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Collaboration | Innovation | Excellence



Quarterly Newsletter



All India DISCOMs Associations (AIDA) is India's first unified platform for DISCOMs, fostering collaboration, innovation, and best practices to advance energy distribution and service delivery.

General Body (GB)

It is the apex body of the Society which meets at least once every year and approve work plans, budgets and other matters related to the Society's functioning. As of today, 59 Distribution Utilities are part of GB.

Executive Council (EC)

The members of EC are appointed by the GB either through election or nomination. The EC meets at least once in a quarter to review the Society's activities and is responsible for overall governance and strategic direction of the society.

Important Events

Appointment of AIDA's General Secretary

AIDA is pleased to announce the appointment of Shri Ranvir Prasad, IAS, as its new General Secretary, effective October 2026.

Shri Prasad is presently serving as Principal Secretary (Energy), Government of Uttar Pradesh, and Chairman of UPPCL, UPRVUNL, UPPTCL, and SLDC. AIDA warmly welcomes him and looks forward to his leadership.

Middle East Energy Week 2026, Dubai

AIDA organized an international study tour to the 50th edition of Middle East Energy (MEE) 2026 at Dubai World Trade Centre, UAE, from 1–3 September 2026, with a 10-member delegation representing its member DISCOMs. The visit provided insights into global best practices in renewable energy integration, energy storage, grid modernization, smart metering, AI and digital technologies, highlighting innovative solutions to enhance the efficiency, reliability and sustainability of India's power distribution sector.

ENLIT Asia, Jakarta, Indonesia 2026

Encouraging international exposure, AIDA facilitated the participation of member DISCOM representatives in ENLIT Asia 2026 (22–24 September 2026, Jakarta) and a technical visit to PT PLN on 21 September 2026 to provide exposure to Indonesia's electricity distribution practices, utility operations, and sectoral best practices.

Highlights

National Events

AIDA's first regional workshop on "Cost-Effective Power Procurement of Renewable Energy and Storage" was co-hosted by the three Madhya Pradesh DISCOMs in Bhopal on 22 September 2026. Inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, the workshop brought together DISCOMs, policymakers and sector experts to discuss renewable energy procurement, storage integration and cost optimization. Key recommendations included inter-regional GNA swapping, extending DISCOM access to CEA's STELLAR tool, standardizing BESS fire-safety requirements and strengthening risk allocation in procurement frameworks.

Field Visits

AIDA, in collaboration with BSES, organized a Two-Day Field Visit Program on 16–17 July 2026 for member DISCOM officers to showcase best practices in HR, safety, O&M and emerging technologies. Participants visited a utility-scale BESS, electric bus charging depot, underground substation and Agri-PV installation, and explored advanced grid monitoring systems and digital twin technology, gaining practical insights into improving operational efficiency, reliability and sustainability in power distribution.

MoU Signed by AIDA and Memberships: AIDA is pleased to announce that it has signed one MOU with IIT Madras making the new total to fifteen.

Legal Briefs: AIDA continues to support member DISCOMs by providing legal briefs on key issues. This quarter, four briefs were issued, bringing the total to 31 till date.

Best Practices sharing Webinars: AIDA drives collaboration and knowledge sharing among its DISCOM members by conducting national-level webinars that focus on crucial areas being pursued by various Discom members.

Capacity Building: AIDA is undertaking multiple capacity-building initiatives, including leadership, strategic management, and academic collaborations, to strengthen DISCOM capabilities and drive sectoral improvement.

Policy Advocacy and Regulatory Initiatives: The Association regularly undertakes policy and regulatory initiatives related to the power distribution sector and engages with concerned authorities such as CEA, MoP, CERC, and others on key DISCOM-related issues.

AIDA Committee Meetings: AIDA has formed eight expert committees to advance its core objectives, focusing on policy advocacy, collaboration, standardization, and capacity building in DISCOM operations. These committees provide informed recommendations on proposals from the MoP, CERC, CEA, and other key stakeholders.

