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ODISHA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Present: **Shri P. K. Jena, Chairperson**
Shri S. K. Ray Mohapatra, Member
Shri B. Mohanty, Member

Case No. 80/2024

M/s. TPCODL ……… Petitioner
Vs.
DoE, GoO & Others …....... Respondents

In the matter of: **Application for approval of Capital Investment Plan for FY 2025-26 in the licensed area of its operation in compliance to the directions of the Commission vide para 42 of the vesting order dated 26.05.2020 passed in Case No. 11 of 2020 as well as the OERC (Terms and Conditions for determination of Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff) Regulations, 2022.**

For Petitioner: Shri Arvind Singh, CEO; Shri Chintamani Smithis; Shri R.K. Rastogi, COS; Shri Bharat Kumar Bhadawat, Chief-Regulatory; Shri Pourush Garg, Chief-CCG & Engg; and Shri Sankalp Mohanty, Team Lead-Regulatory on behalf of TPCODL.

For Respondents: Shri L.K. Mishra DGM (Fin.), R&T, GRIDCO; Ms. Subhashree Das, AGM (Elect.), RTC, OPTCL; and Ms. Sonali Pattanaik, Manager (Legal), DoE, GoO do appear. None appears on behalf of the Respondent- Shri K. Pravakar Dora.

ORDER

Date of Hearing: 06.05.2025 **Date of Order: 10.07.2025**

1. The Petitioner- M/s. TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL) has filed an application for approval of its Capital Expenditure plan for FY 2025-26 in compliance to the directions of the Commission vide para 42 of the vesting order dated 26.05.2020 passed in Case No. 11 of 2020 as well as the OERC (Terms and Conditions for determination of Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff) Regulations, 2022 for network strengthening, improvement in power supply quality & reliability, meeting load growth, reducing the losses and for taking up safety & statutory activities in its area of operation. TPCODL, has submitted investment plan under CAPEX to the tune of Rs.532.56 Crores dated

24.10.2024 for the approval of the Commission.

2. TPCODL's licensed area is spread over 29,354 sq. km and serves a registered consumer base of around 32.06 lakhs. TPCODL procures power from GRIDCO through Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Limited (OPTCL)'s 220/33 kV or 132/33 kV or 220/132/33 kV grid sub-stations at sub transmission voltage level of 33 kV and then distributes the power at 33 kV/11 kV/0.440 kV/0.230 kV depending on the demands of the consumers. A snapshot of distribution infrastructure of TPCODL in its area of operation is given in the table below:

Table 1: Distribution Infrastructure of TPCODL

Sl. No.	Particulars	Unit	Details (as on 31-March-25)
1	Area	Sq. km	29,354
2	Consumers	Lakhs	33.25 Lakhs
3	Circles	No.	5
4	Divisions	No.	20
5	Subdivisions	No.	65
6	Total No of PSS	No.	374
7	33/11 kV PTR	No.	825
8	Transformation Capacity of PTRs	MVA	5,479
9	11kV feeders	No.	1,377
10	33 kV feeders	No.	262
11	Sections in network	No.	247
12	Length of 11 kV Feeders	km	29,821 (OH-29,353 & UG- 468)
13	Length of 33 kV Feeders	km	4,265 (OH-3,736 & UG- 529)
14	Length of LT Lines	km	41,568 (OH-41,499 & UG- 69)
15	11/0.433 kV DTR	No.	69,883
16	Transformation Capacity of 11/0.433 kV DTR	MVA	5,269

3. As per the Vesting Order, TPCODL has to seek the approval of the Capital Expenditure Plan in line with the OERC (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff) Regulations, 2022. The extracts from the Vesting Order are as follows:

"42. Capital investment plan

(b) In its Bid submitted in response to the RFP, TPCL committed capital

expenditure of Rs. 1,541 Crores. (Indian Rupee One thousand five hundred and forty-one Cr only) for period FY 2021 to FY 2025 as follows:

Table 1: TPCL Capital Expenditure Commitment

(Values in Rs. Cr)

FY 2020-21	***FY 2021-22***	***FY 2022-23***	***FY 2023-24***	***FY 2024-25***	***Total***
201	*393*	*310*	*338*	*299*	*1541*

(c) *To allow flexibility in the capital expenditure planning, the Commission stipulates that, in the capital expenditure plan to be submitted by TPCODL as per the license conditions, the capital expenditure commitment for each year of the period FY 2021 to FY 2025 must be such that capital expenditure proposed up to a year shall be at least equal to the cumulative capital expenditure committed up to that year in the Bid submitted by TPCL. For avoidance of doubt, the minimum cumulative capital expenditure to be proposed by TPCODL for the period FY 2021 to FY 2025 must be as provided in the table below:*

Table 2: TPCL Cumulative Capital Expenditure for 5 years

(Values in Rs. Cr)

Up to 31-Mar-2021	***Up to 31-Mar-2022***	***Up to 31-Mar-2023***	***Up to 31-Mar-2024***	***Up to 31-Mar-2025***
201	*594*	*904*	*1,242*	*1,541*

(e) TPCODL would be required to seek the Commission's approval on the detailed capital expenditure plan in line with the regulations. TPCODL shall satisfy the Commission that the capital expenditure plan submitted in line with regulations adheres to the capital expenditure plan submitted as part of the Bid."

4. Further, in line with the Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff) Regulations, 2022 the licensee is required to take approval from the Commission for undertaking Capex in its licensed area. The relevant extracts of the said Regulation are as follows:

""3.2 Capital Investment:

3.2.1 The Distribution Licensee shall submit detailed capital investment plan, financing plan and physical targets for each year of the Control Period for strengthening and augmentation of distribution network, meeting the requirement of load growth, reduction in distribution losses, improvement in quality of supply, reliability, metering, reduction in congestion, etc., to the Commission for approval, as a part of the Business Plan applicable for the entire control period and annual proposal for each year of the Control Period.

3.2.2 The Distribution Licensee shall file a separate annual Capital Investment Plan comprising of capital investment plan, financing plan and physical targets for each year of the Control Period as per the timelines specified in Annexure-I.

3.2.3. The Distribution Licensee shall be required to ensure optimum investments to enhance efficiency, productivity and meet performance standards prescribed by the Commission and strictly adhering to the approved annual Capital Expenditure plan as per provisions of the Vesting Order.

3.2.4. Capital Investment in network expansion in Distribution shall be based on

Load Flow studies and in accordance with the requirements of the State Grid Code.

3.2.5. The Distribution licensee shall submit the Capital Investment Plan that shall show separately, on-going projects that will spill over from previous years, and new projects (along with justification) that will commence but may be completed within or beyond the control period. The capital investment plan shall contain the scheme details, justification for the work, scheduled / expected date of commissioning, justification for delay (if any) in commissioning, cost over-run, time over-run, capitalization schedule, capital structure and cost benefit analysis (wherever applicable).

3.2.6. The Distribution Licensee shall submit the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for all the schemes (including network strengthening and expansion/ augmentation projects based on load flow study) which shall include:

a. Scope and Objective;
b. Purpose of investment;
c. Broad Technical Specifications of the proposed investment and supporting details;
d. Capital Structure;
e. Capitalization Schedule;
f. Financing Plan, including identified sources of investment;
g. Physical targets;
h. Cost-benefit analysis;
i. Approval from Board of Directors (BoD)
j. Prioritization of proposed Investments.

3.2.7. The Capital Investment Plan shall be a least cost plan for undertaking investments and shall cover all capital expenditure projects of proposed investment schemes or such other amount as may be stipulated by the Commission from time to time and shall be in such form as may be stipulated.

3.2.8. The Capital Investment Plan shall be accompanied by such information, particulars and documents as may be required including but not limited to the information such as number of power & distribution substations, consumer strength, transformation capacity (in MVA), HT:LT ratio, distribution line length at HT & LT level etc. showing the need for the proposed investments, alternatives considered, cost/benefit analysis and other aspects that may have a bearing on the wheeling charges of the Wheeling Business.

3.2.10. Capital investment plan shall incorporate list of schemes in order of priority so as to enable the Commission to approve the schemes in that order and in case lesser amount of capital expenditure is to be approved then the schemes of lower priority could be disallowed.

3.2.11. The Distribution Licensee shall be required to consider the annual capital investment plan as approved by the Commission in its Order, in preparation of the Petition for determination of Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR) for each year of the control period. The ARR Petition shall include details showing the progress of capital expenditure projects, together with such other information, particulars or documents as the Commission may require for assessing the progress.

5. As per the Licence Conditions 11 and 32, investment above Rs. 5 Cr. is to be made by the distribution licensee in the licensed business area of operation

with the approval of the Commission. The Licence Conditions at 11 and 32 stipulate as stated hereinafter:

"11. INVESTMENTS

11.1 Unless otherwise directed by the Commission, every licensee shall obtain prior approval of the Commission for making investment in the Licensed Business if such investment is above the limits laid down in Condition 32.

11.2 The Licensee shall duly comply with the Regulations, guidelines, directions and orders the Commission may issue from time to time in regard to the investments to be made in the Distribution Business.

