



Complete Investment Banking Solutions

REPORT ON ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

STORAGE ABILITY FOR GRID STABILITY

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (1/2)



The green imperative is propelling the power sector towards a variable renewable energy (VRE) dominant future. By FY32, VRE's contribution to generation is set to triple. Unless the power system undergoes a commensurate transformation, this could destabilise the grid. Our Report explores the role of Energy Storage Systems in navigating this energy transition...

Increasing share of VRE in the power grid could impact stability if not accompanied by energy storage systems to quash the diurnal duck curve

- The inherent mismatch between VRE generation and power demand profiles can lead to grid instability, surplus capacity, and a persistent reliance on fossil fuels. Energy Storage Systems (ESS) offer a solution by storing excess VRE energy during peak production periods and releasing it during non-solar hours, thereby smoothing the VRE generation curve
- India is poised to significantly augment its energy storage capacity, with a projected 12-fold increase to ~60 GW by FY32, outpacing the already impressive growth pencilled in for RE sources. The evolving landscape of RE tenders reflects this trend, with a substantial uptick in the proportion of projects incorporating storage solutions, from 5% in FY20 to 23% in FY24
- The decreasing cost of energy storage technologies is a pivotal factor driving their widespread adoption. Recent tenders have witnessed storage projects securing tariffs below the levelised cost of thermal power generation and the implicit time-of-day differential (diurnal range of exchange price of power), making them a financially attractive proposition

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and Pumped Storage Projects (PSP) emerge as a dynamic duo, being two key and complementary technologies

- Two storage methods are expected to capture virtually 100% of the pie. *BESS will be the dominant technology*, helped by its locational flexibility, promise of technological improvements dipping tariffs further, improving discharge characteristics, and rapid response time
- Despite PSP's long gestation period, asset life-PPA period mismatch exacerbating stranded asset risks, and time-consuming clearance processes, they too will see a stellar growth owing to their low variable operating costs, absence of e-waste, and ability to generate reactive power which improves grid stability. PSPs will primarily be used for peak shaving

Thus, while BESS will see an astronomical surge of 375x to 42 GW, PSP too won't be far behind, growing 4x to 19 GW, by FY32, from FY24 levels

Reduction in BESS tariffs requires addressing constraints including the domestication of battery cell manufacturing and building the component ecosystem

- Batteries and associated components make up ~80% of the cost of a BESS. Currently, battery cells and their upstream ecosystem are highly concentrated in China, making India vulnerable to imports in times of geopolitical complexity
- The indigenisation imperative has been recognised by the government, which has come out with a PLI for Advanced Cell Chemistry (ACC), which envisages the set-up of 55 GWh of capacities, with a special carve out of 5 GWh for technologically advanced systems. Winners till now consist of a motley mix of captive and third-party cell manufacturers
- Close to ~120 GWh of cell capacities have been announced by major players, and this will barely be enough to meet projected demand in the next 2-3 years thus, more could be on the way. A cascading effect is also expected in the cell components ecosystem, with major players in cathodes, anodes, electrolytes, and separators, all having announced copious capex.

Thus, the sector is set for a boom across the value chain – from BESS projects, to cell manufacturing, down to components of cells. This would be aided by helpful government directives on waiver of ISTS transmission charges and ESO/RPO trajectory creating a steep trajectory for DISCOMs to adhere to, the latter boosting demand

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (2/2)



Funding of BESS ecosystem a Rs. 3.5 trn opportunity till FY32, with a Rs. 800 bn medium term kicker provided by upcoming cell manufacturing capex

- Clearly, the funding opportunity is vast in this segment, both at project level and for the upstream ecosystem. The critical variables which lenders may consider while funding BESS projects include the presence of a firm PPA/PSA agreement from a credible DISCOM (and its shortfall in ESO/RPO target), project model (co-location/standalone), and cell technology in use
- Obsolescence risk in BESS projects arise owing to expectations of a reduction in battery prices and infiltration of 4h- and 6h- batteries in place of currently ubiquitous 2h- batteries. These
 stand mitigated in great measure since most DISCOMs are well short of their ESO and RPO targets, current tariffs remain competitive, and project life is comparable to PPA tenure
- Battery manufacturing will be another source of heady capex as both traditional and new players muscle it out to gain scale. Given the technological innovations rife in this sector, M&A opportunities also reign supreme

