



India-Togo Relations

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Why in News

Recently, the **Togolese Republic** (also known as **Togo**) and **India** has come together for the development of about 300 MW Solar Power Projects in **Dapaong** (Dalwak region) and **Mango** (Savanes region).

- **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Limited** will be the **Project Management Consultant (PMC)** for the projects.
- **Togo is the first International Solar Alliance (ISA) country to avail the services of NTPC.**

National Thermal Power Corporation Limited

- It is **India's largest energy conglomerate** with roots planted way back in 1975 to accelerate power development in India.
- Its **mission** is to provide reliable power and related solutions in an economical, efficient and environment-friendly manner, driven by innovation and agility.
- NTPC became a **Maharatna company in May 2010**.
- It is located in **New Delhi**.
- It has an **installed power capacity** of more than 58,000 MW which include 870 MW of Solar Projects and 1062 MW under development.

Key Points

- NTPC had submitted a proposal to the **(ISA)** for giving Project Management Consultancy to the member countries for the implementation of Solar Projects.
- The proposal was put on **Swiss challenge** on the ISA website and subsequently submitted to the ISA Finance Committee. It was cleared in **2nd ISA Assembly** held in October 2019.

Swiss Challenge

- Swiss challenge method is a method of bidding, often used in public projects, in which an interested party initiates a proposal for a contract or bid for a project.
- The government then puts the details of the project out in the public and invites proposals from others interested in executing it.
- On the receipt of these bids, the **original proposer gets an opportunity to match the best bid.** In case, the original proposer fails to match the bid, the project is **awarded to the proposer of the best bid.**

Togo

It is a country in **West Africa** and extends **south to the Gulf of Guinea** and is bordered on the **north by Burkina Faso, Benin to the east, and Ghana on the west.**



- Togo's capital is **Lomé**, located in the Gulf of Guinea and is the **largest city and port** of the country.

- Togo is a **sub-Saharan nation**, with a good growing climate that supports its dependence on agriculture.
 - The economy rests largely on agricultural products such as **coffee, cocoa beans, and peanuts (groundnuts)**.
 - It has extensive **phosphate reserves** and is **one of the world's largest phosphate producers**.
- Its **official language is French** and many other languages of the **Gbe family** are spoken in Togo.
- **History:**
 - Togo was initially populated by various tribes and later became a centre for the slave trade known as “**The Slave Coast**” in the **16th century**.
 - It was later a **German colony until World War I** when it was divided by England and France.
 - In **1914 Togoland became Togo**. British Togoland eventually became part of Ghana and French Togoland.
 - Togo gained **independence in 1960**.
- **Memberships:**
- It is a member of the **United Nations, the Organisation of the Islamic Conference**, the African Union, the **International Solar Alliance** among others.
- Togo has set an ambitious plan to **achieve universal electricity access by 2030** with focus on capacity addition in Solar Power generation.

Source: PIB