Call for Proposal (CfP)

on

"National Distributed Energy Resource Management System (DERMS) through DISCOMs under the Innovative Projects Component of PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana"

(Closed call: open to DISCOMs and Power Departments only; one proposal per DISCOM)

National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) Gwal Pahari, Faridabad Highway Gurugram – 122003, Haryana

Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)
Government of India

Call for Proposal on National Distributed Energy Resource Management System (DERMS) through DISCOMs under the Innovative Projects Component of the scheme "PM Surya Ghar (PMSG): Muft Bijli Yojana"

CfP Ref. No.: PMSG/INNO/CFP/DERMS/2026 Dated: 20/11/2026

1. Background

a. The Government of India has approved the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana on 29th February 2024 to increase the share of solar rooftop capacity and empower 1 crore residential households to generate their own electricity through rooftop solar (RTS). The scheme has an outlay of Rs 75,021 crore and is to be implemented till FY 2026-27. The administrative approval was granted to the scheme vide Order No. 318/17/2024-Grid Connected Rooftop dated 16th March 2024. Further, scheme guidelines have been issued for implementation of the component "Innovative Projects" under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana vide Order No. 318/17/2024-Grid Connected Rooftop (Part-14) dated 8th Oct 2024.

b. The scheme implementation has gained traction, with over 13,000 installations being recorded per day in the country. The rapid increase in RTS installations under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana is transforming electricity distribution networks.

c. As Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) such as rooftop solar systems, solar pumps, small PV grids, battery storage systems, EV charging infrastructure and demand response resources continue to proliferate, DISCOMs require advanced digital platforms to monitor, manage and optimise these distributed assets. Distributed Energy Resource Management Systems (DERMS) provide an integrated framework for:

- Real-time visibility of DERs
- Forecasting and grid balancing
- Dynamic hosting capacity management
- Voltage and congestion management
- Demand response and flexibility services
- Improved consumer participation and grid reliability

d. Through the Innovative Projects Component of PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, the Ministry aims to support innovative technologies, digital solutions and management tools that enable DISCOMs to effectively integrate distributed renewable energy resources into the grid.

e. Accordingly, MNRE vide letter No. 318/118/2024-Grid Connected Rooftop dated 05.10.2026 has approved this Call for Proposal (CfP) for DISCOMs to submit innovative DERMS implementation proposals demonstrating scalable approaches for managing distributed solar and other DERs within their distribution networks. The CfP shall act as a **competitive challenge-cum-project selection mechanism**, enabling DISCOMs to receive financial support for pilot implementation and demonstration

projects. The National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), being the Scheme Implementation Agency (SIA), is issuing this CfP under the direction of MNRE.

f. This CfP is to be read with the Operational Guidelines for the Innovative Projects Component dated 08.10.2024, as amended on 07.07.2025. The provisions of this CfP, as approved by MNRE, shall apply to projects under this CfP; on matters not covered by this CfP, the Guidelines shall apply.

2. Objectives

The CfP seeks to:

a. Motivate DISCOMs to identify and address the complexities arising from increasing distributed renewable energy (DRE).

b. Promote adoption of DERMS initiatives across Indian DISCOMs to improve grid flexibility, reliability and visibility.

c. Demonstrate innovative approaches for managing high rooftop solar penetration.

d. Develop scalable digital solutions for integrating DRE.

e. Support achievement of PM Surya Ghar targets by enabling higher solar hosting capacity.

f. Showcase measurable operational and consumer benefits arising from DERMS deployment.

3. Prospective Applicants

3.1 All State DISCOMs, Private DISCOMs, Joint Venture DISCOMs and Power Departments operating distribution networks in India are eligible to participate. The applicant shall be an authorised agency engaged in electricity distribution to residential consumers in any area of the country.

3.2 **Only one proposal shall be accepted from each DISCOM / Power Department.** Where more than one submission is received from a DISCOM, Clause 9.10 shall apply.