AIDA Welcomes Shri Ranvir Prasad as General Secretary



AIDA is pleased to announce the appointment of Shri Ranvir Prasad as its new General Secretary, effective October 2026. Shri Ranvir Prasad is a distinguished Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre and currently serves as Principal Secretary (Energy), Government of Uttar Pradesh. He also holds the positions of Chairman, Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL), UP Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (UPRVUNL), UP Power Transmission Corporation Limited (UPPTCL), and the State Load Dispatch Centre (SLDC).

With his extensive leadership experience in the power and energy sector, Shri Prasad brings exceptional administrative expertise and strategic vision to AIDA. His deep understanding of infrastructure development, energy management, and institutional governance is expected to further strengthen AIDA's mission and contribute significantly to its future growth and initiatives. The AIDA Secretariat warmly welcomes Shri Ranvir Prasad and looks forward to his leadership and guidance in advancing the association's objectives in the years ahead.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr Ashish Kumar Goel for his extremely valuable contribution and guidance as the founder General Secretary of AIDA.

Summary of Ongoing AIDA Projects/ Studies – Open to Discoms for Participation

Recently Initiated Projects (Open to DISCOM Participation)

Participation in these studies is open to DISCOMs across procurement, forecasting, DSO, data, and smart-meter analytics:

1.Risk Allocation in SBDs & PPA Frameworks: Independent Assessment of Risk Allocation

in MoP SBDs and Competitive Bidding Guidelines, and the CERC Cost-Plus PPA Framework: Assess how SBDs, competitive bidding guidelines and cost-plus PPAs allocate legal, regulatory, market, performance and financial risks among generators, procurers and consumers, then propose a Risk Rebalancing Framework and contractual amendments.

Objective: Independent assessment of risk allocation in Ministry of Power (MoP) Standard Bidding Documents (SBDs), competitive bidding guidelines, and the CERC cost-plus framework.

Steering Group Members: Led by S.N. Kalita (ITPED), alongside representatives from MSEDCL, UPPCL, GUVNL, NPCL, Prayas (Energy Group), CSIS, legal professionals, and Mukund Mishra (AIDA Fellow, Convenor).

Project Scope: Focuses on 10 risk areas including change in law risk, capacity payment obligations, limited market risk exposure, fuel-related compensation, RE must-run and curtailment, payment security vs. performance, forecasting accountability, consumer tariff impact, limited contract exit options, and bidding document flexibility.

Status: 1st meeting of the steering group held on 01.09.2026; inception report at an advanced stage.

2. Short-Term Demand Forecasting Handbook & Tool

Objective: Develop a model handbook and deployable tool to help DISCOMs produce accurate short-term demand and net-load forecasts amidst increasing weather-driven variability from rooftop solar and distributed renewable generation.

Steering Group Members: Includes representatives from ITPED, five utilities (MSEDCL, UPPCL, GUVNL, BRPL, NPCL), CEA, IIT Madras, ISGF, Global Energy Alliance, MP-Ensystems, ESIG, CSIS, and Er. Vikas Sharma (AIDA Fellow, Convenor).

Project Scope: Covers 8 workstreams from data preparation and net-load estimation to scenario modeling, machine learning model development, validation via MAPE and RMSE, and operational deployment.

3. RE & Storage Procurement

Objective: Develop practical guidance for DISCOMs to plan and procure a cost-effective mix of renewable energy and storage supporting grid stability, peak demand management, resource adequacy, and RPO compliance.

Steering Group Members: Comprises members from ITPED, six utilities (UPPCL, JVVNL,

MGVCL, MPPMCL, TNPDCL, GESCOM), IIT Roorkee, CSIS, RMI, CEEW, and AIDA Fellow, Convenor.

Project Scope: 4 major assessments leading to practical outputs, including baseline assessment, policy/regulatory review, procurement models (solar, wind, RTC, FDRE, peak-power, BESS, pumped storage), financial analysis (LCOE, LCOS), and BESS sizing/siting.

Status: 1st steering group meeting held on 10.09.2026; inception report at an advanced stage.

4. DSO Adoption Manual

Objective: Develop a phased adoption manual and policy toolkit helping DISCOMs transition from one-way network management to active, reliability-oriented Distribution System Operator (DSO) operations.

