

TPCODL

By, e-mail

TPCODL/Tech. / DEC/83

3918

Date: 11 MAY 2022

To

All the Circle Heads.

TPCODL.

Sub: Convening meetings of District Electricity Committee (DEC) & furnishing of MoM thereof.

Ref: - 1. T.O letter no 11653 dated 01.11.2021.

2. Letter no 11226-dated 29.11.2021 of Principal Secretary to Govt. communicated vide T.O letter no 12823 dated 09.12.2021

3. This office endorsement no 2530 dated 31.03.2022 contain clarification DoE vide letter no 2720 dated 30.03.2022

4. Letter no 3619-dated 27.04.2022 of FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt..

Dear Sirs,

Enclosed please find the directives from Govt. vide the letter under reference (4) which is self-explanatory. As categorically stated therein and specifically pointed out, the respective Circle Heads has been declared as the convener of the DEC and the District Collector as the Member Secretary of DEC. They should appraise the formation of Committee to all the Members and Chairperson as well as convene DEC meetings at regular intervals with specific Agenda for all Govt. funded Projects and Public grievances as per Clause 2 (i) to (vi) of letter vide ref.(2). They should also take follow up action as per decision of the meeting of DEC at appropriate level and place the Action Taken Report in the Agenda of the next DEC meeting.

Accordingly, the following Circle Heads are designated as the Nodal Officer-cum-Convenor for the Districts mentioned against them and shall be responsible for taking suitable action as per Notification of DoE for convening the meeting and reporting the MoMs at regular intervals to HQ Office for further submission to DoE, GoO measures as well as reporting against all Govt. Schemes works at District level.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Circle Head-BBSR-I | - | Khurda |
| 2. Circle Head-BBSR-II | - | Puri & Nayagarh |
| 3. Circle Head -Cuttack | - | Cuttack |
| 4. Circle Head - Dhenkanal | - | Dhenkanal & Angul |
| 5. Circle-Head - Paradeep | - | Kendrapara & Jagatsinghpur |

TP CENTRAL ODISHA DISTRIBUTION LIMITED

(A Tata Power and Odisha Government Joint Venture)

Corporate Office : IDCO Towers, 2nd Floor, Janpath, Bhubaneswar - 751022.

www.tpcentralodisha.com


TPCODL

Therefore, you are requested to co-ordinate with the respective Collectors of the Districts towards appraisal to all the members regarding formation of the Committee as well as convene the meeting at the earliest. The action taken report along with MoM of the meetings may please be furnished to this office for appraisal of CEO and submission to Govt.

This may be treated as urgent.

With Regards

Encl. – As above


Chief General Manager (Tech)
TPCODL, Bhubaneswar

C.C :

1. All the DMs for information and follow up.
2. Chief Operation Services, TPCODL.
3. Chief (Commercial Officer)
4. Chief (Regulatory & Govt. Affairs), TPCODL.
5. Chief IT Services for uploading in TPCODL website.
6. TA to CEO.
7. FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt.
8. District Collector Khurda/ Puri / Nayagarh /Cuttack / Dhenkhal / Angul / Kendrapara & Jagatsinghpur.

(Ref-1)

TPCODL

By, e-mail

(29)

Ref. No. Tech/DEC/03-2021/

11653

Date. = 1 NOV 2021

To

All Circle Head
TPCODL

Sub:- Constitution of District Electricity Committees.

- Ref:- 1) Letter No. F No.42/17/20211-RE (206787) dated.16.09.2021 from Ministry of Power.
2) Letter No. REC / PMD Coord / 2021-22/ District Electricity Committee / D / dated.17.09.2021.

Sir,

Please find enclosed herewith the above referred letters from by Ministry of Power, Govt. of India and REC Ltd., which are self explanatory.

In this context, you are requested to co-ordinate with the respective district Collector attached to your jurisdiction and initiate appropriate steps for getting up the DEC towards review and co-ordinate overall development of power supply infrastructure in the district. Compliance over the matter may please be reported to this office.

This is for your information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: - As above

General Manager (Tech) 01/11/2021


TPCODL

C.C to: i) All Divisional Managers for information and necessary action.

ii) Sr.G.M (Tech) / Chief Operation Services for favour of kind information.

