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TERI ENERGY DATA DIRECTORY & YEARBOOK 2010



The Energy and Resources Institute

Preface

The *TERI Energy Data Directory and Yearbook*, or *TEDDY*, was launched 25 years ago. It has now become a reference document and source of extensive information on India by which energy decision-makers are able to arrive at insights that help plan for the future. In this age of easy access to data from a whole range of sources across the world, access to information of any kind has been facilitated by the growth and phenomenal spread of the Internet. However, for the information to be useful, a proper contextual framework within which it can be presented and utilized should be available. The format and content of *TEDDY* has evolved over the years, and this is facilitated by extensive interaction with its readers. As a result, *TEDDY* has been able to ensure its usefulness, for over a quarter century now, to readers from across the globe, providing a one-stop-shop for energy and related information.

Energy issues are receiving increased attention for a number of reasons, which are a reminder of the level of interest of the society in the late 1970s. The factors influencing renewed interest in energy today are, of course, very different from those that came to the fore over three decades ago. In the earlier period, it was the sudden quadrupling of global oil prices in 1973/74 that created a challenge for most countries around the world in finding solutions, which led to the more efficient use of energy and a search for alternatives. Research and development directed at reducing dependence on oil, in particular, received a sudden boost; however, the unexpected decline in oil prices in 1985 reversed this trend. The dependence on oil continued to grow for several years after that, as generally low prices of oil reigned until about the middle of the last decade. The trend in low prices of oil and their continuing decline in real terms have, of course, now come to an end.

Today's concerns relating to energy are driven partly by issues of energy security and the need to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, a substantial part of which is caused by burning fossil fuels. There is also the daunting challenge of providing energy access where India is clearly lagging far behind, with almost 400 million people lacking access to electricity and around 90% of the rural population dependent on biomass, generally of poor quality, for cooking purposes. India, for a large number of reasons, therefore, has to bring about a major transformation of the energy sector. This can only be done through detailed analysis and an in-depth study of the situation that exists in several parts of the Indian economy. It is, therefore, essential for the public at large and decision-makers in government, business, and academia to have full access to information and statistics that would facilitate proper analysis of energy use and supply.

Of particular importance is the relationship between energy data and a host of other variables, including the level of economic activity in every sector of the economy, demographic variables, environment, climate change and trends as well as other factors on both the demand and supply sides. With the constant refinement that TERI brings about on a regular basis to the database and analysis that constitute each issue of *TEDDY*, our readers will find the 25th anniversary issue of *TEDDY 2010* to be of enhanced value.



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