

**MINUTES OF THE 7TH STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF JERC HELD
AT WILLOW HALL, INDIA HABITAT CENTRE, NEW DELHI ON 29TH MAY, 2013
AT 11:00 A.M.**

The Meeting of the State Advisory Committee (SAC) of JERC was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. V.K. Garg, Chairperson – JERC on 29th May, 2013. The following were present:-

1. Dr. V.K. Garg : Chairman of SAC
2. Shri S.K. Chaturvedi : Member of JERC
3. Shri R.K. Malik : Secretary
4. Dr. S.L. Rao : Member (Academic Expert)
5. Shri Chandrakant M. Parekh : Member (Transport & Labour), DNH
6. Shri Vijay Mishra :Member (Industry), DNH
7. Shri Jyanti Laxmanbhai Patel : Member (Consumer), DNH
8. Shri Ashok Khanna : Member (Industry), Chandigarh
9. Ms. Poonam Barua : Member (NGO)

The following agenda items were discussed and decisions taken:-

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 6th Meeting held on 08.10.2012 at New Delhi.
2. Review of suggestions of the previous SAC meetings.

- i. Status of RPOs
 - ii. Barbados Model Highlights
 - iii. Wind Energy – Feasibility of on-shore / off- shore Wind Mills.
 - iv. Andaman & Nicobar – viable generation through LNG/Wind/Solar Energy
 - v. Financial Autonomy of CGRFs
 - vi. Draft Amendment to Electricity Act, 2003
3. Draft of the Amendments in JERC (Electricity Supply Code) Regulations, 2010
 4. Draft of the Amendments in JERC (Establishment of Forum for Redressal of Grievances of Consumers) Regulations, 2009.
 5. Draft Amendments in JERC (Appointment and functioning of Ombudsman) Regulations, 2009.
 6. Standardization of Terms & Conditions of Tariffs.
 7. Consultation Paper on Open Access / Operationalization of Open Access.

Item wise details are as under:-

- 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 6th Meeting held on 08.10.2012 at New Delhi.**

Hon'ble Chairman welcomed all the Members of the State Advisory

Committee. The minutes of the last meeting (agenda item No. 1) were confirmed.

Dr. S.L. Rao and other Members acknowledged and appreciated that the JERC Secretariat has well drafted the agenda and the members have received the same through e-mail and hard copy in advance.

2. (i) **Status of RPO**

Hon'ble Chairman explained the updated status of RPOs as existing in jurisdiction of the Commission for each licensee. It was also informed that the Commission has already designated agencies as State Agency for accreditation and recommendation of the Renewable Energy Projects for registration and to develop renewable energy in the State of Goa / respective UTs under these regulations.

Dr. S.L. Rao pointed out that a very little Renewable Energy is exploited in the country, despite abundance of potential. He suggested encouragement of generation of Solar Energy. It was pointed out by Hon'ble Chairman that scarcity / Suitability of land and expensive maintenance of Solar Projects in the far flung UTs due to their locations, are major hurdles in the development of Solar Energy in these regions. The Committee Members deliberated that the Commission may give directions to the

appropriate Licensee for roof top solar installations. The Committee Members including Shri Ashok Khanna, Ms Poonam Barua made following suggestions;

- a. Solar Heaters on individual roof top should be made mandatory.
- b. Solar Panelled Street Light should be made mandatory.
- c. Solar Panelled lamp post in the public buildings should be used. All the Members were of the opinion that solar energy required encouragement.

ii. Barbados Model Highlights

The Committee deliberated on Barbados Model. Hon'ble Chairman shared his views that an analysis will be done to know how much can be followed in context of the Indian scenario. Dr. Rao suggested to choose atleast one small island in the region to have 100% Renewable Energy in next 5-6 years.

iii. Wind Energy – Feasibility on shore / off shore Wind Mills.

The Committee Members suggested for study of Non - Solar Renewable Energy of potential such as Wind, Biomass, Micro & Mini Hydro etc. in the jurisdiction.

