

# MAHARASHTRA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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## ORDER

CASE NO. 25 of 2006

IN THE MATTER OF  
APPROVAL OF REL-DISTRIBUTION'S SCHEDULE OF CHARGES



**MERC**

Date: November 2, 2006

IN THE MATTER OF  
**Approval of Schedule of charges of REL-D**

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Before the  
**MAHARASHTRA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
World Trade Centre, Centre No. 1, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cuff Parade, Mumbai-400 005.

**Case No. 25 of 2006**

**IN THE MATTER OF**  
**Approval of REL-Distribution's Schedule of Charges**

**Dr. Pramod Deo, Chairman**  
**Shri A. Velayutham, Member**  
**Shri S. B. Kulkarni, Member**

**ORDER**

**Date: November 2, 2006**

**Preface:**

Presently, Reliance Energy Limited (Distribution business) [REL-D], erstwhile Bombay Suburban Electric Supply Limited (BSES), is recovering various charges from the consumers for the services, besides supply, provided to them as per the BSES's Conditions of Supply and Miscellaneous Charges. The Government of Maharashtra (Industries & Labour Department) vide Resolutions No. LBT.1663/104083-Elec.I dated 12-10-1965 and 9-11-1965 approved the existing Schedule of Charges earlier.

Section 50 of EA, 2003 provides that the State Electricity Regulatory Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, shall specify an Electricity Supply Code to be adhered to by the Distribution Licensees in the State. Accordingly, the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC) has notified Electricity Supply Code and Other Conditions of Supply Regulations, 2005 effective from January 20, 2005.

As per Regulation No. 18 of the Supply Code Regulations, the distribution licensees are required to file with the Commission for approval, a 'Schedule of Charges' for such matters required by the distribution licensee to fulfil its obligation to supply electricity to consumers under the Act and other relevant Regulations.

Accordingly, REL-D submitted the 'Schedule of Charges' payable by its consumers vide letter dated 15th March 2005, and subsequently by their letter dated 24th May 2005, the Terms & Conditions of Supply, for the approval of the Commission.

Under the provisions of EA, 2003 (Sections 45, 46 and 47), the distribution licensee is entitled to recover various charges and collect Security Deposit. These charges can be broadly classified as follows:

- a) Retail Supply Tariff covered under Tariff Order / Tariff Schedule
- b) Various other charges under the heading 'Schedule of Charges'



As far as Retail Supply Tariff is concerned, these charges are paid by the consumers' monthly/periodically on receipt of bill. These charges are determined by the Commission under Sections 61 and 62 of the Act following determination of Annual Revenue Requirement (ARR)/ Tariff through Public Hearing process.

As far as various other charges under the heading 'Schedule of Charges' are concerned, the consumers/prospective consumers pay these charges at the time of availing various services offered by the distribution licensees. These charges are approved by the Commission mainly under Section 46 of the Act, after considering views of all interested parties through Public Hearing process.

The Commission in exercise of the powers vested in it under the provisions of Section 46 of the Act, MERC (Electricity Supply Code and Other Conditions of Supply) Regulations, 2005 and all other powers enabling it in this behalf, and after taking in to consideration, all the submissions made by REL-D, all the objections and issues raised during public hearing, the responses of REL-D, and all other relevant material, hereby determines the Schedule of Charges for various services provided by REL-D.

## **I: Background and Process**

### **1.1 REL-D'S Proposal:**

REL-D has proposed the Schedule of Charges in eight broad categories, namely, (a) Document Processing fees, (b) New connections / Shifting of services / Temporary connections / Meter change / Burnt meter and lost meter replacement charges / Extension of load, (c) Reconnection, (d) Reduction of load / Change in contract demand, (e) Testing charges of energy meters, (f) Charges for dishonoured cheques, (g) Charges for change of name and (h) Charges for photocopies or printed copies of Regulatory orders etc.

### **1.2 Regulatory Process:**

On receipt of the proposal, after due scrutiny, the Commission in line with Regulation 18 of Supply Code decided to invite public comment/suggestions on the draft proposal on 'Schedule of Charges'. Accordingly, a public notice dated 21st August 2006 inviting suggestions and objections from interested parties was published in Mumbai editions of Business Standard, DNA, Financial Express, The Free Press Journal, Economic Times, Times of India, Navbharat Times, Maharashtra Times, Indian Express, Dainik Samna, Loksatta, Sakal, Navakal, Mumbai Samachar and Navshakti on 22nd August 2006.

REL-D was also advised to make available copies of REL-D's petition for inspection and acquiring by the members of public at REL-D's office and also to host the same on REL-D's web site ([www.rel.co.in](http://www.rel.co.in)). The last date of filing written objections was fixed as 18th September 2006, which allowed a period of one month to the public to enable them to file their objections.



The Commission received 15 (fifteen) written objections/comments regarding proposed Schedule of Charges submitted by REL-D. The Commission also admitted objections filed during the Public Hearing, which was held on 21st September 2006 in Mumbai. List of Objectors to the REL-D's proposal on 'Schedule of Charges' is annexed at **Appendix-I**. REL-D submitted their response on instruction from the Commission during Public Hearing by letter dated 29th September 2006, based on the various objections received and proceedings during Public Hearing.

The Commission has ensured that the due process contemplated under law to ensure transparency and public participation, has been followed at every stage meticulously and an adequate opportunity was given to all the persons concerned to file their say in the matter.

The Commission after taking into consideration all the objections, including the submissions and responses of REL-D, objections raised during the Public Hearing and all other relevant material, issues the order as per following structure having three sections.

**Section I** covers Preface, Background and Regulatory Process.

**Section II** is covering –

- REL-D's proposal, dealt item wise
- Objections received under each item
- REL-D's response to the objections
- The Commission's ruling on each item.

**Section III** is covering –

- Commission's Analysis and Tariff Philosophy towards determination of item wise charges
- Applicability and Validity.

**II - Item-wise, proposal of REL-D, summary of objections received, response filed by REL-D and the Commission's ruling:**

During the Public Hearing some of the objectors offered general comments through oral submission on entire Schedule of Charges.

- Bombay Small Scale Industries Association (BSSIA) submitted that REL-D submitting its application / proposal for approval of the Schedule of Charges in the month of April, 2005 is in violation of the provisions of Regulation 18.1 of the MERC (Electricity Supply Code and Other Conditions of Supply) Regulations, 2005 which requires that the distribution licensee should file its Schedule of Charges within one month from the date of notification of the said Regulations, being 20<sup>th</sup> January 2005.
- BSSIA further submitted that the provisions of Regulations 18.1 and 18.2 of the MERC (Electricity Supply Code and Other Conditions of Supply) Regulations, 2005 require that the Schedule of Charges have to be approved only through tariff revision under Section 64 of the EA 2003. Since the Commission has



already determined the tariff of REL-D, the Schedule of Charges of REL-D should not be entertained.

