



Bharat Electricity Summit 2026 Concludes with Strong Global Participation, Actionable Outcomes, and Roadmap for a Resilient, Future-ready Power Sector

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The maiden edition of the Bharat Electricity Summit (BES) concluded successfully today, bringing together policymakers, global experts, industry leaders, investors, and innovators to deliberate on the future of the power sector and accelerate the global clean energy transition. The Summit witnessed wide-ranging discussions, high-level bilateral engagements, and significant business interactions, reinforcing India's leadership in the global energy ecosystem.

The Summit witnessed an exceptional response, with over **35,000 exhibition attendees, 28 States / Union Territories, 200+ exhibiting companies including 80+ Start-ups, 6,000+ delegates, 300+ speakers, and 100+ conference sessions**, reflecting its scale and global significance.

Drawing inspiration from the Prime Minister's vision, India continues to advance rapidly towards achieving **500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030**, having already crossed the milestone of over 50% non-fossil capacity. Initiatives such as *One Sun, One World, One Grid* further underscore India's commitment to global energy cooperation.

While giving his valedictory address Shri Manohar Lal, Union Power Minister noted that the Summit was extremely successful and saw impressive participation from different stakeholders of the power sector. Despite being the first Electricity Summit, it saw unprecedented participation and meaningful discussions. In particular, he said that he was particularly delighted with the participation of the Startups at the Summit and the great innovation in the sector they would bring

He said that India has a vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047 and for achieving this vision, electricity is a common resource that is needed by all economic stakeholders and citizens. Under Saubhagya Yojna we succeeded in ensuring that electricity has reached all nook and corners of the country.

Speaking on the importance of solar energy and cooperation across countries, Shri Manohar Lal noted the words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi - One Sun, One World, One Grid. These words he said, points to the need for working together as one global family. Our focus has to be on sustainability and thus expansion of renewable energy including solar energy is critical.



He said that during the Summit there were fruitful discussions with many countries and especially African nations. It emerged clearly that India and the African nations have a win-win possibility of cooperating in the power sector and beyond.

Shri Manohar Lal noted that there is a need to strengthen DISCOMs through different actions and reforms. He noted that during the Summit the DISCOMs expressed a strong willingness to take necessary actions to improve their operations and financial situation. He said that the intended reforms in the sector includes adoption of smart meters, cost reflective tariffs.

The Minister also announced that Next Edition of BES will be held in 2028 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat .

Speaking at the Valedictory Session, Shri Shripad Naik, Minister of State for Power and MNRE said what stands out most clearly from our deliberations in the Summit is that: India's power sector is not merely expanding — it is advancing through a deeply coordinated federal architecture, where national vision and state-led execution are seamlessly aligned.



Shri Naik said that from this Summit, three key insights emerge. First, states are emerging as engines of innovation, shaping renewable expansion and policy evolution. Second, distribution reforms are gaining tangible momentum, strengthening the last mile of reliable electricity delivery. Third, our transition is becoming integrated and system-driven, with renewables, storage, transmission, and digital technologies evolving as one cohesive ecosystem.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Pankaj Agarwal, Secretary (Power), highlighted that discussions with industry bodies have indicated an estimated ₹32,000 crore capex pipeline by manufacturers in the power sector. He emphasised the need for system-level evaluation of power costs to ensure affordability, and underscored the urgency of rapidly scaling up energy storage capacities for effective integration of renewable energy.

Shri Piyush Singh, Additional Secretary, MoP, acknowledged the scale and success of the Summit and commended the organisers for its seamless execution.

Three reports were released on the occasion. These are: Rating Regulatory Performance of States and Union Territories 2025 by Power Foundation of India; Ash Generation and Utilisation at coal/lignite-based Grid Connected thermal power stations for 2024-25 by Central Electricity Authority; and Establishing a Sodium-ion Battery Ecosystem in India – Leveraging New Technologies to Strengthen Component Manufacturing by Council on Energy, Environment and Water.



Key Highlights of the Summit

India's power sector continues to demonstrate unprecedented growth and transformation:

- Installed capacity has reached over **520 GW**, with one of the fastest expansions globally.
- Transmission network has expanded to over **5 lakh circuit kilometres**
- Renewable energy capacity has grown significantly, with solar capacity increasing from **2.8 GW in 2014 to over 143 GW** today.
- Electricity demand is projected to grow by **over 30% by 2030**, driven by emerging sectors such as AI-enabled data centres and electric mobility.

