

## **GIZ and BEE sign pact to strengthen energy dialogue through Indo-German Energy Forum Support Office**

In order to promote dialogue on energy security, energy efficiency, renewable energy, investment in energy projects, and collaborative research and development between India and Germany, Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the Government of India and Government of Germany respectively signed an agreement to establish the Indo-German Energy FORUM Support Office (IGEF SO). The FORUM aims to develop future co-operation projects and policy driven business models, which shall intensify investments in the energy sector serving the interests of both the countries including the private sector.

*The agreement was signed on 1st December 2017 by Mr. Abhay Bakre, Director General, BEE and Dr. Wolfgang Hannig, Country Director, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH India. The signing ceremony took place in conjunction with the signing of Indo-German development cooperation agreements. Dr. Martin Ney, Ambassador of Germany to India and Mr. S Selvakumar, Joint Secretary, DEA, Ministry of Finance, signed the bilateral agreement on behalf of the Government of Germany and Government of India respectively.*

The IGEF SO is currently running in its third phase and is supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) on the German side in partnership with the Ministry of Power and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy on the Indian side. The Support Office in India is implemented by BEE together with GIZ and German Development Bank - KfW. The German contribution to the project is up to EUR 2,700,000.

IGEF SO plans and implements the FORUM process by providing logistical support and developing thematic areas and content of the sub-groups and task forces. IGEF SO also organises workshops, business round-tables and study tours to deepen the Indo-German energy dialogue and knowledge exchange between its stakeholders from the both public and private sector. It also supports its stakeholders in developing policy driven business models and co-operation projects and maintains regular communication with an overall objective to encourage Indo-German cooperation for energy transition.