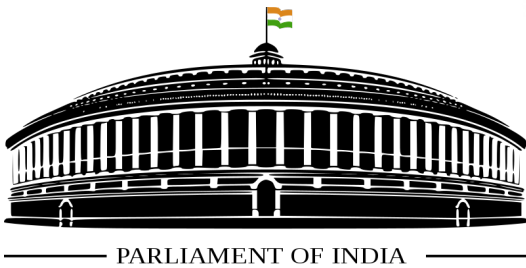




Envision, Empower, Exceed... It's yours!!

DPSRMUN



LOK SABHA

The Energy Conservation (Amendment)
Bill, 2022



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Prospective Members,

On behalf of the Executive Board, we extend a warm welcome to all of you and congratulate you on being a part of DPS RAU MUN 2023.

The committee being simulated, unlike most other simulations you must have heard of or been a part of; focuses on political intellect and analytical application of thoughts and strategic application of thoughts in resolving impending politically sensitive bilateral issues.

Kindly note that we are not looking for existing solutions, or statements that would be a copy paste of what the kind of leader you are representing has already stated; instead we seek an out of the box solution from you, while knowing and understanding your impending political and ideological limitations.

This Introductory guide would be as abstract as possible, and would just give you a basic perspective on what you can expect from the committee and areas within which your research should be focused at this given point of time. Given, the extremely political and volatile nature of this committee, your presence of mind and politico-analytical aptitude is something which we at the executive board would be looking to test.

Kindly do not limit your research to the areas highlighted but ensure that you logically deduce and push your research to areas associated with the issues mentioned.

Also, unlike most conventional/unconventional committees you have attended, this committee shall have “substantive” intervention by the Executive Board.

The objective of this background guide is to provide you with a ‘background’ of the issue at hand and therefore it might seem to some as not being comprehensive enough. If you feel that the Guide does not cover all the issues and it could have been compiled in a better way by giving more information or links or better arguments ‘for’ and ‘against’, we think that would be the appropriate time to pat our backs for we successfully managed to compile a ‘Background Guide’ and not a ‘Study Guide’ which most of the Executive Board members fail to differentiate. We feel that ‘study guides’ are

detrimental to the individual growth of the delegate since they overlook a very important part of this activity, which is- Research. We are sure that this background guide will give you a perfect launching pad to start with your research.

The usage of internet in the committee is prohibited, barring the devices the Executive Board, the Secretariat and the Conference Staff are carrying.

Wishing you all good luck and hoping to see you all at this conference discussing imperative issues of national concern.

Warm Regards.....

Utkarsh Thanwar

(Speaker)

thanwarutkarsh333@gmail.com

Following is a suggested pattern for researching (if required)

- ☐ Research on the allotted personality, understanding his/her thinking about the agenda.
- ☐ Comprehending the Party Policy of the allotted Personality. It includes understanding the ideology and principles adopted by the party on the agenda. It further includes studying past actions taken by the party on the agenda and other related issues –specifically analyzing their causes and consequences.
- ☐ Researching further upon the agenda using the footnotes and links given in the guide and from other sources such as academic papers, institutional reports, national reports, news articles, blogs etc.
- ☐ Understanding policies adopted by different political parties and major parties involved in the agenda. Including their position, ideology and adopted past actions.

- ❑ Characterizing the agenda into sub-topics and preparing speeches and statements on them. It is the same as preparing topics for the moderated caucuses and their content.
- ❑ Preparing a list of possible solutions and actions that can be adopted on the issue as per your party's policies.
- ❑ Assemble proof/evidence for any important piece of information/ allegation you are going to use in committee
- ❑ Keeping your research updated using various news sources, especially news websites given in the proof/evidence section.
- ❑ Lastly, we would request all the delegates to put sincere efforts in preparation and research for the simulation and work hard to make it a fruitful learning experience for all.

A lot of members have doubts such as what they are supposed to write or how should they structure their speech. This is completely up to the member. The maximum we can do is to tell you according to our experiences about how speeches are structured and content chosen for them accordingly. These are:

- Premise – Analysis – Example
- Problem – Solution – Benefits
- Past – Present – Future Scenario
- What – So what – Now what

There can be more structures. These are some of them which the members of the Executive Board have seen.

