# ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16



# MAY 2016

SIKKIM STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Shri.N.R.Bhattarai Chairperson

# **FOREWORD**

I express my pleasure in publishing the Annual Report of the Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission for the year 2015-16. The report is being published as per the provisions of Section 105 of the Electricity Act, 2003. The report gives a summary of the activities carried out during the previous financial year and as per the provisions of the Act, the State Electricity Regulatory Commission is required to forward the copies of the report to the State Government to be laid before the State Legislature.

The Electricity Act, 2003 mandates the Regulatory Commission to make regulations and enforce them. One of the primary objectives of the Act is to bring transparency, competition and efficiency among generators, transmission and distribution utilities in the power sector within the State of Sikkim. The Act is a mandate for the Regulators to work relentlessly for achieving the desired results as set out in the National Electricity Policy and Tariff Policy. The opening of the power sector to the private players and presence of multi players in transmission, distribution and power generation business has made significant improvement in the power sector. The power transmission, distribution and generation business is still under the control of State Government Departments in some States even after enactment of the Electricity Act, 2003. The reforms in the power sector and the results thereof as envisaged by the Act have not been achieved. There are still areas where the regulators, the utilities and the consumers need to make stronger efforts especially in terms of demand side management, proper planning, operational efficiency, reduction of AT&C and Transmission and Distribution losses, accountability and professionalism.

Sikkim being a tiny Himalayan State with a small population of around 6.10 Lakhs as per the 2011 census is one of the greenest and cleanest States in the Country. The State has the distinction of being the first Organic State in the country and the State has no heavy industries and the major percentage of the power requirement is for "domestic" consumption. There has been steady growth in the power demand within the State during the last few years mainly attributable to the power requirement for pharmaceutical industries and construction power

#### 2015-16

required for hydropower projects. The energy sales within the State during the year 2015-16 (provisional) stood at around 285 million units. Considering the meagre power requirement and small population, there are no serious challenges to be faced by the State in the near future so far as power supply and demand is concerned. Nevertheless, there are still areas where more efforts are needed to bring the service standards at par with other States especially in the area of reduction in T&D losses, setting up of reliable transmission and distribution network, qualitative and reliable power supply for 24 x 7etc. Numerous hydropower projects are under implementation in the State and few of these projects have been already commissioned like the 99 MW Chuzachen HEP and 96 MW Jorethang Loop HEP. The construction works of projects like 1200 MW Teesta-III HEP,96 MW Dikchu HEP and 97 MW Tashiding HEP are in full swing and the projects are in advance stage of commissioning. The State will receive 12% free power from these projects and commissioning of these projects will add sizeable revenue for the State vis-a-vis the power demand and supply scenario will get a positive thrust.

In view of the major thrust given to renewable energy generation by the Government of India and the targeted capacity of 175 GW of Renewable Energy by 2022, the Commission has been making efforts to provide the regulatory framework and support to boost the renewable energy generation in the State. The Commission has been issuing advisories and directives to the Licensee to come out with a comprehensive road map/plan for renewable energy development in the State in order to make our contribution towards achieving the mammoth target of 175 GW of Renewable Energy in the Country by 2022.

The Commission reiterates that it will continue making sustained efforts to take ahead the reforms agenda as prescribed by the Electricity Act, 2003 thereby not only safeguarding the State interest but also give a fair deal to the valuable consumers. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the State Government, the Energy & Power Department (DisCom), the members, staffs and officers of the Commission for their active participation and cooperation in taking forward the Regulatory process.

Gangtok, 31<sup>st</sup>May2016

Sd/-(N.R.Bhattarai) CHAIRPERSON

# Introduction

#### 1.1 Sikkim

Sikkim, an erstwhile Himalayan Kingdom joined the Indian mainstream on16<sup>th</sup>May 1975 as its 22<sup>nd</sup>State. Sikkim is a tiny State with a geographical area of 7096 SqKm and a population of 6,10,577 as per 2011 census. Sikkim is known by other names such as Beyul Dremazong, Nye Mayel Lyang and Sukhim. The State is rich in bio-diversity and some of the rare stand highly endangered species of both flora and fauna are found in Sikkim. Numerous peaks, pristine lakes, rivers, streams and snow clad mountains add to the beauty of the State. The State is endowed with incredible natural beauty and is one of the most sought after tourist destinations in the Country.

The State has no rich mineral deposits or other natural resources like coal, petroleum etc nor there are heavy industries. Almost 50% of the total area of the State is under forest cover and as such there is a limited area of land for other activities. The primary sources of income for the people are agriculture, horticulture and eco-tourism. Sikkim is one of the greenest and cleanest States in the country and very recently it has the distinction of being the first Organic State in the country, which was declared by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 17.01.2016.

Sikkim is amongst the first States to take the decision to tap its vast hydropower potential by harnessing the rivers and streams with the aim of revenue generation as well as to add to the installed capacity. Numerous hydropower projects are being implemented under PPP Mode apart from development of small hydropower projects. Some of the hydropower projects under private as well as public sector have been already commissioned. Under the Public sector NHPC Ltd has already commissioned 510 MW Teesta-V HEP and 60 MW Rangit-III HEP. Under the private sector two projects viz 99 MW Chuzachen HEP and 96 MW Jorethang Loop HEP have been commissioned. Numerous other projects are under implementation and projects like 1200 MW Teesta-III HEP, 96 MW Dikchu HEP and 97 MW Tashiding HEP are expected to be fully commissioned by the end of 2016. The State will be receiving 12% free power from all these projects and there will be a sizeable revenue generation for the State

The power requirement of the State is very small owing to its small size and population and absence of heavy power consuming industries. The total metered consumers in the State was 1,06,691 in 2015-16. The total connected load was 130.55 MW during 2015-16 and the total energy sales within the State for 2015-16 was around 285 Million Units (provisional). Major chunk of power demand comes from the "Domestic Consumers". During the last few years,

several pharmaceutical units, hydropower projects and Star Hotels have come up in the State thereby slightly increasing the power demand in the State. In the northern part of Sikkim – the International Border, the Indian Army has got a huge requirement of power where the Energy & Power Department is laying the transmission lines.

