RE-STRUCTURED ACCELERATED POWER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (APDRP) was first contemplated by the Government of India during the year 2002-2003. The main objectives of the APDRP scheme is to improve the financial viability of the state power utilities/boards, reduce Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses, improve reliability, quality and availability of power supply, introduce systems approach with MIS. The APDRP also aims at bringing transparency in operations of the power utilities through IT implementation and thereby improve consumer satisfaction.

The scheme was further modified during the XI Plan as "Restructured Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (R-APDRP)" with the aim of restoring the commercial viability of the distribution sector by putting in place appropriate mechanism so as to substantially reduce the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses. In the first instance, the R-APDRP seeks to address the issue of building the baseline data including meter data acquisition. After ascertaining the AT&C losses, the issue of power system up gradation and modernization is taken up.

Highlights of the programme are:

- The focus of the programme is on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of sustained loss reduction.
- Establishment of reliable and automated systems for sustained collection of accurate base line data and adoption of IT in the areas of energy accounting are necessary preconditions for the sanction of projects.
- The programme will cover all urban areas, cities and towns with a population of more than 30,000 (10,000 in case of special category states)
- The projects under the programme will be executed in two parts as below:
- Part-A: Preparation of Base-Line Data for the project area covering Consumer Indexing, GIS Mapping, Metering of distribution transformers and feeders and Automatic Data Logging for all distribution transformers and feeders and SCADA/DMS system (only in the project area having more than 4 lakhs population and annual input energy of the order of 350 Million Units). It would include Asset Mapping of the entire distribution network at and below the 11 KV Transformers and include the distribution transformers and feeders, L.T lines, poles and other distribution Network equipment. It will also include adoption of Information Technology application for meter reading, billing and collection; energy accounting and auditing; MIS; redressal of consumer grievances, establishment of Information Technology enabled consumer service centers etc. The base line data and required system shall be verified by an independent agency appointed by Ministry of Power.
- Part-B: Renovation, Modernization and strengthening of 11 KV level Sub-Stations, Transformers/Transformer centers, Re-conductoring of lines at 11 KV level and below, load bifurcation, feeder separation, load balancing, HVDS (11KV), Aerial Bunched conductoring in dense areas, replacement of electro-magnetic energy meters with tamper proof electronics meters, installation of capacitor banks and mobile service centers etc. In exceptional cases, where Sub-Transmission system is weak, strengthening at 33 KV or 66 KV levels may also be considered.
- For projects undertaken under Part-A, 100% funding will be provided for the approved projects through loan from the Government of India. The loan shall be converted into grant once the establishment of the required system is completed within three years from the date of sanctioning and verified by an independent agency.
- For projects sanctioned under Part-B, conversion of the loan into grant will take place yearly based on the AT&C losses of the project area duly verified by the Independent agency appointed by the Ministry of Power.
- The scheme also envisages incentive for the staff of the power utilities in towns where AT&C losses are brought below 15%.
- The Power Finance Corporation is appointed as the nodal agency for operationalising and implementation of the programme under the guidance of Ministry of Power.

IT CONSULTANT

In accordance with the guidelines issued by the Power Finance corporation, M/s NDPL has been appointed as the IT Consultant for the Union Territory of Chandigarh for undertaking projects under the R-APDRP.