



महाराष्ट्र विद्युत नियामक आयोग

Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission

Ref. No. MERC/FAC/2020-21/ WFH/SBR/ 53

Date: 21 March, 2021

To,

The Managing Director

Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd.,

5th Floor, Prakashgad, Plot No. G-9

Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051

Subject: Prior Approval of Fuel Adjustment Charges (FAC) submission of MSEDCL for the month of November 2020.

Reference:

1. MSEDCL's FAC submission dated 11 January, 2021 for prior approval of FAC for the month of November, 2020.
2. Data gaps communicated to MSEDCL vide email dated 17 January, 2021 and 17 February, 2021.
3. MSEDCL's response to data gaps by email dated 8 February, 2021, 24 February, 2021 and 1 March, 2021.

Sir,

Upon vetting the FAC calculations for the month of November, 2020 as mentioned in the above reference, the Commission has accorded approval for FAC amount of Rs. 61.01 Crore. However, the said amount is adjusted from the FAC Fund and accordingly the FAC chargeable to consumers is as shown in the table below:

Month	FAC Amount (Rs. Crore)
November, 2020	0 (Zero)

The Commission allows the accumulation of FAC amount of Rs. (77.10) Crore which shall form part of FAC Fund and shall be carried forward to next FAC billing cycle with holding cost as per the Order dated 30 March, 2020 in Case No 322 of 2019. Further, as directed in the said Order, MSEDCL shall maintain the monthly account of FAC Fund and upload it on its website to maintain transparency of FAC Fund and also for information of all the stakeholders.

MSEDCL is directed to file their future FAC submissions taking into consideration data gaps raised in previous months to ensure timely prior approval.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Rajendra G. Ambekar)
Executive Director, MERC

Encl: Annexure A: Detailed Vetting Report for the month of November, 2020.

ANNEXURE A

Detailed Vetting Report

Date: 21 March, 2021

PRIOR APPROVAL FOR FAC CHARGES FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2020

Subject: Prior Approval of Fuel Adjustment Charges (FAC) submission of MSEDCL for the month of November, 2020.

Reference: MSEDCL's FAC submission dated 11 January, 2021, 8 February, 2021, 14 February, 2021 and 1 March, 2021 for prior approval of FAC for the month of November, 2020.

1. FAC submission by MSEDCL:

1.1 MSEDCL has submitted FAC submissions for the month of November, 2020 as referred above. Upon vetting the FAC calculations, taking cognizance of all the submissions furnished by MSEDCL against the data gaps issued, the Commission has accorded prior approval to MSEDCL for FAC amount of Rs. 61.01 Crore. The approved FAC amount shall be adjusted from the FAC Fund and balance amount shall be carried forward to next FAC billing cycle with holding cost as per the Order dated 30 March, 2020 in Case No 322 of 2019 (herein after referred to as "Tariff Order").

2. Background

2.1 On 30 March, 2020, the Commission has issued Tariff Order for MSEDCL, (Case No.322 of 2019) for True-up of FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19, provisional Truing-up for FY 2019-20, and Aggregate Revenue Requirement and Tariff for FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25. Revised Tariff has been made applicable from 1 April, 2020.

2.2 In the Tariff Order, the Commission has stipulated methodology of levying FAC as follows:

"8.5.12 Therefore, using its powers for Removing Difficulty under Regulations 106 of the MYT Regulations, 2019, the Commission is making following changes in the FAC mechanism stipulated under Regulation 10 of MYT Regulations, 2019:

Distribution Licensee shall undertake computation of monthly FAC as per Regulation 10 of the MYT Regulations, 2019 except for treatment to be given to negative FAC as follows:

- *Negative FAC amount shall be carried forward to the next FAC billing cycle with holding cost;*

- *Such carried forward negative FAC shall be adjusted against FAC amount for the next month and balance negative amount shall be carried forward to subsequent month with holding cost;*
- *Such carry forward of negative FAC shall be continued till the accumulated negative FAC becomes 20% of monthly tariff revenue approved by the Commission in Tariff Order. In case of MSEDCL, such limit shall be Rs. 1500 crore. Any accumulated amount above such limit shall be refunded to consumers through FAC mechanism;*
- *In case such FAC Fund is yet to be generated or such generated fund is not sufficient to adjust against FAC computed for given month, then Distribution Licensee can levy such amount to the consumers through FAC mechanism.*

8.5.13 In order to maintain transparency in management and use of such FAC Fund, the Distribution Licensee shall maintain monthly account of such FAC fund and upload it on its website for information of stakeholders. Further, till date, the Distribution Licensees have been levying FAC up to the prescribed limit of 20% of variable component of tariff without prior approval in accordance with the MYT Regulations, 2015, and submitting the FAC computations on a quarterly basis within 60 days of the close of each quarter, for post facto approval. However, as the Commission has now created a FAC fund as stated above to stabilise the increase in fuel prices and power purchase costs, the Commission has modified the FAC mechanism such that the Distribution Licensees shall submit the FAC computations on a monthly basis for prior approval, irrespective of whether FAC is chargeable in a month or whether some amount is accruing to the Fund on account of negative FAC.

8.5.14 The details of the FAC as per the Regulations, shall be submitted by the 15th of the every month prior to the month on which the FAC is proposed to be levied and the Commission will endeavour to decide on the same within 10 days so that the same can be levied from the 1st of the subsequent month. This prior approval will facilitate the addressing of any difficulties that may arise in giving effect to this fund. All the details will be submitted by the Distribution Licensee as is being done for approval of FAC on post facto basis. Thus the FAC to the consumers shall now be levied with prior approval of the Commission”

- 2.3 Vide its letter dated 20 April, 2020, the Commission communicated the excel formats along with the checklist to file FAC submissions for prior approval to all Distribution Licensees. The Commission also directed all Distribution Licensees to file FAC submissions by 15th of every month prior to the month for which the FAC is proposed to be levied for prior approval.
- 2.4 Accordingly, MSEDCL has filed FAC submissions for the month of November, 2020 for prior approval. The Commission has scrutinized the submissions provided by MSEDCL and has also verified the fuel and power purchase bills provided along with its submissions.

3. Energy Sales of the Licensee

3.1 The net energy sales within licence area as submitted by MSEDCL in the FAC submission and as approved by the Commission are as shown in the table below:

Consumer Category	Yearly Approved by the Commission (MU)	Monthly Approved (MU)	Actual Sales
			November 2020 (MU)
HT Category			
Industry (General)	33,829.98	2,684.26	2,570.79
Industry (Seasonal)	102.93	9.03	13.41
Commercial	1,887.38	154.12	108.76
Railways/Metro/Monorail	80.46	5.70	5.57
Public Water Works (PWW)	1,996.12	165.13	163.55
Agricultural - Pumpsets	1,243.85	142.28	21.80
Agricultural - Others	259.40	20.47	18.49
Group Housing Society (Residential)	239.68	17.92	14.99
Public Services - Government	273.16	20.46	19.43
Public Services - Others	825.16	61.99	48.04
Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	0.31	0.03	0.36
MSPGCL A uxiliary	183.74	13.10	10.26
Other Adjustment	4,842.00	403.50	371.46
Sub-total (A)	45,764.17	3,697.99	3,366.91
LT Category			
BPL	45.14	4.03	7.24
Residential	22,868.98	1,687.59	1,645.92
Non-Residential	6,934.28	546.13	375.45
Public Water Works	892.76	72.13	74.61
AG Metered (Pump-sets)	17,571.05	1,625.70	1,270.19
AG Metered (Others)	140.00	10.94	14.78
Industrial	9,618.89	701.87	824.41
Street Lights	2,272.61	183.25	162.00
Public Services	572.79	42.41	35.86
Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	0.23	0.02	0.05
Prepaid	-	-	-
Sub-total (B)	60,916.73	4,874.07	4,410.51
Total – Metered (C = A+B)	1,06,680.90	8,572.06	7,777.42
Unmetered Sale (D)	8,783.32	810.92	834.33
Grand Total(C+D)	1,15,464.22	9,382.98	8,611.75

* Other Adjustment is related to Sales to Open Access Consumer (Conventional and Renewable)

3.2 For the month of November 2020, it is observed that actual sales of 8611.75 MU is lower as compared to the approved energy sales of 9382.98 MU resulting in lower sales by 8%.