The Energy & Power Department is the only deemed Licensee for transmission and distribution of electricity in the State. The Department also own and operates a number of small hydropower projects and diesel generating stations. The Department also has a number of micro power projects under execution. The Department meets a portion of the requirement of power from its own generation and also imports power from CGS and other utilities like WBSEDCL, Chukha (Bhutan), SPDC Ltd etc.

Sikkim Power Development Corporation Limited (SPDCL), A Government of Sikkim Enterprise also is engaged in the development of small hydropower projects in the State. The SPDCL presently owns and operates 3 (three) small hydropower projects with an installed capacity of 10 MW.

#### 1.2 Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission

Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission was constituted by the State Government on 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2003 vide Gazette Notification No.28/P/GEN/97/524 Dated 15.11.2003.The Commission is a one member Commission, who is the Chairperson. The Commission is presently in its 6<sup>th</sup> year of operation since the appointment of the first Chairperson in April 2011.

#### 1.3 Objectives and Mission

The Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SSERC) has been constituted with the single minded objective of fulfilling the various aims and objectives as assigned by the Electricity Act, 2003. The following are the main objectives and mission of the SSERC:

- > To promote and protect consumer in terms of quality, reliability and reasonable pricing of a sustainable supply of electricity.
- To promote development of eco- friendly Renewable Energy Sources in line with the State's image of a "Green State" and 100% Organic State.
- > To promote competition, efficiency and economy in bulk power matters.

- To promote investments and advise the State Government on removal of institutional barriers to bridge the demand supply gap and thus foster the interests of the consumers.
- > To cultivate informed, educated and participative power consumers.
- Consistent power development planning
- > To set up responsive technical standards and security compliance.
- > To create a stable environment for competition and with no barriers on entry with strict and vigilant surveillance.
- > To guarantee the provision of efficient and quality services to the consumers.
- ➤ To work for the reforms in the power sector to ensure supply of not only reliable, reasonably and affordable power but also to ensure the overall progress and development of the State.

The Commission is guided in discharge of its functions by the various guidelines laid down by the Government of India in the National Electricity Policy 2005, National Electricity Plan 2004 and Tariff Policy. The Commission keeps the interests of the State and the protection of the consumers paramount and mantra of transparency, good governance and the vision of the State Government of a "Green and 100% Organic State".

- 1.4 Powers and Functions of the Commission
- I. The Commission has three-fold function viz (i) Quasi-Judicial;(ii) Quasi-Legislative and (iii) Executive functions.

Section 86 of the Electricity Act, 2003 mandates the following functions and powers for the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions:

- determine tariff for electricity for generation, supply, transmission and wheeling of electricity -wholesale, bulk, grid or retail, as the case may be, within the State, in the manner provided in Section 29 of the Electricity Act, 2003.
- (ii) Regulate electricity purchases and procurement process of distribution licenses including price of purchase of power from generating companies or licensees or from other sources through agreements for power purchases for

distribution and supply within the State.

- (iv) To promote competition, efficiency and economy in the activities of the electricity industry to achieve the objectives and purpose of the Act.
- (v) to regulate inter-State transmission of electricity and to determine the tariff for inter-State transmission and wheeling of electricity.
- (vi) to issue licenses to persons to function as transmission licensee, distribution licensee and electricity trader with respect to their inter-State Operations.
- (vii) To promote co-generation and generation of electricity from renewable sources of energy by providing suitable means for grid connectivity and sale of electricity from such sources, a percentage of the total consumption of electricity in the area of distribution licensee;
- (viii) Adjudicate upon the disputes between the licensees and generating companies and to refer any dispute for arbitration;
- (ix) Levy fee for the purpose of this Act;
- (x) Specify Sate Grid Code consistent with the Grid Code specified under clause(h) of sub-section (1) of Section 79;
- (xi) Specify or enforce standards with respect to quality, continuity and reliability of service by licensees;
- (xii) Fix the trading margin in the intra-state trading of electricity, if considered necessary; and
- (xiii) Discharge such other functions as may be assigned to it under this Act.
- II. Section 86(2) of the Electricity Act, 2003, states that the State Commission shall advise the State Government on all or following matters, namely:-
  - (i) promotion of competition, efficiency and economy in activities of the electric industry;
  - (ii) promotion of investment in electric industry;
  - (iii) re-organization and restructuring of electricity industry;

- (iv) matters concerning generation, transmission, distribution and trading of electricity or any other matter referred to the State Commission by that Government.
- III. Section 86(3) of the Act states that the State Commission shall ensure transparency while exercising its power and discharging its functions.
- IV. Section 86 (4) provides that the State Commission shall be guided by the National Electricity Policy, 2005, National Electricity Plan and Tariff Policy, 2006 published under section 3 of the Electricity Act, 2003.
- 1.5 Annual Report of the Commission

Section 105 of the Electricity Act, 2003 states that,

- (I) the State Commission shall prepare once every year in such form and at such times as may be prescribed, as annual report giving summary of its activities during the previous year and copies of the report shall be forwarded to the State Government.
- (ii). a copy of the report received under sub-section (i) shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is received, before the State Legislature.

In compliance to the above said provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SSERC) has prepared the Annual Report for F.Y 2015-16. The Commission has made efforts to present the various activities undertaken during F.Y 2015-16 and also highlight the powers, functions and roles of the Commission.

# Activities of the Commission

#### 2.1 Notification of Regulations.

Although the Commission was constituted in November 2003, its actual operation could only start from April 2011 i.e. after the appointment of the first Chairperson. However, since then the Commission has come a long way and has been making unrelenting efforts to achieve the aims and objectives as envisaged in the Electricity Act (2003), the National Tariff Policy and National Electricity Policy. The Commission in its efforts towards making the power sector in the State more vibrant, investor friendly and providing a level playing field for all has, to begin with, framed and notified several Regulations as mandated by the Electricity Act, 2003. While framing and notifying the Regulations, the Commission has kept in view not only the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, National Tariff Policy and National Electricity Policy, the Commission has also considered the aspects like the unique geographical location of the State, population, power demand and supply scenario and overall interests of the State and the consumers.

