

Press release

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In demand of withdrawal of anti-People and pro-Corporate Smart meter a huge convention of electricity consumers of eastern region of India was held on 28th October at District Library Auditorium in Guwahati under the banner of All India Electricity Consumers Association. The convention was presided over by Swapan Ghosh, president of AIECA. Inaugurating the convention, Bimal Das, retd. Deputy General Manager of Assam Power Distribution Company Ltd said that installation of Smart Meter in prepayment mode in Domestic category consumers is anti people. Large scale Smart Meters in Assam have been purchased without Testing and Inspection which is a basic requirement. The Smart Meters in Assam have been installed without following any SoP and more so without intimation/information to consumers. As an invited speaker Prof. Wandell Passah, Ex HoD, department of Electronics, St. Edmund college, Shillong said that experiences of smart meter in developed countries are very much bitter. In our country when seventy percent of people do not have mobile phone then smart meter in prepayment mode is not justified.

In the presidential address Swapan Ghosh said that Indian profit monger Capitalist Class want to take control of the electricity sector. After generation now their eye on the distribution system. The government has launched this smart meter scheme only for the interest of big corporates. He appealed to build up sustained movement against privatisation of electricity sector. He also said that prepaid smart meter will accelerated privatisation.

Other speaker Samar Sinha, general Secretary, All India Power men's Federation and leaders of electricity consumers movements of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Bihar, Odhisa etc spoke on the occasion.

Some messages from Mr. EAS Sarma, retd IAS & Secretary to deptt of Energy, Gol, Mr. Sailendra Dubey, Chairman of All India Power Engineers Federation, Dr. A Mathew of all India forum against privatisation and K. Venugopal Bhatt, general Secretary, AIECA were read out in the convention. The convention resolved to build up mighty consumers movement throughout the country.

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