3.3 MSEDCL has submitted the data providing actual billing and estimated billing undertaken for the calculation of total energy consumption for the month of November 2020. As per the data, the billing of about 97% of sales is undertaken as per actual meter readings and balance 3% is still assessed on an estimated basis. 100% of HT billing is undertaken on actual basis and estimation is only for LT category. The figures do not include the agriculture sales which is on estimated basis for the month of November 2020.

3.4 The number of actual and estimated meter readings undertaken by MSEDCL for the month of November, 2020 except for agriculture consumers are as given below:

Sr. No.	Particulars	No. of Meters for which <u>actual</u> meter reading is done either manually or through AMR	No. of Meters for which meter reading are <u>estimated</u> .	Total Meters
1	HT	22,425	0	22,425
2	LT	2,11,18,500	28,35,527	2,39,54,027
	Total	2,11,40,925	28,35,527	2,39,76,452

3.5 Further, comparison of sales from April to November 20 as compared to last year are as shown below:

Particulars	LT - Residential (MU)	LT Others (MU)	HT (MU)	Ag- Unmetered	Total (MU)
Apr-19	1914	3513	3716	1051	10194
Apr-20	1525	2687	2120	921	7254
May-19	2161	3573	3819	1051	10604
May-20	2075	2559	2802	925	8361
Jun-19	2353	3463	3552	440	9808
Jun-20	2936	2449	3009	773	9167
Jul-19	1975	2956	3389	624	8944
Jul-20	2294	2366	2967	711	8339
Aug-19	1798	2876	3263	624	8561
Aug-20	2003	2408	3090	711	8212

Particulars	LT - Residential (MU)	LT Others (MU)	HT (MU)	Ag- Unmetered	Total (MU)
Sep-19	1748	2749	3202	840	8539
Sep-20	1890	2990	3287	657	8825
Oct-19	1707	2783	3203	697	8390
Oct-20	1857	2766	3583	834	9040
Nov-19	1706	2229	3279	1075	8289
Nov-20	1646	2765	3367	834	8612
April – Nov 19	15363	24141	27424	6402	73330
April – Nov 20	16227	20989	24225	6368	67809

- 3.6 The Commission observes that overall sales in November 2020 have increased as compared to November 2019 mainly due to increase in LT others and HT category.
- 3.7 In response to the details sought by the Commission in respect of basis for considering agriculture sales for November 2020, MSEDCL has submitted that sales approved by the Commission in the Tariff order is divided into four quarters in proportion to the agriculture sale share for FY 2019-20. Agriculture sales for the third quarter is trifurcated and considered for November 2020. Also metered, unmetered zone wise quantum is shared w.r.t to previous year proportions.
- 3.8 The Commission while approving the FAC for the month of September 2020 has restricted the agriculture sales to approved sales (based on the approved norm of Consumption/HP) as specified in MYT Tariff Order. Accordingly, the Commission has followed the same methodology for approving the agriculture sales considering the cumulative sales for the month of April to November 2020. Further, as agriculture consumers are being billed quarterly, the Commission has considered HP details submitted by MSEDCL for the month of September 2020 to determine the consumption / HP. Any adjustment in sales due to HP variation will be reconciled while actual data is submitted for the month of December 2020 as per actual billing undertaken on quarterly basis. Based on the norms approved by the Commission in the Tariff Order, the agriculture sales - metered and unmetered approved by the Commission are as given below:

Quarter	Metered			Unmetered			Total		
	Sale in MU's	Cumulative Load (HP)	Consumption / HP – Units (Per Month)	Sale in MU's	Cumulative Load (HP)	Consumption / HP - Units (Per Month)	Sale in MU's	Cumulative Load (HP)	Consumption / HP - Units
MSEDCL - April to Nov 2020	11169	115342274	97	6368	56656897	112	17537	171999171	103
As Approved – April to Nov 2020	11169	115342274	97	5586	56656897	99	16755	171999171	98

3.9 The Commission has already restricted the agriculture unmetered sales in the month of October 20. Accordingly, based on the cumulative agriculture sales approved in the above table, the incremental adjustment of -136.14 MUs for unmetered connections in agriculture sales is being done in the month of November 2020 and accordingly considered in computation of Distribution Loss so as to restrict the consumption based on actual sales per HP or approved Sales per HP, whichever is lower.

4. **Power Purchase Details**

4.1 The Commission has approved following sources in the Tariff Order for power purchase by MSEDCL.

- a) MSPGCL
- b) Central Generating Stations i.e. NTPC, TAPP etc
- c) IPPs i.e. JSW, Adani Power, Mundra UMPP, Emco, Rattan India and Sai Wardha
- d) Renewable Energy (Solar and Non-Solar)

In addition to the aforesaid, MSEDCL procures power in short term, though the said source is not approved by the Commission, in case of any shortfall of approved sources or to optimize the power purchase cost. Also, there may be some variation in real time (unscheduled interchange) which will be settled through Balancing and Settlement Mechanism approved by the Commission.

4.1 Summary of Power Purchase from MSEDCL is as follows:

Sr. No.	Particular	Compliance
1	Sources of approved Power Purchase	MSEDCL has purchased power from approved sources. In addition, power is procured on power exchange to optimise the power purchase cost
2	Merit Order Dispatch	MSEDCL has followed merit order for scheduling of power and preference was given to cheapest power.
3	Fuel Utilization Plan	Usage of coal is not as per approved Fuel Utilisation Plan (Detailed Explanation given below – Para 5.10 to para 5.15)
4	Pool Imbalance	No Imbalance pool quantum is computed by MSEDCL for November 2020.
5	Sale of Surplus Power	MSEDCL has sold 8.49 MUs at Rs.4.49/kWh thereby benefitting its consumers.
6	Power Purchase	Actual Net Power Purchase is 11,302.50 MUs as against approved 11,317.26 MUs due to lower sales.

Sr. No.	Particular	Compliance			
		Source Name	Approved (MU)	Actual (MU)	Proportion of each Source in Actual Purchase
7	Source wise Power Purchase	MSPGCL	4,515.78	4,184.00	37%
		NTPC	2,228.48	2,819.65	25%
		IPP	2,420.43	2,535.57	22%
		Renewable	1,627.00	1,342.59	12%
		Must Run	525.57	368.14	3%
		Short Term	0.00	61.04	1%
		Sale of Power	(0.00)	(8.49)	0%
		Total	11,317.26	11,302.50	100%
		8	Power Purchase: a. Section 62 of Electricity Act, 2003	A. MSPGCL As part of verification of fixed cost claimed by MSEDCL, the same has been verified from the MYT Order in Case No. 322 of 2019 and invoice submitted by MSEDCL As part of verification of energy charges claimed by MSEDCL, verification of operational parameters, fuel cost, GCV etc. vis-à-vis the MYT Order/Tariff Regulations is carried out and invoice submitted by MSEDCL	
b. Section 63 of Electricity Act, 2003 - IPPs	B. CGS- NTPC etc Cost and MUs are verified as per invoice Cost and MUs verified as per Invoice				
9	RE Purchase	Cost and MUs verified as per FOCA summary of renewable purchase details submitted by MSEDCL and invoices of power purchased from SECI, NVVN and other IPPs			
10	Short Term Power Purchase	Short-term power purchase invoices of November, 2020 are submitted by MSEDCL. All the power purchase quantum and rate are verified from the invoices and has been considered for FAC calculation.			