The State Regulatory Commission is mandated by the Section 181 of the Electricity Act, 2003, to make Regulations consistent with the Act and rules to carry out the provisions of the Act.

Accordingly, the Commission has made several Regulations and Rules and notified them in the State Government Gazette. The various Regulations and Rules made and notified by the Commission are as given below:

- Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2012.
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff) Regulations, 2012.
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Standards of Performance for the Distribution and Transmission Licensee) Regulations, 2012.
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply Code) Regulations, 2012.
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Redressal of Grievances of Consumers and Establishment of Forum of Electricity Ombudsman) Regulations, 2012.

- Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Intra State Open Access) Regulations, 2012.
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff for Generation from Renewable energy Sources) Regulations, 2012.
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (State Grid Code) Regulations, 2013
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulation Commission (Renewable Energy Purchase Obligations and Its Compliance) Regulations, 2012.
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Constitution of State Advisory Committee and its Functions) Regulations, 2013
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulation Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff for Generation, Transmission, Wheeling and Distribution & Retail Supply under Multi Year Tariff Framework) Regulations, 2013
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulation Commission (Grid Interactive Distributed Solar Energy Systems) Regulations, 2014.
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulation Commission (Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Employees) Regulations, 2014.
- Sikkim State Electricity Regulation Commission (Procedure for filing Appeal before the Appellate Authority) Regulations, 2015.

#### 2.2 Determination of Aggregate Revenue Requirement for FY 2015-16.

As per the provisions of the Sections 61, 62 & 64 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Energy & Power Department, Government of Sikkim (deemed Distribution Licensee) filed its Aggregate Revenue Requirement and Tariff Petition for F.Y 2015-16 including Petition for Provisional Truing Up for FY 2012-13 and Review for FY 2014-15 before the Commission on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2014. The Commission found that the Licensee had filed the Petition for single year tariff as per provisions of the Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff) Regulations, 2012 and Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2012.

Since, the Commission had already notified the Sikkim State Electricity Regulation

Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff for Generation, Transmission, Wheeling and Distribution & Retail Supply under Multi Year Tariff Framework) Regulations, 2013 and the Regulations had become effective from 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014, the Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff) Regulations, 2012 had been superseded by the MYT Regulations, the Commission directed the Licensee to file the Petition as per the MYT Regulations. Accordingly, the Licensee filed its fresh petition before the Commission as per the MYT Regulations on 16.12.2014. However, on detailed scrutiny of the MYT Petition filed by the Licensee, the Commission observed several shortcomings and lack of relevant data/information in the Petition. The Commission found that the un-bundling of the Generation, Transmission and Distribution utilities had not been done and that the Licensee had not maintained separate profit & loss accounts in respect of the three utilities. The Commission observed that the Licensee was still functioning as a State Government Department and no commercial auditing of the accounts had been conducted. As such, the Licensee was not in a position to furnish the various data like profit & loss accounts, balance sheets etc required by the Commission for analysing the MYT Petition filed by the Licensee. Several rounds of interactions and discussions took place between the Commission and the Licensee. The Licensee submitted its inability to furnish the vital data requested for by the Commission and requested that the ARR /Tariff Petition earlier filed by it based on single year tariff be admitted by the Commission for FY 2015-16 considering the fact that the process of un-bundling of the Department has been already initiated by the State Government.

Keeping in view the practical difficulties in admitting the MYT Petition and the submissions made by the Licensee, the Commission decided to admit the single year tariff petition filed by the Licensee for FY 2015-16. The Petition was admitted on  $24^{th}$  February 2015 and registered as Case No. TR-1/2014.

#### 2.3 Public Hearing

As prescribed the Electricity Act, 2003 and Section 20 (1) of the Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Tariff) Regulations, 2012, the Commission held Public Hearing on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at Chintan, Bhawan, Gangtok, East Sikkim.

Wide publicity was given about the Public Hearing by publishing Public Notice in local newspapers soliciting views, objections and suggestions of the consumers.

The representatives of the Energy & Power Department participated in the Public Hearing fully prepared to respond to the queries and objections, if any, from the public and stake holders. However, there was no participation from the public and stake holders or by any groups/NGOs etc.

The Commission and the representatives of the Licensee had a general discussion on the various aspects of the Tariff Petition for FY 2015-16 and also the overall power scenario in the State. The Commission and the Licensee put forward their views and suggestions during the discussion. The views and suggestions were considered by the Commission while framing the Tariff Order for FY 2015-16.

#### 2.4 Order for FY 2015-16

The Tariff Order in respect of case No.TR-1/2014 of the Licensee-Energy & Power Department Government of Sikkim was issued on 31st March 2015 covering Retail sale/ Supply of Electricity by the Distribution Company, Transmission of Electricity and Wheeling of Electricity for FY 2015-16.

#### 2.5 State Advisory Committee

The Commission constituted the State Advisory Committee (SAC) vide Notification No. 02/SSERC/AC/2013-14/09 Dated 02.06.2014.Subsequent to the demitting of Office by the then Chairperson, Shri.T.T.Dorji, Shri.N.R.Bhattarai, the new Chairperson of the Commission has taken over as the Ex-Officio Chairperson of the Committee. The details of the Chairperson and the Members of the Committee are as indicated below:

I.	Shri. N.R.Bhattarai, Chairperson of SSERC	Ex-Officio Chairperson
ii.	Shri. P.K Pradahan , IAS (Retd.) Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim	Member
iii.	Shri. K.N Bhutia, IAS (Retd.) Principal Secretary, Government of Sikkim	Member
iv.	Shri. O.P Singhi, (Retd) Secretary, Government of Sikkim	Member
v.	Shri. Taga Khampa, (Rtd.) Managing Director Sikkim Time Corporation Ltd.	Member

Sikkim State Electricity Regulatory Commission

vi. Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, Government of Sikkim

Ex-Officio Member

#### 2.6 State Advisory Committee Meeting

The meetings of the State Advisory Committee were held on two occasions in order to discuss the various issues related to transmission, distribution and generation of electricity in the State. The meetings were held on  $18^{th}$  March 2015 and  $19^{th}$  March 2015.

