

## Asansol to be a ‘Smart Utility’

**Asansol, Feb. 21:** As part of its plans to convert Asansol into a “Smart Utility”, India Power Corporation Limited (IPCL) has announced the introduction of IoT (Internet of Things) besides installation of the new-generation network SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) in its transmission and distribution (T&D) network in this region. Company officials made this announcement at an interactive session with consumers here on Thursday.

IPCL’s JK Nagar 220 kV grid substation’s master control centre monitors downstream 33 kV and 11 kV SCADA-controlled substations, while distribution transformers (DTs) are IoT devices-enabled for monitoring DTs and smart meters/AMR meters at the customer end, making it a completely digitized network. Two such pilot feeders have already been completed, to be followed by a digitization and automation plan for the entire T&D network.

“IoT and SCADA are in addition to our price competitiveness, maintaining one of the best service reliability parameters and lowest T&D (transmission & distribution) losses -- below 3%, a customer-centric approach and advanced technology adoption, which makes IPCL the preferred supplier in most market segments,” Mr. Sanjeev Seth, CEO, IPCL, said at the consumer meet. The company, with a network spread across 618 sq km in the Asansol- Ranjganj belt of West Burdwan district, has increased its footprint in the LT segment also over the last couple of years.

IPCL, the erstwhile DPSC Limited, celebrates a century of existence this year after starting operations in 1919, operating in a competitive environment where two other utilities also exist. The 100-year-old power utility is confident that its digital initiatives to be a smart utility keeping pace with world trends will ultimately improve customer experience and lead to optimization of energy usage. This will also ensure better load and energy flow management, outage and power quality management, transformer health monitoring, early restoration, voltage-level energy auditing, etc, claimed company officials.

“It’s a great honour for any company to reach the century milestone. I congratulate the entire IPCL team and hope all the recent tech upgrades will be beneficial for long-term consumers like us and help resolve issues faster,” said R.P. Choudhury of Baba Aluminium.

Pawan Gutgutia, head of the Cement Manufacturers’ Association in the region, while lauding IPCL on the tech upgrades, also pleaded the case for a waiver of demand charge for cement manufacturers.

### **About India Power Corporation Limited**

India Power Corporation Limited ("India Power"), formerly known as DPSC Limited, incorporated in 1919, carries a 98 years long rich legacy in efficient power distribution and sustainable power generation. The company has actively forayed into a diversified portfolio, with renewable and conventional modes of power generation, distribution and power trading.