

Sectoral

Thermal Power

1. What is the National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE)?

The National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE) is one of the eight missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). NMEEE aims to strengthen the market for energy efficiency by creating conducive regulatory and policy regime and has envisaged fostering innovative and sustainable business models to the energy efficiency sector. The Cabinet had approved the NMEEE document, and funding for two years of the 11th Plan period (2010-12) with an outlay of \$ 36.23 million. Continuation of NMEEE for the 12th Plan was approved by Cabinet on 6th August, 2014 with a total outlay of \$ 119.23. The Mission seeks to upscale the efforts to unlock the market for energy efficiency which is estimated to be around \$ 11.385 billion. The activities during the 11th Plan period created the institutional and regulatory infrastructure. The NMEEE spelt out four initiatives to enhance energy efficiency in energy intensive industries which are as follows: a) Perform, Achieve and Trade Scheme (PAT), a market based mechanism to enhance the cost effectiveness in improving the Energy Efficiency in Energy Intensive industries through certification of energy saving which can be traded. b) Market Transformation for Energy Efficiency (MTEE), for accelerating the shift to energy efficient appliances in designated sectors through innovative measures to make the products more affordable. c) Energy Efficiency Financing Platform (EEFP), for creation of mechanisms that would help finance demand side management programmes in all sectors by capturing future energy savings. d) Framework for Energy Efficient Economic Development (FEEED), for development of fiscal instruments to promote energy efficiency.

2. What are the completed transmission projects?

There are 260 projects/elements completed all over India in 2017-18 and all the details can be found at the link.

3. What are the upcoming projects transmission projects?

There are 285 projects coming in all over India. You can find a detailed map of these projects on the link.

4. What is TARANG?

TARANG is the Transmission App for Real time Monitoring and Growth to monitor the progress of transmission system in the country.

5. What is Central Electricity Authority and what is the information it provides?

Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is a statutory organization originally constituted under the Electricity Act, 2003. The organization releases monthly reports related, state wise installed capacity on the link.

6. How are thermal power plants (TPPs) classified among industries?

The Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) has classified TPPs as one of the 17 Red Category industries. Red Category denotes heavily polluting industry. For obtaining EC: Category A projects are: 1) > 500 MW Coal/Lignite/Naphtha & Gas Based Fuel. 2) > 50 MW Petcoke, Diesel and all Other Fuels, including Refinery Residual Oil Waste (excluding Biomass). 3) > 20 MW Biomass Based or Non-Hazardous MSW (Municipal Solid Waste) as Fuel. Category B projects are - 1) < 500 MW Coal/Lignite/Naphtha & Gas Based Fuel. 2) <50 MW or 3 MW Petcoke, Diesel and all Other Fuels, including Refinery Residual Oil Waste (excluding Biomass). 3) < 20 MW or 15MW Biomass Based or Non-Hazardous MSW (Municipal Solid Waste) as Fuel.

7. Why is there a proliferation of TPPs along the coast?

Situating a plant along the coast provides two important benefits to the Project Proponent: 1) Easy transport of imported coal through ports and captive jetties. 2) Easy availability of seawater for on-site seawater desalination technology for both once-through cooling and for boiler-feed water generation. This reduces fresh water requirement for running the thermal power plant.

8. What is the CEPI (Comprehensive Environment Pollution Index)? How does it impact the location of TPPs?

CEPI is a number to characterize the environmental quality at a given location. CEPI scores are calculated from time-to-time by the CPCB to identify critically polluted areas and industrial clusters,

by monitoring their air, land and water. CEPI Score is an important tool to identify those clusters where industrial development activities have been restricted due to their pollution levels. In 2010, the MoEF imposed a moratorium on the consideration of projects for EC, if they were located in 43 critically polluted areas. It has been reduced to 7 clusters as of September 2013. TPPs cannot be located in those places where the moratorium is imposed.

9. How long does it usually take for a plant to get Environmental Clearance?

It depends on the size of the plant. Usually 1 to 1.5 years is the time for a plant to obtain EC after filing of Application. The following are the time-bound activities according to the EIA Notification: 1) Issuance of ToR: To be issued within 60 days of Application submission by Project Proponent. 2) Conducting of Public Hearing: The Public Hearing Report to be submitted to the MoEF/ SEIAA by the SPCB within 45 days of receiving request for hearing from the Project Proponent. 3) Issuance of EC: To be issued within 105 days of the Project Proponent submitting the Final EIA.