(28)
3297
28 SEP 2021
REC LIMITED

COM1021/CRG07

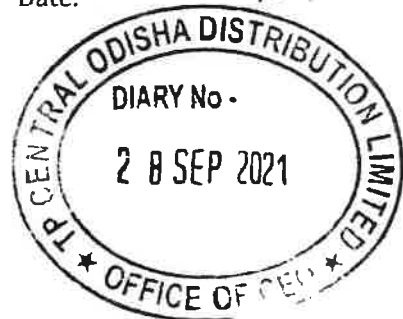
 <p>आर ई सी REC Endless energy, Infinite possibilities</p>	<p align="center">REC Limited (Formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd.) (A Government of India Enterprise) Regd. Office: Core-4 SCOPE Complex, 7, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110 003 [Tel: 011-24369851 FAX: 011-24369850] [CIN: L40101DL1969GOI005095]</p>
---	---

Sent to SGM (com) on 25.05.21

REC/PMD Coord /2021-22/District Electricity committee/ D / Date:
17.09.2020

All MDS discoms

Sub : Constitution of District Electricity Committees- Regarding



 DIARY No -
 28 SEP 2021
 TRIPURA CENTRAL ODISHA DISTRIBUTION LIMITED
 OFFICE OF REC

Sir,

This has reference to Ministry of Power reference No. F NO. 42/17/2011-RE (206787) dated 16.09.2021 on the captioned subject. Copy enclosed for ready reference.

In order to ensure involvement and oversight of the people in the new Revamped Distribution Sector scheme, necessary District Electricity Committees as per above reference may be established to review and coordinate overall development of power supply infrastructure in the districts in accordance to the scheme

Yours faithfully


 (R.K.Gupta)
 Chief General Manager (PMD-Coord)
 Email: rkgupta.recl@gmail.com
 Ph:9899899318

Sent to DM (FWD) on 27/10/2021

Enclosure: As above

CC: CPMs, Ros, REC for necessary coordination

~~HOD REC~~
22/10/2021

GML Technical
For information
25/10/21

(27)

F.No.42/17/2011-RE [206787]
Government of India / Bharat Sarkar
Ministry of Power / VidyutMantralaya
Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
* * * * *

Dated the 16th September, 2021

To

**The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary
(Power/Energy) of all States/UTs**

Subject: Constitution of District Electricity Committees.

Sir/Madam,

Government of India have been providing funds under different schemes for strengthening the Distribution Systems in the country. In the past five years almost 2 lac crore were provided under DDUGJY/IPDS/SAUBHAGYA/RE etc. to ensure universal access by electrifying every village and every hamlet and every household; and for setting up more substations, upgrading existing substations, for HT/LT lines/Transformers etc. for strengthening the Distribution systems. However, Government of India have been receiving complaints regarding the quality of works, works not been completed etc. Now the Govt. have approved a new scheme of 3 lac crores for further strengthening the Distribution Systems wherever necessary, and modernizing it to meet emerging challenges. In order to ensure the involvement and oversight of the people in the process it has been decided to set up a District Level Committee which shall exercise oversight over all Government of India schemes; as also its impact on the provision of services to the people.

(i) The Composition of the Committee may be as under:

(a)	Most Senior MP in the district	Chairperson
(b)	Other MPs in the district	Co-chairpersons
(c)	District Collector	Member Secretary
(d)	Chairperson / President of the District Panchayat	Member
(e)	MLAs of the district	Members
(f)	Most Senior representatives of CPSUs of Ministry of Power and NRE located in the concerned district, or their nominated officials for the district.	Members
(g)	Chief Engineer/Superintending Engineer of the DISCOM / Power Department concerned	Convenor

(ii) The Committee will meet periodically at District Headquarters at least once in three months to review and coordinate overall development of power supply infrastructure in the district in accordance with the schemes of the Government which may, inter-alia, include the following aspects :

- a. All Government of India Schemes, including their progress and quality issues.

