

INFORMATION FOR ALL LT CONSUMERS OF APDCL

Subject: **Methodology for conversion of LT postpaid connections (having smart meters installed) into prepaid connections**

As per Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 notified by Ministry of Power, Govt. of India on 31.12.2020, no electricity service connection shall be given without a meter and such meter shall be the smart pre-payment meter or pre-payment meter; (provided in **Annexure – A**)

Moreover, the Government of India has notified 31.03.2025 as the targeted timeline for the replacement of existing meters with smart meters with prepayment feature vide gazette notification no. F.No. 23/35/2019-R&R dtd. 17.08.2021 in pursuance to the provisions made in clause 4(1) (b) of the Central Electricity Authority (Installation and Operation of Meters) (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 framed under sub-section (1) of section 55 read with clause(c) of sub-section (2) of section 177 of the Electricity Act, 2003; (Provided in **Annexure – B**)

Further, Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC) vide its order dated 07.11.2022 against miscellaneous petition no. 11/2022 of APDCL has allowed for rollout of smart prepaid meters in the state of Assam; (Provided in **Annexure – C**)

Therefore, in order to comply with the above rules and regulations, Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) has started conversion of all the existing LT postpaid connections, having electricity supplied through smart meters, into prepaid connections with effect from 1st January 2023 in a phased manner.

During this conversion process, following methodology shall be followed:

1. The billing system of APDCL will calculate the outstanding amount receivable against the consumer based on the last consumption of the old meter and the deposited load security/ advance payment etc. will be adjusted with the final bill.
2. The deposited Load security amount, if any, shall be treated as zero w.e.f. the date of conversion. (As per sub-section 5 of Section 47 of Electricity Act' 2003)

3. In case of consumers having outstanding amount, the following process will be applicable in line with advisory issued by Ministry of Power, Govt. of India, to find the daily arrear recovery installment amount (Provided in **Annexure – D**):
 - a. System will first calculate the average monthly bill amount of the consumer based on consumption of the last three months.
 - b. 25% of this amount shall be considered as the monthly arrear recovery amount which will be further divided by a factor of 30 (Thirty) to calculate the daily arrear installment amount.
 - c. The Daily installment amount, thus calculated, will be deducted from the prepaid balance of the consumer every day.
4. In case of a consumer having excess Load Security deposit and advance payment than the outstanding amount, the excess amount shall be credited to the prepaid balance on a daily installment basis.
5. A smart prepaid consumer, immediately after conversion may not have a credit balance and as such in order to enable to the consumer to replenish his/her prepaid balance, **no disconnection of such consumers shall happen up to 72 hours from the date of conversion** irrespective of the balance/outstanding amount. SMS intimation shall be sent in this regard.
6. SMS intimation shall be sent to all consumers about the outstanding amount, daily installment amount, etc. at the time of conversion.
7. Recharge of prepaid meters and checking of prepaid balance facilities have been provided in www.apdcl.org and MyBijulee mobile app.

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Chief General Manager (PP&D), APDCL