



DG/COAI/2024/394

October 03, 2024

Chief Engineer (RAC)

Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPDC)

Corporate Office, 1st Floor, A Block,

Mint Compound, Hyderabad – 500063.

Email: cqmrac@tgsouthernpower.org

Chief Engineer (IPC & RAC)

The Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (TGNPDCL),

H. NO. 2-5-31/2, Vidyuth Bhawan,

Nakkalagutta, Hanumakonda, Hyderabad – 506001.

Email: ceopwgl@tsnpdcl.in

seopwgl@tsnpdcl.in

Subject: ARR for FY 2024-25 to 2028-29 & FPT and CSS for FY 2024-25

Reference: Public Notification by TGSPDCL and TGNPDCL dated 19.09.2024

Dear Sir,

1. At the outset, we would like to introduce ourselves as Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), a non-profit and non-governmental body with the vision to establish and sustain a world-class telecom infrastructure and facilitate affordable mobile communication services in India. COAI represents the leading Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and telecom equipment vendors in India, in addition to other Telecom, IT and Infrastructure organizations. COAI is dedicated to the advancement of mobile telephony and broadband through development and provision of world-class infrastructure, products and services, delivering the benefits of innovative and affordable mobile communication services to the people of India. The association works closely with Ministries, Policy Makers, Regulators, Financial Institutions and Technical Bodies towards these objectives.
2. We write to you with regard to the above reference (Public Notification by TGSPDCL

14, Bhai Veer Singh Marg, New Delhi – 110 001

tel: +91-11-23349275 fax: +91-11-23349276 email: contact@coai.in website: www.coai.in



and TGNPDCL, dated 19.09.2024), wherein DISCOMs in Telangana have filed petitions for determination of tariff for FY 2024-25 before the Commission. We convey our thanks to the Hon'ble Regulatory Commission for providing us with the opportunity to submit our inputs on the State electricity tariffs.

3. As you would concur, the telecommunication sector is a foundational pillar of the nation's digital economy and acts as a backbone to the valuable IT Industry of India. This is because fast internet and leased line connections provided by this critical infrastructure sector are foundational for smooth functioning and growth of the IT industry. Moreover, the sector is pivotal to the nation's 'Digital India' aspirations, providing affordable connectivity and widespread socio-economic benefits to the people at large.
4. We would like to submit that increasing the tariff from INR 70/Kw to INR 150/Kw, as proposed, will pose a challenge to the industry, especially with the rapid increase in network. Any hike in fixed and variable charges will adversely impact the operational costs for this essential service. Hence, we **pray to the Hon'ble Commission for reduction in fixed and variable charges, or, at best maintain at the current rate.**
5. The industry will also take this opportunity to submit our request on the category of Electricity Tariffs. At present, the telecommunications industry is being charged with commercial rates, resulting in undue financial burden on this sector. We wish to state that progressive states like Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh, already offer electricity under industrial tariff to telecom. It is our humble request to your High Office to provide a considered view and have the **Telecom Industry electricity tariffs kindly placed under Industrial rates, rather than the commercial rates.**

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We trust our submission will merit your kind consideration and look forward to the valued support of your good office in this important matter.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Sincere regards,

Digitally signed
by Lt. Gen Dr. SP
Kochhar
Date: 2024.10.03
15:02:48 +05'30'

Lt. Gen. Dr. S.P. Kochhar, AVSM**, SM, VSM, ADC, KIGA
Former Signal Officer in Chief, Indian Army
Fellow IETE, Fellow AIMA, Member IEEE, Sr. Member CSI

Director General
Email id: dg@coai.in

Copy to:

Shri Tanneru Sriranga Rao,
Chairman,
Telangana Electricity Regulatory Commission (TSERC),
NO-11-4-660, 5th Floor
Singareni Bhawan, Red Hills
Khairatabad, Hyderabad-500004
Email: chairman@tserc.gov.in

Smt. A. Santhi Kumari, IAS,
Chief Secretary,
Government of Telangana,
Secretariat,
Khairatabad, Hyderabad – 500022.
Email: cs@telangana.gov.in



Shri Musharraf Ali Faruqi,
Chairman & Managing Director,
Telangana Southern Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TGSPDCL),
6-1-50, Mint Compound, Hyderabad-500 063
Email: cmd@tgsouthernpower.org

Shri Karnati Varun Reddy,
Chairman & Managing Director,
Telangana Northern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGNPDCL),
H.NO 2, Vidyut Bhavan, Corporate Office, Nakkala Gutta, Hanumakonda, Telangana 506001
Email: cmd@tsnpdcl.in
cmd@tgnpdcl.org

Shri Prashant R. Patil, ITS,
Special DGT,
Andhra Pradesh LSA, Department of Telecommunications,
CTO Building, Paradise Circle, Secunderabad – 500003.
Email: advisor.ap-dgt-dot@gov.in

Shri Neeraj Kumar,
DDG, Mission Director (National Broadband Mission),
Department of Telecommunications, Government of India,
Telecom Engineering Centre, 5th Floor, Khurshid Lal Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi – 110001.
Email: md@broadbandmission.gov.in