

**Before the  
MAHARASHTRA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
World Trade Centre, Centre No.1, 13th Floor, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai 400005  
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**Case No. 172 of 2017**

**Dated: 9 June, 2018**

**CORAM: Shri. Anand B. Kulkarni, Chairperson**

**Shri. Mukesh Khullar, Member**

**In the matter of**

**Petition of Maharashtra State Power Generation Co. Ltd. for removal of difficulties in the matter of implementation of “Mukhyamantri Solar Agricultural Feeder Scheme” and approval of draft Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) & draft Power Sale Agreement (PSA) being executed by MSPGCL with the developer and Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd., respectively for Agriculture (AG) Feeder Solar Power Projects in Maharashtra.**

Maharashtra State Power Generation Co. Ltd. (MSPGCL)                      ....Petitioner

1. Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd. (MSEDCL)
2. Maharashtra Energy Development Agency (MEDA)                      .....Impleaded Parties

**Appearance**

For MSPGCL	: Shri. S. B. Soni, (Rep.)
For MSEDCL	: Shri. Satish Chavan, (Rep.)
For MEDA	: Shri. Manoj Pise (Rep.)
For Consumer Representatives	: Dr. Ashok Pendse, TBIA
	: Shri. Shantanu Dixit, Prayas Energy Group

**Daily Order**

Heard the Representatives of the Petitioner, Respondents and Authorised Consumer Representatives.

1. MSPGCL made a presentation wherein it has essentially reiterated its issues as made out in its Petition. MSPGCL has stated that the proposed modalities for the “Mukhyamantri Solar Agricultural Feeder Scheme” are similar to the modalities adopted by MNRE in case of projects implemented through Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI). Presently upto 7 paise per unit is allowed to SECI as a trading margin as an intermediary whereas MSPGCL under the present Case has proposed 5 paise per unit as an Administrative charge. Even after considering the Administrative charges of MSPGCL, the power purchase cost of the power from the proposed scheme works out to Rs. 3.20 per unit which is much lower than the Commission’s approved Generic Tariff of Rs.

5.13 per unit for FY 2017-18 and lower than that of the approved Average Power Purchase Cost (APPC) of MSEDCL of Rs. 3.73 per unit for FY2017-18.

2. Dr. Ashok Pendse, on behalf of Thane Belapur Industries Association (TBIA), an authorized Consumer Representative, stated that it supports the present scheme of MSPGCL which will be beneficial to the Agriculture Consumers. He further stated that MSPGCL has filed this Petition on 27 November, 2017 whereas the solar prices are further reduces down over the period. Therefore, MSPGCL should review the current solar rates and further ensure that the ceiling rate under these Schemes should not exceed beyond Rs. 3 per unit.
3. Shri. Shantanu Dixit, on behalf of Prayas Energy Group, Pune, an authorized Consumer Representative, stated that it supports the present scheme of MSPGCL which will be beneficial to the Agriculture (Ag) consumers. He also supported the points raised by Dr. Ashok Pendse regarding ceiling rates. He further stated that MSPGCL should ensure that the solar power shall be available to the Ag. Consumers for 8 hours in a day time & the respective data of generation and load connected on these Ag. feeders to be uploaded on its websites.
4. The Commission observed that MSPGCL under this Case has proposed to enter into a PPA with Solar developer and a PSA with MSEDCL separately. The arrangement proposed by MSPGCL in this Case is based on the MoP's 'Guidelines for Tariff Based Competitive Bidding Process for Procurement of Power from Grid Connected Solar PV Power Projects' notified on 3 August, 2017. The Administrative charge proposed by MSPGCL is akin to trading margin on account of sale of electricity to MSEDCL through this trading activity. In this regard, MSPGCL has also filed a Petition dated 20 March, 2018 under Case No. 104 of 2018 before the Commission in accordance with Section 15 and 86(1)(d) of the EA, 2003 read with the MERC (Trading Licence Conditions) Regulations, 2004 with their amendments. MSPGCL has sought a grant of Intra-State trading license for undertaking trading of electricity within the State of Maharashtra. This matter is under consideration of the Commission.
5. In the meantime, the Commission, till the finalization of above proceedings under Case No. 104 of 2018, provisionally approves the modalities of the two Pilot Schemes viz. at (1) Ralegansiddhi (2MW), Dist.-Ahemadanagr (2) Kolambi (2MW), Dist.- Yavatmal, except the issue of trading margin therein, as initiated by MSPGCL as per GoM GR dated 14 June, 2017 and revised GR dated 17 March, 2018.

**The Case is reserved for Order**

**Sd/-**  
**(Mukesh Khullar)**  
**Member**

**Sd/-**  
**(Anand B. Kulkarni)**  
**Chairperson**