4.2 The following table show the variation in average power purchase cost (Rs/kWh) for the month of November, 2020 submitted by MSEDCL as compared to average power purchase cost approved in Tariff Order:

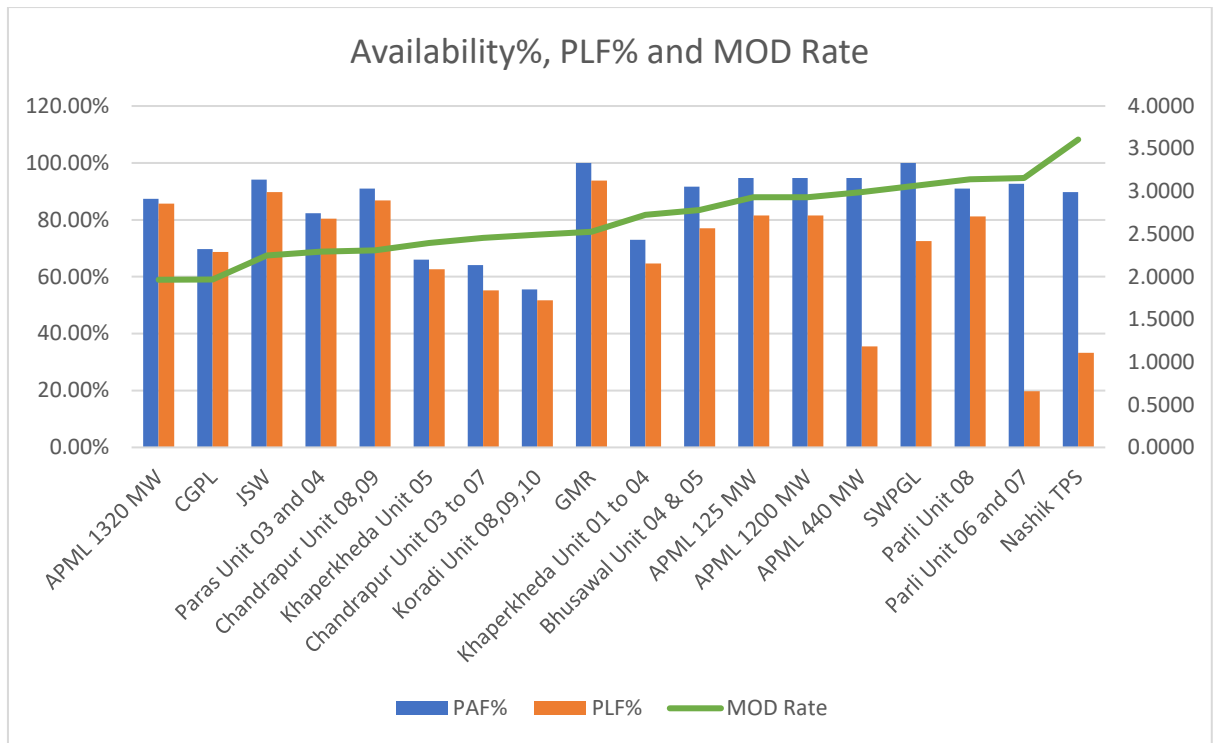
Particulars	Tariff Order Dated 30.03.2020 Approved for November 2020			Actual for November 2020 as submitted by MSEDCL			Variation		
	Quantum	PP Cost	Average Power Purchase Cost	Quantum	PP Cost	Average Power Purchase Cost	Quantum	PP Cost	Average Power Purchase Cost
	MU	Rs. Crore	Rs/kWh	MU	Rs. Crore	Rs/kWh	MU	Rs. Crore	Rs/kWh
MSPGCL – Thermal	4,244.83	1,811.61	4.27	3,944.31	1,631.18	4.14	(300.51)	(180.43)	(0.13)
MSPGCL- Hydro (including Lease Rent)	270.95	70.33	2.60	239.69	68.10	2.84	(31.26)	(2.23)	0.25
NTPC	2,228.48	854.17	3.83	2,819.65	978.33	3.47	591.17	124.16	(0.36)
1.JSW	158.98	57.59	3.62	193.79	55.54	2.87	34.82	(2.05)	(0.76)
2.Mundra UMPP	423.94	125.13	2.95	376.21	109.72	2.92	(47.73)	(15.40)	(0.03)
3.Adani Power	1,724.91	646.69	3.75	1,705.13	653.11	3.83	(19.78)	6.42	0.08
4.Emco	112.61	51.02	4.53	135.14	55.70	4.12	22.53	4.68	(0.41)
5.Rattan India	0.00	57.71	-	-	60.16	-	-	2.45	-
6. Sai Wardha	0.00	0.00	-	125.30	52.92	-	125.30	52.92	-
Total IPPs (1 to 6)	2,420.43	938.13	3.88	2,535.57	987.15	3.89	115.14	49.02	0.01
7.Non-Solar	1,031.00	508.65	4.93	971.92	562.88	5.79	(59.08)	54.23	0.86
8.Solar	596.00	215.63	3.62	370.66	152.06	4.10	(225.34)	(63.57)	0.48
Renewable Energy including REC (7 to 8)	1,627.00	735.11	4.52	1,342.59	714.94	5.33	(284.41)	(20.16)	0.81
Must Run - KAPP, TAPP, Dodson etc	525.57	139.81	2.66	368.14	217.49	5.91	(157.43)	77.69	3.25
Short Term	0.00	0.00	-	61.04	17.10	2.80	61.04	17.10	2.80
Sale of Power	0.00	0.00	-	8.49	3.81	4.49	8.49	3.81	4.49
PGCIL	0.00	276.79	-	-	288.40	-	-	11.61	-
Total	11,317.26	4,825.94	4.26	11,302.50	4,898.88	4.33	(14.76)	72.94	0.07

4.3 Thus, for the month of November 2020, total variation in power purchase cost is Rs. 72.94, out of which (Rs. 6.29 Crore) was on account of lower quantum of power purchase (14.76 MU) and Rs. 79.23 Crore was on account of higher rate of average power purchase by Rs. 0.07kWh. FAC mechanism allows only impact of variation in power purchase rate to be passed through as FAC rate over and above approved tariff.

4.4 The detailed explanation in respect of approval of cost of power purchase of each of the source mentioned in the above table is given in subsequent paragraphs.

5. Power Purchase Cost

- 5.1 The Commission has sought detailed bills/invoices for all of the power purchase sources in order to verify the claim of MSEDCL with regards to average power purchase cost for the month of November, 2020. The Commission has verified the Net Purchase, Variable Cost, Fixed Charge and the Power Purchase Cost from the relevant bills/invoices received for all purchasing sources. MSEDCL has purchased power from approved sources as per the Tariff Order. Further, it was observed that MSEDCL has purchased power from Power Exchange to take advantage of the lower prices prevailing in the market by giving zero schedule to generating stations having higher variable cost and have benefitted the consumers by lowering the average power purchase cost.
- 5.2 In view of lower demand and lower prices prevailing on Power Exchange, it was observed that Zero Schedule was given to many State Generating Stations such as Bhusawal-3, Koradi 6-7 and Rattan India (IPP) for the entire month and partially to Parli and Nashik due to higher variable cost in MOD to optimise the power purchase cost.
- 5.3 The Commission notes that CGS stations having lower variable cost were dispatched almost to the extent of availability declared by the generator.
- 5.4 The Commission has also verified the PLF% and MOD rates of all the operational State Generating Stations and IPPs and has found that units having lower rates in MOD had higher PLF. The graph showing the comparison of Variable Cost in MoD Stack and monthly Plant Availability Factor and PLF for SGS and IPPs is given below:



SGS/PPs Stations are considered for comparison and MOD Rate considered is as applicable from 16 November, 2020 to 25 November, 2020.

