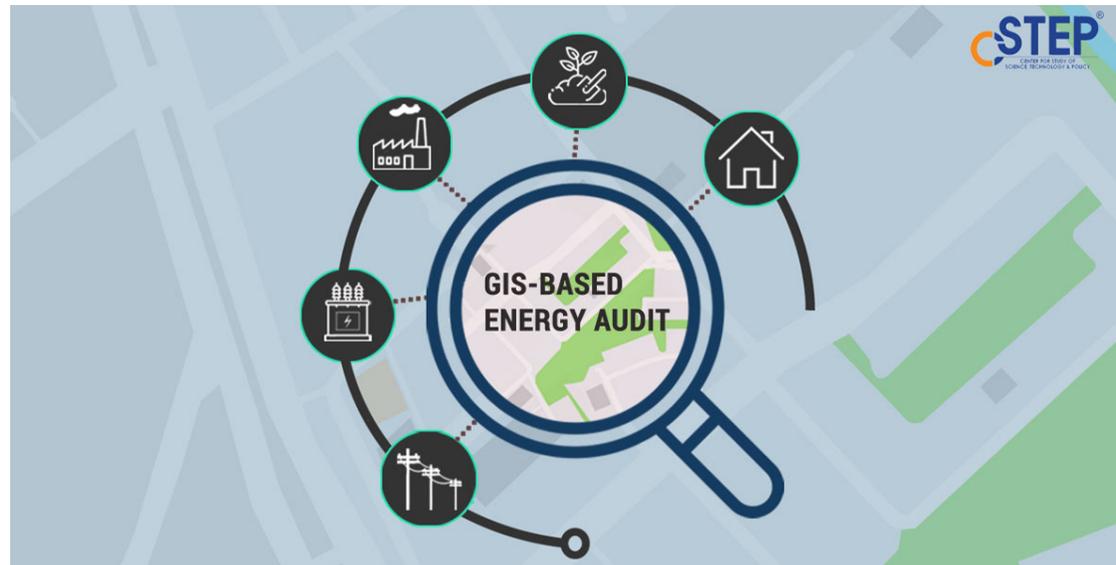


POLICY Matters

We are pleased to announce that CSTEP's Board of Directors has formally appointed Dr Jai Asundi as the Executive Director of CSTEP. Dr Jai Asundi is amongst the early employees at CSTEP and has played an important role in building CSTEP as a technology-focussed think tank. In his various roles at CSTEP—the most recent being Director of Research and Communication—he has been instrumental in ensuring a high quality of research, and the effective communication of research implications in simple terms. He has been an ardent proponent of regular vibrant communication for emphasising the role of science and technology in society. He has mentored teams across areas spanning energy, climate, information technology, and urban development. He spearheaded the establishment of AI for Social Impact as a sector of work, and the creation of Centre for Air Pollution Studies (CAPS) at CSTEP. His broader research interests lie in decision making and the development of decision-support systems for diverse public-policy problems.



Dr Asundi holds a B.Tech. in Chemical Engineering from IIT Bombay, and a Ph.D. in Engineering and Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon University. He is a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Engineering and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University.



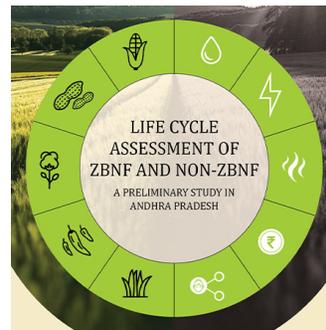
Geographical Information Systems can play a significant role in addressing the data gaps in the current energy-auditing processes followed by electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs). This technology solution allows for a more scientific and transparent process and is a crucial step in enabling financially sustainable electrical distribution companies. Read the article [here](#) and let us know your views.

CSTEP Change-makers



"Today the government is

CSTEP in the News



[Sustainability Next](#), an online

Tipping the Scale



[Dr Indu Murthy](#), who heads

Grid'. It is an ambitious plan to connect solar energy supply across borders with India at the fulcrum. Our CSTEM-PV tool can support this idea by providing a means to perform techno-economic prefeasibility analysis to assess prospective sites for setting solar power plants in India."

- Harshid Sridhar

Senior Research Engineer

Farming (ZBNF), titled "Lifecycle Assessment of ZBNF and Non-ZBNF". It is a preliminary study in Andhra Pradesh, which looks at the potential savings in water, electricity, and emissions resulting from the ZBNF farming practice. The study recommends a deeper investigation to validate the scientific nature of ZBNF. Learn more about the study [here](#).

Environment, & Ecosystem sector), was a panelist in two webinars in the India-UK Citizen Science and Water Challenges webinar series. She spoke about her experience of running a 3-year Citizen Science/Experiential Learning Programme for corporates, during her tenure at the Indian Institute of Science. Recordings of the webinars are available [here](#).

