

Assessing TANGEDCO's Compliance to Distribution Standards of Performance (DSOP): An Analysis of RTI Data for the Year 2016 (Part -7)

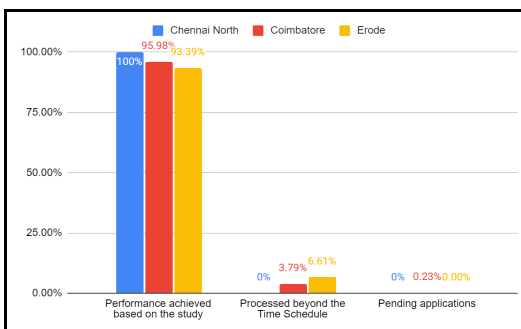
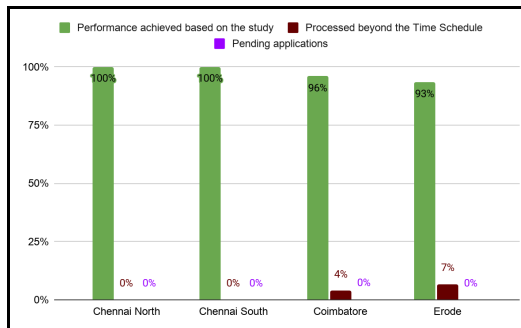
The [previous issue](#) analysed the performance of new supply connections against the benchmark given by TNERC. This section of the editorial will examine the performance of additional load and temporary supply connection in detail.

II. Additional Load

TNERC DSOP regulations have provided the [time schedule](#) (page no.5) for supplying the additional load to the existing serving connections. As per the regulations, TANGEDCO should supply the additional load within thirty days of receiving the applications. In order to assess TANGEDCO's level of performance on this, TNERC has set 95% as its targeted performance (i.e) 95% of the total applications received should be processed to the satisfaction of the consumer within 30 days. Data indicates that it has surpassed the targeted performance as it is observed that 96.96% (12,139) of the applications were processed within the stipulated time. Only 2.92% (366) applications were processed beyond the time period and 0.12% (15) remained pending.

At the regional level, data shows that Chennai North region, Chennai South and Coimbatore region have achieved more than the targeted performance. The Chennai North region and Chennai South region had processed 100% of the applications within the mandated time period. Whereas in the Coimbatore region, 95.98% of the applications have been processed within the stipulated time. While 3.79% applications have been processed beyond the time period, 0.23% have remained pending.

Now, let us take the example of the Erode distribution region. In comparison to Chennai and Coimbatore regions, Erode region did not achieve the targeted performance of 95%. Data reveals that 93.39% of the applications were processed within the stipulated time. 6.61% applications did not meet the timelines due to delay in processing. Thus, the Erode region did not adhere to the standards of performance. This shows lack of monitoring of performance and follow up at the district levels.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Editorial	1
Tamil Nadu News	2
India News	2
Consumer Focus	3
ECC Voice	3
World News	4
Publications, Statistics	4

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(to be continued...)

Tamil Nadu News

Commercial tariff for public charging stations

Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Ltd. (Tangedco) said public charging stations for electric vehicles would attract commercial tariff and private charging stations at homes would attract domestic tariff.

This would be adopted till Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission (TNERC) decides on appropriate tariff for public charging stations for electric vehicles, the Tangedco said in an order issued on December 17.

“As per the Tamil Nadu Electric Vehicle Policy, 2019, the tariff applicable for domestic consumption shall be applicable for private charging stations at home and classified as LT Tariff-IA — 230 Volt /415 Volt as per Tariff order dated 11.08.2017,” the order noted. Typically, most of the slow charging or overnight charging for electric vehicles (2 Wheelers, 3 Wheelers or small 4 Wheelers) may be done from this domestic service connection. Private charging in case of offices, malls, Gated Community can be done in the common supply with the LT Tariff-V of Tangedco, it noted.

As per the tariff order issued by TNERC in 2017, LT-IA Domestic category the energy charges range from ₹2.50 per unit to ₹6.60 per unit and the fixed charges range from ₹15-25 per kilowatt per month depending on the voltage. Under, LT-V tariff category, the energy charges range from ₹5-8.05 per unit, while fixed charges are ₹70 per kilowatt per month. “The service connection to the public charging station, battery charging station and battery swapping station used for commercial purpose shall be effected under HT/LT Commercial tariff category,” Tangedco said. It also noted as per revised guidelines and standards for charging infrastructure for electric vehicles issued by Union Ministry of Power in 2019, every public charging station will have an exclusive transformer with all related sub-station equipment including safety appliance and 33/11 kV line/cables with associated equipment including line termination, if needed.

Source: [The Hindu](#), December 23, 2020

India News

Floating wind power capacity to grow 2,000-fold by 2050: Report

Installed floating wind power capacity is set to grow from 100 megawatt (MW) at present to 250 GW in 2050, a 2,000-fold increase, according to a recent report. It added that floating wind would play an important role in decarbonising the global energy system, contributing 2 per cent of the world’s power supply by 2050 and more than 20 per cent of the offshore wind market. However, more comprehensive industry standards and risk management would be required for the technology to scale. “The cost of floating wind will fall about 70 per cent by 2050 and offer new opportunities to players in the offshore wind, oil and gas and maritime industries as they shift their portfolios to become less dependent on fossil fuels,” said the report titled ‘Floating Wind: The power to commercialise’ by Norway-based risk management and quality assurance company DNV GL.

