

Concerns/Issues raised by participants in Channel Partner conclave dated 09.11.2016

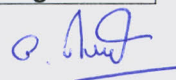
Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, in association with TERI, organized a Conclave for Channel Partners on 9th November 2016 at SOPE Auditorium, SCOPE Complex, New Delhi. The conclave was attended by around 130 participants. Presentations were delivered by MNRE on opportunity in sector including upcoming schemes, standards and procedures, performance of Channel Partners and Guidelines for Channel Partners. Presentations were also delivered by Channel Partners highlighting their achievements and also the hurdles being faced in the RTS sector. The program ended with a detailed discussion between MNRE and Channel Partners in which following issues/concerns were raised by the participants:

Concerns Raised	Clarification
Spin/ Website Related Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forget password option has to be provided in SPIN to enable users to regenerate their lost password.• Mandatory option of mentioning project cost in SPIN should be made optional for projects under non-subsidized category.• Notification of all rooftop tenders on MNRE website.• PCR (Project Completion Report) entry for non-subsidized projects and relaxation for updating legacy data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Forget Password</u> option will be provided by the NIC team in SPIN.• The provision of entering project cost in SPIN had been made optional for non-subsidized category.• MNRE will instruct all states to either hoist their tenders on MNRE website or provide a link for the same.• Submission of PCRs on SPIN is mandatory. However, a simplified PCR form on SPIN with only name, address and contact of beneficiary, installed plant capacity and location may be developed for legacy data upto 31st December 2015. For installations done after 31st December 2015 under non-subsidized category, Channel Partners should submit complete data as asked in the standard PCR form.

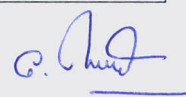


Scheme Related Issues:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarification on CFA (central financial assistance) disbursal mechanism.• For projects under incentive schemes, time line for commissioning of projects after completion of 80% work has to be clarified.• How to devise benchmark cost in states where no previous tenders have taken place.• Clarification on eligibility of captive systems for CFA.• Clarification on subsidy allocation to agencies which have not participated in SNA/PSU tender. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The CFA is being provided to residential, social and institutional consumers by MNRE through SNAs. The CFA is fixed as 30% / 70% of bench mark cost or 30%/ 70% of the price discovered through transparent bidding process, whichever is lower, for general category/ special category States/UTs.• Completion of 80 % work is related to actual commission of target given and not with activities which are being done in commissioning process.
Timeline for commissioning of 100 % of the target is upto 12 months in General Category States/UTs and upto 15 Months in Special Category States/UTs. In addition, a time frame upto 6 months will be given for finalising of work order. The incentives will be provided according to MNRE notification no. 03/88/2015-16/GCRT dated 04.05.2016 in vogue and as amended from time to time.• The respective SNA have to invite tender to devise benchmark cost for availing central financial assistance form MNRE.• Captive systems are also eligible for CFA. Notification in this regard has already been uploaded on MNRE website.• The agencies which have not participated in the SNA/PSU tender will be eligible for CFA only if the respective SNA/PSU has reserved some capacity in the open category as provisioned by MNRE notification no. 03/88/2015-16/GCRT dated 08.09.2016. Otherwise, no CFA will be provided to agencies |
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification on eligibility of CFA for not for profit entities 	<p>which have not participated in SNA/PSU tender.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per MNRE notification no. 03/88/2015-16/GCRT dated 02.09.2016, only registered organisations and institutions under the Societies Registration Act 1860 and the Indian Trust Act 1882 will be eligible for subsidy under the Grid Connected Rooftop and Small Solar Power Plants Programme. However, if these act are not in vogue in any state, then corresponding state act is applicable under which societies are registered
<p>Project Execution Related Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of the condition in tenders that mounting structure has to make contact with fixed part of the roof so as to address concerns raised by insurance companies. SNAs should be advised to practice single point inspection of RTS projects. It was reported that in Kerala there are multiple inspections which delay the commissioning time of projects and result in loss of revenue. DisComs should be made responsible for inspection of projects so as to facilitate commissioning of RTS projects and curb malpractices associated with it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provisions would be made in the tenders so as to allow both pre-fabricated ballast structures for mounting or mounting structure has to make contact with fixed part of the roof, depending on the condition of the roof. The matter will be taken up with SNAs for progress in this regard The matter would be taken up with DisComs for further action.
<p>Policy Related Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third party model should also be considered as captive model in RTS installations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The third party model are already included in the MNRE scheme vide no. 30/11/2012-13/NSM dated 26.06.2014.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniformity should be maintained in tenders in terms of specifications. It was highlighted that in case of Min. of Railways tenders, there is variations in specifications. • Single empanelment process for channel partners as some states require channel partners to follow the same empanelment process for their registration with respective SNA. • The clause of minimum guaranteed energy & CUF to be removed from solar tenders. • SOP to be prepared for RTS systems for enabling expeditious installations. • Provision of minimum charges to be removed from bills of DisComs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model tender have already been prepared by SECI for both CAPEX and RESCO projects. Efforts will be made to ensure that the specifications mentioned in SECI tenders will be used as standard specifications in all RTS tenders. • MNRE empaneled Channel Partners/New Entrepreneurs are eligible to participate in tenders across all States. However, SNAs would be advised to take benefit of this single empanelment process to reduce transaction cost and expedite progress. • MNRE will discuss it in length for any relaxation. However, a minimum criterion has to be kept to ensure quality installations. • SOP will be devised for RTS systems along with minimum quality standards. • The matter will be taken up with DisComs to obtain their views on this matter.
<p>Regulatory Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>RTS System Capacity:</u> State regulators allow the size of RTS plant that can be installed at a particular site depending on the connected load of the consumer and DT capacity. These specifications vary from state to state. Uniform specifications need to be worked out in this regard. • <u>Mandatory Inspection by Chief Electrical Inspectors:</u> The plants below a certain limit may be exempted from inspection by CEI/IE. Some states have already notified these limits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The matter has been represented in Forum of Regulators (FOR) meeting held on 30.09.2016. • The matter has been represented in Forum of Regulators (FOR) meeting held on 30.09.2016.

