

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI**

**Petition No. 24/TT/2025**

**Coram:**

**Shri Ramesh Babu V., Member  
Shri Harish Dudani, Member**

**Date of Order: 18.03.2025**

**In the matter of:**

Approval under Section 62 read with Section 79 (1) (d) of Electricity Act, 2003 and under the Regulation 15 (1) (a) and Regulation 23 of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2023 read with Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Condition of Tariff Regulations) 2019 and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Condition of Tariff Regulations) 2024 for trueing up of Transmission tariff for 2019-24 and determination of transmission tariff for 2024-29 tariff block for Assets under Eastern Region Strengthening Scheme – II (ERSS-II) in the Eastern Region

**And in the matter of:**

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited,  
“Saudamini”, Plot No. 2,  
Sector-29, Gurgaon-122001 (Haryana).

**...Petitioner**

**Vs.**

- 1. Bihar State Power (Holding) Company Limited**  
Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road,  
Patna - 781001, Assam
- 2. West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited**  
Bidyut Bhawan, Bidhan Nagar,  
Block DJ, Sector-II, Salt Lake City,  
Kolkata - 700 091, West Bengal
- 3. Grid Corporation of Orissa Limited**  
Shahid Nagar,  
Bhubaneswar - 751 007, Odisha
- 4. Damodar Valley Corporation**  
DVC Tower, Maniktala  
Civic Centre, VIP Road,  
Kolkata - 700 054, West Bengal
- 5. Power Department, Govt. of Sikkim,**  
Gangtok – 737 101, Sikkim

## 6. Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited

Engineering Building, H.E.C., Dhurwa,  
Ranchi – 834 004, Jharkhand

...Respondents

**Parties Present** : Shri Mohd. Mohsin, PGCIL  
Shri Vishal Sagar, PGCIL  
Shri A. Naresh Kumar, PGCIL  
Shri Vivek Kumar Singh, PGCIL  
Shri Amit Yadav, PGCIL  
Shri Arjun Malhotra, PGCIL  
Shri Piyush Awasthi, PGCIL

### ORDER

The instant Petition has been filed by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) for truing-up of the transmission tariff for the 2019-24 period under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter referred to as “the 2019 Tariff Regulations”) and for the determination of the transmission tariff for the 2024-29 period under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as “the 2024 Tariff Regulations”) for truing up of transmission tariff for 2019-24 and determination of transmission tariff for 2024-29 tariff period for assets under Eastern Region Strengthening Scheme – II (ERSS-II) in the Eastern Region.

2. The Petitioner has made the following prayers in the instant Petition:

1. *“Approve the trued-up Transmission Tariff for 2019-24 block and transmission tariff for 2024-29 block for the assets covered under this petition, as per para 12 and 13 above.*
2. *Allow the petitioner to recover the shortfall or refund the excess Annual Fixed Charges, on account of Return on Equity due to change in applicable Minimum Alternate/Corporate Income Tax rate as per the Income Tax Act, 1961 (as amended from time to time) of the respective financial year directly without making any application before the Commission as provided in Tariff Regulation 2019 and Tariff regulations 2024 as per para 12 and 13 above for respective block.*
3. *Approve the reimbursement of expenditure by the beneficiaries towards petition filing fee, and expenditure on publishing of notices in newspapers in terms of Regulation 94 (1) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024, and other expenditure (if any) in relation to the filing of petition.*

4. Allow the petitioner to bill and recover Licensee fee and RLDC fees & charges, separately from the respondents in terms of Regulation 94 (3) and (4) Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024.
5. Allow the petitioner to bill and adjust impact on Interest on Loan due to change in Interest rate on account of floating rate of interest applicable during 2024-29 period, if any, from the respondents.
6. Allow the petitioner to file a separate petition before the Commission for claiming the overall security expenses and consequential IOWC on that security expenses as mentioned at para 19 above.
7. Allow the petitioner to file a separate petition before the Commission for claiming the overall insurance expenses and consequential IOWC on that insurance expenses as mentioned at para 19 above.
8. Allow the petitioner to file a separate petition before the Commission for claiming the overall capital spares at the end of tariff block as per actual as mentioned at Para 19 above.
9. Allow the petitioner to claim expenses of CTUIL borne by POWERGRID through a separate petition as mentioned at para 20 above.
10. Allow the Petitioner to bill and recover GST on Transmission Charges separately from the respondents, if GST on transmission is levied at any rate in future. Further, any taxes including GST and duties including cess etc. imposed by any statutory/Govt./municipal authorities shall be allowed to be recovered from the beneficiaries.

*and pass such other relief as the Commission deems fit and appropriate under the circumstances of the case and in the interest of justice.”*

### **Background**

3. The brief facts of the case are as under:

- a) The Investment Approval (I.A.) for the Transmission System was accorded by the Board of Directors of the Petitioner's company vide letter dated 24.12.2007 at an estimated Cost of Rs 22752 lakhs including IDC of ₹1466 lakh (based on 3rd quarter, 2007 level).
- b) The scope of the transmission project as per Investment Approval is as under:

#### **Transmission lines:**

Durgapur-Maithon 400 kV D/C Line with Twin Lapwing Conductor.

#### **Substation:**

- 2 nos. 400 kV line bays at Durgapur
- 2 nos. 400 kV bays at Maithon



### **Reactive Compensation at Siliguri 400/220 kV Sub-station**

- Shifting of 63 MVAR line Reactor of Bongaigaon-Siliguri line installed at Siliguri to Siluguri end of one circuit of Tala-Siliguri line\*.
- Shifting of two nos. 63 MVAR Bus Reactor at Siliguri to be installed as fixed line Reactor Siliguri end of two circuits of Tala-Siliguri lines\* This will render two nos of 400 kV Reactor bays un-utilised
- Installation of two nos. of new 125 MVAR Bus Reactors at Siliguri 400 kV bus. As mentioned above, the two nos. of 400 kV reactor bays which have become unutilised shall be used for switching of two 125 MVAR Reactors
- Out of the 4 nos. of Tala-Siliguri line, one circuit has been looped in and looped out at 400/220 kV Malbase Sub-station in Bhutan. The three 63 MVAR reactors as mentioned above are to be shifted as line reactors at Siliguri end on the three Siliguri-Tala 400 kV lines, except through Malbase.

### **Purnea 400/220 kV Sub-Station**

- Shifting of 1 no. of 63 MVAR Bus Reactor installed at 400 kV Purnea bus for installation as a fixed line reactor at Purnea end of one circuit of Siliguri-Purnea 400 kV D/C (quad) line. This will render one 400 k line eactor bay un-utilised.
- Installation of 2 nos. of new 125 MVAR bus reactors at Purnea 400 kV Bus. The one un-utilised reactor bay as above is proposed to be used for switching of one reactor (125 MVAR) and one new reactor bay shall be constructed for switching of other 125 MVAR Reactor.
- Installation of 1 no. 220/132 kV 160 MVA ICT (2nd) at Baripada along with associated bays.

c) The detail of assets along with Commercial Operation Date is as follows:

<b>Asset</b>	<b>Asset Name</b>	<b>COD</b>
Asset-I	125 MVAR, 400 kV Bus Reactor at New Purnea Sub-station along-with associated bays	1.2.2011
Asset-II	Shifting of 1 no. 63 MVAR Bus Reactor installed at New Purnea bus for installation as a fixed line reactor at New Purnea end of one ckt New Siliguri-New Purnea 400 kV D/C (quad) line	1.7.2011
Asset-III	Installation of 1 no. New 125 MVAR bus reactor at New Purnea 400 kV bus	1.10.2011
Asset-IV	Durgapur-Maithon 400 kV D/C line with associated bays at Durgapur and Maithon Sub-station	1.3.2012



Asset-V	Installation of 1 no. New 125 MVAR bus reactor at Siliguri 400 kV bus, shifting of 3 nos. 63 MVAR Reactors at 400 kV Siliguri Sub-station;	1.11.2011
Asset-VI	Installation of New 125 MVAR bus reactor at New Siliguri Sub-station;	1.4.2012
Asset-VII	220/132 kV, 160 MVA ICT at Baripada and associated bays.	1.4.2011

- d) The Petitioner has filed the present petition for truing up of transmission tariff for 2019-24 and determination of transmission tariff for 2024-29 tariff block for the following asset:

Asset	Asset Name	DOCO	Remarks
Combined Asset	Transmission System associated with Eastern Region Strengthening Scheme – II (ERSS-II)	01.03.2012	-

- e) The tariff from respective COD to 31.3.2014 was determined vide order dated 26.12.2011 in Petition No. 47/2011 for Asset-I, order dated 30.4.2013 in Petition No. 160/TT/2011 for Combined Assets-I to VI and order dated 5.9.2011 in Petition No. 68/2011 for Asset-VII.
- f) The transmission tariff allowed from the respective COD to 31.3.2014 was trued-up and tariff for the Combined Asset for the 2014-19 period was allowed vide order dated 19.4.2016 in Petition No. 82/TT/2015. The Commission vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019 was trued-up of tariff for 2014-19 tariff period and determined the AFC for 2019-24 Tariff Period.
- g) The Commission vide RoP dated 17.2.2025 had sought certain information from the Petitioner. The Petitioner vide affidavit dated 24.02.2025 has submitted that all the transmission assets covered in the instant project are currently in use as on date and no de-capitalisation has been carried out.
- h) The Petitioner vide affidavit dated 24.02.2025 has also submitted the details of additional assets under the project which are as follows:

Additional assets at 400/220kV DURGAPUR S/S				
Sl. No.	Asset Name	DOCO	Associated Project Name	Covered under Petition No. (latest)
1	400 kV D/C Farakka - Durgapur TL along with associated bay at Durgapur S/s, 400 kV S/C Durgapur - Jamshedpur TL associated bay at both ends, 02x315 MVA ICT (I&II) at Durgapur S/s, & 02x50 MVAR Bus Reactor (I&II) at Durgapur S/s,	01.04.1992	Transmission System associated with Farakka-I and II STPS in ER	Diary – 1274 of 2024
2	LILO connectivity to DVC's Andal TPS (portion of 400 kV Durgapur-Jamshedpur TL)	01.02.2011	ERSS-I in ER	455/TT/2024
3	400 kV D/C Andal (DVC)-Jamshedpur section of Durgapur-Jamshedpur TL and associated bays at Jamshedpur	01.05.2012		
4	01 No. 315 MVA, 400/220 kV, 3-Phase ICT at Durgapur S/s	01.03.2013	Provision of Spare ICTs and Reactors in ER	20/TT/2015
5	01 No. of 01x125 MVAR Bus Reactor (1st) and associated bay at Durgapur S/s, & 01 No. of 01x125 MVAR Bus Reactor (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) and associated bay at Durgapur S/s	23.10.2016 & 30.12.2016	ERSS-IX in ER	Diary – 783 of 2024
6	Split Bus Arrangement at Durgapur S/s	14.10.2015	Split Bus arrangement for various substation in ER	Diary – 717 of 2024
7	01 No. 125 MVAR Bus Reactor at Durgapur S/s	02.08.2018	ERSS-XIV in ER	Diary – 710 of 2024
8	315 MVA ICT (III) at Durgapur S/s	09.06.2019	ERSS-XVII Part-B in ER	Diary – 538 of 2024
9	Bypassing of 400 kV D/C Farakka - Kahalgaon (Ckt-3 & Ckt-4) and 400 kV S/C Farakka - Durgapur (Ckt-1 & Ckt2) existing TL from NTPC, Farakka so as to form 400 kV D/C Kahalgaon - Durgapur along with upgraded bays at Durgapur S/s and Kahalgaon Substation	02.01.2022	ERSS-XXIII in ER	15/TT/2023
10	Shifting of 400 kV side of 400/220kV, 315 MVA ICT-I at Durgapur from Bus Section-A to Bus Section-B (without physically shifting the transformer so that all 03 numbers of ICTs are on the same 400 kV Bus Section-B)	20.11.2022	ERSS-XXIV in ER	Diary – 605 of 2024



Additional assets at 400/220kV Maithon (PG) S/S				
Sl. No.	Asset Name	DOCO	Associated Project Name	Covered under Petition No. (latest)
1	400kV D/C Kahalgaon-Maithon TL with associated bays at Maithon S/s, 400kV D/C Maithon-Jamshedpur TL with associated bays at Maithon S/s, 02x315 MVA ICT (I&II) at Maithon S/s ,& 02x50 MVAR Line Reactors at Maithon S/s (& 01x50 MVAR Bus Reactor)	01.04.1997	Kahalgaon TS in ER	Diary – 1093 of 2024
2	400 kV D/C Maithon – Ranchi TL along with associated bays	01.06.2007	Kahalgaon Stage-II, Phase-I Transmission System in NR, WR & ER	Diary – 962 of 2024
3	400 kV D/C Maithon RB-Maithon (PG) TL and associated Bay Extension at Maithon S/s	01.10.2010	Start-up Power to DVC and Maithon Right Bank Generation Projects in ER	Diary – 432 of 2024
4	LILO of one circuit (Ckt-I) of 400 kV D/C Maithon-Jamshedpur TL at Mejia “B”-TPS	01.02.2010		
5	400 kV D/C Maithon (RB)-Ranchi (PG) TL and associated bays at Ranchi Sub-station	01.01.2012	Supplementary Transmission System associated with DVC & Maithon Right Bank Project in NR & ER	Diary – 920 of 2024
6	400 kV D/C Maithon (RB)-Mejia TL	01.12.2011		
7	400 kV D/C Maithon-Koderma (part of Koderma TPS-Gaya) (QUAD) TL	01.02.2013		
8	400 kV D/C Quad Maithon- Gaya TL and associated bays at both ends (Part Of Maithon-Koderma)	01.02.2013	Common Scheme for 765 kV Pooling Station and Network for NR, import by NR from ER and Common Scheme for network for WR and Import by WR from ER and from NER/SR/WR via ER	Diary – 04 of 2025
9	Balance Portion of 400kV D/C (Quad) Maithon-Gaya TL CKT II including Multi Ckt portion	08.09.2014		
10	Balance Portion of 400kV D/C (Quad) Maithon-Gaya TL CKT I including Multi Ckt portion	30.12.2014		
11	02 no 50 MVAR Bus Reactor at 400kV Maithon S/s and associated bays (Maithan-Gaya line)	01.04.2012		
12	02 nos of 400 kV Bays at Maithon S/s for 400 kV D/C Maithon-Mejia TL	01.12.2011		
13	Split Bus Arrangement at Maithon S/s	17.01.2016	Split Bus arrangement for various substation in ER	Diary – 717 of 2024
14	125 MVAR Bus Reactor at Maithon S/s with GIS bays	06.10.2016	ERSS-XII	670/TT/2020



15	125 MVAR Bus Reactor and associated bay at 400 KV Maithon S/s	01.10.2016	ERSS-IX in ER	Diary – 783 of 2024
16	Replacement of 1 No. of 1x315 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT with 1x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT (1st) at 400 KV Maithon S/s	18.09.2016		
17	Replacement of 1 No. of 1x315 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT with 1x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICT (2nd) at 400 KV Maithon S/s	25.10.2017		
18	500 MVA ICT alongwith associated bays at Maithon S/s	31.07.2020	ERSS-XX in ER	09/TT/2023
19	Re-conductoring of 400 kV D/C Maithon RB-Maithon (PG) TL alongwith bay modification at both ends	08.08.2023	ERSS-XVII Part-B in ER	Diary – 538 of 2024
20	01 nos 500 MVA, 400/220kV Spare ICT at Maithon S/s	05.12.2023	Provision of SPARE ICTs in ER	187/TT/2024

- i) The Petitioner vide affidavit dated 24.02.2025 has submitted the shifting details of reactors installed at Purnea and Binaguri sub-stations as under:

Asset	COD
<b>Purnea (New) S/s:</b> Shifting of 1 no. 63 MVAR Bus Reactor installed at New Purnea bus	01.07.2011
<b>Siliguri (NEW)/ Binaguri S/s:</b> Shifting of 3 nos. 63 MVAR Reactors at 400 kV Siliguri Sub-station	01.11.2011

- j) The Petitioner has also submitted that shifting of the said reactors and their consequent utilization, had been carried out as part of approved scope of the subject project “ERSS-II” in accordance with deliberation and ratification of this scheme vide Standing Committee Meeting of Power System Planning of ER held on 22.06.2006. The petitioner has further submitted that the said works had also been admitted and approved by the Commission vide order dated 30.04.2013 in Petition No. 160/TT/2011. The Petitioner submitted that the above mentioned shifting of reactors had been carried out to improve the reactive compensation of the regional grid as per the then prevailing system requirements as under:



<b>Asset</b>	<b>COD</b>	<b>Utilisation</b>
<b>Purnea (New) S/s:</b> Shifting of 1 no. 63 MVAR Bus Reactor installed at New Purnea bus	01.07.2011	For installation as a fixed line reactor at New Purnea end of one ckt New Siliguri-New Purnea 400 kV D/C (quad) line
<b>Siliguri (NEW)/ Binaguri S/s:</b> Shifting of 3 nos. 63 MVAR Reactors at 400 kV Siliguri Sub-station	01.11.2011	Shifting of 63 MVAR line Reactor of Bongaigaon-Siliguri line installed at Siliguri to Siluguri end of one circuit of Tala-Siliguri line  Shifting of two nos. 63 MVAR Bus Reactor at Siliguri to be installed as fixed line Reactor Siliguri end of two circuits of Tala-Siliguri lines

k) The Commission vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition no. 327/TT/2019 had allowed the following Annual Fixed cost (AFC) for the instant transmission assets for the 2019-24 Tariff period and the same is as follows:

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
Depreciation	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53
Interest on Loan	467.67	385.93	304.22	222.50	140.76
Return on Equity	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58
Interest on Working Capital	47.94	44.10	43.40	42.70	41.94
O&M Expenses	300.64	311.27	322.22	333.48	345.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>2665.37</b>	<b>2590.41</b>	<b>2518.95</b>	<b>2447.79</b>	<b>2377.04</b>

4. The Respondents include Distribution Licensees, Power Departments, and Transmission Licensees that receive transmission services from the Petitioner, primarily benefiting the Northern Region.

5. The Petitioner has served a copy of the Petition on the Respondents and notice regarding the filing of this Petition has been published in the newspapers in accordance with Section 64 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (the Act). No comments or suggestions have been received from the general public in response to the aforesaid notices published in the newspapers by the Petitioner. None of the Respondents have filed any reply in the matter despite notice.

6. The hearing in the matter was held on 12.2.2025 and the order was reserved.



7. This order is being issued considering the Petitioner's submissions in the Petition vide affidavit dated 30.7.2024 and affidavit dated 24.02.2025.

8. Having heard the Petitioner's representative and perused the material available on record, we proceed to dispose of the Petition.

