**BEFORETHE 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. MadhyanchalVidyutVitaran Nigam Ltd. (MVVNL), PragNarain Road, Lucknow.
3. PurvanchalVidyutVitaran Nigam Ltd. (PuVVNL), 132 KV S/s, BhikaripurVidyut Nagar, Varanasi.
4. PaschimanchalVidyutVitaran Nigam Ltd. (PVVNL), Victoria Park, Meerut.
5. DakshanchalVidyutVitaran Nigam Ltd. (DVVNL), VidyutBhawan, 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. Shri R. K. Jain, Staff Officer, Chairman, UPPCL
2. Shri D. K. Singh, Director (Comm.), DVVNL
3. Shri Vijay Saluja, SE (Comm.), UPPCL
4. Shri A. K. Singh, SE (Comm.) PuVVNL, Varanasi
5. Shri Ravinder Gupta, SE (Tech.), PVVNL
6. Shri ViragBiswal, CE , PVVNL
7. Shri R.S. Prasad, EE (Comm.), MVVNL
8. Shri A.K. Anand, EE, KESCO
9. Shri P. K. Agarwal, PVVNL
10. Shri A. K. Arora, Resident Manager, NPCL
11. Shri Avadhesh Kumar Verma, Chairman, UPRVUP
12. Shri Manoj Singh, Group Manager, HCL, Lucknow
13. Shri Maya Shankar,Secures Meters Ltd.
14. Shri Gaurav Srivastava, Manager- Marketing, Secure Meters Ltd.

**ORDER**

**(Hearing 06.07.2017)**

The Commission in its Order dated July 07, 2016 in the matter of SuoMoto proceeding for implementation of prepaid metering has given the following targets:

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

The Commission in its Order dated October 20, 2016 in the matter of Suo Moto proceeding for implementation of prepaid metering had directed HCL to complete the integration and testing process and ensure that the consumer should have the facility to recharge though internet in all the Discoms.

The Commission in its Order datedNovember30, 2016 in the matter of Suo Moto proceeding for implementation of prepaid metering showed its displeasure on delay in integration to facilitate on line token generation. Further, on slow progress, non-compliance of Commission’s Order and non-cooperation in the integration process, the Commission also directed that if the on line token generation process is not completed by HCL in next 30 day time the penalty of Rs- 1 lac may be imposed on HCL.

The Commission in its Order dated May 15, 2017 in the matter of Suo Moto proceeding for implementation of prepaid metering directed Secretary, UPERC to immediately issue notice to Managing Director, HCL to appear personally or through a senior officer and explain the reasons for extraordinary delay of nearly 12 months in integration to facilitate online token generation and recharge and why a penalty of Rs. 1 Lacs shall not be imposed on HCL for this extraordinary delay. The Commission further directed UPPCL that the integration must be completed before May 31, 2017 and it must be ensured that no prepaid connection is given manually and all connections are given online. Further the UPPCL was directed to ensure that by the end of May 31, 2017 all prepaid connection are migrated from offline to online and also the provision of giving rebate of 1.25% is incorporated in the meter software.

During the hearing on May 31, 2017, The Commission in view of its previous Orders on implementation of prepaid metering, asked the Distribution Companies the status of the compliance and inquired whether UPPCL has issued appropriate direction for installation of prepaid meters.

Shri R. K. Jain, Staff Officer, UPPCL submitted that his department has changed and he is not looking after the IT work. Now Mr. A.P. Singh will look after the matter. The Commission directed Mr. Jain to make his presence in every proceeding in the matter of implementation of prepaid metering with Mr. A.P. Singh.

Shri R. K. Jain, Staff Officer, UPPCL in the matter of online token generation has submitted that there is an agreement issue between ITZ cash and UPPCL. In view of that UPPCL has decided to use payment gateway of Paytm and not to proceed further with ITZ cash. It is further submitted that Paytm has both payment gateway and its own banking system and also Paytm will not take any transaction charges for first 6 month. In view of that UPPCL requested Commission to grant time up to July 31, 2017 for finalization of online token generation.

Mr. Avadhesh Verma submitted that UPPCL must consider the implementation of online token generation for prepaid meters as an important and serious issue and the Commission may fix responsibility of concerned director to expedite the process.

The Commission showed its great displeasure over indefinite delay in integration to facilitate on line token generation and expressed its concern in view of the fact that many States have implemented prepaid metering but Uttar Pradesh is lagging behind despite repeated directives and Orders by the Commission. It is very obvious, that matter is not being taken seriously by senior officers of UPPCL.

The Commission directed that Director (Commercial), UPPCL Shri Sanjay Singh who is responsible for this integration process, will necessarily make his presence in every hearing on Implementation of Prepaid metering till completion of the work to the satisfaction of the Commission. In case of any special very pressing reasons not to be present, he may authorize Chief Engineer concerned with prior permission of the Commission.

The Commission further directed UPPCL and its Director (Commercial) to submit the completion report on online token generation by July 31, 2017 before the Commission, failing which proceeding under section 142 will be initiated. Matter being extremely urgent and important, Commission’s order specially the last 03 paras be brought to the notice of Chairman UPPCL & Principal Secretary, Government of UP.

Next date of hearing shall be intimated separately.

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

Place: Lucknow

Date: 24.07.2017