

4 States seek time till Dec to complete phase-I of Green Energy Corridor

SNAIL'S PACE. Projects delayed due to right of way issues, land acquisition and slow tendering process

Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh have sought time till December 2025 to complete projects under the Intra-State Transmission System Green Energy Corridor phase-I (InSTS GEC-I).

The States had been granted extension till June 2025 to complete the projects, which is under the critical renewable energy evacuation infrastructure initiative.

The scheme is implemented by the State Transmission Utilities (STUs) of the eight renewable energy (RE) rich States, said Minister of State for New & Renewable Energy Shripad Naik, in a written response to a query in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

"Out of the eight States,



FACING HURDLES. The scheme is being implemented by the State Transmission Utilities of the eight renewable energy-rich States in the country REUTERS

four (Rajasthan, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu) have completed all the projects. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh had been granted extension up to June 2025; however, these States have requested for further extension up to December 2025," he added.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy has also been highlighting the delays in GEC, particularly under phase-I of the scheme.

Recently, it noted that InSTS GEC-I had been given multiple extensions, but the work is still pending.

Last year, the Ministry

said that the target under this scheme, 9,767 circuit km (CKM) of transmission lines and 22,689 MegaVolt-Amperes (MVA) transformation capacity of substations in eight States — would be completed by March 2025.

PANEL REPORT

These are part of a report on action taken by the MNRE on the panel's observations and recommendations on the demands for grants for FY26.

As transmission infrastructure is critical for timely evacuation of power from renewable energy projects, the Committee urged the Ministry to closely coordinate with State governments as well as other stakeholders to resolve the issues being faced.

In its response, the Ministry pointed out that phase-I of GEC had been delayed in the four States

due to various reasons, such as right of way (RoW) issues, delay in issuing tenders following a delay in land acquisition for substations as well as delay in award of works due to low bid turnout in various projects, which resulted in re-tendering several times.

Court cases including the Great Indian Bustard (GIB)-related matter and forest clearances are the other two bottlenecks, it added.

70% CFA

"The Ministry is providing 70 per cent of Central financial assistance (CFA) as advance in order to avoid delay in disbursement for RoW compensation and land acquisition. Further, the Ministry has repeatedly impressed upon the States to expedite the completion of the projects under this phase," the MNRE added in its response.