### **TRUING-UP OF ANNUAL FIXED CHARGES FOR THE 2019-24 TARIFF PERIOD**

9. The details of the trued-up transmission charges claimed by the Petitioner in respect of the Combined Asset are as follows:

(` in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Depreciation	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53
Interest on Loan	467.43	384.80	303.06	221.88	140.70
Return on Equity	954.61	954.61	954.61	954.61	954.61
Interest on Working Capital	47.94	44.08	40.45	39.81	44.78
O&M Expenses	300.65	311.27	322.22	333.48	345.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>2665.16</b>	<b>2589.29</b>	<b>2514.87</b>	<b>2444.31</b>	<b>2379.86</b>

10. The details of the trued-up Interest on Working Capital (IWC) claimed by the Petitioner in respect of the Combined Asset are as follows:

(` in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
O&M Expenses	25.05	25.94	26.85	27.79	28.77
Maintenance Spares	45.10	46.69	48.33	50.02	51.79
Receivables	327.68	319.22	310.05	301.35	292.60
<b>Total Working Capital</b>	<b>397.83</b>	<b>391.85</b>	<b>385.23</b>	<b>379.16</b>	<b>373.16</b>
Rate of Interest (in %)	12.05%	11.25%	10.50%	10.50%	12.00%
<b>Interest on Working Capital</b>	<b>47.94</b>	<b>44.08</b>	<b>40.45</b>	<b>39.81</b>	<b>44.78</b>

### **Capital Cost for the 2019-24 Tariff Period**

11. The capital cost of ₹16941.85 lakhs has been considered by the Commission for the Combined Asset as on 31.3.2019. The Petitioner has not claimed any ACE during 2019-24 period. Therefore, the capital cost of ₹16941.85 lakhs as on 31.3.2019 has been considered as opening capital cost as on 1.4.2019 for the purpose of determination of transmission tariff for 2019- 24 period in accordance with Regulation 19 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations.



12. The Petitioner in the instant true-up petition has not claimed any ACE for 2019-24 tariff period. The detail of the Capital Cost allowed as on 31.3.2019 and as on 31.3.2024 is as follows:

Tariff Period 2019-24			
(Rs. In Lakh)			
Apportioned Approved Cost as per FR/RCE	Expenditure as on 31.3.2019	Expenditure during 2019-24 Tariff Block	Actual Capital Cost as on 31.3.2024
22752.00/NA	16941.85	0.00	16941.85

### **Debt-Equity Ratio**

13. The details of the debt-equity ratio considered and allowed under Regulation 18 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations for computation of tariff of the Combined Asset during the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

Funding	Capital Cost as on 1.4.2019 (₹ in lakh)	(in %)	Capital Cost as on 31.3.2024 (₹ in lakh)	(in %)
Debt	11859.30	70	11859.30	70
Equity	5082.56	30	5082.56	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>16941.85</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16941.85</b>	<b>100</b>

### **Depreciation**

14. The depreciation has been worked out considering the admitted capital expenditure as on 1.4.2019 and thereafter up to 31.3.2024. The Weighted Average Rate of Depreciation (WAROD) has been worked out for the Combined Asset as per Regulation 33 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations.

15. The depreciation allowed for the Combined Asset is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)						
	Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Opening Gross Block	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85
B	Addition during the year 2019-24 due to projected ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Gross Block (A+B)	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85
D	Average Gross Block (A+C)/2	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85



E	Average Gross Block (90% depreciable assets)	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85
F	Average Gross Block (100% depreciable assets)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
G	Depreciable value (excluding IT equipment and software) (E*90%)	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67
H	Depreciable value of IT equipment and software (F*100%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
I	Total Depreciable Value (G+H)	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67
J	Weighted average rate of Depreciation (WAROD) (in %)	5.28%	5.28%	5.28%	5.28%	5.28%
K	Lapsed useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	7	8	9	10	11
L	Balance useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	25.00	24.00	23.00	22.00	21.00
M	<b>Depreciation during the year</b>	<b>894.53</b>	<b>894.53</b>	<b>894.53</b>	<b>894.53</b>	<b>894.53</b>
N	Cumulative Depreciation at the end of the year	7192.74	8087.27	8981.80	9876.33	10770.86
O	Remaining Aggregate Depreciable Value at the end of the year	8054.93	7160.40	6265.87	5371.34	4476.81

16. Accordingly, the trued-up depreciation allowed in respect of the Combined Asset for the 2019-24 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53
Allowed after truing-up in this order	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53

### **Interest on Loan (IoL)**

17. The Petitioner has claimed the weighted average rate of IoL based on its actual loan portfolio and interest rate. The IoL has been calculated based on the actual interest rate submitted by the Petitioner in accordance with Regulation 32 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. The trued-up IoL allowed in respect of the Combined Asset is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)						
	Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Gross Normative Loan	11859.30	11859.30	11859.30	11859.30	11859.30
B	Cumulative Repayments up to Previous Year	6298.21	7192.74	8087.27	8981.80	9876.33
C	Net Loan-Opening (A-B)	5561.09	4666.56	3772.03	2877.50	1982.97

D	Addition due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E	Repayment during the year	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53
F	Net Loan-Closing (C+D-E)	4666.56	3772.03	2877.50	1982.97	1088.44
G	Average Loan (C+F)/2	5113.82	4219.29	3324.76	2430.23	1535.70
H	Weighted Average Rate of Interest on Loan (in %)	9.14%	9.12%	9.12%	9.13%	9.16%
I	<b>Interest on Loan (G*H)</b>	467.43	384.80	303.06	221.88	140.70

18. Accordingly, the trued-up IOL allowed in respect of the Combined Asset for the 2019-24 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019	467.67	385.93	304.22	222.50	140.76
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	467.43	384.80	303.06	221.88	140.70
Allowed after truing-up in this order	467.43	384.80	303.06	221.88	140.70

### **Return on Equity (RoE)**

19. The Petitioner has submitted that its Income Tax assessment has been completed, and assessment orders have been issued by the Income Tax Department for the FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 and the income has been assessed under MAT (115JB of the Income Tax Act, 1961). The Petitioner has further submitted that the Income Tax Returns (ITR) have been filed for the FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 (submitted in Petition No. 401/TT/2024).

20. The Petitioner has further submitted that it is liable to pay income tax at MAT rates (17.472%, i.e., 15% Income Tax +12% Surcharge on Income Tax+4% Health and Education Cess on Income Tax and Surcharge) and has claimed the following effective tax rates for the 2019-24 tariff period:

Year	Claimed effective tax rate (in %)	Grossed up RoE (in %) [(Base Rate)/(1-t)]
2019-20	17.472	18.782
2020-21	17.472	18.782
2021-22	17.472	18.782
2022-23	17.472	18.782
2023-24	17.472	18.782



21. We noted that the entities covered under the MAT regime are paying Income Tax as per the MAT rates notified for the respective financial year under the IT Act, 1961, which is levied on the book profit of the entity computed as per Section 115 JB of the IT Act, 1961. Section 115 JB (2) defines book profit as net profit in the statement of Profit and Loss prepared in accordance with the Schedule-II of the Companies Act, 2013, subject to some additions and deductions as mentioned in the IT Act, 1961. Since, the Petitioner has been paying the MAT rates of the respective financial year, the notified MAT rates for the respective financial year shall be considered as an effective tax rate for the purpose of grossing up of the RoE for truing up of the 2019-24 tariff period in terms of the provisions of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. Interest imposed on any additional income tax demand as per the Assessment Order of the Income Tax Authorities will be considered on the actual payment. However, the penalty (for default on the part of the Assessee), if any, imposed shall not be taken into the account for the purpose of grossing up of the rate of RoE. Any under-recovery or over-recovery of the grossed-up rates on the RoE after truing up, shall be recovered or refunded to the beneficiaries or the long-term customers as the case may be on year to year basis. Therefore, the following effective tax rate based on the notified MAT rates are considered for the purpose of grossing up of the rate of RoE:

Year	Notified rates (in %) (inclusive of surcharge & Cess)	MAT of &	Effective tax (in %)	Base rate of RoE (in %)	Grossed-up RoE [(Base Rate)/(1-t)] (in%)
2019-20	17.472		17.472	15.50	18.782
2020-21	17.472		17.472	15.50	18.782
2021-22	17.472		17.472	15.50	18.782
2022-23	17.472		17.472	15.50	18.782
2023-24	17.472		17.472	15.50	18.782

22. Accordingly, the trued-up RoE allowed in respect of the Combined Asset for the 2019-24 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

	Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
A	Opening Equity	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56
B	Addition due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Equity (A+B)	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56
D	Average Equity (A+C)/2	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56
E	Return on Equity (Base Rate) (in %)	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%
F	Tax Rate applicable (in %)	17.47%	17.47%	17.47%	17.47%	17.47%
G	Rate of Return on Equity (Pre-tax) (in %)	18.78%	18.78%	18.78%	18.78%	18.78%
H	<b>Return on Equity (Pre-tax) (D*G)</b>	<b>954.58</b>	<b>954.58</b>	<b>954.58</b>	<b>954.58</b>	<b>954.58</b>

23. Accordingly, the trued-up ROE allowed in respect of the Combined Asset for the 2019-24 tariff period is as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	954.61	954.61	954.61	954.61	954.61
Allowed after truing-up in this order	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58

### **Operation & Maintenance Expenses (O&M Expenses)**

24. The Commission vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019 has allowed the following O&M Expenses and the same are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

O&M expenses	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Asset	300.64	311.27	322.22	333.48	345.24

25. The Petitioner, in the instant true-up Petition, has claimed the following O&M Expenses for the 2019-24 tariff period:

(₹ in lakh)

O&M Expenses	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total O&M expenses	300.65	311.27	322.22	333.48	345.24

26. We have considered the submission of the Petitioner. It is observed that the O&M expenses claimed by the Petitioner in the instant true-up Petition are as per Regulation 35(3) of 2019 Tariff Regulation. The O&M Expenses are worked out as follows:



Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>Transmission Line:</b>					
400 kV D/C (Twin) Durgapur-Maithon Line – (line length: 70.120 kms)					
<b>Norms as per Regulation D/C Twin (Rs. Per km)</b>	0.881	0.912	0.944	0.977	1.011
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	<b>61.78</b>	<b>63.95</b>	<b>66.19</b>	<b>68.51</b>	<b>70.89</b>
<b>Transmission Line:</b>					
400 kV S/C (Twin) Durgapur-Maithon Line – (Line length: 0.650 kms)					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per km)</b>	0.503	0.521	0.539	0.558	0.578
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	<b>0.33</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.38</b>
<b>Substations:</b>					
<b>400 kV Bays</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 No 400 kV Reactor Bays at Purnea Substation</li> <li>• 2 Nos 400 kV Bays at Durgapur Substation</li> <li>• 2 Nos 400 kV Bays at Maithon Substation</li> </ul>					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per Bay)</b>	32.15	33.28	34.45	35.66	36.91
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	<b>160.75</b>	<b>166.4</b>	<b>172.25</b>	<b>178.3</b>	<b>184.55</b>
<b>Substations:</b>					
<b>ICT</b>					
1 No 160 MVA, 220/132 kV ICT at Baripada Substation					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per MVA)</b>	0.245	0.254	0.263	0.272	0.282
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>40.64</b>	<b>42.08</b>	<b>43.52</b>	<b>45.12</b>
<b>Substations:</b>					
<b>220 kV Bays</b>					
1 No 220 kV Bays at Baripada Substation					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per Bay)</b>	22.51	23.3	24.12	24.96	25.84
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	<b>22.51</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>24.12</b>	<b>24.96</b>	<b>25.84</b>
<b>Substations:</b>					
<b>132 kV Bays</b>					

1 No 132 kV Bays at Baripada Substation					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per Bay)</b>	16.08	16.64	17.23	17.83	18.46
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	<b>16.08</b>	<b>16.64</b>	<b>17.23</b>	<b>17.83</b>	<b>18.46</b>
<b>Total O&amp;M Expenses allowed</b>	<b>300.64</b>	<b>311.27</b>	<b>322.22</b>	<b>333.48</b>	<b>345.24</b>

27. Accordingly, the O&M Expenses allowed vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019, claimed by the Petitioner in the instant petition and allowed after true-up in respect of the Combined Asset are shown in the table below:

(` in lakh)					
<b>Particulars</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
Approved vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019	300.64	311.27	322.22	333.48	345.24
As claimed by the Petitioner in the instant petition.	300.65	311.27	322.22	333.48	345.24
Allowed in the instant true-up Petition	300.64	311.27	322.22	333.48	345.24

### **Interest on Working Capital (IWC)**

28. IWC is worked out in accordance with Regulation 34 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations. The Rate of Interest (ROI) considered is 12.05% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2019 of 8.55% plus 350 basis points) for the FY 2019-20, 11.25% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2020 of 7.75% plus 350 basis points) for the FY 2020-21, 10.50% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2021 of 7.00% plus 350 basis points) for the FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 and 12.00% (SBI 1 year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2023 of 8.50% plus 350 basis points) for FY 2023-24.

29. The components of the working capital and interest allowed thereon for the Combined Asset are as follows:

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
Working Capital for O&M Expenses (O&M Expenses for 1 month)	25.05	25.94	26.85	27.79	28.77
Working Capital for Maintenance Spares (15% of O&M Expenses)	45.10	46.69	48.33	50.02	51.79
Working Capital for Receivables	327.68	319.22	310.05	301.35	292.60



Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
(Equivalent to 45 days of annual fixed cost / annual transmission charges)					
<b>Total Working Capital</b>	397.83	391.85	385.23	379.16	373.16
Rate of Interest for Working Capital (in %)	12.05%	11.25%	10.50%	10.50%	12.00%
<b>Interest of working capital</b>	<b>47.94</b>	<b>44.08</b>	<b>40.45</b>	<b>39.81</b>	<b>44.78</b>

30. The details of IWC allowed vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019, IWC claimed in the instant Petition and trued-up IWC allowed for the Combined Asset in the instant order are as follows:

	(₹ in lakh)				
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019	47.94	44.10	43.40	42.70	41.94
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	47.94	44.08	40.45	39.81	44.78
Allowed after truing-up in this order	47.94	44.08	40.45	39.81	44.78

#### **Trued-up Annual Fixed Charges for the 2019-24 Tariff Period**

31. Accordingly, the annual fixed charges allowed after truing-up for the 2019-24 tariff period in respect of the Combined Asset are as follows:

	(₹ in lakh)				
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Depreciation	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53	894.53
Interest on Loan	467.43	384.80	303.06	221.88	140.70
Return on Equity	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58
O&M Expenses	300.65	311.27	322.22	333.48	345.24
Interest on working capital	47.94	44.08	40.45	39.81	44.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>2665.13</b>	<b>2589.26</b>	<b>2514.84</b>	<b>2444.28</b>	<b>2379.83</b>

32. The details of annual transmission charges allowed vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019, annual transmission charges claimed in the instant Petition and trued-up annual transmission charges allowed in the instant order in respect of the Combined Asset are as follows:

	(₹ in lakh)				
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Allowed vide order dated 22.08.2020 in Petition No. 327/TT/2019	2665.37	2590.41	2518.95	2447.79	2377.04
Claimed by the Petitioner in the instant Petition	2665.16	2589.29	2514.87	2444.31	2379.86



Allowed after truing-up in this order	2665.13	2589.26	2514.84	2444.28	2379.83
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### **DETERMINATION OF ANNUAL FIXED CHARGES FOR THE 2024-29 TARIFF PERIOD**

33. The Petitioner has claimed the following transmission charges for the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period:

( ` in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Depreciation	223.84	223.84	223.84	223.84	223.84
Interest on Loan	89.89	69.77	49.08	28.17	8.91
Return on Equity	954.61	954.61	954.61	954.61	954.61
Interest on Working Capital	37.59	38.28	38.98	39.68	40.64
O&M Expenses	434.22	457.18	480.77	505.87	533.11
<b>Total</b>	<b>1740.15</b>	<b>1743.68</b>	<b>1747.28</b>	<b>1752.17</b>	<b>1761.11</b>

34. The Petitioner has claimed the following IWC for the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period:

( ` in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
O&M Expenses	36.19	38.10	40.06	42.16	44.43
Maintenance Spares	65.13	68.58	72.12	75.88	79.97
Receivables	214.54	214.97	215.42	215.43	217.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>315.86</b>	<b>321.65</b>	<b>327.60</b>	<b>333.47</b>	<b>341.52</b>
Rate of Interest (in %)	11.90%	11.90%	11.90%	11.90%	11.90%
<b>Interest on Working Capital</b>	<b>37.59</b>	<b>38.28</b>	<b>38.98</b>	<b>39.68</b>	<b>40.64</b>

### **Capital Cost**

35. Regulation 19 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

**“19. Capital Cost:** (1) *The Capital cost of the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, as determined by the Commission after prudence checks in accordance with these regulations shall form the basis for the determination of tariff for existing and new projects.*

(2) *The Capital Cost of a new project shall include the following:*

(a) *The expenditure incurred or projected to be incurred up to the date of commercial operation of the project;*

(b) *Interest during construction and financing charges, on the loans (i) being equal to 70% of the funds deployed and, in the event actual equity is in excess of 30% on a pari-passu basis, by treating the excess equity over and above 30% of the funds deployed as a normative loan, or (ii) being equal to the actual amount of the loan in the event of actual equity being less than 30% of the funds deployed;*

(c) *Any gain or loss on account of foreign exchange risk variation pertaining to the loan amount availed during the construction period;*



- (d) Interest during construction and incidental expenditure during construction as computed in accordance with these regulations;
  - (e) Capitalised initial spares subject to the ceiling rates in accordance with these regulations;
  - (f) Expenditure on account of additional capitalization and de-capitalisation determined in accordance with these regulations;
  - (g) Adjustment of revenue due to the sale of infirm power in excess of fuel cost prior to the date of commercial operation as specified under Regulation 6 of these regulations;
  - (h) Adjustment of revenue earned by the transmission licensee by using the assets before the date of commercial operation;
  - (i) Capital expenditure on account of ash disposal and utilization including handling and transportation facility;
  - (j) Capital expenditure incurred towards railway infrastructure and its augmentation for transportation of coal up to the receiving end of the generating station but does not include the transportation cost and any other appurtenant cost paid to the railway;
  - (k) Capital expenditure on account of biomass handling equipment and facilities, for co-firing;
  - (l) Capital expenditure on account of emission control system necessary to meet the revised emission standards and sewage treatment plant;
  - (m) Expenditure on account of the fulfilment of any conditions for obtaining environment clearance for the project;
  - (n) Expenditure on account of change in law and force majeure events; and
  - (o) .....
  - (p) .....
- (3) The Capital cost of an existing project shall include the following:
- (a) Capital cost admitted by the Commission prior to 1.4.2024 duly trued up by excluding liability, if any, as on 1.4.2024;
  - (b) Additional capitalization and de-capitalization for the respective year of tariff as determined in accordance with these regulations;
  - (c) Capital expenditure on account of renovation and modernisation as admitted by this Commission in accordance with these regulations;
  - (d) to (h) .....
  - (i) Expenditure on account of change in law and force majeure events;
- (4) .....
- (5) .....
- (6) The following shall be excluded from the capital cost of the existing and new projects:
- (a) The assets forming part of the project but not in use, as declared in the tariff petition;
  - (b) De-capitalised Assets after the date of commercial operation on account of obsolescence;
  - (c) De-capitalised Assets on account of upgradation or shifting from one project to another project:
- Provided that in case such an asset is recommended for further utilisation by the Regional Power Committee in consultation with CTU, such asset shall be de-capitalised from the original project only after its redeployment;
- Provided further that unless shifting of an asset from one project to another is of a permanent nature, there shall be no de-capitalization of the concerned assets.
- (d) .....

(e) Proportionate cost of land of the existing generation or transmission project, as the case may be, which is being used for generating power from a generating station based on renewable energy as may be permitted by the Commission; and  
(f) Any grant received from the Central or State Government or any statutory body or authority for the execution of the project that does not carry any liability of repayment.”