• **Licence for distribution of electricity**

Bombay Small Scale Industries Association (BSSIA) submitted that the actual licence stands in the name of Bombay Suburban Electric Supply Ltd and subsequent REL-D does not have the licence to undertake generation or distribution of Electricity. BSSIA requested the Commission to take up the issue before approving the Schedule of Charges and take appropriate action against REL-D for misguiding the Commission and distributing electricity without a valid Licence as per section 14 of the EA 2002-03, for the same.

**REL-D's Response:**

REL-D has not submitted any written response to the above points raised by the objector in his oral submission. However, REL-D in the matter of Case 25/53 of 2005 had responded to similar objection by quoting the Commission's Order dated 1st July, 2004 which reads as follows, "*The Commission notes that the mere change in name in terms of the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 has no other legal implication and that, the entity remaining otherwise the same, no fresh issue of the licence by the Commission is required under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003*".

**Commission's Observation and Ruling:**

As regards observation of the provisions of regulation 18 of the Supply Code, the Commission notes that REL has submitted their proposal on 'schedule of charges' on 15th March 2005. Earlier they have also submitted their ARR/tariff determination (FY 06) proposal on 1st March 2005. However the Commission required them to submit segregated ARR proposal for generation, transmission and distribution function. Same was done by REL during July 2005. Meanwhile the notification of modified and comprehensive tariff regulation was on the way; upon which the Commission vide its letter dated 10th / 20th October 2005 asked REL to resubmit ARR based on principles stipulated in the regulations and in prescribed format. This proposal finally culminated into a public hearing along with ARR proposal for FY07 under section 64 of the Act on 12th June 2006. The Commission has already issued the order in these cases (Case 25 and 53 of 2005) on October 3, 2006. The Commission further observes that on 24th May 2005 the REL submitted its revised 'Conditions of supply' under regulation 19.2 of Supply Code which has relevance to the Schedule of Charges. It was necessary at the same time to ensure that there is harmony in various licensees' individual 'Conditions of supply' document besides conformity with the Act and or relevant regulations. Hence simultaneous follow up and processing of such documents were taken up by the office of the Commission. The proposal on 'schedule of charges' was finally heard under the Act and relevant regulations on 21st September, 2006.

The issue regarding licence has been raised earlier during 2004 tariff proceedings (Case 18 of 2003) by BSSIA. Having addressed earlier in the Tariff Order referred above, the Commission does not feel it necessary to delve into the issue at this juncture once again.



- **Format of Proposal:**

Shri. Kailash Kejriwal and Shri. Sunil C. Mone submitted that Schedule of Charges of REL-D has been drafted in such a technical manner that it is difficult for any ordinary person to make out whether a new category of charge has been levied in the Schedule of Charges, or the rates in an existing category of charge has been increased; what is the percentage of increase and what are the remarks for the said increase. The preliminary observation/ objection is that the Schedule of Charges should be printed/ drafted in such a manner that the consumers at large should be able to understand the contents and rationale thereof and wide publicity is required to be given to what is being proposed.

Shri. Ravi Anand submitted that the Commission should direct every utility to present its proposed Schedule of Charges in such a manner that all consumers easily understand it. The reason, rationale and justification warranting the proposed revision of rates should be the principle topic of submission. Further, the manner of publicity of the said Schedule of Charges should be such that it reaches all consumers, who can express their views and observations on the same.

**REL-D's Response:**

REL-D has furnished a comparative statement indicating the existing Schedule of Charges vis-à-vis proposed schedule of charges. The same is enclosed as **Appendix II**. REL-D has further pointed out that the existing Schedule of Charges was approved by the Government of Maharashtra (Industries & Labour Department), vide Resolutions No. LBT.1663/104083-Elec.I dated 12-10-1965 and 9-11-1965. The proposed Schedule of Charges reflects the level of current costs.

**Commission's Ruling:**

The Commission, while noting the comment on user-friendly presentation format, observes that wider circulation through news print media in bilingual version, has been attempted. The consumers have also been facilitated by providing summary of the proposal over a span of one month to submit their objections.

- **Man minutes principle submitted by REL-D**

Shri. Sunil C. Mone submitted that from the “man minutes” principle submitted by REL-D, one could draw inference that an employee of REL-D works on an average 8 hours per day, which means 480 minutes per day. The average cost of a man minute being Rs. 2/-, REL-D is charging Rs. 960/- for one man-day, which turns out to be an expenditure of approximately Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 30,000/- per employee per month. REL-D has not submitted details of its average employee costs or wage bill to prove that the employee earns Rs. 1000 per day. Thus, the “man minutes” principle not being at all convincing, the Commission should verify its veracity before giving it any credence or approval. The Commission should make an effort to find out whether the proposed average ‘cost prices’ has been worked out properly by REL-D.

Shri. Kailash Kejriwal stated that the “man minutes” principle is probably an “after thought” and cooked to justify the proposed Schedule of Charges. REL-D being a totally computerised utility for purposes of billing functions, collection



of bills, etc., there is no justification in proposing 265 man minutes for services towards “Disconnection (Activities prior to Reconnection)” wherein 25 man minutes would be required for services towards “Identification & Printing of 15 days disconnection notices.” REL-D should be able to perform the said services in only one minute. Similarly, why would REL-D require 200 man minutes towards “Follow-up of disconnected cases by Inspectors”? Has REL-D submitted its basis of calculation under affidavit? The Commission should direct REL-D to furnish full details of the “man minute” approach, adopted by REL-D, under affidavit justifying the quantum of man minutes proposed per service, and all such other details it considers fit and proper in order to protect the interest of the consumers.

**REL-D’s Response:**

REL-D has not responded to the specific query about the reasonability of the charges per man minute indicated by them in the working sheets.

**Commission’s Ruling:**

The Commission independently goes into each aspect of the proposals before it and is not guided by the working or basis given by the Licensee.

In this case, Commission holds that most of the services covered under schedule of charges, for which departmental labour is employed, fall under normal business activities of the licensee, for which expenses may be covered under ARR.

**1) Document Processing Fees**

**1.1 REL-D’s Proposal**

REL-D has proposed to charge Rs. 150/- per application towards application processing charges payable at the time of application by all consumer categories.

**1.2 Objections**

Anjali Electric Works (AEW) submitted that REL-D’s proposal to charge Rs. 150/- per application towards application processing is illegal and unjustified when licensee is charging for cables, meter installation etc. He further stated that in their opinion no charge is required for application processing.