According to the report, unrestrained by ocean depth, floating wind power would be an attractive option to bring wind power in reach of much more of the world’s population including the mega cities of Asia Pacific. Although the average cost is not expected to become less than for bottom-fixed wind, the price difference would narrow as both fall. It added that the key to these savings would be the introduction of larger turbines, larger wind farms, significant technology developments and the creation of a highly cost-competitive supply chain. “We know that floating wind is technically feasible; the challenge now is to move rapidly to commercial deployments,” said Remi Eriksen, group president and chief executive officer, DNV GL. He added that the know-how from bottom fixed offshore wind, the competences of shipyards, and of oil and gas contractors all broadly align with the technical, logistical and operational challenges of floating wind.

Source: [TheEconomicTimes](#), December 4, 2020

Consumer Focus

The petitioner is a domestic consumer with three electricity service connections (458, 459 and 351). He received a letter from the Assistant Account Officer without signature, which states that her service connections were being used under the wrong tariff category and she has to pay a fine amount of Rs. 98,796. The petitioner informed the section office that all the service connections were being used only for domestic purposes and objected to paying the fine amount. TANGEDCO officials disconnected all the three service connections on 06.05.2019. Even after continuous requests and follow ups, reconnection was not effected. The petitioner registered an online complaint on 10.05.2019. However, the Assistant Engineer did not take action for the complaint till 20.05.2019, the complaint was forwarded to his supervisors.

In order to collect the evidence for disconnection, the petitioner submitted a letter on 27.06.2019 to the Assistant Engineer (AE) for downloading the meter data. Upon request, AE informed the petitioner to pay Rs. 148 for each service connection via a written letter dated 05.07.2019. However, while the petitioner went to the section office on 15.07.2019, the officials collected the amount for two service connections only i.e., Rs. 296 stating that another service connection's (351) electrical meter was of high quality and could not download the data. However, the petitioner did not receive the data for the two service connections even after a month. The consumer registered a complaint with the [Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum \(CGRF\)](#) on 22.08.2019. The CGRF forwarded the complaint to TANGEDCO and was informed that one service connection's (458) electrical meter data from 11.06.2019 was downloaded through Common Meter Reading Instrument (CMRI) by TANGEDCO and the same was provided to the petitioner. TANGEDCO also informed that data from other meters could not be downloaded, since their "makes" were different. Based on this, the CGRF, vide letter dated 09.12.2019, informed the petitioner that all data sought by the petitioner could not be downloaded by TANGEDCO.

However, the petitioner preferred a hearing and the CGRF posted the matter to be heard on 08.01.2020. During the hearing, the CGRF cited the contents of its letter, said that the consumer was requesting for data knowing fully well that it could not be downloaded by TANGEDCO, and dismissed the case. Disbelieving the CGRF order, the petitioner appealed to the [Electricity Ombudsman](#). On hearing the arguments by both the parties, the Electricity Ombudsman stated that TANGEDCO officials have given the meter data for one service connection (458) and that too from 11.06.2019. However, the petitioner's purpose for seeking the meter data was to find the reasons for disconnection in the month of May 2019. The Electricity Ombudsman was of the opinion that the officials deliberately delayed in giving the meter data and stated that the data shared by the officials was of no use to the petitioner. The Ombudsman found that there was deficiency in consumer service from the utility side and ordered the utility to refund the amount of Rs. 296 along with interest within 30 days of the order. Further, the Ombudsman ordered the utility to submit a compliance report within 45 days from the date of receiving the order. Source: [Ombudsman Case](#)