11.3 The Licensee shall submit to the Commission investment plans as a part of the business plan under Condition 10.9 above giving details of investment schemes to be undertaken during the concerned period for the approval of the Commission. The Licensee shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Commission that:

- *(a) there is a need for such investments in the Distribution System;*
- *(b) the Licensee has made techno-economic analysis and environmental aspects of all viable alternatives to the proposal for investing in or acquiring new Distribution System assets to meet such need.*
- *(c) the investment plan is in conformance to the conditions for capital investment specified in the Vesting Order*

11.4 In the application for investment approval, the Licensee shall furnish the following information or particulars:

- *(a) A detailed project report containing techno-economic analysis and environmental aspects of the investment together with the outline of the works to be undertaken the salient features and particulars demonstrating the need for investment;*
- *(b) The project cost together with the cost benefit analysis;*
- *(c) Whether the investment is in a new project or for expansion or up-gradation of an existing system;*
- *(d) Sanctions and statutory clearances required for execution of the project and status of such sanctions and statutory clearances;*
- *(e) Phasing of investment over the financial years and commissioning schedule;*
- *(f) The manner in which investments will be capitalised for the purposes of inclusion in the revenue requirements of the Licensee;*
- *(g) Constraints which the Licensee may face in making the investments or in implementing the project including constraints on information available;*
- *(h) Resource mobilisation and financial plans for meeting the investment;*
- *(i) Process for inviting and finalizing tenders for procurement of equipment, material and /or services relating to investment, in accordance with a transparent tendering procedure as may be approved by the Commission; and*
- *(j) Such other particulars as the Commission may from time to time direct.*

32. INVESTMENT AND TRANSFER OF ASSETS (IN CONTINUATION TO CONDITION 11 AND 12)

32.1 For the purposes of Condition 11.10, the term "major investment" means any planned scheme wise investment in or acquisition of distribution *facilities like Rural Electrification, System Improvement, Major Renovation & Modernization works, the cost of which, when aggregated with all other investments or acquisitions (if any) forming part of the same overall transaction/scheme, equals or exceeds Rs. 5 Cr or otherwise determined by the Commission from time to time by a general or special order. For smaller transactions for which prior approval of the Commission has not been obtained, the proposals will be considered at the time of annual true-up subject to prudence check by the Commission."*

6. Accordingly, in line with the above provisions, TPCODL has submitted the application for approval of its Capital Expenditure Plan for FY 2025-26 on 24.10.2024 for an amount of Rs. 532.56 Cr.
7. The public notice dated 20.11.2024 was published on 21.11.2024 inviting suggestions/objections to the Capex Plan for FY 2025-26 of the DISCOMs which were to be filed on or before 04.12.2024. The public hearing on the matter was held on 06.05.2025. The Commission during hearing heard the Petitioner-TPCODL and the stakeholders namely OPTCL and GRIDCO.
8. Earlier, TPCODL had proposed for approval of its capital expenditure to the tune of Rs.344.44 Crores for the FY 2020-21 to carry out various activities in its area of operation and the Commission, vide its order dated 08.09.2020 in Case No. 32 of 2020, had approved the Capex of Rs. 280.63 Crores for FY 2020-21.
9. Similarly, TPCODL had proposed for approval of its capital expenditure to the tune of Rs.607.46 Crores for the FY 2021-22 to carry out various activities in its area of operation and the Commission, vide its order dated 18.09.2021 in Case No. 05 of 2021, had approved the Capex of Rs.233.81 Crores for FY 2021-22. However, in a separate order dated 04.09.2021 in Case No.32 of 2020, the Commission had allowed capital expenditure of Rs.17.32 Crores for implementation of Geographic Information System (GIS) during the period from FY 2020-21 to FY 2022-23 and Rs.47.60 Crores towards implementation of Smart Meters during the period from FY 2020-21 to FY 2023-24. In totality, the Commission had approved a Capex of Rs.298.73 Crores in respect of TPCODL for FY 2021-22.
10. Subsequently, the Commission, vide its order dated 19.07.2022 in Case No.14 of 2022, had approved an amount of Rs.243.31 Crores towards capital expenditure of TPCODL for the FY 2022-23 against their proposal of Rs.480.76 Crores. Further, vide order dated 16.12.2022 in Case No.51 of 2022, the Commission had allowed an additional/ supplementary capex amounting to Rs.137.25 Crores in respect of TPCODL for the FY 2022-23 for mitigating overloading of lines

& transformers and low voltage problem, particularly in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Puri & Dhenkanal under the Scheme "Reliability" and "Load growth". In totality, the Commission had approved a Capex of Rs.380.56 Crores in respect of TPCODL for FY 2022-23.

11. For the FY 2023-24, TPCODL had proposed for approval of its capex plan to the tune of Rs.512.37 Crores on 23.12.2022 in Case No.98 of 2022 and had revised its proposal consequent upon BoD approval to Rs. 300.04 Crores on 29.04.2023. The Commission had approved an amount of Rs. 283.72 against the above proposal for the FY 2023-24 vide its order dated 21.06.2023.

12. For the FY 2024-25, TPCODL had proposed for approval of its capex plan to the tune of Rs. 415.68 Cr Crores on 30.10.2023 in Case No. 102 of 2023 and the Commission had approved an amount of Rs. 380.68 against the above proposal for the FY 2024-25 vide its order dated 12.12.2023. Further, Rs 9.75 Cr. was approved at a later stage during the FY 2024-25.

13. The status of the CAPEX approved vis-à-vis actual from FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 is given in the table below:

Table 2: TPCODL CAPEX Approved vis-à-vis Actual up to 31-03-2025.

Sl. No	Major Category	Vesting Order	Capex Approved	Actual Capex till 31-03-2025	Capitalised till 31-03-2025	Balance to be Capitalised
FY 2020-21						
1	Statutory & Safety	201	74.41	74.35	74.06	0.29
2	Loss Reduction		29.28	29.04	28.29	0.76
3	Reliability		71.11	69.97	67.52	2.45
4	Load Growth		13.25	12.13	9.58	2.55
5	Technology & Infrastructure		92.58	92.30	92.04	0.26
	Total	**201**	**280.63**	**277.79**	**271.48**	**6.31**
FY 2021-22						
1	Statutory & Safety	393	20.09	19.29	18.91	0.37
2	Loss Reduction		60.14	56.09	50.23	5.86
3	Reliability		116.87	116.42	115.77	0.65
4	Load Growth		29.80	28.64	24.00	4.64
5	Technology & Infrastructure		71.84	70.16	70.15	0.01
	Total	**393**	**298.73**	**290.59**	**279.06**	**11.53**
FY 2022-23						
1	Statutory &		17.66	17.37	17.35	0.02

	Safety					
2	Loss Reduction	310	46.71	43.90	38.19	5.72
3	Reliability		133.99	128.74	121.80	6.94
4	Load Growth		122.04	120.67	115.63	5.04
5	Technology & Infrastructure		60.16	59.41	59.07	0.33
	Total	**310**	**380.56**	**370.10**	**352.04**	**18.06**
FY 2023-24						
1	Statutory & Safety	338	16.00	15.20	14.46	0.74
2	Loss Reduction		35.00	31.67	25.39	6.29
3	Reliability		115.00	108.84	97.35	11.49
4	Load Growth		50.00	47.33	44.82	2.51
5	Technology & Infrastructure		67.72	66.63	65.26	1.37
	Total	**338**	**283.72**	**269.68**	**247.28**	**22.40**
FY 2024-25						
1	Statutory & Safety	299	11.39	10.17	9.58	0.59
2	Loss Reduction		30.02	29.34	26.45	2.89
3	Reliability		196.83	175.24	152.43	22.81
4	Load Growth		87.04	73.35	65.66	7.69
5	Technology & Infrastructure		65.15	46.18	44.40	1.77
	Total	**299**	**390.43**	**334.28**	**298.52**	**35.75**
Total up to 31.03.2025						
1	Statutory & Safety	1541	139.55	136.38	134.36	2.02
2	Loss Reduction		201.15	190.05	168.55	21.50
3	Reliability		633.80	599.22	554.87	44.34
4	Load Growth		302.12	282.12	259.68	22.44
5	Technology & Infrastructure		357.45	334.67	330.93	3.74
	Total	**1541**	**1634.07**	**1542.44**	**1448.39**	**94.04**

14. TPCODL has submitted that, the Capital investment is required to improve Power supply reliability, reduce the AT&C losses, ensure the safety and security of network and make the network adequate enough to cater the load growth and implementation of the technology to bring process efficiency in the operations. Further, other infrastructure inherited by the company viz. Office, Stores, Customer Care/ Service Centre's etc. require significant refurbishment.

15. For the purpose of achieving the above objectives, the TPCODL has framed its Capex Investment plan, which is based upon the following needs/

requirements:

Statutory & Safety – Investment required for addressing unsafe conditions and making the network statutory compliant. This covers set up of safety culture through safety and testing equipment, fencing of DSS & switchyards, erecting interposing poles etc.

Loss Reduction – Investment required for taking initiatives for reducing the technical Losses in the network. This includes Energy accounting measures, LT Bare to AB Cable and Defective cable replacement, Network Reconfiguration, Damaged Service Line replacement etc.

Reliability – Investment required to improve the Reliability and Quality of Power Supply by taking various initiatives like Old equipment replacement Feeder addition / augmentation, Installation of Auto Reclosers, RMU and MCCBs, Automation of conventional substations etc.

Load Growth – Investment is required to meet the Load Growth in the network and making the network future ready. This includes Augmentation / Addition of Power Transformers and DTs, New Connection release etc.

Technology and Infrastructure – Investment related to technology adoption and strengthening of various infrastructure to improve internal as well as external customer satisfaction. This includes IT & Technology infrastructure, civil infrastructure, etc.

