

Uttar Pradesh emerges as a leader in smart meter installation across India

- Out of over 5,00,000 smart meters installed in India, more than 4,00,000 smart meters have been installed in UP
- In the first phase, it is being implemented in 13 cities of the state; smart meters are tamper proof, reading goes straight to the computers eliminating human error; necessary step to prevent wastage of electricity
- Smart Meters meet the global standards at just 1/3rd the market cost; both 2G & 3G technology is sufficient for its optimal functioning

Lucknow, 13 August 2019 – Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture of four public sector enterprises under the Ministry of Power, Government of India, today announced the successful installation of over 5,00,000 smart meters in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh, under the Government of India's Smart Meter National Programme (SMNP). The smart meters operational in these states aim to enhance consumer convenience and rationalise electricity consumption. Uttar Pradesh, with over 4,00,000 smart meters, has the highest number of installations till date in India. Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL) in association with EESL aims to replace 40 lakh electricity meters with smart meters. Since 2018, the smart meters have been installed in the 13 cities – Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi, Allahabad, Gorakhpur, Meerut, Moradabad, Aligarh, Saharanpur, Jhansi, Mathura, Bareilly and Faizabad.

Commenting on the milestone, **Smt. Aparna U, Managing Director, UPPCL** said, *"Uttar Pradesh is committed towards reforming its power sector, with a view to bring in more transparency, providing commercial viability, quality power at affordable rates to all its citizens and increasing their awareness on saving energy. The Govt. of U.P. is undertaking its reform programme with vigour. Installation of tamper-proof smart meters is part of its resolve to make Uttar Pradesh a more energy-efficient state and is a revolutionary step towards checking pilferage, providing better power supply and enhancing revenue recovery. It will improve operational efficiency of our DISCOMs, along with ensuring customer satisfaction and improved service delivery. Smart meters will provide consumers with greater control over their electricity usage and accurate billing on their electricity consumption. In addition to this, consumers will get rid of manual errors in meter reading. They will also be able to pay their bills easily through mobile phone in cities."*

UPPCL had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with EESL last year, to roll out 40 lakh smart meters, which will enable DISCOMs to save Rs. 8000 crores over eight years. With DISCOMs enhancing their operational efficiencies and increasing their revenue, they can focus on investing in value-added services for its consumers. After the installation of smart meters, DISCOMs have started experiencing positive results. Kanpur Electricity Supply Company (KESCO) witnessed a 8.4 percent increase in average revenue per unit (ARPU) during the January to July 2019 period over 2018 revenues, after deploying smart meters. Similarly, Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited, a DISCOM in Meerut has witnessed a 21 percent increase in average monthly revenue.



UPPCL

Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited



Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. Rajiv Kumar, General Manager, EESL** said, *“Electricity is an essential commodity which is a pre-requisite for maintaining economic growth, quality of life and standard of living. To ensure reliable, affordable, and accessible electricity to all, Central Govt and Government of UP are leveraging the potential of energy efficiency through various programmes. The transition to smart meters is one such transformative initiative which will help in ensuring uninterrupted supply of power throughout the nooks and corners of UP and across the country. We take immense pride in how much we we have accomplished within a short period of time. We have made significant progress in this journey, as 5,00,000 smart meters have already been installed and the state of Uttar Pradesh is leading the charge, with 4,00,000 installations till date.*

“Adoption of smart meter technology not only enhances consumer convenience but also their contribution to India’s sustainable development” **added Mr Kumar.**

Made with the latest technology as well as certified and type tested by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) as per IS 16444 guidelines, which are followed and accepted globally, these smart meters are installed in accordance with guidelines issued by the Central Electricity Authority, Government of India. Smart meters are a part of the overall Advanced Metering Infrastructure solution (AMI) that measures and records consumers’ electricity usage at different times of the day and sends this information to the energy supplier through GPRS technology. This gives consumers better access to information and enables them to make more informed decisions on the use of electricity in their homes. This can immediately control AT&C losses, due to power pilferage, bypassing meters, defective meters, or errors in meter reading. Every kilowatt of power drawn from the grid is thus accounted for – and billed, thereby reviving DISCOM revenues.

EESL’s unique model – Pay-as-you-save (PAYS) has been at the core of this successful implementation and positive experience of the partner DISCOMs. EESL procures smart meters, as well as services of the system integrator with 100 percent investment, enabling DISCOMs to benefit with zero upfront financial investment. Their repayment to EESL is through the monetisation of energy savings, resulting from enhanced billing accuracy, avoided meter reading costs and other efficiencies. These savings further enable DISCOMs to invest in value-added services for its consumers.

The smart meter technology is critical to India’s ongoing power sector reforms. The Smart Meter National Programme that aims to retrofit 25 crore conventional meters with smart variants will lead to 80-100 per cent improvement in billing efficiency.

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