Note: The best way to debate in any format is to clearly state your opinion and justify it with substantive rational sources

PROOF/EVIDENCE IN COMMITTEE

1. Government Reports (Each ministry publishes its own reports including External Affairs Ministry)

2. Government Websites

3. Government run News channels i.e. RSTV, LSTV, DD News 4. Standing Committee Reports/ Commission Reports

5. RTI Proofs

6. Parliamentary Standing Committee reports

7. Questions and Answers of the parliament

NOTE: Under no circumstances will sources like Wikipedia (<http://www.wikipedia.org/>), Amnesty International ([http:// www.amnesty.org/](http://www.amnesty.org/)) or newspapers like Times of India ([http:// timesofindia.indiatimes.com/](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/)), etc. be accepted as **PROOF/ EVIDENCE**. But they can be used for better understanding of any issue or even be brought up in debate if the information given in such sources is in line with the beliefs of the Government.



The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022

Highlights of the Bill

- The Bill amends the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 to empower the central government to specify a carbon credit trading scheme.
- Designated consumers may be required to meet a proportion of their energy needs from non-fossil sources.
- The Energy Conservation Code for buildings will also apply to office and residential buildings with a connected load of 100 kilowatt or above.
- Energy consumption standards may be specified for vehicles and ships.

Key Issues and Analysis

- Carbon credit trading aims to reduce carbon emissions, and hence, address climate change. The question is whether the Ministry of Power is the appropriate Ministry to regulate this scheme. A further question is whether the market regulator for carbon credit trading should be specified in the Act.
- Same activity may be eligible for renewable energy, energy savings, and carbon credit certificates. The Bill does not specify whether these certificates will be interchangeable.
- Designated consumers must meet certain non-fossil energy use obligation. Given the limited competition among discoms in any area, consumers may not have a choice in the energy mix.



PART A: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BILL

Context

The Energy Conservation Act, 2001 provides a framework for regulating energy consumption and promoting energy efficiency and energy conservation. Energy efficiency means using less energy to perform the same task. The Act has set up the Bureau of Energy Efficiency to recommend regulations and standards for energy consumption. These apply to appliances, vehicles, industrial and commercial establishments and buildings. Efforts towards energy conservation and efficiency gains are among the key instruments envisaged for climate change mitigation. Efforts on these fronts lower the energy generation requirement, and thereby reduce greenhouse gas emissions. These also have positive implications for energy security in a country like India, which relies on imports to meet some of its energy needs. As per an estimate by the Bureau, programs for efficient energy use have helped India save about 28 million tonnes of oil equivalent energy in 2019-20 (this amount of energy could light about 185 crore 20W LED bulbs 24X7 for a year). During the COP-26 summit in 2021, India made the following commitments which may be relevant for energy efficiency efforts: (i) reducing total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes by 2030, and (ii) reducing the carbon intensity of the economy by 45% by 2030 over 2005 levels. Carbon intensity is defined as the volume of carbon emissions per unit of GDP. In addition, India aims to have 500 GW of non-fossil energy capacity and meet 50% of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030.³ Against this backdrop, the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022 was introduced in Lok Sabha in August 2022. The Bill was passed by Lok Sabha and is currently pending before Rajya Sabha. The Bill seeks to amend the 2001 Act to: (i) facilitate the achievement of COP-26 goals, and (ii) introduce concepts such as mandated use of non-fossil sources and carbon credit trading to ensure faster decarbonisation of the Indian economy.

Key Features

- Carbon credit trading:** The Bill empowers the central government to specify a carbon credit trading scheme. Carbon credit implies a tradeable permit to produce a specified amount of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse emissions. The central government or any authorised agency may issue carbon credit certificates to entities registered and compliant with the scheme. The entities will be entitled to trade the certificates. Any other person may also purchase

a carbon credit certificate on a voluntary basis.

