

Ministry of Power
PRESS RELEASE

Subject: Signing of Key Agreements with International Energy Agency (IEA) to Strengthen Mutual Cooperation in the Field of Energy.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) acts as energy policy advisor to 26 member countries that are also all OECD members, in their effort to ensure reliable, affordable and clean energy for their citizens. The Ministry of Power had signed an MOU with the International Energy Agency in April, 1998 for cooperation in the energy sector. India is one of only three non-member countries of the IEA with whom such an MOU has been signed. India-IEA cooperation focuses on key areas related to Energy. There has been close inter-action since then and India-IEA have jointly organized a number of high profile events.

India and IEA has recognised that energy technology has to be integrated with the Energy Policy with a view to get demonstrable and efficient outcomes. There is growing consensus among the countries to work in tandem for promoting sustainable and more efficient end-use for which it is imperative that research, development and diffusion of energy technologies is given top priority in the international agenda. In this regard IEA implementing agreements have played useful role in the past and they continue to play important role in advancing pre-competitive research, information dissemination and market development for efficient technologies. Recognising the role being played by IEA through its implementing agreements, India has decided to join the following two Agreements:

- I. *Implementing Agreement for a Co-operative Programme on Technologies Relating to Greenhouse Gases Derived from Fossil Fuel Use*
- II. *Implementing Agreement for Co-operation on Technologies and Programmes for Demand-Side Management*

CMD NTPC and Director General, BEE, signed the agreements today (22.1.2007) in the presence of Secretary (Power), Executive Director, IEA, Mr. Claude Mandil and other dignitaries from Ministry of Power and CEA.

With the signing of these two Agreements, Indo-IEA cooperation in the field of energy related joint research has further strengthened. This cooperation would facilitate meaningful research in the areas of mutual interest with a view to achieve economic and technical efficiency improvements through introduction of more environmentally friendly and sound technologies. Detailed note is enclosed.

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India IEA Cooperation

The Ministry of Power had signed an MOU with the International Energy Agency in April, 1998 for cooperation in the power sector. India/ IEA cooperation focuses on following key areas:

- Energy Information and Statistics
- Energy supply security
- Energy efficiency
- Energy and Environment
- Energy pricing etc.

There has been close inter-action with IEA, India since then, India-IEA have jointly organized a number of events jointly. These include workshop on Coal and Electricity held at New Delhi in September, 2003, Workshop on Standard and Labeling held at Bangalore in October, 2004. This event proved very popular with stakeholders and paved the way for Indo-IEA collaboration on energy efficiency and conservation. Recently, Workshop on energy efficiency and building codes was organised at New Delhi in 2006.

Implementing Agreements Highlights

India and IEA has recognised that energy technology has to be integrated with the Energy Policy with a view to get demonstrable and efficient outcomes. There is growing consensus among the countries to work in tandem for promoting sustainable and more efficient and use for which it is imperative that research, development and diffusion of energy technologies is given top priority in the international agenda. In this regard IEA implementing agreements have played useful role in the past and they continue to play important role in advancing pre-competitive research, information dissemination and market development for efficient technologies.

IEA's Greenhouse Gases and R&D Technology Agreement

The IEA Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Programme is the only IEA Implementing Agreement concerned solely with developing new technologies specifically for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel use. Recognising the global nature of climate change and the need for world wide cooperation to develop solutions to this problem the IEA has implemented a policy of encouraging participation by developing countries and economies in transition. The objectives of the Programme, inter-alia, include:

- (i) Evaluation of technologies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, particularly from use of fossil fuels
- (ii) Dissemination of results
- (iii) Promotion of practical research and development

India has decided to participate in this Programme and NTPC has been nominated as Nodal Agency for representing India's interest in the Programme. Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI) will be associated in this programme as additional Members and representatives of all these three organizations will participate in the meetings of this programme. Chairman, NTPC signed the agreement today (22.1.2007) in the presence of Secretary (Power), Executive Director, IEA, Mr. Claude Mandil and other dignitaries from Ministry of Power and CEA.

IEA's Demand-Side Management Implementing Agreement

The IEA Demand Side Management Programme is an international collaboration with 16 IEA Member Countries and one corporate Sponsor working to clarify and promote opportunities for Demand Side Management. India has decided to participate in the IEA DSM Implementing Agreement and Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has been nominated as the Nodal Agency for representing India in this programme. Director General, BEE, signed the agreement today (22.1.2007) in the presence of Secretary (Power), Executive Director, IEA, Mr. Claude Mandil and other dignitaries from Ministry of Power and CEA.

Strengthening India-IEA Cooperation

India-IEA Cooperation has proved to be mutually beneficial. The IEA is an organization established with a primary function to advise the OECD countries on Energy related matters. It is an important forum in the developed world and India stands to gain through its association as it gets an opportunity to project its policies and programmes before the developed world. IEA considers India as a fast emerging economy that would eventually become one of the largest energy users of energy in the years to come.

With the signing of these two Agreements, Indo-IEA cooperation in the field of energy related joint research has further strengthened. This cooperation would facilitate meaningful research in the areas of mutual interest with a view to achieve economic and technical efficiency improvements through introduction of more environmentally friendly and sound technologies.