Shri Shujaul Saiyed of Bombay Regional Congress Committee (I)-Minority Cell (BRCC-MC) submitted that for the last 80 years no such charge was being levied and now REL-D is proposing to charge Rs. 150/- per application. Hence, the proposal of application processing charge should not be considered.

Shri P. B. Samant submitted that Regulation 5.4 of MERC (Supply Code and Other Conditions of Supply) Regulations, 2005 does not permit this charge.

Shri Abhijit Samant of Grahak Sanrakshan Manch, Andheri (E) (GSM-A) objected stating that previously there was no charge on processing of application and now REL-D wishes to introduce this as a new charge. Since this is only administrative effort, the proposed charges of Rs. 150/- are excessive. He further suggested that processing charges could be a maximum of Rs. 10/- per application.



Electrical Contractor's Association of Maharashtra (ECAM) stated that presently there are no charges for application processing and the proposed charges of Rs. 150/- per application are exorbitant and unwarranted. All the activities carried out under the above head are the normal activities of the Licensee's staff for which expenditure is recovered through ARR. These exorbitant charges will amount to the denial of the fundamental right of every citizen of Sovereign India to have electricity. He further proposed a nominal charge of Rs. 10/- per application.

Shri R.D. Sankpal stated that an applicant makes an application with an intention of availing supply and also pays all applicable charges for release of supply; so charging application-processing fees separately is not justified. Moreover the licensee has not indicated the present applicable rates.

Shri Manohar Panshikar stated that before approving the schedule of charges, it is necessary to determine the standards and principles for the schedule of charges. Also the existing charges should be made available for comparison purpose and till standards and principles are decided, the existing schedule of charges may be continued for a period of 2 years.

No consumer makes a frivolous demand on supplier through written application. Such practice of collecting processing fees on every type of application will only add to the hardship of an ordinary consumer. He further suggested that the Commission should totally quash the application processing fees.

Shri Suresh Mehta of Mumbai Citizens and Commuters' Trust (MCCT) and Shri Aslam Shaikh have submitted that REL-D's proposal to charge Rs.150/- towards application processing is illegal and should not be considered.

### **1.3 REL-D's Response**

The charges for processing the application have been proposed keeping in view the present costs, the principle to recover cost of service from the consumer being serviced.

### **1.4 Commission's Ruling**

During public hearing, some objectors have raised the issue about legality of collecting fee for application processing. Their main contention was that consumer is required to pay relevant charges based on type of service he applies for, and therefore application fee should not be charged separately. Shri P. B. Samant quoting Regulation 5.4 of Supply Code Regulations stated that the said Regulation does not permit this charge.

While Regulation 5 of Supply Code Regulations deals with the procedure involved in application processing, the entire process starts only after receipt of application by the Licensee in accordance with Regulation 4.1. As per Regulation 4.1 (ix) the applicant is required to pay fee for processing the application or receipt thereof along with the other requisite information/documents while making an application for supply, additional load etc.



The Commission however agrees with the views expressed by the objectors regarding unreasonable high fee proposed by REL-D, particularly for application from LT consumers/applicants and directs REL-D to collect the fee towards the application processing or receipt thereof at nominal rates as indicated in **Annexure-1**. [For detailed ruling refer Section-III (1)]

## **2) New Connections/ Shifting of Services/ Temporary Connections/ Meter Change/Burnt Meter & Lost Meter Replacement Charges/ Extension of Load.**

### **2.1 REL-D's proposal**

REL-D has proposed the charges under one common head for all the services mentioned at 2) above. However, all the above services are of different nature and also various objectors have raised their objections separately on each of these services. Further, REL-D has proposed a visit charge of Rs. 100/-, if on the visit of REL-D's representative on the appointed date, consumer premises found to be incomplete or wiring is defective or consumer or his representative remains absent.

The charges proposed by REL-D are as indicated in **Annexure-2**.

### **2.2 Objections**

The objections raised on individual services are as under:

#### **i) New connection**

AEW stated that the proposed charges are on higher side and no consumer can bear such charges. He further suggested that the proposed charges should be limited to Rs. 40/- for residential and commercial connection & Rs. 100/- for industrial connection applying for less than 150 kW. For a load of 150 kW and above at 11kV, no charges shall be taken as Licensee is charging in other ways.

MCCT, Shri Shujaul Saiyed of BRCC-MC and Shri Aslam Shaikh stated that the proposed charges by REL-D are too high as compared to the existing charges. Hence, the proposed charges should not be considered and the present charges should be continued.

Shri P. B. Samant submitted that as far as New Connection and Shifting of Service is concerned, the REL-D has not given any base and particulars to arrive at the proposed charges and these charges should be critically examined.

Shri Samant of GSM-A commented that the existing charges of Rs. 6/- per connection should be made applicable to all categories.

ECAM submitted that the worksheet provided by REL-D for basis of calculation of proposed charges for new connection is very brief and inexplicit. He opined that the REL-D's proposal to increase the existing rate of Rs 6/- per connection to Rs. 2000/- to 7,50000/- per connection for different consumer category should be rejected. He further suggested allowing a rate of Rs. 10/- per connection in addition to the actual cost involved in releasing a new connection.



Shri Sambhaji Mohanrao Shitole by quoting Section 43(1) of the Act stated that the distribution licensee is required to construct the network at its own cost, for giving supply to the consumer. Thus, the question of REL-D proposing to charge service line charges from any consumer does not arise at all. Further, service line upto 30 meters length is required to be provided by the licensee (REL-D) at its own cost. In case of multi-storied buildings as well as hutments, a large number of meters are concentrated at one location resulting in reduced cost per connection He further suggested rates for service connection ranging between Rs. 500/- for loads upto 5kW to Rs. 10000/- for loads exceeding 100 kW.

**ii) Shifting of Services**

ECAM submitted that no separate fee, as proposed, should be charged as not much labour is involved in shifting meters, which is performed without shifting any cables or any other electrical infrastructure. The present method of charging on actuals should be continued.

**iii) Temporary Connections**

With regard to charges under Temporary Connections, ECAM submitted that marriage houses, function halls, etc., which require temporary connections, make all infrastructural arrangements towards the same and require the distribution licensee only to provide the energy meters. They also arrange removal of the meters. The scope of work for REL-D is very limited, i.e. accounting and billing. The present method of charging on actual should be continued.

**iv) Meter Change/Burnt Meter & Lost Meter Replacement Charges**

ECAM submitted that since the meters belong to REL-D, their quality and accuracy are the concern of REL-D. In a majority of cases, the incidences of meters getting burnt are attributable either to the low quality of the meters that are installed by REL-D or to “loose connections”, the mending of which is the responsibility of REL-D. REL-D should take proper preventive and protective measures by installation of MCB, MCCB, etc. It is only on rarest of situations that such mishaps are caused due to or attributable to the consumer’s negligence, and only on such occasions, the consumer may be charged.