- Obligation to use non-fossil sources of energy:** The Act empowers the central government to specify energy consumption standards. The Bill adds that the government may require designated consumers to meet a minimum share of energy consumption from non-fossil sources. Different consumption thresholds may be specified for different non-fossil sources and consumer categories. Designated consumers include: (i) industries such as mining, steel, cement, textile, chemicals, and petrochemicals, (ii) transport sector including Railways, and (iii) commercial buildings, as specified in the schedule. Failure to meet this obligation will be punishable with a penalty of up to Rs 10 lakh. It will also attract an additional penalty of up to twice the price of oil equivalent of energy consumed above the prescribed norm.
- Energy conservation code for buildings:** The Act empowers the central government to specify Energy Conservation Code for buildings. The code prescribes energy consumption standards in terms of area. The Bill amends this to provide for an 'Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Code'. This new code will provide norms for energy efficiency and conservation, use of renewable energy, and other requirements for green buildings. Under the Act, the energy conservation code applies to commercial buildings: (i) erected after the notification of the Code, and (ii) having a minimum connected load of 100 kilowatt (kW) or contract load of 120 kilo volt ampere (kVA). Under the Bill, the new Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Code will also apply to the office and residential buildings meeting the above criteria. The Bill empowers the state governments to lower the load thresholds.
- Standards for vehicles and vessels:** Under the Act, the energy consumption standards may be specified for equipment and appliances which consume, generate, transmit, or supply energy. The Bill expands the scope to include vehicles (as defined under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988), and vessels (includes ships and boats). The failure to comply with standards will be punishable with a penalty of up to Rs 10 lakh. Non-compliance in case of vessels will attract an additional penalty of up to twice the price of oil equivalent of energy consumed above the prescribed norm. Vehicle manufacturers in violation of fuel consumption norms will be liable to pay a penalty of up to Rs 50,000 per unit

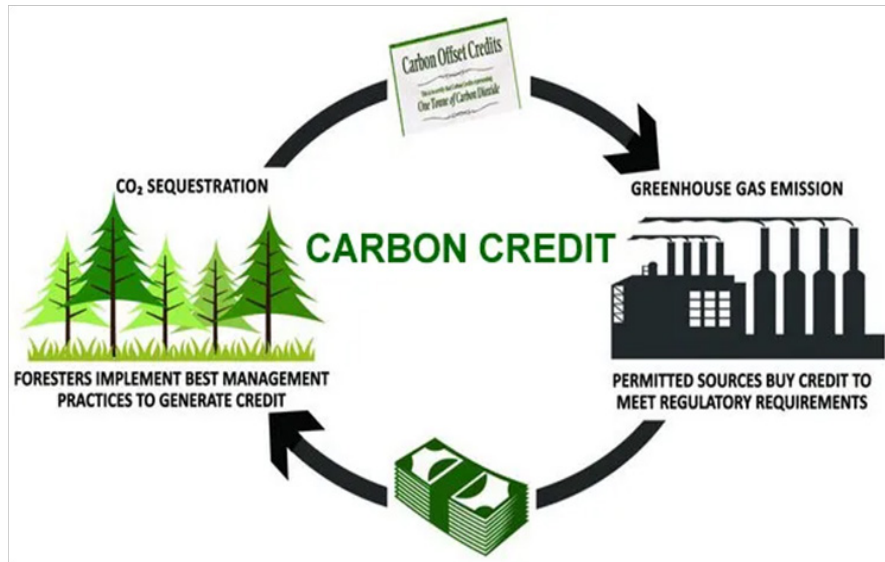
of vehicles sold.

- Composition of the governing council of BEE:** The Act provides for the setting up of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). The Bureau has a governing council with members between 20 and 26 in number. These include: (i) secretaries of six departments, (ii) representatives of regulatory authorities such as the Central Electricity Authority, and the Bureau of Indian Standards, and (iii) up to four members representing industries and consumers. The Bill amends this to provide that the number of members will be between 31 and 37. It increases the number of secretaries to 12. It also provides for up to seven members representing industries and consumers.



PART B: KEY ISSUES AND ANALYSIS

Regulation of carbon credit trading



The Bill empowers the central government to specify a carbon credit trading scheme. Carbon credit refers to a tradeable permit allowing the holder to emit a specified amount of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases such as methane and nitrous oxide. These may be earned by reducing emissions for a given activity or creating sinks for carbon absorption such as forestry. Carbon credits may be purchased by an entity that emits above its specified amount. A carbon credit trading scheme is aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and hence, addressing climate change. We discuss certain issues with the provisions of the Bill below.

