The e-RRF programme is Smart Power India’s initiative in partnership with the state electricity distribution utility in Bihar to improve metering, billing and connection services for the customers.

**Welding Opportunities for Socio-Economic Progress**

*Case Study from eRRF Bihar*

Deokali’s local market is a buzzing centre of activity including local traders and shopkeepers selling their wares to the residents. Just a few meters into the myriad of lanes is Rahul Kumar’s welding shop.

Rahul has been running the shop for about 5 years. The excitement in his voice is palatable when you ask him about the changes that he has witnessed in the past five years. “Business has increased manifold, especially after getting an electricity connection. I only pay for how much I use,” says Rahul with a twinkle in his eyes.

The power that would cost him over 6000 rupees per month with a diesel generator, now costs him only 1200-1300 rupees.

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Not only is Rahul better off financially, the voltage is also more continuous and stable, with a greater output than what he could ever achieve with the generator. The supply that could only facilitate 10-15 hours of electricity earlier, is now up to 18 hours.

After getting a metered connection with the help of e-RRF* Rajiv, Rahul has managed to double his income. Under the e-RRF programme, Rahul is now aware of how a bill is generated and billing and collection process. The eRRF programme has led to a perceptible change in the perception that customers had towards adopting on-grid electricity.

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