PSPs will play a subordinate but complementary role – addressing challenges related to time/cost overruns may help realise their Rs. 1.2 trn investment potential by FY32

- Historically, PSP development has been funded through equity from the Government and debt from MLIs or other sources of foreign funding. This is owing to the long gestation period of these projects, further compounded by delays of over one decade seen in projects, and a mismatch between PPA and asset life increasing stranded asset risk
- Nevertheless, recent awards of PSPs have seen some private sector interest, with several corporates signing MoUs with State governments, though the nomination process is dominant. Going forward, debt funding too is expected to diversify with some domestic banks and key FIs showing interest, even as foreign funding will remain an important
- States with copious potential for both VRE and PSP are Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra these could see the highest viability. For the others, there could be additional need for transmission networks something which is also acknowledged in the latest National Electricity Plan

A concomitant expansion in grid infrastructure such as storage systems is imperative if we are to prevent renewables from becoming "too much of a good thing". Mitigating the temporal disparity between supply and demand is crucial to ensure grid stability. While current energy storage capacities are modest, the sector is poised for exponential growth in the ensuing decade, with BESS emerging as the dominant paradigm and PSPs playing a supportive role. Critical to this will be indigenisation and cradle-to-grave approach for the battery ecosystem, towards which PLI schemes have already made a first step. This will aid in further reducing tariffs which have already crossed the threshold of viability and go a long way towards promoting energy security. Together, these moves can help realise the over Rs. 5 trn investment opportunity in this emergent sector.

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QUASHING THE DUCK CURVE: STORAGE AS THE ANSWER

SHARE OF RENEWABLES IN THE GRID ABOUT TO SOAR IN THIS DECADE







- Globally, variable renewable energy sources (VRE), chiefly wind and solar capacities, will grow at a CAGR of 7-9% for wind and solar between CY23 and CY30 (NZE by CY50 scenario), as per the IEA
- Growth of REs in India will mirror this monumental global growth, with a lion's share resting with solar and wind, and a significant chunk being hydro
- Even as the share of VRE in energy demand grows, their share in peak demand remains low as of now

AS THEIR SHARE RISES, DIURNAL VARIABILITY OF RE SOURCES CAN CAUSE ISSUES



WHAT IS THE DUCK CURVE?

A duck curve is a graph of power production over the course of a day that shows the timing imbalance between the demand profile and solar generation. It is so named due to its resemblance to a "duck"



WHEN DO THESE EFFECTS COME INTO THE PICTURE?

At 20% penetration, grid stability issues become more frequent. At 30% penetration, grid becomes unstable, affecting other generators as well

FIVE PROBLEMS... ONE SOLUTION -> ENERGY STORAGE





STRUCTURE OF RENEWABLE AWARDS CHANGING TO INCORPORATE STORAGE



GREATER PRIORITY IS BEING GIVEN TO STORAGE BASED PROJECTS



With nearly a quarter of tenders requiring the energy storage, the demand for ESS is gaining momentum...

o SBI

PS



RENEWABLE PURCHASE OBLIGATION (% of ELECTRICITY PURCHASED BY DISCOMS)



ENERGY STORAGE OBLIGATION (% of ELECTRICITY PURCHASED BY DISCOMS [%, LHS], CAPACITY REQUIRED AND CURRENT CAPACITY [GW, RHS]



 RPO mandates specified percentage of electricity to be sourced from RE sources for DISCOMS

 States can utilize the tradable RE certificate to meet target, failure to meet target will lead to penalties

• ESO mandates proportion of energy consumed from RE sources, incorporating energy storage capabilities to secure grid stability

• At least 85% of the total energy stored must be procured from RE sources

The high share of RE in grid envisaged by RPO can only be fulfilled with effective ESS, else it will lead to grid instability

Source: CEA, NITI Aayog, SBICAPS | 11

QUASHING THE DUCK CURVE IN INDIA THROUGH STORAGE





By absorbing excess energy produced during daytime (especially solar), and releasing the same during non-solar hours, storage helps flatten the duck curve

COMPETITIVESS OF ESS SET IN STONE IN RECENT TENDERS





AVERAGE DAM PRICES THROUGHOUT THE DAY (Rs./kWh)