The question is which is the appropriate Ministry to regulate the carbon credit trading scheme

As per the Act, the Ministry of Power will be the nodal Ministry for the regulation of the scheme, and the Bureau of Energy Efficiency under the Ministry of Power will be the implementing agency. As per the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, the Ministry of Power is responsible for: (i) general policy in the power sector, and issues related to energy policy and coordination, and (ii) energy conservation and energy efficiency pertaining to the power sector. The energy sector is the major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in India (about 75% in 2016). However, the ambit of carbon credit trading could be wider than the energy sector. Activities such as agriculture (14%) and industrial processes (8%) also make sizeable contributions

to greenhouse gas emissions (see Table 1 on next page).⁷ In addition, the land use, land-use change, and forestry sector is the main sector providing a net carbon sink, i.e., it absorbs greenhouse gases.⁷ In 2016, this sector absorbed about 11% of the greenhouse gases emitted by other sectors on a net basis.⁷

Under the Business Allocation Rules, it is the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, which is responsible for the regulation of: (i) **‘climate change and related matters’**, (ii) environmental norms, and (iii) forestry.⁶ In jurisdictions such as USA, UK, and Switzerland, the Environment Ministry or Environment Regulator implement schemes similar to the one proposed by the Bill (referred to as emission trading or cap-and-trade schemes).

Table 1: India’s Total Emissions by Sector in 2016 (in Million Tonnes CO₂ Equivalent)

Sector	Amount	% Share
	2,129	75%
Energy		
of which		
	1,207	43%
Energy Industries		
	398	14%
Manufacturing Industries and Construction		
	274	10%
Transport		
	408	14%
Agriculture		
	226	8%
Industrial Processes and Product Use		

	75	3%
Waste		
	2,839	
Total		100%
	-308	
Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry		
	2,531	
Net Total		

Source: Table 2.35, India's Total Emissions 2011-2016, Third Biennial Update Report to The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2021, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; PRS.

No clarity on who will regulate the carbon credit market

Typically, trading platforms are regulated by respective sectoral regulators. For example, share and commodity trading is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Electricity trading is regulated by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC). The regulating entities for trading have been specified in respective Acts. The Bill does not give clarity on how carbon credit certificates will be traded, or who will regulate such trading. The question is if there were to be a regulator, should it be specified in the Act itself.

Note that the Energy Conservation Act provides for energy savings certificates. The Act does not specify the regulator for the trading of these certificates. These certificates are traded on power exchanges, which are in turn regulated by CERC.

Same activity may be eligible under renewable energy, energy savings, and carbon credit trading schemes

Currently, there are two key trading schemes operational in the energy sector in India: (i) Renewable Energy Certificate under the Electricity Act, 2003 for promoting renewable energy, and (ii) Energy Savings Certificate under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 for promoting energy efficiency.¹⁵ The Bill adds a tradeable carbon credit

certificate for reducing carbon emissions. The same activity may get covered under these schemes separately. For example, if a power generation company produces renewable energy, it earns a renewable energy certificate. By producing renewable energy, it may also be reducing carbon emissions, and hence, could be entitled to get carbon credits. Similarly, all energy saving measures could qualify as carbon emission reduction measures, as they reduce the amount of energy generation needed and hence, reduce carbon emissions. The Bill does not specify whether these certificates will be interchangeable or not.

Challenges in meeting non-fossil energy use obligation

The Bill adds that the government may require certain designated consumers to meet a minimum share of energy consumption from non-fossil sources. Different consumption thresholds may be specified for different non-fossil sources and consumer categories. Designated consumers include: (i) industries such as mining, steel, cement, textile, chemicals, and petrochemicals, (ii) transport sector including Railways, and (iii) commercial buildings, as specified in the schedule. Failure to comply will be punishable with a penalty of up to Rs 10 lakh. Electricity is a key form of energy used across consumer categories. Currently, most consumers may not have an option to buy electricity produced from a specific source. Possible sources for a consumer to meet electricity needs could be: (i) supply from a power distribution company (discom), (ii) direct procurement from a generator, or (iii) captive generation (generating on their own).

Choice in the energy mix of supply from discom: Typically, commercial establishments like a hotel in Delhi will be procuring energy from the discom of the area. Under the Bill, an obligation may be cast upon it to procure electricity from non-fossil sources. Power supply in an area is often a monopoly, that is, only one discom supplies electricity to all consumers in an area. The hotel may not have control or choice over the mix of electricity it is buying, since the energy mix is decided by the discom.

Difficulties with open access: Amendments to Electricity Rules notified in June 2022 have allowed consumers with a minimum load of 100 kW to procure green energy from a generator of their choice (called open access). The earlier threshold was 1 MW. As per these Rules, green energy includes renewable energy such as solar, wind, and hydro, and green hydrogen and green ammonia. However, the Ministry of Power had informed the Standing Committee on Energy (2022) that in most states,

open access is not really a possibility for consumers as Regulatory Commissions have stipulated high open access charges.