During the meetings, comprehensive discussions and exchanges of views and suggestions were done not only on the Aggregate Revenue Requirement and Tariff Petition for FY 2015-16 of the Energy & Power Department but also on the overall power scenario in the State. The views and suggestions given by the State Advisory Committee gave a wider perspective of the power supply and demand scenario in the State. The suggestions of the Committee members helped the Commission in taking a very well balanced approach while finalizing the ARR and Tariff Order for FY 2015-16.

#### 2.7 Interactions with PGCIL and Hydropower Developers

The Commission in its efforts towards making the power sector investment friendly vis-à-vis ensuring timely completion and commissioning of the various hydropower projects being implemented in the State through NHPC Ltd and private power developers had several meetings and discussions with the representatives / Head of the Projects of the developers. During these meetings and interactions, the Commission took stock of the progress of the project implementation and also discussed the issues like reasons for delay in project implementation, project cost escalation, etc. The power developers were directed to furnish their progress reports to the Commission on a monthly basis so as to enable the Commission to not only keep a close watch on progress of the project implementation but also provide assistance to the developers in sorting out issues that were delaying the project implementation.

The Commission also had several rounds of interactions with the representatives of M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (Government of India) and M/s Teesta Valley Transmission Ltd, who are implementing power evacuation and transmission systems in the State. The Commission stressed on the need for timely completion of the power evacuation system for 1200 MW Teesta-III HEP and also the need for speeding up the woks related to transmission networks within the State being taken up by the PGCIL. The Commission also stressed on the need to have the power evacuation systems ready well before he scheduled commissioning

dates of the hydropower projects by the developers so that power from the State can be fed into the National Grid.

The Commission also advised the PGCIL to explore the possibility of setting up of transmission systems towards the international borders with China, Bhutan and Nepal so that power from Sikkim can be exported across the international boundaries.

#### 2.8 **Project Site Visits**

The Commission and the State Advisory Committee conducted visits to the different hydropower projects and interacted with the project authorities. The site visits were an attempt by the Commission to understand the various hurdles encountered by the developer during the project implementation and to make use of the experiences and successful methods in other hydropower projects under implementation in the State. The Chairperson, Members of the SAC, the Secretary and other Senior Officers of the Energy and Power Department and Officers from the Commission made visits to the following hydropower projects:

- 1. 99 MW Chuzachen Hydropower Project, Rongli, East Sikkim.
- 2. 510 MW Teesta-V Hydropower Project, Sirwani, Singtam, East Sikkim.



Visit to 99 MW Chuzachen Hydropower Project.



Chairperson(Shri.TT.Dorji), Members of SAC and Officers of Energy & Power Department At Power House of 99 MW Chuzachen Hydropower Project.



Chairperson (SSERC), Members of SAC, Secretary and Officers of Energy & Power Department And Official of 99 MW Chuzachen HEP at Rongli Dam



Chairperson(SSERC), Memebrs of SAC, Secretary and Officers of energy & Power Department being briefed by the Chief Engineer,510 MW Teesta-V HEP (Power House, Teesta V HEP)



At Power House of 510 MW Teesta-V HEP



At Power House of 510 MW Teesta-V HEP



Chairperson being welcomed at the Powerhouse of 99 MW Chuzachen HEP.

#### 2.9 Training and Workshops

The Commission being member of the various forums like the Forum of Regulators (FOR), Forum of Electricity Regulators for Eastern and North -Eastern States (FORENS), South Asian Forum of Infrastructure Regulators (SAFIR) has been making use of the various training programs and workshops conducted by these Forums by nominating the Officers of the Commission to attend various "Training" and "Workshops in different parts of the country. The various workshops and training programs attended by the Officers of the Commission are given here under:

Sl. No	Name of the Officer	Details of Training/Workshop	Date/Venue
1.	Mr. Palchen D. Chaktha	NationalWorkshoponAcceleratingCleanEnergyDeploymentthroughInnovativePoliciesandRegulationsorganizedby theMNRE, GoI andUSAID/INDIA	8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2015. <b>New Delhi</b> .
2.	Mr. Palchen D. Chaktha	Step by Step Process involved in Tariff Determination conducted by Meghalaya Electricity regulatory Commission and Rachna Management Consultants & Studies Pvt. Ltd.	16 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 <b>Shillong.</b>
3.	Mr. Jigme D. Denzongpa	9th Capacity Building Programme for Officers of Electricity Regulatory Commissions conducted by the FOR.	21 <sup>st</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2015 <b>IIT,Kanpur</b>
4.	Mr. Jigme D. Denzongpa	9thCapacityBuildingProgrammeforOfficersofElectricityRegulatoryCommissionsconducted by theFOR.	24 <sup>th</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2015 <b>Singapore</b>

# **Disputes and Grievances**

#### 3.1 Regulatory Disputes

There were no regulatory disputes during the Financial Year 2015-16

#### 3.2 Grant of License

No applications were received by the Commission for grant of License for Transmission, Distribution of Generation Business during F.Y 2015-16.As such no any license was granted by the Commission.

#### 3.3 Standards of Performance and Grievance Redressal.

The Commission has monitored the compliance to the standard of performance by the deemed licensee i.e. Energy & Power Department, Government of Sikkim and also monitored the redressal of grievances by the Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF) and Ombudsman.

