

PROFILE OF SHRI PRAVEEN GUPTA

Shri Praveen Gupta (Date of Birth: 19 May 1967) is presently serving as Member (Thermal) and Ex-officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India in Central Electricity Authority (CEA), a position he has held since November 2022. He is also entrusted with the additional charge of Member (Economic & Commercial) in CEA since September 2025.

An officer of the Central Power Engineering Services (CPES), 1989 batch, Shri Gupta brings with him over three and a half decades of rich and diverse experience across multiple domains of the power sector. He began his professional journey in the private sector before joining the CEA in 1990 as an Assistant Director.

Shri Gupta holds a Bachelor of Engineering in Electronics & Communication from Maulana Azad College of Technology, Bhopal (1988) and now MANIT, Bhopal.

In his current role, Shri Gupta heads the Thermal Wing of CEA, overseeing critical areas such as thermal power capacity addition, fuel management, ash utilization, and advancement of cleaner and more efficient technologies. Under his leadership, several key policy and operational initiatives have been undertaken, including:

- Revision of the SHAKTI Policy for coal allocation to power plants
- Coal rationalization measures
- Initiatives aimed at improving coal quality
- Ordering of coal based capacity
- Increasing vendor base for coal based power plants.
- Promotion of Biomass cofiring in coal power plants
- Promotion of Ash utilisation

These efforts have significantly strengthened the efficiency and sustainability of the thermal power sector in India.

In his earlier role as Chief Engineer (Integrated Resource Planning), Shri Gupta played a pivotal role in shaping India's long-term power planning framework. He was instrumental in:

- Preparation of the landmark report on Optimal Generation Mix for 2029–30
- Finalization of the National Electricity Plan (Generation) (two editions)
- Development of Resource Adequacy Guidelines for the Power Sector

These studies were based on advanced generation planning models and have been widely recognized for their analytical rigor and policy relevance.

Shri Gupta has also made substantial contributions in the areas of energy efficiency and climate policy, including:

- Advancing energy efficiency in coal-based power plants through Energy Audits.
- Contributing to the formulation of the Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme methodology for thermal power plants.
- Leading the development of India's first CO₂ emissions database for the power sector, which became a part of Guidebook of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

He was an active member of India's negotiating team at the UNFCCC for several years, contributing to international climate discussions and policy frameworks.

As Member (E&C) (Additional Charge), Shri Gupta has played a key role in the finalization of the SHANTI Bill, 2025, and in promotion of nuclear power capacity expansion in India.

A prolific contributor to technical literature, Shri Gupta has authored numerous papers in reputed national and international journals. He has also represented India in various international forums and technical engagements, with professional visits to countries including United States, China, Thailand, Germany and Japan.