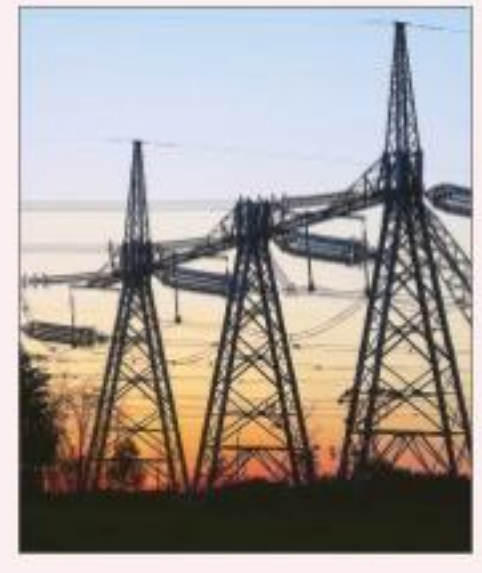


BEHIND SCHEDULE
Parl panel recommends tariff revision for power plants facing delays

FE BUREAU New Delhi, March 13

IN LIGHT OF increasing burden of electricity tariffs on financially stressed discoms stemming from delays in construction of power plants, a parliamentary committee on energy wants the revision of power purchase agreements (PPAs) with these plants. There are 19 thermal power plants, under the Central government, where construction delays have raised project costs to ₹1.99 lakh crore from the initial estimate of ₹1.87 lakh crore. Similarly, there are 13 hydro power plants being built by Central government units, where project expenditure has gone up to ₹86,698 crore from ₹50,336 crore due to time overruns in construction.



cheaper rate in short term market."

The parliamentary panel recommended the Union power ministry to 'make a provision for review of such PPAs, wherein, tariff has been increased owing to cost overrun due to delay in development of a power project'. While observing that 'the issue of long term PPAs has become a conundrum', the panel noted that 'on one hand, there are power generators who insist on honouring of long-term PPAs at any cost as they have made huge investments in their projects while on the other hand, there are discoms who do not want to purchase power at higher rate through long-term PPAs as it is available at much

generators to sign PPAs through bidding. About 7,500 MW of such PPAs were part of the spree when NTPC signed PPAs for 21 projects of 40,840 MW in three months before the January, 2011 deadline. Some of the major reasons behind delays in power project construction are slow civil works, contractual issues, law & order problem, delay in handing over the units by BHEL, and changes in layout plan. For hydro plants, delays are caused by land acquisition, environment and forest issues, rehabilitation and resettlement issues, natural calamities, geological uncertainties difficult terrain and poor accessibility.

Revising power tariffs of under construction projects could help a number of hydro power plants see the light of the day as discoms would then find the rates viable and would agree to buy power from such units. On the other hand, revising rates for thermal generating stations will be a negative for NTPC. Out of the 19 under construction thermal plants mentioned above, 14 units comprising 74% of the aforementioned capacity, are owned by NTPC. PPAs for more than 70% of NTPC's coal-based capacity under various stages of construction were signed before 2011, after which it became mandatory for power

7.28 lakh households remain unelectrified

FE BUREAU New Delhi, March 13

AS MANY AS 7.3 lakh households remain unelectrified in the country as they are still 'unwilling' to take electricity connections for their premises. As on February 28, the largest number of such unwilling households are in Uttar Pradesh (5.82 lakh), followed by Jharkhand (68.1 thousand) and Assam (45.4 thousand), according to a response in the Lok Sabha by Union power minister RK Singh.

Under the Saubhagya scheme, all states have declared electrification of all households on March 2019, except 18,734 households in left wing extremism affected areas of Chhattisgarh. At that time, there were 19.1 lakh un-electrified households which were unwilling to get electricity connection. Since

most of the leftout households are in Uttar Pradesh, a parliamentary panel on energy has recently recommend the Union power ministry to coordinate and provide necessary assistance to the state if so required. According to informed sources, most of the unwilling households use illegal power connections. The parliamentary committee has also recommended that the power ministry 'should endeavour to lay underground cabling on priority basis in the areas which are highly prone to power theft'. Though underground cabling is just three

years by reducing pilferage. As many as 2.63 crore households were electrified across the country by FY19 since launch of Saubhagya in September 2017. The scheme had an outlay of ₹16,320 crore, including a gross budgetary support of ₹12,320 crore from the Centre. No upfront fee was needed for availing electricity connection under Saubhagya. While the poor households got the connection for free, ₹500 was charged for other households, in 10 installments of ₹50 each, adjusted in monthly electricity bills.

Mandaviya to inaugurate five projects under JNPT

UNION MINISTER MANSUKH Lal Mandaviya will inaugurate five projects at Jawaharlal Nehru Port on Saturday.