The details of grievances and redressal during the FY 2015-16 are as given below:

Electricity Ombudsman					
No. of Grievances No. Of Grievances Disposed No. Of Pending					
Received Off Cases.					
Nil	Nil				
Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum, Gangtok, East Sikkim					
No. of Grievances	No. of Grievances No. Of Grievances Disposed No. Of Pending				
Received	Off	Cases.			
Nil	Nil	Nil			

#### 3.4 Adjudication of Disputes and Differences

No any cases of differences or disputes were reported before the Commission during FY 2015-16.

# **Human Resource Management**

#### 4.1 Officers and Staff of the Commission

The Electricity Act, 2003 has given wide mandate to the Commission and the Commission is required to perform various functions. The Commission has notified the SSERC (Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Employees) Regulations, 2014 on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 with the approval of the State Government. The said Regulations guides and controls service and other terms and conditions of the Officers and staffs of the Commission.

The Commission is presently discharging its functions with the support of the following officers and staff.

Sl. No.Name of the Officer/Staff		Designation		
1.	Mr. S.D. Dhakal	Secretary		
2.	Mr. Jigme Dorjee Denzongpa	Director (Legal) cum Electricity Ombudsman.		
3.	Mr. Palchen Dorjee Chaktha	Director (Tariff & Technical)		
4.	Mr. P.P. Sharma	Financial Advisor		
5.	Mr. Sonam Palzor	Assistant Director		
6.	Mr. Krishna Kumar Siktel	Accountant		
6.	Mrs. Yangzom Bhutia	Computer Operator		
7.	Mrs. Zangmu Bhutia	Office Assistant		
8.	Mr. Hem Kumar Chettri	Office Assistant		
9.	Miss. Hishey Donka Bhutia	Computer Operator		
10.	Mr. Arun Kumar Bhujel	Peon		
11.	Mr. Ganesh KumarRai	Peon		
12	Mr. Raju Subba	Driver		
13.	Mr. Dawa P. Bhutia	Driver		
14.	Mr. Dupgay Bhutia	Driver		
15.	Mr. Mangal Singh Bhujel	Driver		
16	Mr. Norbu Rinchen Lepcha	Driver		
17.	Mr. Sonam Palzor Bhutia	Home Guard		
18.	Mr.Kharka Bahdur Chettri	Home Guard.		

# Accounts of the Commission

#### 5.1 Income/Expenditure and Balance Sheet of the Commission

Presently, the Commission is operating its accounts as per the Sikkim Financial Rules. The Commission has prepared the draft of SSERC (Form of Annual Statement of Accounts and Records) Rules and (Constitution and the manner of application, of the Fund, Accounts, audit of State Commission and Time for Preparation of Budget) Rules and the draft Rules have been forwarded to the State Government for consideration and notification. The Rules are under consideration by the State Government and are expected to be notified shortly by the State Government.

The Transaction Audit for F.Y 2015-16 is yet to be completed by the Office of the Comptroller and Audit General, India (Sikkim). The Statement of Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet of the Commission as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2015 duly certified by the Commission and its Chartered Accountants are attached as Annexure-I and Annexure-II.

## **Annexure-I**

#### SIKKIM STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION GANGTOK, SIXKIM

#### STATEMENT OF INCOME 4: EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2015

		As of BLOCKIS	Si co. N. O. 2014 Asiened Seconde . (O Alter 1)
INCOME			
FEES FOR TARRIF		563,000.00	552,000.00
OTHER INCOME	7	991,470.00	465,834.15
TOTAL (A)		1,554,470,00	1,017,834.15
EXPENDITURE			
ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES	8	8,783,949.00	8,861,754.00
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	9	4,862,777.00	3,656,507.06
DEPRECIATION	6	2,409,636.00	2,165,997.00
AUDIT FEES		57,000.00	\$6,180.00
TOTAL (B)		16,113,362.00	14,740,438.06
SURPLUS /(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR (A-B = C)		(14,558,892.00)	(13,722,603.91)
EXTRAODINARY ITEMS PRIOR PERIOD ITEMS		870,790.00	
BALANCE OF EXCESS/(DEFICIT) TRANSFERRED TO			
CAPITAL FUND (A-B)	[	(15,429,682.00)	(13,722,603.91)

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES NOTES TO ACCOUNTS 10 10

THE SCHEDULES REFERRED TO ABOVE FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

IN TERMS OF OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE

FOR G. CHOUDHURY & ASSOCIATES TRY & ASS Chartered Account Firm Regn. N GANGTOK Prateek Ch Pasteer M. No. - 06343

Place: Gangtok Date: the 16th day of July, 2015

Interior had Secretary

#### **Annexure-II**

SIKKIM STATE ELECTRICITY	REGULATORY COMMISSION
GANGTOK	SIKKIM

Balance Sheet	as at 31st	March, 2015
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	545 447		The plant like it will be and what has a strong or most second strong it was a strong of the strong		As at 31,06,15	
	to shirt any high	Altiouat(')	Amouni (7)	Amount (7)		
CAPITAL FUND AND LIABILITIES CORPUS FUND	1		24,929,948.57	24,359,630.5		
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
PAYABLE TO GOVT. OF SIKKIM		1,000.00				
PROVISION FOR AUDIT FEES		57,000.00		1,000.00		
PROVISION FOR TELEPHONE EXPENSES		12,036.00		168,540.0		
PROVISION FOR ELECTRIC EXPENSES	. Salar	5,823.00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
SUNDRY CREDITORS		154,317.00	Participant -			
VODAFONE LEASE RENT	1 1000	81,461,00				
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES			311,637.00	169,540,00		
TOT	AL		25,241,585,57	24,529,170.57		
APPLICATION OF FUND	C. C. S. S. S.			240723727033		
FIXED ASSETS	6					
GROSS BLOCK	0					
LESS : DEPRECIATION	The second	12,458,053.00	States States 19	12,326,727.00		
NETBLOCK		6,2/9,000,00		3,869,364.00		
	•		6,179,053.00	8,457,363.00		
CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS & ADVANCES	in the second					
INVESTMENTS	2	13,764,352.00	a shall and a shall be	10,000,000.00		
RECEIVABLES	3			40.000.00		
ADVANCES	4	151,250.00	States and the second states and the	1,250.00		
BANK BALANCES	5	5,135,213.57	12.24 3 3 2 4 4 1 5 1	6,018,840.57		
CASH BALANCE IN HAND		11,717.00	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	11,717.00		
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS			19,062,532.57	16,071,807.57		
тот	AL	-	25,241,585.57	24,529,170,57		

