

No. 283/85/2018-GRID SOLAR
भारत सरकार / Government of India
नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्रालय/ Ministry of New & Renewable Energy

Block-14, C.G.O. Complex,
Lodi Road, New Delhi,
Dated: 29th November, 2018

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub.: Tier-I Solar PV Modules vs. BIS Certified Solar PV Modules

1. With a view to ensuring quality of Solar PV equipment, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE), on 05.09.2017 has notified "*Solar Photovoltaics, Systems, Devices and Components Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2017.*"
2. This Order makes it mandatory for any manufacturer, who manufactures, stores for sale, sells or distributes *Crystalline Silicon Terrestrial Photovoltaic (PV) Modules (Si wafer based), Thin-Film Terrestrial Photovoltaic (PV) Modules (a-Si, CiGs and CdTe), PV Module (Si wafer and Thin film), Power converters for use in photovoltaic power system, Utility –Interconnected Photovoltaic inverters, Storage battery*, to obtain registration for concerned Indian Standards as specified by Bureau of Indian Standards for the concerned product and mentioned in the above mentioned MNRE Order against that product.
3. This Ministry understands that prior to the implementation of the Bureau of Indian Standards certification as a compulsory requirement, there was no uniform and standard means to ascertain the quality of the modules supplied in India. Therefore, the Bloomberg Tier-I List was followed as recognised standards by the lenders.
4. This Ministry has received representations requesting that instead of insisting on Tier-I Solar PV modules, BIS certified solar PV modules should be acceptable.
5. Tier-I does not reflect on the quality of solar PV modules, but on the financial capability of the manufacturers as evaluated by Bloomberg, While MNRE's "*Solar Photovoltaics, Systems, Devices and Components Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2017.*" certifies the quality of the solar PV modules.
6. The fact that supply is from Tier-I company does not ensure quality of the module. It only ensures that the module manufacturer is recognized as a Tier-I manufacturer by Bloomberg based on its financial strength. This list is also dynamic and keeps on changing every quarter. Further, such a condition automatically leads to a preference being given to foreign, including Chinese, manufacturers at the cost of Indian ones. It is the quality which the lenders should be interested in and the focus should be on modules satisfying the BIS standards, irrespective of the financial strength of the company.
7. In view of above and also since in accordance with MNRE's order, registration and compliance with BIS for Solar PV Modules, has already started, the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) would like to request the lenders involved in financing solar PV power projects that for quality of solar PV modules, supply of solar PV modules from the Bloomberg Tier-I List, should not be insisted upon, but BIS certification.
8. This issues with the approval of Hon'ble Minister (Power & NRE).



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To:

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