5.5 The Commission notes that MSEDCL has followed the Merit Order Dispatch (MOD) principle. MSEDCL has submitted that Nashik Unit having higher variable cost was taken on bar due to transmission constraints. Further, APML 440 MW unit is showing lower PLF even though MOD Rate is lower than other units. It is due to the fact that graph shows comparison with MOD Rates of 16-25 November, whereas PLF is for the entire month. APML 440 MW unit had higher MOD rate for the 1-15 November 2020 as compared to SWPGL and Parli Unit 8.

MSPGCL:

5.6 The Commission has observed that MSEDCL has purchased 3944.31 MUs from MSPGCL Thermal and Gas Stations. It was observed that MSEDCL has not purchased any energy from generating station of MSPGCL not included in MoD stack approved by the Commission in the Tariff Order except for Parli 6-7 and Parli 8 which was taken into service in view of lower variable cost in MOD as compared to approved variable cost of Rs 4/kWh and Rs 3.83/kWh respectively.

5.7 The total overall generation was lower during the month leading to lower PLF mainly due to lower system demand. Even though the PLF for the thermal generating units was lower for the aforesaid month, the monthly fixed cost was payable in line with MYT Regulations, 2019 considering the availability of the plant. Accordingly, MSEDCL has considered the fixed cost as per the order of the Commission. Lower PLF has resulted into fixed cost being spread over lower net generation thereby increasing average power

purchase price from these Units and thus impacting the APPC. The comparison of Actual and Approved Fixed and Variable Cost of MSPGCL Thermal/Gas units as shown in the table below shows the impact of fixed cost due to lower actual generation:

Particulars	Approved for November 2020						Actual for November 2020						Variations			
	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	APPC	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	APPC	Quantum	VC	FC	APPC
	MU	Rs./k Wh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./k Wh	Rs./k Wh	MU	Rs./k Wh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./k Wh	Rs./k Wh	MU	Rs./k Wh	Rs./k Wh	Rs./k Wh
MSPGCL – Thermal	4,244.83	2.69	1,140.28	671.33	1.58	4.27	3,944.31	2.46	968.63	662.55	1.68	4.14	(300.51)	(0.23)	0.10	(0.13)

Variable charge inclusive of other charges (Fuel adjustment charges, CIL etc.)

- 5.8 Further, the Commission has verified that the payment of fixed cost for all the Thermal/Gas Units as well as Hydro Units has been considered as per invoice raised by MSPGCL except for minor variation in Khaperkheda-5, Chandrapur 3-7, Uran and Koradi 6-7. In response to query raised by the Commission, MSEDCL submitted that it has recalculated the Availability based on the data available with it and accordingly computed the lower fixed cost. Accordingly, the fixed cost is considered as submitted by MSEDCL for FAC computation.
- 5.9 The Commission in its Order dated 30 March, 2020 in Case No 296 of 2019 has approved Fuel Utilisation Plan of MSPGCL. The Commission in the said Order has given in principle approval for the various measures proposed by MSPGCL including coal beneficiation and procurement of imported coal to meet the requirement of coal for maintaining normative availability and accordingly approved the variable/energy charges for the MSPGCL Stations.
- 5.10 MSPGCL has subsequently filed Case No 97 of 2020 seeking deviation/relaxation in the Fuel Utilisation Plan (FUP) approved by the Commission and regarding need for seeking prior consent from beneficiary if energy charges as per Fuel Surcharge Adjustment is higher than the approved charge by margin of 5%.
- 5.11 The Commission in its Order in Case No 97 of 2020 has not allowed relaxation as sought for by MSPGCL and in-fact directed MSPGCL to work on various options to implement the approved FUP and utilise opportunities of sourcing cheaper domestic coal so as to reduce the power purchase cost to least possible level. The relevant extract of the Order is reproduced herein below for ready reference:

“15. As explained earlier in this Order, the Commission has deliberately incorporated provision of prior consent with specific objective that Distribution Licensee, in the present case MSEDCL, is aware of the energy charge that is likely to be levied by any particular generator so that appropriate decision in respect of power purchase from alternate cheaper sources can be explored so as to reduce its power purchase cost for the ultimate benefit of the consumers. In case the relaxation as sought by MSPGCL is allowed, it may unnecessarily burden MSEDCL’s consumers and the purpose of cost optimization and reduction in FAC for which it was made mandatory will not be realised

and relevant Provisions of MYT Regulations, 2019 will be rendered otiose. Hence, the Commission is not inclined to grant relaxation as sought by MSPGCL

16. Further, the Commission is of the opinion that FY 2020-21 has just started. Ten months are still available with MSPGCL in FY 2020-21 to abide by the FUP and to take corrective proactive actions. The Commission notes here the specific measures undertaken by NTPC in reducing the Energy Charges for some of its stations and advises MSPGCL to study the same for adoption. Further, as admitted by MSPGCL in its petition that except for few Stations viz. Nashik and Koradi, it will be able to implement FUP and in fact energy charge would be lower than that approved in MYT Order. Therefore, merely, on the experience of two months, seeking revision of FUP is not proper. MSPGCL may work on the various options available to implement the approved FUP and utilize opportunities of sourcing cheaper domestic coal provided by Government of India including the concessions proposed by Ministry of Power (MoP) in view of the pandemic situation, so as to reduce the power purchase cost to least possible level.

17. During the hearing, MSPGCL has stated that accumulated coal stock is creating difficulties in sourcing new coal. In the opinion of the Commission with relaxation in lock down, as energy demand increases, accumulated coal stock will be utilized and hence MSPGCL should plan smartly for further coal procurement. MSPGCL should also ensure that cheapest coal is made available to efficient generator so that least possible cost of generation is achieved.”

5.12 The Commission notes that while approving the FUP, the washed coal and imported coal was required to be used in all the MSPGCL stations except Paras and Parli Stations. However, as mentioned above, MSPGCL is yet to tie up for washed coal as well as imported coal and only domestic coal is being used at the generating stations. This is not in consonance with the FUP approved by the Commission. MSPGCL has submitted in Case No 97 of 2020 that energy charges would be lower for all the stations except for Nashik and Koradi. Based on provisional FAC bill raised by MSPGCL for the month of November 2020, comparison of actual energy charge based on provisional bill and approved by the Commission in the Tariff Order shows that actual energy charge only for Nashik exceeds more than 5%.

5.13 MSEDCL in response to data gaps has submitted that as per Regulation 50.7 of MYT Regulations, 2019, MSPGCL has intimated MSEDCL and sought consent for scheduling units at Koradi and Nashik where energy charge is likely to exceed by 5% than approved by the Commission in the Tariff Order. MSEDCL in its response to the said letter had provided conditional consent and asked MSPGCL to take all possible measures to bring the energy charge within 5% of approved rate. The Commission notes that for the month of November 2020, energy charge of only Nashik Unit is marginally beyond 5% of the approved charge mainly due to consumption of old stock of coal having lower GCV.