16. TPCODL has highlighted several critical challenges in areas such as metering infrastructure, customer service delivery, and the adoption of advanced technologies. To address these issues, the utility has been undertaking initiatives progressively from FY 2020–21 through FY 2024–25. TPCODL has implemented integrated and standalone technology platforms which has been enhancing operational efficiency, reducing losses, and improving supply reliability and consumer engagement.

17. The Utility's has emphasized on improvement of service quality and reliability. Accordingly, the capital investment proposed for FY 2025–26 is aimed at reinforcing the distribution network, extending asset life, and introducing modern technological solutions. TPCODL has formulated its Capex Plan with the objective of strengthening the power distribution network, enhancing supply reliability, reducing AT&C losses, ensuring safety and statutory compliance, catering to projected load growth, and leveraging technology to improve operational efficiency. The details of the proposed Capex across the five

functional heads are elaborated in the subsequent paragraphs.

A) Safety and Statutory

This includes Investment required for addressing unsafe conditions and making the network statutory compliant and covers refurbishment works, set up of safety culture, maintaining equipment healthiness and network physical strength.

a) Interposing Poles

TPCODL has proposed for the installation of interposing poles to address safety concerns arising from long span lengths and inadequate vertical clearances in its 33kV, 11kV and LT distribution network. Several irregularities in the span length was observed where existing conductor spans exceed 70 to more than 100 meters, leading to excessive sagging, reduced ground clearance, and heightened risk of electrical accidents. TPCODL has planned the deployment of over 3000 interposing poles of varying specifications (ranging from 9m to 13m), tailored to different voltage levels and site conditions. This investment is expected to strengthen the physical integrity of the network, improve safety compliance, and enhance overall reliability of power supply. TPCODL has proposed a Capex of Rs. 10.01 Crores.

b) Fencing and Boundary Wall

To enhance physical security and safety compliance at critical electrical installations, TPCODL has proposed the construction and upgradation of fencing and boundary walls at primary substations (PSS) and distribution substations (DSS) across its network. So the substations can have proper enclosures and with increasing the risk of unauthorized access, accidental contact with live equipment, and safety incidents involving both the public and animals. For FY 2025-26, TPCODL proposes constructing compound walls with concertina coils and metal chain-link fences. Additionally, Distribution Substations (DSS) will be equipped with 1.8-meter high FRP/ chain-link fence gate, designed to restrict animal and public access to live equipment zones. This initiative will protect both human life and TPCODL assets from damage or tampering. These interventions aim to ensure statutory compliance, safeguard operational assets, and significantly reduce public safety risks. The total proposed Capex is of Rs. 12.50 Crores.

c) Testing Equipment

Testing of electrical equipment is critical for power distribution utility as it decides the healthiness of equipment. For FY 2025-26, TPCODL has proposed to procure of test devices such as secondary injection kits, CT/PT analyzers, thermovision cameras, and power analyzers. The initiative is essential for transformer and switchgear diagnostics and supports long-term asset reliability. The total Capex proposed under this head is Rs. 1.96 Crore.

TPCODL has proposed procurement of essential store equipment including Hydraulic Trolleys and Battery-operated Forklifts to improve material handling efficiency and reduce dependence on rented logistics at central stores. TPCODL has proposed a total Capex of Rs. 0.515 Crores. TPCODL has also proposed procurement of critical equipment for Distribution Transformer (DT) workshops, including Chain Pulley Blocks**,** Power Analyzers**,** Compressor Machine and Security Surveillance System, etc. to strengthen in-house repair capability, reduce turnaround time, and improve the reliability of repaired transformers for which TPCODL has proposed a Capex of Rs. 0.97 Crores. Total amount to Rs. 3.44 Cr is proposed for FY 2025-26 under testing equipment.

d) Safety Enhancement to Comply with Statutory Requirements

TPCODL has outlined a comprehensive scheme involving infrastructure and equipment upgrades. This includes the procurement of Mobile Safety Training Bus, installation of Practice Poles with FRP ladders at section offices and deployment of Cable Height Meters and Pole Straighteners to be used by safety officers during inspections. Additionally, Digital First Aid Mannequins will be provided to Skill Development Centres to improve emergency response training. For fire safety preparedness, Fire Buckets with Canopies will be installed across 375 PSS. Collectively, these measures will enhance statutory safety compliance, reduce field incidents, and create a safer operating environment for all stakeholders. The total Capex proposed for these activities is Rs. 3.59 Crores.

Table 3: Proposed CAPEX under the Head Safety and Statutory

Main Budget head	Activity	Board approved Budget (In Cr.)
Safety & Statutory	Interposing Pole to improve vertical clearance	10.01
	Fencing / Boundary Wall / DT plinth	12.50
	Testing Equipment, Store Equipment and DT Workshop Equipment	3.44
	Safety Enhancement to comply Statutory	3.59
	Total	**29.54**

B) Loss Reduction

Under this head, TPCODL has proposed Damaged Service Line/ Cable

Replacement, 33kV Feeder Metering for Energy Accounting, Augmentation of existing feeder for network strengthening and interlinking of feeder for reduction in length to reduce losses and conversion of LT Bare to LT AB Cable.

a) Damaged Service Line Replacement

TPCODL has proposed a targeted scheme to replace damaged service cables associated with defective or aged energy meters, which pose both safety and loss-related challenges. These cables not only compromise safety, creating risks of electrocution, but also serve as potential sources of electricity theft and pilferage, thereby increasing AT&C losses and reducing billing efficiency. In compliance with CEA regulations and OERC Supply Code 2019 (Clause 97), which mandate static metering infrastructure and prohibit mechanical meters, TPCODL proposes proactive replacement of such cables wherever they are found to be unsafe or loss-inducing. The capital expenditure proposed for this scheme is Rs. 4.00 Crores.

b) 33kV Feeder Metering for Energy Accounting

To strengthen voltage-level energy audit and meet the targets set under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 and BEE’s 2021 regulations, TPCODL has proposed the development of smart metering infrastructure for 33kV feeder metering at OPTCL grid substations. TPCODL plans a two-phase implementation beginning with 15 substations housing 85 feeders, followed by balance locations using smart meters integrated with its Meter Data Management (MDM) and HES platforms. This initiative is essential to ensure compliance, accurate energy audit, and improved grid monitoring and revenue protection. The capital expenditure proposed for Phase I in FY 2025-26 is Rs. 2.45 Crores.

c) Feeder Loss Reduction – Augmentation/Interconnector

TPCODL’s 33kV and 11kV networks currently face high technical losses due to long radial feeders, inadequate conductor sizing, and absence of interconnections. The utility proposes to implement a scheme for augmenting feeder conductors and introducing interconnecting links to enable ring operation. The augmentation will help in providing reliable power supply to the consumers. This initiative is also expected to reduce technical losses. The total capital expenditure proposed for this scheme is Rs. 15.14 Crores.

d) LT Bare to LT AB Cable Conversion

To combat persistent issues related to electricity theft, frequent tripping, and safety hazards in the LT network, TPCODL has proposed conversion of overhead bare LT conductors to insulated LT Aerial Bunched (AB) Cables in theft-prone and densely populated areas. The AB cable system provides insulation, safer clearances, and physical deterrence against theft, while also ensuring better voltage regulation and reduced outages due to environmental disturbances. The scheme aligns with AT&C loss reduction targets mandated under the vesting order. TPCODL plans to replace approximately 200 kilometers of bare conductor with AB cable under this initiative. The total capital expenditure proposed for this scheme is Rs. 17.41 Crores.

Table 4: Proposed CAPEX under the Head Loss Reduction

Main Budget head	Activity	Board approved Budget (In Cr.)
Loss Reduction	Damaged Service Cable Replacement	4.00
	33KV Feeder Metering for Energy Accounting	2.45
	Feeder Loss reduction - Aug/ Interconnector	15.14
	Conversion of LT Bare to LT AB Cable	17.41
	Total	**39.00**

C) Reliability

The Petitioner has proposed CAPEX for various schemes and activities under the head of Reliability for an estimated amount of Rs. 295.00 Crores as described below:

a) GSAS Implementation

As part of its roadmap to enhance real-time monitoring and control of its distribution infrastructure, TPCODL has proposed further expansion of its Grid Substation Automation System (GSAS) during FY 2025–26. The initiative is aimed at transforming conventional primary substations (PSS) into SCADA-integrated, remotely operable units to ensure faster fault detection, improved Mean Time to Repair (MTTR), and overall system reliability. This proposal includes replacing outdated non-SCADA-compatible equipment, enabling centralised visibility and control through the Power System Control Centre (PSCC). These enhancements will help reduce manual intervention, improve restoration time, and enhance consumer satisfaction through reliable power delivery. The capital expenditure proposed for this phase of GSAS implementation is Rs. 2.00 Crores.

b) Replacement of Old Equipment

TPCODL has proposed replacement of aged and degraded equipment across its 33/11kV network that has outlived its useful life. The proposal includes replacement of indoor switchgear, circuit breakers, isolators, battery chargers, control panels, and relay systems that frequently fail. Equipment replacements include indoor switchboards, 33kV breakers, 11kV breakers, and multiple CT/PT units, etc. Many of these installations pre-date privatization and face severe service issues due to discontinued OEM support. Upgrades will improve reliability, reduce flashover risk, etc. The total capital expenditure proposed is Rs. 20.00 Crores.