The Minister of Power emphasised that while thermal power remains critical for grid stability, renewable energy will drive long-term sustainability, supported by storage, grid modernisation, and policy reforms.

Ministerial Meeting with States/UTs

A high-level Ministerial meeting chaired by the Union Minister of Power resulted in the following priority action areas:

- Strengthening **financial viability of DISCOMs** through structural and operational reforms
- Ensuring **cost-reflective tariffs** with targeted subsidies
- Accelerating **smart metering rollout** nationwide
- Securing **adequate generation capacity tie-ups** for future demand
- Fast-tracking **nuclear power development** to meet long-term energy security goals

Strategic Sessions – Key Takeaways

Several strategic sessions explored critical themes shaping the future power landscape:

- **Centre-State Coordination:** Emphasis on policy alignment and faster project execution
- **Green Hydrogen & Emerging Fuels:** Positioning India as a global hub for green industrial fuels
- **AI-driven Power Systems:** Enhancing grid intelligence, cybersecurity, and operational efficiency
- **Nuclear Energy:** Scaling reliable, clean baseload capacity

- **Electrification & Power Markets:** Enabling low-carbon growth through efficient trading systems
- **Financing Sectoral Growth:** Mobilising trillions in investments through bankable frameworks
- **Energy Storage:** Addressing rapid growth in storage requirements (expected to increase 5x by 2031–32)
- **Make in India for the World:** Strengthening domestic manufacturing for global clean energy supply chains

Discussions highlighted that India’s long-term energy transition may require investments exceeding **USD 22 trillion by 2070**, with significant opportunities in generation, transmission, storage, and digital infrastructure.

Infrastructure, Storage and Market Developments

- India needs to add **over 1.37 lakh circuit km** of transmission lines by 2030, with investments of around **₹9 lakh crore**
- Energy storage requirements are expected to rise sharply, with **pumped storage potential of over 200 GW**
- Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are emerging as a key solution for peak demand management
- Renewable energy tariffs and market mechanisms continue to evolve, improving long-term price discovery and investor confidence
- The **Indian Carbon Market Portal** was launched, with trading expected to begin shortly, marking a major step in climate finance

Digital Transformation

Digital transformation emerged as a defining force, with the power sector increasingly leveraging Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and digital twins to move towards predictive and intelligent grid operations. The concept of “**India Energy Stack**,” inspired by the success of digital public infrastructure, aims to create seamless, interoperable energy systems. Initiatives such as smart metering and rooftop solar adoption are empowering consumers to become “prosumers,” actively participating in the energy ecosystem.

State-Level Leadership and Initiatives

States showcased ambitious roadmaps:

- **Gujarat:** Renewable capacity target of **190 GW by 2047**
- **Andhra Pradesh:** Integrated clean energy hub with investments exceeding **₹6 lakh crore**
- **Maharashtra:** Demand projected to reach **280 TWh by 2030**, with large-scale capacity expansion
- **Bihar:** Advancing storage and grid infrastructure with structured investment pipelines
- **Delhi:** Transitioning towards a **high-renewable, storage-integrated urban power system**

Global Cooperation and Bilateral Engagements

The Summit facilitated multiple high-level bilateral meetings with countries including Malawi, Tajikistan, Mauritius, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia, as well as industry stakeholders such as Africa50 and international delegations.

These engagements focused on:

- Cross-border electricity trade
- Renewable energy collaboration

- Transmission infrastructure development
- Capacity building and technology transfer

The India-Africa Strategic Meet further strengthened partnerships, with focus on expanding renewable energy, grid modernisation, and last-mile connectivity across the continent.

Business Outcomes

- Over **1,200 buyer–seller meetings** were conducted
- Business enquiries exceeding **₹517 crore (~USD 55 million)** were generated

Conclusion

The Bharat Electricity Summit 2026 has set a clear direction for India’s power sector: anchored in resilience, energy transition and global leadership. The Summit reaffirmed India’s commitment to building a **future-ready, technology-driven, and investment-friendly energy ecosystem**, while supporting the energy needs of both the nation and the Global South.

The outcomes of the Summit will contribute significantly to shaping policy, strengthening partnerships, and accelerating the transition towards a reliable, affordable, and clean energy future.

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