

**JOINT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
FOR THE STATE OF GOA AND UNION TERRITORIES
GURGAON**

Quorum
Shri M.K. Goel, Chairperson
Smt. Neerja Mathur, Member

**Suo Moto Petition No. 77/2012
Date of Hearing 09.07.2018
Date of Order: 23.08.2018**

In the matter of:

Status of Consumer Metering and Billing (category wise) as per Regulation 8 of the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply Code) Regulations, 2010.

And in the matter of:

- 1) Secretary (Power), State of Goa
- 2) Secretary (Power), UT of Andaman & Nicobar
- 3) Secretary (Power), UT of Chandigarh
- 4) Secretary (Power), UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli
- 5) Secretary (Power), UT Daman & Diu
- 6) Secretary (Power), UT of Lakshadweep
- 7) Secretary (Power), UT of Puducherry

..... Respondents

Present

For the Respondent

1. Shri B. Ajit Kumar, Executive Engineer, Electricity Department, Andaman & Nicobar
2. Shri Rohit Kumar Sekhri, Executive Engineer, Electricity Department, Chandigarh
3. Shri Vishwajeet, Consultant, Electricity Department, Daman & Diu
4. Shri Yunus A. Patel, Executive Engineer, Electricity Department, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
5. Shri D. Stephen Joseph, Executive Engineer, Electricity Department, Puducherry.
6. Shri M. Koya, Executive Engineer, Electricity Department, Lakshadweep
7. Shri S.V. Cheriyaakoya , Asstt. Engineer, Electricity Department, Lakshadweep

ORDER

The Commission, in exercise of the Powers conferred under Section 43, 46, 50, 56 & 181 of the Electricity Act, 2003 notified the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Electricity Supply Code) Regulations, 2010 (hereinafter referred to as "JERC Supply Code Regulations"). The Commission, in due course of time observed that the licensees are not complying with Regulation 8 of the JERC Supply Code Regulations on Metering

and Billing. Therefore, the Commission commenced the proceedings in suo-moto Petition No. 77/2012 on Status of Metering and Billing, consumer category wise.

Accordingly, the Commission issued notices to all Respondents for hearing this Petition on 09.07.2018 along with the directions to submit the status report on the above for the FY 2017-18.

1. Electricity Department, Goa: Respondent No. 1

The Commission took serious note of the absence of representative of ED, Goa. The Commission considered the status report submitted by the Respondent No. 1 by e-mail message and noted that there are 6,28,282 consumers out of which 4,18,012 consumers have electronic meters and 2,09,558 consumers have mechanical meters and 712 are without meters. Further, 2,51,937 new meters are required to replace 2,09,558 old mechanical meters, 41,667 defective electronic meters and 712 new meters to be provided to unmetered consumers.

Respondent No. 1 submitted that the Government of India has sanctioned funds under the IPDS/DDUGJY schemes for replacement of old electro-mechanical meters and faulty electronic meters with new electronic meters.

The Commission directs the Respondent No. 1 to submit Action Plan for replacement of old electro-mechanical meters, defective electronic meters and metering the unmetered connections within 4 weeks.

2. Electricity Department, Andaman and Nicobar Island: Respondent No. 2

The Respondent No. 2 has submitted that total numbers of consumers within its area are 1,32,234 out of which 29,550 consumers have mechanical meters and 1,02,684 consumers have electronic meters and all the consumers are metered. The number of meters to be replaced is 38,897 which include 29,550 mechanical meters and 9,347 defective electronic meters. However, due to very poor response to the tenders floated by the Respondent No. 2 on two different occasions, Ministry of Power, Government of India has been requested, vide letter dated 19.04.2018, for directing any of Central Public Sector Undertaking to take up the work proposed under the above schemes.

The Respondent No. 2 further submitted that regarding Installation of smart/prepaid meters, they have approached PGCIL and the EESL to install smart meters in Port Blair on pilot basis under Annuity Model.

The Commission directs the Respondent No. 2 to submit its detailed Action Plan for replacement of defective meters within 4 weeks.

3. Electricity Department, Chandigarh : Respondent No. 3

The Representative of the Respondent No. 3 informed that all consumers are metered and there is no consumer who is supplied energy without a meter. They have 2,22,362 consumers in their area, out of which 2,21,058 consumers have electronic meters and 1,304 consumers have mechanical meters. The total number of meters to be replaced is 3,579 which includes 2,275 defective electronic meters and 1,304 mechanical meters.

