

Power Theft Prevention by using Microcontroller

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Abstract— In developing countries, power theft is one of the most extensive issues which cause not only economic losses but also uneven supply of electricity. It hampers working of industries and factories, due to shortage of power supplied to them. It causes deficiency of power supply to homes. It leads to loss of income by Government as individual enterprises may option to install their own power generators, increases corruption in form of inducement and many more. Science and technology with or its advancement has engrossed human life to a great extent that imagine a world without this invention is hardly possible, while technology is on their raising slope we should also note the increasing unethical activities. With technology view, “power theft” is non ignorable crime that is highly prevalent and at that time is directly affects the economy of nation. Data collected our Tirunelville District; Bhel tricky proves the necessity of this project.

Key words: Zero Crossing Detector, PIC16F886 Micro-Controller

I. INTRODUCTION

Our aim of project is to prevent the power theft by illegal tapping and meter fraud. Electric meter can be manipulated, thus causing them to stop, under register or bypassing the meter. Consumers, who are interfere with electric meter, efficiently use power without paying for it. This theft or fraud can be dangerous as well as deceitful. A power regulator is a device which connects in series to power. Apparently just by keeping the device connected it will immediately control and stabilize power usages at that instant. This system can claims savings between 20% and 30% electricity. It is known that the electricity that comes to our homes will not stable in nature. Our aim of project is to confine a power theft by implementing a high voltage passing through the transmission line which will be allocated by a sub-station, by changing a taps of transformers randomly. Further this high voltage used by consumer through our system in which we regulate the voltage across the load up to a definite limit. Those consumer who are operating their electrical devices through illegal hooking or energy meter bypassing can be absolutely suffer by this high voltage , which may caused damage to the operating devices.

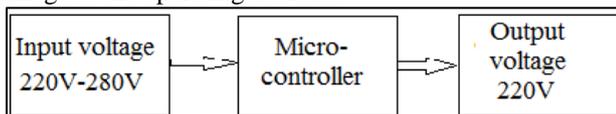


Fig. 1: Block Diagram of Power Theft by Microcontroller

Above block diagram shows the operation of power theft prevention by using PIC16Fmicrocontroller. The microcontroller controls the voltage across load through giving a firing angle to TRIAC. TRIAC is work as a switch and it operate when microcontroller gives the firing angle and firing angle pulse.

II. DESIGN & CONTROLLING METHOD

In our project we are using power electronic devices like TRIAC to control the power. Use of power electronic device reduces the mechanical arcing and fast reaction time. In addition to this we also made a provision for under/ over voltage protection which don't have any existing energy meters. Microcontroller analyze the incoming voltage coming from line with the help of ADC (Analog to Digital Controller) present inside the microcontroller, is used to control a positive as well as negative half cycle of incoming AC for that a firing angle control method is used For controlling a firing angle of any AC voltage. It is necessary to monitor every positive / negative half cycle hence a Sine Wave Cycle Monitoring (Zero Crossing Detector) is use in our project, which inform a controller about start point of every cycle. Once controller knows the voltage across the load and signals from sine wave cycle monitor,

Controller calculate the firing angle and gives firing angle and firing angle pulse to the AC to AC converter in which TRIAC is used to form static switch for operation, it can operated on high voltage and high frequency as compared to mechanical switches, such as relay. The output of AC to AC converter is further give to reactor which is nothing but a type of single core step-up transformer. (220v-280v transformer is used in our project), which gives a 220v output at 140v AC input. The output 220v is further used by various types of load. The voltage across load is measured by the PIC-microcontroller with the help of potential transformer (PT). Potential transformer is used to step down to voltage across the load to be measured and rectified to DC, because microcontroller can read a voltage up to 5v DC only. In or project we are using relay for tripping the input voltage in case of very high voltage and low voltage which is beyond controllable limit. The relay used for 12v and controller can give maximum of 5v. Hence it is required to amplify the 5v-12v for used to driver circuit. The microcontroller is used to control the firing angle of TRIAC to give the angle of triggering.

