T A PAI MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

MANIPAL - 576104

Research Seminar

An intro to smart grids – the "next new thing" in India's power sector

Speaker

Prof. Mohan Kumar

TAPMI, Manipal

2:00 PM, December 1st, 2010 (Wednesday)

Conference Room, TAPMI Campus

ALL ARE INVITED

Abstract

The electric power industry in India is undergoing radical transformation. Though somewhat akin to what happened to our telecommunications sector in the immediate past, the process unfolding now in the power sector however is still much more complicated. The shape of things to come is still evolving, and the stakes extremely high.

It's in this context that smart grid projects come in and assume their vital importance. By designing and deploying information and communication technologies (ICT) in the generation, transmission, and distribution of power, such projects and initiatives seek to address numerous issues in this data intensive business. As is well known the service quality in the Indian power sector is low and stagnant, the losses - transmission and commercial - are phenomenal, the demand-supply gap is huge, and the list is endless. To meet the ever rising power needs of the population and also to facilitate the growth process of the economy unleashed and under way for the past two decades, and to guide it in a proper and sane direction, we have no recourse but to look at alternative sources of energy [other than fossil fuels], and to haul up the entire energy scene in India. How smart grids can help in all this and how new challenges come up when one tries and implements such solutions is the subject we'll be taking up in this seminar.

In addition to the above mentioned issues and challenges, as regulatory and policy issues, environmental and ecological implications, and customer response problems all converge and impact in this sector, the overall management becomes crucial here and the area is rich with research potential. An attempt is being made also to unravel some of these questions in the seminar.

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