Implications of obligation for nascent technologies: Through the non-fossil energy use obligation, the Bill seeks to increase the demand for new sources of non-fossil energy and thereby their adoption. The term non-fossil sources has not been defined in the Bill, the Act, or the Electricity Act, 2003. The Bill defines energy as “any form of energy derived from fossil fuels or non-fossil sources or renewable sources”. Hence, it distinguishes between non-fossil sources and renewable sources (which would include sources such as solar, wind, and hydro). As per the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, examples of non-fossil sources include biomass, green hydrogen, green ammonia, biomass, and ethanol.

There may not be a widespread generation of power from some of these sources that the consumer can access. For instance, the share of biomass in India’s total installed electricity generation capacity was 2.5%, as of August 2022. Technologies such as green hydrogen and green ammonia are still at a nascent stage.³ Currently, it may not be feasible to produce energy from them affordably. Also, energy is a key input to industrial activity, and such an obligation may then adversely impact the competitiveness of the industry.

The Electricity Act, 2003 uses a different approach to promote the use of renewable energy. It mandates discoms, who are bulk-procurers from generators and suppliers to end-consumers, to procure a certain percentage of energy from renewable sources.

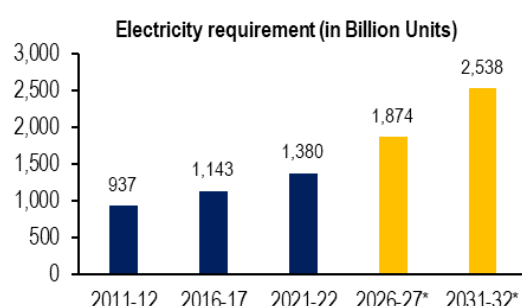
Vital Stats:-

Electricity Sector

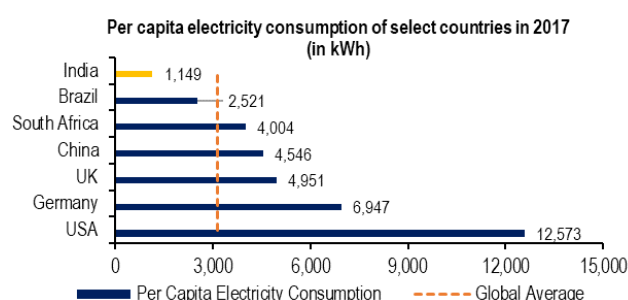
The electricity sector has seen some key developments in recent months. Bills have been introduced in Parliament to amend the Electricity Act, 2003 and the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, to provide for reforms in the power distribution sector, and introduce measures such as non-fossil energy use obligation and carbon credits. This month, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) released the draft National Electricity Plan outlining capacity addition targets for the next 10 years. About 40% of India’s greenhouse gas emissions came from the electricity sector in 2016. Hence, from a climate change perspective, the transition to greener energy sources is a focal point. In this light, this note presents some key emerging trends in the electricity sector in India.

Electricity demand projected to double in next decade, per capita consumption would still be low

CEA projects India's electricity demand to increase 1.8 times between 2021-22 and 2031-32. At this rate, India's annual per capita electricity consumption will be about 1,700-1,800 units in 2031-32. As of 2017, India's per capita electricity consumption was significantly lower than most developed countries.



Note: *2026-27 and 2031-32 numbers are projections by CEA



Generation capacity addition targets for 2017-2022 missed

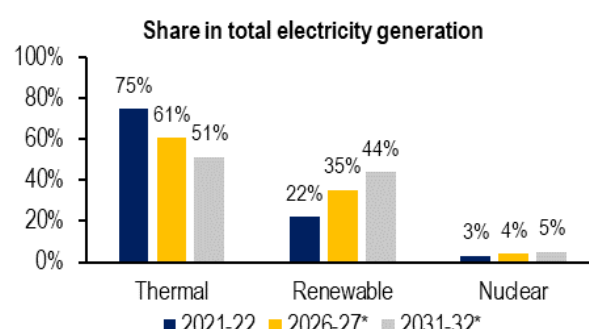
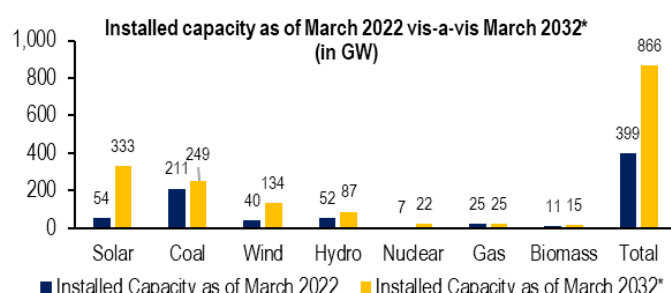
India missed capacity addition targets for almost all major energy sources for the 2017-22 period (up to March 2022). CEA identified the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, issues with land acquisition, fund constraints with contractors, and contractual disputes as some key issues leading to delays. No nuclear generation capacity was added during the last five years. India had targeted renewable energy installed capacity of 175 GW by 2022 (excluding large hydro). Against this target, as of August 2022, the total renewable energy installed capacity stood at 116 GW.