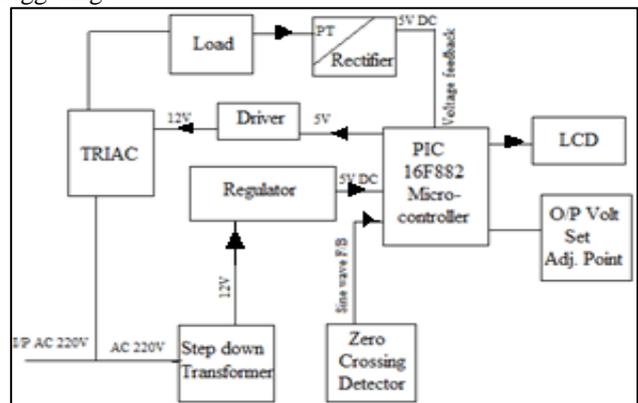


Fig. 2: Block Diagram of the Proposed System

The function of Various Blocks:

A. Full Wave Rectifier (12VAC to 12VDC)

A Full Wave Rectifier is a circuit, which converts a 12v AC voltage into a pulsating 12V DC voltage using both half cycles of the applied ac voltage. It uses two diodes of which one conducts during one half cycle while the other conducts during the other half cycle of the applied.

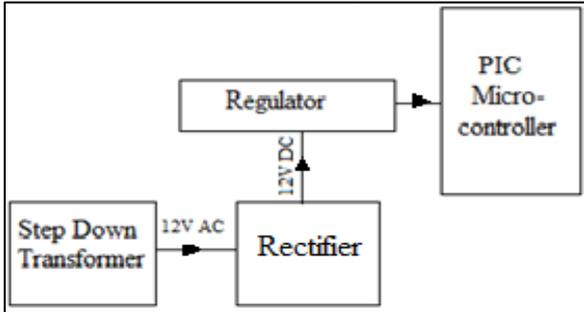


Fig. 3: Rectification in Proposed System

B. Voltage Regulator (12VDC to 5VDC)

A voltage regulator is designed to automatically maintain a constant voltage level. It is used to stabilize the DC voltages used by the controller and other elements.

C. A Zero Crossing Detector

It is used to monitor a sine wave cycle. It is a one type of voltage comparator, used to detect a sine waveform transition from positive and negative that coincides when input crosses the zero voltage condition. In alternating current, the zero-crossing is the instantaneous point at which there is no voltage present. In a sine wave or other simple waveform, this normally happen twice during each cycle.

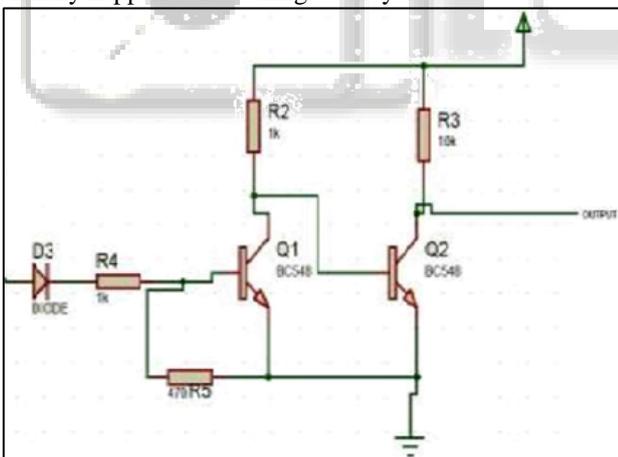


Fig. 4: Zero Crossing Detector Circuit

Driver: A Microcontroller digital logic output pin supplies only 10mA of current to external devices such as high-power relays can require less than 100mA and they need more voltages. In order to control such devices which use high DC current, a transistor-based driver circuit is used to amplify current to the required levels. If the voltage and current levels are in moderate range, the transistor acts like a high-current switch controlled by the lower current digital logic signal.