3.3 The DISCOM / Power Department is the applicant and the grantee and is responsible for implementation. For execution of the project, it may engage technical firms through its own procurement procedure, such as an implementing agency, system integrator, equipment supplier or technology / software provider, for supply, installation, integration and commissioning works. Such a firm is not a co-applicant. The MNRE grant shall be used only for the project's implementation works and shall not cover advisory, consultancy, knowledge-partner, DPR-preparation or project management consultancy (PMC) services.

3.4 The proposal shall be approved by the competent authority of the DISCOM and submitted with Form F-1 signed by an officer not below the rank of Director / Chief Engineer or equivalent.

3.5 For this CfP, the Principal Investigator (PI) means the Project Nodal Officer of the DISCOM, and the Co-PI means the Co-Nodal Officer. References to the PI, Co-PI and grantee organisation in Annexure-I shall be read accordingly.

4. Scope and Solution Areas

4.1 Scope

a. Each participating DISCOM shall submit a proposal for deployment of DERMS covering **a minimum of one distribution division**. The DISCOM may also propose implementation at a higher level (circle etc.) where the area demonstrates high DER penetration and innovation potential.

b. The proposal shall highlight a cost-effective DERMS implementation plan for better visibility, monitoring and benefits for the DISCOM and consumers.

c. The DERs covered may include rooftop solar, solar pumps, small PV grids, battery storage systems, EV charging infrastructure and demand response resources.

d. The proposal shall state the baseline of the pilot area, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and acceptance criteria, in the prescribed format.

4.2 Innovation Requirement

Each proposal must clearly demonstrate:

- Innovative use of DERMS technology.
- Scalability and replicability.
- Measurable operational benefits.
- Consumer-centric outcomes.
- Cost-effectiveness.

4.3 Desired Solution Areas

Participating DISCOMs may propose one or more of the following. The codes shall be used in Item 2 of the Application Form.

Code	Solution area
	A. Solar Visibility & Monitoring
A1	Real-time Monitoring of Rooftop Solar Generation: solutions that provide continuous visibility into distributed solar assets, enabling better operational awareness and decision-making.
A2	GIS-based DER Mapping: create/integrate geospatial platforms to visualise and track distributed energy resources across the network.
A3	Renewable Generation Forecasting: integrate predictive models that improve solar and renewable energy forecasting for enhanced grid planning and operations.
	B. Grid Optimisation
B1	Voltage Regulation: intelligent solutions to maintain voltage levels within acceptable limits in increasingly dynamic distribution networks.
B2	Congestion Management: analytics and control mechanisms to identify and mitigate network congestion in real time.
B3	Dynamic Hosting Capacity Assessment: tools that continuously assess network capacity to integrate additional distributed energy resources.

Code	Solution area
	C. Demand Response
C1	Consumer Demand Response Platforms: platforms that incentivise and orchestrate consumer participation in demand-side flexibility programmes.
C2	Smart Load Management: intelligent load control solutions that optimise energy consumption based on grid conditions and customer preferences.
	D. Battery & Flexibility Integration
D1	Virtual Power Plant (VPP) Concepts: solutions that aggregate distributed energy resources to operate as a coordinated virtual power plant.
D2	Battery Dispatch Optimisation: algorithms that maximise the value of battery storage through intelligent charging and discharging strategies.
D3	Community Storage Models: shared energy storage solutions that serve multiple customers or communities efficiently.
	E. EV Integration
E1	Managed Charging: smart charging solutions that align EV charging demand with grid availability and renewable generation.
E2	Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) Pilots: innovative approaches for enabling EVs to supply energy back to the grid and provide flexibility services.
	F. Digital Innovation
F1	AI-based Forecasting: artificial intelligence to improve forecasting accuracy for demand, generation and grid conditions.
F2	Digital Twins: digital replicas of grid assets and operations to simulate scenarios and optimise performance.
F3	Advanced Analytics: data-driven insights and decision-support tools to enhance operational efficiency and reliability.
F4	Blockchain-enabled Energy Transactions: secure and transparent peer-to-peer energy trading and settlement mechanisms using blockchain, as permitted under applicable regulations.
F5	Consumer Engagement Platforms: digital experiences that empower consumers with energy insights, incentives and sustainability actions.