Capacity addition during 2017-2022 (in GW)

Source	Target/Scheduled	Actual	Gap
Solar	88	42	46
Coal	48	31	17
Wind	28	8	20
Hydro	7	3	4
Nuclear	3	0	3
Biomass and Gas	2	2	0
Total	176	85	91

Climate-related targets remain in sight

As per CEA, India will target to add a total of 472 GW of installed capacity during 2022-32. Almost 80% of this would be from two sources – solar (279 GW) and wind (94 GW). These targets are aligned with India's pledge at the COP-26 summit to have 500 GW of non-fossil generation capacity by 2030. These will require investments of about Rs 32 lakh crore. India has also set a goal of meeting at least 50% of its electricity requirement from renewable sources by 2030. CEA projects that India will be close to this goal, if the above capacity addition targets are achieved.

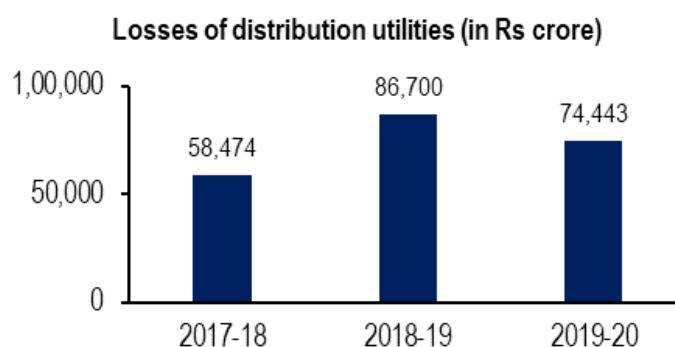


Note: *2026-27 and 2031-32 numbers are projections by CEA.

Discoms continue to register financial losses, technical and commercial losses remain high

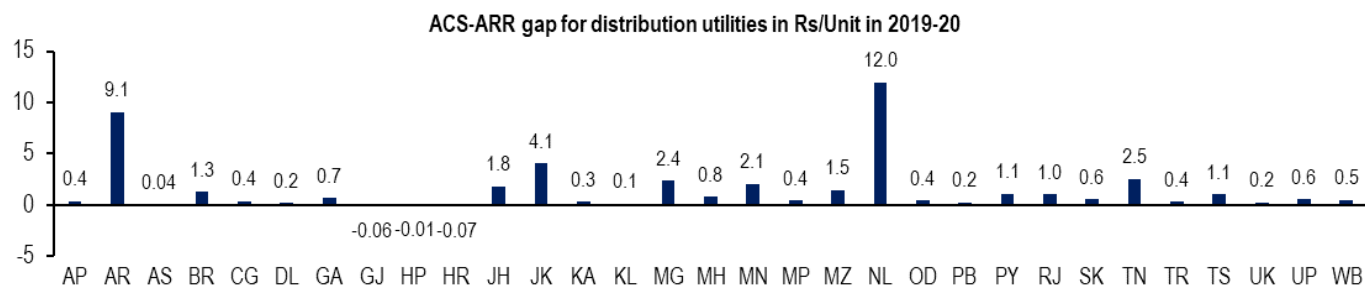
Distribution utilities, mostly either state government-owned enterprises or government power departments, have continued to register financial losses. This is despite government interventions such as the UDAY scheme (2015) for financial and operational turnaround of these utilities. Between 2017-18 and 2019-20, cumulative losses were Rs 2.2 lakh crore. Except in Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, and Haryana, in all other states, revenue was lower than the cost of supply on a per unit basis.

