

## Goa

### India starts its first Convergence project on Green Energy

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Relevant to M&M- FES, FAAS and Mahindra Susten

#### Background

- The project is to focus on energy solutions that are evolved based on the concepts that combine climate change, renewable energy and Artificial Intelligence.
- The main objective of the project is to connect sectors such as LED lights, solar energy and energy storage in order to provide solutions that will enable decarbonisation.
- Convergence projects are those projects where physical, social, institutional and economic infrastructure are integrated. Also, it involves several schemes to achieve its goals.
- For instance, the Smart City mission of India is a convergence project. It involves Ministry of Urban Development, ministry of power, ministry of new and renewable energy, etc.
- It achieves its goals in broad areas such as development of road infrastructure, tap water connections, housing for all, internet, etc.

#### Highlights of the project

- As per the MoU, EESL and DNRE will carry-out the feasibility studies and subsequent implementation of decentralized solar energy projects.
  - EESL shall implement solar projects as listed below:
    - (i) It will establish 100 MW of decentralized ground-mounted Solar Power projects on government lands for agricultural pumping.
    - (ii) EESL will replace nearly 6,300 agricultural pumps with BEE star rated energy efficient pumps.
    - (iii) It will also distribute around 16 Lakh LED bulbs for rural domestic households.
- To provide clean power at affordable rates in the state, EESL will install solar projects in a first of its kind large scale programme where vacant or unused land provided by the Gram Panchayats or the electricity board will be utilized.

## Benefits of the project

- It will promote the usage of renewable energy sources, especially for agricultural and rural power consumption in Goa.
- It will also contribute to overall sustainability by deploying energy-efficient pumping and lighting.
- The solar power plant will be installed near the substation, improving the health of DISCOMs to supply power during the day time, reducing transmission and distribution losses. T
- The project will accrue savings of INR 2,574 crores to Goa over a period of 25 years.

## For Further Reading

1. <https://www.eqmagpro.com/what-is-indias-first-green-energy-convergence-project/>
2. <https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/first-green-energy-convergence-project-of-india-1606213660-1>
3. <https://www.drishtias.com/daily-updates/daily-news-analysis/india-s-first-green-energy-convergence-project-goa>
4. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/goa-to-get-indias-first-green-energy-convergence-project/articleshow/79271547.cms>