5.14 The comparison of Approved and Actual Energy Charge (including FAC) is as given below:

Power Station	Approved Energy Charge Rs/kWh	Actual Energy Charge Rs/kWh	Difference Rs/kWh	Difference %
Bhusawal Unit 03	3.915	-	-	-
Bhusawal Unit 04 & 05	3.267	2.468	-0.799	-24.46%
Khaperkheda Unit 1 to 4	2.808	2.495	-0.313	-11.15%
Khaperkheda Unit 05	2.458	2.217	-0.241	-9.80%
Nashik TPS	3.394	3.627	0.233	6.87%
Chandrapur Unit 03 to 07	2.539	2.519	-0.020	-0.79%
Chandrapur Unit 08 and 09	2.453	2.351	-0.102	-4.16%
Paras Unit 03 and 04	2.989	2.489	-0.500	-16.73%
Parli Unit 06 and 07	4.000	3.067	-0.933	-23.33%
Parli Unit 08	3.830	2.971	-0.859	-22.43%
Koradi Unit 06 and 07	3.136	-	-	-
Koradi Unit 08,09,10	2.284	2.353	0.069	3.02%
GTPS Uran	2.683	1.316	-1.367	-50.95%

5.15 Further, in response to query raised by the Commission in respect of steps taken to implement the approved FUP, MSEDCL submitted that it has informed generators to strictly follow FUP as approved by the Commission. The Commission notes that all the generating station except Koradi 8-10 Unit and Nashik Unit are having rate lower than approved by the Commission in the Tariff Order. However, it is essential that MSPGCL takes adequate steps, appropriate action and work on various options to implement the approved FUP to reduce the fuel cost.

5.16 As mentioned herein above, MSPGCL has used domestic raw coal for its generation. MSPGCL had also raised issue in respect of consideration of GCV of Coal (As Billed and As Received) in absence of timely availability of CIMFR reports. The Commission in its Order in Case No 97 of 2020 has held that MSPGCL may consider provisional GCV which can be either based on mid-point of declared grade GCV or GCV measured by MSPGCL's Testing Team or adopt any other better approach in consultation with MSEDCL for provisional billing. Accordingly, MSPGCL has raised provisional FAC bill considering GCV as per the methodology submitted by MSPGCL in Case No 97 of 2020 as given below:

- a. GCV- As Billed: Consideration of certified loading end GCV data wherever available and where certified data is not available, use mid-point of declared grade GCV.
- b. GCV – As Received: GCV is considered based on the results available at each Station from their respective Station Laboratory

5.17 It was observed that methodology for computation of cost of consumption of coal considered by MSPGCL varies for each station. The Commission in its approval of FAC for the month of July 2020 have directed MSPGCL to raise the FAC bill from October 2020 onwards as per the weighted average method of computation of coal cost. The

Commission notes that all the Stations except Parli have adopted weighted average method of coal cost computation. MSPGCL has submitted that Parli will adopt the said method from January 2021 onwards instead of November 2020 as submitted in its reply in October 2020.

- 5.18 MSPGCL has undertaken Case-4 bidding and accordingly entered into contract with Dhariwal Industries Ltd (DIL) at Rs. 2.889/kWh for supply of 185 MW net sent out in lieu of power from one unit of at Nashik (Rs. 3.394/kWh) by transfer of corresponding linkage coal quantity to DIL unit for the period 1 November 2019 to 31 October 2020. The said arrangement was extended for further three months i.e. upto January 2021 on the same terms and conditions. Accordingly, for the month of November 2020, DIL has supplied 116.46 MUs at Rs 2.889/kWh. The Commission has accordingly considered the said purchase of 116.46 MUs for Rs 33.65 Crore at Rs 2.889/kWh.
- 5.19 The Commission has verified that actual quantum of power purchase and cost from the detailed summary bills/invoices submitted by MSEDCL and found to be in order.
- 5.20 Considering the overall cost of MSPGCL thermal/gas stations, the average power purchase cost is Rs. 4.14/kWh as against Rs. 4.27/kWh approved in the Tariff Order. The average power purchase cost is lower mainly due to lower variable cost.
- 5.21 Variation in power purchase expenses from MSPGCL can be divided on account of change in quantum and per unit rate as follows:

Month	Increase in Expenses for power purchase from MSPGCL (Rs. Crore)		
	On Account of change Quantum of Power Purchase	On Account of change in Per Unit rate of Power Purchase	Total
November 2020	(128.25)	(52.18)	(180.43)

Out of above, variation on account of per unit rate is only considered for FAC computation.

NTPC:

- 5.22 MSEDCL has purchased total 2819.65 MUs of power from NTPC's stations as compared to approved MoD stack of 2228.48 MUs during the month of November 2020. It was observed that certain stations of NTPC viz: Solapur and Gadarwara though not part of MOD stack approved by the Commission but were despatched as being CGS and MSEDCL having share in the said Plants, it has to schedule the power when the same was requested by the other states and MOD rates were also lower than approved rates for the said plants.

5.23 The Table below shows the variation in power purchase in terms of per unit variable charge, per unit fixed charge and average power purchase cost for NTPC's generating stations for November 2020.

Particulars	Approved for November 2020						Actual for November 2020						Variations			
	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	APP C	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	AP PC	Quantum	VC	FC	APPC
	MU	Rs./k Wh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./k Wh	Rs./k Wh	MU	Rs./kWh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./k Wh	Rs./kWh	MU	Rs./k Wh	Rs./k Wh	Rs./kWh
NTPC	2,228.48	1.90	422.35	431.82	1.94	3.83	2,819.65	1.98	557.84	420.48	1.49	3.47	591.17	0.08	(0.45)	(0.36)

Variable charge inclusive of other charges (Fuel adjustment charges, CIL etc.)

5.24 The Commission has verified that actual quantum of power purchase and cost from the detailed summary bills/invoices submitted by MSEDCL and found to be in order and accordingly considered the same in FAC computation.

5.25 Variation in power purchase expenses from NTPC can be divided into on account of change in quantum and per unit rate as follows:

Month	Increase in Expenses for power purchase from NTPC (Rs. Crore)		
	On Account of change Quantum of Power Purchase	On Account of increased Per Unit rate of Power Purchase	Total
November 2020	226.59	(102.43)	124.16

Out of above, variation on account of per unit rate is only considered for FAC computation.

IPPs

5.26 MSEDCL has long term PPA's with IPP's viz: JSW, CGPL Mundra, APMIL, Emco and Rattan India. The said PPAs are approved by the Commission and power availability from the said sources is considered as per Tariff Order issued by the Commission. Further, MSEDCL has signed PPA with Sai Wardha Power Generation Ltd (SWPGL) for 240 MW as per the Order dated 15 June 2020 in Case No 91 of 2020. SWPGL started delivering 240 MW power to MSEDCL from 5 July 2020.

5.27 The Commission notes that in view of lower demand and high variable charge of Rattan India and Sai Wardha (partially), MSEDCL has issued Zero Schedule during the month and purchased power from Power Exchange to optimize the power purchase cost.

5.28 During scrutiny of the invoices submitted by MSEDCL it was observed that there were differences in the other charges related to Change in Law as considered in FAC computations. The Commission sought clarifications on the same along with reconciliation and additional bills, if any. MSEDCL submitted the reconciliation and

clarified that the aforesaid differences are mainly on account of Change in Law (CIL) claim by IPPs in addition to monthly energy bills during the respective period.

