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ODISHA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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**Present: Shri G. Mohapatra, Officiating Chairperson
Shri S. K. Ray Mohapatra, Member**

DATE OF HEARING : 19.02.2025 (3.00 PM)

DATE OF ORDER : 24.03.2025

CASE NO. 92 OF 2024

IN THE MATTER OF: An application filed by M/s. OPTCL for approval of Annual Revenue Requirement and Determination of Fees & Operating Charges for State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC) functions for FY 2025-26.

ORDER

A. BACKGROUND FACTS: (PARA 1 to 10)

1. The Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Limited, Bhubaneswar (OPTCL), a Government Company registered on 29th March 2004 under the Companies Act, 1956, has been carrying out the business of transmission of electricity within the State of Odisha. It has also been notified as the State Transmission Utility (STU) under Section 39 (1) of the Electricity Act, 2003 hereinafter referred to as “the Act”. By virtue of the 2nd Proviso to Section 14 of the Act, OPTCL is a deemed Transmission Licensee, so far as transmission functions are concerned. OPTCL is now governed by License Conditions set forth in the OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004, at Appendix 4B issued under Section 16 of the Act, as modified by the Commission’s Order dated 27th October 2006 in Case No. 22 of 2006. According to Clause 10(2) & Clause 10(3) of the Orissa Electricity Reforms (Transfer of Transmission and Related Activities) Scheme, 2005, the Government of Odisha has expressly notified OPTCL as a Government Company created to take over the transmission functions of GRIDCO and also become the State Transmission Utility with effect from 01.04.2005. Moreover, even though OPTCL was ‘notified’ as STU, it was also empowered to discharge the State Load Despatch functions till further orders of the State Government. This provision regarding the “discharge of State Load Despatch functions” was obviously intended to be an interim, temporary and stop-gap measure

pending the establishment/Notification of a State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC) under Section 31(1) and the substantive part of Section 31(2) of the Act.

2. Sections 31 & 32 of the Electricity Act, 2003 contemplate SLDC as an independent apex body to ensure integrated operation of the power system in the State. SLDC has been empowered under Section 33 of the Act to give such directions and exercise such supervision & control as may be required for ensuring the integrated operation of the grid and for achieving maximum efficiency and economy in the operation of the power system in the State. These are all highly responsible, technical, and noncommercial statutory functions conceived by the Electricity Act, 2003, and are entrusted to SLDC to carry out such functions as an independent apex body. Every Licensee, including OPTCL, generating companies, generating stations and sub-stations connected with the operation of the power system are to comply with such directions, as per Section 33 (2) and Section 40 (b) of the Act. At present, SLDC has not been completely separated from OPTCL. Be it stated here that OPTCL being a Transmission Licensee, is a regulated entity. In this context, it is noteworthy to mention that under Section 31(2) of the Act; a Government body is supposed to operate SLDC and directions of the State Government to such a body are to be confined within the ambit of Section 37 of the Act. The State Government has been advised accordingly from time to time to remove this anomaly and the latest reminder has been issued by this Commission, vide DO Letter No. OERC/Tariff/Case No.56/2015/1646 dated 26.11.2015.
3. The Act has also provided financial independence of SLDC under Sub-section 3 of Section 32 by way of levy and collection of fees and charges from generating companies and the licensees engaged in Intra-State Transmission of electricity as may be specified by the State Commission. Para 2.2 of the Electricity (Removal of Difficulty) Sixth Order, 2005 issued by the Ministry of Power (MoP) Govt. of India on 08.06.2005 stipulates that the SLDC may levy and collect such fees and charges from the Licensees and generating companies using the intra-State transmission system as may be specified by the State Commission.
4. So far, the State Government has not exercised its power under Section 31 (1) and (2) of the Act to establish a separate and independent entity for the operation of SLDC. Hence, by virtue of the 1st Proviso to Section 31 (2) of the Act, OPTCL as STU shall “operate” the SLDC for the time being. As such it is fit and proper that SLDC shall collect Annual Fees and Charges for its own functioning from the various stakeholders using intra-state transmission system as per Section 32 (3) of the Act and other sources permissible under law from various stakeholders.

5. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 181 (2)(g) of the Act read with Section 32(3) and all other enabling provisions, the Commission has framed OERC (Fees and Charges for SLDC and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, which has been published in Odisha Gazette No.1924 dated 18.11.2010 and has come into force with effect from 18.11.2010.
6. As per Regulation 3 of OERC (Fees and Charges for SLDC & other related matters) Regulations, 2010 as well as in conformity with OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004, SLDC is to submit the full details of its calculations of estimated Annual Revenue Requirement (ARR) and other related information in the prescribed formats for determination of Annual Fees and Charges for the ensuing financial year by 30th November before commencement of the said financial year. Accordingly, SLDC filed an application on 30.11.2024 for approval of the Annual Revenue Requirement and Determination of Fees & Operating Charges for State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC) functions for FY 2025-26.
7. The said application dated 30.11.2024 of SLDC was duly scrutinised, registered as Case No. 92 of 2024 and was taken up for hearing. Objections were invited after the wide publication of the application in English & Odia daily newspapers, on the website of the Commission as well as OPTCL for comments by all the stakeholders and the public at large. In response to the aforesaid public notice dated 13.12.2024, the Commission has received four objections/suggestions from:
 - a) Shri Ramesh Ch. Satpathy, Secretary, National Institute of Indian Labour & President, Upobhokta Mahasangha, Plot No.302(B), Beherasahi, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751012.
 - b) The Chief Executive Officer, TPCODL, 2nd Floor, IDCO Towers, Janapath, Bhubaneswar-751022
 - c) The Chief Executive Officer, TPWODL, At/Po: Burla, Dist: Sambalpur-768017.
 - d) Sri Ananda Kumar Mohapatra, S/o- Late Jachindra Nath Mohapatra, Plot No-799/4, Kotiteertha Lane, Old Town, Bhubaneswar-02. email-anandamohapatra22@gmail.com.

The Commission had appointed the World Institute of Sustainable Energy (WISE), Pune as the Consumer Counsel for the objective analysis of the ARR and Annual Fees and Charges proposal of SLDC for FY 2025-26.

8. The date of the hearing was fixed as 19.02.2025 at 3.00 P.M. through hybrid mode and was duly notified in the leading and widely circulated newspaper mentioning the list of Objectors. The Commission also issued individual notices to the Objectors and the Department of Energy (DoE), Government of Odisha (GoO) informing them about the date and time of the hearing through hybrid mode either by physical presence at the Commission's office or through virtual mode and requested the Objectors and the Government's authorized representative, who wanted to participate virtually, to furnish their e-mail ID to facilitate and for providing links for hearing. Accordingly, the Applicant, Objectors and the representative of DoE, GoO participated in the proceedings and offered their valuable views/ suggestions /proposals during the hearing on hybrid mode on the date and time fixed by the Commission.
9. After issuing notice to the Applicant, the Government of Odisha and the Objectors to participate in the consultative process, the Commission heard the Applicant, Objectors and representative of the State Government on 19.02.2025 at 3:00 P.M. The consumer counsel (WISE) presented its views during the hearing. The above-named Objectors along with representatives of the Department of Energy, Govt. of Odisha Bhubaneswar were present during the tariff hearing through hybrid mode and their submissions were taken on record for consideration by the Commission.
10. The Commission convened the State Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting through virtual mode on 01.03.2025 at 11.00 A.M through Virtual Mode (VC) to discuss the Annual Revenue Requirement applications and annual fees & charges for SLDC functions for the FY 2025-26.

B. PROPOSAL FOR ARR & LEVYING OF ANNUAL FEES & CHARGES FOR SLDC FUNCTIONS FOR THE FY 2025-26 (PARA 11 to 22)

Annual Revenue Requirement for SLDC operation

11. As per the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, the annual charges consist of the following components:
 - i) Return on Equity
 - ii) Interest on Loan Capital
 - iii) Depreciation
 - iv) Operation & Maintenance Expenses Excluding Human Resource expenses
 - v) Human Resource Expenses
 - vi) Interest on Working Capital

Return on Equity

12. Since no equity has been invested by SLDC, it has not proposed Return on Equity in the ARR for the FY 2025-26.

Interest on loan capital:

13. Since there is no outstanding loan on SLDC, it has not proposed Interest on Loan Capital in the ARR for the FY 2025-26.