Shri P. B. Samant submitted that with respect to charges for lost meters, the Commission should consider the provisions of the Central Electrical Authority (Installation and Operations of Meters) Regulations, 2006. Under the said Regulations, meters fixed inside the premises of the consumer would be the responsibility of the consumer and meters fixed outside the premises of the consumer would be the responsibility of the distribution licensee.

**v) Extension of Load**

With regard to charges under Extension of Load, ECAM suggested that the same should also be charged on actual, as in majority of cases, the technical infrastructure being already laid; REL-D has to simply carry out necessary paperwork.

**vi) Visit Charges**

Shri Shitole stated that the visit fee of Rs. 100/- should be claimed only if any major shortcoming is noticed in the installation.



## **2.3 REL-D's response**

### **i) New connection**

As per section 46 of the Act and Regulation 3.3.1 of MERC (Supply Code and other Conditions of Supply) Regulations, 2005 a Distribution Licensee is entitled to recover from the applicant, expenses incurred by it, for providing electric line or electrical plant used for the purpose of giving supply.

The suggestion that Distribution Licensee to bear the cost of service line up to 30 Meters does not appear to be consistent with the aforesaid provisions in the Act and Regulation.

The existing Schedule of Charges was approved by The Government of Maharashtra (Industries & Labour Department, vide Resolutions No.LBT.1663/104083-Elec.I dated 12-10-1965 and 9-11-1965.). The proposed Schedule of Charges reflects the level of current costs.

REL-D has submitted that Mumbai is predominantly a vertically grown city and also has large numbers of unorganized developments (slums) and therefore one service termination generally would cater to a number of consumers. It was therefore proposed that the concept of average cost would be more appropriate to charge. This also brings in ease of understanding, transparency and implementation. The worksheets attached with the application, provides the break up of cost.

### **ii) Shifting of Services**

The shifting of service charges are generally levied in cases where a consumer or the group of consumers on that service request for such shifting for their requirement and/or convenience and therefore the charges were proposed. In any case it does not affect majority of the consumers, as service position is seldom required to be shifted.

### **iii) Temporary Connections**

Temporary connection involves the processing which is generally not only the same as new connection but also the activities need to be scheduled to match the date of supply.

### **iv) Meter Change/Burnt Meter & Lost Meter Replacement Charges**

REL-D has submitted that as per MERC (Supply Code & Other Conditions of Supply) Regulations, 2005, except for Burnt and Lost meter, the licensee is not allowed to recover the cost of meter more than once. REL-D as of now is not recovering the initial cost of meter. However, any damage to or loss of meter, including burnt meter attributable to consumer is being charged and the same principle has been proposed in the Schedule of Charges under consideration.

The charges are also proposed to be levied to the consumer only on his insistence for change of meter even though the meter accuracy is within the permissible limit.



**v) Extension of Load**

REL-D has submitted that generally change in load requirement of a consumer would necessitate the submission of relevant documents as required for releasing new connection and the licensee has to undertake all the activities at its end including load assessment of the network as would be required for a new connection. Therefore the charges have been proposed accordingly.

**vi) Visit Charges**

Generally the applicant is eager and in urgency to get electricity connection and therefore normally is available on the appointed date. However, these charges have been proposed to deter the applicant who chooses to remain absent on the appointed date and/or fails to inform the licensee about the non-fulfilment of their obligation including wiring etc.

**2.4 Commission's Ruling**

**i) New connection**

The Commission directs REL-D to charge service connection charges on a normative basis, based on the sanctioned load slabs. *[For detailed ruling refer Section-III (2)(i)]*

**ii) Shifting of Services**

The Commission rejects REL-D's proposal for shifting of service and directs REL-D to charge actual cost involved in shifting of service. *[For detailed ruling refer Section-III (2)(ii)]*

**iii) Temporary Connections**

The Commission rejects REL-D's proposed charges for temporary connection and directs REL-D to charge the actual cost involved in giving temporary supply. *[For detailed ruling refer Section-III (2)(iii)]*

**iv) Meter Change/Burnt Meter & Lost Meter Replacement Charges**

The Commission allows REL-D to charge the cost of meter as indicated in **Annexure-3**. The costs approved are based on the Commission's assessment of market rates of static meters, which would be applicable only in case of a burnt or a lost meter or where a consumer opts to purchase the meter from REL-D. *[For detailed ruling refer Section-III (2)(iv)]*

**v) Extension of Load**

In case a consumer applies for an additional load/contract demand i.e. extension of load and if the REL-D's release of additional load/contract demand entails any new works, the Commission allows REL-D to recover the normative charges for the total load/contract demand (existing as well as additional load) as per the applicable load slabs indicated in **Annexure-2**.

**vi) Visit Charges**

The Commission sees reason in the argument that the consumer would requisition a visit only on need based requirement and not on frivolous ground. Such visits are most of the times part of the licensee's function but Rule 53 of IE Rules 1956 permits such charges under specific conditions of inspection and testing of consumer's installation. Hence the Commission approves a nominal visit charge, which will be



applicable only for the subsequent visits. [For detailed ruling refer Section-III (2)(vi)]

### **3) Reconnection**

#### **3.1 REL-D's Proposal**

REL-D has proposed to charge Rs. 1000/- per application towards Reconnection charges from all consumer categories.

#### **3.2 Objections**

ECAM submitted that the charges to the extent shown under "Reconnection" are uncalled for, as the same does not require the removal of infrastructure. Further, on many occasions, there are multiple meters connected to one location and only one particular energy meter requires to be removed. The basis of calculation of charges should not be similar to that of "New Connection", as proposed under paragraph 8 to "Notes". Thus charging on actual or the existing charges of Rs. 20/- for residential consumers and Rs. 50/- for commercial consumers should be continued.

#### **3.3 REL-D's response**

The consumers are disconnected for not paying their dues in stipulated time and the supply is to be restored within 24hrs after the payment is received. Thus, in spite of the default of consumer, such reconnection gets a priority above the new connection applications. This involves considerable rescheduling of manpower and resource deployment. The proposed higher charges also act as deterrent for the consumers and to motivate them to pay the bills on time and in not becoming a defaulter.

