

EESL illuminates Ara in record time with 4,600 smart LED streetlights

- Replaced 4,611 conventional streetlights with LEDs in just three weeks
- Ara Municipal Corporation to save 27 lakh kWh energy/year, and Rs. 13.6 crore over seven years
- A social audit by EESL shows 90% people in Ara are satisfied with the new lighting levels, reduction in dark spots, and expressed a feeling of safety

Ara, March 17, 2018: Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Government of India, Shri R K Singh today dedicated **4,611 smart and energy-efficient LED lights**, installed under the Street Light National Programme (SLNP), to the people of Ara, Bihar. Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power, Government of India, is implementing SLNP--the world's largest streetlight replacement programme. The ceremony took place in the presence of Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Sushil Kumar Modi; Hon'ble Minister of Power, Government of Bihar, Shri Bijendra Prasad Yadav; Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development & Housing Department, Government of Bihar, Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma; and Chairman, EESL, Shri Rajeev Sharma.

The Government of Bihar had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in December 2017 with EESL, to retrofit and install approx. **3 lakh conventional street lights with LEDs in all 38 districts**. Within a record time of only three weeks, EESL has replaced 4,611 conventional lights with LEDs and completed the infrastructure work for segregation of street light circuit from normal electricity distribution circuit in the city.

In addition, EESL has deployed **smart LED lights** to enhance the benefit of affordable energy-efficient infrastructure with future-readiness. These '**smart lights**' are connected through a web-based monitoring system that enables remote operations and additional operational savings. EESL has installed 89 panels of Centralised Control and Monitoring System (CCMS) with GIS mapping for remote control and monitoring of street lights.

Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Government of India, Shri R K Singh said, *"It is a moment of great pride and joy to dedicate the smart, future-ready and energy-efficient LED streetlights to the people of Ara. These lights will not only illuminate the streets but also enable better and safe mobility for the citizens. I commend the efforts of Ara Municipal Corporation and EESL for their relentless work to complete the installation of smart LED street lights in a record time. I am sure such commitment and effort will be replicated across Bihar."*

"The government is working effortlessly to integrate centre, state and the industry through this programme. This collaboration is leading to better opportunities for consumers to enable savings as well as help the nation towards energy sufficiency and cleaner environment" **he added.**

Highlighting the achievement, **Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Sushil Kumar Modi** said, *"Energy efficiency and conservation are integral to maintain the growth in Bihar's economy while supporting our sustainability goals. The installation of LED-based street lighting system will provide higher efficiency, better illumination, monetary savings and environmental benefits. Replacement of conventional street lights with LEDs in Bihar will potentially save 51% electricity for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). It is heartening to see that EESL is implementing the project at a rapid pace across the state. Ara has become the first city in Bihar to be completely illuminated with energy-efficient LED street lights. I am glad to hear that the people of Ara are highly satisfied with the new lighting levels and feel safe with the reduction in dark spots."*

As per the MoU, EESL, in partnership with Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of all 38 districts of the state, will retrofit and install approx. 3 lakh conventional street lights with LEDs. Once retrofitted, these LED lights will help the ULBs as well as the nation to save over 7 crore deemed units of energy annually, with an avoided peak demand of 17 MW. The retrofitting drive will also lead to an annual reduction of over 57,400 tonnes of CO₂ playing a crucial role in India's climate goals.

As a part of this drive, EESL is collaborating with all 143 ULBs in 38 districts of Bihar, including 12 Nagar Nigams, 46 Nagar Parishads and 85 Nagar Panchayats.

Shri Rajeev Sharma, Chairman EESL said, *"We are delighted that the replacement of conventional streetlights with LED street lights has received a positive feedback from the residents of Ara. We are confident that we will replicate the success of Ara across 38 districts of Bihar. We are committed to successfully implement this programme across the state to enable energy efficiency for all."*

The procurement price of the LED streetlights has reduced from Rs. 135/watt to Rs. 70/watt due to mass procurement by EESL making LEDs affordable and accessible. EESL makes the entire upfront investment in retrofitting the streetlights. Municipalities pay EESL from the savings in energy and maintenance cost over seven years. EESL aims to create market innovations through solutions-driven approach and novel business model of Zero-Subsidy, Zero-Capex and pay-as-you-save. EESL also undertakes social audits in all states post completion of the project.

EESL's procurements conform to BIS specification and carry a seven-year warranty against technical defects. EESL conducts appropriate quality checks right from the bidding stage to the field level. This has resulted in the LEDs' overall technical fault being less than 2% in over 50 lakh lights installed by EESL in the country. EESL has maintained an uptime of 97% for all street lights across the country.

EESL has a stringent complaint redressal mechanism wherein consumers can write to us on Twitter and Facebook - for Twitter @EESL_India and for Facebook @EESLIndia for registering complaints. The official EESL complaint registration email ID is helpline@eesl.co.in. Consumers can also register their complaints at the EESL complaint logging portal - <http://support.eeslindia.org/>.

About EESL:

Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), under the administration of Ministry of Power, Government of India, is working towards mainstreaming energy efficiency and is implementing the world's largest energy efficiency portfolio in the country. Driven by the mission of Enabling More – more efficiency, more innovation, EESL aims to creating market access for efficient and future ready transformative solutions that create a win-win situation for every stakeholder. By 2020, EESL seeks to be a \$1.5 billion-dollar (Rs 10,000 crore) company putting together all the programmes of EESL.

Thus far, EESL has distributed over 29 crore LED bulbs and retrofitted 50 lakh LED streetlights across India through self-sustaining commercial models. It has pioneered innovative business approaches to successfully roll-out large-scale programs that allow for incentive alignment across the value chain and rapidly drive transformative impact. EESL aims to leverage this implementation experience and exploit new opportunities in overseas market for diversification of its portfolio. As on date, EESL has begun its operations in UK, South Asia and South-East Asia.

To know more, please visit (www.eeslindia.org); also follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/EESL_India).

(For publication/broadcast)