Depreciation

14. SLDC has submitted that, as per the CERC's Regulation, it has estimated Depreciation of **Rs.78.929 Lakhs** for the assets in the Unified Load Despatch Center and offices of SLDC for the FY 2025-26. The major amount of depreciation cost is Rs.17.540 Lakhs relating to the upgraded & enhanced VPS (costing Rs.166.53 Lakhs) and Rs.8.686 Lakhs towards depreciation on Load Forecasting System & software for SLDC offices. The details of which are given in the Table below:

Table -1
Depreciation Proposed by SLDC for the FY 2025-26

Sl. No.	Name of the Assets	Gross Block as on 31.03.2025	Depreciation Rates as per CERC's Depreciation Rate Schedule	Depreciation Amount for the FY 2025-26 (Rs. in Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5=3 X4
1.	Land	00.00	0.00%	0.000
2.	Office Building	00.00	1.63%	0.000
3.	Residential Building	00.00	1.63%	0.000
4.	Roads	00.00	100.00%	0.000
5.	Battery including new for data centre UPS	04.93	5.28%	0.260
6.	Isolation transformer & ACDB for UPS	10.46	5.28%	0.553
7.	Underground Cables	00.81	5.28%	0.043
8.	Split type Air Conditioner			
(i)	Procured during 2016-17 (18)	08.04	9.50%	0.764
(ii)	Procured during 2019-20 (16)	07.69	9.50%	0.730
(iii)	AC Stabilizer	01.63	9.50%	0.118
9.	DG Set for disaster management	09.31	6.33%	0.589
10.	3 HP water pump	00.38	6.33%	0.024
11.	Office furniture including new	21.21	6.33%	1.251
12.	New Furniture for the SLDC Director's office	01.69	6.33%	0.107
13.	Water purifier	00.68	6.33%	0.043
14.	Electrical Installation for SLDC building (new)	18.06	6.33%	1.143

Sl. No.	Name of the Assets	Gross Block as on 31.03.2025	Depreciation Rates as per CERC's Depreciation Rate Schedule	Depreciation Amount for the FY 2025-26 (Rs. in Lakh)
15.	Computer tables for EASSC	01.02	6.33%	0.064
16.	Video Projection System (VPS) including upgradation and enhancement	166.53	15.00%	17.540
17.	Photo copier	03.40	6.33%	0.215
18.	Scanner cum Copier	00.73	15.00%	0.001
19.	Laptops, Desktop Computers & peripherals for SLDC Control room and office	22.00	15.00%	1.696
20.	Microphone Video for Video Conferencing	01.78	6.33%	0.113
21.	4 Nos. Quick heal antivirus	00.05	5.28%	0.003
22.	Check Meter Indent No.-1	00.49	5.28%	0.026
23.	Voice Recorder Electronic 1 Nos	03.80	5.28%	0.201
24.	DVD Software 1 Nos.	02.02	5.28%	0.107
25.	Computer Billing Software	01.00	15.00%	0.033
26.	RVDU at Jaynagar sub-station	15.29	15.00%	1.060
27.	Firewall	18.32	15.00%	2.747
28.	Printer	01.95	15.00%	0.203
29.	Office Equipment	00.60	6.33%	0.038
30.	CCTV Camera	00.07	6.33%	0.005
31.	LED Lights (55 Nos.)	00.63	6.33%	0.040
32.	HP All in One PC 3 Nos.	01.74	15.00%	0.261
33.	HP All in One PC 1 No.	00.58	15.00%	0.087
34.	HP LaserJet Multi-Function Printer 1 No.	00.24	15.00%	0.036
35.	GIGA 24 Port Switch (DLINK) 2 Nos.	00.35	15.00%	0.053
36.	Motorola T-82 License Fee Walkie Talkie (4 Nos.)	00.31	6.33%	0.019
37.	Fire Extinguisher (CO2) Base 4.5 Kg 10 Nos. & 6Kg 6 Nos.	00.50	6.33%	0.032
38.	LED SIGN BOARD 1 No.	01.00	6.33%	0.063
39.	Exhaust Fans 14 Nos (230-8, 300-3, 200-3)	00.29	6.33%	0.018
40.	1 No. of ACER Laptop TMP 214-53	00.66	15.00%	0.099
41.	1 No. of ACER PC Veriton M200-H510	00.54	15.00%	0.080
42.	ADMS Project (88 Substations)	250.31	15.00%	37.547
43.	FORTI GATE FG 81F (75 Sqft)	05.00	15.00%	0.749
44.	Street Lights (45Nos. - Havells)	00.97	6.33%	0.062
45.	Bullet Cameras (6Nos.) 1No.16 Port POE Switch	00.93	6.33%	0.059
46.	Air Conditioner (16 Nos.-Daikin)	08.99	9.50%	0.854

Sl. No.	Name of the Assets	Gross Block as on 31.03.2025	Depreciation Rates as per CERC's Depreciation Rate Schedule	Depreciation Amount for the FY 2025-26 (Rs. in Lakh)
47.	Display Cabinet 1 No. SLDC CR	00.35	6.33%	0.022
48.	2TB Seagate External HDD 2 Nos.	00.13	15.00%	0.019
49.	1 No. Samsung Galaxy F54 Mobile	00.25	6.33%	0.016
50.	1 No. IQOO 7Pro 5G Mobile	00.25	6.33%	0.016
51.	1 No. Samsung A34 Mobile	00.29	6.33%	0.018
52.	Dell Work Station (Load Forecasting)	06.36	15.00%	2.251
53.	Dell Work Station (Load Forecasting)	06.36	15.00%	2.011
54.	Samsung Galaxy A34 Mobile	00.25	6.33%	0.028
55.	65 Nos of LED Havells Make	00.80	6.33%	0.093
56.	Brush Cutting Machine	00.44	5.28%	0.036
57.	Aluminum Ladder 1 No.	00.91	6.33%	0.092
58.	Samsung Galaxy A35 Mobile	00.25	6.33%	0.024
59.	Air Conditioner (3 Nos.-Daikin)	01.50	9.50%	0.143
60.	Load Forecasting Software	29.50	15.00%	4.425
	TOTAL	644.62		78.929
	Weighted Average Rate of Depreciation (%)		12.24	

Operation and Maintenance Expenses (Excluding HR expenses):

15. SLDC has proposed **Rs.284.814 Lakhs** under the head Operation and Maintenance expenses (R&M and A&G expenses) excluding human resources expenses for the FY 2025-26. It has proposed R&M expenditure of Rs.117.321 Lakhs for Facility Management Services (FMS), AMC charges of computers, peripherals & software, Electrical maintenance of office building & colony quarters etc. Further, it has proposed Administrative & General (A&G) expenses of Rs.167.494 Lakhs for Office expenses, Training & Certification programme of operators and executives, professional charges, communication system, gardening, meeting expenses etc. The summary of O&M expenses proposed for the FY 2025-26 is given in the table below:

Table - 2
Statement of O&M Expenses Excluding Human Resource Expenses
(Rs. in Lakh)

SL. No.	ITEMS	FY 2023-24 (Actual)	FY 2024-25			FY 2025-26
			Approved by OERC	Actual (up to Sept.-24)	Estimated (Oct-24 to Mar-25)	Proposed
1	Repairs and Maintenance expenses (R&M)	80.443	55.235	18.170	71.426	117.321

SL. No.	ITEMS	FY 2023-24 (Actual)	FY 2024-25			FY 2025-26
			Approved by OERC	Actual (up to Sept.-24)	Estimated (Oct-24 to Mar-25)	Proposed
2	Administrative and General (A&G) expenses, etc.	134.01	158.354	65.555	86.712	167.494
	Total	214.453	213.589	83.725	158.138	284.814

Human Resources Expenses:

16. SLDC has proposed **Rs.1029.749 Lakhs** for FY 2025-26 towards Human resources expenses considering the existing 63 Nos. of employees including 3 Nos. of Telecommunication personnel and 14 Nos. contractual/ outsourcing staff working at the SLDC control Centre.

Interest on Working Capital:

17. SLDC has submitted that it has estimated the working capital requirement of Rs.348.593 Lakhs. Considering the rate of interest @ 11.70 % (SBI base rate 8.70 % plus 300 basis points) as per OERC Regulation, it has proposed **Rs.40.785 Lakhs towards** interest on working capital for the FY 2025-26. Further, SLDC has submitted that it has not taken loan to meet the working expenses. However, the provision has been kept due to the non-receipt of SLDC charges from the user for two months from the commencement of the financial year. The loss of interest for the above amount is being recovered as interest on working capital. The details on working capital requirement and interest on it are given in the table below:

Table -3
Interest on Working Capital proposed by SLDC for FY 2025-26
(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Amount
1	O&M expenses for one month excluding human resource expenses	23.735
2	Human resource expenses for one month	85.812
3	Receivables (2 months of SOC & MOC)	239.046
4	Total Working Capital	348.593
5	Rate of Interest	11.70%
6	Interest on Working Capital	40.785

18. Considering the aforesaid proposals, SLDC has proposed total ARR of **Rs. 1434.277 Lakhs** for the FY 2025-26 which details are given in the table below.

Table -4
Total ARR Proposed by SLDC for FY 2025-26

		(Rs. in Lakhs)
Sl. No.	Particulars	Amount
1	Return on Equity	-
2	Interest on Loan Capital	-
3	Depreciation	78.929
4	O&M Expenses excluding human resource expenses	284.814
5	Human Resource expenses	1029.749
6	Interest on Working Capital	40.785
	Total expenses:	1434.277

Determination of Annual Charges for SLDC:

19. As per Regulations 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 & 22 of OERC (Fees and Charges for SLDC & other related matters) Regulations, 2010, Annual charges shall comprise of

a) **System Operation Charges (SOC)** i.e. 80% of Annual Fixed Charge, which shall be collected from the users in the following ratio:

- Intra State Transmission Licensee -10% on the basis of Ckt-Kms
- Generating Company & Seller - 45% on the basis of Installed capacity
- Distribution Licensee & buyers - 45% on the basis of allocation

b) **Market Operation Charges (MOC)** i.e. 20% of the Annual Fixed Charge which shall be collected from the users in the following ratio

- Generating Company & Seller - 50% on the basis of Installed capacity
- Distribution Licensee & buyers - 50% on the basis of allocation

Accordingly, SLDC has proposed the collection of Annual Charges for the FY 2025-26 as given in the table below:

Table - 5
Collection of Annual Charges Proposed by SLDC for the FY 2025-26
(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Amount
1	Annual charges (AFC)	1434.277
2	System Operation Charges (SOC) (80% of the AFC)	1147.421
3	Intra State Transmission Licensee @10% of SOC	114.741
4	Generating Station & Sellers @45% of SOC	516.340
5	Distribution Licensees & Buyers@45% of SOC	516.340
6	Market Operation Charges (MOC) (20% of the AFC)	286.856
7	Generating Station & Sellers @50% of MOC	143.428
8	Distribution Licensees & Buyers@50% of MOC	143.428