5. Project Duration

The project shall be completed **within 6 months** from the date of issue of the sanction letter. Within this period, the DISCOM shall:

- deploy the DERMS platform, integrate it with its systems and make it live in the pilot area, with the dashboard, forecasting and analytics operational;
- operate the system and demonstrate the benefits to the DISCOM and consumers;
- measure the KPIs against the baseline; and
- submit the performance assessment report and replication roadmap.

The proposal shall indicate the month by which the system will go live, leaving adequate time within the 6 months for demonstration and KPI measurement.

6. Evaluation Criteria

Applications shall be screened and selected by the Committees constituted vide MNRE O.M. dated 19.08.2025 under the Innovative Projects Guidelines, through pre-screening, the Screening Committee and the Selection Committee (Section 11). Shortlisted DISCOMs will be invited to present their proposals, physically or online. The evaluation will be based on innovativeness, technical feasibility, scalability and replicability, consumer benefits and cost-effectiveness:

S. No	Criterion	Weightage	What is assessed	Application Form items
1	Innovation and technical feasibility	30%	Novelty against national/international benchmarks; architecture, interfaces and data readiness; realistic go-live and demonstration of results within the 6-month project duration	2, 4, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23
2	Expected impact on grid operations	20%	Technical KPIs with numeric baseline and target: hosting capacity, voltage violations, observability, forecasting accuracy, outage management	14, 20
3	Scalability and replicability	20%	Replication cost, use of open standards and interfaces, utility-wide roll-out pathway	18, 24
4	Consumer benefits	15%	Consumer KPIs: solar consumer experience, faster service delivery, self-consumption and participation	16, 20
5	Cost effectiveness	15%	Total cost against area and outcomes; justification of MNRE-funded items; DISCOM share and its form	5, 13, 22, Annexure A, Workbook
	Total	**100%**		

6.1 Proposals will be evaluated on the information given in the prescribed Application Form (Annexure-II), the Cost & KPI Workbook (Annexure-III) and the enclosures in the annexures PDF as specified in Clause 9.3. Answers must be specific to the DISCOM's own pilot area, data and team; generic content and unsupported claims will receive low or no marks. Text beyond the prescribed word limit will not be considered.

6.2 At pre-screening, proposals not meeting Section 3, the financial ceilings of Section 7 or the format of Section 9 may be rejected, subject to Clause 9.11.

6.3 The Selection Committee may decide a minimum qualifying score and may approve a lower level of financial assistance.

7. Financial Support

7.1 The maximum financial support shall be in accordance with the scheme guidelines, i.e. **up to 60% of the cost approved by MNRE, subject to a maximum of ₹2,00,00,000 (₹2 crore) per DISCOM**. The amount may be reduced depending on the operation area selected / implemented. The Selection Committee may approve a lower amount.

7.2 The top 15 proposals from DISCOMs would be selected for financial support, subject to merit, budget availability and approval.

7.3 **What the MNRE grant supports:** The admissible cost heads for the grant are:

(i) equipment and field hardware, including supply and installation;

(ii) software, integration, analytics and consumer interface development;

(iii) demonstration activities; and

(iv) organisational overheads, as per Clause 7.9.

Advisory, consultancy, knowledge-partner, DPR-preparation and PMC services are not admissible (Clause 3.3). All amounts shall be in Indian Rupees (₹), in full rupees with Indian digit grouping (for example ₹15,00,000), as one amount for each head for the 6-month project.