36. The capital cost approved as on 31.3.2024 is ₹16941.85 lakh. Therefore, the capital cost of ₹16941.85 lakh as on 31.3.2024 has been considered as the opening capital cost as on 1.4.2024 for the purpose of determination of transmission tariff for the 2024-29 period in accordance with Regulation 19 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations.

37. The Petitioner has not claimed any Additional Capital Expenditure (ACE) for the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period. Therefore, the detail of the Capital Cost allowed as on 31.3.2024 and as on 31.3.2029 is as follows:

Tariff Period 2024-29			
(Rs. In Lakh)			
Apportioned Approved Cost as per FR/RCE	Expenditure as on 31.3.2024	Expenditure during 2024-29 Tariff Block	Actual Capital Cost as on 31.3.2029
		2024-29	
22752.00/NA	16941.85	0.00	16941.85

### **Additional Capital Expenditure**

38. The Petitioner has not claimed ACE in respect of the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period.

### **Debt Equity Ratio**

39. Regulation 18 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

*“18. Debt-Equity Ratio: (1) For new projects, the debt-equity ratio of 70:30 as on date of commercial operation shall be considered. If the equity actually deployed is more than 30% of the capital cost, equity in excess of 30% shall be treated as normative loan:*

*Provided that:*

- i. where equity actually deployed is less than 30% of the capital cost, actual equity shall be considered for determination of tariff:*

- ii. the equity invested in foreign currency shall be designated in Indian rupees on the date of each investment:
- iii. the equity invested in foreign currency shall be designated in Indian rupees on the date of each investment:

*Explanation- The premium, if any, raised by the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, while issuing share capital and investment of internal resources created out of its free reserve for the funding of the project, shall be reckoned as paid up capital for the purpose of computing return on equity, only if such premium amount and internal resources are actually utilised for meeting the capital expenditure of the generating station or the transmission system.*

*(2) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall submit the resolution of the Board of the company or the approval of the competent authority in other cases regarding the infusion of funds from internal resources in support of the utilization made or proposed to be made to meet the capital expenditure of the generating station or the transmission system including communication system, as the case may be.*

*(3) In the case of the generating station and the transmission system, including the communication system declared under commercial operation prior to 1.4.2024, the debt-equity ratio allowed by the Commission for the determination of tariff for the period ending 31.3.2024 shall be considered:*

*Provided that in the case of a generating station or a transmission system, including a communication system which has completed its useful life as on 1.4.2024 or is completing its useful life during the 2024-29 tariff period, if the equity actually deployed is more than 30% of the capital cost, equity in excess of 30% shall not be taken into account for tariff computation;*

*Provided further that in case of projects owned by Damodar Valley Corporation, the debt: equity ratio shall be governed as per sub-clause (ii) of clause (2) of Regulation 96 of these regulations.*

*(4) In the case of the generating station and the transmission system, including communication system declared under commercial operation prior to 1.4.2024, but where debt: equity ratio has not been determined by the Commission for determination of tariff for the period ending 31.3.2024, the Commission shall approve the debt: equity ratio in accordance with clause (1) of this Regulation.*

*(5) Any expenditure incurred or projected to be incurred on or after 1.4.2024 as may be admitted by the Commission as additional capital expenditure for determination of tariff, and renovation and modernisation expenditure for life extension shall be serviced in the manner specified in clause (1) of this Regulation.*

*(6) Any expenditure incurred for the emission control system during the tariff period as may be admitted by the Commission as additional capital expenditure for determination of supplementary tariff, shall be serviced in the manner specified in clause (1) of this Regulation.”*



40. Debt-equity ratio for the 2024-29 tariff period is dealt with in line with Regulation 18 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. Accordingly, the debt-equity considered for the 2024-29 tariff period for the Combined Asset is as follows:

<b>Funding</b>	<b>Capital cost as on 1.4.2024 (₹ in lakh)</b>	<b>(in %)</b>	<b>Capital cost as on 31.3.2029 (₹ in lakh)</b>	<b>(in %)</b>
Debt	11859.30	70	11859.30	70
Equity	5082.56	30	5082.56	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>16941.85</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16941.85</b>	<b>100</b>

### **Depreciation**

41. Regulation 33 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

*"33. Depreciation: (1) Depreciation shall be computed from the date of commercial operation of a generating station or unit thereof or a transmission system or element thereof including communication system. In the case of the tariff of all the units of a generating station or all elements of a transmission system including the communication system for which a single tariff needs to be determined, the depreciation shall be computed from the effective date of commercial operation of the generating station or the transmission system taking into consideration the depreciation of individual units:*

*Provided that the effective date of commercial operation shall be worked out by considering the actual date of commercial operation and installed capacity of all the units of the generating station or capital cost of all elements of the transmission system, for which a single tariff needs to be determined.*

*(2) The value base for the purpose of depreciation shall be the capital cost of the asset admitted by the Commission. In case of multiple units of a generating station or multiple elements of a transmission system, the weighted average life for the generating station or the transmission system shall be applied. Depreciation shall be chargeable from the first year of commercial operation. In the case of commercial operation of the asset for a part of the year, depreciation shall be charged on a pro rata basis.*

*(3) The salvage value of the asset shall be considered as 10%, and depreciation shall be allowed up to the maximum of 90% of the capital cost of the asset:*

*Provided that the salvage value for IT equipment and software shall be considered as NIL and 100% value of the assets shall be considered depreciable;*

*Provided further that in the case of hydro generating stations, the salvage value shall be as provided in the agreement, if any, signed by the developers with the State Government for the development of the generating station:*

*Provided also that the capital cost of the assets of the hydro generating station for the purpose of computation of depreciated value shall correspond to the*

percentage of the sale of electricity under long-term power purchase agreement at regulated tariff:

*Provided also that any depreciation disallowed on account of lower availability of the generating station or unit or transmission system, as the case may be, shall not be allowed to be recovered at a later stage during the useful life or the extended life.*

*(4) Land other than the land held under lease and the land for a reservoir in case of a hydro generating station shall not be a depreciable asset and its cost shall be excluded from the capital cost while computing the depreciable value of the asset.*

*(5) Depreciation for Existing Projects shall be calculated annually based on the Straight Line Method and at rates specified in Appendix-I to these regulations for the assets of the generating station and transmission system:*

*Provided that the remaining depreciable value as on 31st March of the year closing after a period of 12 years from the effective date of commercial operation of the generating station or transmission system, as the case may be, shall be spread over the balance useful life of the assets.*

*Provided further that in the case of an existing hydro generating station, the generating company, with the consent of the beneficiaries, may charge depreciation at a rate lower than that specified in Appendix I and Appendix II to these Regulations to reduce front loading of tariff.*

*(6) Depreciation for New Projects shall be calculated annually based on the Straight Line Method and at rates specified in Appendix-II to these regulations for the assets of the generating station and transmission system:*

*Provided that the remaining depreciable value as on 31st March of the year closing after a period of 15 years from the effective date of commercial operation of the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, shall be spread over the balance useful life of the assets.*

*Provided further that in the case of a new hydro generating stations, the generating company, with the consent of the beneficiaries, may charge depreciation at a rate lower than that specified in Appendix II to these Regulations to reduce front loading of tariff.*

*(7) In the case of the existing projects, the balance depreciable value as on 1.4.2024 shall be worked out by deducting the cumulative depreciation as admitted to by the Commission up to 31.3.2024 from the gross depreciable value of the assets.*

*(8) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall submit the details of capital expenditure proposed to be incurred during five years before the completion of useful life along with proper justification and proposed life extension. The Commission, based on prudence check of such submissions, shall approve the depreciation by equally spreading the depreciable value over the balance Operational Life of the generating station or unit thereof or fifteen years, whichever is lower, and in case of the transmission system shall equally spread the depreciable value over the balance useful life of the Asset or 10 years whichever is higher.*

*(9) In case of de-capitalization of assets in respect of generating station or unit thereof or transmission system or element thereof, the cumulative depreciation shall be adjusted by taking into account the depreciation recovered in tariff by the de-capitalised asset during its useful service.*



*(10) Where the emission control system is implemented within the original scope of the generating station and the date of commercial operation of the generating station or unit thereof and the date of operation of the emission control system are the same, depreciation of the generating station or unit thereof including the emission control system shall be computed in accordance with Clauses (1) to (9) of this Regulation.*

*(11) Depreciation of the emission control system of an existing generating station that is yet to complete its useful life or a new generating station or unit thereof where the date of operation of the emission control system is subsequent to the date of commercial operation of the generating station or unit thereof, shall be computed annually from the date of operation of such emission control system based on the straight line method at rates specified in Appendix- I to these regulations;*

*Provided that the remaining depreciable value as on 31st March of the year closing after a period of 12 years from the date of operation of such emission control system shall be spread over the balance period of thirteen years or balance operational life of generating station, whichever is lower;*

*Provided also that in case the date of operation of the emission control system is after the 20th year of commercial operation of the generating station or unit thereof, but before the completion of the useful life of the generating station, the depreciation on emission control system (ECS) shall be computed annually from the date of operation of such ECS based on the straight line method, with a salvage value of 10% and the depreciable value shall be recovered till the operational life of the generating station.*

*(12) In case the date of operation of the emission control system is subsequent to the date of completion of the useful life of generating station commercial operation of the generating station or unit thereof, depreciation of ECS shall be computed annually from the date of operation of such emission control system based on the straight line method, with a salvage value of 10% and recovered over ten years or a period mutually agreed by the generating company and the beneficiaries, whichever is higher.”*

42. The depreciation has been worked out considering the admitted capital expenditure as on 1.4.2024 and thereafter up to 31.3.2029. The Weighted Average Rate of Depreciation (WAROD), has been worked out for the Combined Asset as per the rates of depreciation specified in the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The Combined Asset has completed 12 years of life as on 31.3.2024 and, therefore, the remaining depreciable value has been spread across the balance useful life in accordance with the 2024 Tariff Regulations.