The collection of System Operation Charges (SOC) proposed by SLDC for the FY 2025-26 is as follows:

- (i) Collection of SOC from Intra State Transmission Licensee (@10% of SOC) = Rs.114.741 Lakh (i.e. Rs. 9.562 Lakh/month)
- (ii) Collection of SOC from Generating Station & Sellers corresponding to total installed/contracted capacity of 6286.83 MW (@45% of SOC) = Rs.516.340 Lakhs (i.e. Rs. 43.028 Lakh/month) as given in the table below:

**Table –6
SOC Proposed by SLDC for Generating Stations & Sellers for FY 2025-26**

Sl. No.	Generating Company / Sellers	Installed Capacity (MW)	Total SOC (Rs. Lakhs)	
			(Annual)	(Monthly)
A	State Generating Station			
1	OHPC	1635.00	134.283	11.190
2	OPGC Stage-I	420.00	34.495	2.875
3	OPGC Stage-II	1320.00	108.412	9.034
	Sub-total	3375.00	277.19	23.10
B	Small Hydro & Bio-mass			
4	OPCL (Small Hydro)	20.00	1.643	0.137
5	Meenakshi Power Ltd. (Small Hydro)	37.00	3.039	0.253
6	Jagannath Power and Infra Pvt. Ltd. (Formerly Shalivahan Green Energy Ltd)	20.00	1.643	0.137
7	Baitarani Power Project Pvt. Ltd (Small Hydro)	24.00	1.971	0.164
8	Sri Avantika Power Projects Private Ltd., Saptadhara SHEP	18.00	1.478	0.123
9	Kakatiya Industries Pvt Ltd, Bargarh	9.00	0.739	0.062
10	OPGC Mini Hydrel	1.15	0.094	0.008
	Sub-total	129.15	10.61	0.88
C	IPP			
11	GMR, Kamalanga	350.00	28.746	2.395
12	Vedanta Limited (IPP)	600.00	49.278	4.107
13	NBVL (IPP)	60.00	4.928	0.411
14	Maa Durga Thermal Power Plant Limited, Tangi	60.00	4.928	0.411
	Sub-total	1070.00	87.88	7.32
D	CGPs (Maximum Scheduled up to the end of October 2024)			
15	Aarti Steel Ltd.	48.00	3.942	0.329
16	Aryan Ispat & Power Pvt. Ltd.	10.90	0.895	0.075
17	Bhubaneshwar Power Pvt. Ltd.	120.00	9.856	0.821
18	Tata Steel Limited, Meramundali	140.00	11.498	0.958
19	FACOR Power Ltd.	59.00	4.846	0.404
20	IMFA	43.00	3.532	0.294
21	Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., Angul	152.96	12.563	1.047

Sl. No.	Generating Company / Sellers	Installed Capacity (MW)	Total SOC (Rs. Lakhs)	
			(Annual)	(Monthly)
22	Maithan Ispat Ltd., Kalinganagar	17.00	1.396	0.116
23	MGM Minerals Ltd.	6.70	0.550	0.046
24	NALCO, Angul	45.00	3.696	0.308
25	Narbheram Power & Steel (P) Ltd.	0.90	0.074	0.006
26	Nava Bharat Ventures Ltd.	57.80	4.747	0.396
27	Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd. (OCL), Rajgangpur	29.10	2.390	0.199
28	Rungta Mines Ltd., SID, Karakolha	6.00	0.493	0.041
29	SMC Power Generation Ltd.	22.50	1.848	0.154
30	SMC Power Generation Ltd (UNIT-II), Budhipadar	43.00	3.532	0.294
31	Tata Steel Long Product Ltd. (TSIL)	19.30	1.585	0.132
32	Vedanta Ltd., Jharsuguda	272.00	22.339	1.862
33	Viraj Steel and Energy Pvt. Ltd	7.60	0.624	0.052
34	MSP Metalics Ltd.	14.50	1.191	0.099
35	SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant	10.00	0.821	0.068
36	Visa Steel Ltd.	44.00	3.614	0.301
37	KJS Ahluwalia, Steel and Power Division	11.60	0.953	0.079
38	Orissa Sponge Iron and Steel Ltd.	6.00	0.493	0.041
39	Rungta Mines Ltd., Kamanda Steel Plant	5.00	0.411	0.034
40	Shri Jagannath Steels & Power Ltd.	7.00	0.575	0.048
41	KCMW, A unit of Dalmia Cement Bharat Ltd., Salepur	12.50	1.027	0.086
42	Odisha Cement Plant (A Unit of Shree Cement Limited)	6.00	0.493	0.041
43	Rungta Mines Limited, Dsp, Dhenkanal	20.00	1.643	0.137
44	Thakur Prasad Sao and Sons Pvt. Ltd. Unit-IV	4.20	0.345	0.029
45	Yazdani Steel & Power Ltd., Jajpur	1.50	0.123	0.010
46	Adhunik Metaliks Ltd., Rourkela	3.00	0.246	0.021
47	OCL Iron and Steel Ltd., Rajgangpur	0.50	0.041	0.003
	Sub-total	1246.56	102.38	8.53
E	Solar Projects (Installed Capacity)			
48	ACME, Odisha	25.00	2.053	0.171
49	AFTAB Solar	5.00	0.411	0.034
50	BEL Solar	7.50	0.616	0.051
51	GEDCOL	28.00	2.300	0.192
52	M/s Raajratna Energy Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.082	0.007
53	M/s S.N. Mohanty	1.00	0.082	0.007
54	MGM Green Energy Ltd.	1.00	0.082	0.007
55	M/s Molisati Vinimay Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.082	0.007
56	M/s Jay Iron and Steel Ltd.	1.00	0.082	0.007
57	M/s Abacus Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.082	0.007
58	M/s Shri Mahavir Ferro Alloys Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.082	0.007
59	M/s Vivacity Renewable Energy Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.082	0.007
60	Alex Green Energy Ltd.	5.00	0.411	0.034
61	M/s Jyoti Solar Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	10.00	0.821	0.068

Sl. No.	Generating Company / Sellers	Installed Capacity (MW)	Total SOC (Rs. Lakhs)	
			(Annual)	(Monthly)
62	M/s Sadipali IBP solar Pvt. Ltd.	20.00	1.643	0.137
63	M/s Dakshin Odisha Urja Pvt. Ltd.	40.00	3.285	0.274
64	M/s Vento Power & Energy Ltd. Kesinga-1	40.00	3.285	0.274
65	M/s Vento Power Pvt. Ltd. Kesinga- 2	40.00	3.285	0.274
66	M/s Vento Power Infra Pvt. Ltd. Tusura-1	40.00	3.285	0.274
67	M/s Vento Energy Infra Pvt. Ltd. Tusura-2	40.00	3.285	0.274
68	M/s Vento Power Projects Pvt. Ltd. Tentulikhunti	40.00	3.285	0.274
69	ABReL, Sainitala	25.00	2.053	0.171
70	ABReL , Bouda	25.00	2.053	0.171
71	ABReL, Bargarh New	25.00	2.053	0.171
72	MCL, Burla	2.00	0.164	0.014
73	J K PAPER, Theruvali	25.00	2.053	0.171
74	ABREL(Odisha) SPV Ltd., Dhenkanal	15.62	1.283	0.107
	Sub-total	466.12	38.28	3.19
	Total (A+B+C+D+E)	6286.83	516.340	43.028

- (iii) Collection of SOC from Distribution Licensees & Buyers (@45% of SOC) = Rs. 516.340 Lakh (i.e. Rs.43.028 Lakh/month) as given in the table below:

Table –7
SOC Proposed by SLDC for DISCOMs for FY 2025-26

(Rs. in Lakhs)

SL No	DISCOMs	Energy Consumption (MU)	% share	Total Amounts	
				(Annual)	(Monthly)
1	TPCODL	12,513	33.33	172.096	14.341
2	TPNODL	8,163	21.74	112.252	9.354
3	TPWODL	11,940	31.81	164.248	13.687
4	TPSODL	4,924	13.12	67.744	5.645
	Total	37,540	100.00	516.340	43.028

Note: The energy consumption and percentage of shares is based on last year's approval.

