

Press Release

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Two-Day Capacity Building Workshop for Northern Region Stakeholders to Focus on Resilient, Inclusive, and Environmentally Sustainable Power Sector

Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh



In the face of growing energy demand and the urgent need for sustainable development, the role of state stakeholders in the power sector has never been more critical. Recognising the importance of collaborative efforts and knowledge sharing, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe), a reputed think tank in South Asia, are conducting a two-day Capacity Building Workshop for the Northern Region Stateholders.

The first workshop under this partnership commenced on 2nd July 2024, and will conclude on 3rd July 2024 in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, aiming to enhance the understanding of electricity laws, guidelines, policies, rules, regulations, technologies, and practices among key stakeholders in the Northern Region. This event marks the first in a series of five regional workshops and a half-day Secretaries workshop, along with a set of four webinars on important demand-driven topics under the joint programme on "Capacity Building of Regulatory & Implementing Institutions at the State Level" by CEA and IRADe.

Prof. Jyoti Parikh, Executive Director of IRADe, added: "The collaborative effort between CEA and IRADe is a significant step towards a resilient, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable power sector. This workshop is designed to equip stakeholders with the necessary knowledge and skills to meet the challenges of the evolving energy landscape. Moreover, with similar workshops in each region, we expect to build a nation-wide consensus."

Mr. Pankaj Batra, Senior Advisor at IRADe and Ex-Chairperson of CEA, emphasised the importance of this initiative: "Refreshing and deepening the expertise of state stakeholders in the technical, legal, and regulatory aspects of the power sector is crucial. These stakeholders play a pivotal role in navigating the complex landscape of energy governance and ensuring the sustainability of a progressive power sector."



Prof. Kirit Parikh, Chairman, IRADe, in his introductory remarks, said: "Empowering state stakeholders with the right knowledge and skills is essential for navigating the evolving landscape of energy governance. This capacity building programme is a crucial step towards achieving a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable power sector."

Shri Ashish Kumar Goel (IAS), Chairman, Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL), Ministry of Energy, Government of Uttar Pradesh, stated: "In Uttar Pradesh, there has been a growth of electricity to the extent of over 10% in June 2024, as compared to the same period in 2023. UP would gear up to meet the demand."

Shri Arvind Kumar, Chairperson, Uttar Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (UPERC), said: "Intermittent renewables are increasingly constituting a large portion of the generation capacity mix, and this needs to be tackled through flexible thermal power plants and energy storage. In this connection, Uttar Pradesh has signed MOUs for closed loop pumped hydro storage to the extent of 18,000 MW."

In his inaugural address, Chief Guest Shri. Ghanshyam Prasad, Chairperson of CEA, stated: "Grid operation is critical in the power market, offering numerous opportunities for resource adequacy across transmission, generation, and distribution. The implementation of rules and regulations is crucial to ensure a resilient and efficient power sector."

The workshop attracted over 50 stakeholders, including representatives from ministries, state electricity regulatory commissions, state power utilities, and state renewable development agencies from the Northern Region.

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About IRADe: IRADe is an autonomous advanced research institute and reputed think tank in Asia. Its research covers many areas, including energy and power systems, urban development, climate change and environment, poverty alleviation and gender, food security and agriculture, as well as the policies that affect these areas. More: irade.org