c) **33kV Network Infrastructure**

To address reliability concerns arising from overloading and poor voltage profiles in the 33kV network of the distribution system, TPCODL has proposed augmentation of existing feeders, new feeders and interconnectors for 19 No. of the feeders under the Capex Plan for FY 2025-26. Details of each feeder along with individual estimates have been submitted by TPCODL. Additionally, TPCODL plans to refurbish dilapidated 33kV lines, especially those in difficult terrains like paddy fields and dense forests, which suffer from high failure rates due to long spans and aged conductors, thereby severely impacting the power reliability for consumers. These works will improve reliability and voltage stability. The total capital expenditure proposed under this scheme is Rs. 85.58 Crores.

d) **11KV Network Infrastructure**

TPCODL has proposed a major reinforcement of its 11kV distribution infrastructure to resolve issues of feeder overloading, voltage drops, and supply reliability. 80 Nos. feeders are covered under the Capex Plan for FY 2025–26. Details of each feeder along with individual estimates have been submitted by TPCODL. The scope includes new 11kV lines, interconnectors, conductor upgradation, CSS augmentation, and feeder bifurcation, especially in dense urban pockets. These works aim to optimize load balancing, reduce tripping, improve consumer-side voltage quality and reliable power supply. Additionally, overloaded CSS units (500/630/750 kVA) will be upgraded to 1000 kVA units to manage future growth. The total capital expenditure proposed for this initiative is Rs. 157.42 Crores.

e) **Installation of Auto Reclosers, Fault Passage Indicators (FPIs), RMUs, and MCCBs**

To modernize protection and improve service restoration time, TPCODL has proposed deployment of sectionalizing and switching devices across its 33kV and 11kV networks. This includes LT Distribution Boxes (LTDBs) for distribution transformers, FPIs, Auto Reclosers, and Ring Main Units (RMUs) of varying configurations. These devices will improve grid automation, reduce outage area during faults, and provide SCADA compatibility for future upgrades. Particularly in urban and high-load zones, the devices will aid in isolating faulty sections without disrupting entire feeders. This scheme directly supports improvement of reliability indices such as SAIDI and SAIFI. The total capital expenditure proposed for this scheme is Rs. 30.00 Crores.

Table 5: Proposed CAPEX under the Head Reliability

Main Budget head	Activity	Board approved Budget (Rs. in Cr.)
Reliability	GSAS Implementation	2.00
	Replacement of Old Equipment	20.00
	33KV Network Infrastructure	85.58
	11KV Network Infrastructure	157.42
	AR/FPI/MCCB/RMU	30.00
	Total	**295.00**

D) Load Growth

TPCODL has proposed CAPEX for FY 2025-26 under the head of Load Growth with an estimated amount of Rs.111.02 Cr. as described below.

a) New Connection Release

TPCODL has proposed a capital investment plan to meet the growing demand for new electricity connections, which has seen a sharp rise across both urban and rural areas. While many connections can be serviced from the current infrastructure, a significant number require network strengthening and extension prior to energization. The utility has proposed Rs15.00 Crores under this head to facilitate seamless and efficient new connection releases across its service area.

b) Service Cable for New Connection

In addition to infrastructure expansion, TPCODL has submitted a proposal to cover the cost differential for service cables associated with new connections. With this capital investment, TPCODL aims to uphold regulatory timelines for connection release and enhance customer satisfaction. The total capex proposed for this activity is Rs. 6.00 Crores.

c) Power Transformer Augmentation for Overloading mitigation

Based on load flow studies conducted for Summer 2026, TPCODL has identified 57 nos. of 33/11kV Power Transformers that are projected to exceed their rated capacity. To mitigate overloading and ensure continued network reliability, the company proposes augmentation of 12 nos. of these PTRs under the FY 2025-26 capital plan. The remaining PTR overloading cases will be addressed through operational strategies like feeder load diversion and swapping, executed under OPEX, Government Funded and other schemes. These PTR upgrades are crucial to prevent transformer failures, voltage instability, and statutory non-compliance in high-growth areas. The total capital expenditure proposed for this PTR augmentation scheme is Rs. 65.00 Crores

d) Distribution Transformer (DT) Augmentation / Addition:

TPCODL has identified numerous locations where existing Distribution Transformers (DTs) are overloaded or will face overloading within two years due to natural load growth. As per internal assessments, loading beyond 80% of rated capacity is treated as a trigger for replacement or augmentation. For FY 2025–26, TPCODL has proposed installation of new and augmentation of overload DTs under this Category. The removed DTs will be redeployed at other locations. This scheme aims to enhance supply quality, reduce forced outages, and extend transformer lifespan. The total capital expenditure proposed under this scheme is Rs. 25.02 Crores.

Table 6: Proposed CAPEX under the Head of Load Growth

Main Budget head	Activity	Board approved Budget (Rs. in Cr.)
Load Growth	New Connection Release	15.00
	Service Cable for new Connection	6.00
	Power Transformer Augmentation for Overloading	65.00
	DT Augmentation/ Addition to meet Load Growth	25.02
	Total	**111.02**

E) Technology & Infrastructure:

TPCODL has proposed for an amount of Rs. 58.00 Crores for execution of various activities and plans under this head which are as follows:

a) Build & Strengthen end user IT infrastructure

To strengthen its digital backbone, TPCODL has proposed a multi-layered IT investment plan aimed at ensuring uninterrupted, secure, and efficient operations across the power distribution value chain. The proposal encompasses end-user computing infrastructure, surveillance systems, robust networking solutions, and enhanced data centre architecture.

i. **End User Computing Devices (laptops/Desktops)**

TPCODL plans to replace old, out-of-warranty IT assets, thus proposes to procure laptops and desktop PCs with UPS to support day-to-day automated business operations, consumer service, billing, and mobile field services. These devices are crucial for process efficiency and improving consumer response timelines. TPCODL has proposed a Capex of Rs. 5.00 Crores.

ii. **Surveillance and Access Control Systems**

For 24x7 monitoring and physical security at critical assets, TPCODL will deploy surveillance systems at 40 locations (35 PSS + 5 critical offices). This includes dome, bullet, and PTZ cameras, centralized video storage, and monitoring dashboards. This measure, based on police advice and regulatory need, will also act as a deterrent to criminal activity and support asset protection. TPCODL has proposed a Capex Rs. 7.00 Crores.

b) Strengthen Network Connectivity

i. **Communication Network**

To ensure stable and scalable communication between control centers, offices, and primary substations, TPCODL proposes a wide-area network upgrade. It plans to connect multiple locations using MPLS/OFC/5G/VSAT-based systems, backed by a central Network Monitoring System. TPCODL has proposed a Capex of Rs. 9.00 Crores.

ii. **Network Equipment - Office LAN, Switches, Wi-Fi and Infrastructure Augmentation**

TPCODL also proposes strengthening internal networking across its offices by installing distribution switches, Wi-Fi devices and LAN systems, to support increasing automation, employee footfall and integrated systems (e.g., billing, metering, SAP). TPCODL has proposed a Capex of Rs. 1.28 Crores.

c) Augmentation of Data Center Infrastructure

i. **Augmentation of DC and DR Infrastructure Hardware and Software Expansion**

The plan includes implementation of a three-tier data center architecture using high-capacity core switches and 100 TB backup storage units, addressing compliance for audit logs and business continuity. TPCODL has proposed a budget of Rs. 4.22 Cr.

ii. **Software and License (SAP/ERP/DB/OS/others etc) for Data Center**

For the procurement of ERP, OS, database, and remote collaboration licenses

(MS Office, Anydesk, SAP licenses, etc.). TPCODL has proposed Capex of Rs. 1.5 Crores.

The total capex of Rs. 5.72 Cr is proposed by TPCODL under Augmentation of Data Centre Infrastructure.

Civil Infrastructure

To maintain and expand operational readiness, TPCODL has proposed strengthening of its field and administrative infrastructure. The scope covers civil works such as building upgrades, training yards, and administrative furnishing.

i. **Furniture at Offices:** To replace outdated or damaged furniture and procurement of new furniture for new infrastructures, Rs 2.00 Crores has been proposed for offices across all five circles.

ii. **Construction/ Strengthening of Section and SDO offices:** The utility plans to upgrade Circle Office, Division office. Section offices, SDO offices, and BSKs for better service delivery. This includes new construction and refurbishment of buildings across strategic zones. TPCODL has proposed a Capex of Rs. 7.50 Crores.

iii. **New Circle/ Division/ MRT Lab/ E&MR Office/ GRF Office/ Enhanced facility at Tirtol SDC:** TPCODL has proposed the construction and upgradation of critical operational and administrative infrastructure. The proposal includes the establishment of new offices such as Circle Office, Division Office, MRT Lab, Electrical & Mechanical Repairs (E&MR) Office, etc. The total capital expenditure proposed for this initiative is Rs. 6.50 Crores

iv. **Area Development of Offices:** TPCODL has proposed investment for developing the peripheral area around the office premises by providing approach roads and parking's for vehicles along with waiting areas for the consumers as well as working staff. The total capital expenditure proposed for this area development activity is Rs. 1.00 Crores

v. **Control Room Upgradation:** TPCODL has proposed investment for strengthening of control rooms by enhancing the structural stability and remodify utility of the building. The total capital expenditure proposed for this activity is Rs. 1.80 Crores.

vi. **Switchyard Upgradation:** TPCODL has proposed investment for improvement the grid stability and reduced the risk of failures and upgrades the capacity to cater the growing demands of the electricity. The total capital expenditure proposed for this activity is Rs. 3.80 Crores.

vii. **DT Plinth Construction:** TPCODL proposes construction of new DT plinths (RCC foundations) for 100–500 kVA DTRs. These plinths will enhance safety, reduce maintenance risks and animal protection. TPCODL has proposed a Capex of Rs. 0.50 Crores.

viii. **Refurbishment of Safety Practice Yards:** To maintain 17 existing safety practice yards, TPCODL proposes resurfacing, tiling, and fencing for enhanced safety and utility. TPCODL has proposed a Capex of Rs. 1.90 Crores.

d) Ready-to-Use Admin Assets

TPCODL has proposed the procurement of furniture, AC units, and minor electrical fittings to replace worn-out administrative resources in offices and substations, improving the working environment for field and back-office teams. TPCODL has proposed a Capex of Rs. 2.00 Crore.

