BEST’s 11 lakh consumers can soon track power usage pattern online

Adani Transmission wins bid to provide 10.80 lakh smart meters over a period of 30 months

DHARMENDRA JORE

BEST undertaking’s 10.80 lakh electricity consumers will soon be able to monitor online consumption patterns and take prompt, corrective action, as deemed necessary, thanks to smart metering, which will be provided to them over the next 30 months.

Suburban supplier Adani Electricity and pan-city utility Tata Power Company have already started smart metering in phases. Both companies have installed some 1.10 lakh meters each and plan to complete the drive over the next two-three years. Adani Electricity said that all of its 29 lakh consumers will have smart meters by the end of 2025, with the next installment of 5 lakh expected by December 2023. BEST had floated a tender for implementing the scheme in which Adani Transmission

Apart from installing the smart meters, related communication and cloud information will also be installed over a period of 30 months. REPRESENTATION PIC

Limited has emerged as the successful bidder. The parent company of the suburban supply utility made an announcement to this effect on Thursday.

Adani Transmission said smart meters provide an option to opt for pre-paid billing and net-metering facility for housing societies and commercial buildings with rooftop solar power. “BEST will also have the ability to carry out remote connection and disconnection of non-paying customers. Smart meters also enable the regulators to design consumer-friendly time-of-day tariffs and drive overall efficiency in electricity distribution,” it added.

Apart from installing smart meters, related communication and cloud infrastructure will also be installed over a period of 30 months and maintained for the following 90 months.

The many benefits of the intelligent devices

CONSUMERS
- They can come to know consumption figures in real-time and hence decide regarding modifying consumption patterns.
- Facility allows net-metering to housing societies and commercial buildings with rooftop solar installations.
- Users can switch between pre-paid and post-paid meters.

COMPANIES
- Manual intervention will not be required to generate accurate bills.
- They can detect and prevent power theft. Tampering with meters alerts the utility’s control room with exact location and meter number. They can switch off power remotely.
- Remote disconnection of non-paying customers.
- Pinpoint distribution losses and fix responsibility.

Commenting on the development, Adani Transmission’s Distribution CEO, Kandarp Patel said, “This project is in line with our long-term goal to deliver customer value by unlocking the potential of technology and digitalization. We are confident about delivering this project as per expectations in a timely manner, allowing the BEST Undertaking and its consumers to fully capitalize on the potential of digitalization.”

“This will bring billing efficiency, collection efficiency, and a world-class experience to Mumbai dwellers. Consumers will have 24x7 access to their consumption details. This will reduce grievances and help us serve our consumers better. Consumers will be able to control their appliances remotely,” said Lokesh Chandra, general manager, BEST.

“We are confident about delivering this project as per expectations in a timely manner allowing BEST Undertaking and all its consumers to fully capitalize on the potential of digitalization.”

Kandarp Patel, distribution CEO, Adani Transmission