

# T&D loss put pays power sector

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**PATNA:** The Bihar government needed to develop a franchise model (public-private partnership) in the power sector and reduce power loss due to transmission and distribution (T&D) to cut down on its financial loss.

The suggestions came at a conference on 'Powering Bihar- Approaches to distribution reforms' organised by the Bihar branch of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on Wednesday. Chief executive officer of Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited Praveer Sinha was the keynote speaker.

"Though a progressive state, Bihar's power scenario is discouraging companies from investing here. Its main issue is T&D losses, which can be solved only through time, proper planning and execution," Sinha said.

He also later narrated the success story of the Delhi model in power in tackling various issues like transformer failure, peak load and others.

In his address, power minister Bijendra Prasad Yadav said, despite limited resources, the power scenario in the state was improving and it would generate around 5000 megawatts by 2015. "Also, the government is



Participants at a seminar organised by CII, in Patna on Wednesday

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ready to provide funds for plan implementation and execution," he added.

Secretary of energy department Sandeep Poundrik, deliberated on the various plans of the department to improve the power scenario, which included working on generation, supply, transmission, meter installation and recovery, tying up with banks and mobile companies for electric bill payment and others.

"After introducing two franchise models in Bhagalpur and Muzaffarpur, we are planning to bring 12 more towns under

the model," he added.

Chairman of Bihar Electricity Regulatory Commission UN Panijjar, said the commission was serious about cutting down T&D losses and was taking appropriate steps to meet the targets.

Two sessions were organised at the conference. Speakers from various states participated in the conference, in which CII energy sub-committee chairman (eastern region) Subhas Sethi, CII Bihar past chairman Pramod Kumar Sinha were prominent speakers