

Before the

TRIPURA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Bidyut Bhavan Complex, Bhutoria, Banamalipur, Agartala, Tripura (W),

Phone: 0381-2300-137,0381-2326372, Website:

<https://terc.tripura.gov.in>

Petition No: 2(Solar PV)of 2021

Order No : 8 of 2021

Date of Order:

25.06.2021

In the matter of: Application for installation of rooftop solar photovoltaic system under net metering arrangements at *Ramkrishna Mission*, Dhaleshwar, Agartala.

CORAM

1. Sri D. Radhakrishna, Hon'ble Chairman, TERC.
2. Sri Jiban Krishna Sen, Hon'ble Member, TERC.

Petitioner :

1. Swami Indratmananda Secretary, Ramkrishna Mission, Dhaleshwar. Agartala.
2. Swami Jyotirananda Jt. Secretary. Ramkrishna Mission, Dhaleshwar Agartala.
2. Sri Susanta Datta, Ramkrishna Mission, Agartala.

Respondent :

Tripura State Electricity Corporation Ltd.

1. The commission has received a letter from Secretary *Ramkrishna Mission*, Dhaleshwar, Agartala date 30th April 2021 which reads as follows:

To
The Chairman
Tripura Electricity Regulatory Commission
Agartala, Tripura

Dated, Agartala 30th April, 2021

Sub: Application for installation of Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic System under Net Metering arrangement at Ramakrishna Mission, Dhaleswar, Agartala/ approval regarding.

Sir,

You may be aware that Ramakrishna Mission, Dhaleswar is one of the centers of Ramakrishna Math & Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math. As per mandate of our Headquarters, this Centre too is involved with social and cultural activities across the state. As an initiative taken by the union and State Governments, we would like to be a stakeholder in green energy group as this organization is also committed to reduce carbon footprint without compromising our energy needs. Under same initiative, we submitted an application to TSECL on 21.09.2020 for the aforesaid purpose.

2. The application in the prescribed format with copy of all relevant documents was submitted to TSECL seeking approval to facilitate us for installation of Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic System under Net metering arrangement at our premises at Dhaleswar, Assam Agartala Road, Agartala with projected capacity of 50 KW. One of similar projects, was executed at our Viveknagar premises earlier on accordance of permission from the authority.

3. Similarly, we have been waiting to obtain the permission for the project at Dhaleswar. But recently, we have received a communication from Director (Technical), TSECL through a letter bearing No. F.475-76 Dt. 06.04.2021. It is stated there that as per recent mandate of "Electricity (Right of Consumers) Rule, 2020", Net Metering is allowed for load upto 10 KWP and thus it is needed to be reviewed. It is also stated to make necessary arrangements for availing net metering facility. Since, we have already installed capacity with 50 KWp, so we do not find any more action to be taken from our side and in case net metering is limited upto. 10 KWp, further provision as admissible as per Rule, beyond 10kWp may be allowed to us. (A copy of the letter is enclosed.)

4. Now, it is requested to your esteemed office for appropriate action in order to obtain the approval for immediate commissioning of the project so as to take the benefit of metering of the power system at the earliest. Copy of application along with all relevant documents are enclosed for your kind perusal.

5. We are looking forward for your response please.

With regards,

Yours sincerely
Sd/-
(Swami Indratmananda)
Secretary
Ramakrishna Mission
A.A. Road, Dhaleswar, Agartala.

2. The Commission has converted the above mentioned letter as a Petition since Commission felt that there is already Net Metering for Grid Interactive Roof Top Solar System Regulations 2016 issued by the Commission, in force and the Central Government vide Gazette Notification has issued Electricity (Rights of Consumer) Rules 2020 and provision in respect of Net Metering are widely varying as Commission has issued Net Metering up to 1(One) MW. The Relevant portions are as below

a) Net metering for grid interactive rooftop solar system, Regulations, 2016.

“ Means a consumer who uses or intends to use a Solar Photo Voltaic(PV) generating system having a capacity not exceeding 1MW, installed on a rooftop or any other mounting structure in the consumer’s premises to offset all or part of his own electrical power requirements.”

b) The Gazette Of India :EXTRAORDINARY - Notification, dated 31st December,2020.

“The regulations on Grid Interactive Rooftop Solar PV system and its related matters shall provide for net metering for loads up to ten KW and for gross metering for loads above ten KW “.

3. During the hearing on 22.06.2021 which started at 11:30 AM petitioners were present but respondent did not turn up and the Commission has called them up since their views in the matter was essential as without knowledge of Commission they have overlooked the Regulations and citing the Rules of Central Government which was issued on 31st Dec 2020 implemented the same on the application of Petitioner which was submitted on 21st September 2020 . The Respondent turned up and pleaded that because of

Central Rules they have done the same. In this matter it is to mention that Central Government already issued proposed amendment in Rules to raise up the Net Metering up to 50 KW and therefore Commission felt that proper recourse in the matter would be the Respondent instead of overruling Regulations already in force could have taken up clarification from the Commission. The said Central Rules are cohesive in many matters and Commission is already modifying / amending the Standard Operating Procedure and other Regulations to the extent for Consumer Rights and Obligations. The Regulations already in force would prevail till any amendments are brought by the Commission in the matter where any conflicts are brought to the notice of the Commission.

6. It may also be worth to mention that Commission respect all Rules made by Central and State Government and would be implemented by modification of Regulations already in force . A copy of the this judgment may also be forwarded to the Ministry of Power, New Delhi for their knowledge and also to Forum of Regulator .
7. The Commission therefore allows the Application of the Petitioner and directs Respondent, Tripura State Electricity Corporation Ltd. may allow Petitioner *Ram Krishna Mission*, Dhaleswar for installation of Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic's System against their application dated 21st September 2020 as per Net metering for grid interactive Rooftop Solar System, Regulations, 2016 in force of the Commission.
8. The Secretary, TERC is directed to inform to all concerned.

Sd/
(Jiban Krishna Sen)
Member
TERC ,Agartala

Sd/
(D . Radhakrishna)
Chairman
TERC , Agartala

Certified True Copy

Sd/
25.06.2021
(Ms Sujata Das Chakrabarti)
Secretary
TERC , Agartala