- The time-of-day tariff is not well developed in India, which means that evening peak where solar production is minimal, sees exchange tariffs reach high levels. The differential between this and the tariff during solar hours represents the upper bound of LCOS
- The competing source for storage as far as peak demand is concerned is thermal, and recent FDRE tariffs are near the cost of thermal power



A COMPLEMENTARY APPROACH TOWARDS STORAGE

MULTLIPLE STORAGE TECHNOLOGIES EXIST, BESS AND PSP DOMINATE



PSPS AND BESS HAVE THEIR OWN PROS AND CONS



PARAMETERS	PUMPED STORAGE	BATTERY STORAGE	
MATURITY	Highly mature and commercialised	Evolving, partially commercialised	
LIFESPAN	Long, often more than 40 years	Short, around 8 years	
OUPUT QUALITY	Moderate, 8 hours/day with ~1.5 cycles/day. Produces both active and reactive power. Quick ramping time	Low, 2-4 hours discharge cycle. Produces only active power. Response within seconds	
IMPORT DEPENDENCE	Low to Moderate, many components shared with hydro plants for which capability exists in India	High, inadequate cell (and its components) capacity makes it reliant of imports. Rare earths needed are globally disparate	
ESG IMPACT	Moderate, impacts land use, natural flow of river, and may need eco-sensitive and tribal areas	Moderate, mining ecosystem is wrought with issues. E-waste and its disposal remains a challenge	
LCOS Moderate, unlikely to reduce further		Moderate, likely to reduce further	
W	HILE PSP APPEARS ATTRACTIVE, DIFFICULTIES IN PROJECT SETUP ARE A FATAL	FLAW WHICH MAKE PSP LESS VIABLE VS. BESS	
PROJECT SETUP	High gestation period involving complex clearances Takes up a vast area, potential is in specific remote locations	Low gestation period Can be set up anywhere with low space requirement	
THE VERDICT	Smaller share but essential for peak shaving. A greater share of government/PSU interest is expected in this space	Dominant due to rapid response time, flexibility, and lower future LCOS. Likely to see extensive private participation	

PSPS AND BESS WILL COMPLEMENT RATHER THAN COMPETE



Hours of Day [0 = 12 midnight]

Source: IEA, CEA, SBICAPS; *NZE= Net Zero Emissions by CY50 Scenario | 17



BESS TO LEAD THE CHARGE

NASCENT BESS NEEDS TO TACKLE CONSTRAINTS TO REALISE POTENTIAL





Source: CEA, MERCOM, SBICAPS | 19

GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ARE SOLVING SOME OF THESE CONSTRAINTS



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BESS TARIFFS ARE DIPPING INTO THE REGION OF VIABILITY



Along with government initiatives, a key driver of reducing BESS tariffs in a dip in battery prices, which is discussed subsequently...

FURTHER REDUCTION IN BATTERY PRICES & TECH PROGRESS WILL SQUEEZE TARIFFS



- Over the past 10 years, battery costs have fallen by a dramatic 82%, helped by economies of scale and improvements in technology which increased life and discharge periods. A cheaper battery leads to lower LCOS
- It is expected that battery prices will crash further, and there will be increased puissance of higher capacity 4h- and 6h- batteries vs. 2h batteries which are in vogue today. These will be contingent on building scale for which a complete domestic ecosystem is needed





