

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

The India Smart Grid Task Force (ISGTF) set up by the Ministry of Power, Govt. of India had recommended to implement Smart Grid Projects on pilot basis in 8 cities of India. Puducherry Govt. in collaboration with Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCIL) is going to implement the first such project in the country in the Puducherry Town limit (Division-I of Electricity Department) on a pilot basis. The entire project will be implemented by PGCIL and its associates without any financial implication for the Govt. of Puducherry or the citizens of Puducherry. This project will mainly involve installation of Advance Metering Infrastructure with a Central Data Control Centre which will help both the consumer and the Electricity Department. The consumer at any point of time will know the exact billing amount and accordingly manage his power usage. The Electricity Department will be able to monitor online the energy usage pattern by the consumer and trace any mal-practice and theft of energy. It would also be possible to connect or dis-connect power supply online from the Central Control. Besides, this Advance Metering Infrastructure can assist the department to bill power tariff online and collection of dues online. This system can be put to a large number of other usages which will unfold with progress of time.

With the help of this system the Power Department will be able to reduce its distribution and line (AT & C) losses from existing 22.6% to 8.86%. Besides, the tariff collection efficiency can be improved from the existing 90% to 98%. This project will have immense benefits by way of saving of energy. The resultant benefit has been estimated at around Rs.12.24 crores per annum which will be enjoyed by the Electricity Department, Puducherry, without having to make any investment in the Project. After assessing its benefits a decision can be taken to extend it to other areas of the UT.

This Smart Grid scheme will have the built-in facility for diversifying into a Smart-City project covering other areas like water supply system, security management, smart buildings, operation of electrical vehicles, e-education/medical/governance, etc.

On 2nd March, 2012 to this effect a MoU was signed between the Secretary (Power) representing Govt. of Puducherry and Executive Director(Projects) on behalf of the PGCIL in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Hon'ble Minister(Power) , Chief Secretary and other senior officials from the Department of Power, Govt. of Puducherry and PGCIL.