5.29 Change in Law (CIL) events in respect of IPPs are related to imposition of GST compensation cess, change in royalty, custom duty, change in NCDP, shortfall in domestic coal etc. These Change in Law events have been approved by the respective Commission's through various Order, as the case may be, under the provisions of respective PPAs. MSEDCL has submitted the CIL invoices for the concerned period. Further, while scrutinizing the CIL bills it was observed that the amount shown in CIL bills/invoices were not matching against the respective amount considered in FAC computation. In fact, the amounts considered in FAC calculations were observed to be lesser than that of CIL bills/invoices except for claim related to SHAKTI. Change in Law claims raised by the generators are according to their technical parameters, whereas MSEDCL works out the CIL claim amount based on normative / actual parameters. These parameters include SHR of power plant, Auxiliary consumption, GCV of coal, etc. which have impact of coal consumption. Therefore, there is difference in CIL amount claimed by generator and that worked out by MSEDCL. MSEDCL has submitted the detailed reconciliation of CIL, as summarised in Table below:

IPP	As per Vendor – Rs Cr			As per MSEDCL – Rs Cr		
	CIL	Shakti	Total	CIL	Shakti	Total
JSW	3.99	-	3.99	3.60	-	3.60
CGPL	7.25	-	7.25	6.66	-	6.66
APML 125 MW	2.55	-	2.55	2.17	1.67	3.84
APML 1320 MW	25.99	17.54	43.53	22.40	15.48	37.87
APML 1200 MW	24.47	-	24.47	20.86	16.01	36.87
APML 440 MW	3.91	-	3.91	3.33	2.56	5.89
EMCO Power	5.92	-	5.92	4.86	-	4.86
RIPL 450 MW	-	-	-	-	-	-
RIPL 750 MW	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sai Wardha	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	74.08	17.54	91.62	63.89	35.71	99.60

5.30 In response to data gaps raised by the Commission in respect of higher claim considered towards CIL related to SHAKTI, MSEDCL submitted that APML raised bill based on old parameters as per Order dated 7 February, 2019 in Case No. 290 of 2018, however, MSEDCL calculated claim as per revised parameters based on APTEL judgment dated 28 September, 2020 in Appeal No. 116 of 2019. As the invoice raised by APML was for Rs 17.54 Crore, which is less than the amount being claimed by MSEDCL (Rs. 35.71 Crore), the Commission has considered the amount (being lower of the two i.e. Invoice and Claimed) of Rs 17.54 Crore for computation of FAC. The final impact of the same will be considered at the time final reconciliation between both the parties and will be considered at the time of final truing up during MTR process.

5.31 Thus, on an overall basis considering the above impact the average power purchase cost from IPPs stands at Rs. 3.82/kWh as compared to monthly approved rate of Rs. 3.88/kWh for the month of November 2020. The said cost is being considered for the FAC computation based on the scrutiny of invoices submitted by MSEDCL. The variation is mainly due to fixed cost paid to Rattan India without any generation. The Table below shows the variation in power purchase in terms of per unit variable charge, per unit fixed charge and average power purchase cost for IPPs for November 2020.

Particulars	Approved for November 2020						Actual for November 2020						Variations			
	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	APPC	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	APPC	Quantum	VC	FC	APPC
	MU	Rs./kWh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./kWh	Rs./kWh	MU	Rs./kWh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./kWh	Rs./kWh	MU	Rs./kWh	Rs./kWh	Rs./kWh
1.JSW	158.98	2.79	44.43	13.17	0.83	3.62	193.79	2.19	42.46	13.08	0.67	2.87	34.82	(0.60)	(0.15)	(0.76)
2.Mundra UMPP	423.94	2.01	85.09	40.03	0.94	2.95	376.21	1.87	70.21	39.51	1.05	2.92	(47.73)	(0.14)	0.11	(0.03)
3.Adani Power	1,724.91	2.41	415.46	231.23	1.34	3.75	1,705.13	2.39	407.39	227.54	1.33	3.72	(19.78)	(0.02)	(0.01)	(0.03)
4.Emco	112.61	3.25	36.60	14.41	1.28	4.53	135.14	3.06	41.41	14.29	1.06	4.12	22.53	(0.19)	(0.22)	(0.41)
5.Rattan India	-	-	-	57.71	-	-	-	-	3.24	56.92	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Sai Wardha	-	-	-	-	-	-	125.30	2.61	32.67	20.25	1.62	4.22	125.30	-	-	-
Total IPPs (1 to 6)	2,420.43	2.40	581.58	356.55	1.47	3.88	2,535.57	2.36	597.38	371.59	1.47	3.82	115.14	(0.05)	(0.01)	(0.05)

Variable charge inclusive of other charges, CIL etc.

5.32 Variation in power purchase expenses from IPPs can be divided into increased on account of change in quantum and per unit rate as follows:

Month	Increase in Expenses for power purchase from IPP (Rs. Crore)		
	On Account of change Quantum of Power Purchase	On Account of increased Per Unit rate of Power Purchase	Total
November 2020	44.63	(13.79)	30.84

Out of above, variation on account of increased per unit rate is only considered for FAC computation.

Short Term Power Purchase

5.33 MSEDCL has purchased 61.04 MUs at average rate of Rs. 2.80/kWh from Power Exchange. The Commission notes that it has not approved any short-term purchase in the Tariff Order. However, MSEDCL has purchased short term power as the said rate is lower than the generating units which were under Zero Schedule thereby benefitting the consumers. The Commission has verified the details of power purchase and cost of power from the Daily Obligation Summary Report issued by Power Exchange and accordingly considered the said purchase in FAC computation.

Must-Run Sources

5.34 The sources of Must Run Stations include KAPP, TAPP 1&2, TAPP 3&4, SSP, Pench, Dodson I and Dodson II, Renewable Energy and MSPGCL Hydro (including Ghatghar) etc.

5.35 A detailed comparison of approved against actual purchase from Must Run Stations is shown in Table below:

Particulars	Approved for November 2020						Actual for November 2020						Variations			
	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	APPC	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	APPC	Quantum	VC	FC	APPC
	MU	Rs./kWh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./kWh	Rs./kWh	MU	Rs./kWh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./kWh	Rs./kWh	MU	Rs./kWh	Rs./kWh	Rs./kWh
MSPGCL-Hydro*	270.95	-	-	23.05	0.85	0.85	239.69	0.18	4.32	16.69	0.70	0.88	(31.26)	0.18	(0.15)	0.03
MSPGCL-Hydro Lease rent	-	-	-	47.28	-	-	-	-	-	47.09	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.Non-Solar	1,031.00	4.93	508.65	-	-	4.93	971.92	5.79	562.88	-	-	5.79	(59.08)	0.86	-	0.86
2.Solar	596.00	3.62	215.63	-	-	3.62	370.66	4.10	152.06	-	-	4.10	(225.34)	0.48	-	0.48
Renewable Energy including REC (1 to 2)	1,627.00	4.45	724.27	10.83	0.07	4.52	1,342.59	5.33	714.94	-	-	5.33	(284.41)	0.87	(0.07)	0.81
Others-KAPP, TAPP, Dodson etc	525.57	2.65	139.05	0.76	0.01	2.66	368.14	5.89	216.73	0.76	0.02	5.91	(157.43)	3.24	0.01	3.25

**Variable Cost for Hydro Power is approved in MSPGCL Order whereas total cost is considered under Fixed Cost in the Tariff Order of MSEDCL.*

5.36 As seen from the aforesaid table, MSEDCL has purchased 239.69 MUs of Hydro Power as per variable cost approved by the Commission. This being the cheapest source of power helps in reduction of overall average cost of power purchase. The Koyna generation works on the principle of water year (1st June to 30 May) and hence the available water is used for the peak requirement based on the requirement of MSEDCL. It is observed that hydro purchase is lower than 270.95 MUs approved by the Commission. MSEDCL has not yet submitted any reply to the query raised by the Commission in respect of lower hydro generation. The Commission is of the view that MSEDCL, based on its operational requirement, should schedule the hydro power to the extent possible so as to reduce the overall power purchase cost.

5.37 It is observed that Solar and Non-Solar energy purchased in November 2020 i.e. 1342.59 MUs was lower than approved i.e. 1627 MUs by the Commission in the Tariff Order. MSEDCL submitted that there is lower generation due to low wind. MSEDCL has not purchased any REC's in the month of November 2020. The Commission has considered

the renewable purchase as per details submitted by MSEDCL and invoices of power purchased from SECI, NRVN and other IPPs.