The collection of MOC proposed by SLDC for FY 2025-26 is as under:

- (i) Collection of MOC from Generating Station & Sellers corresponding to total installed capacity/ contracted capacity of 6286.83 MW (@50% of MOC) = Rs. 143.428 Lakh (i.e. Rs.11.952 Lakh/month) as given in the table below:

Table –8
MOC Proposed by SLDC for Generating Stations & Sellers for FY 2025-26

Sl. No.	Generating Company / Sellers	Installed Capacity (MW)	Total MOC (Rs. Lakhs)	
			(Annual)	(Monthly)
A	State Generating Station			

Sl. No.	Generating Company / Sellers	Installed Capacity (MW)	Total MOC (Rs. Lakhs)	
			(Annual)	(Monthly)
1	OHPC	1635.00	37.301	3.108
2	OPGC Stage-I	420.00	9.582	0.798
3	OPGC Stage-II	1320.00	30.115	2.510
	Sub-total	3375.00	77.00	6.42
B	Small Hydro & Bio-mass			
4	OPCL (Small Hydro)	20.00	0.456	0.038
5	Meenakshi Power Ltd. (Small Hydro)	37.00	0.844	0.070
6	Jagannath Power and Infra Pvt. Ltd. (Formerly Shalivahan Green Energy Ltd)	20.00	0.456	0.038
7	Baitarani Power Project Pvt. Ltd. (Small Hydro)	24.00	0.548	0.046
8	Sri Avantika Power Projects Pvt. Ltd., Saptadhara SHEP	18.00	0.411	0.034
9	Kakatiya Industries Pvt. Ltd, Bargarh	9.00	0.205	0.017
10	OPGC Mini Hydel	1.15	0.026	0.002
	Sub-total	129.15	2.95	0.25
C	IPP			
11	GMR, Kamalanga	350.00	7.985	0.665
12	Vedanta Limited (IPP)	600.00	13.688	1.141
13	NBVL (IPP)	60.00	1.369	0.114
14	Maa Durga Thermal Power Plant Ltd., Tangi	60.00	1.369	0.114
	Sub-total	1070.00	24.41	2.03
D	CGPs (Maximum Scheduled-up to the end of Oct-2024)			
15	Aarti Steel Ltd.	48.00	1.095	0.091
16	Aryan Ispat & Power Pvt. Ltd.	10.90	0.249	0.021
17	Bhubaneshwar Power Pvt. Ltd.	120.00	2.738	0.228
18	Tata Steel Limited, Meramundali	140.00	3.194	0.266
19	FACOR Power Ltd.	59.00	1.346	0.112
20	IMFA	43.00	0.981	0.082
21	Jindal Steel & Power Ltd., Angul	152.96	3.490	0.291
22	Maithan Ispat Ltd, Kalinganagar	17.00	0.388	0.032
23	MGM Minerals Ltd.	6.70	0.153	0.013
24	NALCO, Angul	45.00	1.027	0.086
25	Narbheram Power & Steel (P) Ltd.	0.90	0.021	0.002
26	Nava Bharat Ventures Ltd.	57.80	1.319	0.110
27	Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd. (OCL), Rajgangpur	29.10	0.664	0.055
28	Rungta Mines Ltd, SID, Karakolha	6.00	0.137	0.011
29	SMC Power Generation Limited	22.50	0.513	0.043
30	SMC Power Generation Ltd (UNIT-II), Budhipadar	43.00	0.981	0.082
31	Tata Steel Long Product Ltd. (TSIL)	19.30	0.440	0.037
32	Vedanta Ltd., Jharsuguda	272.00	6.205	0.517
33	Viraj Steel and Energy Pvt. Ltd	7.60	0.173	0.014
34	MSP Metallics Ltd.	14.50	0.331	0.028

Sl. No.	Generating Company / Sellers	Installed Capacity (MW)	Total MOC (Rs. Lakhs)	
			(Annual)	(Monthly)
35	SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant	10.00	0.228	0.019
36	Visa Steel Ltd.	44.00	1.004	0.084
37	KJS Ahluwalia, Steel and Power Division	11.60	0.265	0.022
38	Orissa Sponge Iron and Steel Ltd.	6.00	0.137	0.011
39	Rungta Mines Limited, Kamanda Steel Plant	5.00	0.114	0.010
40	Shri Jagannath Steels & Power Ltd.	7.00	0.160	0.013
41	KCMW, A unit of Dalmia Cement Bharat Ltd, Salepur	12.50	0.285	0.024
42	Odisha Cement Plant (A Unit of Shree Cement Ltd.)	6.00	0.137	0.011
43	Rungta Mines Ltd., Dsp, Dhenkanal	20.00	0.456	0.038
44	Thakur Prasad Sao and Sons Pvt. Ltd. Unit IV	4.20	0.096	0.008
45	Yazdani Steel & Power Ltd., Jajpur	1.50	0.034	0.003
46	Adhunik Metaliks Limited, Rourkela	3.00	0.068	0.006
47	OCL Iron and Steel Ltd., Rajgangpur	0.50	0.011	0.001
	Sub-total	1246.56	28.44	2.37
E	Solar Projects (Installed Capacity)			
48	ACME, Odisha	25.00	0.570	0.048
49	AFTAB Solar	5.00	0.114	0.010
50	BEL Solar	7.50	0.171	0.014
51	GEDCOL	28.00	0.639	0.053
52	M/s Raajratna Energy Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.023	0.002
53	M/s S.N. Mohanty	1.00	0.023	0.002
54	MGM Green Energy Ltd.	1.00	0.023	0.002
55	M/s Molisati Vinimay Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.023	0.002
56	M/s Jay Iron and Steel Ltd.	1.00	0.023	0.002
57	M/s Abacus Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.023	0.002
58	M/s Shri Mahavir Ferro Alloys Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.023	0.002
59	M/s Vivacity Renewable Energy Pvt. Ltd.	1.00	0.023	0.002
60	Alex Green Energy Ltd.	5.00	0.114	0.010
61	M/s Jyoti Solar Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	10.00	0.228	0.019
62	M/s Sadipali IBP solar Pvt. Ltd.	20.00	0.456	0.038
63	M/s Dakshin Odisha Urja Pvt. Ltd.	40.00	0.913	0.076
64	M/s Vento Power & Energy Ltd. Kesinga 1	40.00	0.913	0.076
65	M/s Vento Power Pvt. Ltd. Kesinga- 2	40.00	0.913	0.076
66	M/s Vento Power Infra Pvt. Ltd. Tusura -1	40.00	0.913	0.076
67	M/s Vento Energy Infra Pvt. Ltd. Tusura- 2	40.00	0.913	0.076
68	M/s Vento Power Projects Pvt. Ltd. Tentulikhunti	40.00	0.913	0.076
69	ABReL, Sainitala	25.00	0.570	0.048
70	ABReL , Bouda	25.00	0.570	0.048
71	ABReL, Bargarh New	25.00	0.570	0.048
72	MCL, Burla	2.00	0.046	0.004
73	J K Paper, Theruvali	25.00	0.570	0.048
74	ABREL(Odisha) SPV Ltd., Dhenkanal	15.62	0.356	0.030
	Sub-total	466.12	10.63	0.89
	Total (A+B+C+D+E)	6286.83	143.428	11.952

- (ii) Collection of MOC from Distribution Licensees & Buyers (@50% of MOC) = Rs. 143.428 Lakh (i.e. Rs. 11.952 Lakh/month) as given in the table below:

Table –9
MOC Proposed by SLDC for DISCOMs for FY 2025-26

SL No	DISCOMs	Energy Consumption (MU)	% share	Total Amounts	
				(Rs. Lakhs)	
				(Annual)	(Monthly)
1	TPCODL	12,513	33.33	47.804	3.984
2	TPNODL	8,163	21.74	31.181	2.598
3	TPWODL	11,940	31.81	45.624	3.802
4	TPSODL	4,924	13.12	18.818	1.568
	Total	37,540	100.00	143.428	11.952

Note: The energy consumption and percentage of shares is based on last year's approval.

Registration Fee:

20. SLDC has proposed to collect a registration fee @ Rs.1.00 Lakh from all users including industries who are importing power through Inter-State open access as per the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010.

Application Fee and Scheduling Charges:

21. SLDC has proposed that the application fee and scheduling charges shall be paid by the Short-Term Open Access customers as per the OERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2020.
22. Accordingly, SLDC has prayed before the Commission to approve the Annual Revenue Requirement of **Rs.1434.277 Lakhs** for FY 2025-26 towards the State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC) functions separately and to allow recovery of the same from the users.

Compliance with the directions of the previous FY 2024-25: (Para 23 to 26)

23. Regarding preparation for scheduling of Green Energy banked through Green Energy Open Access including consumption of green energy by producers of Green Hydrogen/Green Ammonia/ their derivatives, SLDC has submitted that Procedure and Formats for scheduling of transactions linked to the banking of RE under intra-state STOA has been prepared in accordance various provisions and as per Para5 (a) of chapter -2 of the OERC (Promotion of Renewable Energy through Green Energy Open Access) Regulations, 2023 and has been shared with GRIDCO for aiding in implementation.

24. All RE generations above 1MW established in the State are being monitored in real-time at the SLDC Control room & actual energy is collected/analyzed & certified by SLDC for use by the respective beneficiary. Any upcoming RE project will be monitored and accounting will be done accordingly. Implementation of SAMAST is essential for online handling and accommodation of the bulk of data related to the above. The tendering process of SAMAST has been completed and the project has been awarded to M/s Accenture Solutions Pvt Ltd. (software portion) and M/s Secure Meters Ltd (hardware portion and AMI). The software module is under development and is scheduled to be completed by March 2025. The ABT meter installation work pertaining to the Hardware Portion is scheduled to start in the month of December 2024 and is estimated to be completed by December 2025.
25. Regarding preparedness to implement the Deviation Settlement Mechanism (DSM) in the operation of the state grid like other states, SLDC has submitted that Steps are being taken towards implementation of SAMAST by Dec-2025, which would be essential for the implementation of DSM.
26. SLDC has intimated the various measures that are being taken to prevent cyber-attacks to ensure the safe, secure and efficient operation of the state Grid.