43. The depreciation allowed for the Combined Asset under Regulation 33 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period is as under:

(` in lakh)

	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Opening Gross Block	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85
B	Addition during the year 2024-29 due to projected ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Gross Block (A+B)	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85
D	Average Gross Block (A+C)/2	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85
E	Average Gross Block (90% depreciable assets)	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85	16941.85
F	Average Gross Block (100% depreciable assets)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
G	Depreciable value (excluding IT equipment and software) (E*90%)	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67
H	Depreciable value of IT equipment and software (F*100%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
I	Total Depreciable Value (G+H)	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67	15247.67
J	Weighted average rate of Depreciation (WAROD) (in %)	Spread over Depreciation				
K	Lapsed useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	12	13	14	15	16
L	Balance useful life at the beginning of the year (Year)	20.00	19.00	18.00	17.00	16.00
M	<b>Depreciation during the year</b>	223.84	223.84	223.84	223.84	223.84
N	Cumulative Depreciation at the end of the year	10994.70	11218.54	11442.38	11666.22	11890.06
O	Remaining Aggregate Depreciable Value at the end of the year	4252.97	4029.13	3805.29	3581.45	3357.60

### **Interest on Loan (IoL)**

44. Regulation 32 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

**“32. Interest on loan capital:** (1) The loans arrived at in the manner indicated in Regulation 18 of these regulations shall be considered gross normative loans for the calculation of interest on loans.

(2) The normative loan outstanding as on 1.4.2024 shall be worked out by deducting the cumulative repayment as admitted by the Commission up to 31.3.2024 from the gross normative loan.

(3) The repayment for each of the years of the tariff period 2024-29 shall be deemed to be equal to the depreciation allowed for the corresponding year or period. In case of de-capitalization of assets, the repayment shall be adjusted by taking into account cumulative repayment on a pro rata basis, and the adjustment should not exceed cumulative depreciation recovered up to the date of de-capitalisation of such asset.

(4) Notwithstanding any moratorium period availed of by the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, the repayment of the loan shall be considered from the first year of commercial operation of the project and shall be equal to the depreciation allowed for the year or part of the year.

(5) The rate of interest shall be the weighted average rate of interest calculated on the basis of the actual loan portfolio or allocated loan portfolio;



*Provided that if there is no actual loan outstanding for a particular year but the normative loan is still outstanding, the last available weighted average rate of interest of the loan portfolio for the project shall be considered;*

*Provided further that if the generating station or the transmission system, as the case may be, does not have any actual loan, then the weighted average rate of interest of the loan portfolio of the generating company or the transmission licensee as a whole shall be considered.*

*Provided that the rate of interest on the loan for the installation of the emission control system commissioned subsequent to date of commercial operation of the generating station or unit thereof, shall be the weighted average rate of interest of the actual loan portfolio of the emission control system, and in the absence of the actual loan portfolio, the weighted average rate of interest of the generating company as a whole shall be considered, subject to a ceiling of 14%;*

*Provided further that if the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, does not have any actual loan, then the rate of interest for a loan shall be considered as 1-year MCLR of the State Bank of India as applicable as on April 01, of the relevant financial year.*

*(6) The interest on the loan shall be calculated on the normative average loan of the year by applying the weighted average rate of interest.*

*(7) The changes to the terms and conditions of the loans shall be reflected from the date of such re-financing.”*

45. The Petitioner has submitted that IoL has been calculated based on interest rates prevailing as on 1.4.2024 for respective loans. Accordingly, the weighted average rate of Interest on Loan (IoL) has been considered as claimed by the Petitioner. The Petitioner has prayed that the change in interest rate due to the floating rate of interest applicable, if any, during the 2024-29 tariff period will be adjusted. Accordingly, the floating interest rate, if any, shall be considered at the time of truing-up.

46. We have considered the submissions of the Petitioner and the IoL has been worked out in accordance with Regulation 32 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The IoL allowed for the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period is as follows:

(` in lakh)						
	Particular	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Gross Normative Loan	11859.30	11859.30	11859.30	11859.30	11859.30





B	Cumulative Repayments up to Previous Year	10770.86	10994.70	11218.54	11442.38	11666.22
C	Net Loan-Opening (A-B)	1088.44	864.60	640.76	416.92	193.08
D	Addition due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E	Repayment during the year	223.84	223.84	223.84	223.84	193.08
F	Net Loan-Closing (C+D-E)	864.60	640.76	416.92	193.08	0.00
G	Average Loan (C+F)/2	976.52	752.68	528.84	305.00	96.54
H	Weighted Average Rate of Interest on Loan (in %)	9.21%	9.27%	9.28%	9.24%	9.23%
I	<b>Interest on Loan (G*H)</b>	<b>89.89</b>	<b>69.77</b>	<b>49.08</b>	<b>28.17</b>	<b>8.91</b>

### **Return on Equity (RoE)**

47. Regulations 30 and 31 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provide as follows:

*“30. Return on Equity: (1) Return on equity shall be computed in rupee terms, on the equity base determined in accordance with Regulation 18 of these regulations.*

*(2) Return on equity for existing project shall be computed at the base rate of 15.50% for thermal generating station, transmission system including communication system and run-of-river hydro generating station and at the base rate of 16.50% for storage type hydro generating stations, pumped storage hydro generating stations and run-of-river generating station with pondage;*

*(3) Return on equity for new project achieving COD on or after 01.04.2024 shall be computed at the base rate of 15.00% for the transmission system, including the communication system, at the base rate of 15.50% for Thermal generating station and run-of-river hydro generating station and at the base rate of 17.00% for storage type hydro generating stations, pumped storage hydro generating stations and run-of-river generating station with pondage;*

*Provided that return on equity in respect of additional capitalization beyond the original scope, including additional capitalization on account of the emission control system, Change in Law, and Force Majeure shall be computed at the base rate of one-year marginal cost of lending rate (MCLR) of the State Bank of India plus 350 basis points as on 1st April of the year, subject to a ceiling of 14%;*

*Provided further that:*

*i. In case of a new project, the rate of return on equity shall be reduced by 1.00% for such period as may be decided by the Commission if the generating station or transmission system is found to be declared under commercial operation without commissioning of any of the Free Governor Mode Operation (FGMO), data telemetry, communication system up to load dispatch centre or protection system based on the report submitted by the respective RLDC;*

*ii. in case of an existing generating station, as and when any of the requirements under (i) above of this Regulation are found lacking based on the report submitted by the concerned RLDC, the rate of return on equity shall be reduced by 1.00% for the period for which the deficiency continues;*

*iii. in the case of a thermal generating station:*

- a) rate of return on equity shall be reduced by 0.25% in case of failure to achieve the ramp rate as specified under Regulation 45(9) of IEGC Regulations, 2023.
- b) an additional rate of return on equity of 0.125% shall be allowed for every incremental ramp rate of 0.50% per minute achieved over and above the ramp rate specified by Central Electricity Authority, subject to the ceiling of additional rate of return on equity of 1.00%:

**31. Tax on Return on Equity.** (1) The rate of return on equity as allowed by the Commission under Regulation 30 of these regulations shall be grossed up with the effective tax rate of the respective financial year. The effective tax rate shall be calculated at the beginning of every financial year based on the estimated profit and tax to be paid estimated in line with the provisions of the relevant Finance Act applicable for that financial year to the concerned generating company or the transmission licensee by excluding the income of non-generation or non-transmission business, as the case may be, and the corresponding tax thereon.

*Provided that in case a generating company or transmission licensee is paying Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) under Section 115JB of the Income Tax Act, 1961, the effective tax rate shall be the MAT rate, including surcharge and cess;*

*Provided further that in case a generating company or transmission licensee has opted for Section 115BAA, the effective tax rate shall be tax rate including surcharge and cess as specified under Section 115BAA of the Income Tax Act, 1961.*

(2) The rate of return on equity shall be rounded off to three decimal places and shall be computed as per the formula given below:

$$\text{Rate of pre-tax return on equity} = \text{Base rate} / (1-t)$$

(3) The generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall true up the effective tax rate for every financial year based on actual tax paid together with any additional tax demand, including interest thereon, duly adjusted for any refund of tax including interest received from the income tax authorities pertaining to the tariff period 2024-29 on actual gross income of any financial year. Further, any penalty arising on account of delay in deposit or short deposit of tax amount shall not be considered while computing the actual tax paid for the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be.

*Provided that in case a generating company or transmission licensee is paying Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) under Section 115JB, the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall true up the grossed up rate of return on equity at the end of every financial year with the applicable MAT rate including surcharge and cess.*

*Provided that in case a generating company or transmission licensee is paying tax under Section 115BAA, the generating company or the transmission licensee, as the case may be, shall true up the grossed up rate of return on equity at the end of every financial year with the tax rate including surcharge and cess as specified under Section 115BAA.*



*Provided that any under-recovery or over recovery of grossed up rate on return on equity after truing up, shall be recovered or refunded to beneficiaries or the long term customers, as the case may be, on a year to year basis.”*

48. The Petitioner has submitted that the MAT rate applies to it.

49. We have considered the applicable MAT rate for RoE, which will be trued-up in accordance with the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The RoE allowed to the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period is as follows:

(` in lakh)

	Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
A	Opening Equity	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56
B	Addition due to ACE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C	Closing Equity (A+B)	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56
D	Average Equity (A+C)/2	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56	5082.56
E	Return on Equity (Base Rate) (in %)	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%	15.50%
F	Tax Rate applicable (in %)	17.47%	17.47%	17.47%	17.47%	17.47%
G	Rate of Return on Equity (Pre-tax) (in %)	18.78%	18.78%	18.78%	18.78%	18.78%
H	<b>Return on Equity (Pre-tax) (D*G)</b>	<b>954.58</b>	<b>954.58</b>	<b>954.58</b>	<b>954.58</b>	<b>954.58</b>

### **Operation and Maintenance Expenses (O&M Expenses)**

50. The O&M Expenses claimed by the Petitioner for the 2024-29 tariff period for the Combined Asset is as follows:

(` in lakh)

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
O&M Expenses	434.22	457.18	480.77	505.87	533.11

51. Regulation 36(3) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

#### ***“36. Operation and Maintenance Expenses:***

.....