- 5.38 MSEDCL has claimed Rs 43.90 Crore and Rs 63.44 Crore as other charges for TAPP 1&2 and TAPP 3&4 respectively. In response to query raised by the Commission, MSEDCL submitted that NPCIL has raised bills towards Fuel Adjustment Charges on account of revision in fuel prices from FY 2009-10 to FY 2019-20 vide DAE office memorandum No. 13/2(4)/2017-I&M(NFC)/Vol.II/2441 dated 18 February, 2020. Total amount of bill for TAPS 1&2 and TAPS 3&4 is Rs. 307.30 Crore and Rs. 453.25 Crore respectively. MSEDCL is making such payment in 7 equal instalments and accordingly the total amount of Rs 107.33 Crore (2nd Instalment) was paid on 27 November, 2020 and hence same is considered in FAC. The Commission notes the submission of MSEDCL and has also considered in FAC as the payment is done by MSEDCL.

ISTS Charges - PGCIL

- 5.39 As per Regulation 10 of MYT Regulations, 2019, any variation in Inter-State Transmission Charges shall be pass through under FAC component of Z-factor charge as an adjustment in Tariff on monthly basis. Accordingly, the ISTS charges paid by MSEDCL to PGCIL are considered under FAC computation. The Commission has considered the amount of Rs. 288.40 Crore towards ISTS charges payable to payable to PGCIL as against Rs. 276.79 Crore approved in the Tariff Order towards FAC computation as per invoice raised by PGCIL.

Sale of Power

- 5.40 MSEDCL has done sale of surplus power to the extent of 8.49 MUs during the month at Rs. 4.49/kWh. With such a sale of power MSEDCL has earned revenue of Rs. 3.81 Crore.
- 5.41 It is observed that the out of total sale of 8.49 MUs, 5.65 MUs were sold at Rs 4.89/kWh to MADC, whereas 3.84 MUs were sold on IEX at Rs 4.01/kWh. MSEDCL submitted that sale realisation was more than that of variable cost of generator running above technical minimum operating in MOD. Accordingly, the overall realisation in respect of sale of power is Rs.4.49/kWh has benefitted the consumers. Hence, the Commission has considered the actual quantum and revenue against surplus sale.

Approved Cost of Power Purchase

- 5.42 In view of the above, the overall cost approved in the Tariff Order and actual for the month of November, 2020 considered by the Commission is as shown below:

Particulars	Approved for November 2020						Actual for November 2020						Variations			
	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	APP C	Quantum	VC	VC	FC	FC	AP PC	Quantum	VC	FC	APPC
	MU	Rs./k Wh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./k Wh	Rs./k Wh	MU	Rs./kWh	Rs. Crore	Rs. Crore	Rs./k Wh	Rs./kWh	MU	Rs./k Wh	Rs./k Wh	Rs./kWh
MSPGCL - Thermal	4,244.83	2.69	1,140.28	671.33	1.58	4.27	3,944.31	2.46	968.63	662.55	1.68	4.14	(300.51)	(0.23)	0.10	(0.13)
MSPGCL-Hydro	270.95	-	-	23.05	0.85	0.85	239.69	0.18	4.32	16.69	0.70	0.88	(31.26)	0.18	(0.15)	0.03
MSPGCL-Hydro Lease Rent				47.28						47.09						
NTPC	2,228.48	1.90	422.35	431.82	1.94	3.83	2,819.65	1.98	557.84	420.48	1.49	3.47	591.17	0.08	(0.45)	(0.36)
IPPs	2,420.43	2.40	581.58	356.55	1.47	3.88	2,535.57	2.36	597.38	371.59	1.47	3.82	115.14	(0.05)	(0.01)	(0.05)
RE including REC	1,627.00	4.45	724.27	10.83	0.07	4.52	1,342.59	5.33	714.94	-	-	5.33	(284.41)	0.87	(0.07)	0.81
Must Run - KAPP, TAPP, Dodson etc	525.57	2.65	139.05	0.76	0.01	2.66	368.14	5.89	216.73	0.76	0.02	5.91	(157.43)	3.24	0.01	3.25
Short Term	-	-	-	-	-	-	61.04	2.80	17.10	-	-	2.80	61.04	-	-	-
Sale of Power	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.49	4.49	3.81	-	-	4.49	8.49	-	-	-
PGCIL	-	-	-	276.79	-	-	-	-	-	288.40	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	11,317.26	2.66	3,007.53	1,818.41	1.61	4.26	11,302.50	2.72	3,073.13	1,807.57	1.60	4.32	(14.76)	0.06	(0.01)	0.05

Variable charge inclusive of other charges (Fuel adjustment charges, CIL etc.)

5.43 To summarise, MSEDCL has optimised its overall power purchase cost by taking following actions:

- Zero Schedule to MSPGCL stations/IPPs having high variable cost from 01 November, 2020 to 30 November, 2020
- Lowest Cost Generators in MoD being run at higher PLF.
- Purchasing cheaper power from Power Exchange at Rs 2.80/kWh which is lower than Variable Cost of Units under shutdown.

5.44 The recovery of accumulated FAC of Rs 107.33 Crore (2nd instalment) as per invoice raised by NPCIL as mentioned above has also increased the overall cost.

5.45 Considering the above, the Commission allows the average power purchase cost of Rs.4.32/kWh for the month of November, 2020 as against Rs. 4.26/kWh approved in the Tariff Order.

6. FAC on account of fuel and power purchase cost (F)

6.1 The Commission has worked out the average power purchase cost for the month of November, 2020 as shown in above table. The same has been compared with the average

power purchase cost approved by the Commission in Tariff Order dated 30 March, 2020 and accordingly arrived at differential per unit rate at which Z_{FAC} is to be passed on to the consumers.

- 6.2 The following table shows the Z_{FAC} worked out by the Commission on account of difference in fuel and power purchase cost for the month of November, 2020.

S. No.	Particulars	Units	November 2020
1	Average power purchase cost approved by the Commission	Rs./kWh	4.26
2	Actual average power purchase cost	Rs./kWh	4.32
3	Change in average power purchase cost (=2 -1)	Rs./kWh	0.05
4	Net Power Purchase	MU	11,302.50
5	Change in fuel and power purchase cost (=3 x 4/10)	Rs. Crore	61.05

7. Adjustment for over recovery/under recovery (B)

- 7.1 The adjustment for over recovery/under recovery has to be done for the (n-4) month as per provisions of MYT Regulations, 2019. As 'Nil' FAC levied for the month of July 2020, there would not be any adjustment factor while computing the allowable FAC.

8. Carrying Cost for over recovery/under recovery (B)

- 8.1 As explained in the above paragraph in absence of any adjustment factor for previous month, there is no carrying cost which is to be allowed in FAC for the month of November 2020.

9. Disallowance due to excess Distribution Loss

- 9.1 Regulation 10.8 of MYT Regulations, 2019 provides for FAC amount to be reduced in case the actual distribution loss for the month exceeds the approved distribution loss. The relevant extract is reproduced as follows.

“10.8 The total Z_{FAC} recoverable as per the formula specified above shall be recovered from the actual sales in terms of “Rupees per kilowatt-hour”:

Provided that, in case of unmetered consumers, the Z_{FAC} shall be recoverable based on estimated sales to such consumers, computed in accordance with such methodology as may be stipulated by the Commission:

Provided further that, where the actual annual sliding distribution losses of the Distribution Licensee exceed the level approved by the Commission, the amount of

Z_{FAC} corresponding to the excess distribution losses (in kWh terms) shall be deducted from the total Z_{FAC} recoverable”

9.2 The following table provides the comparison of approved and actual distribution loss and disallowance due to excess distribution loss if any.

