



PRESENTS

NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY
INNOVATION CONCLAVE
MADHYA PRADESH

9th May 2025 | Bhopal

CO-PRESENTS BY **zscaler**

Powering The Future: A Sustainable Path To Viksit Bharat 2047

EVENT REPORT



Powering the Future: A Sustainable Path to Viksit Bharat 2047

The Department of Energy, Government of Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration with APAC Media, hosted the 4th National Sustainable Energy Innovation Conclave in Bhopal. The conclave served as a pivotal platform for senior government officials, technology leaders, energy sector experts, and industry stakeholders to explore sustainable solutions for transforming India's energy landscape. The theme "Powering the Future: A Sustainable Path to Viksit Bharat 2047" underlined the deliberations at the Conclave

The Conclave included a Technology and Innovation Exhibition that was inaugurated by Pradhuman Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Energy Minister of Madhya Pradesh, and Rakesh Shukla, Hon'ble Minister, New and Renewable Energy Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh. Leading technology solution providers operating in different facets of energy participated in the Expo, including the likes of Torrent Power, Schneider Electric, Zscaler, XtraNet, CG Power, and State Bank of India, among others.



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Eminent speakers including Pradhuman Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Energy Minister of Madhya Pradesh; Rakesh Shukla, Hon'ble Minister, New and Renewable Energy Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Sudeep Jain, IAS, Additional Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India; Neeraj Mandloi, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Energy Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh; and Avinash Lavania, IAS, MD, MP Power Management Company Limited, Government of Madhya Pradesh, subsequently discussed the catalysts and visible trends that are transforming both India and Madhya Pradesh's power sector.



Shri Pradhuman Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Energy Minister of Madhya Pradesh, emphasized the need for collaborative innovation. "We should focus on collaboration with technology experts. It's time to seek more third-party technology solution providers to come and invest in Madhya Pradesh," he exhorted.

Madhya Pradesh's commitment to renewables was subsequently reiterated by **Shri Rakesh Shukla**, Hon'ble Minister, New and Renewable Energy Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, as part of the session on Renewables: The Way Forward – Vikshit Madhya Pradesh: Vision 2047. "We are signing MoUs with partners to drive the successful execution of renewable energy projects in the state. These projects will benefit farmers and ensure effective implementation of solar energy solutions across Madhya Pradesh," he underlined.



In his introductory note, **Neeraj Mandloi, IAS**, Additional Chief Secretary, Energy Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, highlighted the strategic priorities of Madhya Pradesh in the power sector. "Madhya Pradesh is working towards strengthening its energy infrastructure to meet rising demand from industrial expansion and urbanization. With an increasing focus on clean energy, there is a need to prioritize renewable projects, in line with national energy transition goals."

In his keynote address, **Manu Srivastava, IAS**, Additional Chief Secretary, New and Renewable Energy Department, delved into financial and structural innovation in solar energy: "A careful structuring of the project risk-sharing mechanism helps in low tariffs for solar power projects. The assured offtake of power and provision of deemed generation beyond 50 hours of back-down is another groundbreaking mechanism for solar energy deployment," he informed.





In his keynote address, **Sudeep Jain, IAS**, Additional Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, underscored the importance of strategic planning and financing in renewable growth: “We can surpass the 500 GW renewable energy target by 2030 by driving sustainable initiatives in the sector. The PM Surya Ghar program emphasizes the critical role of financing mechanisms in driving three critical sustainable initiatives,” he opined.

In his welcome address, **Avinash Lavania, IAS** MD, MP Power Management Company Limited, Government of Madhya Pradesh, reinforced the dual need for quality service and cost efficiency: “We have the responsibility of providing quality power supply to all consumers, reducing AT&C losses, and improving the overall financial health of the power sector. Simultaneously, we have to minimize the power purchase cost while ensuring a 24x7 power supply.”