Steering Group Members: Includes leaders from ITPED, five utilities, IIT Delhi, TERI, ISGF, Prayas (Energy Group), CSIS, IECC, and Jitendra Gupta (AIDA Fellow, Convenor).

Project Scope: 6 work areas covering baseline mapping, international DSO models, TSO-DSO coordination, technical/institutional changes, net-zero/DER alignment, and a phased policy toolkit.

Status: Steering group formed; 1st meeting held on 25.09.2026

5. Regulatory Data Exchange Framework

Details: Develops a standard, secure, and interoperable template for DISCOM–SERC data exchange aligned with the India Energy Stack to reduce repetitive filings and improve data quality.

6. Leveraging Smart Meter Data

Recommend analytic tools that convert interval smart-meter data into insights on load profiles, peak demand, billing anomalies, outages, and energy losses through dashboards and alerts.

7. PPP Mode Projects for Competitive Supply to Industrial Units

Details: Focuses on bankable Public-Private Partnership (PPP) structures covering procurement design, service standards, risk allocation, and payment security to lower industrial supply costs.

8. Integrated Transmission & Sub-Transmission Network Planning

Open to DISCOMs as observers

Integrated Transmission & Sub-Transmission Network Planning (in collaboration with CSTEP)

Purpose: Integrated 33/11 kV and transmission planning for Andhra Pradesh incorporating DRE, rooftop solar, EVs, and BESS.

Participating: Andhra Pradesh (all 3 DISCOMs), observer discom- WBSEDCL

9. Integrated Resource Adequacy Planning for Maharashtra (in collaboration with RMI)

Purpose: Co-optimising transmission, generation, storage, and demand flexibility using STELLAR for 2030–35.

Participating: MSEDCL.

Open to other Discoms as observer

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

MoU with Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT Madras)

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed on 13th August, 2026 between the All-India Discoms Association (AIDA) and **Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM)**, a statutory body constituted under the Institutes of Technology Act 1961. IITM is a premier institute of national importance engaged in teaching, research, innovation and knowledge dissemination across disciplines. The MoU will facilitate collaboration in energy demand estimation and forecasting for DISCOMs, along with scientific exchange, joint research, faculty interaction, publications, technology development, and other mutually beneficial interdisciplinary activities.

Areas of Cooperation are:

- Collaboration in the field of energy demand estimation and forecasting for electricity distribution utilities (DISCOMs).
- Application of observational data, statistical methods, data analytics, machine learning, and artificial intelligence to improve forecasting methodologies.
- Joint research and knowledge development in areas of mutual interest.
- Capacity-building initiatives to strengthen forecasting and analytical capabilities within the power distribution sector.
- Exploration of collaborative activities supporting innovation, research, and evidence-based decision-making for DISCOMs.



International Study Tours

Middle East Energy 1-3rd September, Dubai 2026

The All-India DISCOMs Association (AIDA) organized an international study tour to the 50th edition of Middle East Energy (MEE) 2026, held at the Dubai World Trade Centre, UAE, from 1–3 September 2026, with participation from a distinguished 10-member delegation representing AIDA Discom members which include DVVNL, UPREV, SBPDCL, TGNPDCL, NPCL, KEDL-CESC Rajasthan Business, UPPCL, Sai Computers Ltd.

The three-day program provided participants with insights into emerging trends shaping the global power sector, including rising electricity demand driven by EVs, data centers, AI, and electrification; renewable energy integration, energy storage, and grid modernization for decarbonization; and the growing role of digital technologies such as AI, IoT, smart metering, digital twins, and advanced analytics in transforming utility operations. The visit offered a valuable platform for learning global best practices and exploring innovative solutions to support the evolving needs of India's power distribution sector.