D. Opto-Coupler & Driver

An opto-coupler are designed to provide complete electrical isolation between an input low voltage side (controller side) and output high voltage side (TRIAC side) circuits.

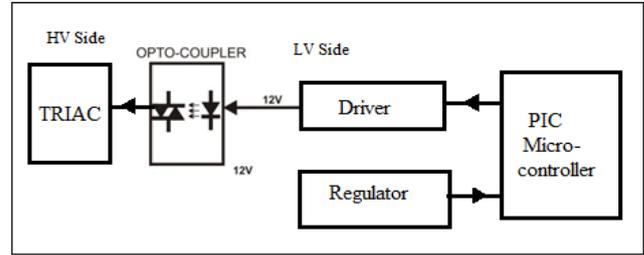


Fig. 5: Octo-Coupler Circuit

E. LCD

LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) screen is an electronic display module and used to display the operation of connected devices.

F. TRIAC

These are Static devices used to switching operation. Static device is such device which converts one type of energy or energy level into another type of energy or energy level respectively without any physical movement.

G. PIC Microcontroller

In our project we are using a PIC microcontroller which has RISC (restricted Instruction Set Codes) architecture due to which controller requires only One Clock Cycle to complete a single execution. In our project we are using a 28 pin microcontroller having 16K/b of FLASH ROM, 1.2K/b of RAM, and 256 bytes of EEPROM. This controller having a inbuilt 10 Bit ADC which requires to measure input and output analog voltages. The operating cycle of PIC is of 200n/s. The output port capability is to deliver 5v/40mA on each port pins.

III. RESULT

The main task of our project is to indicate the power theft, control the power via monitoring through microcontroller. Our project is complete when electricity supply authority passed the high voltage (220-280) for few minutes, then power theft will be prevent by reducing the voltage as per requirement through our system. In our project we give 220V-280V, after completing the operation, the output voltage will be respective to the input voltage across the load, it will ranges between 210-240v. The actual purpose of project is to be reducing the high voltage through our device and prevent the theft of power.

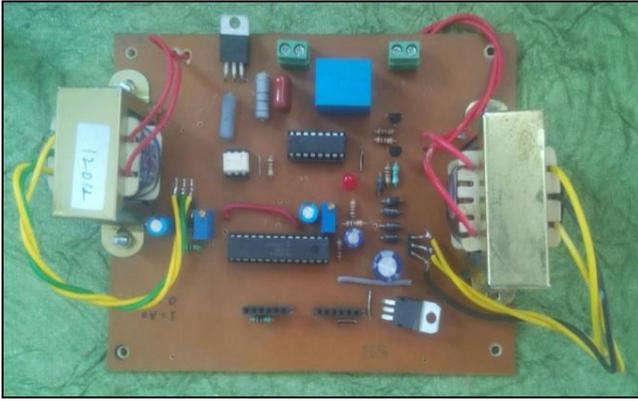


Fig. 6: Hardware Implementation of Proposed System

IV. CONCLUSION & FUTURE SCOPE

Microcontroller based device which we design is easy to implement and beneficial for both energy supply authority and consumer. It also provide additional feature such as stabilize the voltage, it feed a constant voltage. It also gives the information of total load used in house on request at any time. The statistical load used and profile can help consumer manage their energy consumption. This system is secured and reliable because it can access by automatic operation. This device has the capability to faced the high voltage and feed the constant voltage to household appliances. This device help to reduced the theft of power by implementing a high voltage through our system which stabilize the voltage, whose consumer used electricity by illegal hooking or bypassing the meter they will suffer by this high voltage. As this device stabilizes only higher voltage but by using active reactor in system, we can also maintain the output voltage if input voltage drop down to 160V. It will completely eliminate the power theft and will increase revenue for the government and save electricity.

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