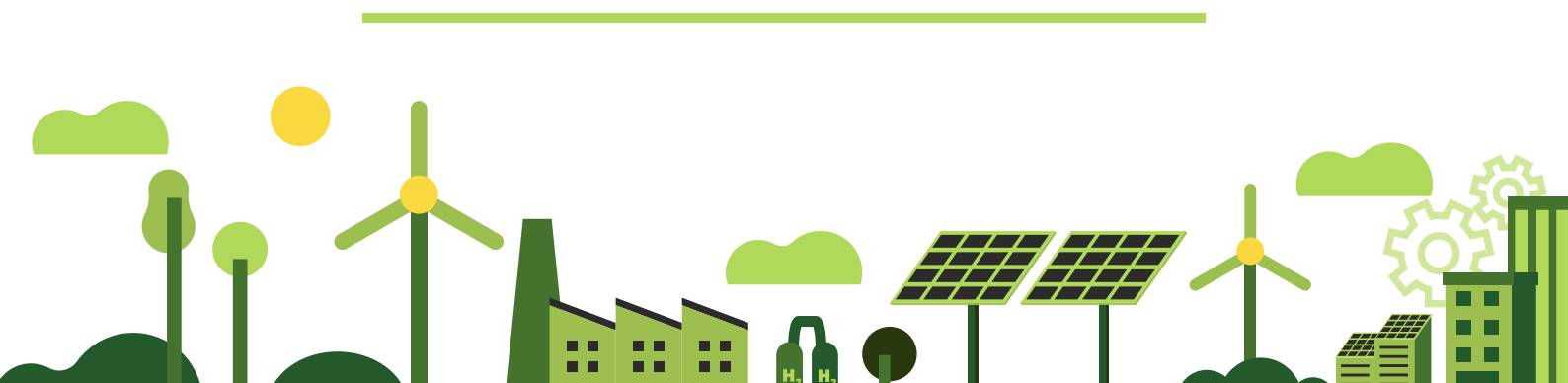


In his welcome address, **Kshitij Singhal, IAS**, MD, MP Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Co. Ltd. acknowledged the presence of key dignitaries in the session on Renewables: The Way Forward— Vikshit Madhya Pradesh: Vision 2047. He expressed his gratitude to all the speakers for their participation and contributions toward driving sustainable energy growth in India.

Manoj Kumar, General Manager, State Bank of India (SBI), emphasized SBI’s strong commitment to supporting India’s sustainable development goals, especially in the renewable energy sector. He highlighted that SBI contributes in two main ways—through financing and by enhancing operational efficiency. “As the nodal bank for the PM Surya Ghar Yojana, SBI has played a key role in designing and implementing a seamless, liberal, and digital process for financing rooftop solar projects. In collaboration with DISCOMs, SBI has onboarded all registered vendors without further due diligence to ensure wide and easy access for beneficiaries, even in remote areas. On the operational front, SBI is investing in energy-efficient appliances and lighting across its 90,000+ branches and ATMs to reduce carbon footprint,” Manoj explained.



In his vote of thanks, **Amanbir Singh Bains, IAS**, MD- MP Urja Vikas Nigam Limited, Govt of India, emphasized the state’s commitment to expanding renewable energy capacities. Further, he extended his gratitude to the dignitaries for sharing their valuable insights.



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Technology & Industry Presentations: Showcasing Cutting-Edge Solutions Driving Energy Transformation

