

SAUR ENERGY

INTERNATIONAL

REGISTRATION NO. F.2(S-29) PRESS/2016 | VOL 1 | ISSUE 7 | TOTAL PAGES 64 | PUBLISHED ON 1ST OF EVERY MONTH

EPC Chances & Challenges

Solar Mounting: Structures & Tracking Matters

Got Carving for the Future

Union Budget 2017

Solar Home Storage

Secret to Turn 40 GW



Alex Au, CTO, **NEXTracker**

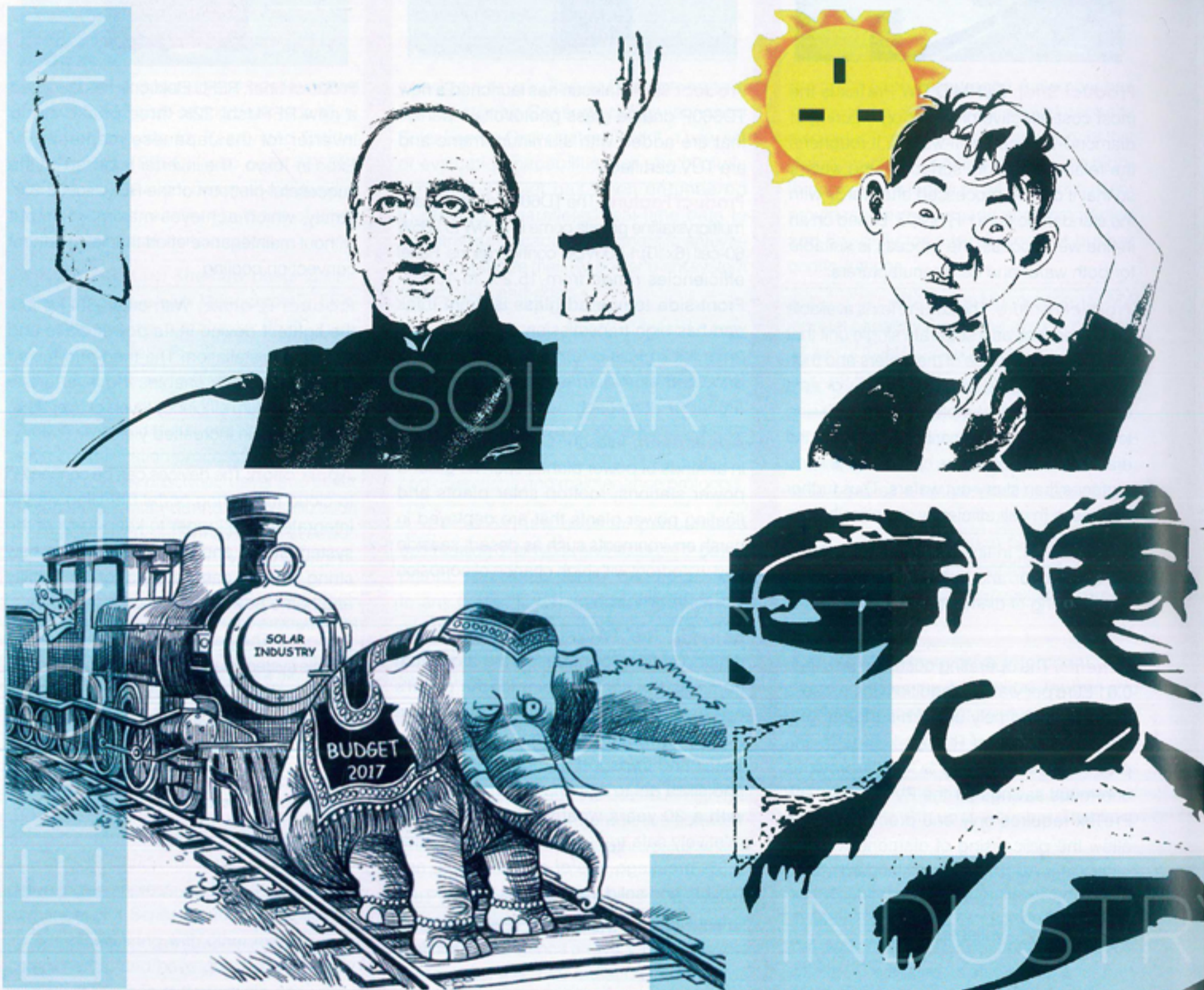
A Flex Company

EXCITING



UNION BUDGET 2017

SHOCK AND AWE FOR INDIAN SOLAR INDUSTRY



In an assertive throw to fuel the solar sector, the budget covertly focused towards helping the rural sector, agricultural sector and re-energising the real estate sector. It was a known fact that Digital payments and Demonetisation will take the center-stage. The clean energy pledges also vowed new propagations as the Government of India rifles solar power in the country. Key announcements to keep the adoption of solar on course, especially the distributed solar segment which duly needs new remuneration to find the way for the 40GW target by 2022.

“



"Honestly, when Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced the series of measures in Budget 2017-18 to promote clean energy, access to power and energy security, we as a company are looking forward about its future scope. This thought will result in 20 GW of solar capacity addition to which it will add on to higher spending on rural electrification. Su-Kam would be standing with Jaitley's initiative of full electrification of 18,452 villages which were identified in 2015 and that will be achieved by March 01, 2018, for which an extra Rs 4,814 crore will be spent in the next financial year. Also with the announcement of setting up of 20 GW of solar power capacity and feeding 7,000 railway stations with solar power, giving a major impetus to the shift to clean energy. Solar energy initiatives, with the help of our government policies and the depreciating global prices, is now at an escalating point where it can compete on its own against other forms of conventional energy sources," said **Sanjeev Saini, Director (Technical), Su-Kam.**

Energy storage is steadily becoming an indispensable component of solar energy systems, primarily for rooftop and decentralised systems, owing to the intermittent nature of renewable power generation. MNRE had allocated a meagre amount of Rs 18 crore towards research and development and implementation of schemes pertaining to energy storage in the renewable energy sector in 2016. This allocation needs to be enhanced significantly under the 2017 budget to foster innovation in energy storage research.