7.4 **DISCOM share:** The balance of the approved project cost shall be met by the DISCOM. As approved by MNRE, the DISCOM share can be in the form of:

a) balance share (financial expenditure by the DISCOM);

b) manpower deployment;

c) hiring of an implementing agency through own resources;

d) additional infrastructure development;

e) IT initiatives and infrastructure; or

f) any other form, to be specified.

The DISCOM may also use the incentives received from MNRE under the incentive to DISCOMs component, or the SIA service charge component, of PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana to support the balance share.

7.5 **Transparency of the DISCOM share:** Every item of the DISCOM share shall be shown separately in Item 13(a) of the Application Form and in the DISCOM Share sheet of the Workbook, with its form, description, basis of valuation (quantity × rate), value, source of funds and the evidence that will be produced. The following rules apply:

a) Manpower deployment shall be valued at the actual monthly cost to the DISCOM of each deployed employee × percentage of time on the project × number of months, certified by the DISCOM's finance wing.

b) Implementing agency, additional infrastructure and IT initiatives shall be valued at the work-order, purchase-order or sanction value attributable to the project. An implementing agency or other technical firm may be paid from the MNRE grant (Clause 7.3) or by the DISCOM from its own resources (Clause 7.4(c)); the same scope of work shall not be charged to both.

c) Only deployment, expenditure or assets created for this project during the project period shall be counted. **Existing facilities, assets, systems, data and software shall not be valued or counted** in the DISCOM share; they may be listed, without cost, in Item 27(a) and in the Existing Facilities sheet of the Workbook, and will be considered in evaluation.

d) No item shall be charged both to the MNRE grant and to the DISCOM share. The DISCOM share shall be met only from the sources permitted under Clause 7.4, namely the DISCOM's own funds, the incentive to DISCOMs and the SIA service charge under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, each declared with its amount.

e) Any funding received or proposed from any other Ministry / Department / Government agency or CSR, for the same pilot area or activities, shall be clearly mentioned in the proposal with its amount and scope. Such funding shall not be counted in the DISCOM share or charged to the MNRE grant, and its use in the project requires prior approval of MNRE (Clause 7.6).

7.6 The DISCOM share declared in Item 13(a) and accepted in the sanction shall be treated as approved joint funding under Clause 1 of Annexure-I. Any other source of funding for the project requires prior approval of MNRE. Evidence of the DISCOM share actually deployed shall be furnished with each utilisation report and with the completion report.

7.7 **Release of grant – first instalment:** The grant, excluding the organisational overheads, shall be released in two instalments. The first instalment of 50% of the approved grant excluding overheads shall be released along with the sanction letter.

7.8 **Second instalment:** The balance of the approved grant excluding overheads shall be released on achievement of the milestones specified in the sanction letter, including go-live of the system in the pilot area, and on submission of the utilisation certificate for the first instalment, as decided by the Monitoring Committee for Innovative Projects (MCIP-PMSG). The organisational overheads shall be released after completion of the project, on submission of the project completion report and the consolidated audited utilisation certificate, signed by the Government Internal Auditor / Chartered Accountant, the competent authority of the DISCOM and the Project Nodal Officer, as per Clause 7.9 and the Guidelines.

7.9 The organisational overhead charges will be restricted up to **8% of the total project cost excluding overheads (MNRE-funded items and DISCOM share), subject to a maximum of ₹15,00,000**. The overheads shall be shown as a single amount in the budget and would be released only after successful completion of the project and a

review by the Monitoring Committee for Innovative Projects (MCIP-PMSG) and on receipt of the following documents:

a) Two copies of the project completion report along with a soft copy

b) A consolidated Audited Utilization Certificate for the amount utilized towards the project duly signed and sealed by the Government Internal Auditor / Chartered Accountant and the competent authority of the DISCOM, as well as the Project Nodal Officer

7.10 The unutilized grant along with interest, if any, shall be refunded, as per GFR guidelines.

8. Expected Outcomes, Monitoring and Deliverables

8.1 The scheme component shall be monitored regularly by the Mission Directorate. NISE, as the SIA, shall review progress, milestones and fund utilisation, and the MCIP-PMSG shall monitor and evaluate selected projects in accordance with the Guidelines. Fund releases shall be milestone-based.

