

## Enabling State Level Strategic Actions for India's NDC Assam Chapter- Power and Agriculture

**Date: 01<sup>st</sup> December, 2020**



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**Ms. Moutushi Sengupta**

Director, India Office, MacArthur Foundation



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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. Subhash Chandra Das, IAS (Retd.)**

Chairperson, Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC)



**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)



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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.

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## Webinar and Policy Dialogue on Energy & Climate Change

11:00 – 11:25 AM		Session I – Inaugural Session
	<b>Welcome Address</b>	<b>Dr. Jyoti K Parikh,</b> Executive Director, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)
	<b>Special Remarks</b>	<b>Ms. Moutushi Sengupta</b> Director, India Office, MacArthur Foundation
	<b>Inaugural Address</b>	<b>Shri. Rajesh Prasad, IAS</b> Principal Secretary, Agriculture Department, Government of Assam Agriculture Production Commissioner, CEO, MMS-CMSGUY and Commissioner, Lower Assam Division, Administrator, BTC, Assam
	<b>Inaugural Note</b>	<b>Shri. Niraj Verma, IAS</b> Principal Secretary, Power Department, Principal Secretary, Urban Development Department, Personnel and A.R. Training Department, Government of Assam
	<b>Special Address</b>	<b>Shri Subhash Chandra Das, IAS (Retd.)</b> Chairperson, Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC)
	<b>Inaugural Remarks</b>	<b>Shri V. K. Pipersenia, IAS (Retd.)</b> Chairman, Assam Power Generation Company Limited (APGCL), Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited (AEGCL), Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL)

11:25 - 12:30 PM	<b>Session II- Adapting Energy and Power Sector to meet NDC's Target</b>	
11:25 - 11:40 AM	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"> <li>• Increasing the share of Renewable (RE) in the generation mix by examining the current and immediate future energy mix up to 2030</li> <li>• Comprehensive analysis of Energy Efficiency (EE) in power systems</li> <li>• Reducing T &amp; D and Auxiliary losses, an incentive for modernization</li> <li>• Analysis of RPO targets met/unmet by DISCOMs in the past</li> <li>• Increasing reliability of the power system</li> <li>• Assam Power Sector Challenges and Way Ahead</li> </ul>
11:40 - 12:30 PM	<b>Session Chair</b>	<b>Prof. Kirit Parikh</b> Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)
<b>Remarks by Panelists</b>		
• <b>Shri Rakesh Agarwala, IAS, Managing Director, Assam Power Distribution Company Ltd. (APDCL)</b>		
• <b>Smt. Kimnei Changsan, ACS, Director, Assam Energy Development Agency (AEDA) (tbc)</b>		
• <b>Shri S. N. Kalita, Member (Technical), Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC)</b>		
• <b>Smt. Kalyani Baruah, Managing Director, Assam Power Generation Company Limited (APGCL) (tbc)</b>		
• <b>Shri Akhil Chandra Khataniar, Chief Electrical Inspector -cum- Adviser, (i/c), Govt. of Assam</b>		
• <b>Shri Dhruvajyoti Hazarika, Managing Director, Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Ltd. (AEGCL)</b>		
• <b>Mr. V. K. Agrawal, Technical Director, SARI/EI, IRADe; Ex-Executive Director, Power System Operation Corporation</b>		
• <b>Shri. Jarnail Singh, Deputy Director (India), MacArthur Foundation (tbc)</b>		
• <b>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)</b>		
<b>Chair and Panelists remarks followed by open discussion</b>		

12:30 – 1:25 PM	<b>Session III – Promoting the Use of Solar Water Pump in the Agriculture Sector</b>	
12:30 – 12:45 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"> <li>• Cropping patterns and irrigation pumps by types to assess the potential of solar pumps</li> <li>• Adoption of solar irrigation by farmers and the amount of surplus power that would be available to sell</li> <li>• Price for electricity sale that would make solar pumping an attractive proposition to farmers</li> <li>• A financial mechanism that will provide capital to farmers and subsidy to DISCOMs</li> </ul>
12:45 – 1:25 PM	<b>Session Chair</b>	<b>Dr. Tushaar Shah</b> Senior Fellow, International Institute of Water Management India (tbc)
<b>Remarks by Panelists</b>		
• <b>Ms. Mina Deka, Senior Research Officer</b> , Irrigation Department, Government of Assam (tbc)		
• <b>Mr. Deepak Mahanta, Chief Engineer</b> , Agriculture Department, Government of Assam (tbc)		
• <b>Mr. Ashok Kr. Sarma, Executive Engineer</b> , Agriculture Department, Government of Assam (tbc)		
• <b>Mr. Kamal Kr. Choudhury, Ex- Chief Engineer</b> , Agriculture Department, Government of Assam (tbc)		
• <b>Shri Brajen Malakar, Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation</b> , Irrigation Department, Government of Assam (tbc)		
<b>Chair and Panelists remarks followed by an open discussion</b>		
13:25 – 13:30 PM	<b>Closing Address &amp; Vote of Thanks</b>	<b>Shri. Pankaj Batra, Project Director IRADe- SARI/EI</b> Ex-Chairperson (I/c) & Member (Planning), Central Electricity Authority

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