The Respondent further submitted that Purchase Order has been placed on the L-1 firm for supply of 5,000 single phase meters through GeM (Government e-Market) and the procurement of 2,500 no. three phase meters through GeM is under process. Further the detailed notice inviting tenders (DNIT) for procurement for Single Phase Smart Meters is under process.

The Commission directs the Respondent No. 3 to submit the phase wise procurement plan for smart meters along with plan for replacement of defective meters within 4 weeks.

4. DNH Power Distribution Corporation Limited, Respondent No. 4

The Respondent No. 4 has submitted that the total number of consumers within its area are 73,676 out of which 69,463 consumers have electronic meters, 3,123 consumers have mechanical meters and remaining 1,090 consumers are without meters. The number of meters to be replaced are 7,453 out of which 3,123 are mechanical meters, 3,240 are defective electronic meters and 1,090 new meters to be provided to the unmetered consumers.

The Respondent No. 4 further submitted that all the consumers in its area have been provided with meters except the Below Poverty Line (BPL) Consumers. It has also provided 794 HT consumers out of 918 with the Automatic Meter Reading system including all 66 kV voltage level bulk consumers and 11 kV HT consumer.

The Commission directs the Respondent No. 4 to provide consolidated data including number of BPL unmetered consumers in the format provided to them within 4 weeks.

The Commission further directs the Respondent No. 4 that the Action Plan for replacing old electro mechanical meters and defective electronic meters be submitted within 4 weeks. The meters may be provided on priority at the premises of unmetered consumers.

5. Electricity Department, Daman and Diu: Respondent No. 5

The Commission took a serious note of the absence of any representative of ED, Daman & Diu in the hearing. A Consultant came to attend hearing on behalf of ED, Daman & Diu without any authorization and was not allowed to participate in proceedings of the Commission. The Respondent No. 5 in its report sent by e-mail message has submitted that

total number of consumers within its area are 61,131 out of which 632 consumers have mechanical meters and 60,499 have electronic meters and all the consumers are metered. The number of meters to be replaced is 632.

The Commission directs the Respondent No. 5 to put up an Action Plan for replacement of old mechanical meters within 4 weeks.

6. Electricity Department, Lakshadweep: Respondent No. 6

The Respondent No. 6 has submitted that total number of consumers within its area are 23,311 and all the consumers have electronic meters. There are only 42 defective meters which would be replaced soon. The Commission directs the Respondent to replace the 42 defective meters at the earliest and also submit the metering and billing status in the prescribed format within 4 weeks.

7. Electricity Department, Puducherry: Respondent No. 7

The Respondent No. 7 has submitted that total number of consumers within its area are 4,10,145 out of which 3,13,475 consumers have electronic meters and 75,154 consumers have mechanical meters and 21,514 consumers are still without meters. The number of meters to be replaced are 1,11,733 out of which 75,154 are electro mechanical meters and 15,065 are defective electronic meters and 21,514 meters would be provided to unmetered consumers.

The Respondent further submitted that tenders have been floated for purchase of 63,087 number of single phase static energy meters and 12,522 numbers of three phase static energy meters under centrally sponsored DDYGJY scheme.

The Respondent further submitted that 17,000 smart meters are received under the Pilot smart grid power project and these smart meters would be provided in the project area by August, 2018.

The Respondent further submitted the Action Plan proposed for procurement of meters under different scheme for replacement of mechanical and defective electronic meters as under:-

Sl No.	Description of work	No. of meters under the head				Total
		PLAN	IPDS	DDJUGJY	Smart meter	
1.	Procurement of meters 2018-19	35,000	35,000	75,609	17,000	1,62,609
2.	Replacement of meters 2018-19	-	35,000	75,609	17,000	1,27,609


The Commission has noted that total number of meters to be replaced are given as 1,11,885 where as the sum of total number of mechanical meters, defective electronic meters and total number of consumers without meters comes out to be 1,11,733. Moreover, it is observed that there is a mismatch between the numbers of meters projected for replacement and providing to unmetered connections and the numbers mentioned in the procurement Plan. The Commission directs the Respondent No. 7 to reconcile the figures / number of defective meters as mentioned above and submit revised report within 4 weeks. Further, all the energy meters be replaced with in period of next 6 months. The Commission further directs the Respondent No. 7 to submit regularly monthly progress report about installation of meters.

The next date of the hearing shall be intimated separately.

Sd/-
(NEERJA MATHUR)
MEMBER

Sd/-
(M.K.GOEL)
CHAIRPERSON

Certified Copy


24/8/2018
(Rakesh Kumar
Secretary