

Summary of Recommendations

- *Ministry may take steps to (a) ensure that States re-orient their efforts under APDRP towards reduction of AT&C Loss; (b) independently verify the authenticity of reported AT&C Losses; and (c) minimise the extent of billing/ metering done on assessment basis.*
- *Ministry may ensure that (a) SEBs/ Utilities complete 100 per cent feeder, DT and consumer metering in all ongoing and completed APDRP projects within a clearly defined time frame; (b) such metering data is fully validated in an independent fashion; and (c) further funds for APDRP projects are released only after 100 per cent metering is validated.*
- *Ministry may take steps to ensure that all States carry out effective energy accounting and audit at the feeder and DT levels, and necessary pre-requisites for such auditing and accounting e.g. 100 per cent system and consumer metering, regular/ automated system meter reading and reconciliation and consumer indexing and other IT enabling activities are implemented immediately.*
- *In order to have a comprehensive monitoring of the programme, the MoP should monitor together the release of funds and progress on a project-by-project basis.*
- *Ministry should ensure that the separate identity of APDRP funds is maintained, and that separate accounts are opened not only by the State Government but also the SEB/ utility concerned.*
- *Ministry should ensure that annual Utilisation Certificates, duly supported by detailed Statements of Expenditure, are submitted by the concerned State Governments in the prescribed formats in respect of each APDRP project.*
- *Ministry may insist on immediate onward release of the funds retained by the State Governments, ensuring, that in the process, the State Governments make no adjustments or deductions from APDRP releases. Ministry may also ensure immediate calculation and recovery of penal interest from the State Governments for delay in release of funds. Further, the Ministry may also institute a formal mechanism for monitoring the delay in release of funds by the State Governments.*
- *Ministry may ensure that States comply with the letter and spirit of the MOA and ensure target-based accountability at the Distribution circle and feeder level.*
- *Ministry may set up a mechanism for monitoring the effectiveness of legal and vigilance measures adopted by SEBs/ Utilities for preventing theft of energy.*
- *Ministry's monitoring and reporting mechanism should capture both physical and financial progress, facilitating direct linkage and comparison, and corrective action in case of wide variations between physical and financial progress.*

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- ***Ministry may take steps to ensure (a) that all DPRs are subjected to critical examination by the Steering Committee for technical and financial feasibility before approval (b) the independent, advisory role of AcCs is clearly demarcated as opposed to implementation responsibilities, and (c) there is a well-defined mechanism for inspection of APDRP projects by AcCs and review of corrective action thereon.***