

Enabling State Level Strategic Actions for India's NDC | Assam Chapter |

Date: 14th December, 2020 (3:15 – 6:00 pm IST)



Dr. Jyoti K. Parikh

Executive Director, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADE)



Ms. Moutushi Sengupta

Director, India Office, MacArthur Foundation



Shri. Rajesh Prasad, IAS

Principal Secretary, Agriculture Department, Government of Assam Agriculture Production Commissioner, CEO, MMS-CMSGUY and Commissioner, Lower Assam Division, Administrator, BTC, Assam



Shri. Niraj Verma, IAS

Principal Secretary, Power Department, Principal Secretary, Urban Development Department, Personnel and A.R. Training Department Government of Assam



Shri. Mrinal K. Choudhury

Additional Director, Assam Energy Development Agency (AEDA)



Shri. V. K. Pipersenia, IAS (Retd.)

Chairman, Assam Power Generation Company Limited (APGCL), Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited (AEGCL), Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL)



Prof. Kirit Parikh

Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADE)



Shri. Pankaj Batra

Project Director IRADe- SARI/EI, Ex-Chairperson (i/c) & Member (Planning), Central Electricity Authority



Shri. Rakesh Agarwala, IAS

Managing Director, Assam Power Distribution Company Ltd. (APDCL)



Dr. Chandra Kiran B Krishnamurthy, Consultant

Power Sector, MacArthur Project; Assistant Professor, Department of Forest Economics, Swedish Univ. of Agricultural Sciences, UMEA, Sweden; Researcher, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm (tbc)



Shri. S. N. Kalita

Member (Technical), Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC)



Smt. Kalyani Baruah

Managing Director, Assam Power Generation Company Limited (APGCL) (tbc)



Shri. Dhrubajyoti Hazarika

Managing Director, Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Ltd. (AEGCL)



Shri. Akhil Chandra Khatanar

Chief Electrical Inspector -cum- Adviser, (i/c), Govt. of Assam



Shri. V. K. Agrawal

Technical Director, SARI/EI, IRADe Ex-Executive Director, Power System Operation Corporation



Shri. Jarnail Singh

Deputy Director (India), MacArthur Foundation (tbc)

About the Webinar:

The webinar provides an opportunity to discuss the results of IRADe's research with various stakeholders in Assam and get their feedback and suggestions in separate sessions for Power and Agriculture. It also aims to facilitate broad discussion and engagement with stakeholders to solicit their suggestions and point of view. The moderated discussion shall bring forward new dimensions addressing improvement avenues, if any, and reinforce the research output, ultimately helping in strengthening the strategic policy framework to achieve India's NDCs.

To Register, click: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7DPbhzi0SqGXSGUMLJUHHa

Webinar and Policy Dialogue on Energy & Climate Change

3:15 – 3:55 PM

Session I – Inaugural Session

	Welcome Address	Dr. Jyoti K Parikh, Executive Director, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)
	Special Remarks	Ms. Moutushi Sengupta Director, India Office, MacArthur Foundation
	Special Address	Shri S. N. Kalita Member (Technical), Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC)
	Inaugural Address	Shri. Rajesh Prasad, IAS Principal Secretary, Agriculture Department, Government of Assam Agriculture Production Commissioner, CEO, MMS-CMSGUY and Commissioner, Lower Assam Division, Administrator, BTC, Assam
	Inaugural Note	Shri. Niraj Verma, IAS Principal Secretary, Power Department, Principal Secretary, Urban Development Department, Personnel and A.R. Training Department, Government of Assam
	Inaugural Remarks	Shri V. K. Pipersenia, IAS (Retd.) Chairman, Assam Power Generation Company Limited (APGCL), Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited (AEGCL), Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL)