Table 7: Proposed CAPEX under the Head Technology & Infrastructure

Main budget head	Activity	Board approved Budget (Rs. in Cr.)
Technology & Infrastructure	IT-Software, User Devices, Backup System, Storage Devices and Application	28.00
	Civil Upgradation	28.00
	Ready to Use Admin Asset	2.00
	Total	**58.00**

18. The Table below summarizes the overall capex plan proposed by TPCODL for FY 2025-26.

Table 8: Summary of the investment proposed by TPCODL for FY 2025-26

Main Budget	Activity Planned	TPCODL's Proposal (Rs. in Cr)
Safety & Statutory	Interposing Pole to improve vertical clearance	10.00
	Fencing / Boundary Wall / DT plinth	12.50
	Testing Equipment	3.44
	Safety Enhancement to comply Statutory Requirement	3.62
	Safety & Statutory	**29.56**
Loss reduction	Damaged Service Cable replacement	4.00
	33KV Feeder Metering for Energy Accounting	2.45

	Feeder Loss reduction - Aug/ Interconnector	15.00
	Conversion of LT Bare to LT AB Cable	17.55
	Loss reduction	**39.00**
Reliability	GSAS Implementation	2.00
	Replacement of Old Equipment	20.00
	33KV Network Infrastructure	85.58
	11KV Network Infrastructure	157.42
	AR/FPI/MCCB/RMU	30.00
	Reliability	**295.00**
Load Growth	New Connection Release	15.00
	Service Cable for new Connection	6.00
	Power Transformer Augmentation for Overloading mitigation	65.00
	DT Augmentation/ Addition to meet Load Growth	25.00
	Load Growth	**111.00**
Technology & Infrastructure	IT - Software, User Devices, Back-up system, Storage devices and Applications and communication	28.00
	Civil Upgradation	28.00
	Ready to Use Admin Asset	2.00
	Infrastructure	**58.00**
Grand Total		**532.56**

19. The observations submitted by the Respondent-GRIDCO are stated hereinafter:

a) GRIDCO has suggested for a long-term Capex Plan for the Discoms with a detailed guideline and mechanism for same.

b) Benefits of capex undertaken should be provided.

c) Capex plan towards modification of network to be supported with load flow study and long term load forecast.

d) The actual capex and capitalization as on 30.09.2024 is Rs. 1241.25 Cr and Rs. 1051.42 Cr against the approved capex of Rs. 1624.32 Cr and Vesting Order commitment of Rs. 1541 Cr.

e) The petition is very generic on plan given for interposing pole.

f) Total requirement of switch yard fencing in priority order has not been provided in the petition.

g) Capex towards initial requirement of testing equipment for protection team may be covered under capex however the recurring requirement due to wear and tear to be covered under opex.

h) In view of the geographical spread of TPCODL with limited mobility and limited distance between divisions and also for optimal utilization of existing facility and infrastructure, the mobile training center within a Bus may not be justifiable.

i) The 33 kV feeder metering can be done inside OPTCL's control room instead of port cabin as proposed by the petitioner.
j) Any modification under Govt. funded scheme to be separated out from the proposal given for 'Conversion of LT bare to LT AB cable' in the petition.
k) PSS wise list and cost estimate not provided for GSAS implementation.
l) With regards to overloading mitigation of 33 kV Daspalla and Nayagarh Feeder, GRIDCO has observed that the mixed conductor configuration (100 sqmm, 55 & 34 sqmm) between Nuagaon PSS and Dasapalla PSS is not addressed. The 300 sqmm UG cable between Baramai lane DP to Koina Hotel will remain unused in the proposed network modification, hence the reason to be properly substantiated.
m) Scope and planning for Auto Recloser, FPI, RMU and MCCBs to be provided by the petitioner.
n) Size of certain cable and certain charges considered under 'New Connection' seems not appropriate.
o) On the 'Power Transformer for overloading mitigation' GRIDCO has observed that TPCODL has taken 20 % load growth in entire TPCODL area whereas total load growth of 5-6% has been approved in Tariff Order FY 2025-26
p) On DT Addition/Augmentation, GRIDCO has asked for details of utilization along with swapping plan to be furnished.
q) The replacement of laptops and desktops on 'Out of Warranty 'grounds not be made earmarked principle.
r) List of control room upgradation not provided in the petition.

20. The observations submitted by the Respondent-OPTCL are stated hereinafter:

a) The actual capitalization as on 30.09.2024 is Rs. 1051.42 Cr against the approved capex of Rs. 1624.24 Cr which is 64.7% of approved capex.
b) Some of the 33kV bays are lying unutilized and OPTCL has provided the list.
c) Amounts proposed under 'Statutory & Safety' are on higher side and may be allowed by the Hon'ble Commission after prudent verification.
d) Under 'Reliability ', OPTCL has asked to furnish capitalization of the Capex approved for FY 2024-25.
e) Under 'Load Growth', OPTCL has asked to furnish capitalization of the Capex approved for FY 2024-25.
f) OPTCL has submitted list of 74 nos. of unutilized 33 kV bays in TPCODL

area.

21. The observations submitted by the Respondent-Shri Prabhakar Dora are stated hereinafter:

a) Amount of Rs. 10 Cr proposed for DSS fencing and boundary walls need not be claimed separately.

b) Claim of Rs. 4 Cr on account of replacement of damaged service cables is unrealistic.

c) No need for capex proposed under New Connection.

22. The rejoinder submitted by TPCODL to the observations of the Respondents are stated hereunder:

a) With regard to GRIDCO's observation on benefits of capex undertaken, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted impact of capex on operational performance and the significant benefit accrued to the consumers.

b) With regard to GRIDCO's observation that capex plan towards modification of network to be supported with load flow study and long-term load forecast, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that the capex proposal is based upon the Load flow Study, Growth in peak demand, reliability, feeder segregation, voltage related problems, technology roadmap, scope left for fencing of PSS, DSS, AT&C loss reduction, overloading PTR/DTRs. The petitioner, in its rejoinder, has also submitted that the load flow study has been conducted for a period of 2 years and 5 years and the deficiencies were identified and based on which the plan for FY 2025-26 has been submitted.

c) With regard to GRIDCO's observation on the status of actual capex and capitalization as on 30.09.2024, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that actual capex as on 31.03.2025 is Rs. 1542 Cr (i.e. 95 % of approved capex) and actual capitalization is Rs. 1449 Cr (i.e. 89% of approved capex) and supply against commitment of Rs. 63 Cr being received in due course with commitment of Rs. 29 Cr towards installation & commissioning in place and also Rs. 93 Cr are work in progress (WIP). The petitioner has submitted it has successfully achieved 95 % of capex despite the fact that it gets only 5-6 months in a year as suitable time for capex implementation due to harsh climatic conditions with severe summers, heavy rainy seasons, along with Kalbaishakhi storms and cyclones.

d) With regard to GRIDCO's observation that the petition is very generic on plan given for interposing pole, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted following.

That since take over, TPCODL has installed approx. 25500 Nos. of interposing poles (including 33kV, 11kV and LT network) against the total scopes of 69857 poles. Out of the balance requirement, 3080 poles are planned for FY 2025-26. The locations of interposing poles are prioritized, based on factors like: location of poles to maintain phase to ground clearance especially the residential pockets, road crossings, high public foot fall areas e.g.- market places etc., to address the feeder sections with high span lengths for network strengthening, environmental factors such as elephant movement areas etc. The job has been planned in phased wise manner to so that burden on consumers is spread over the years.

e) With regard to GRIDCO's observation on total requirement of switch yard fencing in priority order not being provided in the petition, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that it has identified the need for 373 Chain-link Fencing and 373 Compound Wall fencing at 33/11kV Primary Sub-Stations and as of FY25, 109 Chain-link and 236 Compound Walls have been constructed. For Distribution Sub-Stations (DSS) of 100 kVA & above, fencing of 2800 nos. of DSS have been completed against the requirement of 8000 nos. and prioritization has been done based on vulnerability to public access and stray animals. The petitioner has also submitted list of PSS location where chain-link fencing and boundary walls are proposed in FY 2025-26.

f) With regard to GRIDCO's observation that capex towards initial requirement of testing equipment for protection team may be covered under capex however the recurring requirement due to wear and tear to be covered under opex , the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that the items proposed in the capex petition are Advance Secondary Injection kit, CTPT Analyser, Power Analyser, Low Vision Thermal Camera, Material handling equipment etc which are capex in nature, however repair and periodic calibration of all testing equipment are being carried out under Opex budget.

g) With regard to GRIDCO's observation on the mobile training center within a Bus is not justifiable, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted the justification of the requirement.

h) With regard to GRIDCO's observation the 33 kV feeder metering can be done inside OPTCL's control room instead of port cabin, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that in subsequent development OPTCL had agreed for same and accordingly TPCODL has reduced its proposal to 30 Lakhs under this head.

i) With regard to GRIDCO's observation against any modification under Govt. funded scheme to be separated out from the proposal given for 'Conversion of LT bare to LT AB cable' in the petition, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted the total scope and how entire scope being covered under separate heads (i.e. Govt Funded Schemes and Capex) without any overlapping.

j) With regard to GRIDCO's observation PSS wise list and cost estimate not provided for GSAS implementation, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted the substation wise cost estimate for GSAS implementation, also the year wise implementation plan for PSS has also been submitted.

k) With regard to GRIDCO's observation on overloading mitigation of 33 kV Daspalla and Nayagarh Feeder, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted following:

   The 33kV Daspalla feeder recorded a loading of 350 Amps (20 MVA) during Summer-2024, which is loaded up to 133% of the current carrying capacity of the single run of 300sqmm cable. The feeder length is approximately 139 Ckm and consists of mixed conductor sections (232/100/55/34 sqmm ACSR and 300 sqmm cable). With an anticipated annual load growth of 8% over the next two years, the feeder loading is projected to reach 156% of its rated capacity.