Banti

- b. Development of Sub-transmission and distribution network including regular operations and maintenance of network – identifying further areas where strengthening is needed.
 - c. Impact of the works on quality and reliability of power supply.
 - d. Standards of Performance and consumer services / quality of supply.
 - e. Complaints and Grievance Redressal System.
 - f. Any other relevant matter
- (iii) It will be the responsibility of the Convenor and Member Secretary to conduct the meetings on regular basis and issue timely minutes.
2. Therefore, all the States/UTs are requested to notify and ensure establishment of District Electricity Committees as mentioned above under intimation to this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,



(Bimlesh Pawar)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Email: bimlesh.pawar@nic.in
distribution2-mop@gov.in
Tel: 011-23708051

Copy to:-

1. CMD, REC Ltd., Plot No I-4, Sector-29, Gurugram, Haryana-122001
2. CMD, Power Finance Corporation Ltd., Urjanidhi 1, Barakhamba Lane, New Delhi- 110001

Copy for information:-

PS to HMoP/ PS to HMoSP/ Sr. PPS to Secretary (Power) / PPS to AS&FA/PPS to AS (D)/ PPS to JS(D) / PS to Director (UR&SI/DS), Ministry of Power.

(Ref 283)

Imp

PEBm Gu

2
3/2

(25)



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
ENERGY DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

No. 11226 /En., Bhubaneswar, dt. 29th November, 2021
ENG-EL-MISC-0007-2014

In supersession of Energy Department Notification No 4004 dated 04.05.2015 and in pursuance to letter No. 42/17/2011-RE (206787) dated 16.09.2021 of Ministry of Power, Government of India, the "District Electricity Committee" (DEC) is hereby re-constituted with following composition to review and co-ordinate overall development of power supply infrastructure in the district in accordance with the schemes of Government.

Sl No.	Designation of the Officials	Position in the DEC
1.	Senior most M.P. in the district	Chairperson
2.	Other M.P.s in the district	Co-chairpersons
3.	Collector & District Magistrate	Member Secretary
4.	Chairperson of Zilla Parishad	Member
5.	MLAs of the district	Members
6.	Senior most representatives of CPSUs of Ministry of Power & MNRE located in the district or their nominated officials for the district	Members
7.	Chief Engineer / Superintending Engineer of the DISCOM.	Convener

2. The Committee is required to meet periodically at least once in three months at District Headquarters to review and co-ordinate overall development of power supply infrastructure in accordance with the schemes of Government which include the following aspects.
 - (i) Physical progress and quality of works
 - (ii) Development of sub-transmission and distribution network including regular operations and maintenance of network-identifying further areas where strengthening is needed.
 - (iii) Impact of the works on quality and reliability of power supply
 - (iv) Standards of Performance and consumer services/quality of supply
 - (v) Complaints and grievance redressal system
 - (vi) Any other relevant matter
3. It is the responsibility of the Convener and the Member Secretary to convene the meetings of DEC on regular basis and issue minutes on time.

By order of Governor

29/11/2021

Principal Secretary to Government
P.T.O.

(24)

Memo No. 11227 / En. dt. 29/11/2021
Copy forwarded to Director, Printing, Stationery & Publication, Odisha, Madhupatna, Cuttack for information and necessary action. It is requested to publish the Notification in the Odisha Gazettee and supply 50 copies to this Department.

✓ FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt. *Sunil Kumar*

Memo No. 11228 / En. dt. 29/11/2021
Copy forwarded to Gazette Cell, Commerce and Transport Deptt. (Commerce), Loksewa Bhawan, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action.

✓ FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt. *Sunil Kumar*

Memo No. 11229 / En. dt. 29/11/2021
Copy forwarded to PS to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha/ PS to Hon'ble Minister, Energy/ PS to Chief Secretary, Odisha / PS to Principal Secretary, Energy Department for kind information of Hon'ble Chief Minister/ Hon'ble Minister, Energy/ Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary, Energy Department.

✓ FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt. *Sunil Kumar*

Memo No. 11230 / En. dt. 29/11/2021
Copy forwarded to all Departments of Government/ all Collectors/ Heads of Departments for information and necessary action. The Collectors are requested to communicate the Notification to all the members of the Committee in their respective district for their information under intimation to this Department.