3:55 –5:00 PM	Session II- Adapting Energy and Power Sector to meet NDC's Target	
3:55 –4:10 PM	A context setting presentation based on Sectoral Discussion Paper for Odisha prepared by IRADe researchers	
		<p>To meet the NDCs target, a rapid reduction in emissions in the power sector will be necessary. To transition to low-carbon energy systems, renewable energy sources need to replace carbon-intensive sources, alongside improved efficiency in the generation and consumption of electricity.</p> <p>Promotion of usage of RE generated power through Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) on Obligated Entities. Role of reliable grid-based power in eliminating polluting sources of energy. Given this background, this session aims to discuss and deliberate on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the share of Renewable (RE) in the generation mix by examining the current and immediate future energy mix up to 2030 • Comprehensive analysis of Energy Efficiency (EE) in power systems • Reducing T & D and Auxiliary losses, an incentive for modernization • Analysis of RPO targets met/unmet by DISCOMs in the past • Increasing reliability of the power system • Assam Power Sector Challenges and Way Ahead
4:10 – 5:00 PM	Session Chair	Prof. Kirit Parikh Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)
Remarks by Panelists		
• Shri Rakesh Agarwala , IAS, Managing Director, Assam Power Distribution Company Ltd. (APDCL)		
• Shri S. N. Kalita , Member (Technical), Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC)		
• Smt. Kalyani Baruah , Managing Director, Assam Power Generation Company Limited (APGCL) (tbc)		
• Shri Akhil Chandra Khataniar , Chief Electrical Inspector -cum- Adviser, (i/c), Govt. of Assam		
• Shri Dhruvajyoti Hazarika , Managing Director, Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Ltd. (AEGCL)		
• Shri Mrinal K. Choudhury , Additional Director, Assam Energy Development Agency (AEDA) (tbc)		
• Mr. V. K. Agrawal , Technical Director, SARI/EI, IRADe; Ex-Executive Director, Power System Operation Corporation		
• Shri. Jarnail Singh , Deputy Director (India), MacArthur Foundation (tbc)		
• Dr. Chandra Kiran B Krishnamurthy , Consultant – Power Sector, MacArthur Project; Assistant Professor, Department of Forest Economics, Swedish Univ. of Agricultural Sciences, UMEA, Sweden; Researcher, The Royal wedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm (tbc)		
Chair and Panelists remarks followed by open discussion		

5:00 – 5:55 PM	Session III – Promoting the Use of Solar Water Pump in the Agriculture Sector	
5:00 – 5:15 PM	A context setting presentation based on Sectoral Discussion Paper for Odisha prepared by IRADe researchers	
		<p>The majority of water pumps used today are either grid-connected or run on diesel. However, remote, off-grid areas, the rising prices of diesel, as well as the environmental implications of its usage, raise several questions over the efficacy of these traditionally powered pumps. As an investment, costs for solar-powered irrigation pumps (SPIP) are coming down, and subsidy schemes for SPIS are being rolled out, solar technologies are becoming a viable option for both large and small-scale farmers.</p> <p>SPIP will make farmers independent of grid supply and also enable them to sell surplus solar power generated to DISCOM and get an extra income. Given this background, this session aims to discuss and deliberate on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cropping patterns and irrigation pumps by types to assess the potential of solar pumps • Adoption of solar irrigation by farmers and the amount of surplus power that would be available to sell • Price for electricity sale that would make solar pumping an attractive proposition to farmers • A financial mechanism that will provide capital to farmers and subsidy to DISCOMs
5:15 – 5:55 PM	Session Chair	Dr. Tushaar Shah Senior Fellow, International Institute of Water Management India (tbc)
Remarks by Panelists		
• Ms. Mina Deka , Senior Research Officer, Irrigation Department, Government of Assam (tbc)		
• Mr. Ashok Kr. Sarma , Executive Engineer, Agriculture Department, Government of Assam (tbc)		
• Mr. Jyotiska Barua , Assistant General Manager (NRE), Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL)		
• Mr. Ashok Thakuria , Director, Planning, Irrigation Department, GoA (tbc)		
Chair and Panelists remarks followed by an open discussion		
5:55 – 6:00 PM	Closing Address & Vote of Thanks	Shri. Pankaj Batra, Project Director IRADe- SARI/EI Ex-Chairperson (I/c) & Member (Planning), Central Electricity Authority

