

Minute of 24th meeting of SAC held on 31st August, 2017 at GERC, GIFT,
Gandhinagar

Venue: Conference room, GERC, GIFT ONE, GIFT City, Gandhinagar

Date : 31st August, 2017

Time : 11:30 AM

The meeting was chaired by Shri Anand Kumar, Chairman, GERC. Hon'ble Chairman welcomed all the members of the State Advisory Committee and other participants.

Hon'ble Chairman stated that this is the platform to share the views and discuss the issues and resolve it amicably with mutual understanding which ultimately help to improve the satisfaction of society and growth of our State. He further stated that objective of the Committee is to advise Commission on policy matters in the overall interest of development of power sector and protection of consumer interest.

After brief introduction and opening remarks the agenda items were taken up for discussion.

Agenda 1: Approval of Minutes of 23rd meeting

The minutes of the 23rd State Advisory Committee held on 23rd January, 2017 at Gandhinagar were sent to all the members. As no comments have been received from any of the members, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

Agenda 2: Action Taken Report on previous Minutes

Agenda Item No.2, Issue 1: Guidelines for information to Farmers for Crop burning insurance scheme- claim filing procedure

DGVCL was directed to carryout detailed analysis and provide a report highlighting the reasons for such high rate of rejection of insurance claims. DGVCL reported that the main reasons for rejection of the claim are:

- *It is not established that crop burning was due to electrical fault / Short circuit.*
- *Crop burnt before the date of snapping of conductor*
- *It is also observed that intimation of crop burning by farmer is given very late and hence intimation sent by concerned DE is also late.*
- *Date and time are not mentioned properly by the farmers in the application.*
- *Submission of claim paper by farmer is not done in time even though concerned D.E. has informed to the farmer.*

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DGVCL stated that it was not established that crop burning was due to electrical fault and it is the main reason for large number of rejection of crop insurance claims.

Members of SAC representing agriculture consumers objected the submission of DGVCL and stated that DGVCL should take keen interest and see that maximum number of claims are settled in farmers' favour. Licensees are paying premium to take insurance policy, hence it is the duty of the licensee to see that maximum crop insurance claims are be settled favourably.

(Action: All DISCOMs)

Agenda Item No.2, Issue 2: Maintenance Activities: Common format to report Maintenance activities

It was directed that all distribution companies shall submit the six monthly progress on maintenance activities in a common format.

Hon'ble Chairman stated that from the submission of the licensees it transpires that they are doing huge maintenance activities. In spite of such large scale maintenance activities, no noticeable improvement is observed in performance parameters of the licensees (like reduction in accidents, reduction in transformer failure rate, etc). On query regarding cross verification by Corporate Office on the reported work of maintenance, MD GUVNL apprised the SAC that a proper mechanism is in place and verification is being done on regular basis. Hon'ble Commission directed CEI to verify the works of maintenance done by licensees on sample basis, in order to minimize the accidents and report to the Commission in its next meeting.

(Action: CEI)

Agenda Item No.2, Issue 3: Checking of Earthing.

Office of the Chief Electrical Inspector was directed to carry out the sample checks for the effective earthing at consumer premises as well as in the Distribution System and to place latest Safety Regulations on its website. CEI admitted that no such checks were carried out due to preoccupation in other activities. However, CEI assured that this will be taken up on priority and a report will be submitted to the Commission.

Hon'ble Chairman asked CEI to carry out the sample checks for the effective earthing at consumer premises as well as in the Distribution System and submit the