Source: IEA, CEA, News Articles, SBICAPS; 1 Hours refer to discharge time | 22

COMMON ECOSYSTEM WITH EV WILL GIVE BESS SYNERGIES AND SCALE



	Li - NMC	Li - LFP		
CATHODE	Nickel-Manganese-Cobalt alloy as cathode	Lithium iron phosphate is cathode		
ENERGY DENSITY	Higher energy density makes ideal for applications where low weight, space are critical factors	20% - 30% Lower energy density makes them suitable for applications where weight, space are not issues	There is a global shift toward	
LIFE CYCLE	Lower cycle life and can degrade with heavy use	Excellent cycle life better for stationary storage where longevity is prioritized	LFP, 65% in CY22 to 80% in CY23 of battery market	
STABILITY	More susceptible to thermal runway under extreme conditions	Higher thermal stability and less prone to overheating makes safer for stationary storage	 EV batteries after recycling can be used for BESS. Further there are multiple commor 	
C RATE	Support fast charging required for EV	Slower charge discharge rate more acceptable to stationary storge applications	supply chain elements	
RECYCLING	Recycling industry will have more incentive to recycle as it uses higher value material	Less incentive to recycle		
	BEST FOR ELECTRIC MOBILITY	BEST FOR BESS		
UPCOMING MAJOR CAPEX	COMING MAJOR CAPEX Ola Cell Technologies Private Limited (NMC); Agartas Energy Storage Solutions Private Limited (LFP); Amara Raja Advanced Cell Technology Private Limited (LFP+NMC); Reliance New Energy Battery Storage Limited (LFP), GODI India Private Limited (NMC+LFP); Exide Energy Solutions Limited (NMC+LFP+LTO) International Battery Company (NMC); ACC Energy Storage Private Limited (LFP); TDS Lithium-Ion Battery Gujarat Private Ltd (LTO); JBM Green Energy Syste Private Limited (NMC); Log 9 Materials Scientific Private Limited (LFP+LTO); Nsure Reliable Power Solutions (LFP)			

BATTERY SUPPLY CHAIN IS LONG, COMPLEX, AND GLOBAL







LFP BATTERY COMPONENT VALUE



NMC BATTERY COMPONENT VALUE



As per NITI Aayog, India is poised to capture 69-90% of LFP's and 43% of NMC's cell value through fostering domestic cell manufacturing ecosystem

CUTTING IMPORT DEPENDENCE ON BATTERY RAW MATERIALS CRITICAL







GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF GLOBAL BATTERY SUPPLY CHAIN



China dominates the global supply chain either directly or through tie-ups



PRODUCTION LINKED INCENTIVE FOR ADVANCED CELL CHEMISTRY (ACC)



To achieve 60% of domestic value addition, companies need to localise manufacturing of anode, cathode, electrolytes, and separator

Cell Component Manufacturing

Cell Manufacturing

Cell Packaging or Pack Manufacturing

ADDRESSING CONCERNS WILL SUPERCHARGE CELL & COMPONENT MANUFACTURING





IMPROVING FUNDING ACCESS TO BESS: UNDERSTANDING THE PARTS







PSP TO COMPLETE THE CIRCUIT

PSP ARE ESSENTIAL FOR PEAK SHAVING...





• Currently, PSPs with aggregate capacity of 4 GW are under construction in the country and another 64 GW is under various stages of development. It is projected that PSP capacity shall increase from 4.7 GW to around 55 GW by FY32

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... HOWEVER, PSP ARE WROUGHT WITH MULTIPLE STRUCTURAL ISSUES...



Source: CEA, IESA, News Articles, SBICAPS | 31

... WHICH LIMITS THEIR POTENTIAL VIS-À-VIS BESS



STANDALONE PSP ESS TENDERS TENDER COMPANY CAPACITY TARIFF (Rs./kWh) PCKL JSW Energy 300 5.06 PCKL Greenko 700 5.05 **Torrent Power** 6.77 1,500 **MSEDCL**

IMPROVING VIABILITY



Increasing Efficiency

Can be done through improving the efficiency of any of the five component efficiencies: hydraulic efficiency of water conductor system between upper reservoir and lower reservoir in generation mode viz -a-viz pumping mode, motor and pump in pumping mode, turbine and generator in generating mode

Boosting number of cycles per day

Ensuring the PSP runs at 1.5 cycles instead of 1 cycle per day increases its throughput. At the input power cost of Rs. 2-3/unit, this increase in cycles can reduce LCOE by 13%-17%

Reducing cost of debt funding

A 1% reduction in interest cost leads to a dip of ~2% of tariff. This component is especially critical given the long gestation period which bulges the interestduring-construction component, and ample project life in general



- The regulatory challenges lead to preference of nomination-based allocation by PSP players instead of tariff based competitive bidding
- This means that the presence of government/PSUs in this space will be greater, with more modest private sector participation

POLICY SUPPORT HELPS ALLEVIATE SOME STRUCTURAL ISSUES



CAPS







Investment needed in PSP

Legend

Installed Capacity in PSP

FILLING THE VOIDS: PUMPED HYDRO PROPOSALS COULD SEE NEW INVESTORS



COSTS BENCHMARKS			KEY FINANCING PARAMETERS FOR PSP		
SR. NO.	STATUS	COST PER MW (Rs. mn)	Presence of all necessary	Environmental and Social	PPA tariff and length vs
1	Both Existing reservoir	40 - 43	Approvals	Impact Assessment	project life
2	One Existing Reservoir	49 – 52			
3	No Reservoir Existing	60 - 70	Presence of Existing Reservoirs	Potential of the Location	Water Availability
					7

FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES IMPACTING PROJECT VUABILITY

COST BREAKUP FOR PSP WITH NO EXISTING RESERVOIRS





Powerhouse

- Reservoirs
- EPC
- Owners cost
- Tunnels
- Powerhouse Excavations

Capital Investment

- Historically, projects took more than anticipated time resulting into increased capital cost
- Historically, external borrowings played extensive role in funding, with key FIs giving initial nudge
- In recent projects, there has been bank interest and key FI in construction phase, with refinance through bond markets post operations
- Equity: Through GoI infusion historically, currently seeing some private participation

Working Capital

- For Maintenance spares, O&M expenses, receivables (DSRA), generally small component
- Largely by Banks

ADDITIONAL TRANSMISSION OPPORTUNITY DUE TO POTENTIAL DIFFERENCE



RELATION BETWEEN RE POTENTIAL AND PUMPED HYDRO STORAGE



PLANNED TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE

No.	STATE	CAPACITY (MW)
1	Andhra Pradesh	8,750
2	Uttar Pradesh	5,940
3	Rajasthan	5,560
4	Karnataka	3,600
5	Maharashtra	2,580
6	Madhya Pradesh	1,920
7	Uttarakhand	1,000
8	West Bengal	1,000
9	Tamil Nadu	500

- Potential for both RE and storage is there in select states such as Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, which are expected to see lowest LCOE
- For other states, additional transmission infrastructure will be needed from remote PSP sites to demand centres



ANNEXURE

GLOSSARY



Item	Explanation
ACC	Advanced Cell Chemistry
APGENCO	Andhra Pradesh Generation Corporation Limited
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
bn	Billion
CAGR	Compounded Annual Growth Rate
Capex	Capital Expenditure
CEA	Central Electricity Authority
CUF	Capacity Utilisation Factor
CY	Calendar Year
DISCOM	Distribution Company
DSRA	Debt Service Reserve Account
ESO	Energy Storage Obligation
ESS	Energy Storage System
EV	Electric Vehicle
e-waste	Electronic Waste
FDRE	Firm Despatch Renewable Energy
FI	Financial Institution
FY	Financial Year
Gol	Government of India
GUVNL	Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited
GW	Gigawatt
GWh	Gigawatt-hour
h	Hour

Item	Explanation			
H1	First Half			
IEA	International Energy Association			
IEEFA	Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis			
ISTS	Inter State Transmission System			
JBM	Jay Bharat Maruti			
KPCL	Karnataka Power Corporation Limited			
kWh	kilo Watt-hour			
LCOE	Levelised Cost of Electricity			
LCOS	Levelised Cost of Storage			
LFP	Lithium Ferrous Phosphate			
Li	Lithium			
LTO	Lithium Titanium Oxide			
M&A	Merger and Acquisition			
MLI	Multilateral Lending Institutions			
mn	Million			
MNRE	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy			
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding			
MSEDCL	Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited			
MW	Megawatt			
NMC	Nickel Manganese Cobalt			
NVVN	NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Limited			
NZE	Net Zero Emissions			
0&M	Operations and Maintenance			
OHPC	Odisha Hydro Power Corporation			

Item	Explanation			
PCKL	Power Company of Karnataka Limited			
PIB	Press Information Bureau			
PLI	Production Linked Incentive			
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement			
PSA	Power Supply Agreement			
PSP	Pumped Storage Project			
PSU	Public Sector Undertaking			
RE	Renewable Energy			
RoR	Run of River			
RPO	Renewable Purchase Obligation			
Rs.	Rupees			
RTC	Round The Clock			
RUVNL	Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Limited			
SECI	Solar Energy Corporation of India			
T&D	Transmission and Distribution			
TANGEDCO	Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation			
TBCB	Tariff Based Competitive Bidding			
TDS	Toshiba Denso Suzuki			
trn	Trillion			
USA	United States of America			
VGF	Viability Gap Funding			
VRE	Variable Renewable Energy			
WBSEDCL	West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited			
WSH	Wind-Solar Hybrid			
YTD	Year Till Date			



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