#### **3.4 Commission's Ruling**

Considering the provision in Section 56 of the Act, wherein it is expressly mentioned that the licensee can recover the cost incurred for cutting off and reconnecting supply, the Commission opines that reasonable charges reflecting the cost involved may be levied. The Commission approves the charges proposed by REL-D for reconnection as indicated in **Annexure-3**. [For detailed ruling refer Section-III (3)]

### **4) Reduction of Load/Change in Contract Demand**

#### **4.1 REL-D's Proposal**

REL-D has proposed to charge Rs. 500/- per application towards Reduction of Load/Change in Contract Demand from all consumer categories.

#### **4.2 Objections**

ECAM stated that the period of limitation of six months, as proposed under paragraph 9 to "Notes" of REL-D's proposal, vis-à-vis charges under "Reduction of Load/Change in Contract Demand" is absolutely uncalled for as consumers demand for reduction of load/ change in contract demand only in extraordinary and exceptional cases. REL-D should be directed to produce documentary evidences if it claims that there are innumerable cases of consumers unnecessarily claiming for alteration of load/ contract demand.



### **4.3 REL-D's response**

Generally the work involved is no different than as has been explained above under "Extension of Load".

### **4.4 Commission's Ruling**

The Commission rejects the charges proposed by REL-D for reduction of Load. However, the Commission allows REL-D to charge on actual basis the cost of replacement of CTs, if any.

As regards increase in contract demand, if the release of additional load/contract demand entails any new works, the Commission allows REL-D to recover the normative charges for the total load/contract demand (existing as well as additional load) as per the applicable load slabs indicated in **Annexure-2**. [For detailed ruling refer Section-III (4)]

## **5) Testing Charges of Energy Meters**

### **5.1 REL-D's Proposal**

REL-D has proposed to charge Rs. 200/- per meter test for Accu-check testing at consumer premises for single and three phase meters. Further, REL-D has proposed to charge Rs. 500/- per meter test for testing at their Laboratory for single and three phase meters.

### **5.2 Objections**

ECAM stated that the charges to the extent shown under "Testing Charges of Energy Meters" are further uncalled for. REL-D is a distribution licensee in a consumer-oriented industry and therefore it should provide some basic services to its consumers on gratis. A consumer would request for change of meter only when there is some fault in the meter. Charges should be only to the extent involved in the physical replacement of meter, which may further be covered in the Annual Revenue Requirement. REL-D should not charge separately high rates as the faulty meters may be repaired and used in the future. Further, consumers do not trust the meter-test results arrived at by REL-D and the Commission should permit consumers to test meters in certain private laboratories, whose reports should be binding on REL-D.

### **5.3 REL-D's response**

As per Section 55 of the Act, a Distribution Licensee provides the meter in accordance with the Regulation notified by Central Electricity Authority. The meter testing undertaken by the licensee on its own initiative, including vigilance, is not being charged to the consumers. In addition if the meter is tested on consumer request and found with accuracy beyond permissible limits, in such cases also the charges are not levied to the consumer.

Generally the consumer participation is requested, subject to his or his representative availability at the time of meter testing at site by Accu-check. Further the meter testing at REL's laboratory is undertaken after intimation is sent to the consumer for his option to be present for the testing.



Further as the regulation provides, the consumer has an option to request the meter to be tested at any Govt. Accredited Laboratory. In addition the consumer has freedom to procure his own meter and meet the requirement as per Regulations.

#### **5.4 Commission's Ruling**

The Commission approves the charges for testing of meters as indicated in **Annexure-3**. The testing charges approved shall be applicable only in case the consumer requests REL-D to test the meter. *[For detailed ruling refer Section-III (5)]*

### **6) Charges for Dishonoured Cheques**

#### **6.1 REL-D's Proposal**

REL-D has proposed to charge Rs. 250/- per instance towards Dishonoured Cheques from all consumer categories.

#### **6.2 Objections**

ECAM stated that the penalty of Rs. 250/- under "Charges for Dishonoured Cheques" should not be allowed, as it is higher than charges levied by banks. If cheques get dishonoured due to any technical issue, a nominal amount may be charged. Penal interests may be charged only on those consumers whose cheques often get dishonoured.

Shri. Mone submitted that for dishonoured cheques, no electrical technicality is involved on the part of REL-D. The functions being solely administrative, the rate proposed against the same is not reasonable. Charging Rs. 250/- for the dishonour of cheques is absolutely baseless. Further, an alternate remedy is available under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

#### **6.3 REL-D's response**

A dishonoured cheque when returned from a bank involves a lot of time, including in sending communication to the consumer, bank reconciliation/transaction recording etc. and thus the charges were proposed considering these issues. The charges also include the element of costs levied by the bank to licensee. These charges get levied only to the defaulting consumers and thus also act as a mean to remind such consumers to be diligent.

#### **6.4 Commission's Ruling**

The Commission approves the charges towards compensation of bank charges and REL-D's administrative charges towards each of such specific cases as indicated in **Annexure-3**. *[For detailed ruling refer Section-III (6)]*

### **7) Charges for Change of name**

#### **7.1 REL-D's Proposal**

REL-D has proposed to charge Rs. 500/- per application towards Change of name from all consumer categories.



## **7.2 Objections**

ECAM stated that the charges of Rs. 500/- as provided under “Charges for Change of Name” are undesirable and uncalled for as it does not take more than 5 to 10 minutes to effect a documental change of name. Such service should be actually provided on gratis.

Shri. Mone submitted that for change of name, no electrical technicality is involved on the part of REL-D. The functions being solely administrative, the rate proposed against the same is not reasonable.

## **7.3 REL-D’s response**

The procedure for change of name involves closing of the old consumer account, which includes the change of consumer number, consumer master which extends to all relevant changes required in meter reading and billing programme. This also involves verification of the documents submitted, and at times ‘on site verification’ etc. Accordingly the charges have been proposed.

## **7.4 Commission’s Ruling**

Basically, effecting change of name involves administrative procedures. The Commission has considered the administrative charges for change of name under the heading ‘Application registration and Processing Charges’. In view of above, the Commission rejects the proposal of REL-D to levy separate charges for change of name.

## **8) Charges for photocopy or printed copies of Regulatory orders etc.**

### **8.1 REL-D’s Proposal**

REL-D has proposed to charge Rs. 2/- per page towards charges for photocopies or printed copies of Regulatory orders etc. from all consumer categories.

### **8.2 Objections**

ECAM submitted that a charge of Rs.2/- per page as provided under “Charges of photocopies or printed copies of Regulatory Orders” is high when compared to the market rate for photocopying applicable in the city of Mumbai is only 50 paise per page.

### **8.3 REL-D’s response**

The charges mentioned in the Proposed SOC circulated are nominal considering the upkeep and maintenance at various locations with selective consumer request.

### **8.4 Commission’s Ruling**

The Commission approves the rate thought reasonable at current market trend for photocopies or printed copies of Regulatory orders etc. and the same is indicated in **Annexure-3**.