VIEWS OF CONSUMER COUNSEL (Para 27 to 38)

27. World Institute of Sustainable Energy (WISE), Pune - the Consumer Counsel has analyzed the ARR application of SLDC for the FY 2025-26 and some of their important observations are as stated hereafter:

Observations on Annual Revenue Requirement

28. SLDC has given the proposal for a revenue requirement of Rs.1434.277 Lakh for the FY 2025-26 which is 9.46% higher than Rs.1310.348 Lakh approved by the Commission for FY 2024-25. This would be recovered through Annual Fees and Charges. The revenue requirement includes an employee cost of Rs.1029.749 lakh for human resources expenses, considering the existing employees, including 3 telecommunication personnel working at the SLDC control centre. In addition, salary for 14 contractual/outsourcing staff to be engaged at SLDC in the FY 2025-26.
29. The projected O&M expenses of Rs.284.814 Lakh considering the expenditure to be incurred in the FY 2025-26 are not as per OERC Regulation (33.34% escalation on the FY 2024-25 expenses). The proposed O&M expenses of Rs.284.814 Lakh seem to be on the higher side and should not be approved.

30. Under A&G expenses, projected electricity charges and watch & ward charges are significant (around 50% of projected A&G charges). SLDC has also proposed a significant increase in its Hire charges for vehicles. These expenses need to be reviewed. Further, SLDC has spent very low on O&M expenses for the FY 2024-25 (actual up to September 24 is Rs.83.725 lakh, i.e. 39.30% of the approved for FY 2024-25, of Rs.213.589 lakhs). SLDC is projecting high O&M-related expenses during Oct 2024–March 2025 amounting to Rs.158.138 lakh, which is on the higher side. The O&M, therefore, should be computed as per OERC Regulation.
31. SLDC has computed the salary of 63 staff including contractual staff (current staff is 63 including contractual staff). With respect to Basic Pay & GP for the FY 2025-26, it may be calculated on the basis of actual expenses of the last 10 months (up to Jan-25) which can be prorated for the whole of the FY 2024-25 and the same may be escalated with 3% increment. The proposed Contractual Staff Payment is higher than the approved amount for the FY 2024-25 and the same may be reviewed. SLDC has proposed terminal benefits of Rs 49.766 lakh for the FY 2025-26.
32. SLDC has claimed Rs.78.929 Lakh as depreciation for assets in ULDC and offices in SLDC as per CERC Regulation. Out of the total depreciation, the major amount claimed is for recovering the depreciation cost for the upgraded & enhanced VPS (costing Rs.166.53 Lakh) amounting to Rs.17.540 Lakh. Further, depreciation charges for recovering the cost of the Load Forecasting System & Software for the SLDC office amounting to Rs.8.686 Lakh. Depreciation on upgraded & enhanced VPS and recovering the depreciation cost of the Load Forecasting System & Software for the SLDC office may be allowed on the basis of the approved project cost. Depreciation on new assets, as mentioned above, should be scrutinized whether the above assets are approved by the commission. The approved cost of the ADMS project was Rs.53.00 Lakh. The depreciation should be allowed based on the Commission's approved project cost and the depreciation already given.
33. Proposed working capital of Rs.348.593 Lakh may not be approved separately and the same may be allowed to be incurred from the SLDC Development Fund.
34. Regarding the Commission's directions on the transfer of assets to SLDC, SLDC has submitted that as per the recommendation in the report of the task force committee on "Capital Expenditure and Issues related to Emoluments for Personnel in Load Despatch Centres", the assets pertaining to the Control Centre (SLDC) has to be handed over to the State Load Despatch Centres. The assets of SLDC along with sub-SLDC have been

identified and are presently being exclusively used by SLDC personnel awaiting transfer as per the direction of the Commission.

35. The recommendation No. (4) in Clause 6.4 of the Report of the Committee on “Manpower, Certification and Incentives for System Operation and Ring-fencing Load Despatch Centres” has envisaged that the highly specialized and technical nature of LDC function necessitates a suitable compensation structure to attract and retain talent. The expenditure for Training & Certification of LDC personnel has been projected as Rs.12.208 lakh for the FY 2025-26.
36. The accumulated cash balance in SLDC Development Fund, as submitted by SLDC, is Rs.84.97 Cr. as on 31.03.2024.
37. Capital Expenditure for the FY 2024-25 (up to Nov 24) is Rs.0.29 Cr. and income from Bank interest and Capital Receipts is Rs.5.64 Cr. & Rs.4.02 Cr. respectively. The closing balance of the SLDC fund for the FY 2024-25 (up to Nov 24) is Rs.94.36 Cr.
38. The Miscellaneous income of SLDC such as Registration Fee, Application Fee, Short Term Open Access Charges, etc. during any financial year shall be deposited in the SLDC Development Fund as per the Regulation 8 of the OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC and other related matters) Regulation, 2010. SLDC shall be entitled to utilize the money from the SLDC Development Fund as usual in assets creation and margin money for raising loans from FIs for assets creation & funding of R&D Projects, if any, relating to Odisha Power System with the necessary approval of the Commission. Any asset created by SLDC out of money available in SLDC Development Fund shall not be considered for computation of Return on Equity & Interest on Loan.

C. THE VIEWS OF OBJECTORS AND RESPONSE OF SLDC ON VARIOUS ISSUES ARE AS FOLLOWS (PARA 39 to 51)

39. **Independent Apex body:**

Views of Objectors:

Some of the Objectors have submitted that, under Sections 31 and 32 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the SLDC should be an independent apex body to ensure integrated power system operation in the State. Despite 14 years since the OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC & other related matters) Regulations 2010 notification and 21 years of the Act's completion, the SLDC function of OPTCL cannot be separated. No ring-fencing works have been done by OPTCL, the Govt of Odisha, or GRIDCO to make SLDC an independent body and separate entity like POSOCO. The Director of SLDC has been

appointed by the Government of Odisha to manage and control various functions/wings of OPTCL without its separation and no license is issued to carry out its functions due to the constraints of a separate entity.

The Act mandates that a Government Company should take over the SLDC function. Therefore, the Objectors have requested the Commission to advise the Government of Odisha to form a Government Company to take over the SLDC function from OPTCL in compliance with the Act's provisions. Further, the SLDC application should not be accepted by the Commission because the SLDC is functioning as a unit under OPTCL.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has no comments on the observations/comments of the Objectors.

40. **O&M expenses:**

View of Objector:

Based on normative escalation over the previous year, TPWODL has requested the Commission to make a suitable decision on O&M expenses of SLDC for the FY 2025-26.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has no comments on the observation/comment of the Objector.

41. **Cross Subsidy Surcharge (CSS):**

View of Objector:

TPWODL has requested the Commission to authorise the Distribution Companies (DISCOMs) to issue Cross Subsidy Surcharge bills based on the approved schedule rather than actual consumption data. This change would help streamline the billing and collection process by eliminating unnecessary delays.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has requested to allow the Distribution Licensees to raise the CSS bill directly to their customers for which SLDC shall be providing the customer-wise energy drawl schedule against open access.

42. **Interest on Working Capital:**

View of Objector:

The Objector, Shri Ananda Kumar Mohapatra has submitted that although no working capital loans have been taken, the State Load Dispatch Center (SLDC) has requested an interest charge of Rs.0.41 Cr. on working capital on a normative basis. This request is

based on the possibility that SLDC may not receive payments from beneficiaries in a timely manner. The Objector argues that since all four distribution companies (Discoms) are paying their SLDC charges on time, there is no need to allow interest on working capital. Therefore, this item should not be included as part of the Annual Revenue Requirement (ARR).

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has no comments on the observation/comment of the Objector.

43. **ARR:**

View of Objector:

TPCODL has submitted that the total projected expenditure for SLDC, excluding working capital, is Rs.13.94 Cr.. This expenditure should be allowed, contingent upon a prudence check and justification, to ensure that retail consumers are not burdened with unnecessary costs.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has no comments on the observation/comment of the Objector.

44. **Timelines & Timelines Failure cases:**

View of the Objector:

The Objector, Shri Ananda Kumar Mohapatra has submitted that timeliness in the power sector is crucial for notifying regulations, forecasting demand and supply, R&M works, plans, and projects within deadlines, maintaining operational flow, and meeting the objectives under the Electricity Act, 2003. It fosters cost effectiveness, reasonable tariffs, and customer satisfaction by delivering services on time. Timeliness also improves the regulatory regime of electricity, increases customer trust, and demonstrates professionalism and respect for utilities, clients, and consumers. Timelines are crucial for the growth of the Applicant and Regulatory body, as they enable the improvement of their performance. However, the Act's timelines are often violated by all parties involved, including the Regulator and the Applicant, but no remedial measures have been taken so far to ensure compliance. The business plans or MYT of utilities, including the Applicant, are not approved on timelines, and projects are not completed on time. Replacements of defective transformers, meters, and electrical plants are not completed within regulated timelines. The restoration of the power supply, quality of services, and automatic compensation for service failures have not been ensured within

the specified timelines. The Commission is urged to pay strict attention to these timelines to ensure the satisfaction of stakeholders and meet the Act's objectives

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has no comments on the observation/comment of the Objector.

45. **Performance of SLDC:**

View of the Objector:

The Commission should initiate necessary action to create new regulations for the operation and control of the power system in Odisha in line with the POSOCO Regulations notified by CERC. Further, the current regulations for SLDC do not provide for performance review of SLDC, unlike other Stakeholders. Therefore, the Commission should review the SLDC's performance, especially in revenue, until required regulations are issued to strengthen power system operation and control in Odisha.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has no comments on the observation/comment of the Objector.

46. **Levy & Collection of Fees & Charges:**

View of the Objector:

Regulation 17(2) of the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010 states that SLDC is entitled to levy and collect registration fees and charges from users & power exchanges and Regulation 17(3) of the aforesaid Regulations states that SLDC is also entitled to levy and collect fees for other services provided to users and power exchanges. Therefore, the Objector has urged before the Commission to direct SLDC to submit data regarding registration fees, levy and collection of fees and charges from the power exchange before the public hearing of the application.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has submitted that its fees and charges are collected from registered users, who are state-embedded entities, in accordance with the approved fees and charges by the OERC. The percentage distribution and applicable rate of charges for power exchanges are not specified in the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010.