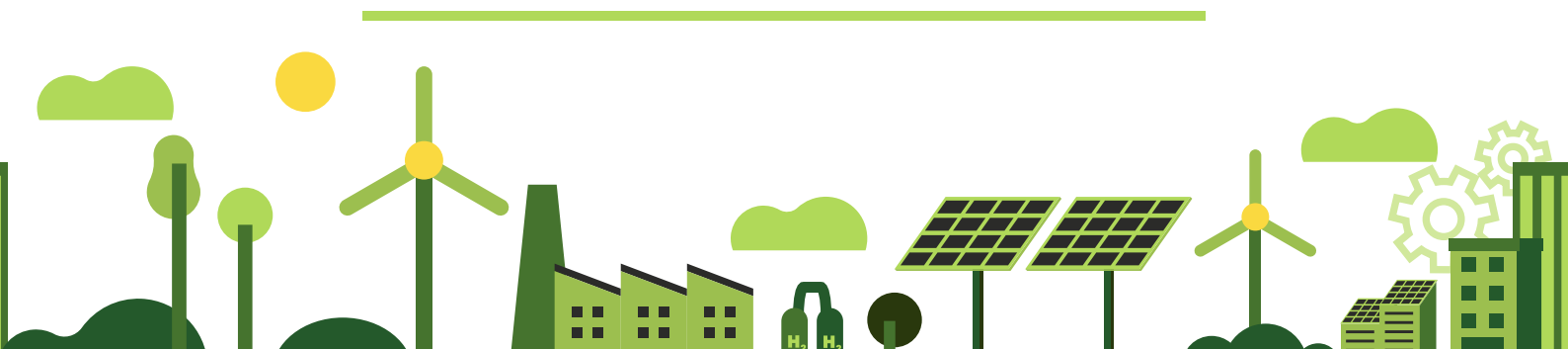


Session Chair: **Avinash Lavania**, IAS, MD, MP Power Management Company Limited, Govt of MP

Speakers:

- ◆ **Arvind Singh**, CEO, TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL)
- ◆ **Anand S Upadhyay**, Director & Country Manager- Govt & PSU Business, Zscaler
- ◆ **Tanzin Chhopel**, Sr. Sales Engineer, Government Business, Zscaler
- ◆ **Faisal Masood**, Head: Digital Grid Business, Schneider Electric India
- ◆ **Dipankar Kumar**, CMO & Head- Global Business, XtraNet Technologies
- ◆ **Debashish Patra**, Group Executive Director, STEAG India

Anand S. Upadhyay, Director & Country Manager-Govt & PSU Business, Zscaler, and Tanzin Chhopel, Sr. Sales Engineer, Government Business, Zscaler, highlighted the importance of securing the energy sector with Zero Trust architecture. They addressed cyber threats in a hyperconnected energy ecosystem. Faisal Masood, Head: Digital Grid Business, Schneider Electric India, deliberated on 'Innovation in Power Systems'; Dipankar Kumar, CMO & Head-Global Business, XtraNet Technologies, spoke on 'Building a Resilient Digital Transformation Partner Ecosystem to Accelerate Innovation in the Power Sector'; and Debashish Patra, Group Executive Director, STEAG India, spoke on 'Future Ready for Energy Transition.'



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Panel Discussion:

Best Practices and State Experiences in Power Generation, Transmission & Distribution



Panelists:

- **Mohd Nasim Eqbal**, Director (Operations), North Bihar Power Distribution Corporation Ltd, Govt of Bihar
- **Raj Kumar Rastogi**, Chief Operation Services, TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL)
- **Subhash Babu B V**, Registrar & Technical Head, Energy Management Centre Kerala
- **LKS Rathore**, Director, Cyber Security, Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power, Govt of India

The panelists discussed key aspects such as the adoption of smart grid technologies, reducing AT&C losses, optimizing transmission systems, the need for regular energy audits, and conformance to other compliances. Kerala's prowess in leveraging solar energy, renewables, and the unique challenge it possesses was also discussed.



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Panel Discussion: Digital Transformation in Sustainable Infrastructure- From Data to Decisions



Panelists:

- **RP Agarwal**, GM, NTPC Green Energy Ltd & CEO, NGEL- MPPGCL JV
- **Dr. Tripta Thakur**, Director General, National Power Training Institute (NPTI)
- **Subodh Nigam**, Director Technical, MP Power Generation Co
- **Rameshwar Chaturvedi**, GM, IT, SCADA, MP Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Co. Ltd.
- **Rajesh R**, Additional Chief Technical Manager, ANERT
- **Johnson Daniel**, Head, NMEEE & DSM Division, Energy Technologist, Energy Management Centre, Kerala
- **Subhash Bankey**, Head- IT, Adani Energy Solutions Ltd.

The experts deliberated on the milestones crossed in the digital transformation roadmap and the subsequent journey undertaken. They focused on the influx of data from multiple heterogeneous sources across power utilities. The discussion further explored the application of Generative AI (GenAI) tools in generating precise insights to improve operational efficiency. Panelists also deliberated upon the various sustainability measures as the systems evolve digitally.