ENLIT ASIA, Indonesia, 21-24 September 2026

AIDA organized its 5th International Study Tour to ENLIT Asia 2026 in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 21–24 September 2026, with participation from senior officers of 15 member DISCOMs, including APDCL, NBPDCL, KESCO, APEPDCL, PSPCL, PVVNL, UPPCL, DVVNL, MVVNL, BRPL, WBSEDCL, MGVCL, and TGNPDCL. As part of the program, participants undertook a technical visit to PT PLN, Indonesia's state-owned power utility, to gain insights into utility operations, electricity distribution systems, and sector best practices. The delegation also attended ENLIT Asia 2026, ASEAN's premier power and energy event, which brought together policymakers, utilities, technology providers, investors, and industry leaders to showcase innovations across power generation, transmission, distribution, smart grids, digitalization, energy storage, and emerging technologies. The study tour provided a valuable platform for knowledge exchange and exposure to global best practices supporting the energy transition and modernization of power distribution utilities.





National Events

Two-Day BSES Field Visit Program on 16–17th July, 2026

AIDA, in collaboration with BSES, organized a Two-Day Field Visit Program on 16–17 July 2026 for officers of member DISCOMs to facilitate exposure to leading operational practices, emerging technologies, and innovative utility initiatives. The program included sessions on best practices in human resource management, corporate training, safety, and operation & maintenance (O&M), along with field visits to key power sector facilities. Participants visited South Asia's largest utility-scale Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), a large electric bus charging depot, and an underground substation, and gained insights into advanced grid monitoring and control systems. The program also included a site visit to an Agri-PV installation

and an online demonstration of digital twin technology, providing participants with practical exposure to technologies and solutions that can enhance reliability, efficiency, sustainability, and digital transformation in power distribution utilities.





AIDA' s Regional Workshop in Bhopal on 22nd September, 2026

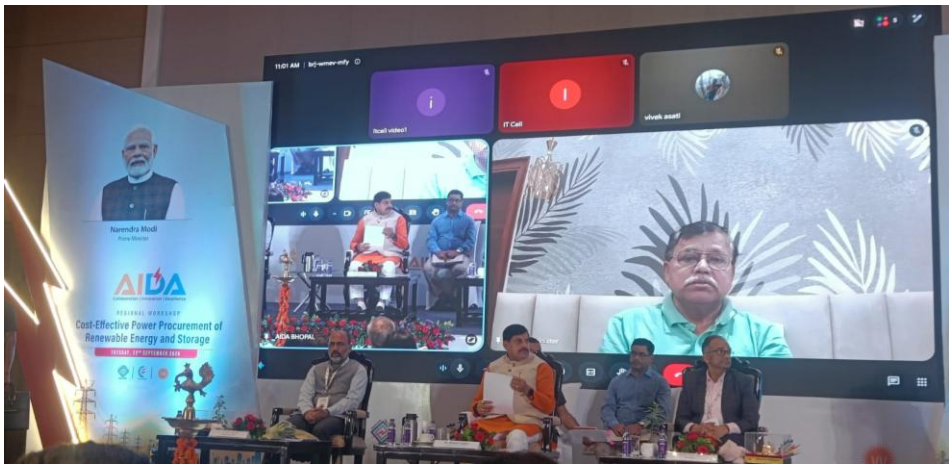
AIDA Regional Workshop on 'Cost Effective Power Procurement of Renewable Energy and Storage' at Bhopal on 22nd September, 2026. First regional workshop co-hosted by the three member Discoms of Madhya Pradesh in Bhopal on 22nd September, 2026, bringing together DISCOMs, policymakers, and sector experts to discuss renewable energy procurement, storage integration, risk allocation, and cost optimization strategies.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Mohan Yadav, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, through the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, in the presence of Sh. Manish Singh, Principal Secretary, Energy, Government of Madhya Pradesh. The program featured three technical sessions covering AIDA-ITPED studies, complementary renewable energy procurement, and an open-house discussion with DISCOMs and sector experts. Key

recommendations included exploring inter-regional GNA swapping, extending DISCOM access to CEA's STELLAR tool, and advancing BESS fire-safety standardization, with clear risk allocation provisions in procurement frameworks. The discussions highlighted the potential of inter-state demand complementarity to optimize renewable energy procurement and improve resource utilization across regions.