### **III - COMMISSION'S ANALYSIS, TARIFF PHILOSOPHY AND DECISION ON ITEMWISE SCHEDULE OF CHARGES**

#### **1) Document Processing Fees**

As per Supply code regulation 4, in respect of Application for supply, the applicant is required to submit various documents and details. Besides, as per Regulation no. 4.1(ix), consumer is required to pay fee for processing the application or receipt thereof, based on schedule of charges approved by the Commission under Regulation 18. The Commission therefore allows REL-D to collect a token amount towards the application processing or receipt thereof as indicated in **Annexure-1**.

#### **2) New Connections/ Shifting of Services/ Temporary Connections/ Meter Change/Burnt Meter & Lost Meter Replacement Charges/ Extension of Load**

##### **i) New connection**

Section 46 of EA, 2003 provides that the State Commission may by Regulation; authorize the Distribution Licensee to charge from a person requiring supply of electricity, any expenses reasonably incurred in providing any electric line or electrical plant used for the purpose of giving that supply.

Thus as per the Act, powers are vested with the Commission to formulate Regulations specifying the principles for recovering the expenses involved in releasing the connections, which are set out in Regulation 3 of MERC (Supply Code and Other Conditions of Supply) Regulations, 2005.

Regulation 3.3.2 of Electricity Supply Code authorizes the Distribution licensee to recover all expenses, reasonably incurred in laying down service line from the distribution mains to applicant's premises, from the applicant. Thus the applicant is required to pay the entire cost of Service connection from the distributing main to his premise.

The proposal of REL-D to recover charges on normative basis is in line with the Regulation 3.3.1 of Supply Code Regulations. However, REL-D has proposed flat rate of normative charges irrespective of the sanctioned load/contract demand. Normally the size and cost of cable and major items involved in REL-D releasing the connection depends on the load to be catered. In other words the normative cost should have relevance with the load applied by the consumer. Further, while proposing the normative charges, REL-D has made distinction between residential, commercial and industrial categories. However, the normative charges should be based on the load to be catered instead of category-based distinction.

The Commission therefore, directs REL-D to charge service connection charges based on the load slabs. The normative Service Connection Charges as approved by the Commission are indicated in **Annexure-2**.



### **ii) Shifting of Services**

For the licensee, 'shifting of service' inside consumer premises, is like a dedicated activity meant for that particular consumer. In view of above, the Commission rejects REL-D's proposal for shifting of service and directs REL-D to charge actual cost involved in shifting of service.

The charges for 'Shifting of Services' will be applicable only in cases where the shifting is to be done at the request of the consumer. However, when REL-D desires to get the service shifted, then the cost of such shifting shall be entirely borne by REL-D.

### **iii) Temporary Connections**

Regulation 3.3.6 of Supply Code authorizes the licensee to recover all expenses reasonably incurred for the purpose of giving temporary supply & for the purpose of discontinuance of such temporary supply. Where the works relating to such temporary supply are carried out by the licensee and paid for by the person requiring such temporary supply, then such person shall receive credit for the depreciated value of such works at the time of discontinuance of such temporary supply and return of facilities to the licensee.

In view of above, the Commission rejects REL-D's proposed charges for temporary connection and directs REL-D to charge the actual cost involved in giving temporary supply.

### **iv) Meter Change/Burnt Meter & Lost Meter Replacement Charges**

As per Section 55 of the Act, it is the responsibility of licensee to supply electricity through installation of correct meter in accordance with the regulations made in this regard by the Authority i.e. CEA.

The Government of India has notified CEA (Installation & Operation of Meters) Regulation, 2006 on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2006. As per Regulation 6(2)(a) of CEA (Installation & Operation of Meters) Regulation, 2006, '*consumer meters shall generally be owned by the licensee*'.

The above provision implies that the licensee should provide meter for new connection and the cost of meter shall be borne by the licensee, except where a consumer elects to purchase the meter from licensee.

Further, as per Regulation 14.2 of Supply Code, the Distribution licensee may recover the price of new meter from the consumer towards replacement of Lost/ Burnt meters.

REL-D has given normative charges for Burnt & Lost meter under common heading "New Connections/ Shifting of Services/ Temporary Connections/ Meter Change/Burnt Meter & Lost Meter Replacement Charges/ Extension of Load". However, REL-D has not furnished cost of meter applicable in case of replacement against lost/burnt meters separately. In view of above, the Commission allows REL-D to charge the cost of meter as indicated in **Annexure-3**. The costs approved are based on the Commission's assessment of market rates of static meters, which would be applicable only in case of a burnt or a lost meter or where a consumer opts to purchase the meter from REL-D.



#### **v) Extension of Load**

In case a consumer applies for an additional load/contract demand i.e. extension of load and if the release of additional load/contract demand entails any new works, the Commission allows REL-D to recover the normative charges for the total load/contract demand (existing as well as additional load) as per the applicable load slabs indicated in **Annexure-2**.

#### **vi) Visit Charges**

Regulation 9 of Supply Code provides that the wiring of consumer's premises shall conform to the standards specified in the Indian Electricity Rules, 1956. As per Rule 47, it is the duty of the supplier to inspect & test applicant's installation before connecting the supply. As per Rule 53(1), the cost of first inspection & testing of a consumer's installation carried out in pursuance of the provisions of Rule 47 shall be borne by the supplier & the cost of every subsequent inspection & test shall be borne by the consumer.

REL-D has proposed the visit charges if consumer premises on visit at the appointed day are found to be incomplete or wiring is defective or consumer representative fails to be present. However the Commission notes that consumers normally do not make frivolous requisition for visits of the licensee for installation testing. In view of above, the Commission approves the nominal visit charge of Rs 25/- (Twenty Five) only per visit, which will be applicable only for the subsequent visits and not for the first visit for inspection and testing. Refer **Annexure-3**.

#### **3) Reconnection**

Section 56 of Electricity Act, 2003 empowers the licensee to discontinue electric supply to the consumer for non-payment of electricity bills after following the due procedure laid down under the Act. It further says that the supply can be discontinued until such charge or other sum, together with any expenses incurred by him in cutting off and reconnecting the supply, has been paid.

The Commission approves a flat charge of Rs. 50/- (Fifty) only for restoration of supply of LT consumer and Rs. 200/- (Two Hundred) only for HT consumer as indicated in **Annexure-3**.

#### **4) Reduction of Load/Change in Contract Demand**

Basically, reduction of load/contract demand involves only administrative procedures except in cases where replacement of Current Transformer (CT) is required. The Commission has considered the administrative charges for reduction of load under the heading 'Application registration and Processing Charges'. In view of above, the Commission rejects the charges proposed by REL-D for reduction of Load. However, the Commission allows REL-D to charge on actual basis the cost of replacement of CTs, if any.