47. **Truing up for the previous FY 2023-24:**

View of the Objector:

The Objector, Shri Ananda Kumar Mohapatra, has submitted that as per the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, the truing-up application for the FY 2023-24 should be filed by October 31, 2024. However, SLDC has not filed the same before the Commission. Therefore, the Objector has requested before the Commission to address this non-compliance with the Commission's Regulations.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has no comments on the observation/comment of the Objector.

48. **Public Capital does not make any return:**

View of the Objector:

The Objector, Shri Ananda Kumar Mohapatra, has submitted that Public Capital refers to the Government's budget disbursed to public utilities and the funds used for capital works or equity induction. It is paid by both the Government and the people through taxes, duties, fees, and charges. Public utilities, such as OPTCL, OHPC, OPGC, and GRIDCO, are not formed for profit-making but rather use public capital for the welfare of the people without causing any loss. Public capital is granted to utilities to make power supply reliable and tariff affordable, aiming to improve the pace of economic development in the state. However, the Act, Policies, Rules & Regulations notified by the government and government bodies like the Regulatory Commission do not allow government bodies to make returns out of public capital. The return on private capital must be paid to private bodies, and public capital cannot be used to make returns on public capital. The OERC's approval of returns on equity on public capital deployed by public utilities and charged to tariffs is illegal and needs to be stopped as soon as possible. Public capital should be lived in the books of the regulatory accounts, as tariffs cannot be affordable or services are reliable without them. As Depreciation on public capital is not allowed as a pass-through in the determination of Fees and Charges of SLDC, so SLDC must justify calculating depreciation on private capital only.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has no comments on the observation/comment of the Objector.

49. **Power Exchange:**

View of the Objector:

The Objector, Shri Ananda Kumar Mohapatra, has submitted that the SLDC has proposed to collect charges and fees to meet its revenue requirement of Rs.14.34 Cr. for the FY 2025-26. However, the SLDC has not considered the charges receivable from power exchanges. However, as per the Regulations, SLDC is to collect fees and charges from registered power exchanges. Considering the above, the Objector has requested SLDC to address this issue in the interest of the State.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has submitted that the proposal for collection of SLDC charges has been prepared in accordance with the percentage distribution as specified in the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010 wherein the percentage distribution and the applicable rate of such charges with respect to the power exchange is not specified.

50. **High gaps between Maximum Demand and Minimum Demand:**

View of the Objector:

The Objector, Shri Ananda Kumar Mohapatra, submitted that, during the FY 2023-24, the Maximum Demand of the Grid reached 6431.61 MW in August 2023 and the Minimum Demand fell to 2943.06 MW in December 2023, resulting in a significant gap of 3488.55 MW between the Maximum and Minimum Demand for the FY 2023-24. Similarly, during the FY 2024-25 (up to September 2024), the gap between the Maximum Demand and Minimum Demand was significant. Therefore, the Objector has urged the SLDC to address this issue and initiate remedial measures to reduce the gap in the supply of reliable power to consumers in Odisha.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has no comments on the observation/comment of the Objector.

51. **Incentive of system availability:**

View of the Objector:

The Objector, Shri Ananda Kumar Mohapatra, has requested SLDC to discuss about the TAFY (i.e. 99.98%) achieved by OPTCL and its incentives.

Reply of SLDC:

SLDC has submitted that the transmission system availability corresponds to the OPTCL system and hence SLDC has no comments to offer in this regard.

D. OBSERVATIONS OF STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC) (PARA 52)

52. The Commission convened the 37th State Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting on 01.03.2025 at 11 AM to discuss the Annual Revenue Requirement & determination of tariff for the FY 2025-26 through virtual mode. The Members of the SAC, Special Invitees, and the Representative of the Department of Energy, Govt. of Odisha actively participated in the discussion and offered their valuable suggestions and views on the matter for consideration of the Commission.

E. VIEWS OF GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA (PARA 53)

53. The Department of Energy, Government of Odisha, vide their Letter No.3941 dated 21.03.2025 have communicated views/suggestions on various issues relating to tariff for the FY 2025-26. However, no specific suggestion was given by the State Government with regard to the determination of fees and charges for SLDC for the FY 2025-26.

F. COMMISSION'S OBSERVATIONS AND ORDER (PARA 54 to 89)

54. SLDC as an Independent System Operator (ISO) is an apex body and has an important role to play in ensuring the integrated operation of the Power System of the State covering the transmission system of OPTCL, which includes about 16600.348 CKM. of transmission lines, 26896.5 MVA of transformation capacity, and 197 Nos. of Grid Substations, which are in operation at 132 kV, 220 kV, and 400 kV levels, to cater to the present peak demand of about 6928 MW of the State.
55. The Commission has followed the principles laid down in the Electricity Act, 2003, CERC (Fees and Charges of RLDC and other Related Matters) Regulations, 2009 and OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010 for approval of ARR and determination of Annual Fees & Charges for SLDC's functions. At present, SLDC is functioning independently headed by the Chief Load Despatcher (Director, SLDC) and is maintaining separate financial accounts although administrative ring-fencing is not fully implemented. Therefore, collection of annual fees and charges for SLDC function from various stakeholders as per Section 32(3) of the Act and other sources by SLDC is permissible under law.
56. In compliance with Regulation 3 of the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010 as well as in conformity

with OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004, SLDC has filed its Annual Revenue Requirement (ARR) application along with other related information in the prescribed format for determination of Annual Fees and Charges for SLDC functions for the FY 2025-26. The said application was registered as Case No. 92 of 2024.

57. Heard the Petitioner and Respondent through hybrid mode (virtual/physical) in Case No. 92 of 2024. We now examine and analyse the claims of the Petitioner for tariff application for the FY 2025-26, the views of Objectors and replies submitted by the SLDC in response to various queries raised along with supporting documents available on record. The observations and order of the Commission are as follows:

SLDC's ARR & Tariff for the FY 2025-26:

58. The Commission has scrutinized the various components associated with the determination of Revenue Requirements for SLDC functions (i.e. Return on Equity (RoE), Interest on loan Capital, Depreciation, Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expenses, Human Resource Expenses, Interest on Working Capital, etc.) which are discussed in brief hereunder:

Return on Equity (RoE):

59. SLDC has not proposed any RoE in the ARR since no equity has been invested. Therefore, the Commission does not allow any RoE in the ARR of SLDC for the FY 2025-26.

Interest on Loan Capital:

60. SLDC has not proposed any Interest on Loan Capital in the ARR as there is no outstanding loan. Therefore, the Commission does not allow any interest on loan capital in the ARR of SLDC for the FY 2025-26.

Depreciation:

61. SLDC has proposed **Rs.78.929 Lakhs** towards depreciation for the FY 2025-26 on its assets and submitted that, as per the OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, depreciation shall be calculated annually on straight-line method and at the rate specified by CERC from time to time. SLDC has submitted that the capital cost of the asset as admitted by the Commission has been considered for the purpose of calculation of depreciation. Further, the above amount of depreciation proposed is inclusive of depreciation for the assets in the Unified Load Despatch Centre (ULDC) and offices in SLDC which has been computed in line with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Fees and Charges of Regional Load Despatch

Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2024 norms as per above mentioned OERC's Regulation. The depreciation claimed by the SLDC is for the assets such as computers and peripherals for the SLDC data Centre & the Video Projection System (VPS) including its up-gradation and enhancement.

62. The Commission scrutinized the assets position of SLDC as per audited accounts as on 31.03.2024 and found that the total amount of original book value of fixed assets was Rs.1161.34 Lakhs as on 31.03.2024. Based on the original book value of fixed assets and rate of depreciation as per the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, the Commission approves **Rs.79.489 Lakhs** towards depreciation for the FY 2025-26.

Human Resource Expenses (Employee Cost):

63. SLDC has projected **Rs.1029.749 Lakhs** towards Employee Cost for the FY 2025-26 considering the 63 Nos. of existing employees including 3 Nos. of Telecommunication personnel and 14 Nos. of contractual/outsourced staff engaged at the SLDC control Centre.
64. The Commission has examined the breakup details in respect of employees' costs proposed by SLDC and considered the basic pay of Rs.508.692 Lakhs for the FY 2025-26 as proposed by the SLDC. The Commission has considered Dearness Allowances @ 61% (based on Finance Department, Government of Odisha Circular dated 02.11.2024), Medical Allowance @ 5% of basic pay, House Rent Allowance @14.75% of basic pay has been allowed on the basis of actual HRA paid to employees during the first 8 months of the FY 2024-25. Other employees' related costs and allowances have been considered by the Commission appropriately. Accordingly, the Commission approves Rs.1018.576 Lakhs towards employee cost for the FY 2025-26 against Rs.1029.749 Lakhs as proposed by SLDC. The details of the proposed and approved employee's costs (Human resource expenses) are shown in the Table below:

Table – 10
Employee Cost Proposed by SLDC and Approved by the Commission for
the FY 2025-26

Sl. No	Particulars	(Rs. Lakhs)		
		Approved for FY 2024-25	Proposed for FY 2025-26	Approved for FY 2025-26
1.	Salaries	520.824	508.692	508.692
2.	Dearness Allowance	286.453	305.215	310.302
3.	Reimbursement of House Rent	83.332	75.792	75.032
4.	Reimbursement of Medical Expenses	26.041	25.435	25.435