8.2 **Expected Outcomes.** Selected projects should demonstrate:

S. No	Benefit Type	Details of Benefits
1	Technical Benefit	• Improved hosting capacity for rooftop solar. • Reduced voltage violations. • Better grid observability. • Enhanced DER forecasting accuracy. • Improved outage management.
2	Commercial Benefit	• Reduced technical losses. • Deferred network investments. • Better utilisation of existing infrastructure.
3	Consumer Benefit	• Enhanced solar consumer experience. • Faster service delivery. • Increased self-consumption opportunities.
4	Environmental Benefit	• Increased renewable energy integration. • Reduced carbon emissions. • Support to energy transition goals.

8.3 **Key Performance Indicators and Acceptance Criteria.** Each proposal shall state its KPIs under the four benefit types above, each with a numeric baseline, target, data source, measurement method and acceptance criterion, in Item 20 of the Application Form and the KPIs sheet of the Workbook.

8.4 **Indicative Deliverables from Selected DISCOMs** (numbered D1–D8 for use in the Application Form):

No.	Deliverable
D1	Operational DERMS platform

No.	Deliverable
D2	Circle/Division-level DER visibility dashboard
D3	Integration of rooftop solar database
D4	Forecasting and analytics engine
D5	Network hosting capacity assessment
D6	Demonstration of benefit to consumers
D7	Performance assessment report
D8	Replication roadmap for utility-wide deployment

9. Proposal submission guidelines:

9.1 The CfP, the Application Form (Annexure-II) and the Cost & KPI Workbook (Annexure-III) are available on the websites of NISE (https://nise.res.in/), MNRE (https://mnre.gov.in/) and the PM Surya Ghar National Portal (https://www.pmsuryaghar.gov.in/). Only these prescribed formats shall be used; sections, tables, columns and sheets shall not be added, deleted or reordered. The prescribed formats cover all the information required by MNRE, as below:

Information required by MNRE	Where it is given
Objectives of the project	Item 3
Technology focus of the proposal	Items 2 and 4, technology addendum
Details of implementing entity / entities	Items 7, 10, 11, 12
DISCOM profile	Items 8, 14, 15
Project particulars	Items 1, 5, 6
Research and implementation methodology	Items 16, 17, 18
Implementation milestones	Items 19, 23
Key Performance Indicators and acceptance criteria	Item 20
List of deliverables	Item 21
Total cost estimate with breakup and justification; MNRE and DISCOM share	Items 5, 13, 22, Annexure A, Workbook

9.2 The complete proposal shall be submitted by the DISCOM / Power Department from the official e-mail of its Project Nodal Officer to **ipc@nise.res.in**. No physical application will be accepted. One e-mail shall be sent per proposal.

9.3 Each submission shall contain **exactly three files**, named as below:

S. No	Document	Format	File name

S. No	Document	Format	File name
1	Filled Application Form (Annexure-II)	MS Word (.docx), editable, not scanned	DERMS_<DISCOM>_Form.docx
2	Filled Cost & KPI Workbook (Annexure-III)	MS Excel (.xlsx), formulas intact	DERMS_<DISCOM>_Workbook.xlsx
3	Signed Forms F-1 to F-3 Technology addendum (Item 4, max 2 pages, including the architecture diagram of Item 18(b)) CVs of the Project Nodal Officer and Co-Nodal Officer(s), max 2 pages each Evidence for the DISCOM share: competent-authority approval, and incentive / service-charge sanction where used Work orders or completion certificates of the DISCOM (Item 26) and other supporting evidence (in this order, bookmarked)	Single PDF, maximum 10 MB	DERMS_<DISCOM>_Annexures.pdf

9.4 The subject line of the e-mail shall be: **DERMS-CfP | <DISCOM name> | <Short project title>**. A revised submission made before the last date shall carry the word "REVISED" in the subject and will replace the earlier submission.