“



Anil Sardana, MD & CEO, Tata Power said "We commend the efforts that the government has undertaken to bring a positive structure into the economy by moving towards a policy based administration with an increased focus on digitisation. The government's commitment to rural electrification and the announcement of an additional 20,000 MW of solar target is a welcome step that gives a much needed boost to the renewable sector. However, we believe that for renewable sector to achieve its potential strengthening the Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPO) mechanism is essential and should be part of government's larger vision for renewable energy."

The major bypass in the Union budget was the need to enable both solar manufacturing and deployment growth at scale. India needs to ensure the availability of skilled manpower through targeted skill development programmes, which feebly lacked in the Union Budget. CEEW-NRDC's analysis estimates as many as four direct full time equivalent jobs per MW of operational manufacturing capacity could be created in the solar module manufacturing sector.

Shock and Awe

Jaitley also cut import duty on LNG from 5% to 2.5% and on solar tempered glass that goes into manufacturing of solar cells, panels and modules from 5% to zero. Also, materials that go into making such glass will now attract countervailing duty at 6% compared to 12.5% earlier. Machinery used in generating power using natural gas without combustion employing fuel cell technology has also been given import duty relief with the idea of promoting clean energy use in the economy.

“



"We consider it as a good budget at macro level. However, we need to examine the same more in detail. We feel that budget is taking direction towards reforms. For solar sector, it's really a boon with the announcement of 20,000 MW solar in the second phase and abolishing FIPB which will help attracting FDI. Further government has committed to achieve 100 per cent electrification of all villages by May 2018 which will further boost the power demand in the country and digitalisation of the villages. Capital and development expenditure pegged at 1.31 lakh crore for railways in 2017-18 which will include feeding solar power to 7,000 railway station in the medium term. Overall a very good budget for the solar industry," said **Manoj Kumar Upadhyay, Founder and Chairman, ACME Group.**