Sl. No	Particulars	Approved for FY 2024-25	Proposed for FY 2025-26	Approved for FY 2025-26
5.	Other Allowances such as shift, Conveyance, ABT, green card washing, etc.	17.360	16.139	16.139
6.	Contractual Staff Payment	17.825	29.395	29.395
7.	Leave Travel Concession	2.000	5.000	2.000
8.	Ex-gratia	10.000	12.500	-
9.	Staff Welfare Expenses	0.100	0.735	0.735
10.	Terminal Benefits (Employer's Share)	51.163	49.766	49.766
11.	Payment under the Workmen Compensation Act	-	0.100	0.100
12.	Others (Specify) (Uniform & Liveries)	2.376	0.980	0.980
13.	Total Employees Cost	1,017.474	1,029.749	1,018.576

Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expenses (excluding human resource expenses):

65. As per the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expenses consist of Repair & Maintenance (R &M) expenses and Administrative & General (A&G) expenses excluding Human Resources Expenses. Accordingly, SLDC has proposed O&M expenses (excluding human resource expenses) is Rs.284.815 Lakhs (Rs.117.321 Lakh towards R&M expenses and Rs.167.494 Lakhs towards A&G expenses) for the FY 2025-26.
66. The Commission has scrutinized the actual expenditure made by SLDC for R&M and A&G expenses during the FY 2023-24. Further, as per Regulation 14 of the OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, the permissible Operation and Maintenance expenses for the subsequent years of the tariff period shall be escalated at the rate of 5.72% per annum. Further, as per the Audit report, the actual O&M expenses for the FY 2023-24 are Rs.214.459 Lakhs (Rs.77.056 Lakhs towards R&M expenses and Rs.137.403 Lakhs towards A&G expenses). Accordingly, the Commission has evaluated O&M expenses for the FY 2025-26 by considering the annual escalation @ 5.72% per annum over the actual O&M expenses incurred during the FY 2023-24 (Rs.214.459 Lakhs) and approves **Rs.239.694 Lakhs** towards Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expenses (Excluding Human Resource Expenses) which includes R&M expenses of **Rs.86.123 Lakhs** and A&G expenses of **Rs.153.571 Lakhs**. The details are shown in the Table below:

Table – 11
O&M Expenses (Excluding Human Resource Expenses) Proposed by SLDC and
Approved by the Commission for the FY 2025-26

(Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Actual for FY 2023-24	Approved for FY 2024-25	Proposed for FY 2025-26	Approved for FY 2025-26
1.	R& M Expenses	77.056	55.235	117.321	86.123
2.	A&G Expenses	137.403	158.354	167.494	153.571
	Total (1+2)	214.459	213.589	284.815	239.694

Interest on Working Capital:

67. SLDC has estimated that its working capital requirement is Rs.348.593 Lakhs and accordingly, Rs.40.785 Lakhs has been proposed as interest on working capital considering @ 11.70 % as rate of interest (SBI base Rate 8.70 % plus 300 basis point). However, the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010 provides that the rate of Interest on working capital shall be on normative basis and shall be equal to the short-term Prime lending rate of the State Bank of India. The Commission observes that SLDC has not taken any loan to meet the working expenses. As SLDC has adequate funds in the SLDC Development Fund and this fund is being used for the purpose of working capital, therefore no interest on working capital is allowed for the FY 2025-26.

Summary of ARR Proposed by SLDC and Approved by the Commission for the FY 2025-26:

68. The summary of expenses proposed by SLDC in its ARR and approved by the Commission for the FY 2025-26 has been shown in the Table below:

Table – 12
Summary of ARR Proposed by SLDC and Approved by the Commission
for the FY 2025-26

(Rs. in Lakhs)

SL No.	Items	Approved for FY 2024-25	Proposed for FY 2025-26	Approved for FY 2025-26
1	Human Resource Expenses	1,017.474	1,029.749	1,018.576
2	O & M (Excluding Human Resources Expenses)	213.589	284.815	239.694
3	Depreciation	79.285	78.929	79.489
4	Interest on Working Capital	-	40.785	-
5	Sub-total (1+2+3+4)	1,310.348	1,434.278	1,337.759
6	Truing-up Deficit of FY 2021-22	205.475	-	-
7	Truing-up Deficit of FY 2022-23	80.255	-	-
	Total (5+6+7)	1,596.078	1,434.278	1,337.759

Determination of Annual Charges of SLDC

69. The Commission approves Rs.1337.759 Lakhs (Rs.111.480 Lakhs/month) as the Annual Charges for SLDC Operation during the FY 2025-26 and the same is to be recovered from the users of the Intra-State Transmission Network for availing the services of SLDC during the ensuing year. Accordingly, as per OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, the Commission has considered Annual Fixed Charges (AFC) of SLDC Operations for the FY 2025-26, which is to be recovered through SOC & MOC, the details of which are given in the Table below:

Table - 13
SLDC Charges approved by the Commission for the FY 2025-26
(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl No	Particulars	Total for FY 2025-26	Monthly Charges
1	Annual charges (AFC)	1,337.759	111.480
A	System Operation Charges (SOC) (80% of the AFC)	1,070.207	89.184
B	Market Operation Charges (MOC) (20% of the AFC)	267.552	22.296
	Total (A+B)	1,337.759	111.480
A	System Operation Charges (SOC) (80% of the AFC)	1,070.207	89.184
a)	Intra State Transmission Licensee @10% of SOC	107.021	8.918
b)	Generating Station & Sellers @45% of SOC	481.593	40.133
c)	Distribution Licensees & Buyers@45% of SOC	481.593	40.133
	Total of A (a+b+c)	1,070.207	89.184
B	Market Operation Charges (MOC) (20% of the AFC)	267.552	22.296
d)	Generating Station & Sellers @50% of MOC	133.776	11.148
e)	Distribution Licensees & Buyers@50% of MOC	133.776	11.148
	Total of B (d+e)	267.552	22.296

Recovery of System Operation Charges (SOC)

70. As per Regulation 20 of the OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, the System Operation Charges (SOC) of **Rs.1,070.207 Lakhs/annum** or **Rs.89.184 Lakhs/ month** shall be collected from the stakeholders as under:
- i) 10% of annual SOC shall be recovered @ **Rs.107.021 Lakhs/annum** or **Rs.8.918 Lakhs/month** from the Intra-State Transmission Licensee,
 - ii) 45% of annual SOC (i.e. **Rs.481.593 Lakhs/annum** or **Rs.40.133 Lakhs/month**) shall be recovered @ **Rs.7660.347/MW/annum** or **@Rs.638.362/MW/month** from the Generating Companies & Sellers based on

the scheduled generation / installed capacity of **6286.830 MW** assessed by SLDC, and

- iii) Balance 45% of annual SOC shall be recovered @ **Rs.481.593 Lakhs/annum** or **Rs.40.133 Lakhs/month** from the Distribution Licensees & Buyers based on the percentage of Energy Consumption approved by the Commission for FY 2025-26 which is given in the Table below:

Table - 14
Apportionment of Annual & Monthly SOC amongst Distribution Companies for FY 2025-26

Name of DISCOMs	Energy Consumption approved by OERC for FY 2025-26 (MU)	Share of Energy Consumption (%)	Annual Charge (In Lakhs)	Monthly Charge (In Lakhs)
TPCODL	13,823.00	34.57	166.501	13.875
TPNODL	8,719.00	21.81	105.022	8.752
TPWODL	12,378.00	30.96	149.097	12.425
TPSODL	5,062.00	12.66	60.973	5.081
Total	39,982.00	100.00	481.593	40.133

Recovery of Market Operation Charges (MOC)

71. As per Regulation 21 of the OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC and other related matters) Regulations, 2010, The Market Operation Charges (MOC) of **Rs.267.552 Lakhs/annum** or **Rs.22.296 Lakhs/ month** shall be collected from the stakeholders as under:
- i. 50% of annual MOC (i.e. **Rs.133.776 Lakhs/annum** or **Rs.11.148 Lakhs/month**) shall be recovered @ **Rs.2127.877/MW/annum** or **@Rs.177.323/MW/month** from the Generating Companies & Sellers based on the scheduled generation / installed capacity of **6286.83 MW** assessed by SLDC, and
- ii. Balance 50% of annual MOC shall be recovered @ **Rs.133.776 Lakhs/annum** or **Rs.11.148 Lakhs/month** from the Distribution Licensees & Buyers based on the percentage of Energy Consumption approved by the Commission for FY 2025-26 which is given in the Table below:

Table - 15
Apportionment of Annual & Monthly MOC amongst Distribution Companies for FY 2025-26

Name of DISCOMs	Energy Consumption approved by OERC for FY 2025-26 (MU)	% Share of Energy Consumption	Annual Charge (In Lakhs)	Monthly Charge (In Lakhs)
TPCODL	13,823.00	34.57	46.250	3.854
TPNODL	8,719.00	21.81	29.173	2.431
TPWODL	12,378.00	30.96	41.416	3.452

Name of DISCOMs	Energy Consumption approved by OERC for FY 2025-26 (MU)	% Share of Energy Consumption	Annual Charge (In Lakhs)	Monthly Charge (In Lakhs)
TPSODL	5,062.00	12.66	16.937	1.411
Total	39,982.00	100.00	133.776	11.148

Registration Fee:

72. SLDC has proposed the collection of one-time Registration Fee of Rs.1.00 Lakhs as per OERC Regulation from all users whose Scheduling, Metering & Energy Accounting are coordinated by SLDC. It has also proposed to collect one-time registration fee from the industries that are importing power through the Inter-state open access. The Commission approves the proposal of SLDC for the collection of one-time Registration Fee of Rs.1.00 Lakh from all users, which needs to be deposited in the SLDC Development Fund as per Regulation 8 of OERC's Regulations, 2010 relating to SLDC Fees & Charges.