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

10 10

THE SCHEDULES REFERRED TO ABOVE FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE BALANCE SHEET

IN TERMS OF OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE

FOR G. CHOUDHURY & ASSOCIATES Chartered Aco URY & AS Firm Rogn. No. 31 GANGTOK Prateek Cha Partner M. No. - 063437 Place: Ganglok

Date: the 16th day of July, 2015

Secretary

# **Tariff Schedule for F.Y 2015-16**

#### 6.1 Tariff for different consumer categories (F.Y 2015-16)

The Tariff for different categories of consumers fixed by the Commission for F.Y 2015-16 and the schedule of Tariff as per Tariff Order issued by the Commission on  $30^{th}$  March 2016 are indicated below:

#### I. DOMESTIC SUPP (DS) Type of

Powersupply to private house, residential flats and Government residential buildings for light. Heating/electrical appliances, fans etc for domestic purpose. This schedule can also be made applicable to the charitable organization after verifying the genuineness of their noncommercial aspects by the concerned divisional office.

(a) Nature of service : Low Tension a.c. 430/230 volts, 50 cycles/sec (hz)

Units Consumption	Paisa per kWh (Unit)
Up to 50	110
51 to 100	225
101 to 200	345
201 to 400	415
Consumption exceeding 400 units	440

#### (b) Rates:

#### (c) Monthly Minimum Charge:

Details	Rate
Single Phase Supply	Rs. 40.00
Three Phase Supply	Rs 200.00

#### (d) Monthly Rebate (if paid within due date): 5% on Energy Charges

# (e) AnnualSurcharge (charge on the gross arrear outstanding every March end):10%

If electricity supplied indomestic-premises issued for commercial purpose, the entire

supply shall be charged under commercial supply.

Free supply of electricity for consumption upto 100 units applicable to all the domestic consumers in rural areas under Gram Panchayat Unit (GPU) as notified by the Rural Management and Development Departmentas per clause 1 of Government Gazette Notification No.33/P/GEN/97/PART-V dated 25.11.2014 shall be determined on the basis of assessment recorded through energy meter only and assessment accounted on average basis shall not be entertained for subsidy.

#### II. COMMERCIAL SUPPLY (CS) Type of consumer

Supply of energy for light, fan, heating and power appliances incommercial and non-domestic establishments such as shops, business houses, hotel, restaurants, petrol pumps, service stations garages, auditoriums, cinemahouses, nursing homes, dispensaries, doctor's clinic which are used for privates gains, telephone exchange, nurseries, showrooms, x-ray plants, libraries, banks,video parlors, saloons, beauty parlors, health clubs or any house of profit as identified by the Assistant Engineer/ExecutiveEngineer concerned of the Department. In the event of exceeding connected load beyond 25 KVA, the Demandc hargea tthe following rates shall be imposed. The seasonal consumers are allowed to install MDI meter for assessment of their monthly load profile.

(a) Nature of supply : Low Tension a.c. 430/230volts, 50 cycles/Sec (hz)

Consumption range	Paisa per Kwh (Ur	nit)
Upto 50	330	
51 to 200	515	
201 to 400	540	
Consumption exceeding 400 units	567	
Demand Charges - For those	Rural Areas	Urban Areas
establishments whose sanctioned		
load is more than 25 KVA and	Rs. 60/KVA/Month	Rs. 100/KVA/Month
does not have independent	plus energy charges	plus energy charges
transformer but run their unit	shown above	shown above
through shared transformers.		

(b) Rate:

If electricity supplied in domestic-premises isused for commercial purpose, the entire

supplyshall be charged under commercial supply.

#### (c) Monthly MinimumCharge:

Details	Rate
Single Phase Supply	Rs. 200.00
Three Phase Supply	Rs. 500.00

- (d) Monthly Rebate (if paid within due date): 5% on Energy Charges
- (e) Annual Surcharge (charge on the gross arrear outstanding every March end): 10%

#### III. LOW TENSION INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY(LTIS): Type of consumer

Power supply to the industries like poultry, Agriculture load or any other units of such kind under small-scale industries having connected load not exceeding 25kVA in total. In the event of exceeding connected load beyond 25kVA, the Demand charge at the following rates shall be imposed.

(a) Nature of service : Low Tension a.c. 430/230volts, 3 phase/single phase, 50 cycles/Sec (hz)

#### (b) Rate:

Units Consumption	Paisa per kWh			
Units Consumption	Rural	Urban		
Up to 500	235	480		
501 to 1000	420	550		
1001 &Above	545	620		
		Urban		
DemandCharges – for thoseestablishmentswhose sanctionloadismore25KVA&doesnothave	Rural Areas	<b>Areas</b> Rs. /kVA/Month plus Energy charge as shown above		
independent transformer but run their unit through shared transformers.	Rs. 60 /Kva/Month plus Energy charges as shown above	Rs. 100/Kva/Month Plus Energy charges as shown above.		

#### (c) Monthly MinimumCharge :

Rural Areas	Rs. 60 /KVA/Month
Urban Areas	Rs.100 /KVA/Month

- (d) Monthly Rebate (if paid within due date): 5% on Energy Charges
- (e) Annual Surcharge (charge on the gross arrear outstanding every March end) : 10%

#### IV. HIGH TENSION SUPPLY (HTS) : Type of consumer

All types of supply with contract demand at single point having 3 phase supply and voltage above 3.3 kV.