✓ FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt. *Sunil Kumar*

Memo No. 11231 / En. dt. 29/11/2021
Copy forwarded to Under Secretary to Government, Ministry of Power, Government of India (bimlesh.pawar@nic.in/ distribution2-mop@gov.in / CMD, REC Ltd, Plot No. 1-4, Sector-29, Gurugram, Haryana-122001/ CMD, Power Finance Corporation Ltd, Urjanidhi 1, Barakhamba Lane, New Delhi 110001 for information and necessary action.

✓ FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt. *Sunil Kumar*

Memo No. 11232 / En. dt. 29/11/2021
Copy forwarded to the Managing Director, OPTCL, Bhubaneswar/ MD, GRIDCO/ MD, OPGC/ MD, OHPC/ CE, GEDCOL/ CPM, REC Ltd, Bhubaneswar/ Chief Executive Officer, TPCODL/TPNODL/TPWODL/TPSODL/ CE, OREDA, Bhubaneswar/ RED ER-II, NTPC, Bhubaneswar/ ED,PGCIL, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action.

✓ FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt. *Sunil Kumar*

Memo No. 11233 / En. dt. 29/11/2021
Copy forwarded to all Officers of Energy Department/ all Sections of Energy Department/ Sri Puneet Munjal, Chief of Regulatory & Govt. affairs, for information and necessary action.

✓ FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt. *Sunil Kumar*

Memo No. 11234 / En. dt. 29/11/2021
Copy forwarded to OIC, State Portal, NIC, IT Department, Odisha Secretariat, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary uploading in the Energy Dept web portal.

✓ FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt. *Sunil Kumar*

No 12823 of 9 DEC 2021
forwarded to all EEs & Dist. Divs / All CHs & Dist. Cells for information & necessary action.

Sunil Kumar
5/12/21

Chief General Manager (Electrical)
TPCODL, Bhubaneswar

(Ref-3)

(22)



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
ENERGY DEPARTMENT

No. 2720 /En., Bhubaneswar, dt. th 30 March, 2022
ENG-EL-MISC-0007-2014

From
Shri Sambit Parija, OFS(SAG)
FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt.
To
All Collectors.

Sub: Clarification on the composition of District Electricity Committee.

Sir,

I am directed to invite reference to this Department Notification No. 11226 dated 29.11.2021 (communicated vide Memo No. 11230 dt. 29.11.2021) and to say that a notification regarding reconstitution of District Electricity Committee has been issued by the Energy Department vide letter under reference. Subsequently, Ministry of Power, GoI have clarified certain aspects with regard to composition of DEC vide their letter F. No. 42/17/201-RE(206787) dt. 2.3.2022, a copy of which is enclosed herewith for your kind reference and guidance.

Yours faithfully,

P.S.A. Am
2/3

Memo No. 2721 dt. 30/3/2022 ✓
FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt.
Copy with copy of annexure forwarded to PS to Principal Secretary, Energy Department for kind information of Principal Secretary.

Memo No. 2722 dt. 30/3/2022 ✓
FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt.
Copy along with copy of the enclosure forwarded to the Managing Director, OPTCL, Bhubaneswar/ MD, GRIDCO/ MD, OPGC/ MD, OHPC/ CEO, GEDCOL / CPM, REC Ltd, Bhubaneswar / Chief Executive Officers, TPCODL / TPNODL / TPWODL / TPSODL / CE, OREDA, Bhubaneswar / RED ER-II, NTPC, Bhubaneswar / CGM,PGCIL, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action.

By, e-mail

FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Govt.

No. 2530 dt. 31/03/2022

Forwarded to all the DMs/Ctts of Distribution Divisions/Circles/
Chief O.S. / GM (Tech) / Head (E&Q) / SGM (fm) for information and
necessary action.

21/3/2022
Chief General Manager (Electrical)
TPCODL, Bhubaneswar

(21)

F No 42/17/2011-RE [206787]
Government of India / Bharat Sarkar
Ministry of Power / VidyutMantralaya
Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Dated the 02nd March 2023

To

The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary (Power/Energy) of all States/UTs

Subject: Constitution of District Electricity Committees.

Sir/Madam,

I'm directed to refer to the Ministry of Power's letter of even number dated 16.9.2021 requested thereby all States/ UTs to constitute District Electricity Committee (DEC) to ensure the involvement and oversight of the people over all Government of India schemes and to institutionalize the system of consultation with public representatives (copy enclosed).

