



Press Release

CII Core group of Energy Security

PTC India hosted the first meeting of the CII Core Group on Energy Security on 8th July 2022. Dr. Rajib Kumar Mishra, CMD (Addl. Charge), PTC and Amb. Virendra Gupta, Former High Commissioner to South Africa co-chaired the Core Group meeting. Senior industry experts from petroleum, power, academic think-tanks attended the meeting which included Mr. Vishal Shastri, ED - ONGC; Prof. Kumaraswamy, JNU; Dr. Uttam Sinha, Manohar Parrikar Institute of Defence Studies; Mr. Prabhjit Sarkar, MD – PXIL; Mr. Sanjiv Mehra, MD – Statkraft; Ms. Lynda Powell, ORF.

During the meeting, the Core Group deliberated on the specific objectives that it seeks to accomplish, its approach and the associated milestones and timelines. The unequivocal view that emerged out of the discussion was that protecting national interests in terms of energy security was the paramount objective guiding the proposed recommendations of the Core Group at the conclusion of the exercise. However, it was also emphatically stated that commercial considerations would assume priority in the choice between alternate opportunities.

It was understood that the mandate of the Group was to create recommendations on a rolling basis under a multi-year mandate. And the cross-section of stakeholders representing diverse sectors like electricity, oil and gas, coal to power conglomerates, academia, think tanks and policy advocates form a part of the Group to create a rare convergence in views in the national interest. Amongst the topics deliberated on during the meeting, cross-border power trading, creation of a regional electricity market, geo-political aspects and India's response to the energy transition assumed prominence.

This is an initiative that seeks to generate consensus amongst diverse stakeholders and is seeking to come out with the first set of recommendations in the next six months.