**(3) Transmission system:** (a) The following normative operation and maintenance expenses shall be admissible for the transmission system:

Particulars	2024-	2025-	2026-	2027-	2028-
<b>Norms for sub-station Bays (Rs Lakh per bay)</b>					
765 kV	41.34	43.51	45.79	48.20	50.73
400 kV	29.53	31.08	32.71	34.43	36.23
220 kV	20.67	21.75	22.90	24.10	25.36
132 kV and below	15.78	16.61	17.48	18.40	19.35
<b>Norms for Transformers/Reactors (Rs Lakh per MVA or MVAR)</b>					
O&M expenditure per MVA or per MVAR (Rs Lakh per MVA or per MVAR)	0.262	0.276	0.290	0.305	0.322
<b>Norms for AC and HVDC lines (Rs Lakh per km)</b>					



Single Circuit (Bundled Conductor with six or more sub-conductors)	0.861	0.906	0.953	1.003	1.056
Single Circuit (Bundled conductor with four or more sub-conductors)	0.738	0.776	0.817	0.860	0.905
Single Circuit (Twin & Triple Conductor)	0.492	0.518	0.545	0.573	0.603
Single Circuit (Single Conductor)	0.246	0.259	0.272	0.287	0.302
Double Circuit (Bundled conductor with four or more sub-conductors)	1.291	1.359	1.430	1.506	1.585
Double Circuit (Twin & Triple Conductor)	0.861	0.906	0.953	1.003	1.056
Double Circuit (Single Conductor)	0.369	0.388	0.409	0.430	0.453
Multi Circuit (Bundled Conductor with four or more sub-conductor)	2.266	2.385	2.510	2.642	2.781
Multi Circuit (Twin & Triple Conductor)	1.509	1.588	1.671	1.759	1.851
<b>Norms for HVDC stations</b>					
HVDC Back-to-Back stations (Rs Lakh per MW)	2.07	2.18	2.30	2.42	2.55
Gazuwaka BTB (Rs Lakh/MW)	1.83	1.92	2.03	2.13	2.24
HVDC bipole scheme (Rs Lakh/MW)	1.04	1.10	1.16	1.22	1.28

*Provided that the O&M expenses for the GIS bays shall be allowed as worked out by multiplying 0.70 of the O&M expenses of the normative O&M expenses for bays;*

*Provided that the O&M expense norms of Double Circuit quad AC line shall be applicable to for HVDC bi-pole line;*

*Provided that the O&M expenses of  $\pm 500$  kV Mundra-Mohindergarh HVDC bipole scheme (2500 MW) shall be allowed as worked out by multiplying 0.80 of the normative O&M expenses for HVDC bipole scheme;*

*Provided further that the O&M expenses for Transmission Licensees whose transmission assets are located solely in NE Region (including Sikkim), States of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, district of Darjeeling of West Bengal shall be worked out by multiplying 1.50 to the normative O&M expenses prescribed above.*

*(b) The total allowable operation and maintenance expenses for the transmission system shall be calculated by multiplying the number of substation bays, transformer capacity of the transformer/reactor/Static Var Compensator/Static Synchronous Compensator (in MVA/MVAr) and km of line length with the applicable norms for the operation and maintenance expenses per bay, per MVA/MVAr and per km respectively.*

*(c) **Communication system:** The operation and maintenance expenses for the ULDC or such similar scheme shall be worked out at 2.0% of the original project cost related to such communication system. The transmission licensee shall submit the actual operation and maintenance expenses for truing up. The expenses in case of U-NMS shall be allowed on actual basis after due prudence check.*

*(d) The Security Expenses, Capital Spares individually costing more than Rs. 10 lakh and Insurance expenses arrived through competitive bidding for the transmission*

system and associated communication system shall be allowed separately after prudence check:

Provided that in case of self insurance, the premium shall not exceed 0.09% of the GFA of the assets insured;

Provided that the transmission licensee shall submit the along with estimated security expenses based on assessment of the security requirement, capital spares and insurance expenses, which shall be trued up based on details of the year-wise actuals along with appropriate justification for incurring the same and along with confirmation that the same is not claimed as a part of additional capitalisation or consumption of stores and spares and renovation and modernization.

(e) On the occurrence of any change in law event affecting O&M expenses, the impact shall be allowed to the transmission licensee at the time of truing up of tariff.

Provided that such impact shall be allowed only in case the overall impact of such change in law event in a year is more than 5% of normative O&M expenses of the project for the year.

(f) In case of a transmission licensee owned by the Central or State Government, the impact on account of implementation of wage or pay revision shall be allowed at the time of truing up of tariff.”

52. We have considered the Petitioner’s submissions. The O&M Expenses for the 2024-29 tariff period have been worked out as per the norms specified in the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The O&M Expenses approved for the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period as per Regulation 36 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations are as under:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
<b>Transmission Line:</b>					
400 kV D/C (Twin) Durgapur-Maithon Line – (line length:70.120 kms)					
<b>Norms as per Regulation D/C Twin (Rs. Per km)</b>	0.861	0.906	0.953	1.003	1.056
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	60.37	63.53	66.82	70.33	74.05
<b>Transmission Line:</b>					
• 400 kV S/C (Twin) Durgapur-Maithon Line –(Line length: 0.650 kms)					
<b>Norms as per Regulation S/C Twin (Rs. Per km)</b>	0.492	0.518	0.545	0.573	0.603
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	0.32	0.34	0.35	0.37	0.39
<b>Substations:</b>					
<b>400 kV Bays</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 No 400 kV Bays at Purnea Substation</li> <li>• 2 Nos 400 kV Bays at Durgapur Substation</li> <li>• 2 Nos 400 kV Bays at Maithon Substation</li> </ul>					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per Bay)</b>	29.53	31.08	32.71	34.43	36.23
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	147.65	155.4	163.55	172.15	181.15
<b>Substations:</b>					

1 No 160 MVA, 220/132 kV ICT at Baripada Substation					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per MVA)</b>	0.262	0.276	0.29	0.305	0.322
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	41.92	44.16	46.4	48.8	51.52
Substations: 220 kV Bays 1 No 220 kV Bays at Baripada Substation					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per Bay)</b>	20.67	21.75	22.9	24.1	25.36
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	20.67	21.75	22.9	24.1	25.36
Substations: 132 kV Bays 1 No 132 kV Bays at Baripada Substation					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per Bay)</b>	15.78	16.61	17.48	18.4	19.35
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	15.78	16.61	17.48	18.4	19.35
Substations: Reactors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Nos 125 MVAR, 400 kV Reactor at Purnea Substation</li> <li>1 No 63 MVAR, 400 kV Reactor at Purnea Substation</li> <li>2 Nos 125 MVAR, 400 kV Reactor at Binaguri Substation</li> </ul>					
<b>Norms as per Regulation (Rs. Per MVAR)</b>	0.262	0.276	0.29	0.305	0.322
<b>O&amp;M Expenses</b>	147.51	155.39	163.27	171.72	181.29
<b>Total O&amp;M Expenses allowed</b>	<b>434.22</b>	<b>457.17</b>	<b>480.78</b>	<b>505.87</b>	<b>533.10</b>

### **Interest on Working Capital (IWC)**

53. Regulation 34 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations provides as follows:

*“34. Interest on Working Capital: (1) The working capital shall cover:*

*(a) For Coal-based/lignite-fired thermal generating stations:*

*(i) Cost of coal or lignite, if applicable, for 10 days for pit-head generating stations and 20 days for non-pit-head generating stations for generation corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor or the maximum coal/lignite stock storage capacity, whichever is lower;*

*(ii) Limestone towards stock for 15 days corresponding to the normative annual plant availability*

*(iii) Advance payment for 30 days towards the cost of coal or lignite and limestone for generation corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor;*

*(iv) Cost of secondary fuel oil for two months for generation corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor, and in case of use of more than one secondary fuel oil, cost of fuel oil stock for the main secondary fuel oil;*

*(v) Maintenance spares @ 20% of operation and maintenance expenses, including water charges and security expenses;*

(vi) Receivables equivalent to 45 days of capacity charge and energy charge for the sale of electricity calculated on the normative annual plant availability factor; and  
(vii) Operation and maintenance expenses, including water charges and security expenses, for one month.

(b) For emission control system of coal or lignite based thermal generating stations:  
(i) Cost of limestone or reagent towards stock for 20 days corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor;  
(ii) Advance payment for 30 days towards the cost of reagent for generation corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor;  
(iii) Receivables equivalent to 45 days of supplementary capacity charge and supplementary energy charge for the sale of electricity calculated on the normative annual plant availability factor;  
(iv) Operation and maintenance expenses in respect of the emission control system for one month;  
(v) Maintenance spares @20% of operation and maintenance expenses in respect of emission control system.

(c) For Open-cycle Gas Turbine/Combined Cycle thermal generating stations:  
(i) Fuel cost for 15 days corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor, duly taking into account the mode of operation of the generating station on gas fuel and liquid fuel;  
(ii) Liquid fuel stock for 15 days corresponding to the normative annual plant availability factor, and in case of use of more than one liquid fuel, cost of main liquid fuel duly taking into account mode of operation of the generating stations of gas fuel and liquid fuel;

Provided that the above shall only be allowed to generating stations that have facilities to store liquid fuel.