At Para 9 of 'Notes' of the proposal, REL-D has proposed that Extension of load and change of load or contract demand can be done once in six months only. To avoid frequent applications for reduction of load/contract demand by the consumer in order to manoeuvre his 'billing demand', the condition proposed by REL-D is accepted only in case of reduction of load/ contract demand.



As regards increase in contract demand, if the release of additional load/contract demand entails any new works, the Commission allows REL-D to recover the normative charges for the total load/contract demand (existing as well as additional load) as per the applicable load slabs indicated in **Annexure-2**.

#### **5) Testing Charges of Energy Meters**

Supply Code Regulation 14.4 covers testing & maintenance of meters. As per regulation 14.4.1, the distribution licensee shall be responsible for periodic testing & maintenance of all consumers' meters.

As per regulation 14.4.2, the consumer may, upon payment of such testing charges as may be approved by the Commission under regulation 18, request the distribution licensee to test accuracy of the meter.

As per regulation 14.4.3, the distribution licensee shall provide a copy of meter test report within a period of two months from the date of request for the testing of the meter by the consumer.

As per regulation 14.4.4, in the event of the meter being tested & found beyond the limits of accuracy as prescribed under Regulation 8 of CEA (Installation & Operation of Meters) Regulation, 2006 under section 55 of the Act, the distribution licensee shall refund the testing charges paid by the consumer & adjust the amount of bill in accordance with the results of the test. Subject to the above provisions in the Supply Code Regulations, the Commission approves the charges for testing of meters as indicated in **Annexure-3**. The testing charges approved shall be applicable only in case the consumer requests REL-D to test the meter.

#### **6) Charges for Dishonoured Cheques**

When a cheque is dishonoured, it is considered to be a serious offence as per Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act. The Commission therefore approves the charges towards compensation of bank charges and other costs as indicated in **Annexure-3**.

#### **7) Charges for Change of name**

Basically, effecting change of name involves administrative procedures like processing of documents and making relevant entries in consumer's personal ledger and meter reading and billing programme, which is a part of routine work of the licensee. As regards application processing fee the Commission has considered the same under the heading 'Application registration and Processing Charges'. In view of above, the Commission rejects the proposal of REL-D to levy separate charges for change of name.

#### **8) Charges for photocopy or printed copies of Regulatory orders etc.**

The Commission approves the rate thought reasonable at current market trend for photocopies or printed copies of Regulatory orders etc. and the same is indicated in **Annexure-3**.



## **Applicability & Validity:**

The entire Schedule of Charges as approved by the Commission shall be applicable with effect from November 2, 2006 and will continue to remain in force till further orders.

REL-D is directed to promptly disseminate instructions upto zone level to stop recovering charges at existing rates & issue necessary commercial circular (vetted by the Commission) within 7 days from the date of this order. This circular so dispatched should also be made available on REL-D's website.

Sd/-  
(S. B. Kulkarni)  
Member

Sd/-  
(A. Velayutham)  
Member

Sd/-  
(Dr. Pramod Deo)  
Chairman, MERC



(Malini Shankar)  
Secretary, MERC

## APPENDIX -I

### List of Objectors to the REL-D's Schedule of Charges

Sr. No.	Name & address of the objector
1	Ms. Anjali D. Pandit, Prince Hospitality, 178, Road No. 2, Jawahar Nagar, Goregaon (W), Mumbai – 400 062
2	Shri K.H. Gokhale, 4B-203, Bhaktiyog Society, Paranjape Nagar, L.T. Road, Borivli (W), Mumbai – 400 091
3	Shri Sambhaji Mohanrao Shitole, C/13, Laxmi Chawl, Annambhau Sathe Nagar, G.M. Link Road, Mankhurd, Mumbai – 400 043
4	Shri Shantilal Patel, Proprietor, Anajil Electric Works, Laxmi Gauri Chawl, Room No. 7, Kokni Pada, Kurar Village, Malad (East), Mumbai – 400 097.
5	Shri Shujaul Hasan R. Saiyed, Joint Secretary, Bombay Regional Congress Committee (I), Insa Hutments, Azad Maidan, Maharashtra Road, Mumbai – 400 001.
6	Adv. Milind V. Gandbhir, President, Grahak Sanrakshan Manch, BJP Office, New Agripada, Aliyavar Jung Road, Santacruz (East), Mumbai – 400 055.
7	Shri Abhijit Samant, President, Grahak Sanrakshan Manch, Sw. Savarkar Sankul, Near Rahul Apt., Kadamwadi, Marol, Andheri (E), Mumbai – 400 059.
8	Shri R. Abrol, Bombay Small Scale Industries Association, Madhu Compound, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Sonawala Cross Road No. 2, Goregaon (E), Mumbai – 400 063.
9	Shri Pankaj Muni, Electrical Contractors' Association of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
10	Shri P.B. Samant, Meghdoot, Samantwadi, Opp. Railway Station, Goregaon (East), Mumbai – 400 063.
11	Shri R.D. Sankpal, Samata chawl, Maharashtra nagar, Mankhurd, Mumbai-400088.
12	Dr. Mrs. U. K. Sharma, 10, Deonar Co-operative Housing Society, B.S.D. Marg, Opp. Lakme, Deonar, Mumbai-400088.
13	Shri Suresh Mehta, Executive Trustee, Mumbai Citizens and Commuter's Trust, C-201, Krishnanagari, S.V. Road, Borivali (W), Mumbai-400092.
14	Shri Ravi Anand, Electricity Consumers Association
15	Shri Manohar Panshikar, 4/10, Wimbeldon Park, J K Gram, Thane- 400606.
16	Shri Aslam R. Shaikh, Municipal Councillor, MCGM.



