

Profile of Ajay Talegaonkar

Shri Ajay Talegaonkar, an officer of the 1989 batch of Central Power Engineering Service (CPES), is holding the post of Member (Economic & Commercial), Central Electricity Authority and Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India since 13th July 2022.

Born on 28th September, 1996, Shri Ajay Talegaonkar graduated in Electrical Engineering from Madhav Institute of Technology and Science, Gwalior and obtained his Masters in System Engineering & Operations Research from IIT, Roorkee (the then, University of Roorkee). He has followed his academic pursuit even during his service career and attained his Post Graduation in Economics as well. He has also done an online certificate course on “Financial Accounting and Analysis” from IIM, Bangalore.

During his career spanning over three decades, besides holding key positions in CEA, he has also served on deputation in Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) for more than 9 years during the formative years of CERC. During his deputation tenure in CERC, he played a key role in formulation of the first set of regulations on Open Access, Grid Code, market development including establishment of Power Exchanges, order on Availability Based Tariff (ABT), licensing for trading & inter-State transmission of electricity etc., besides finalization of Tariff Regulations & Orders related to generation and transmission.

In CEA, Shri Talegaonkar has been associated with important assignments like formulation of draft National Electricity Policy & Tariff Policy, Guidelines for monetization of transmission assets, CEA Regulations on Grid Standards, amendments to CEA Regulations on Grid Connectivity Standards for renewable sources, amendments to CEA Metering Regulations etc. He has rendered his expertise in issues concerning competitive bidding, development of power market, benchmarking of establishment costs of Discoms, financial analysis for concurrence of hydro projects, advice on tariff for Nuclear Power Stations, etc., to name a few. During his posting in Northern Regional Power Committee (NRPC), he has handled the operational & commercial issues related to regional grids in general and Northern Region in particular. He has rendered noteworthy assistance to the high-level Enquiry Committee for the twin Grid Disturbances of July 2012.

As part of his academic aptitude and professional expertise, he has acted as a distinguished resource person in prestigious training programmes organized by USAID SARI/Energy, Forum of Regulators, TERI, ASCI (Hyderabad) and NPTI. He has published/presented papers on experience of first tariff based competitive bidding for transmission in India, developing Power Exchanges in India, transmission pricing and despatch considerations in PPAs.
