

## BUSINESS

# CESC, WBSEDC to trade on power exchange

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THE POWER utilities in east are gearing to trade on electronic power trading in near future.

Power utilities like CESC Ltd and West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company (WBSEDC), two power utilities in the state, have already taken membership of Indian Energy Exchange (IEX), which is expected to be operational early next financial year.

More power utilities like Damodar Valley Corporation and Gridco are also looking at taking membership of the first power exchange.

"We have taken membership of the proposed electronic power exchange IEX," a CESC official spokesperson confirmed when asked.

CESC is a net purchaser of power now to supply in Kolkata and parts of Howrah.

It buys power to the tune of 300 to 400 MW from the state electricity board.

However, the company is also going for capacity addition in a big way and one day CESC might become a net seller of power on the power exchange. CESC has chalked out plans for a greenfield coal-fired power plant in Haldia.

WBSEDC, which covers the entire state of West Bengal except Kolkata and parts of Howrah, will use the platform for selling power.

"We would mostly participate in the unscheduled interchange power market and expect better realisation through online bidding process which would have buyers from across the country," WBSEDC director (commercial) M.K. Ray told PTI.

On average, we hope to sell most of the 2000 million units of surplus on the electronic power exchange, he said.

IEX is promoted by Multi Commodity Exchange, Financial Technologies and Power Trading Corporation.

The power exchange will collect the available transfer capability on all inter-regional links from regional load dispatch centres and then collect bids and offers from potential buyers and sellers.

The bids and offers will be processed to determine market clearing price and market clearing volume.

Mock trading sessions were also carried out by IEX earlier.

However, IEX officials declined to respond when asked about the exchange going live.