(a) Nature of supply : High Tension a.c., above 3.3 kV, 3 phase, 50 cycles/Sec (Hz)

Executive Engineer should sanction the demand in the Requisition and Agreement form of the Department before the service connection is issued based on the availability of quantum of Power. The demand sanctioned by the Executive Engineer will be considered as the contract demand. A maximum demand indicator will be installed at the consumer premises to record the maximum demand on the monthly basis. If in a month, the recorded maximum demand exceeds the contract demand, that portion of the demand in excess of the contract demand will be billed at twice the prevailing demand charges. In case recorded maximum demand exceeds the contract demand for three consecutive months the demand charges will be payable on the basis of installed capacity of the transformer.

Energy meters are compulsorily to be installed on HT side. In case energy meters are installed on the LT side the assessed energy consumption shall be grossed up by 4% to account for the transformation loss and billed accordingly.

#### (b) Rate:

Units Consumption	Tariff
Upto 100 kVA:	Rs. 175 /kVA/Month
Demand Charges Plus Energy Charges	300 Paisa/Unit
101 to 250 kVA:	Rs. 225/Kva/Month
Demand charges Plus Energy Charges	348Paisa/Unit
251 kVA to 500 kVA	Rs. 250 /kVA/Month
Demand Charges Plus Energy Charges	396 Paisa/Unit
Above 500 kVA	Rs. 475 /kVA/Month
Demand Charges Plus Energy Charges	410Paisa/Unit

- (c) Monthly Minimum Charges : Demand Charges
- (d) Monthly Rebate (if paid within due date): 2% on Energy Charges

#### (a) Annual Surcharge (charge on the gross arrear outstanding every March end):15

#### V. BULK SUPPLY (BS) : (Non – COMMERCIAL SUPPLY) Type of consumer

Available for general mixed loads to M.E.S. and other Military Establishments, Borders roads, Sikkim Armed Police Complex (SAP), all Government Non residential buildings Hospitals, Aerodromes and other similar establishments as identified as such supply by the concerned Executive Engineer.

(a) Nature of service : Low Tension a.c. 430/230 volts or High tension above 3.3 kV

Executive Engineer should sanction the demand in the Requisition and Agreement form of the Department before the service connection is issued.

#### (b) Rate:

All Consumptions	Paisa/Unit
LT	540
HT	560

#### (c) Monthly Minimum Charge :

Details	Tariff
LT (430/230 Volts)	Rs. 150 /kVA of Sanctioned Load
HT (11kV or66 kV)	Rs. 140/kVA of Sanctioned Load

- (d) Monthly Rebate (if paid within due date): 2% on EnergyCharges
- (e) Annual Surcharge (charge on the gross arrear outstanding every March end) : 15% Power Factor Adjustment charges:
- (a) **Penalty for poor Power Factor :** The Power factor adjustment charges shall be Levied at the rate of 1% on the total Energy charge for the month for every1% drop or part thereof in the average power factor during the month below 95%.
- (b) Power factor rebate : If the power factor of the consumer's installation in any month is above 95% the consumer will be entitled to a rebate at therate of 0.5% in excess of 95% power factor on the total amount of energy charge for that month for every 1% rise or part thereof in the average power factor during the month above 95%

#### VI. SUPPLY TO ARMY PENSIONERS Type of Consumer

Provided to the army pensioners or their surviving widows based on the list provided by Sikkim Rajya Sainik Board.

- (a) Nature of service : Low Tension a.c. 230/430 volts, 50 cycles/Sec (hz)
- (b) **Rate**: Domestic supply rate is applicable
- (i) Up to 100 units : To be billed to Secretary, Rajya Sainik Board
- (ii) 101 and above : Tobebilled to the Consumer

Minimum charges, surcharges, and rebate etc will be applicable as per domestic supply category.

#### VII. SUPPLY TO BLIND

#### Type of consumer

Service connection provided to a house of a family whose head of the family is blind and the

same is certified by the National Association for Blinds.

- (a) Nature of service : Low Tension a.c. 230/430 volts, 50 cycles/Sec (hz)
- (b) **Rate**: Domestic supply rate is applicable
- (i) Up to 100 units : To be billed to Secretary, Social Welfare Department
- (ii) 101 and above : To be billed to the Consumer

Minimum charges, surcharges, and rebate etc will be applicable as per domestic supply category.

#### VIII. SUPPLY TO THEPLACESOFWORSHIP(PW)

#### Type of consumer

Supply of power to Gumpas, Manilakhangs, Tsamkhangs, Mandirs, Churches, and Mosques as identified by the State Ecclesiastical Department.

(a) Nature of service : Low Tension 430/230 volts, 50 cycles/Sec (hz).

#### (b) Rate

Unit Consumption slab	Paisa per kWh (Unit)
Places of worship:	
(i) Having3 lights points:	Domestic Rate is applicable
A) up to 100 units	Domestic Kate is applicable
B) Above101 units	
(ii) Having4 to 6 lights points.	
A) Up to 150 units	
B) Above 151 units	
(iii) Having7 to 12 points	
A) Up to 30 units	
B) Above301 units	
(iv) Having 13 and more light points	
A) Up to 500 units	Domestic Rate is applicable
B) Above 501 units	

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743					P		R	
<u> </u>		<u> </u>				$\smile$		

2015-16

Unit Consumption slab	Paisa per kWh (Unit)
A) To be billed to Secretary, Ecclesiastical	
Department and to be submitted to the head of	
Department in the District.	
<b>B)</b> To be billed to Head of the Place of places of	
worship	

Minimum charges, surcharges, and rebate etc will be applicable as per domestic supply category.