9.5 The proposal shall clearly highlight the problem statement in the DISCOM, the justification of the proposed solution in addressing the problem statement, the methodology to implement the solution, the intended benefits to stakeholders, the total cost with the MNRE and DISCOM share, and the timeline. It shall clearly define the objectives and list the deliverables, and indicate how the proposed process / product / system stands at the national and international level in terms of technologies, performance and cost.

9.6 The CVs of the Project Nodal Officer and Co-Nodal Officer(s) should be brief (maximum two pages each) and highlight their competence and experience related to the proposed project.

9.7 The proposal shall indicate the works to be executed through technical firms engaged under Clause 3.3 (supply, installation, integration, software) and the proposed mode and timeline of their procurement, so that go-live within the project duration can be assessed.

9.8 Queries, if any, may be sent to ipc@nise.res.in with the subject "DERMS-CfP Query" up to 10 days before the last date of submission. Clarifications will be posted on the NISE website.

9.9 The date and time of receipt of the e-mail on the NISE mail server shall be treated as the time of submission. NISE shall not be responsible for any e-mail not received or bounced due to file size, network or sender-server issues. Applicants are advised to submit at least two days before the last date and to check for any bounce message.

9.10 Where more than one submission is received from the same DISCOM / Power Department, only the last complete submission received before the last date shall be considered.

9.11 NISE may, once, allow up to seven working days after the last date for correction of format defects only (such as wrong file type, missing signature, scanned instead of editable file, or altered template). No change in technical content or cost shall be permitted.

9.12 A list of proposals received (proposal ID, DISCOM and project title) will be published on the NISE website during the submission period and after the last date. This published list shall be the only acknowledgement of receipt; individual acknowledgements will not be sent.

10. Intellectual property rights

Matters pertaining to Intellectual Property Rights shall be dealt with in accordance with the applicable guidelines of the Government of India, as issued from time to time.

11. Indicative timelines are as follows:

S. No	Stage	Indicative Timeline
1	Launch of Call for Proposal (CfP)	Zero date T = 20/11/2026
2	Proposal submission (last date)	T + 30 days = 20/12/2026
3	Correction of format defects, if allowed (Clause 9.11)	Within 7 working days after T + 30
4	Pre-screening	T + 40 days
5	Screening Committee meeting	T + 45 days
6	Selection Committee meeting	T + 52 days
7	Letter of Award	After approval of the Selection Committee
8	Acceptance of Letter of Award by the DISCOM	Within 15 days of issue of the Letter of Award
9	Sanction Letter from NISE	After acceptance of letter of award by the grantee organization

S. No	Stage	Indicative Timeline
10	Implementation and project completion	Within 6 months from the date of issue of the sanction letter

12. Governance and Amendment of Scheme Component Guidelines

12.1 NISE shall act as the Scheme Implementation Agency. The Screening Committee, Selection Committee and Monitoring Committee for Innovative Projects (MCIP-PMSG) shall be constituted and function as provided in the Guidelines. As per the amendment dated 07.07.2025, the Selection Committee is headed by Secretary, MNRE and comprises the Mission Director (PMSG: MBY) along with the members of the Monitoring Committee and may also invite additional members (official or non-official) to its deliberations, as required. Any administrative or technical support group created for the Call for Proposal shall be advisory and shall not replace these committees.

12.2 MNRE may make necessary amendments in the scheme guidelines for the Innovative Projects Component to ensure smooth implementation of the scheme, as and when required, with the approval of the Hon'ble Minister, New and Renewable Energy.

