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CESC wins power distribution franchise in Bikaner

By [Debjoy Sengupta](#), ET Bureau | Updated: Feb 06, 2017, 05.19 PM IST

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KOLKATA: **CESC**, a part of the Rs. 19,000 crore RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group, has bagged the power distribution franchisee for **Bikaner** city in **Rajasthan**. It plans to invest Rs 135 crore in the network in three years and hopes to clock a turnover of around Rs 400 crore.

This is the group's third distribution operation in Rajasthan, the other two being Kota and Bharatpur and CESC hopes to earn around Rs 1,200 crore from the three cities.

At present the company earns around Rs 800 crore from Bharatpur and Kota. It hopes to earn another Rs 400 crore from Bikaner. The entire Rajasthan distribution business for CESC is expected to turn profitable in two years.

Sanjiv Goenka, CESC's chairman said: "Around Rs 135 crore would be invested in three years to ramp up distribution network and metering. Power distribution in Bikaner suffers from a net loss which CESC hopes to turn around in two years.

CESC won the Bikaner franchisee on the basis of a competitive bidding following which a distribution agreement for 20 years is to be signed shortly.

Goenka said: "Bikaner city distribution franchise, spread over 155 sq.km, currently has 1.42 lakh consumers and suffers from a transmission and distribution loss of around 24%. It will be our privilege to serve a population of 6.44 lakhs, where the peak load so far has been 130 MW."

"At Bikaner we intend to follow the customer-centric initiatives already introduced at Kota and Bharatpur. In the light of very valuable experience earned in Kota and Bharatpur, we are committed to make our electricity distribution operation in Rajasthan one of the best in the country," he said.

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