

INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR THE ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS UNDER VARIOUS CATEGORIES IN ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS.

INTRODUCTION

Power is the critical infrastructure for the growth of economy. Economy growth will depend upon the financial and commercial viability of the power sector. With large amount of electricity now being handled by power utility, thereby reduction in demand would provide adequate energy management. In the present scenario the focus is on Demand Side Management and to rationalize the power consumption in different level of consumers especially to the domestic sector which contributes towards 70% of the power consumption in these islands. Till date the generation was more than the demand thereby there was no need for such exercise for regulating the demand side. However, under present scenario due to shortfall in generation with respect to the demand and less likely to match the demand it is proposed to adopt suitable scheme to attract consumers attention to minimize power consumption without curtailment in their basic needs which can be achieved by incentivizing the consumers in the form of monetary benefit (as prize money). Thereby considerable saving can be achieved and consequently load shedding can be avoided during peak load hours, resulting in regular power supply to the students preparing for their examination.

BACKGROUND

Power Generation in Andaman & Nicobar Islands is mainly by Diesel Generator Sets making the per unit cost highest in the country. Since, November, 2016 due to breakdown of DG sets in 20 MW IPP, there is a paucity of power in Port Blair & South Andaman area. The situation further aggravated during July, 2017 when the entire IPP 20 MW Plant was under shutdown due to strike by the employees. Presently, only 2.5 MW power is available from IPP and there is a gap of about 6-7 MW in the evening peak hours which is likely to increase to about 10 MW during the ensuing summer season. Presently, the gap is managed by rotational load shedding during evening peak hours but this being preparation time for students their studies are getting hampered due to this power cuts. Augmentation of DG capacity in immediate future is not possible and hence the demand side management need to be carried out extensively to do away with load shedding. This requires effective energy accounting and monitoring at grass root level of the department.

This scheme is aimed:-

- (a) To encourage the practice of conservation of energy among the consumers thereby saving the costly diesel. The energy saving tips is annexed.
- (b) To minimize pollution resulting in less carbon emission.
- (c) To change the consumer behaviour by fostering the desire to save electricity.
- (d) To encourage the consumers to install renewable energy plants like Grid connected solar rooftop, solar water heaters, solar cookers etc.,
- (e) To encourage the consumers for usage of energy efficient equipments like LED lights, star rated air conditioner, refrigerator, fan, etc.
- (f) To empower the consumers for becoming a Prosumer and help the Administration by contributing in switching over to clean and green energy for making these Islands green.

SCOPE OF THE SCHEME

In order to implement the above incentive programme following are proposed to the Domestic, Commercial and Industrial Consumers :-

S.No.	Category	Prize	Incentive
1.(a)	Domestic (<i>Green Energy & Energy Conservation</i>)	First	Rs. 75,000/-
		Second	Rs. 50,000/-
		Third	Rs. 30,000/-
(b)	Domestic (<i>Energy Conservation</i>)	First	Rs. 50,000/-
		Second	Rs. 30,000/-
		Third	Rs. 15,000/-
2.	Commercial	First	Rs. 75,000/-
		Second	Rs. 50,000/-
		Third	Rs. 30,000/-
3.	Industrial	First	Rs. 75,000/-
		Second	Rs. 50,000/-
		Third	Rs. 30,000/-

Selection of winner:-

- (a) The selection will be based on percentage saving compared to their last three months average consumption.
- (b) Only those consumers will be eligible whose minimum energy savings are more than 30%.
- (c) The highest savings done by the consumers would be eligible for the prizes detailed above.

- (d) In case the percentage saving is equal for more than one consumer, say Mr. A & Mr. B both are with 40% saving, then the winner will be selected by drawing of lots.

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Criteria for selection of the beneficiaries :-

1. The consumers those have installed Solar Water Heating System, Rooftop Solar & Ground Mounted Solar for their domestic requirements will be considered under Green Energy.
2. The consumers whose energy meters are in running condition.
3. The Calculation of saving done by the consumer shall be on the basis of past three months average consumption.
4. The above scheme will be initially for the month of March, April and May,2018 and extendable subject to the success of the programme.
5. The selection of winner/beneficiaries will be done by a suitable evaluation committee constituted by the department.
6. The consumers having electricity bill paid upto date will only be considered.
7. Ownership of the meter should be in the name of the beneficiary who should be present at the time of evaluation, if called by the department.
8. Consumers with disputed ownership of the electric connection are not eligible.

This programme shall not apply to the following consumers:-

1. With stop/tampered meter.
2. Consumers billed on average basis.
3. Having outstanding dues.
4. Under disconnection during the month of evaluation.
5. Physically not present in their residence.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposed Evaluation Committee for selection of awardees :-

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|---|---|------------------|
| 1. Commr.-cum-Secretary (Power) | - | Chairman |
| 2. Superintending Engineer, Electricity | - | Member |
| 3. Executive Engineer (HQ) | - | Member Secretary |
| 4. Executive Engineer (SA) | - | Member |
| 5. Accounts Officer, Electricity | - | Member |

Proposed Sub-Evaluation Committee :-

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|---|---|------------------|
| 1. Executive Engineer of concerned Division | - | Chairman |
| 2. Assistant Engineer of respective Division | - | Member Secretary |
| 3. Junior Engineer of respective site-offices | - | Member |
| 4. Meter Reader of respective site-offices | - | Member |

The sub-evaluation committee will initially carryout the assessment of the savings done by all the consumers under their respective jurisdiction and submit the list out the beneficiaries to the Evaluation committee.

AVAILABILITY OF FUND

Funds can be made available under the Energy Audit Programme of Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).

CONCLUSION

This programme will be carried on pilot basis initially for Port Blair and South Andaman area for three months i.e. March, April and May, 2018 and could be extended by including other islands also considering the quantum of success of the programme.

The above proposal aims at encouraging the practice of energy conservation among the electricity consumers under three categories and also aims at encouraging more and more consumers to adopt green energy initiative. The aim of this scheme is to bring down the peak demand considerably during the examination time (months of March, April & May). This in turn will also reduce the burden on fossil fuel and reduce the environmental pollution.

The prize money to the beneficiaries will be awarded subject to the condition that the consumers religiously practice the energy conservation without compromising their basic needs.
