

March, 2019

## **INDIA'S RURAL ELECTRIFICATION**

## **Rural electrification in India: Several wins**

## Installed capacity has almost doubled over 7 years and is projected to grow further



#### Grid distribution network has also expanded



Source: World Bank, 2018; Energy Access Outlook, 2017

### Per capita electricity consumption is low, but is projected to grow

**Electricity consumption in India growing at 6% - 7%** 



Source: World Bank, 2014

### However, Public Utilities are struggling to serve rural customers viably

YoY losses, driven by gap between average cost of supply (ACS) and average revenue realized (ARR)

		2010	2015	2018
Viability	T&D Losses <sup>3</sup>	28%	23%	21%
	Accumulated Losses (USD billion) <sup>4</sup>	20.1 Bn	51.5 Bn	62.4 Bn

The rural segment has been unprofitable\*\*

US Cents per unit of power

Govt. Utility Average per Unit Realizations (2017)						
Parameters⁵	Overall	Rural	Urban/ Commercial			
Tariff/Unit	6.60	2.90	9.30			
Cost/Unit	7.70	8.30	7.50			
Surplus/(Gap)/ Unit	(1.10)	(5.40)	1.80			

\* Estimates fir FY 2017 and 2018 as per data available in ARR filing by DISCOMS to regulator

\*\* Using West UP (PVVNL) tariff petition; excluding all categories which are not broken into rural and urban such as institutions, HV customers, etc; Rural customers domestic at Rs 1.27 and enterprise at 3.37 Source: Report on performance of state utilities Jun-16

# And rural customers continue using multiple sources for lighting and electricity



Others include: Solar Home System, Solar lanterns, Diesel gensets, Rechargeable batteries, Kerosene lamps, Torch, candles and Emergency lights

### **Customer dissatisfaction from the grid services is high**



**Dissatisfaction is driven by:** 

**Poor redress services** 

Power cuts: 1 in 2 households with gridelectricity face power cut of at least eight hours per day

Poor Metering/Billing: There is a high share of unmetered connections and billing is highly irregular

### And myths about serving rural segment remain



## SPI's LEARNING



### SPI's Learning 2: Rural customers pay for reliable service

Trend-line data of 1-year collection efficiency of 19000+ number



## Trend-line of collection efficiency in grid areas with improved service



**Comparison of Affordability Perception** What drives affordability Comparison of Affordability Perception (% (% Agree) between Mini-grid and Grid Agree) between Grid serviced geographies perception? serviced geographies 60 60 **Reliability Evening Supply Hours** 40 40 59 53 **On-time billing** 20 20 32 31 **Complaint redress Stable voltage** 0 0 Grid with Mini Grid Typical Typical Distribution Grid Area Grid Area Franchisee

Source: SPI-ISEP, John Hopkins Research study covering 12000+ customers in India, Feb 2019

#### SPI's Learning 4: Even among the low-income segment, electricity consumption increases with increased hours of supply

Comparison of Electricity consumption among the lowincome households between 2 grid serviced geographies (kWh/month)



Source: SPI-ISEP, John Hopkins Research study covering 12000+ customers in India, Feb 2019

#### SPI's Learning 5: Rural microenterprises are an important segment and can't be ignored

#### Rural Micro-enterprises are 'high consuming' & 'paying' customers with stable demand



**Other sources** include: Solar Home System, Solar lanterns, Diesel gensets, Rechargeable batteries, Kerosene lamps, Torch, candles and Emergency lights

## **ABOUT SPI'S WORK**

# SPI has enabled the world's largest portfolio of mini grids supplying homes and businesses



We have demonstrated that the poor will pay for power to improve their lives

Average collection rates

97%

Annual increase of energy consumption

15%

Homes ending use of kerosene and diesel

25%

Increase in monthly revenues for small businesses

12-15%

Source: SPI Analysis of portfolio mini grids, January 2019

### SPI is piloting a Model Distribution Zone (MDZ) in partnership with a DisCom



• Share upside with the supporting Pvt Operator

