

11 TH MAY, 2020



IASBABA'S CURRENT AFFAIRS PRELIMS (CAP) - TO THE POINT!





Topics to be covered

1

1. The Resistance Front (+ FATF, GTI, terrorist organisations)
2. IEA – Global energy review
3. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
4. SECI, National Solar Mission, Solar PV tech.
5. Shekatkar Committee

TRF is a ploy by Pakistan to evade scrutiny, says J&K's DGP



Vijaita Singh

NEW DELHI, MAY 05, 2020 22:42 IST

UPDATED: MAY 05, 2020 22:43 IST

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Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh. File | Photo Credit: [Nissar Ahmad](#)

A senior government official said that TRF also includes members of the Hizbul Mujahideen, another banned terrorist group.

Security forces say there is nothing alarming about The Resistance Front (TRF) as all attacks carried out by the Pakistan backed Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) are being pinned on the newly formed “seasonal” group in the Kashmir Valley in order to escape international scrutiny.



TRF, FATF, GTI, TERRORIST ORG.

3

- ▶ What is TRF?
- ▶ Purpose

- ▶ FATF:
 - About
 - Lists

- ▶ GTI
 - who comes out with this index?
 - India's objections

- ▶ Various terrorist organisations



Explained: How Covid-19 lockdowns have impacted the global energy sector

Coronavirus (COVID-19): India has seen a reduction in its energy demands by over 30 per cent as a result of the nation-wide lockdown.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): The International Energy Agency (IEA) has released a report detailing the impact of Covid-19 — which it has called a “once-in-a-century crisis” — on global energy demands and CO2 emissions. With lockdowns imposed in several countries, transportation such as road and air travel has been largely restricted, due to which global energy demands have plummeted. Further, since millions of people are now confined to their homes, domestic electricity demand has elevated as commercial demand has fallen.

As per the report, countries in full lockdown are seeing an average decline of 25 per cent in energy demand per week, while in those with a partial lockdown, the fall in energy demand is about 18 per cent per week. This may not be a reason to celebrate as it is expected that emissions will soar once economies restart, unless governments take a conscious decision to change the sources of energy.

Covid-19 and the energy sector: What the IEA report says

The report estimates that the global demand for oil could drop by nine per cent on average this year, which will return oil consumption to 2012 levels. As a result of lockdowns, road transport has dropped between 50-75 per cent with the average global road transport activity falling to 50 per cent of what it was during this time in 2019.



IEA & GLOBAL ENERGY REVIEW

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- ▶ Global energy review, 2020:
 - Key findings
 - Reason for decline of global coal demand
 - RE demand increased

- ▶ IEA:
 - About
 - Structure
 - Emergency response mechanism



JUST IN

2

🕒 1hr India, China troops face off at Naku La in Sikkim, several injured

3

🕒 2hrs Fire breaks out in cardboard factory in outer Delhi's Bawana

4

🕒 2hrs Watch | All about Vande Bharat Mission



MENU



HOME

NEWS

CORONAVIRUS

OPINION

BUSINESS

SPORT

LIFE & STYLE

THREAD



BUSINESS

AGRI-BUSINESS

INDUSTRY

ECONOMY

MARKETS

BUDGET 2020

BHARTI, NOKIA

BUSINESS

BUSINESS

GoI borrows \$500 million from AIIB



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI, MAY 08, 2020 22:30 IST

UPDATED: MAY 08, 2020 22:30 IST

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The Government of India has taken a \$500 million loan from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to support its emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to strengthen the preparedness of the country's public health systems.

This is part of a \$1.5 billion project being co-financed by the World Bank, which approved a \$1 billion loan for this purpose at the beginning of April.

In terms of immediate needs to slow and limit the spread of the pandemic, the project will help scale up procurement of personal protective equipment, oxygen delivery systems and medicines, according to an official statement.

Building a resilient health system that can effectively treat COVID-19 patients and prevent its spread is the immediate priority, but the funding will also enhance India's capacity to effectively manage future disease outbreaks, said AIIB vice-president D.J. Pandian. It will help strengthen India's Integrated Disease Surveillance Program, revamp infectious disease hospitals, district, civil, general and medical college hospitals, and build a network of high containment Biosafety Level 3 laboratories.



AIIB

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- ▶ India COVID-19 Emergency Response & Health System Preparedness Package
- ▶ Fund utilisation:
 - Immediate use
 - 3 phases
 - Medium term – Mission mode
- ▶ AIIB:
 - COVID-19 Crisis Recovery Facility – 10 b. USD
 - Membership and structure

SECI, a CPSU, conducts e-Reverse Auction for the 400 MW RE projects with RTC supply

Results in historic first year tariff of Rs. 2.90/kWh

Posted On: 09 MAY 2020 3:24PM by PIB Delhi

Indian Renewable Energy (RE) sector has witnessed history today, as the e-Reverse Auction(e-RA) for 400 MW RE(Renewable Energy) Projects with Round the Clock (RTC) supply, was concluded at an astounding first year tariff of Rs.2.90/kWh. The bidding was conducted by Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd., a Central PSU under Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. The capacity of 400 MW has been awarded to M/s ReNew Solar Power Pvt. Ltd. after a closely fought auction which saw the lowest tariff drop by 69 paise over the course of almost 3 hours.