At the national level, aggregate technical and commercial losses were 21% in 2019-20, much higher than countries such as UK and USA (5%-8%). These are losses on account of some unavoidable loss in energy transfer, losses due to sub-optimal conditions of distribution network,

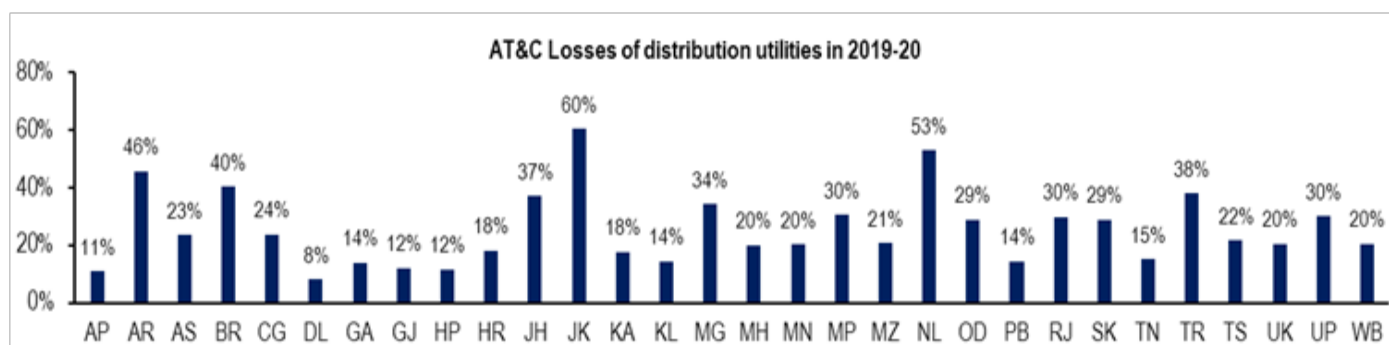


Losses above are reported based on actual government subsidy received, and after excluding: (i) revenue grants received under the UDAY scheme, and (ii) regulatory income.

theft, inadequate metering, and payment default.



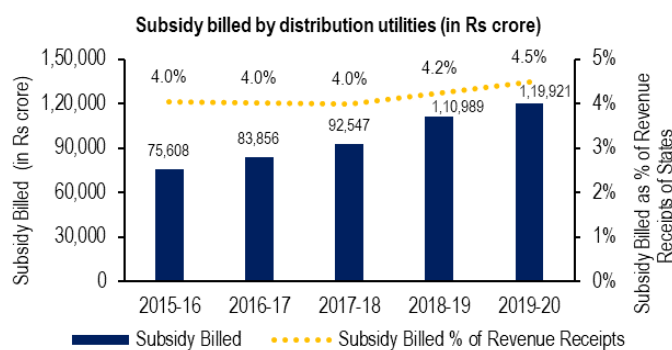
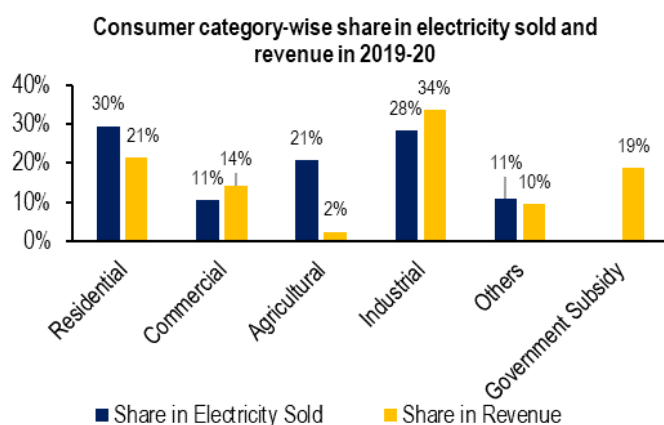
Note: ACS: Average Cost of Supply, ARR: Average Revenue Realised



Note: AT&C: Aggregate Technical & Commercial, depicts the percentage of electricity input in the grid for which discom did not receive any payment.

Cross-subsidy and government subsidies keep electricity affordable for some consumers

Government subsidy and cross-subsidy from industrial and commercial consumers attempt to keep electricity affordable for residential and agricultural consumers. For example, in 2019-20, while 21% of the total electricity supply was sold to agricultural consumers, their share in the total revenue was only 2%. Industrial consumers contributed about 34% of the total revenue, whereas their share in the electricity sale was 28%.