   To address this, conductor augmentation from Nuagaon PSS to Daspalla PSS to 148 sqmm is under progress under the approved Capex for FY 2024–25. Out of the 19 ckm proposed, 16.5 ckm has already been completed, with the remaining 2.5 ckm scheduled for completion by 30th May 2025.

   Additionally, the existing cable section of the 33kV Daspalla feeder is of single run of 3C x 300 sqmm cable, with no spare cable. Under the current loading condition, this cable is already overloaded and lacks the capacity to support load transfer operations. Therefore, it is proposed to replace the existing cable with a higher-rated 1C x 630 sqmm cable to mitigate overloading and to enable N-1 contingency support for improved reliability.

l) With regard to GRIDCO's observation on Auto Recloser, FPI, RMU and MCCBs, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted the total scope, competed work and balance.

m) With regard to GRIDCO's observation on size of certain cable and certain charges considered under 'New Connection' the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that to optimize inventory costs and standardize cable sizing, 4C & 6 wire cable LT AB cable has been considered for network extension, particularly for releasing new connections. This cable also utilized to optimize the existing network for releasing street light connections without the need for laying additional cables within the same Right of Way (ROW).

n) On the ‘Power Transformer for overloading mitigation’ GRIDCO has observed that TPCODL has taken 20 % load growth in entire TPCODL area whereas total load growth of 5-6% has been approved in Tariff Order FY 2025-26. In this regard, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that the 20% growth is not of entire TPCODL but of some PTRs considered in the proposal, the petitioner has also submitted the list of PTR along with load growth data for each PTR.

o) With regard to GRIDCO’s observation on DT Addition/Augmentation, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted DT with > 80% loading has been considered for upgradation and has provided location wise details along with swapping locations and loading details.

p) With regard to GRIDCO’s observation on replacement of laptops and desktops on ‘Out of Warranty ‘ grounds , the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that after 4 years of use, IT hardware such as laptops, which operate with integrated software systems, experience significant performance degradation, hence, after complement of 4 year of life of these IT assets, the new laptops are assigned to the high end users only and the existing old laptops are provided to low end users, thereby optimizing the assets life even.

q) GRIDCO has raised observation on list of control room upgradation not provided in the petition, which the petitioner has submitted in its rejoinder.

r) With regard to OPTCL’s observation on the status of actual capex and capitalization as on 30.09.2024, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted the actual status as on 31.03.2025 which shows actual capex and capitalization being 95% and 89% of approved capex respectively.

s) With regard to OPTCL’s observation on unutilized bays, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted actual status on the same.

t) With regard to OPTCL’s observation on amounts proposed under ‘Statutory & Safety’ being on higher side, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted the proposed amount is actually on a lower side considering the fact that quantum of interposing pole, fencing of PSS and DSS, new boundary wall construction, protection testing equipment required are quite substantial, however, the entire scopes of work has been planned in phased manner for reducing the burden on tariff.

u) Under ‘Reliability ‘, OPTCL has asked to furnish capitalization of the Capex approved for FY 2024-25. Against this observation, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that against the Rs. 196.83 Cr approved for FY 2024-25 under ‘Reliability’, Rs. 152.43 Cr has been capitalized as on 31.03.2025 and balance work is in progress.

v) Under ‘Load Growth’, OPTCL has asked to furnish capitalization of the Capex approved for FY 2024-25. Against this observation, the petitioner in its rejoinder has submitted that against the Rs. 77.29 Cr approved for FY 2024-25 under ‘Load Growth’, Rs. 65.66 Cr has been capitalized as on 31.03.2025 and balance work is in progress.

23. We have heard the Petitioner and the Respondents through hybrid mode and have carefully considered their submissions.

(a) In line with direction in vesting order dated 26.05.2020 and provision in OERC’s Wheeling & RST Regulation 2022 and the license conditions 11 & 32, TPCODL has submitted investment plan under CAPEX to the tune of Rs.532.56 crores for the FY 2025-26 with objective of strengthening of power distribution network to cater to projected load growth leveraging technology, to improve power supply quality & reliability, to reduce AT&C losses and ensure safety & statutory compliance, and to enhance efficiency & productivity and meeting productivity standard.

(b) The investment proposal has been approved by BoD of TPCODL vide letter No. TPCODL/Regulatory/2023/258/7324.

(c) As per TPCODL, the actual capitalization as on 31.03.2025 is Rs 1449 Cr. and Work in Progress (WIP) for Rs 93 Cr. against the approved Capex of Rs 1624.24 Cr. and commitment of Rs 1541 Cr. as per vesting Order.

(d) Petitioner has confirmed about no overlapping work covered under own Capex and Government funded Schemes.

(e) On the detailed analysis of the proposed activities and the Commission’s Observations on the proposed Capex by TPCODL for FY 2025-26 under following five(s) major heads are as under:

(i) **Statutory & Safety: -** The Commission has examined each activity under this head for which capex has been proposed. We observe that the proposals of interposing poles for long spans in order to maintain the required phase to ground clearance as per standards for the safety of the human being & animals and construction of compound wall & chain link fencing in PSS and FRP/chain-link fencing for DSS are imperative to prevent unauthorized access. The Testing Equipment (secondary injection kits, CT/PT analysers, thermo vision cameras and power analysers) proposed by the petitioner are necessary for diagnostics and monitoring the healthiness of the power distribution equipment including transformers. The petitioner has proposed various activities under Safety Enhancement to comply with Statutory Requirement, enhance safety practices, in daily operations. These initiatives include the procurement of specialized equipment, training facilities, and improvement of infrastructure in primary substations and section offices. These initiatives would help in creating a safe working environment and provide necessary training infrastructure to keep the workforce well-equipped and trained. However, the Petitioner has not provided the Location and its utilization under the activities "Unsafe to Safe Location, Interposing poles" and "Installation/ Construction of Plinth fencing or boundary wall of DSS or GSS, Area upliftment/ development". Even during discussions, the details could not be provided satisfactorily. Therefore, the Commission finds no justification to allow any amount for Interposing poles for improving vertical clearance and for Construction of fencing or boundary wall of DSS or GSS and Area upliftment/ development. For the activity "Safety Enhancement to comply with Statutory Requirement", the Commission allows only for Cable Height meter and pole straightener. It does not find the necessity of the other items at the moment and feels that it may exert extra burden on the consumers of the state. The Commission may consider the same at the appropriate time if it finds justification of the same.

Considering the available information, the Commission approves the following for the FY 2025-26 for various activities under the head Statutory & Safety:

Table 9:

Capex approved under the head Safety & Statutory for FY 2025-26 (Rs. Cr)

Sl. No	Activity	Proposed by the petitioner as per Board's approved Budget	Approved by the Commission
1	Interposing Pole to improve vertical clearance	10.01	0
2	Fencing / Boundary Wall	12.50	0
3	Testing Equipment	3.44	3.44
4	Safety Enhancement to comply with Statutory Requirement	3.59	0.10
5	**Sub-Total**	**29.54**	**3.54**

(ii) **Loss Reduction: -** The petitioner has proposed for replacement of the defective service line cables that pose threat of electrocution besides becoming the potential source of theft & pilferage. The replacement of defective service cable forms part of expenditure to be borne by the consumer and therefore, the Commission is not inclined to allow any expenditure for service cable replacement.

The petitioner has proposed Rs. 2.45 Cr towards implementation of Smart Metering Infrastructure through E-House porta cabin for 15 Nos of OPTCL's Grids in FY 2025-26. However, the petitioner in its rejoinder to GRIDCO's observations has submitted that in a subsequent development M/s OPTCL has agreed to the followings:

a. Installation of metering panels inside the room in GSS, where meters were removed owing to implementation of SAS and
b. Replacement of Non-Smart Meters with Smart Meters on the existing panels in GSS.

Further, in the above rejoinder the petitioner has also submitted that after the above approval, there will not be any requirement of Porta Cabin except for Nayagarh Grid, where order has already been placed and civil work has been done.

