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# RENEWABLES OUTSHINE COAL AS INDIA'S POWER LANDSCAPE RAPIDLY TRANSFORMS

## Coal Power Costlier Now

n FY24–25, India's new thermal power cost surged to ₹6.82 per unit, while renewable plus storage power cost just ₹4.50. This marks a pivotal shift—renewables are now cheaper and faster to deploy than coal. Policymakers see this as the beginning of India's clean-energy dominance era..

## Private Coal Producers' Plea

ndia's private coal-based electricity producers have urged the government to lift the import ban on Chinese power equipment. They argue domestic options are limited and costly, doubling project expenses. Allowing Chinese imports, they claim, would cut costs by nearly half and revive delayed coal-power infrastructure projects.

## RECENT UPDATES:

### Solar Capacity Surges

India added record 12 GW solar capacity in 2025, boosting clean power supply.

### NBattery Costs Drop

SGlobal lithium-ion battery prices fell 18%, making renewable storage far more affordable.

### India Hydrogen Push

Government cleared 5 new green hydrogen projects to accelerate industrial decarbonization nationwide.

www.oorjashakti.com info@oorjashakti.com +917900256666

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# GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ENERGY STORAGE ADVANCES DRIVE SUSTAINABILITY FORWARD

## Australia's Eight-Hour Battery

Australia has launched its first eight-hour grid-scale battery system—50 MW / 400 MWh—developed by RWE. It represents a major milestone for long-duration energy storage, helping stabilize renewable power output and enabling continuous supply. This battery project marks a turning point in Australia's clean-energy transition and grid-resilience ambitions.

## Kerala Smart Storage Project

Kerala's Energy Management Centre (EMC) has invited proposals from companies to install smart battery energy storage systems (ISBSS) in homes and businesses by October 31, 2025. Selected firms will participate in pilot projects integrating solar systems, enhancing state-level energy flexibility and enabling consumers to store and manage green power efficiently.enewable energy across industries and institutions.

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# DATA CENTERS AND CONSUMERS FACE POWER COST AND POLICY SHIFTS

## Rising Data Power Demand

By 2030, India will become Asia-Pacific's second-largest data-center power consumer. Demand is projected to rise from 13 TWh to 57 TWh, driven by AI initiatives and GPU deployments. Fortunately, renewable energy growth offers a sustainable path to meet this surge without overburdening the grid or raising carbon emissions.

## Unfair Cost Distribution Issue

In 2024, consumers in seven PGM states paid $4.4 billion toward transmission upgrades benefiting data centers. Reports call this cost-sharing structure unfair, placing an excessive burden on ordinary users. Energy regulators are being urged to redesign tariff models, ensuring big-tech energy infrastructure doesn't penalize common electricity consumers.

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