It was unanimously decided to direct the respective State Agencies to conduct study on the resources available for development of Solar / Non - Solar Renewable Energy.

iv. Andaman & Nicobar – viable generation through LNG/Wind/Solar Energy

Hon'ble Chairman pointed out that UT of Andaman & Nicobar has already set up a 5 MW PV Solar / PV Power Project.

Shri Jyanti L. Patel briefed about the initiatives taken in DNH for popularizing use of Solar lighting on streets / homes with active participation of Panchayats in DNH.

v. Financial Autonomy of CGRFs

The Regulations have already been amended and notified in the Official Gazette. Efforts have been made to ensure the financial independence of CGRFs.

vi. Amendment to Electricity Act, 2003

Hon'ble Chairman deliberated that the Secretary, JERC is a Member of the Committee on Amendments in Electricity Act, 2003. The Committee has already

finalized its report on Amendments. Shri Rao suggested some more points to be sent to Ministry of Power for inclusion in the Amendments:

- a. Cross - Subsidy should be eliminated.
- b. Creation of Regularity assets be banned.
- c. Aggressive bidding be discouraged, as it has been the experience that develops fail to deliver power at highly ambitious prices.
- d. Post bidding negotiations be not permitted.
- e. The minimum age limit of candidates for the post of Chairman and Member of SERC / JERC should be 55 years so that there may be full term (5 years) for functioning of Chairman/Member. Retirement be kept at 60 years of age.
- f. Wind vs. Diesel analysis be done for Islands.

It was concluded that these issues will be taken up only when further amendments are required.

3. **Amendments in JERC (Electricity Supply Code) Regulations, 2010**

Gazette Notification in respect of Amendments in JERC (Electricity Supply Code)

Regulations, 2010 is in process. Hon'ble Chairman highlighted the provisions made to

protect the consumers against harassment. All the members appreciated the amendments in the Supply Code.

4. **Amendments in JERC (Establishment of Forum for Redressal of Grievances of Consumers) Regulations, 2009.**

Amendments in JERC (Establishment of Forum for Redressal of Grievances of Consumers) Regulations, 2009 have since been notified in Official Gazette. Issues related to financial autonomy of CGRF has already been deliberated. Hon'ble Chairman highlighted that State / UTs have been asked to make a budget for CGRF and include in the ARR for approval.

5. **Amendments in the JERC (Appointment and functioning of Ombudsman) Regulations, 2009.**

Amendment in the JERC (Appointment and functioning of Ombudsman) Regulations, 2009 has already been notified in the Official Gazette.

6. **Standardization of Terms & Conditions of Tariffs.**

Hon'ble Chairman stated that there are different social, economic and geographical conditions existing in various UTs and hence the terms & conditions cannot

be the same in all utilities. He further stated that we cannot have tailor-made provisions due to the specific requirements as uniform terms and conditions are not workable in all licensees under the jurisdiction of JERC.

On the issue of cross subsidy and MYT, Hon'ble Member highlighted that cross subsidy has been determined in each Tariff Order FY 2013-14 and for MYT, the Commission is in readiness to shift to MYT regime. Three years data from 4-5 licensees will be put on the JERC Web-site for comments.

Shri Vijay Mishra of DNH suggested that TOD tariff be introduced as surplus power is available during night time.

Shri C.M. Parekh of SIA (Silvassa Industries Association) informed that consumer seeking New LT/HT Connections are being forced to lay line instead of being undertaken by the Licensee as per Supply Code.

7. Consultation Paper on Open Access / Operationalization of Open Access.

Consultation Paper on Operationalization of Open Access in Goa & UTs was prepared long back and uploaded on the web-site for comments of the stake holders. Requisite charges have been determined in Tariff Order for Financial Year 2013-14.

Now it is for the licensees / utilities to perform their part i.e. establish SLDC, establish STU, prepare detailed energy accounting & commercial procedures. The same needs to be expedited by the Licensee.

Any Other Item:

All the Members expressed their gratitude and appreciation towards the contribution and services put in by Hon'ble Chairman during his tenure with JERC.

The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks to the chair.

(R.K.Malik)
Secretary