In view of the above development, the Commission allows Rs. 30 Lakhs under this head against the proposal of Rs. 2.45 Cr towards Smart Metering Infrastructure for 33 kV feeder metering at OPTCL's Grid end for Energy Audit Activity subject to the compliance of the requirements of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Manner and Intervals for conduct of energy Audit in electricity distribution companies) Regulation, 2021.

The long radial feeders and in adequate conductor size etc. contribute to high technical loss. For technical loss reduction and improving reliability of power supply ,the petitioner has proposed (a) Augmentation and Refurbishment of existing 33kV Kaniha, Rengali and Talcher Feeders and new 33kV interlinking line for load balancing between 33kV Talcher and Rengali feeders to mitigate overloading, enable N-1 criteria and (b) New 33kV interlinking line for load transfer from 33kV Angul-II feeder to 33kV Panchmahal feeder to mitigate overloading; enable N-1 criteria and loss reduction of 33kV Angul-II feeders. The Commission observes that the proposed activities would help to reduce AT&C loss, facilitate energy accounting and audit, strengthen the network and increase reliability.

The Commission emphasizes the activity of replacement of LT bare conductor by LT AB Cable in critical areas such as schools, hospitals, market places, theft-prone areas and densely populated areas etc. However, the Petitioner has not provided the details of locations where such conversions has been proposed. Even during discussions, the details could not be provided satisfactorily. Therefore, the Commission is not inclined to allow any amount under conversion of LT bare to LT ABC. Lumpsum amount of Rs 8.70 Cr. (i.e. 50% of proposed amount) for "Conversion of LT Bare to LT AB Cable".

The proposed amount and the Commission's approval for various activities are given in the table below:

Table 10:

Capex approved under the head Loss Reduction for FY 2025-26 (Rs. Cr)

Sl. No	Activity	Proposed by the petitioner as per Board's approved Budget	Approved by the Commission
1	Damaged Service Cable replacement	4.00	0
2	33KV Feeder Metering for Energy Accounting	2.45	0.30
3	Feeder Loss reduction - Augmentation/ Interconnector	15.14	15.14
4	Conversion of LT Bare to LT AB Cable	17.41	0
5	**Sub-Total**	**39.00**	**15.44**

(iii) **Reliability: -**TPCODL has submitted year wise plan for automation and integration of SCADA for all PSSs by the FY 2028-29 and has proposed to enhance real-time monitoring & control of distribution infrastructure and for expansion of Grid Substation Automation System (GSAS). The proposal includes replacement of non-SCADA compatible equipment. For FY 2025-26, the petitioner has proposed completion of GSAS in 12 conventional PSS. These integrations will improve MTTR besides ensuring faster fault detection, reducing manual intervention, enhancing consumer satisfaction and improving overall system reliability.

The petitioner has further proposed CAPEX of Rs.20.00 Crores for replacement of old equipment (indoor switchgear, CBs, isolators, battery chargers, control & relay panels etc.) in order to strengthen the existing network, which will help in managing the load in case of any exigency and mitigate the issue of over loading etc. For Some equipment, OEM have discontinued support for spares and services. The components of replaced old equipment can be used as spares for similar old equipment which are in service in other PSS. However, the Petitioner has not provided the details of locations for such replacements. Even during discussions, the details could not be provided satisfactorily. The Commission is not inclined to allow Rs 20 Cr. proposed for this activity under capex as such items could be covered under R&M while filing ARR of subsequent years.

The petitioner has proposed Rs. 85.58 Cr (for 33 kV line) and Rs.157.42 Cr (for 11 kV lines) towards construction of new lines, refurbishment of dilapidated lines, interconnection lines, feeder bifurcation (11 kV) conductor augmentation and CSS augmentation to optimize the feeder loadings, mitigate feeder overloading and strengthen the existing feeders to improve the reliability, voltage profile safety to provide uninterrupted power supply to the consumers. The Petitioner has provided the details of locations along with sufficient justification for such proposals and hence, the Commission allows Rs 85.85 Cr and Rs 157.42 Cr for 33 kV and 11 kV network infrastructure respectively.

Further, the petitioner has proposed Rs. 30 Cr towards installation of LT DBs Auto Recloser, Fault Passage Indicator (FPI), RMU and MCCBs to make the existing 11 kV and 33 kV network for making the same more reliable. However, the Petitioner has not provided the details of locations where such replacements has been proposed. Even during discussions, the details could not be provided satisfactorily. Therefore, the Commission is not inclined to allow any amount for installation of Auto recloser, FPI, RMU & MCCBs etc.

The proposed amount and the Commission's approval for various activities are given in the table below:

Table 11: Capex approved under the head Reliability for FY 2025-26 (Rs. Cr)

Sl. No	Activity	Proposed by the petitioner as per Board approved Budget	Approved by the Commission
1	GSAS Implementation	2.00	2.00
2	Replacement of Old Equipment	20.00	0.00
3	33KV Network Infrastructure	85.58	85.58
4	11KV Network Infrastructure	157.42	157.42
5	Installation of Auto Recloser, Fault Passage Indicator (FPI), RMU, MCCBs	30.00	0
6	**Sub-Total**	**295.00**	**245.00**

(iv) **Load Growth:** The petitioner has submitted that in order to meet the increasing power demand, the existing distribution network infrastructure needs to be augmented/ strengthened/ expanded to release the new connection. The petitioner has proposed Rs.15.00 Crores for carrying out such work including the differential cost for LT line extension. Further, the petitioner has proposed Rs. 6.00 Cr to meet the differential cost (over the standard service connection charges) for providing new connections. The cost-of-service cable for new connection forms part of expenditure to be borne by the consumer. However, the additional expenditure for new connection release would be considered by the Commission during the True Up exercise for the financial year on the actual basis.

The petitioner has submitted that 57 nos. of PTR are likely to be overloaded beyond 100% in Summer ’26. Out of these 57 PTR, mitigation of over loading of 17 nos. of PTR were covered under approved capex plan for FY 24 & FY 25 and 24 Nos of PTR are covered under Deposit Work, Govt. Schemes and Opex; and overloading mitigation plan for 16 nos of PTRs are proposed in Capex for FY 2025-26.

Further, 5 nos of new 250 kVA (11/0.4 kV) DTR with accessories; 2 nos of new 500 kVA (11/0.4 kV) DTR with accessories and augmentation/ uprating of 70 nos of DTR from 250 kVA to 500 kVA have been proposed under Capex plan for FY 2025-26. The details for utilization/augmentation/replacement of PTRs & DTRs in various locations are given in the DPR along with swapping arrangement for optimum utilization of replaced transformers (PTR/DTR).

Considering the expected load growth and to improve the quality & reliability of power supply, the Commission approves the proposal for augmentation of PTRs & DTRs.

The proposed amount and the Commission's approval under various activities are given in the Table below:

Table 12: Capex approved under the head Load Growth for FY 2025-26 (Rs. Cr)

Sl. No	Activity	Proposed by the petitioner as per Board's approved Budget	Approved by the Commission
1	New Connection Release	15.00	0
2	Service Cable for New Connection	6.00	0
3	Power Transformer Augmentation for Overloading Mitigation	65.00	65.00
4	DT Augmentation/ Addition to meet Load Growth	25.02	25.02
5	**Sub-Total**	**111.02**	**90.02**

(v) **Technology & Infrastructure:** The petitioner has proposed procurement of Laptops and Desktops with UPS for employees as the existing devices have crossed the 4-year warranty period. The Commission observes that such products should be used by the licensee throughout the useful life of the product and should not be replaced on completion of warranty period as it may burden the consumers of the state unnecessarily. Therefore, to avoid unnecessary burden on consumers of the State, the Commission is not inclined to allow such expenditure.

TPCODL has proposed surveillance system and access control system (for monitoring & security of critical assets) for its 35 nos. of PSSs and 5nos. of critical offices in FY 2025-26. The System includes PTZ cameras, video recorder, central server & storage at data center and Centralized monitoring system. The petitioner has also proposed for implementation of own optical fiber network and technologies for its various offices at major towns along with stable connectivity between Data Centre and DR Centre for seamless replication, procurement of network equipment like network switch, Routers and wireless devices etc, high-capacity core switches and storage and backup devices to meet data center requirement and DC & DR replication, procurement of softwares like MS Office, MS Project, AnyDesk/

TeamViewer and licences and tools viz. SAP, Server OS etc. The Commission allows such expenditure under Capex considering the requirement of such items for smooth functioning of the integrated Distribution and IT system.

The petitioner has proposed for construction / strengthening of Section Offices, SDO Offices, BSK and Section. The new construction will be taken up for offices located in rented space and restructuring & strengthening will be done for discom owned offices requiring enhancement of structural stability of that office. Further, the petitioner has proposed new offices (currently operating in rented spaces) at New Circle office at BBSR-1, New Division Office at BCDD-1, New Division office at Dhenkanal, New MRT lab at KED etc. Further, the petitioner has proposed area development offices at 15 locations, control room upgradation at 15 locations, switchyard upgradation at 15 locations, DT plinth foundation at 50 locations, store yard development furniture for new and renovated offices. The Commission observes that the strengthening work, upgradation and refurbishment activities proposed under civil infrastructure should form a part of R&M activities and should not be claimed under Capex proposals. Moreover, the Licensee has not provided location details of most of the proposed activities. Therefore, the Commission approves Rs. 11.50 Cr. for the above proposals of the licensee on account of new construction along with associated furniture and for store yard development.