He will also inaugurate Ro-Pax Terminal & Ro-Pax Ferry Vessel on March 15 at Mandwa, Maharashtra. "The minister of state for shipping will inaugurate tomorrow the 5 projects completed under JNPT at JNPT Mumbai," a statement by shipping ministry said.

The projects include a flyover, a centralised parking plaza, X-Ray scanning facility, augmentation of 220/33KV master unit sub station and Shiva Samarth Smarak Museum.

Mandaviya will also inaugurate the Ro-Pax

Ferry Vessel and its terminal at Mandwa on Sunday. Mandwa Port is one of the important passenger ports on the coast of Maharashtra. — PTI

TMB Home Loan advertisement with image of a house and text: 'Unlock the door to your future! Discover home loans made for you. TMB HOME LOAN. Maximum loan upto ₹50 Lakh and ₹25 lakh for renovation projects. Toll Free : 180 0425 0426 | www.tmb.in'

Govt approves ₹7,660-cr green highway project

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA New Delhi, March 13

THE GOVERNMENT ON Friday approved a proposal for the development of 780 km of national highways in four states at a cost of ₹7,660 crore. This project will set new standards for green highway projects in the form of green cover, utilisation of reusable material in laying roads etc. The project investment includes ₹3,500 crore assistance from the World Bank under Green National Highways Corridor Project (GNHCP). "The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister



Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for Rehabilitation and Upgradation of 2-Lane/2-Lane with paved shoulders/4-Lane configuration and strengthening of stretches of various National Highways covering a total length of over 780 km in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh," ministry of road transport and highways said in a statement.

UP cabinet passes Ordinance against damage to public properties

THE UTTAR PRADESH cabinet on Friday approved 'UP Recovery of damage to public properties Ordinance-2020' for recovery of losses due to damage to government and private properties during political processions.

The decision in this regard was taken by a cabinet meeting chaired by chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday evening.

"The cabinet has approved UP Recovery of damage to public properties Ordinance-2020 for recovery of losses of government and private properties during political processions, illegal agitations," UP minister Suresh Kumar Khanna told reporters after the cabinet meeting.

When asked about the rules and regulations regarding this, the minister said, 'Niyamawali me sari cheez spashit ho jayegi' (Everything will be clear in the rules and regulations being framed).

"As per the SC decision to constitute recovery tribunal to recover losses to government and private properties in political and illegal agitations in the country, the resolution to bring the ordinance has been passed in the cabinet," he said. — PTI

MEGA e-AUCTION SALE NOTICE (Under SARFAESI Act 2002) Central Bank of India. PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES ON 31.03.2020. E-Auction Sale Notice of Immovable Assets under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Includes table with columns: S. No., Name of Branch, Authorised Officer & Ph. No., Name of the Account, Description of Secured Assets, Demand Notice Date & Amount Dues (Rs. in Lakhs), Date of Possession, Rs. in Lakhs (EMD, Bid Increase, Reserve Price, Deposit, Bid Increase).

MEGA e-AUCTION SALE NOTICE (Under SARFAESI Act 2002) Central Bank of India. ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH, SORABJI BHAWAN, 4/54, D.B. GUPTA ROAD, KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI-110005. SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES ON 31.03.2020. E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Asset/s under The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Includes table with columns: S. No., Name of Branch, Authorised Officer & Ph. No., Name of the Account, Description of Secured Assets, Demand Notice & Amount Dues in (Rs.), Date of Possession, Reserve Price, Bid Increase, Deposit, Bid Increase.

Punjab & Sind Bank E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE. PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY LAST DATE AND TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS: ON/BEFORE 30 MARCH, 2020 UPTO 4:00PM. DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION: 31 MARCH, 2020, 11.30 AM TO 1.30 PM. Sale of immovable property mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002). Includes table with columns: S. No., Name of the Borrower and Guarantor, Demand notice dt, Description of the Immovable Property, Reserve Price (Rs), EMD (Rs), Bid Increase (Amt/Rs).

ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE Resolution, Recovery & Law Cluster Meerut. CORRI GENDUM (E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE). With reference to our "E-Auction Sale Notice" published on 29.02.2020 in Financial Express (English) newspaper, Delhi Edition, the sale of the property mentioned at Borrower's name- M/S B Rathi Power Transmission Private Ltd. of Roorkee Road, Meerut Branch (Date of Auction 30.03.2020). The Property Reserve Price Rs. 20.00 Lakh & EMD Rs. 2.00 Lakh & Bid Increase Amount Rs. 0.50 Lakh read as instead of Reserve Price Rs. 13.60 Lakh & EMD Rs. 1.36 & Bid Increase Amount Rs. 0.50 Lakh. All other properties for E-auction in terms & conditions of our Publication dated 29.02.2020 will remain same. Date: 13.03.2020, Place: Meerut Authorised Officer