To Register, click: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7DPbhz10SqGXSGUMLJUHHa

Enabling State Level Strategic Actions for India's NDC | Assam Chapter – Power and Agriculture |

Climate Change has become a paramount policy concern as citizens show significant awareness about it. India, under its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to UNFCCC, has pledged to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level and achieve about 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030. Policy measures at the state level are critical for India to attain its NDC targets.

IRADe is currently working on a detailed study to formulate and suggest policies for state level implementation to reduce CO₂ emissions and increase the share of renewables in state energy mix. Effective state actions consistent with the national plan are essential, especially for sectors contributing the most to the Greenhouse Gas emissions viz. power and agriculture, which are likely to grow rapidly by 2030.

Power and Agriculture sectors both play a vital role in the development of an economy but are also major contributors in India's total GHG emissions with 44% and 16% of the share, respectively (Source: MoEFCC). Assam's per-capita consumption of electricity is one of the lowest in the country. To ensure that increasing growth does not translate to increased emissions, it is thus essential to explore ways to limit the emissions from both the emission intensive sectors.

The study in its power sector analysis of Assam focuses primarily on supply and demand side interventions that are in prevalence and additional ideas that can be implemented at policy and market level. The agriculture sector analysis delves into the Solar Powered Irrigation Systems (SPIS) and the systemic and policy barriers to scaling up SPIS development in Assam. It also explores ways through financial modalities and provides market-based policy suggestions to be implemented at the state level for promoting SPIS benefitting all stakeholders.

About the Webinar:

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Date of Webinar	14 th December 2020
Timings	3:15 – 6:00 PM
Platform	Zoom

A brief draft Agenda for the Policy Dialogue is mentioned below:

Enabling State Level Strategic Actions for India's NDC – Odisha Chapter	
3:15 – 3:55 PM	Session I – Inaugural
3:55 – 5:00 PM	Session II- Adapting Energy and Power Sector to meet NDC's Target
5:00 – 5:55 PM	Session III- Promoting the Use of Solar Water Pump in the Agriculture Sector

About IRADe

IRADe is an independent advanced research institute which aims to conduct research and policy analysis to engage stakeholders such as government, non-governmental organizations, corporations, academic and financial institutions. Energy, climate change, urban development, poverty, gender equity, agriculture and food security are some of the challenges faced in the 21st century. Therefore, IRADe research covers these, as well as policies that affect them.

IRADe's focus is effective action through multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder research to arrive at implementable solutions for sustainable development and policy research that accounts for the effective governance of techno-economic and socio-cultural issues. Being Asia Center for Sustainable Development, we have been carrying out policy research and its implementation for enabling socio-economic growth and charting pathways for sustainable development in South-Asia.

IRADe was established under the Society's Act, in 2002 at New Delhi. It is certified as a Research and Development Organization by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST). It has also been selected as a Center of Excellence by the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) for urban development and climate change. In addition, it provides expertise to other ministries, national and international institutions and partners with other reputed organizations.

About MacArthur Foundation

The John. D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people, effective institutions, and influential networks building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. MacArthur is placing a few big bets that truly significant progress is possible on some of the world's most pressing social challenges, including over-incarceration, global climate change, nuclear risk, and significantly increasing financial capital for the social sector. In addition to the MacArthur Fellows Program, the Foundation continues its historic commitments to the role of journalism in a responsible and responsive democracy, as well as the strength and vitality of our headquarters city, Chicago.

MacArthur is one of the nation's largest independent foundations. Organizations supported by the Foundation work in about 50 countries. In addition to Chicago, MacArthur has offices in India, Mexico, and Nigeria.