13. Contact details

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Email Id: ipc@nise.res.in, Phone- 0124-2853013

ANNEXURE - I

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS OF THE GRANT FOR R&D/ TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

1. Approval of the R&D/ technology development project and the grant being released is for the specific project sanctioned and should be exclusively spent on the project within the approved time duration. The grantee organization is not permitted to seek or utilize funds from any other organization (government, semi-government, autonomous, and private bodies) for this research project unless specifically approved for joint funding. Any unspent balance out of the amount sanctioned must be surrendered to the MNRE, Government of India.
2. The grantee DISCOM / Project Nodal Officer will furnish a brief Progress Report of the work carried out under the project every month, by the 10th of the following month, during the project implementation period.
3. Officer(s) of NISE and MNRE designated Scientist/ Specialist/ Expert Panel/Committee may visit the organization and the pilot area periodically to review the progress of the work being carried out and to suggest suitable measures to ensure realization of the objectives of the project. During implementation of the project, the grantee DISCOM will provide facilities to such visitors in the form of accommodation, site visits, access to systems, etc.
4. On completion of the project, final consolidated 'Project Completion Report' on the work done on the project will be prepared after incorporating suggestions, if any, from the reviewers of the project and the same will be submitted to the NISE in the prescribed format (as per prescribed format by NISE), in physical as well as electronic forms.
5. The 'Project Completion Report' must include all relevant technical details/specifications, solution architecture, interface and data-model documentation, and an inventory of hardware and software procured, etc.
6. At the time of seeking further installment of grant and closure/ termination of the project, the grantee organization / PI has to furnish the following documents: a) Utilization Certificate (U.C) for MNRE grant and 'Statement of Expenditure' (S.O.E.) for the total expenditure for the previous financial year (in original or copy if sent earlier) in formats prescribed by NISE; b) Latest authenticated 'Statement of Expenditure' including Committed Expenditure, for the expenditure on the project including cost shared by any other organization since 1st April of that financial year till the previous month; and c) Technical Progress Report, if not sent earlier.
7. The Comptroller & Auditor General of India, at his discretion, shall have the right of access to the books and accounts of the grantee organization maintained in respect of the grant received from the Government of India.
8. The grantee organization will maintain separate accounts for the project in a Bank. If it is found expedient to keep a part or whole of the grant in a bank account earning interest, the interest thus earned should be reported to the MNRE and should be

reflected in the 'Statement of Expenditure'. The interest thus earned shall be remitted to the MNRE on completion of project / end of financial year.

9. The Ministry reserves the right to terminate the project at any stage if it is convinced that the grant has not been properly utilized or sufficient progress has not been reported under the project or sufficient efforts have not been devoted.

10. The project becomes operative with immediate effect on issuance of sanction letter by NISE, which is to be issued after unconditional acceptance of the Letter of Award by the DISCOM within 15 days of its issue.

11. The grantee organization shall associate a co-PI with the project, if not already part of the project team. The co-PI shall function as PI in the absence of PI and should be totally in knowledge of the activities of the project to avoid loss to the project in case PI leaves the project / organization.

12. If the results of the work carried out under the grant require preparation of a technical booklet/ guides/ software etc. in such cases the grantee organization will publish/ prepare sufficient copies and keep a portion for their use/ dissemination and submit the remaining copies to the NISE for their use and distribution.

13. If the result is in the form of a survey report / product performance evaluation or other such activities which have commercial implications, the grantee organization will not publish the results without specific written approval of this Ministry. Utility and consumer data shall not be published without the written approval of the DISCOM.

14. The Applicant submitting a proposal in response to this Call for Proposal, shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless NISE & MNRE, its officers and employees against any liability, loss, damage, cost and expense suffered as a result of any claim, demand, action or suit made or raised against the Applicant by any third party in any action, suit or proceedings on a claim based upon an allegation that the product/project infringes any right of any third party. The Applicant shall further indemnify NISE for any judgments, settlements, reasonable costs and reasonable Counsel's fee resulting from such a claim. The Applicant shall submit a declaration to this effect along with the Proposal.

15. In case of any dispute the decision of the Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy shall be final.