Please scan to go through PPT of workshop directly:





Legal Briefs

1. Treatment of Income Tax in Tariff Determination: Actual Income Tax Vs. Income Tax Computed on The Return on Equity

Treatment of Income Tax in Tariff Determination: Actual Income Tax Vs. Income Tax Computed on The Return on Equity; it is stated that the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission ("CERC") as well as several other SERCs namely Delhi, Kerala, Punjab, Karnataka, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Gujrat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Arunachal Pradesh, by their Regulations provide for Income Tax as a tariff component computed on the Return on Equity component of the licensed business and the actual Income Tax paid is only used for the limited purpose of determining the effective tax rate to gross up the RoE. In contrast, Regulations of other SERCs namely Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur & Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Uttarakhand and Goa & Union Territories, the actual Income Tax paid by the licensee is allowed as a pass-through during tariff determination.

Takeaway	Recommendations
A licensee's entitlement to Income Tax expenses as part of the tariff, is governed by the Regulations framed by the Appropriate Commission.	DISCOMs must trace their entitlement to Income Tax expenses, whether on the basis of actual tax payable or tax computed on RoE component, in the applicable Regulations framed by the Commissions.
Unless provided by the Regulations that Income Tax would be included on actuals, the actual Income Tax paid by the licensee is used to determine the effective tax rate.	CERC Regulations and other SERC Regulations framed on the lines of CERC Regulations, the actual Income Tax paid is used only for the limited purpose of determining effective tax rate at which the income on RoE is to be computed.
Very few SERCs allow the actual Income Tax payable / paid by the licensee as a pass through.	A number of SERCs from the North East, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Goa & Union Territories are the few SERCs which allow the actual Income Tax payable / paid by the licensee as a pass through. Largely, CERC and a majority of SERCs by their Regulations provide for tax on RoE.

2. CERC's Jurisdictiion to entertain disputes for non-grant of Standing Clearance to an Intra-state entity for failure to obtain Discoms consent: CERC Order dated 01.06.2026 in JSL Vs. TPCODL in Petition No. 191/MP/2026

The CERC, vide its Order dated 1 June 2026 in Petition No. 191/MP/2026, clarified its jurisdiction concerning the non-grant of Standing Clearance by the Odisha State Load Dispatch Centre for intra-State entities undertaking transactions under Temporary General Network Access (T-GNA). The Commission held that such matters fall within the applicable State regulatory framework and that the GNA Regulations and NOAR Procedure do not override State Open Access Regulations or eliminate the requirement for DISCOM's consent where prescribed. The Order provides important guidance for DISCOMs in processing consent and no-objection requests in accordance with the applicable State Regulations.

3. Misdeclaration of Declared Capacity by a Generating Station: Supreme Court's Judgement in PSPCL V. TSPL, 2026 in SC 515

The Supreme Court of India, vide its judgment in the above-referred matter (INSC 515), clarified the regulatory consequences of a generating station's failure to demonstrate its Declared Capacity (DC) under the Punjab State Grid Code, 2013. The Court held that failure to demonstrate declared capacity within the prescribed four-time blocks constitutes an independent regulatory default attracting strict civil liability, distinct from gaming, which requires proof of deliberate misdeclaration for undue commercial gain. The judgment also affirmed the SLDC's authority to verify declared capacity and clarified that generators are responsible for maintaining accurate declarations and promptly revising them when their capability changes. Further, proceedings under the Deviation Settlement Mechanism (DSM) Regulations are distinct from those concerning failure to demonstrate declared capacity, while allegations of gaming continue to require appropriate evidence and compliance with the principles of natural justice.

4. Liability to pay Transmission Charges when the Associated Generation Station has delayed Commissioning: CERC Order dated 26.05.2026 in Petition No. 42/MP/2024

The CERC, vide its Order dated 26 May 2026 in Petition No. 42/MP/2024, clarified the applicability of bilateral transmission charges where a generating station's Commercial Operation Date (COD) is delayed. The Commission held that the Ministry of Power's waiver applies to electricity generated and does not automatically exempt generators from transmission-charge liability due to COD delays. It further clarified that deemed COD requires completion of all interdependent elements of the transmission system and that liability should be proportionate to the delayed capacity. The Order also clarified that an extension of the Scheduled COD under a PPA does not automatically extend GNA/LTA timelines or defer transmission-charge liability. Accordingly, DISCOMs should ensure clear risk allocation in PPAs regarding commissioning delays, liquidated damages and transmission charges, while regularly monitoring transmission readiness, GNA status, connectivity approvals, CTU completion certificates and RLDC no-load charging certificates to mitigate potential delays in power procurement.