Solutions



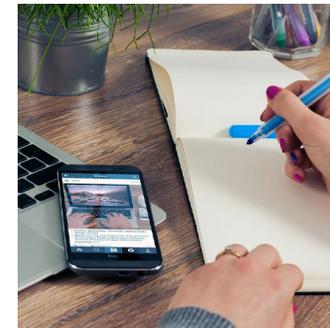
The [FRAMES](#) model can help electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs) become financially sustainable. In it, each feeder is treated as a profit centre and the feeder manager as

Events



The rooftop solar segment is amongst the most affected industries post COVID-19, and this has serious implications for India's renewable energy targets. We developed the 'Policy Optimiser for Rooftop

On Our Minds

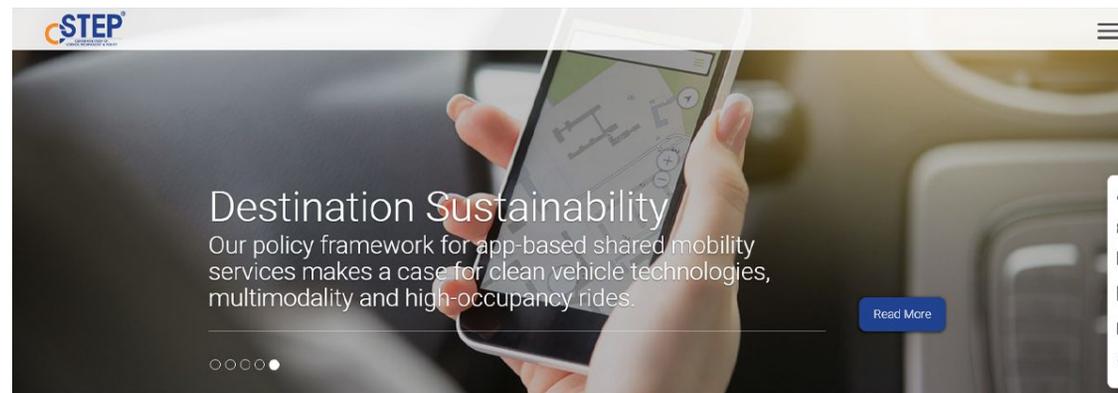


Our researchers have written on a variety of topics last month— from [managing the dual crisis of COVID-19 and climate change](#) and [communicating research visually](#), to [GIS mapping for](#)

target revenue that a feeder needs to earn commensurate with the cost of energy input supplied to it. DISCOMs can implement this model without any modification to their existing administrative setup and the model can be replicated for all feeders under a DISCOM's jurisdiction.

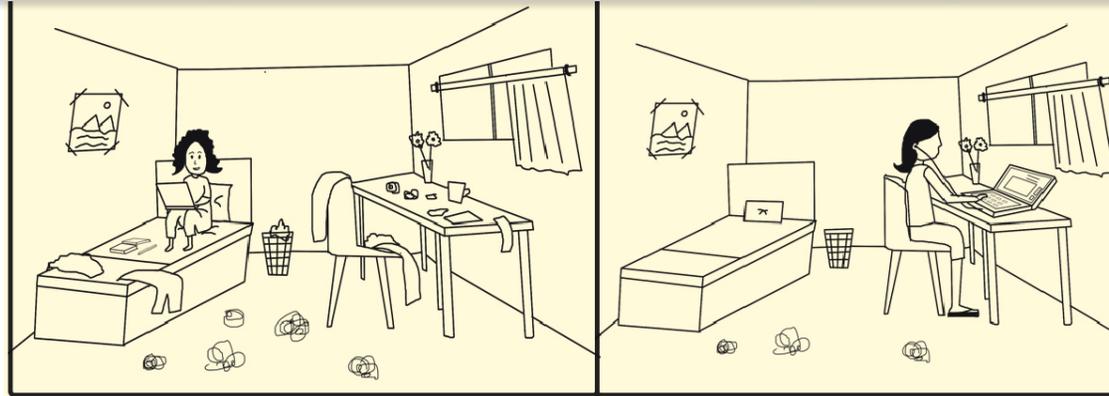
combinations of aggregator models, keeping in view the interests of consumers, industries and DISCOMs. Join us for an online discussion titled 'Aggregator Models for DISCOM Profitability in RTPV' on 30th June. Follow us on [Twitter](#) for updates.

reading these articles. Also read a researcher's experience of [building a tool \(CSTEM PV\)](#) that can help India achieve its true solar potential; an article [on technology and think tanks](#); and some technology solutions for [urban cooling](#).



We also have a [revamped website](#) reflecting our reorganised research sectors and latest publications, among other things. Please have a look and let us know what you think.

The Funny Side



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