## APPENDIX –II

### Existing SOC vis-à-vis Proposed SOC

A.	Document Processing Fees	Proposed Charges	Existing Charges
A1	Application Processing Charges (payable at the time of application by all consumer categories)	Rs. 150/- per application	
B.	New Connections/ Shifting of Services/Temporary connections/ Meter Change/Burnt Meter & Lost meter replacement Charges/ Extension of Load	Proposed Charges	Existing Charges
	Connection Fee for new installation;		Rs. 6/-
	Connection from same service in same name for each additional connection;		Rs. 3/-
	Meter Change		Actual Cost + 15%
B1	Residential Single Phase Connection	Rs. 2,000/- per connection	
B2	Residential Three Phase Connection	Rs. 3,500/- per connection	
B3	Commercial Single Phase Connection	Rs. 3,000/- per connection	
B4	Commercial Three Phase Connection	Rs. 7,000/- per connection	
B5	Industrial Load less than 150 kW	Rs. 7,000/- per connection	
B6	All loads greater than 150 kW at 11 kV (Supply at voltages greater than 11 kV will be on actual)	Rs. 7.50 Lac for VCB/SF6 switchgear and Rs. 2.75 Lac for Oil type switchgear	
B7	If consumer premises on visit at the appointed day are found to be incomplete or wiring is defective or consumer representative fails to be present	Rs. 100/- every such visit	



<b>C.</b>	<b>Reconnection</b>	<b>Proposed Charges</b>	<b>Existing Charges</b>
C1	For all Consumer Categories	Rs. 1,000/- per application	Rs. 20/- for LF1 Rs. 50/- for others
C2	If consumer premises on visit at the appointed day are found to be incomplete or wiring is defective or consumer representative fails to be present	Rs. 100/- every such visit	Rupee one in case of low and medium voltage supplies Rs. 10/- in case of high voltage supplies

<b>D.</b>	<b>Reduction of Load/Change in Contract Demand</b>	<b>Proposed Charges</b>	<b>Existing Charges</b>
D1	For all Consumer Categories	Rs. 500/- per application	Actual Cost + 15%
D2	If consumer premises on visit at the appointed day are found to be incomplete or wiring is defective or consumer representative fails to be present	Rs. 100/- every such visit	Rupee one in case of low and medium voltage supplies Rs. 10/- in case of high voltage supplies

<b>E.</b>	<b>Testing Charges of Energy Meters</b>	<b>Proposed Charges</b>	<b>Existing Charges</b>
E1	Single Phase and Three Phase Energy Meter (Accu Check Test Only) at Consumer Premises	Rs. 200/- per meter test	Rs. 5/- for single phase  Rs. 10/- for poly phase  Rs. 30/- for high voltage supplies per meter
E2	Single Phase and Three Phase Energy Meter (Test at REL-D's Laboratory)	Rs. 500/- per meter test	



<b>F.</b>	<b>Charges for Dishonored Cheques</b>	<b>Proposed Charges</b>	<b>Existing Charges</b>
F1	For all Consumer Categories	Rs. 250/- per instance of dishonoured cheque	

<b>G.</b>	<b>Charges for Change of Name</b>	<b>Proposed Charges</b>	<b>Existing Charges</b>
G1	For all Consumer Categories	Rs. 500/- per application	Rs. 2/-

<b>H.</b>	<b>Charges for photocopies or printed copies of Regulatory Orders etc</b>	<b>Proposed Charges</b>	<b>Existing Charges</b>
H1	For all Consumer Categories	Rs. Two per page	

Note:

The existing charges are applicable from 1965 onwards. Only Reconnection Charges have been amended from 14-11-1991 and Security Deposit from 12-5-1998 onwards.



<b>Annexure - 1</b>			
<b>SCHEDULE OF RATES</b>			
<b>Application Registration &amp; Processing Charges</b>			
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Proposed by REL-D (Rs.)</b>	<b>Approved by MERC (Rs.) **</b>
1	Application for New connections/ Reduction or addition of Load/ Shifting of service/ Extension of service/ Restoration of Supply/ Temporary connection/Change of name		
	a) Single phase	150	25
	b) Three phase		50
	c) HT supply		150

\*\* - As per Commission's Order dated November 2, 2006 (Case No. 25 of 2006).



Annexure-2			
SCHEDULE OF RATES			
Service Connection Charges for New Connection and Extension of Load*			
Sr. No.	REL-D's Proposal	As approved by MERC **	
		Category	Service Connection charges in (Rs.)
1	<u>Residential:</u> a) Single phase - 2000/- b) Three phase - 3500/-	<b>L.T. Supply</b>	
	<u>Commercial:</u> a) Single phase - 3000/- b) Three phase - 7000/-	<b>Single Phase</b>	
		For loads upto 5 kW	1500
		Loads above 5 kW and upto 10 kW	2000
	<u>Industrial:</u> a) Less than 150 kW at L.V. - 7000/- b) More than 150 kW at 11 kV with VCB/SF6 switchgear - 7,50000/- c) More than 150 kW at 11 kV with Oil type switchgear - 2,75000/- d) Supply at voltages more than 11kV will be at actuals.	<b>Three Phase</b>	
		Motive power upto 27 HP or other loads upto 20 kW	3000
		Motive power above 27 HP but upto 67 HP or other loads above 20 kW but upto 50 kW	4500
		Motive power above 67 HP but upto 201 HP or other loads above 50 kW but upto 150 kW	7000
2		<b>H.T. Supply (with VCB)</b>	
		For loads upto 500 kVA	275000
		Loads above 500 kVA	300000
3	Shifting of services on consumer's request – rates proposed as above	Shifting of services, if carried out only on consumer's request	At actual
4	Temporary Connection – rates proposed as above	Temporary connection	At actual <sup>\$\$</sup>

\* - In case of extension of load, the charges will be applicable on the total load (existing as well as additional load demanded) as per the load slabs indicated above.

\*\* - As per Commission's Order dated November 2, 2006 (Case No. 25 of 2006).

\$\$ - As per Regulation 3.3.6 of the Supply Code.



<b>Annexure-3</b>			
<b>SCHEDULE OF RATES</b>			
<b>Miscellaneous and General Charges</b>			
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Proposed by REL-D (Rs.)</b>	<b>Approved by MERC (Rs.) **</b>
1	<b>Reconnection charges</b>		
	L.T. Service at cut-outs -		
	Single Phase		50
	Three Phase	1000	50
	H.T. Supply	1000	200
2	<b>Visit Charges (only for new connection or additional supply request)</b>	100	25 (Only in case of subsequent visit for inspection and test of consumer installation and not for the first visit)
3	<b>Charges for dishonoured cheque</b>	250	250 (irrespective of cheque amount)
4	<b>Testing of meters</b>		
	<b>i) at site by Accucheck</b>		
	Single phase		50
	Three phase	200	200
	<b>ii) at REL-D's laboratory</b>		
	Single phase		100
	Three phase	500	300
	H.T. Trivector / TOD meter		500
5	<b>Cost of meter (applicable in case consumer opts to purchase the meter from REL-D &amp; in case of Lost and Burnt meter)</b>		
	Single phase Meter		700
	Three phase whole current Meter		3000
	Three phase CT operated Meter		5500
	H.T. TOD Meter		5500
6	Charges for photocopying or printed copies of Regulatory orders etc.	2 - per page	1 - per page

\*\* - As per Commission's Order dated November 2, 2006 (Case No. 25 of 2006).