Policy Advocacy and Regulatory Engagements

1. Ministry of Power (MoP): Rationalization of the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) and Renewable Consumption Obligation (RCO) applicable to Distribution Licensees

AIDA submitted a representation to the Ministry of Power suggesting amendments to the Renewable Consumption Obligation (RCO) framework for Distribution Licensees. The key recommendations are:

i. **Computation of RCO for Distribution Licensees based on Retail Sales to Consumers:** computation of RCO to be based on actual retail sales to consumers, excluding distribution losses, consistent with the Electricity Act, 2003 and as followed by most State Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

ii. **Accounting of Renewable Energy Procurement at Generator Ex-bus:** should continue to be accounted for at the generator export (ex-bus) point, consistent with the existing scheduling, metering, REA and settlement framework followed by the power sector.

iii. **Introduction of Deemed RPO/RCO for Delayed Renewable Energy Projects:** AIDA recommends that MoP may introduce a provision for grant of *Deemed Renewable Purchase Obligation (Deemed RPO)/Deemed Renewable Consumption Obligation (Deemed RCO)* in cases where a Distribution Licensee has contracted the requisite renewable energy capacity with approval of concerned SERC, but renewable power is not supplied due to reasons beyond its control. The contracted renewable capacity should be deemed to satisfy the corresponding RPO/RCO requirement for the period of such delay until the project is commissioned and renewable energy supply commences.

iv. **Transitional Provisions for Smooth Implementation of the RCO Framework:** AIDA recommends that the MoP may provide a transition period of at least two financial years for implementation, for States to align regulations, tariff mechanisms and renewable procurement plans.

v. **Carry Forward of Surplus RPO/RCO Achievement:** Permit surplus RPO/RCO achievement to be carried forward and adjusted against future obligations, along with an initial moratorium for a period of three years, to facilitate smooth implementation without exposing Distribution Licensees to unintended penal consequences.

2. Central Electricity Regulatory Commission

In the matter of Procedure for levying compensation charges for permitting additional time to achieve milestones under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Connectivity and General Network Access to the inter-State Transmission System) Regulations, 2022

As part of its policy and regulatory advocacy efforts, AIDA submitted comments to the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) on the draft Procedure for levying compensation charges for permitting additional time to achieve milestones under the Connectivity and General Network Access (GNA) Regulations, 2022, following extensive consultations with member DISCOMs. In the final procedure issued by CERC, AIDA's key concerns were substantially addressed. The Commission clarified that Milestone Extension Charges (MEC) arising from a

developer's failure to meet prescribed timelines and subsequent request for extension shall not be treated as a Change in Law event, thereby preventing any tariff pass-through on this account. Further, CERC clarified that any additional time granted for achieving project milestones shall be entirely at the cost and risk of the concerned entity and shall not modify or dilute the rights and remedies available to DISCOMs under their respective Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). These outcomes reflect AIDA's continued efforts to safeguard DISCOMs interest and promote a fair and balanced regulatory framework.

Webinars

Webinar on "Digital Personal Data Protection: Statutory Imperative for India's DISCOMs" held on 23 July 2026