Complementing SECI for this effort Shri R. K. Singh, the Union Minister of State (IC), Power and New & Renewable Energy & Minister of State, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, said in a tweet last evening, “Golden chapter added in Indian Renewable Energy story, as e-RA for 400 MW RE Projects with Round the Clock (RTC) supply conducted by SECI Ltd results in historic 1st year tariff of Rs.2.90/kWh. MNRE makes a new beginning towards firm, schedulable & affordable RTC supply through 100% RE power.”

The tender for 400 MW capacity had received a strong participation, with 4 bidders submitting their bids for a total capacity of 950 MW. 3 out of the 4 bidders, namely M/s ReNew Solar Power Pvt. Ltd., M/s Greenko Energies Pvt. Ltd and M/ HES Infra Pvt Ltd. were finally shortlisted for the e-Reverse Auction. M/s Ayana Renewable Power Pvt. Ltd. was the fourth bidder. Power from this project is targeted to be sold to the NDMC and Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, with each entity off taking a capacity of 200 MW. There was no ceiling tariff for the Projects, and the developers are free to set up the project on a Pan-India basis. The projects under this tender will be set up under the Build-Own-Operate model.

What makes the tariff a historic one, is the fact that this tender provides for a Round the Clock energy supply from 100% RE based energy generation sources, such as wind and solar PV, combined with storage. The developer will be provided a maximum time period of 24 months from the Effective Date of PPA. The first year tariff shall be escalated @3% on an annual basis, up to the 15th year of the 25-year Term of the PPA. As a result, the effective tariff for the said Project amounts to Rs.3.59/kWh. Compared to the tariffs witnessed in conventional sources of generation, this tariff offers a much better proposition for the Disocms to meet their energy demand through 100% RE supply.



SECI & NATIONAL SOLAR MISSION

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- ▶ eReverse Auction for 400 MW RE projects
- ▶ SECI
- ▶ NSM:
 - 2010
 - Revised twice
 - Target
 - Activities
 - Phases – 1, 2 & 3
- ❖ Solar PV tech.

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh approves abolition of 9,304 posts in Military Engineering Service

Posted On: 07 MAY 2020 1:06PM by PIB Delhi

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal of Engineer-in-Chief of Military Engineering Services (MES) for optimisation of more than 9,300 posts in the basic and industrial workforce. It is in line with the recommendations of the Committee of Experts, headed by Lt General Shekatkar, which had recommended measures to enhance combat capability and rebalance defence expenditure of the Armed Forces.

One of the recommendations made by the Committee was to restructure the civilian workforce in a manner that the work of MES could be partly done by departmentally employed staff and other works could be outsourced.

In line with the recommendations made by the Committee, based on the proposal of E-in-C, MES, the proposal of abolition of 9,304 posts in MES out of the total 13,157 vacancies of the Basic and Industrial staff has been approved by Raksha Mantri.

The recommendation was aimed at making MES an effective organisation with a leaner workforce, well equipped to handle complex issues in the emerging scenario in an efficient and cost effective manner.

ABB/SS/Nampi/KA/DK/Savvy/ADA



SHEKATKAR COMMITTEE

11

- ▶ News

- ▶ About:
 - 2016
 - 11 member comm.

- ▶ Purpose:
 - Rebalance defence expenditure
 - Enhance combat capability

- ▶ Recommendations



MCQs

12

1. Consider the following statements:

1. The Financial Action task force (FATF), a global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog comes out with the Global Terrorism Index
2. Gulf Cooperation council is the member of FATF

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 & 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2



2. World Energy Outlook Report is annually published by:

- a) World Energy Council
- b) International Network for Sustainable Energy
- c) International Energy Agency
- d) International Atomic Energy Agency



3. With reference to Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), consider the following statements:

1. AIIB has more than 80 member nations.
2. India is the largest shareholder in AIIB.
3. AIIB does not have any members from outside Asia.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3



4. With reference to technologies for solar power production, consider the following statements:

1. 'Photovoltaics' is a technology that generates electricity by direct conversion of light into electricity, while 'Solar Thermal' is a technology that utilises the Sun's rays to generate heat which is further used in electricity generation process.
2. Photovoltaics generates Alternating Current (AC), while Solar Thermal generates Direct Current (DC).
3. India has manufacturing base for Solar Thermal technology, but not for Photovoltaics.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None



5. Shekatkar committee, which was recently in news, is related to:

- a) Defence Expenditure & Combat Capability
- b) Civil Services reforms
- c) Agricultural reforms
- d) Reforms in criminal justice system



Thank You