

Ease of getting power: India's rank up by 73

Govt Halved Rate At Which Prices Rise Every Year

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Vienna: The focused reforms unleashed by the Narendra Modi government in the last three years have halved the rate at which power prices rose every year, and improved India's position in the global 'ease of getting electricity' ranking.

The compounded annual growth in power prices in the 2014-16 period stood at 3.27% against 5.94% through the last 10 years between 2004 and 2014.

Simultaneously during the last two years, India moved up to the 26th spot in global electricity accessibility ranking, moving up from 99th in 2014 aided largely by the Modi government's rural electrification programme in the last three years since it came to power.

Nowhere has the suc-

SOARING POWER PRICES

Figures in %

Increase in Electricity Prices (CAGR)	2004-14	2014-16
Domestic Category (2 KW-200 Units/month)	5.06	4.04
Commercial Category (20 KW-3000 Units/Month)	5.06	4.10
Agriculture Category (3HP-600 Units/Month)	14.56	8.68
Industrial LT Category (50 KW-7500 units/Month)	5.49	3.83
Industrial HT Category (10 MW@ 40% LF -2.92 Million units/Month)	4.87	1.76
Railway Traction Category	5.12	2.97
Weighted - All India Price growth	5.94	3.27

cess of the government's policies become more visible than Wednesday's development where solar power tariff went below coal-fired power for a project at Bhadla solar park in Rajasthan.

Overall Energy shortage too has come down to 0.7% at present from 4.2% in 2014. No wonder power, coal renewable energy and mines minister Piyush Goyal spoke from a position of strength when he told the Vienna Energy Forum, "Many problems had earlier set India back for many years but now the mood has changed."

"India is taking rapid

strides in terms of commitment and target for promoting energy conservation and efficiency," he told the gathering.

"Traditionally India's stand has been what the world was ready to do to help us go green. Finally, we are able to tell the world that we will do whatever it takes to improving our pollution levels to meet the challenges of climate change, irrespective of what the world does. We have finally been able to make solar tariff go below grid parity.. India's leadership position in green energy will new benefit the world," he said.