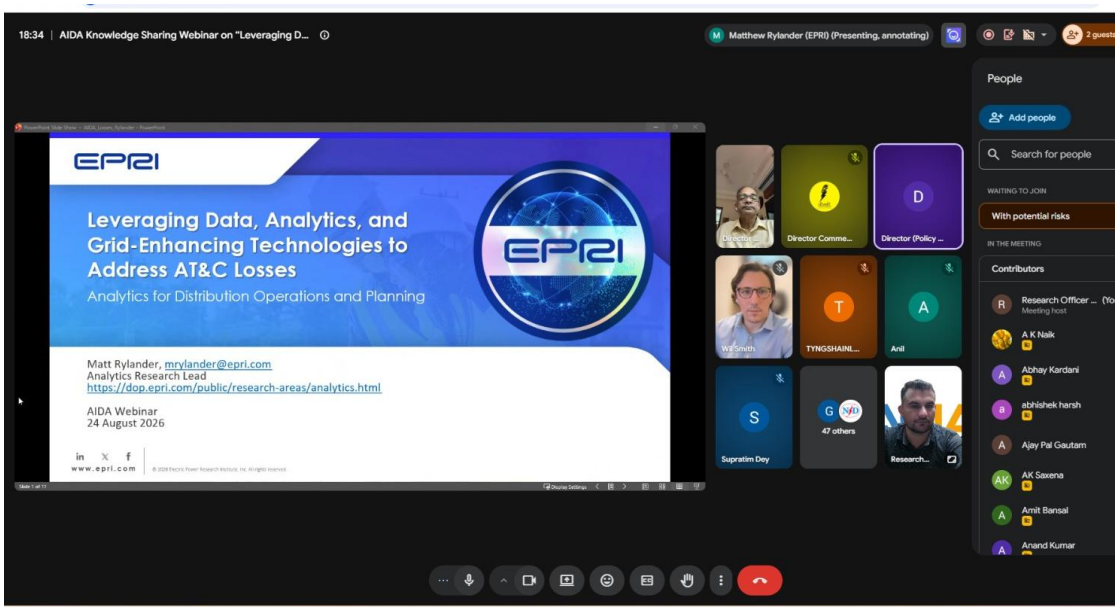
AIDA organized a knowledge-sharing webinar on "Digital Personal Data Protection: Statutory Imperative for India's DISCOMs" held on 23 July 2026 through virtual mode. The webinar focused on the implications of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023 for electricity distribution utilities and highlighted the evolving regulatory framework governing data privacy and protection. The session provided insights into key compliance requirements for DISCOMs, potential financial penalties arising from non-compliance, and the importance of safeguarding consumer data to build trust and enhance service delivery. Discussions also explored how robust data governance and privacy practices can support operational excellence, digital transformation, and innovation in the power distribution sector while ensuring adherence to statutory obligations.



Webinar on "Leveraging Data, Analytics, and Grid-Enhancing Technologies to Address Technical Losses" held on 24th August, 2026

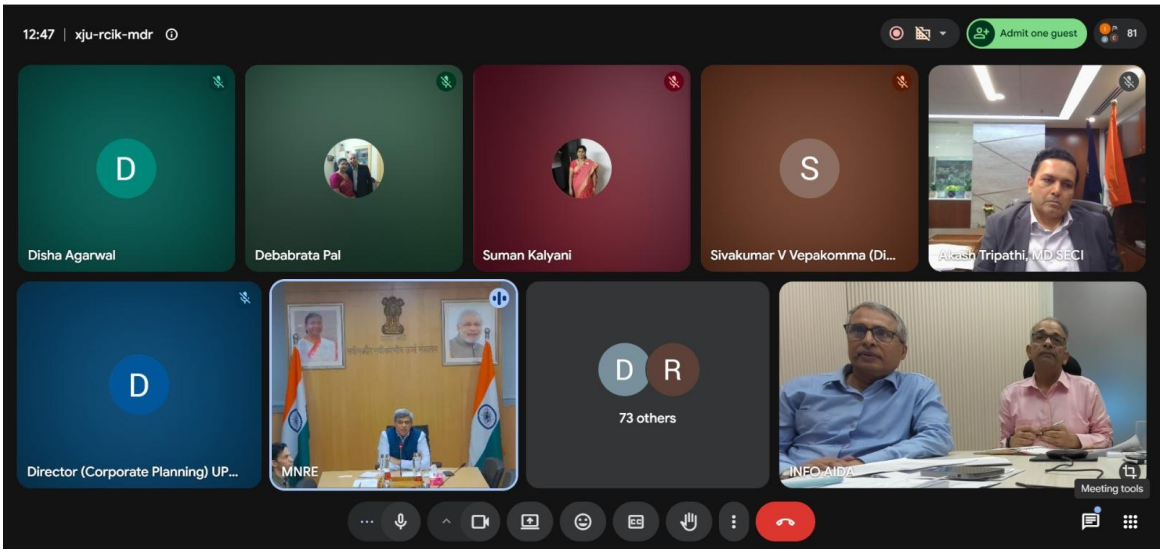
AIDA organized a webinar on "Leveraging Data, Analytics, and Grid-Enhancing Technologies to Address Technical Losses" held on 24 August 2026 in collaboration with experts from EPRI. The webinar explored methodologies for measuring, separating, and reducing technical losses in Indian distribution networks through the use of advanced data analytics, validated GIS models, and grid-enhancing technologies. Discussions highlighted the significant reduction in AT&C losses across the sector over the years while emphasizing the growing need to address technical

