

**MINUTES OF THE 9TH MEETING OF THE SAC HELD AT NERC's
COURTROOM, KOHIMA ON 11TH Feb, 2015.**

The State Advisory Committee Meeting of the Nagaland Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) was held at NERC's Court room, Kohima on 11th Feb, 2015. The Meeting was chaired by Er. D. A. Shishak, Chairman-cum-Member and Ex-officio Chairman (SAC).

The following SAC Members attended the meeting:-

1. Mr. C.R.Lotha, Member.
2. Mr. Bendangnukshi Longkumer, Member.
3. Mr. Medoselhou Keretsu, Member.
4. Mr. Khosapa Venuh, Member.
5. Mr. Bishnu Bhattacharjee, Member.
6. Mr. Keyileuhingbe Elu, Member.
7. Mr. Kekhriengulie Thenuo, Member.
8. Mr. Abhinandan Goswami, Member.

The following officers also attended the meeting:-

9. Er. Imli Ao, Addl. Chief Engineer (D&R), Department of Power, Nagaland.
10. Er. Keviletou Yiese, S.E (T&G) Department of Power, Nagaland.

In his introductory speech, the Hon'ble Chairman-cum-Member welcomed the members and expressed his thanks for coming to the meeting inspite of their tight schedule. The Chairman introduced the newly appointed Commission Secretary Shri. W.Y. Yanthan to the members and also gave a short account on the agenda to be discussed and invites the members to freely express their views/suggestions etc.

Items discussed during the Meeting were as follows:

1. Review of the last SAC meeting (i.e. 8th SAC meeting).
2. Petition pertaining to approval of Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR) and determination of Tariff for the FY 2015-16 filed by the DPN as per Electricity Act, 2003.
3. Implementation of Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF) in 2 Circles by the Department of Power, Nagaland.
4. Response from Department of Power (Licensee).

The issues listed in agenda were discussed and the Members present resolved as follows:

1. The members present reviewed and discussed thoroughly on the resolutions adopted in the last SAC meeting i.e. 8th SAC meeting and further resolved that though the “Power Sector Reform and Restructuring in Nagaland” prepared and submitted by the International Management Institute (IMI), New Delhi has been partially accepted and therefore, It was once again emphasized that the Power Department has to be vertically bifurcate from top to bottom and it should be different entities i.e. separate control from Circle level/field level to establishment level and not only of the directorate level for proper growth in the Power Sector in the State of Nagaland. The Members also resolved to advice the Commission to pursue for upgradation for the post of the Addl. Chief Engineer (D&R) to the rank of Chief Engineer (D&R) since, workload has increased and responsibilities of the HoD for Distribution & Revenue is looked after by the Addl. Chief Engineer (D&R). The Members present also felt that the Power Department has to be Corporatised as per the report submitted by the International Management Institute (IMI), New Delhi. The Committee further, advised the DPN to come out with the detail action taken report in the next SAC meeting.
2. The Committee felt and were convinced that the topmost priority on Power Development is to be given on “Generation of Electricity” for which the Committee resolved to pursue for Political will among the policy makers. Mr. Nuklu Phom and Mr. Manlip Konyak, both SAC members be requested to update the latest position for land negotiation problem on 150 MW Tizu-Zungki Hydro Electric Project and 180 MW Dikhu Hydro Electric Project as entrusted in the 8th SAC meeting latest by Feb., 2015. The Committee also advised the DPN to include member from the transmission & distribution section in the next SAC meeting so as to get the specific inputs in regard transmission & distribution sector in the State. The Committee further advise the Commission to invite officers from New & Renewable Energy Department and Inspectorate Department, Nagaland, Kohima.
3. The Committee reiterated to its earlier resolution adopted in the 8th SAC meeting to approach the State Govt. for proper implementation of Standards of Performance Regulations, 2012 and Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum & Ombudsman in Mokokchung District which was initiated recently by the Superintendent Engineer, Mokokchung and early implementation of the same in Kohima & Dimapur Circle by the Department of Power, Nagaland (DPN).

4. The Members present perused the copy of the ARR & Tariff Petition for FY 2015-16 filed by the DPN and the following issues were raised:-

i. Increasing of Power Tariff every year, why?

Reply by DPN

Since 90% of Power is purchased from outside the State and Power Purchase cost is increasing every year, the Department is bound to hike by some nominal percentage every year. Also, Petroleum and coal price is decreasing drastically but since Nagaland is buying maximum power from the market, it does not affect the percentage hike in Tariff.

ii. How much revenue is likely to be received? Whether the Deptt. has acted upon reducing T&D losses?

Reply by DPN

Technical losses are inherent but Commercial losses are due to power theft, hooking, meter tempering etc. With prepaid metering at Dimapur and with the help of the Anti Power Theft Mobile Squad (APTMS) in Dimapur and Kohima, the Department has improved its revenue collection and reduced theft of electricity in the State.

iii. The consumers do not receive electricity bill on time and meter readers do not go to spot for reading. Bill payment Booth is limited, why? The Street Light should be replaced by Renewable Energy based Street Light.

Reply by DPN

The Department will look into the above mentioned issues and will do necessary and corrective measures. The government is neglecting for providing sufficient meter reader to the department. Presently, the department is functioning with 1:500 ratio of meter reader and no. of house to be metered in a day. And for the Street Light, the department has received 20 lakhs for street light installment in some selected towns.

Apart from the main agenda, other important issue pertains to various shortcomings confronting the DPN and the NERC towards implementation of the "Electricity Act", 2003 were discussed at length and the Committee was of the opinion that the Department should explore ways and means to address those issues in time bound manner.

The Committee also advice the Power Department officials to Segregate the Revenue collection of Domestic, Industrial, Bulk, Commercial Consumer and revenue from the Defaulters.

While concluding the meeting, the Chairman once again expressed his gratitude and thanks to the members present for making the meeting a successful and fruitful and requested for their continue support and co-operation in future also.

(Er. D. A. SHISHAK)
Chairman-cum-Member
Nagaland Electricity Regulatory
Commission (NERC), Kohima.

(W. Y YANTHAN)
Secretary
Nagaland Electricity Regulatory
Commission (NERC), Kohima.