2. The composition of the Committee has been prescribed as under:

(a)	Most Senior MP in the district	Chairperson
(b)	Other MPs in the district	Co-chairpersons
(c)	District Collector	Member Secretary
(d)	Chairperson / President of the District Panchayat	Member
(e)	MLAs of the district	Members
(f)	Most Senior representatives of CPSUs of Ministry of Power and NRE located in the concerned district, or their nominated officials for the district	Members
(g)	Chief Engineer/Superintending Engineer of the DISCOM / Power Department concerned	Convenor

3. During various review meetings with different States, clarification has been sought on following two aspects with regard to composition of the DEC

- a. Criteria for nomination of Chairperson of the Committee in case a district falls under multiple parliamentary constituencies, thereby a single district may have more than one Member of Parliament.
- b. Composition of DEC in areas where multiple districts form part of single parliamentary constituency thus creating a situation where one Member of Parliament may have to preside over multiple District level committees as such committees are required to be formed for each of the district. Such situation may be more prevalent in smaller states like Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Sikkim etc.

4. The position in respect of point 3(a) and 3(b) above is clarified as under

RK
Mangal

Sanyal
12/3/23

Clarification in respect of Point 3(a)

- i. Where there are more than one Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) representing the district, the senior most Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) should be nominated as the Chairperson. However, the warrant of precedence maintained by the Ministry of Home Affairs should be followed, which may result in exceptions.
- ii. If the district has more than one Parliamentary Constituency (Lok Sabha) as its segments and the senior-most Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) is made Chairperson of DEC in some other district, the next senior-most Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) should be made the Chairperson.
- iii. In case of same seniority, the Chairperson should be the Member of Parliament in whose Parliamentary Constituency the largest geographical area of the district falls.
- iv. The other Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha) representing the district should be designated as Co-Chairperson(s).
- v. In case of a MP (Rajya Sabha) representing the State and exercising option to be associated with the district level Committee of that district (on first come basis) to be designated as Co-Chairperson. In case the MP from Rajya Sabha is senior following the warrant of precedence maintained by the Ministry of Home Affairs, he/ she may be made as Chairperson of the committee.

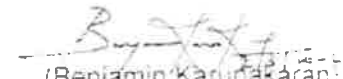
Clarification in respect of Point 3(b)

- i. DEC has to be constituted for each district separately.
- ii. Individual Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) may be designated as the chairperson for more than one District Level Committee.

5. Further, the States, which are yet to notify the District Electricity Committees, are requested to issue notification for constitution of District Electricity Committees at the earliest under intimation to this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above.


(Benjamin Karunakaran)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt of India
Tel: 011-2371 1394
Email: ds.distribution-mop@gov.in
distribution2-mop@gov.in

Copy to:

1. CMD, REC Ltd., REC World Headquarter, Sector 29, Gurugram, Haryana-122009
2. CMD, PFC Ltd., Urjanidhi, 1, Barakhamba Lane, New Delhi - 110001



(Ref - 4)

(19)

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
ENERGY DEPARTMENT

No. 3619 /En., Bhubaneswar, dt. 27th April, 2022
ENG-EL-MISC-0007-2014

From
Sri Sambit Parija, OFS(SAG)
FA-cum- Additional Secretary to Government

To
The All Collectors

Sub : Convening meetings of District Electricity Committee(DEC).

Madam / Sir,

I am directed to invite reference to Notification of Energy Department bearing No. 11226 dt.29.11.2021 in which the District Electricity Committee(DEC) was re-constituted under the chairmanship of the senior most Member of Parliament of the district to review and co-ordinate overall development of power supply infrastructure in the district in accordance with the schemes of the Government. While Collector of the district is the Member Secretary of DEC, the Chief Engineer/Superintending Engineer of the DISCOM operating in the district has been made the Convenor of DEC. Subsequent to issue of this Notification dt. 29.11.2021, another communication of this department bearing No. 2720 dt. 30.3.2022 was made to the Collectors indicating certain clarification of MoP, GoI regarding composition of the DEC for reference and follow up action. It has been made categorically clear in the notification dt. 29.11.2021 that it is the responsibility of the Member Secretary and Convenor to convene the meeting of the DEC on regular basis and issue minutes on time. So far no minutes of the meeting of DEC of any district has been received in this department since reconstitution of DEC.

