

Press Release

The Commission has issued Orders on petition of the Board for fixation of miscellaneous and general charges to be recovered from the consumers for various specific services provided by the Board.

The miscellaneous and general charges include charges like levy of meter rent to, new service connection charges, consumer specific service charges like replacement of fuse, resealing testing of meters etc.

The Commission has made an indepth analysis on the proposal of the charges and verified these charges based on actual cost involved and work plan study for effort involved. The Commission observed that a number of charges proposed by the Board are not based on proper rational and therefore pruned a number of such charges.

Some of the main highlights are as given below:-

- 1) System strengthening charges, System charges, Supply affording charges etc. were being recovered at the time of new connections in addition to charging full cost of extension works and service lines. The Commission observed that levy of these charges is not required now as works for system strengthening etc. would be funded by the Board by availing loans from various agencies the interest on such loans has been allowed by the Commission as pass through in the ARR. The Commission has therefore disallowed levy of these charges. The system strengthening charges at the rate of Rs. 2300/- per KW for housing colonies and multi consumer complexes, system charges for LT consumers at the rate of about Rs. 450/- to Rs. 600/- per HP or KW and supply affording charges at the rate of Rs. 550/- per KVA shall now not be levied.
- 2) Rates of levy of meter rent have been reduced. Meter rent for single phase meter has been reduced from Rs. 12/- to Rs. 5/- per month, owing to the reduction in the cost of meters. Similarly, meter rent in case of three phase meter has been reduced from Rs. 25/- to Rs. 12/- per month. There has also been a reduction in the meter rent in case of HT consumers for different type of meters.
- 3) The Commission felt that the contest fee for the consumers who wish to get their meter tested on account of any doubt on the accuracy of the meter should be such that it does not deter the consumer to apply for testing of his meter. These charges have therefore been kept low, which are Rs. 50/- for single phase and Rs. 75/- for three phase meters.
- 4) The Commission has added some specific charges like fee for special meter reading, name transfer, release of temporary connections under Tatkal Yojna, charges for dishonored cheques fee for verification of old dues etc, which were not existing earlier.
- 5) A special charge of hiring of Plant and Equipment of the Board on long term basis for existing LT consumers who are required to be converted to HT category has been levied at the rate of 1% per month.
- 6) Charges like Compensation charges in case of irregularities detected during the course of checking, power block charges, fee for dues settlement Committee have been disallowed.