



ASSAM ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

FILE NO. AERC. 648/2017

PETITION NO.:17/2017

ORDER SHEET

12.03.2018

Before the Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission
ASEB Campus, Dwarandhar,
G. S. Road, Sixth Mile, Guwahati – 781 022

CORAM

Shri Subhash Ch Das, Chairperson
Shri Dipak Chakravarty, Member

Present petitioner :-

Mr. Subodh Sharma
Mr Kamal Kr Das

Present Respondent :-

Mrs Utpala Saikia, Jt Secretary , GOA.
Mr P Bhuyan, CGM (Com)
Mr P K Baishya, D M(Com).
Mr Nilmadhab Dev, AM (F&A

In the matter of

Petition (No. 17 of 2017) filed by Subodh Sharma, Secretary, Bidyut Grahak Mancha for Chronic power crises, Tariff hike and Electrical Safety.

ORDER

Bidyut Grahak Mancha represented by the Secretary, Sri Subodh Sarma filed this Miscellaneous petition on 15-09-2017 and was registered as petition no.17/2017. The petitioner in their petition highlighted the present scenario of the power sector in the state as well as the initiative to be taken by the power department, Govt of Assam. For the development of the Electricity Sector in order to protect the interest of the consumer as well as the power utilities. The issues raised by the petitioner inter-alia are as follows :-

- a) There is a huge gap between demand and supply leading to interruption of power supply.
- b) High Transmission and Distribution loss.
- c) Installation of pre-paid meter, thereby blocking a huge capital.
- d) Government support for funding terminal liabilities of employees.
- e) High cost of power from Bongaigaon thermal power station of NTPC.
- f) Dependency on PGCIL Network for transfer of power from the Generating station within the region leading to high cost of POC charges.
- g) Non-compliance of safety requirement leading to electrocution death.
- h) In sufficient Generation in the state to meet the demand.
- i) Revival of Chandrapur thermal power station.

The copy of the petition was forwarded to the respondents on 22-09-2017, seeking comments from the respondents. Accordingly the respondents APDCL, AEGCL and APGCL submitted their replies, which were shared with the petitioner.

A hearing was conducted on 01-11-2017. During the hearing the petitioner brought to the knowledge of the Commission that most of the issues raised in the petition requires intervention of the Power Department, Govt of Assam and their response is essential to proceed further. The petitioner requested the Commission to remind the Power Department for early submission of their response.

In response to the Commission's reminder letter dated 07-12-2017, the Power Department, Govt of Assam vide their letter dated. 13-02-2018, submitted their comments and views on the petition. A copy of the same was forwarded to the petitioner. The petitioner also submitted his rejoinder on all the replies of the respondents. The matter was taken-up for hearing on 12-03-2018. The petitioner and the respondents were present in the hearing. The petitioner during the hearing reiterated the issues raised in the petition and requested the respondents to take-up positive steps for all-round development of the power sector in the state which will benefit the people of the state in a long way. He also expressed satisfaction and thanked the representatives of respondents for participating in the hearing process. The respondents in their reply submitted that they are committed to serve the people with quality and uninterrupted power at affordable price. Various activities, schemes, projects have already been taken-up and there has been significant improvement in the overall power position of the state during last couple of years. It is also admitted that there is lot to be done to achieve the goal of 24x7 power supply in the state of Assam and for this, action plan is being framed.

The Commission noted that the issues raised in the petition are of significance and needs attention. The Commission has already addressed many of the issues like safety measures, energy audit, pension fund, POC charges, price of power from Bongaigaon thermal power station of NTPC. Necessary directions have been already issued to the utilities on these matters and also advisory notes were issued to the Power Department, Govt of Assam. The Commission decided that fresh directions are to be issued to the Utilities to initiate action plan in a time bound manner and Advisory note would be issued to the Power Department, Govt of Assam for its consideration.

With the above discussion and observation the petition no. 17/2017 is disposed of.

Sd/-
(Dipak Chakravarty)
Member
AERC

Sd/-
(Subhash Ch Das)
Chairperson
AERC.