

Issue EE # 20

A call for better statistical data

There has been extended discussion regarding which appliances and industrial equipment is actually contributing most to the electricity consumption of India. A rating list seems to be important because under the EC-Act, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency will label and set standards for various appliances and industrial equipment. An overview is given in the attached list.

Considering the efforts necessary to set up a labeling and standard delivery mechanism, including infrastructure, it is important to look into the contribution of each gadget to the national electricity consumption. There is no need to focus efforts and resources on gadgets which do not contribute a lot or the estimated electricity conservation potential is small.

Furthermore introducing labeling and standards for equipment where a very high percentage of manufacturing firms belong to the informal sector will be difficult, because enforcement is going to be more difficult.

From the list it is obvious that, based on annual electricity savings potential, agricultural pump sets, fluorescent tube lights and industrial motors should be tackled first, while CFL's and compressors are at the end of the list.

The trouble with such lists are the GiGo effect. Garbage in means Garbage out. Readers may notice that there are a number of question marks where data is missing. Moreover data shown in the table sometimes comes from unknown sources, or are not validated. In other words, the best one can hope is that the data is $\pm 30\%$. For instance, whoever knows how the consumption of agricultural pump sets is collected and computed may immediately point out the deficiencies and accuse us of window dressing. We are very well aware of it. However, a long journey starts with the first step. We therefore ask our readers to improve on this table, instead of hiring another consultant who may as well only cite official or unofficial data. Whoever can provide us with better data or fill in the gaps will earn between Rs. 1000 and Rs. 5000 depending on efforts and quality of references. A total of up to Rs. 1,00,000 of professional fees will be offered to improve this table over a period of six months. Take notice of the conditionality up to! There may be no awards if submitted data and reference are as shaky as some of our references.

Happy data hunting!