ECC VOICE

வேலூர் மாவட்டம், மூதூர் கிராமத்தில், செந்தில் நகரில் வசிக்கும் திருமதி. சாந்தி என்பவர், தங்கள் பகுதியில் சீரற்ற மின்னழுத்தம் வருவதால் மிகுந்த சிரமத்தில் உள்ளதாக மின்வாரிய இளநிலை பொறியாளரிடம் (JE) மனு அளித்துள்ளார். ஆனால், அவரின் புகாருக்கு எந்தவித நடவடிக்கையும் மேற்கொள்ளப்படவில்லை. அச்சமயத்தில் நடைபெற்ற வேலூர் மின் நுகர்வோர் மையத்தின் ஆலோசனை கூட்டத்தில் கலந்து கொண்டு தங்களது பிரச்சனைகளை கூறி 10.02.2020 அன்று புகாராக அளித்தார். வேலூர் மின் நுகர்வோர் மையத்தின் மின் ஆலோசகர் திரு. பலராமன் அவர்கள் அவ்விடத்திற்கு சென்று ஆய்வு செய்து, அப்பகுதியில் உள்ள கம்பங்கள் மற்றும் வயர்கள் 50 வருட பழமையானவை என்பதனால் இப்பிரச்சனை தொடர்கிறது என்பதனை அறிந்து, இளநிலை பொறியாளரிடம் விவரித்து 21.02.2020 அன்று புகார் அளித்தார். எந்தவித பதிலும் வராத நிலையில், மின் ஆலோசகர் 17.03.2020, 10.04.2020, 29.05.2020, 10.06.2020, மற்றும் 16.10.2020 ஆகிய நாட்களில் தொடர்ந்து நினைவூட்டல் கடிதங்கள் அனுப்பிய பிறகு, 03.11.2020 அன்று இளநிலை பொறியாளர் புகாரினை ஆய்வு செய்து, மேம்பாட்டு பணிகளுக்கான மதிப்பீடு தயார் செய்து அனுமதி பெறப்பட்டுள்ளதாகவும் விரைவில் சீரமைக்கப்படும் என்பதனையும் தெரிவித்தார். பின்பு அப்பகுதிக்கு 20 புதிய மின் கம்பங்கள் நட்டு, புதிய வயர்கள் 24.12.2020 அன்று மாற்றப்பட்டது. மேலும் 25kVAக்கான மின்பகிர்மான ட்ரான்ஸ்-பார்மர் அமைப்பதற்கான பணிகள் நடப்பதாகவும் இளநிலை பொறியாளர், மின் ஆலோசகரிடம் தெரிவித்தார். நீண்ட காலமாக தொடர்ந்து வந்த இப்பிரச்சனைகளுக்கு தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து உதவிய வேலூர் மின் நுகர்வோர் மையத்திற்கும், மின் ஆலோசகர் திரு.பலராமன் அவர்களுக்கும், திருமதி. சாந்தி மற்றும் அப்பகுதி பொதுமக்கள் தங்கள் நன்றியினை தெரிவித்தனர்.

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Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG) is a non-profit, non-political and professional organization that works towards protecting citizen's rights in consumer and environmental issues and promoting good governance processes including transparency, accountability and participatory decision making.

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World News

Abu Dhabi secures funding to build world's largest solar power plant

The Abu Dhabi National Energy Co. (TAQA) on Tuesday announced it has secured funding to build the world's largest solar power plant. The successful financial closing of Al-Dhafra Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Independent Power Producer (IPP) project was achieved alongside TAQA's partners Masdar, EDF Renewables and JinkoPower.

The plant will be located around 35km from Abu Dhabi city, will have capacity of 2 gigawatts (GW) and will supply power to the Emirates Water and Electricity Co. (EWEC). When complete, Al-Dhafra Solar PV IPP will be the world's largest single-site solar power plant, using approximately 4 million solar panels to generate enough electricity for approximately 160,000 homes across the UAE.

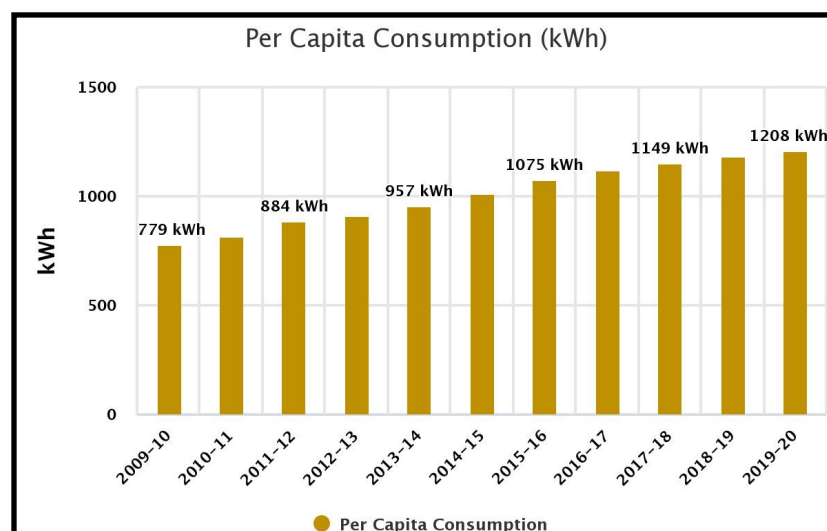
Funding for the project will be sourced from seven international banks. TAQA will own 40 percent of the project while Masdar, EDF Renewables and JinkoPower will have a 20 percent stake each. "Through this project and many others - such as TAQA's Noor Abu Dhabi, currently the world's largest operational solar power plant - we have established the company as a trusted integrated utilities partner that is leading the sector's transformation in the UAE and beyond," said Jasim Husain Thabet, group CEO and managing director at TAQA. Bruno Bensasson, EDF Group senior executive vice president for renewable energies and CEO of EDF Renewables, said the plant is due to start commercial operations in 2022.

Source: Arabnews, December 22, 2020

Publications / Regulations

- Guidelines for Implementation of Feeder Level Solarisation under Component-C of PM-KUSUM Scheme, MNRE, 2020
- Concept note on one solar city in each State/UT, MNRE, 2020
- Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, Ministry of Power, 2020
- Renewable Energy and Climate Pledges, IRENA, 2020

Per Capita Electricity Consumption in India



Source: CEA