S. N	Particulars	Units	Approved in Tariff Order	Standalone for November 2020	Actual upto November 2020
1	Net Energy Input at Distribution Voltage	MU	123451.49	10,268.43	74,286.64
2	MSEDCL Metered Sales (excluding sales at EHV level)	MU	92427.90	7,006.44	55,271.79
3	Estimated Consumption of unmetered Sales	MU	8783.32	698.19*	5,586.43
4	Distribution Loss (1-2-3)	MU	22240.27	2,563.81	13,428.41
5	Distribution Loss as % of net energy input (4/1)	%	18%	24.97%	18.08%
6	Excess Distribution Loss = [Actual Distribution Loss (5) - Distribution loss approved] x Net Energy Input (1)	MU	-	-	6.27
7	Disallowance of FAC due to excess Distribution Loss	Rs. Crore	-	-	0.045

**Estimated Consumption of Agriculture Sales for April 2020 to November 2020 adjusted as per norms approved in Tariff Order and accordingly 136.14 MUs are disallowed for unmetered Ag connections.*

9.3 As seen from the above table, against the standalone distribution loss submitted by MSEDCL of 23.64%, the Commission has approved distribution loss of 24.97% due to restriction of agriculture sales upto the approved level as specified in Tariff Order. Also, the Distribution Loss up to November, 2020 is 18.08%, against 17.67% submitted by MSEDCL, which is marginally higher than the approved Distribution Loss of 18%. The standalone loss for November 2020 is also higher. This is mainly due to estimated Ag sales and sales considered as per billing cycle whereas power purchase is considered for the standalone month.

9.4 The comparison of Distribution Loss for the April to November 20 as compared to last year is as given below:

Particulars	Approved Loss	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	Cumulative upto November
FY 2020-21	18%	30%	28.47%	2.82%	11.90%	11.12%	15.63%	15.04%	24.97%	18.08%
FY 2019-20	13.26%	14.99%	17.16%	7.07%	12.69%	15.97%	11.04%	14.38%	17.56%	13.52%

The Commission notes that there has been significant variation in Distribution Loss on monthly basis whereas cumulative distribution loss have converged to approved loss number as actual meter reading is done for the consumers. As mentioned herein above, only 3% of Non-Ag sales are still on estimated basis.

- 9.5 As cumulative Distribution Loss is higher than approved by the Commission, disallowance of Rs 0.045 Crore is being worked out considering the excess distribution loss of 6.27 MUs.

10. Summary of Allowable Z_{FAC}

- 10.1 The summary of the FAC amount as approved by the Commission for the month of November, 2020 is as shown in the Table below:

S. No.	Particulars	Units	November-2020 As submitted	November 2020- As Approved
1	Calculation of Z_{FAC}			
1.1	Change in cost of generation and power purchase attributable to Sales within the License Area (F)	Rs. Crore	79.23	61.05
1.2	Carrying cost for over-recovery/under-recovery (C)	Rs. Crore	0	0
1.3	Adjustment factor for over-recovery/under-recovery (B)	Rs. Crore	0	0
1.4	Z_{FAC} = F+C+B	Rs. Crore	79.23	61.05
2	Calculation of Per Unit FAC			
2.1	Energy Sales within the License Area	MU	8611.76	8475.61 [#]
2.2	Excess Distribution Loss	MU	-	6.27
2.3	Z _{FAC} per kWh	Rs./kWh	0.09	0.07
3	Allowable FAC			
3.1	FAC disallowed corresponding to excess Distribution Loss [(2.2 x 2.3)/10]	Rs. Crore	-	0.045
3.2	FAC allowable [1.4-3.1]	Rs. Crore	68.77	61.01
4	Utilization of FAC Fund			
4.1	Opening Balance of FAC Fund	Rs. Crore	124.26	(137.21) *
4.2	Holding Cost on FAC Fund	Rs. Crore	(0.1)	(0.9)
4.3	Z _{FAC} for the month (Sr. N. 3.2)	Rs. Crore	68.77	61.01
4.4	Closing Balance of FAC Fund	Rs. Crore	192.92	(77.10)
4.5	Z _{FAC} leviable/(refundable) to consumer	Rs. Crore	210.25	0
5	Total FAC based on category wise and slab wise allowed to be recovered in the billing month of December-20	Rs. Crore	210.25	0

S. No.	Particulars	Units	November-2020 As submitted	November-2020- As Approved
6	Carried forward FAC for recovery during future period (4.5-5.0)	Rs. Crore	0	0

* The Commission has considered opening balance as approved in FAC report for the month of October 2020

Adjusted for excess Agriculture Sales not considered for the period April 20 to November 20

10.2 The standalone FAC for the month of November, 2020 is Rs. 61.01 Crore and the same is being adjusted from the FAC Fund of Rs (137.21) Crore available as on October 2020.

11. Recovery from Consumers:

11.1 Regulation 10.9 of MYT Regulations, 2019 provides for methodology of recovery of FAC charge from each category of consumers. The relevant extract is reproduced as below.

“10.9 The Z_{FAC} per kWh for a particular Tariff category/sub-category/consumption slab shall be computed as per the following formula: —

$$Z_{FAC\ Cat} (Rs/kWh) = [Z_{FAC} / (Metered\ sales + Unmetered\ consumption\ estimates + Excess\ distribution\ losses)] * k * 10,$$

Where:

$Z_{FAC\ Cat}$ = Z_{FAC} component for a particular Tariff category/sub-category/consumption slab in 'Rupees per kWh' terms;

k = Average Billing Rate / ACOS;

Average Billing Rate = Average Billing Rate for a particular Tariff category/sub-category/consumption slab under consideration in 'Rupees per kWh' as approved by the Commission in the Tariff Order:

Provided that the Average Billing Rate for the unmetered consumers shall be based on the estimated sales to such consumers, computed in accordance with such methodology as may be stipulated by the Commission:

ACOS = Average Cost of Supply in 'Rupees per kWh' as approved for recovery by the Commission in the Tariff Order:

Provided that the monthly Z_{FAC} shall not exceed 20% of the variable component of Tariff or such other ceiling as may be stipulated by the Commission from time to time:

Provided further that any under-recovery in the Z_{FAC} on account of such ceiling shall be carried forward and shall be recovered by the Distribution Licensee over such future period as may be directed by the Commission....”

- 11.2 The Commission allows the FAC amount of Rs. 61.01 Crore for the month of November, 2020. As the FAC is positive, the said amount will be adjusted from the FAC Fund of Rs (137.21) Crore.
- 11.3 The Commission in its approval for the month of October, 2020 has directed MSEDCL to carry forward the approved FAC amount of Rs. (137.21) Crore to be accumulated as FAC Fund to be carried forward to the next billing cycle with holding cost. The opening balance of FAC fund along with holding cost is Rs. (138.11) Crore.
- 11.4 Accordingly, considering the approved standalone FAC amount of Rs. 61.01 Crore for the month of November, 2020 and the same being adjusted from the FAC fund of Rs. 138.11 Crore, the total balance amount in FAC fund is Rs. (77.10) Crore. Accordingly, the total FAC Fund of Rs. (77.10) Crore is being allowed to be accumulated in the FAC Fund and shall be carried forward to the next billing cycle with holding cost.
- 11.5 The Commission in the Tariff Order had held that negative FAC amount shall be carried forward to the next FAC billing cycle with holding cost till the accumulated negative FAC reaches the limit of Rs. 1500 Crore.
- 11.6 In view of the above, the per unit Z_{FAC} for the month of November, 2020 to be levied on consumers of MSEDCL in the billing month of January 2021 is **Nil**.