

Shri P.K. Pujari
Chairperson
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
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A Post Graduate in Economics from Delhi School of Economics, Shri P.K. Pujari joined the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), the premier civil service of India in 1981 and was allotted Gujarat cadre. During his career, he handled assignments in various departments/ministries in Gujarat as well as Central Government, such as power, commercial taxes, finance and industries. He was Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Power for more than two years before his superannuation in 2017, after serving for 36 years.

Some of the key assignments in the field of finance and industries were (i) financial resource forecast, expenditure planning, annual budget preparation, debt and guarantee management; (ii) transition from sales tax to value addition tax (VAT), administration of commercial taxes by simplifying processes and making it enabled; and (iii) Setting up and marketing industrial estates and special economic zones.

He worked in the power sector for more than seven years, as Director and Secretary. As Director, he was involved in developing policy framework for participation of private power utilities in generation and distribution. During his tenure as Secretary (2015-17), maximum generation capacity and inter-state transmission capacity was added in the country, resulting in one nation - one grid - one price.

As Secretary, he initiated and concluded a number of far reaching initiatives and policy changes. These include electrification of all the remaining 18,452 villages (as on 1.4.2015), launching of "UDAY" for sustainable operational and financial turnaround of discoms, revised Tariff Policy 2016, new coal linkage policy for power plants, revised National Electricity Plan, XIX electricity power survey, revised- bid documents for UMPPs, revised power allocation formula for states from cg stations, formulation of new hydro-power policy, formulation of the new policy for universal households electrification by 2019, policy guidelines for integration of renewable energy into the grid, revised rules for captive generators, finalization of the report for rationalization of tariff structure and tariff categories.

During his tenure, the guidelines for cross border trade of power with neighbouring countries got finalized. The cross border transmission lines also got augmented substantially. This facilitated increased trade of power with Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh. Power trade with Myanmar started for the first time. Talks started for sub-marine cable connection with Srilanka. He led the Indian side for the bilateral talks on power trade with these countries.

He was closely associated with the signing of the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement during COP22 in Marrakech. He led the Indian delegation for the 2nd BRICS Energy Ministerial Summit and also for the 8th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) Summit at Beijing.

His interests include reading books, sports and listening to music.