(iii) Maintenance spares @ 30% of operation and maintenance expenses, including water charges and security expenses;  
(iv) Receivables equivalent to 45 days of capacity charge and energy charge for the sale of electricity calculated on the normative plant availability factor, duly taking into account the mode of operation of the generating station on gas fuel and liquid fuel;  
(v) Operation and maintenance expenses, including water charges and security expenses, for one month.

(d) For Hydro generating station (including Pumped Storage Hydro generating station) and Transmission System:  
(i) Receivables equivalent to 45 days of annual fixed cost;  
(ii) Maintenance spares @ 15% of operation and maintenance expenses including security expenses; and  
(iii) Operation and maintenance expenses, including security expenses for one month.

(2) The cost of fuel in cases covered under sub-clauses (a) and (c) of clause (1) of this Regulation shall be based on the landed fuel cost (taking into account normative transit and handling losses in terms of Regulation 59 of these regulations) by the generating station and gross calorific value of the fuel as per actual weighted average for the preceding financial year in case of each financial year for which tariff is to be determined:



*Provided that in the case of a new generating station, the cost of fuel for the first financial year shall be considered based on landed fuel cost (taking into account normative transit and handling losses in terms of Regulation 59 of these regulations) and gross calorific value of the fuel as per actual weighted average for three months, as used for infirm power, preceding date of commercial operation for which tariff is to be determined.*

*(3) Rate of interest on working capital shall be on a normative basis and shall be considered at the Reference Rate of Interest as on 1.4.2024 or as on 1st April of the year during the tariff period 2024- 29 in which the generating station or a unit thereof or the transmission system including communication system or element thereof, as the case may be, is declared under commercial operation, whichever is later:*

*Provided that in case of truing-up, the rate of interest on working capital shall be considered at Reference Rate of Interest as on 1st April of each of the financial year during the tariff period 2024-29.*

*(4) Interest on working capital shall be payable on a normative basis, notwithstanding that the generating company or the transmission licensee has not taken a loan for working capital from any outside agency.”*

54. The Petitioner has considered the rate of IWC as 11.90% as on 1.4.2024. IWC is worked out in accordance with Regulation 34 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The Rate of Interest (RoI) considered is 11.90% (SBI 1-year MCLR applicable as on 1.4.2024 of 8.65% plus 325 basis points) for the FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29.

55. The components of the working capital and interest allowed thereon under Regulation 34 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period in respect of the Combined Asset are as under:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Working Capital for O&M Expenses (O&M Expenses for one month)	36.19	38.10	40.06	42.16	44.43
Working Capital for Maintenance Spares (15% of O&M Expenses)	65.13	68.58	72.12	75.88	79.97
Working Capital for Receivables (Equivalent to 45 days of annual fixed cost / annual transmission charges)	214.54	214.97	215.42	215.43	217.12
<b>Total Working Capital</b>	<b>315.85</b>	<b>321.65</b>	<b>327.59</b>	<b>333.46</b>	<b>341.51</b>
Rate of Interest for working capital (in %)	11.90%	11.90%	11.90%	11.90%	11.90%
<b>Interest on Working Capital</b>	<b>37.59</b>	<b>38.28</b>	<b>38.98</b>	<b>39.68</b>	<b>40.64</b>



### **Annual Fixed Charges for the 2024-29 Tariff Period**

56. The transmission charges allowed in respect of the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Depreciation	223.84	223.84	223.84	223.84	223.84
Interest on Loan	89.89	69.77	49.08	28.17	8.91
Return on Equity	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58	954.58
O&M Expenses	434.22	457.18	480.77	505.87	533.11
Interest on Working Capital	37.59	38.28	38.98	39.68	40.64
<b>Total</b>	<b>1740.12</b>	<b>1743.65</b>	<b>1747.26</b>	<b>1752.14</b>	<b>1761.08</b>

### **Filing Fee and Publication Expenses**

57. The Petitioner has claimed reimbursement of the fee paid by it for filing the Petition and publication expenses. The Petitioner has further submitted that it shall be entitled to the reimbursement of the filing fee and the expenses incurred on publication of notices in the application for approval of tariff directly from the beneficiaries or the long-term customers, as the case may be in accordance with Regulation 94(1) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations.

58. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions. The Petitioner is entitled to reimbursement of the fees paid for filing the Petition and publication expenses incurred on this count directly from the beneficiaries or long-term customers, as the case may be.

### **Fees and Charges of Central Transmission Utility of India Limited (CTUIL)**

59. The Petitioner has submitted that as per Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, the fees and charges of the CTUIL may be allowed separately through a separate regulation. The Petitioner has further submitted that in the absence of such regulation, the expenses of CTUIL will be borne by the Petitioner which will be



recovered by the Petitioner as an additional O&M Expenses through a separate Petition at the end of the tariff period.

60. It is apt here to refer to Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations which provides as under:

***“99. Special Provisions relating to Central Transmission Utility of India Ltd. (CTUIL): The fee and charges of CTUIL shall be allowed separately by the Commission through a separate regulation:***

*Provided that until such regulation is issued by the Commission, the expenses of CTUIL shall be borne by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) which shall be recovered by PGCIL as additional O&M expenses through a separate petition.”*

61. We have considered the Petitioner’s submissions and perused Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. In view of the explicit provision made under Regulation 99 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, we permit the Petitioner i.e. PGCIL to bear the fees and charges expenses of CTUIL and recover the same as an additional O&M Expenses through a separate Petition until such a regulation is notified and issued by the Commission.

#### **Licence Fee and RLDC Fees and Charges**

62. The Petitioner has claimed reimbursement of the licence fee, RLDC Fees and Charges. The Petitioner is allowed the reimbursement of the license fee in accordance with Regulation 94(4) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period. The Petitioner is also allowed to recover the RLDC fee and charges from the beneficiaries in terms of Regulation 94(3) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period.

#### **Goods and Services Tax**

63. The Petitioner has submitted that the transmission charges claimed herein are exclusive of GST, and in case GST is levied in the future, the same shall be additionally paid by the Respondents and be charged and billed separately by the Petitioner. It is also prayed that additional taxes, if any, are paid by the Petitioner on account of the

demand from the Government/ statutory authorities, and the Commission may allow the same to be recovered from the beneficiaries.

64. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions. Since GST is not levied on the transmission service at present, we are of the view that the Petitioner's prayer on this count is premature.

#### **Security Expenses, Insurance and Capital Spares**

65. The Petitioner has submitted that as per Regulation 36(3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations, the security expenses and capital spares of more than ₹10 lakh and insurance expenses arrived through the competitive bidding for the transmission system and associated communication system shall be allowed separately after prudence check.

66. As regards the security expenses of the Combined Asset, the Petitioner has submitted that it shall file a separate Petition for the truing up of security expenses from 1.4.2019 to 31.3.2024 under Regulation 35(3)(c) of the 2019 Tariff Regulations and recovery of security expenses from 1.4.2024 to 31.3.2029 under Regulation 36(3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations. According to the Petitioner, the security expenses regarding the Combined Asset are not claimed in the instant Petition.

67. The Petitioner has also submitted that it has not claimed insurance expenses in the instant Petition and has submitted that it shall file a separate Petition for claiming the overall insurance expenses and consequential IWC on the same, considering the actual insurance expenses incurred by it for the FY 2023-24 after escalating the same at 5.25% per annum to arrive at the estimated insurance expense for the FY 2024-25, FY 2025-26, FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28, and FY 2028-29.



68. The Petitioner has not claimed capital spares for the Combined Asset in the instant Petition for the 2024-29 tariff period. According to the Petitioner, it will file a separate Petition for the capital spares consumed and consequential IWC thereon on an actual basis for the 2024-29 tariff period as per the 2024 Tariff Regulations. The Petitioner has also submitted that it has filed Petition No. 45/MP/2024, claiming therein capital spares for the 2019-24 tariff period as per the 2019 Tariff Regulations.

69. We have considered the Petitioner's submissions and have perused the record. We deem it proper here to refer to Regulation 36(3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations which provides as follows:

*(d) The Security Expenses, Capital Spares individually costing more than Rs. 10 lakh and Insurance expenses arrived through competitive bidding for the transmission system and associated communication system shall be allowed separately after prudence check:*

*Provided that in case of self insurance, the premium shall not exceed 0.12% of the GFA of the assets insured;*

*Provided that the transmission licensee shall submit the along with estimated security expenses based on assessment of the security requirement, capital spares and insurance expenses, which shall be trued up based on details of the year-wise actuals along with appropriate justification for incurring the same and along with confirmation that the same is not claimed as a part of additional capitalisation or consumption of stores and spares and renovation and modernization."*

70. On perusal of Regulation 36(3)(d) of the 2024 Tariff Regulations and considering the Petitioner's submissions, the Petitioner is allowed to file a single consolidated Petition comprising of security expenses, capital spares individually costing more than ₹10 lakh and insurance expenses on estimated basis in terms of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for the 2024-29 tariff period.

### **Sharing of Transmission Charges**

71. The billing, collection, and disbursement of transmission charges shall be recovered in terms of provisions of the 2020 Sharing Regulations as provided in

Regulation 57 of the 2019 Tariff Regulations for 2019-24 tariff period and Regulation 78 of the 2024 Tariff Regulations for 2024-29 tariff period.

72. To summarize:

- a) The trued-up Annual Fixed Charges (AFC) allowed in respect of the Combined Asset for the 2019-24 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
AFC Allowed	2665.13	2589.26	2514.84	2444.28	2379.83

- a. The Annual Fixed Charges approved in respect of the Combined Asset for the 2024-29 tariff period are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)					
Particulars	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
AFC Allowed	1740.12	1743.65	1747.26	1752.14	1761.08

73. This order disposes of Petition No. 24/TT/2025 in terms of the above discussions and findings.

**sd/-**  
**(Harish Dudani)**  
**Member**

**sd/-**  
**(Ramesh Babu V.)**  
**Member**