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Panel Discussion:

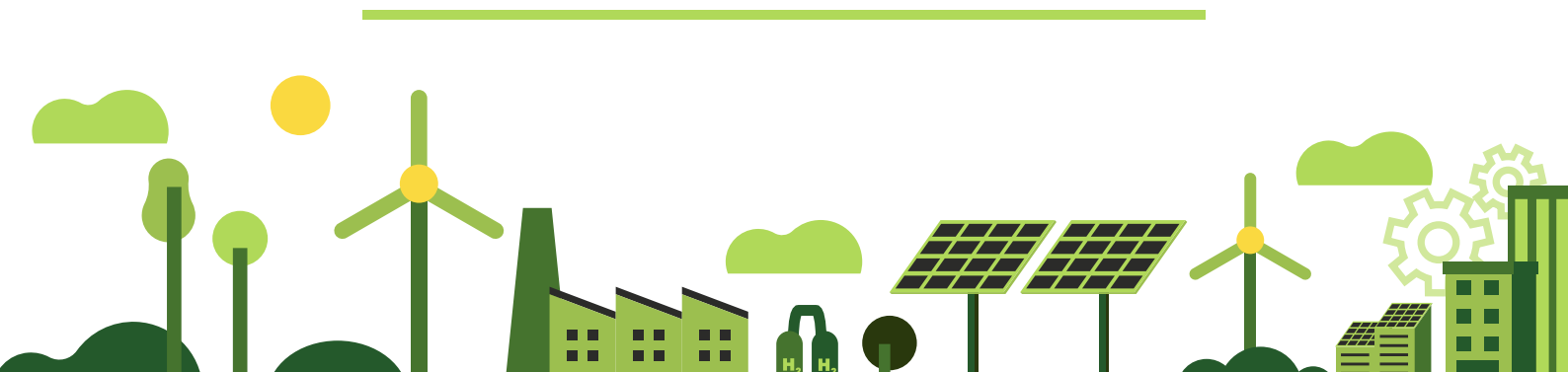
Role of Cybersecurity in Power Utilities Achieving Net Zero Energy Infrastructure



Panelists:

- **Krishnendu De**, CISO, CESC Ltd
- **Ved Prakash Dhindore**, Addl. GM (Technical), EESL
- **Vivek Pathak**, Addl. GM (IT), Digital Transformation Group, BHEL
- **Sanjiv Arora**, CISO, MPPGCL
- **Dr. Himanshu Shrivastav**, CISO, MP Power Transmission Co. Ltd
- **Anand S Upadhyay**, Director & Country Manager-Govt & PSU Business, Zscaler

The panelists discussed the role of cybersecurity in power utilities achieving net-zero energy infrastructure. They highlighted how they are ensuring OT security in today's environment across power utilities. The panelists also envisioned a comprehensive security policy that incorporates AI/ML and other advanced technologies to protect their critical infrastructure against evolving threats.



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Fireside Chat:

Financing & Investment Dynamics in the Energy Sector



Speakers:

- **Manoj Jain**, Chief Finance Officer, Madhya Pradesh Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Co. Ltd.
- **Ram Chandra Mishra**, DGM, SBI Bhopal

In this fireside chat involving financing power utilities, Manoj Jain, Chief Finance Officer, Madhya Pradesh Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Co. Ltd., and Ram Chandra Mishra, DGM, SBI Bhopal, discussed the dynamics of fund infusion into state power utilities and the importance of reducing AT&C losses to ensure proper funding.



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Valedictory Session:

Technology & Innovation Presentations: Showcasing Cutting-Edge Solutions Driving Energy Transformation for Viksit Bharat 2047



Session Chair: Manu Srivastava, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, New and Renewable Energy Department

Speakers:

- **Sivakumar Vepakomma**, Director (Power Systems, In charge Projects & Business Development), Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd.
- **Priyanka Paliwal**, Associate Professor, MANIT, on 'Empowering Decentralised Solar Generation through Reactive Power Management'
- **Shankar San Dubey**, General Manager, O&M, Asset Management, ACME Solar

During the valedictory session, the speakers discussed measures to empower decentralized solar generation through reactive power management. The session also showcased pioneering solutions by the Solar Energy Corporation of India and academic contributions from MANIT Bhopal.



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