Application Fee and Scheduling Charges

73. SLDC in its ARR application has proposed that the Application Fee and Scheduling Charges shall be paid by the Open Access Customers as per the OERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2020. The Commission approves the proposed Application Fee and Scheduling Charges for Open Access Customers payable to SLDC during the FY 2025-26 as per the above Regulations of OERC i.e. OERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2020.

ARR and Annual & Monthly Charges for the FY 2025-26

74. The **details** of ARR and Annual & Monthly Charges of SLDC for the FY 2025-26 for collection from different stakeholders approved by the Commission are summarized in the Table below:

Table - 16
ARR & Annual and Monthly Charges Approved by the Commission
for the FY 2025-26

Sl. No.	Particulars	(Rs. in Lakhs)	
		Approved for 2025-26	
		Per annum	Per month
1	ARR of SLDC	1337.759	111.480
2	Intra-state transmission licensee to pay SOC to SLDC	107.021	8.918
3	Generating Stations & Sellers to pay SOC & MOC to SLDC (Rs. per MW calculated considering scheduled generation / installed capacity of 6286.83 MW)	615.369	51.281
		(Rs.9788.224 per MW)	(Rs.815.685 per MW)
4	Distribution Licensees & Buyers to pay SOC &	615.369	51.281

Sl. No.	Particulars	Approved for 2025-26	
		Per annum	Per month
	MOC to SLDC		
5	(i) TPCODL	212.751	17.729
	(ii) TPNODL	134.195	11.183
	(iii) TPWODL	190.513	15.877
	(iv) TPSODL	77.910	6.492

75. **Payment Mechanism of Annual Charges to SLDC**

- (a) The LC arrangement has been created between SLDC and DISCOMs for securing payment of SLDC charges. Customers other than DISCOMs shall pay the Monthly Charges to SLDC directly based on the bills served upon them from time to time by SLDC. The Customers, other than DISCOMs, shall pay an amount equivalent to two months monthly SOC & MOC as the case may be in advance as security against default in payment of SOC & MOC of SLDC.
- (b) SLDC shall raise the bill both for SOC & MOC to Generating Stations & Sellers on monthly basis against the total installed/contracted capacity of **6286.83 MW** as projected by SLDC for the FY 2025-26 at the rates approved by the Commission. Similarly, SLDC shall raise the bill to OPTCL & Distribution Licensees on monthly basis at the rates approved by the Commission for the FY 2025-26.
- (c) For payment of bills on monthly basis through the Letter of Credit (LC) mechanism, a rebate of 2% shall be allowed. Other than the Letter of Credit mechanism, if payment is made within a period of one month of presentation of bills, a rebate of 1% shall be allowed.
- (d) In case the payment of any bill for SLDC charges is delayed by any user beyond a period of 60 days from the date of billing, a late payment surcharge at the rate of 1.25% per month shall be levied by the SLDC.
- (e) The SOC & MOC Charges of SLDC shall be paid on a monthly basis by the Customers based on the monthly bills served upon them by SLDC in line with the payment mechanism mentioned above.

76. **SLDC Development Fund**

- (a) Based on the provisions in CERC Regulation, 2009 & Regulation-8 of OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC and other related Matters) Regulation, 2010, the Commission, vide Para-213 of the Order dated 20.03.2010, had approved for creation of a separate fund by SLDC namely "SLDC Development Fund" under a

separate head of account. SLDC Development Fund has already been created by SLDC with effect from 01.04.2010.

- (b) The miscellaneous income of SLDC such as Registration Fee, Application Fee, Short Term Open Access Charges, etc. during the FY 2024-25 shall be deposited in the SLDC Development Fund as per Regulation 8 of OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC and other related matters) Regulation, 2010.
 - (c) SLDC shall be entitled to utilize the money deposited in the SLDC Development Fund for meeting the stipulated equity portion in asset creation and margin money for raising loans from the financial institutions and funding R&D projects with due approval of the Commission
 - (d) Any asset created by SLDC out of SLDC Development Fund shall not be considered for Return on Equity (RoE) & payment towards Interest on Loan.
 - (e) Considering the above provisions of the OERC (Fees & Charges of SLDC and other related matters) Regulation, 2010, the accumulated cash balance in SLDC Development Fund has been shown by SLDC as Rs.8497.68 Lakhs as on 31.03.2024 after utilization of Rs.1731.75 Lakhs (up to 31.03.2024) from the SLDC Development Fund. However, the Commission, vide its order dated 13.02.2024 regarding the determination of Annual Revenue Requirement and SLDC Fees & Charges for FY 2024-25, had approved Regulatory deficit of Rs.205.48 Lakhs of the FY 2021-22 & Rs.80.25 Lakhs of FY 2022-23 and allowed to recover in the FY 2024-25. Considering the above regulatory deficit, the accumulated cash balance in the SLDC Development Fund would be Rs.8783.41 Lakhs (Rs.8497.68 Lakhs + Rs.205.48 Lakhs + Rs.80.25 Lakhs) as on 31.03.2024.
77. SLDC needs to ensure the availability of required information from substations through SCADA/ RTU and share it with OPTCL for billing and smooth operation of the system. Further, efficient operation of the transmission system is very much required because of the expected large-scale integration of renewable generation with variability in the injection of power in the coming years. SLDC should provide operational feedback to OPTCL regularly regarding the overloading of transmission lines and transformers, over/ under voltage at various substations, and the need for reactive compensation, etc., so that remedial action can be taken through proper planning of transmission system for future and for strengthening/augmentation of existing system for mitigation of constraints in transmission system for smooth operation of the power system of the state.

78. At present, people of the State are considering solar energy as a feasible option for powering their homes and businesses because of the increase in their own electricity consumption as well as energy costs day by day. Further, due to the formulation/introduction of the Renewable Energy Policy 2022 by the Government of Odisha, many industries/firms in Odisha are now interested in going for the generation of power from Renewable Energy Sources like Solar or Wind or hybrid (Solar+Wind) with or without energy storage in Odisha. We therefore expect a large-scale integration of Solar generation in the State Power System in the near future. It is a fact that in the absence of a proper storage system, the generation of Solar power can only be best utilised during the daytime. Therefore, SLDC shall make use of the flexibility provided by conventional hydro generation plants and the capacity of inter-grid tie-lines to accommodate Solar energy generation to the largest extent possible subject to Grid security.
79. As per Regulation 4 of the OERC (Fees and Charges of State Load Despatch Centre and other related matters) Regulations, 2010 as well as in conformity with the OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004, SLDC is required to submit an application, in the format prescribed by the Commission, for carrying out truing up exercise for the last financial year by 31st October of the next financial year. However, SLDC has not filed its Truing Up application for the FY 2023-24. In compliance with the provisions of the aforesaid Regulation, the Commission hereby directs SLDC to comply with the same.
80. The Commission directs SLDC to submit the Complete Fixed Assets Register at the original book value of fixed assets as on 31.03.2025 & addition during FY 2024-25 showing assets created through SLDC Development Fund, Grants etc. and Capital work in progress (CWIP) position as on 31.03.2025 in the earlier prescribed format of the Commission. The same should reach the Commission's office on or before 30.09.2025 duly audited and certified by the Chartered Accountant/ Cost Accountant firms.
81. The Commission directs SLDC to update the status of the assessment of the Power flow in different lines at different voltage levels (132kV, 220 kV & 400 kV) in the last three years to understand the utilization level of the transmission system at such voltage so that future planning for the addition of transmission assets can be done properly for optimum utilization of assets.
82. The Commission directs SLDC to update the initiative taken to carry out the study for planning and development of the Islanding Scheme for major cities like Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Berhampur, Sambalpur & Rourkela etc. separately or in combination with more than one city. The funding for the Islanding Scheme can be availed from the PSDF.

83. The Commission directs that procurement/works expenses related to Repair and Maintenance should not be utilized from the SLDC Development Fund.
84. The Commission directs SLDC to implement a backup SLDC to avoid any unexpected cyber-attack.
85. As submitted by the SLDC, the implementation of SAMASTA (Scheduling, Accounting, Metering, and Settlement of Transactions in Electricity) will be completed by December 2025. According to the OPTCL and SLDC, implementation of SAMAST is essential for online management and accommodation of large data sets, conducting energy audits of the transmission system, calculating element-wise transmission losses, implementation of DSM and collecting meter data & other relevant information online relating to RE generators connected at 33 kV level. Therefore, the Commission directs SLDC to complete the SAMASTA project within the scheduled timeframe.
86. SLDC is directed to inform about the status of the implementation of load forecasting software being developed by IIIT, Bhopal and the timeline for effective use.
87. The Commission directs SLDC to intimate about the preparedness to schedule green energy banked through Green Energy Open Access including banking by producers of Green Hydrogen / Green Ammonia/their derivatives availing green energy outside the State.
88. The System Operation & Market Operation Charges approved in respect of SLDC will become effective from 1st April 2025 and shall continue until further orders.
89. The application of SLDC in Case No. 92 of 2024 for approval of Annual Revenue Requirement and Fees and Charges for State Load Despatch Centre (SLDC) functions for the FY 2025-26 is disposed of accordingly.

Sd/-
(S. K. Ray Mohapatra)
Member

Sd/-
(G. Mohapatra)
Officiating Chairperson