In this context, attention is invited to the press clipping published in English Daily (The New Indian Express), Bhubaneswar edition dt. 25.4.2022(Copy enclosed). It has been indicated in the said press clipping that in many districts, the concerned Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly(who happen to be the Chairperson and Members of the DEC) are unaware of existence of such a Committee. This reveals that no follow up action has been taken in the district level to intimate the chairperson and other members regarding reconstitution of the DEC of the district. Moreover, it is also presumed that as per requirement, the meetings of DEC have not been regularly convened for which the objectives of DEC's at the level of districts are not being fulfilled.

It is therefore, requested again, prompt action may kindly be taken to intimate the Chairperson/Members regarding re-constitution of DEC in your district and steps may also be taken to convene the meetings of DEC at regular intervals for deliberation regarding overall development of power supply infrastructure in the district in accordance with the schemes of the Government and furnish minutes thereof to this department for reference.

Yours faithfully,

Memo No. 3620 /En. Dated. 27/4/2022
FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Government

Copy forwarded to the PPS to Principal Secretary, Energy for kind information of Principal Secretary.

Memo No. 3621 /En. Dated. 27/4/2022
FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Government

Copy forwarded to the CEOs of all DISCOMs for information and necessary action. Necessary instructions may be imparted to the Chief Engineer/Superintending Engineer of the DISCOM operating in the district for regular convening of the meeting of DEC.

FA-cum-Additional Secretary to Government

(18)

Amid rampant power cuts, DECs remain dormant

Committee is required to meet at least once in three months to review overall development of power supply

BIJOY PRADHAN @bhubaneswar

EVEN as temperature rises alarmingly and unscheduled power cuts across the State compounds misery of people, the committees formed at the district level to oversee the progress of power sector schemes and maintenance of sub-transmission and distribution networks barely meet.

It may sound ludicrous but the fact is many elected representatives who are members of the committee are not even aware of its existence.

As per the directive of the Ministry of Power, the State government reconstituted the District Electricity Committee (DEC) on September 16, 2021 to review and coordinate overall development of power supply

infrastructure in the districts in accordance with the schemes of government.

In the reconstituted DEC, the senior most MP of a district is the chairperson and other MPs are co-chairpersons. The district collector is the member secretary and the chief engineer/superintending engineer of the distribution company (discom) concerned is the convener.

All the MLAs and zilla parishad chairperson of the district are members of the committee while senior most representatives of central public undertakings (CPSUs) of Ministry of Power and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) located in the district or their nominated officials for the district are members.



Q

I have never heard of such a committee in my district. Neither was I informed by the district administration or the discom (TPWODL) about existence of DEC in Balangir district nor was I ever invited to attend any meeting of the committee.

Narasingha Mishra, Congress leader

Ask Congress leader and Balangir MP Narasimha Mishra and he has not heard of the DEC.

"I have never heard of such a

committee in my district. Neither was I informed by the district administration or the discom (TPWODL) about existence of DEC in Balangir district nor was I ever invited to attend any meeting of the committee," said the senior leader.

The committee though is required to meet periodically at least once in three months at district headquarters to review and coordinate overall development of power supply infrastructure, development and maintenance of sub-transmission and distribution network and impact of the works on quality and reliability of power supply. It is mandated to exercise oversight over standards of performance and consumer services, complaints and grievance redressal mechanisms.

However, its existence remains a mystery for most. Chairperson of the Balangir committee Sangeeta Singhdeo also said she was never invited by the Collector of Balangir to any DEC meeting.

Similar was the response from MLAs including members of the ruling BJD from other districts too. However, a BJP MLA from Lolsingha of the district said he had attended the meeting once before Covid-19 hit the State. The DEC has not met for more than two years, he added.

Kalahandi district, though, is an exception where DEC meets at regular intervals. BJP MP from the district Basanta Panda said he had attended the last meeting held a couple of months back.

Handwritten signatures and notes at the bottom of the page, including a signature that appears to be 'Sankar' and some illegible scribbles.