Between 2015-16 and 2019-20, power subsidies by state governments have ranged around 4%-4.5% of their revenue receipts. In 2019-20, in terms of rupees, the highest subsidies were billed in: (i) Madhya Pradesh (Rs 16,722 crore), (ii) Rajasthan (Rs 12,921 crore), and (iii) Karnataka (Rs 11,864 crore).

Sources: [Draft National Electricity Plan September 2022](#), [National Electricity Plan 2018](#), [Growth Of Electricity Sector In India From 1947-2020](#),

[India Electricity Statistics 2021](#), [Executive Summary reports of various months](#), [Installed Capacity reports of various months](#), Central Electricity Authority; [India Energy Dashboard](#), NITI Aayog; [Reports on Performance of Power Utilities of various years](#), Power Finance Corporation; State Budget Documents; PRS.

Bill Summary

The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022 was introduced in Lok Sabha on August 3, 2022. The Bill seeks to amend the Energy Conservation Act, 2001. The Act promotes energy efficiency and conservation. It provides for the regulation of energy consumption by equipment, appliances, buildings, and industries. Key proposals under the Bill are:

Obligation to use non-fossil sources of energy: The Act empowers the central government to specify energy consumption standards. The Bill adds that the government may require the designated consumers to meet a minimum share of energy consumption from non-fossil sources. Different consumption thresholds may be specified for different non-fossil sources and consumer categories. Designated consumers include: (i) industries such as mining, steel, cement, textile, chemicals, and petrochemicals, (ii) transport sector including Railways, and (iii) commercial buildings, as specified in the schedule. Failure to meet the obligation for use of energy from non-fossil sources will be punishable with a penalty of up to Rs 10 lakh. It will also attract an additional penalty of up to twice the price of oil equivalent of energy consumed above the prescribed norm.

Carbon trading: The Bill empowers the central government to specify a carbon credit trading scheme. Carbon credit implies a tradeable permit to produce a specified amount of carbon emissions. The central government or any authorised agency may issue carbon credit certificates to entities registered under and compliant with the scheme. The entities will be entitled to purchase or sell the certificate. Any other

person may also purchase a carbon credit certificate on a voluntary basis.



Energy conservation code for buildings: The Act empowers the central government to specify energy conservation code for buildings. The code prescribes energy consumption standards in terms of area. The Bill amend this to provide for an 'energy conservation and sustainable building code'. This new code will provide norms for energy efficiency and conservation, use of renewable energy, and other requirements for green buildings.

Applicability to residential buildings: Under the Act, the energy conservation code applies to commercial buildings: (i) erected after the notification of the code, and (ii) having a minimum connected load of 100 kilo watts (kW) or contract load of 120 kilo volt ampere (kVA). Under the Bill, the new energy conservation and sustainable building code will also apply to the office and residential buildings meeting the above criteria. The Bill also empowers the state governments to lower the load thresholds.



Standards for vehicles and vessels: Under the Act, the energy consumption standards may be specified for equipment and appliances which consume, generate, transmit, or supply energy. The Bill expands the scope to include vehicles (as defined under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988), and vessels (includes ships and boats). The failure to comply with standards will be punishable with a penalty of up to Rs 10 lakh. Non-compliance in case of vessels will attract an additional penalty of up to twice the price of oil equivalent of energy consumed above the prescribed norm. Vehicle manufacturers in violation of fuel consumption norms will be liable to pay a penalty of up to Rs 50,000 per unit of vehicles sold.

Regulatory powers of SERCs: The Act empowers the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) to adjudge penalties under the Act. The Bill adds that SERCs may also make regulations for discharging their functions.



Composition of the governing council of BEE: The Act provides for the setting up of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). The Bureau has a governing council with members between 20 and 26 in number. These include: (i) secretaries of six departments, (ii) representatives of regulatory authorities such as the Central Electricity Authority, and the Bureau of Indian Standards, and (iii) up to four members representing industries and consumers. The Bill instead provides that the number of members will be between 31 and 37. It increases the number of secretaries to 12. It also provides for up to seven members representing industries and consumers.

Note: Please note that nothing mentioned in this background may be used as an established fact in committee without the presentation of a credible source and substance mentioned. The guide may act only as a source for your basic understanding of the agenda.

Reiterating, kindly do not limit your research only to these points and feel free to broaden your horizons of research. This is just a list of topics you should cover and is a reflection of the direction in which we intend to see the flow of debate in the committee.

For any further queries kindly feel free to mail the Speaker directly at the email ID given above in the letter from the Executive Board.