



The recent years have been good for our power T&D business

— Subhash Sethi, Chairman, SPML Infra Ltd

In this quick interaction, Subhash Sethi discusses the order book of his company's power sector business. Sethi's views were sought in the backdrop of a major Rs.460-crore order from Power Grid Corporation of India for building substations in the northeast. Sethi is optimistic that power T&D will see a rising share in the company's overall business portfolio.

SPML Infra recently won an order worth over Rs.460 crore for building substations, from PGCIL. Tell us about the scope of this order. Does this qualify to be amongst the single-largest orders for SPML in the power sector, in recent times?

These are three different orders with combined cost of Rs.461.04 crore received from Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd under the "North Eastern Region Power System Improvement Project" scheme being funded by the World Bank.

The scope include design, engineering, supply, erecting, testing and commissioning of 16 units of 132/33/11kV substations, as well as substation extensions, in different parts of Tripura. The order also includes 5 years of operation & maintenance for communication equipment. These are substantial orders for SPML and we are hopeful to receive more orders under this scheme in north eastern region.

When do you intend starting work on this order and what is the scheduled completion date?

We have already started our preparation with design and engineering of these orders and it will be completed within the completion period of three years.

Meanwhile, we have also started our initial preparation of other orders received from Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Ltd for 220/132/33kV (2x150+2x50 MVA) grid substation at Ratu (Burm),



Jharkhand; and from West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Ltd for 220/132/33kV GIS substation at New Town, 24 Parganas (North) district, along with two 220kV AIS feeder bays at Domjur substation at Howrah. All these projects will be completed within the stipulated period.

Tell us about some major ongoing orders in the power transmission space. Is there any major order that is likely to commission in the near future?

We are currently executing a number of power transmission and distribution projects in several states. Apart from rural electrification works in Patna and Gaya districts and



Power distribution and management project in Bhagalpur, Bihar where SPML has introduced new age technology for smart metering solutions, asset indexing on cloud, mobile application for consumption & billing information, 24x7 consumer complaint centre among many other initiatives.

SPML is also executing substation projects — 400/220kV substation with 1x500 MVA and 400/220/33kV autotransformer in Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh; 400/220kV substation with 1x500 MVA and 400/220/33kV Autotransformer in Sikar, Rajasthan; 220/132kV GIS substation in Alipurduar, West Bengal; 132/33kV GIS Substation in Bajkul, West Bengal; 220Kv substation in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh etc.

Some of our projects including rural electrification work in Patna and Gaya, substation projects in Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal will be completed within this year.

What is the currently the share of power T&D-sector related orders in the total order book position of SPML Infra? Has this share improved over the years?

SPML has received good orders in power T&D-sector in the last few years and it has contributed almost 30 per cent of company's total revenue. We expect to get more orders in power segment and certainly the share of power projects in our overall business portfolio will increase. ■