Further, the petitioner has proposed for procurement of office equipment like furniture, ACs, Water cooler, Water purifier, Photocopier, TV & Display Equipment for its various offices. The Commission approves above office equipment considering the basic necessity of such items in every functional office(s).

The proposed amount and the Commission's approval are given in the Table below:

Table 13: Capex approved under Technology & Infrastructure for FY 2025-26 (Rs. Cr)

Sl. No	Activity	Proposed by petitioner as per Board's approved Budget	Approved by the Commission
1	IT - Software, User Devices, Back-up system, Storage devices and Applications and communication	28.00	23.00
2	Civil Upgradation	28.00	11.50
3	Ready to Use Admin Asset	2.00	2.00

4	**Sub-Total**	**58.00**	**36.50**

24. The Commission approves Rs. 390.50 Cr. against TPCODL's capex proposal of Rs. 532.56 Cr. for various activities under five (5) major heads (safety & statutory, loss reduction, reliability, load growth and technology & infrastructure), the details of which are summarized in the Table below:

Table 15: Summary of the Capex proposed by TPCODL & approved by the Commission for FY 2025-26 (Rs. Cr)

Sl.No	Major Head	Activity	Proposed by petitioner as per Board's approved Budget	Approved by the Commission
1	Safety & Statutory	Interposing Pole to improve vertical clearance	10.01	0
		Fencing / Boundary Wall	12.50	0
		Testing Equipment	3.44	3.44
		Safety Enhancement to comply Statutory Requirement	3.59	0.10
		Sub-total	**29.54**	**3.54**
2	Loss reduction	Damaged Service Cable replacement	4.00	0
		33kV Feeder Metering for Energy Accounting	2.45	0.30
		Feeder Loss reduction - Augmentation/ Interconnector	15.14	15.14
		Conversion of LT Bare to LT AB Cable	17.41	0
		Sub-total	**39.00**	**15.44**
3	Reliability	GSAS Implementation	2.00	2.00
		Replacement of Old Equipment	20.00	0
		33KV Network Infrastructure	85.58	85.58
		11KV Network Infrastructure	157.42	157.42
		Installation of Auto Recloser, Fault Passage Indicator (FPI) ,RMU,MCCBs	30.00	0
		Sub-total	**295.00**	**245.00**
4	Load Growth	New Connection Release	15.00	0
		Service Cable for New Connection	6.00	0
		Power Transformer Augmentation for Overloading Mitigation	65.00	65.00
		DT Augmentation/ Addition to meet Load Growth	25.02	25.02
		Sub-total	**111.02**	**90.02**

5	Technology & Infrastructure	IT - Software, User Devices, Back-up system, Storage devices and Applications and communication	28.00	23.00
		Civil Upgradation	28.00	11.50
		Ready to Use Admin Asset	2.00	2.00
		Sub-total	**58.00**	**36.50**
TOTAL			**532.56**	**390.50**

25. The year-wise and cumulative Capex approved by the Commission vis-à-vis the minimum investment required as per the vesting order is given in the Table below:

Table 16: Minium Capex and Cumulative capex as per vesting Order vis-à-vis Cumulative Capex approved by the Commission

Financial Year	Minimum Capex as per Vesting Order (Rs Cr)	Capex Approved by the Commission (Rs Cr)	Cumulative Capex	
			As per Vesting Order (Rs Cr)	Approved by the Commission (Rs Cr)
2020-21	**201.00**	**280.63**	**201**	**280.63**
2021-22	**393.00**	**298.73**	**594**	**579.36**
2022-23	**310.00**	**380.56**	**904**	**959.92**
2023-24	**338.00**	**283.72**	**1242**	**1243.64**
2024-25	**299.00**	**390.43**	**1541**	**1634.07**
2025-26	**-**	**390.50**	**-**	**2024.57**

26. The approved cost shall be passed in the ARR as per the norms subject to rational utilization by the petitioner and prudence check through audit.

27. The proposals approved under this Order shall be executed observing standard public procurement processes maintaining highest level of efficiency, transparency and integrity. Expenditures not conforming to standard public procurement policy of the State Government of Odisha or Government of India shall not be considered for RoE & thus shall not be passed through ARR.

28. Procurement and Execution schedule for each of the items/proposals approved under this Order shall be prepared by the licensee & submitted to this Commission within three weeks of the date of Order for its record and monitoring of the progress of works & expenditure thereof. The licensee shall take all appropriate measures for effective implementation of the proposed works. Any cost escalation due to time over run shall not be considered for calculation of expenditure & thus shall be excluded from ARR & for calculation of RoE.

29. The investment under Capex is always linked to benefit to consumer in terms of reliability & availability of power supply and other key performance parameters. The licensee has not submitted quantification of physical targets & achievements. Further, it is observed that the licensee has not yet capitalized Rs. 174 Cr. out of the approved Capex for previous financial years under various heads, particularly under loss reduction, reliability and load growth. Hence, it is apprehended that the total investment as proposed by the licensee for the financial year 2025-26 will not be utilized and is likely to spill over to next financial year. Considering the past trend of expenditure during previous financial years and justification provided for various works, Rs 390.50 Cr. is approved by the Commission for the FY 2025-26. Accordingly, the cumulative investment of Rs 2024.57 Cr. is approved up to the FY 2025-26. However, the licensee may approach the Commission for approval in future with proper justification and analysis for the amount/ expenditure proposed under the activities which have not been allowed in this order. The expenditure disallowed under various activities to be covered under R&M shall be proposed by the licensee in the ARR and shall be claimed during Truing up of the same.

30. In addition to above observations, the Commission directs the licensee to:

(i) Provide load flow study report for the next 5 years matching with proposed work covered under the Capex plan.

(ii) Submit the financing plan along with identified sources of investment under the CAPEX for the FY 2025-26 as per OERC's Wheeling and Retail Supply Tariff Regulations, 2022.

(iii) Intimate as to whether the investment plan has been taken into consideration for preparation of ARR.

(iv) Submit quarterly progress report for the works along with the details of materials utilized vis-à-vis various activities shown in the DPR.

(v) Formulate implementation plan for the approved Capital Investment and take steps for execution accordingly to avoid cost and time overrun.

(vi) Procure the materials/award the contracts only through transparent competitive bidding process. The requirement of materials shall be prepared based on standardization of distribution elements. The ratings of equipment / material including DTRs & PTRs (limiting the no. of ratings) and capacity of any PSS need to be standardized across the Discoms and standard specifications need to the adopted across the Discoms.

(vii) Ensure that there is no duplication of work covered under the Capex approved for FY 2025-26 and the assets created/ to be created through Government Schemes/support.

(viii) Consider upgradation of existing PSS (instead of creating new PSS in nearby areas) keeping adequate provision for future expansion to avoid unnecessary burden on consumers.

(ix) Submit the details of compliances of the direction given in the Capex Orders of previous years along with reasons/ constraint for not being able to utilize the investment allowed under Capex.

(x) Ensure that priority of Capex investment is primarily on network strengthening & expansion of Distribution network rather than associated activities with objective to improve reliability of power supply.

(xi) Submit the details of decapitalization of replacement equipment.

(xii) Furnish a report regarding the steps taken by TPCODL for utilization of unutilized 33 kV bays of OPTCL in TPCODL area.

31. The investment proposal and associated DPR do not indicate the location for utilization of various items proposed under various activities (safety & statutory, loss reduction, reliability, load growth, technology & infrastructure) as per vesting order dated 26.05.2020. Capex investments are planned investments and the Licensee is expected to have all the information regarding location(s) for utilization. The prioritization of area/division, where augmentation & strengthening of network has been proposed, has neither been included in the DPR nor has been explained satisfactorily during discussion. Hence, TPCODL is directed to submit the status (on the date of taking over and expected as on 31.03.2026) of the existing distribution system for each division indicating the achievement (quantification) and further investment required to achieve the following target by March 2026 as justification submitted are general in nature:

- Replacement of existing overhead conductor by higher size conductor (in Kms) based on long term load flow study to avoid overloading & addressing low voltage issue;
- Reduction in length of existing feeder/line/section at 33kV & 11kV level to standard length of about 30 km (for 33 kV) and about 50 km. (for 11 kV);
- No overloading of 33kV & 11kV lines, PTRS, DTRs;
- No direct tapping of 33 kV & 11 kV lines;

- Reduction in low voltage pockets;
- Completion of boundary walls for PSSs and fencing of DSSs;
- Providing (N-1) contingency for PTRs and incomer at 33kV level in existing PSS;
- Completion of smart metering of 33kV & 11kV feeders, PTRs, DTRs, Govt & non-Govt. establishments & 3 phase consumers etc;
- Providing complete protection system (CB/AB switch, SA, etc. & associated protection relays) for 33kV & 11kV overhead lines & UG cable, PTRs & DTRs (on primary & secondary side);
- Removal of Group Control Breaker operation (at 33 kV & 11 kV level);
- Proper earthing in all PSSs &DSSs;
- Providing RMU, Auto-recloser & Sectionalizer, FPI, wherever required, in existing Distribution network to avoid outage of power supply to a large group of consumers;
- Conversion of overhead line with bare conductor to ABC in accident prone and theft prone areas.
- Completion of asset mapping & consumer indexing, etc.
- All PSS with SCADA.

32. With the above directions, the case stands disposed of.

Sd/-	Sd/-	Sd/-
(B. Mohanty) **Member**	**(S. K. Ray Mohapatra)** **Member**	**(P. K. Jena)** **Chairperson**