#### IX. PUBLIC LIGHTING ENERGY CONSUMPTION CHARGES

It has been decided that the electrical energy consumption charges of public lightning street light etc, in urban are a shall be paid by the Urban Development & Housing Department. Similarly, the consumption of electrical energy for street fight etc, in rural are as shall be paid by the concerned Panchayat/Rural Management & Development department. The necessary meter/metering equipments shall be provided by the Energy & Power Department and for which the standard (Tariff Schedule) charges is also applicable in accordance with rules and regulations of the Department

#### Rate:

Category	Rate
Rural Areas	250 Paisa/KWH
Urban Areas	460 Paisa/KWH

#### X. TEMPORARY SUPPLY

#### Type of consumer

Available for temporary purposes and for the period not exceeding two months in the first instance but can be extended for the further-period not exceeding one month on each occasion. The Assessment of energy consumption shall be on the basis of recorded meter reading and not on average, how ever if the connection is being taken for less than one month, an advance payment should be taken from the consumer as per his/her connected load based on the average system of calculation shown in the tariff schedule.

Approval of the Temporary Supply and its duration will be the discretion of the Assistant Engineer of the Department.

If the temporary connection is more than approved period, such use of electricity will be treated as theft of power.

- (a) **Nature of Service :** Low tensiona.c. 430/230volts, 50 Hz/H.T. 11 kV whichever is applicable and possible at the discretion of the department:
- (b) Rate : Twice the Tariff under schedule DS/CS/LTIS/HT for corresponding permanent supply (Temporary supply connection shall no tbe entertained without energy meter). Two months assessment on sanction load shall have to be paid in advance as security deposit before taking the connection.

#### XI. SCHEDULE FOR MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

#### 1. Service Connection

Following procedures should be strictly followed while giving the new service connection. On receipt of written application with requisite, Revenue Stamp from any intending consumer addressed to the Assistant Engineer (Commercial/Revenue) the department will issue the Requisition and Agreement form of the Department. This form will be issued on production of BR for Rs.10/- (Rupees ten) only. He/She will complete the form in all respect and submit to the office of the Assistant Engineer. Assistant Engineer will issue the service connection estimate with the approval of the Executive Engineer. If the Substation of the are a or any other connected Electrical network is under capacity, the department can decline the service connection till the capacity is increased as required. If the demand is more than 25kVA the Department reserves the right to ask the applicant to provide suitable substation at his/her cost.

The Energy &Power Department also reserves the right to disconnect the service connection of any consumer if he/she increases the load above sanctioned load without written approval of the Department and will treat such cases as theft of power.

(a) Single connection will be provided to the legal landlord of the building. However, an additional connection canal so be given in the name of his legal here subject to production of valid agreement by the landlord stating that he/she shall take the responsibility to clear all the electricity dues created there of by his legal heir before the close of every financial year.

- (b) In case the flat or part of the private building is occupied by Government/Semi Government/Government Undertakings offices, separate service connection in the name of head of office can be given with the approval of the concerned Executive Engineer.
- (c) Rs 50 (Rupees Fifty) only per certificate shall be charged for issuing NDC (No Dues Certificate), NOC(No objection certificate) or any other kind of certificate to be issued to the consumer by the Department.

#### XII. METER RENT / Month

(i)	Energy Meter	
(a)	Single Phase	Rs. 20.00
(b)	Three phase	Rs. 60.00
(ii)	Maximum demand indicator	Rs.175.00
(iii)	Time switch	Rs.120.00

#### XIII. TESTING OF METERS

i)	Energy Meters 1 Ph	Rs. 150
ii)	Other Metering Instruments	Rs. 250

#### XIV. DISCONNECTION & RECONNECTION

(i)	DS and CS category	Rs.150.00
(ii)	LTIS, HTS & Bulk category	Rs.250.00

Unless otherwise demanded by the Department replacement of meters or shifting the position of meter boards etc, can been trained exclusively on the specific written request of the consumer against a payment of Rs.150.00 each time which does not include the cost of requirement and labor which will be extra payable by the consumer.

#### XV. REPLACEMENT OF FUSES

Service for replacement of fuses in the main cut-outs available against the following Payments:-

	ANN		2015-16				
_							
G	) Low tension	Single phase	Rs.15.00				
(1)		Three phase		Rs.20.00			
(ii	i) High tension			Rs.40.00			

#### XVI. RESEALING OF METERS

If by any reason the seal affixed in the meter or cutouts installed and secured by the Department are found tampered, the Department reserves the right to disconnect the service connection immediately and impose penalty as applicable under The Indian Electricity Act, 2003.In addition the consumer is liable for payment for resealing charge @Rs.30.00 per call of such services.

#### XVII. SECURITY DEPOSIT

Security deposit shall be deposited, by the consumer, in the following rates for the meters provided by the Department.

1 Electronic Meter	Electronic Mater	3 phase	Rs.500.00
		1 phase	Rs.200.00

2	Electromagnetic Meters	3 phase	Rs.150.00	
		1 phase	Rs. 75.00	

The Security deposit will be forfeited including the fine as per Tariff Regulations. The line will be disconnected, if the consumer tampers the meter. The line will be reconnected only after the fresh security deposit is deposited and other applicable charges are paid.

# **Energy Sales**

#### 6.1 CAGR of Energy Sales

SI. No.	Category	2010-11 (Actual)		(Actual)	2013-14 (Actual)					CAGR for YOY from FY 2013-14 to FY 2014-15
1	Domestic	57.97	82.77	(In MUs) 78.98	83.98	78.93	8.02	×	<b>%)</b> -0.03	-6.01
2	Commercial	29.23	29.72	38.26	35.43	35.33	4.85	5.93	-3.91	-0.28
3	Public Lighting	2.60	2.30	0.43	0.35	0.29	-42.21	-49.86	-17.88	-17.14
4	Temporary Supply	0.15	0.30	0.09	1.61	1.36	73.52	65.50	288.73	-15.53
5	HT Industrial	58.39	71.63	91.76	97.11	110.49	17.29	15.54	9.73	13.78
6	LT Industrial	1.31	8.63	1.15	1.15	1.37	1.17	-45.82	9.25	19.36
7	Bulk Supply	13.35	13.21	16.23	17.74	20.98	11.96	16.67	13.70	18.26
8	Total	163.00	208.56	226.90	237.37	248.75				

(Source: Tariff Order for FY 2016-17)



Visit of SAC to 99 MW Chuzachen HEP.