

MNRE's focus shifting to encouraging States to decide on RE requirements

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With the Centre-controlled Renewable Energy Implementing Agencies (REIAs) being saddled with almost 44 GW of RE projects with no takers, the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) is now focusing on encouraging States to float their own bids based on their requirement for solar and wind power.

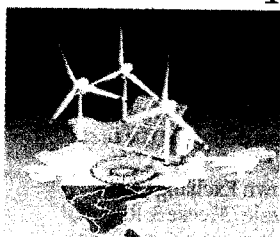
"The RE induction in the country is not necessarily going to happen only through REIAs. There are multiple routes in which RE induction will happen and one of the primary instruments will be the tenders, which are going to be floated by the States," MNRE Secretary Santosh Kumar Sarangi said at CII's India Edge 2025 event.

According to him, States such as Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan are emerging as major drivers of India's renewable energy growth with increasingly innovative tenders tailored to their local needs. "So, whether it is UP, Rajasthan, GUVN, MP or Maharashtra, we have an increasing pattern of States coming up with their RE bids and structuring it to suit their own specific local requirements," Sarangi explained.

REIAs had issued letter of awards for 43.942 GW capacity where power sale agreements with end-procurers remain unsigned as of September 2025.

FASTER PACE

The growth of renewable energy is now moving at a pace that will only get faster. India's electricity demand is set to rise quickly and, with that, the demand for renewable power will also rise. As



States float more tenders, their role in supporting this shift will become more important, Sarangi emphasised.

He pointed out that some challenges remain, especially with integrating RE into the grid. Addressing these bottlenecks needs immediate attention. Adding battery systems to the transmission network and increasing storage capacity will be the necessary steps in this direction.

"India's RE growth is un-

stoppable. With strong State participation, rapid commercial and Industrial (C&I) and distributed RE (DRE) expansion, accelerated storage deployment and green hydrogen initiatives, we are building a self-reliant, resilient and sustainable clean energy ecosystem for the future," Sarangi noted.

ROLE OF DRE

DRE is adding nearly 12-15 GW annually, driven by PM-KUSUM, PM Surya Ghar and rooftop solarisation. There has been a notable surge in C&I demands for renewable energy. C&I Re installations are going to exceed 6.5 GW this year, he added. There is also a need to scale up domestic manufacturing and focus needs to be given to building domestic capabilities in polysilicon and wafer manufacturing, he said.