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62888/Gen-Misc-2/E4 (U-4)

12 Sep 2018

List 'A' and 'B'

**AUTOMATION OF METERING AND TRIAL OF PREPAID METERS &  
AMR ENABLED ELECTRIC METERS**

1. A presentation cum discussion was held at E-in-C's Branch on 28 Aug 18 to take stock of pilot projects on prepaid meters. The meeting was chaired by E-in-C, and attended by representatives of CEs Central Command & Southern Command, CE Delhi Zone, CWEs (Pithoragarh, Agra, & No 2 Delhi Cantt) and GEs ((W) Delhi Cantt & Nasirabad).

2. The presentation were made by Dir (U) E-in-C's Branch, CWEs Pithoragarh, Agra, No 2 Delhi Cantt and representative of CE Southern Command. Dir (U) in his presentation covered concept, benefits and limitations of various metering technologies like AMR enabled meters, prepaid meters etc. Instructions on prepaid meters by MoD as well as E-in-C's Br including Government's plan to shift all connections to smart prepaid meters over the next three years reported in the media were also highlighted.

3. Various issues on the subject matter were deliberated upon in detail and the directions on the same are reproduced in succeeding paragraphs.

4. **CWE Pithoragarh**

(a) The CWE presented brief details of the pilot project sanctioned at Ranikhet Mil Stn. Under the project total 1092 prepaid meters for married accommodation of Officers, PBOR and Defence Civilians were sanctioned.

(i) Installation & activation of prepaid meters were completed in five phases. Last phase of the work was completed on 30 Oct 17. Post installation methodologies adopted for its activation, recharge & operation were deliberated upon.

(ii) He also highlighted impact on revenue collection, electricity consumption and tariff payment for the period of 11 months after use of prepaid meters in the station. Salient outcomes projected by the CWE are as under:-

(aa) Average revenue collection from married accommodation has increased substantially.

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(ab) In spite of increase in electricity tariff by the SEB during the period, the electricity bills of the station has reduced by 10%.

(ac) Electricity consumption has reduced by 13 %.

(iii) Certain challenges faced while implementation of prepaid metering technology were also highlighted by the CWE as under:-

(aa) Nonavailability of separate account for smooth recharge process.

(ab) Continuous efforts towards user education.

(ac) Manual effort involved in periodic changes like change in tariff etc to be carried out in each meter.

(ad) Monopoly of a particular vendor and interoperability due to multiplicity of vendors.

(ae) Requirement of training to concerned staff.

(b) **Directions**

(i) Installation of only smart prepaid meters be carried out.

(ii) To facilitate smooth recharge & flexibility in refund of balance credit E2W (PPC) to take up the case with CGDA for sanctioning of a separate account to CWE Pithoragarh.

5. **CWE Agra** The CWE presented brief details of the pilot project sanctioned at Agra Mil Stn. Till date out of 3900 prepaid meters to be installed, only 400 meters have been activated. Further he assured that installation and activation of balance meters will be completed by 31 Dec 18.

(a) Certain addl features, listed below being incorporated in the work were highlighted by the CWE:-

(i) Recharge of prepaid meters through Soft Token Transfer Device (STTD) & Consumer Interface Unit (CIU).

(ii) With the approval of CDA Meerut one separate bank account is being operated by concerned GE, the same has smoothened the recharge and refund process of balance credit.

(iii) Use of POS for charging of the meters through card (cashless recharge).

- (b) Certain challenges faced while execution were projected as under:-
- (i) Payment of transaction charge like bank charges on POS transactions and token recharge transaction by the vendor.
  - (ii) Only one vending station per GE, puts huge time and work pressure.
  - (iii) Delayed implementation of tariff changes.
  - (iv) Users resistance in switching over from conventional metering to prepaid metering.
  - (v) Separate sanction for use of AC(s) by the occupants.

(c) **Directions**

- (i) CWE should expedite early completion of the wk.
- (ii) A case will be taken up with all Service HQs for issue of necessary instructions to lower formations for implementation and use of prepaid meters.
- (iii) Impact on electricity consumption, saving and revenue collection after installation of prepaid meters be forwarded by the CWE.
- (iv) Separate sanction for use of AC(s) is required if overall load demand exceeds authorised load of the DU.

6. **CWE No 2 Delhi Cantt** The CWE presented brief details of AMR enabled meters installed at one of the officers colony of Delhi Cantt.

- (a) He has also highlighted benefits/challenges of AMR.

(b) **Directions**

- (i) Installation of prepaid meters in commercial ventures be expedited.
- (ii) Impact on electricity consumption, saving and revenue collection after installation of AMR enabled meters be forwarded.

7. **CE Southern Command** Col Wks HQ CE Southern Command presented brief on prepaid meters installed/ under plg at various stations under AOR of Southern Command. However its impact on revenue collection, saving in electricity and electric tariff were not included in the presentation, which he was asked to forward at an early date.

8. **Closing Remarks** The E-in-C remarked the progress of installation of prepaid meters at various stations and its impact on electricity consumption as well revenue generation. Merits/demerits of prepaid metering system were also brought to the notice of the E-in-C by various stake holders. He directed for expeditious compilation of inputs from all CEs command for finalisations of policy letter on the subject.

9. In view of the above, you are requested to forward feedback on the pilot projects in your area of jurisdictions including its impact on electricity consumption, savings and revenue collection by 20 Oct 18 positively.

  
(A K Dubey, IDSE)  
SE  
Dir Wks (U)

Copy to:-

CWE Pithoragarh

CWE Agra

CWE No 2 Delhi Cantt

} For info & necessary action pl.

Internal

TS to DGW

ADG ESP

} : For info pl.

E2W (PPC)

: For info & taking up the case for separate account to  
CWE Pithoragarh with CGDA pl.

Automation Cell

: To upload on MES website pl.