losses as distributed energy resources (DERs) become more prevalent. The session underscored the importance of accurate network modelling and high-quality measurement data, identified urban high-energy-density areas as key opportunities for loss reduction, and discussed potential pilot implementations with member utilities. EPRI also shared its experience and expressed support for technology evaluation, pilot design, and deployment strategies to help DISCOMs improve network efficiency and operational performance.



Webinar on "How Can Distribution Companies Procure Reliable Electricity at the Least Cost?" held on 27th August, 2026

AIDA organized a knowledge-sharing webinar on "How Can Distribution Companies Procure Reliable Electricity at the Least Cost?" held on 27 August 2026 through virtual mode. The webinar focused on emerging procurement approaches for securing reliable and dispatchable power at competitive costs, with particular emphasis on Firm and Dispatchable Renewable Energy (FDRE) and innovative power procurement models. Expert speakers discussed the design and implementation of SECI's 1 GW Round-the-Clock (RTC-TM) tender, covering its procurement framework, bidding structure, dispatchability features, and potential implications for DISCOMs in terms of power procurement costs, reliability, and resource adequacy planning. The session provided valuable insights to member utilities on evolving market mechanisms and strategies for ensuring affordable, reliable, and sustainable electricity supply.



Capacity Building

AIDA-IIT Roorkee-SHAKTI foundation training program on "Application of AI/ML in Power Distribution Systems"

AIDA, in collaboration with IIT Roorkee, conducted a fully funded training program on "Application of AI/ML in Power Distribution Systems" from 4–11 October 2026 at IIT Roorkee's Greater Noida campus. Funded by SHAKTI Foundation, the program is planned across four batches, with an initial target of 25 officials per batch and 100 officials in total. The program features faculty members from academia and industry, combining expert lectures with hands-on sessions on AI/ML applications in distribution operations, data and cybersecurity, and utility-specific adoption roadmaps. Designed for officers at the Assistant Engineer (AE) to Superintending Engineer (SE) levels, the initiative aims to promote data-driven decision-making and digital transformation in power distribution. However, owing to the overwhelming response received for the first batch, its capacity was expanded to accommodate 34 officers from AIDA member DISCOMs. The second batch is scheduled to commence on 23 November, 2026.

AIDA capacity building program at NPTI Faridabad on "Leadership and Strategic Management" under RDSS

NPTI, at the initiative of AIDA, is organizing a three-day residential training program on "Leadership and Strategic Management" under RDSS from 26–28 October 2026 at its Faridabad campus. The program will cover emerging issues in the electricity sector, renewable energy integration, leadership development, smart meter data analytics, and smart grid technologies. This fourth batch aims to strengthen the leadership and strategic capabilities of middle-management officers of DISCOMs. The training fee, accommodation, meals, and other associated expenses will be sponsored by PFC/MoP.

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The AIDA thanks AIDA Secretariat team for their contribution in supporting the analysis, editing, compiling snippets of its quarterly activity, regulatory updates, and coordinating final production of this Issue. S.N. Kalita, Director (Regulatory Affairs AIDA), Garima Maurya (Research Officer), Sudhir Kumar (Research Officer).

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