**BEFORE THE UTTAR PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION,**

**LUCKNOW**

**Quorum**

Shri Desh Deepak Verma, Chairman

Shri S. K. Agarwal, Member

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**Suo-Moto Proceedings for Implementation for Pre-paid Metering**

**And**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

1. Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL), Shakti Bhawan, 14 – Ashok Marg, Lucknow.
2. Madhyanchal Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Ltd. (MVVNL), Prag Narain Road, Lucknow.
3. Purvanchal Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Ltd. (PuVVNL), 132 KV S/s, Bhikaripur Vidyut Nagar, Varanasi.
4. Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Ltd. (PVVNL), Victoria Park, Meerut.
5. Dakshanchal Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Ltd. (DVVNL), Vidyut Bhawan, Gailana Road, Agra.
6. Kanpur Electricity Supply Company Ltd. (KESCo), KESA House, 14/71, Civil Lines, Kanpur.
7. Noida Power Company Ltd. (NPCL), Commercial Complex, H-Block, Alpha II Sector, Greater Noida City.

The following were present:

1. S. K. Kohlie, Chief Engineer, MVVNL
2. Shri Vijay Kumar, Chief Engineer, DVVNL
3. Shri B. S. Ganguar, Chief Engineer, Aligarh
4. Shri S. A. Jain, PVVNL, Meerut
5. Shri R. P. Prasad, UPPCL
6. Shri N. K. Mishra, DVVNL, Agra
7. Shri P. Tripathi, Superintending Engineer (Com), PVVNL
8. Shri G. D. Dwivedi, LESA
9. Shri Brajesh Kumar, Executive Engineer, PVVNL
10. Shri A. K. Arora, NPCL
11. Shri Avadhesh Kumar Verma, Chairman, U.P. Rajya Vidyut Upbhokta Parishad
12. Shri Sajith Panidar, Secure Meter
13. Shri Sunil Gupta, Secure Meter
14. Miss. Maya Shankar, Secure Meter
15. Shri Manoj Singh, HCL

**ORDER**

**( Hearing 20.09.2016)**

The Commission in its Order dated July 07, 2016 in the matter of Suo Moto proceeding for implementation of prepaid metering has directed the licensees on various issues pertaining to the installation of prepaid meter. The relevant extract of the Order has been reproduced below:

 “ ....

1. *The meter purchased by the Discoms has to be installed within 6 months failing which the matter shall be referred to CAG for keeping the material so long without any utilisation of prepaid meters.*
2. *All Discoms should advertise the benefits of prepaid metering and immediately install the meters on the premises of the willing consumers.*
3. *The following targets were issued by the Commission for installation of prepaid meters within 3 months from the date of hearing i.e. June 16, 2016.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Name of Licensee* | *No. of meters* |
| *PVVNL* | *15000* |
| *PuVVNL* | *10000* |
| *DVVNL* | *10000* |
| *MVVNL* | *10000* |
| *KESCO* | *5000* |
| *NPCL* | *5000* |

1. *Either prepaid or AMR has to be installed in the premises of Telecom towers*.”

In the hearing dated September 20, 2016, Shri R.K. Jain, Staff officer to Chairman UPPCL submitted that HCL integration has already been completed. He further submitted that Token recharge for the consumers through online recharge from home will now be available. He further submitted that migration of data is the main challenge which is likely to be completed within 10 days, and the data for audit purpose will be available after migration process is completed.

Secure meters and HCL submitted that the main problem behind the integration is that the prepaid connection are released offline, which in turn results in issues relating to the database updation and their real time working. It is further submitted that all prepaid connection should be released online, to avoid manual updation.

Avadhesh Kumar Verma, Chairman, Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Upbhoktha Parishad submitted that the progress of HCL has been very slow. He requested the Commission to direct the HCL to expedite the process.

NPCL submitted that it has a small consumer base, and has requested to reduce the targets for installation of prepaid meters.

Progress of installation of the Pre-paid meters as submitted by the Discoms is as below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Discom** | **Single Phase Prepaid Meters** | **Three Phase Prepaid Meters** | **Total Prepaid meters installed by Discom** |
| PVVNL | 1167 | 140 | 1307 |
| MVVNL | 1817 | 107 | 1924 |
| PuVVNL | 990 | 299 | 1289 |
| DVVNL | 625 | 100 | 725 |
| NPCL | - | - | 288 |

**Commission’s Analysis**

As the progress has been very slow, the Commission showed its displeasure over the lacklustre approach of the Discoms in implementation of prepaid metering. Further, in light of the fact where State like Tripura has achieved almost 100% prepaid metering.

The Commission has shown its displeasure over the non presence of HCL in last hearing and the extremely slow progress made by HCL in the integration process as it has taken nearly two years to reach at the present level whereas it is still not consumer friendly as consumer cannot recharge online.

The Commission directed that licensee should install either prepaid meters or AMR in all Telecom Tower within three months failing which a strict action will be taken against the MD of all the Discoms.

The Commission further directed the Discoms to install Pre-paid meters in all the connections in at-least one of the R-APDRP listed town in its licensed area.

The Commission directed all the Discoms that a presentation on recharging and back end working of prepaid meters must be presented in the next hearing, The Commission directs Mr. Avadhesh Verma to bring details of at least two consumer having prepaid meters so that real time online recharge facility can be tested

The Commission directed NPCL to make its system online as the consumers do not have facility to recharge online till date.

The Commission further directed NPCL that the targets will not be reduced unless any substantial progress on implementation of Pre-paid metering is shown by NPCL.

The Commission directed that within one week from the date of hearing i.e. September 20, 2016, complete testing should be done and consumer should have the facility to recharge from home for all Discoms.

The Commission further directed to all the Discoms that it would review the progress on installation and integration of prepaid meters in the next scheduled hearing.

List on 08.11.2016 at 11:30 hrs

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **(S. K. Agarwal)** | **(Desh Deepak Verma)** |
|  **Member** | **Chairman** |

Place: Lucknow

Date: 20.10.2016