



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

TWENTY SIXTH REPORT OF THE SIXTH ASSEMBLY

SUBJECT: INEFFICIENCY AND CORRUPTION IN TPDDL IN
TIMARPUR ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY

PRESENTED ON 03RD DECEMBER, 2019
ADOPTED ON 3RD DECEMBER, 2019

Legislative Assembly, Old Secretariat, Delhi – 110054

INDEX

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE	1
PREFACE	2
INTRODUCTION	3
PROCEEDINGS	5
OBSERVATIONS	14
RECOMMENDATIONS	15

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Sh. Saurabh Bhardwaj	CHAIRMAN
2. Sh. Pankaj Pushkar	MEMBER
3. Sh. Akhilesh Pati Tripathi	MEMBER
4. Ms. Bhavna Gaur	MEMBER
5. Ms. Bandana Kumari	MEMBER
6. Ch. Fateh Singh	MEMBER
7. Sh. Girish Soni	MEMBER
8. Sh. Raju Dhingan	MEMBER
9. Sh. Shri Dutt Sharma	MEMBER

Assembly Secretariat:

1. Shri C. Velmurugan	Secretary
2. Shri Sadanand Sah	Deputy Secretary
3. Shri Manjeet Singh	Deputy Secretary

PREFACE

1. I, the Chairman, Committee on Petitions, having been authorised by the Committee to present on their behalf, this Report on the petition received from Sh. Jitender Gupta, Sh. Mahesh Yadav and Sh. Rakesh Kumar of Khasra No. 90/2 Gali no. 6, Wazirabad, Delhi-110086 filed a petition dated 05.01.2019 on the issue of inefficiency and corruption in TPDDL in Timarpur Constituency. The Petition was countersigned and presented to the Hon'ble Speaker, Delhi Legislative Assembly by Sh. Pankaj Pushkar, Hon'ble MLA, and referred to the Committee on Petitions on 09.01.2018. This petition was filed in addition to the petition filed by Delhi Dehat Vikas Munch (REGD.), 1447, Alipur, Delhi-110036, 27.08.2018 on the issue alleging Illegal recovery by Electricity provider Company (i.e. TPDDL).
2. The Committee considered and adopted the Draft Report at their sitting held on 29.11.2019.
3. The observations/recommendations of the Committee on the above matter have been included in the Report.
4. I would like to thank all the Members of the Committee for their continued guidance.
5. The Committee places on record the profound appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered by Sh. Sadanand Sah, Deputy Secretary, Sh. Manjeet Singh, Deputy Secretary, Sh. Subhash Ranjan ,Section Officer, Mr. Siddharth Singh, Associate Fellow, Delhi Assembly Research Centre (DARC) and other staff of Assembly Secretariat in preparation of this report.



Date: 30.11.2019

Place: Delhi

SAURABH BHARDWAJ

CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

INTRODUCTION

1. Sh. Jitender Gupta, Sh. Mahesh Yadav, Sh. Rakesh Kumar of Khasra No. 90/2 Gali no. 6, Wazirabad, Delhi-110086 filed a petition dated 05.01.2019 on the issue of inefficiency and corruption in TPDDL in Timarpur Constituency. The Petition was countersigned and presented to the Hon'ble Speaker, Delhi Legislative Assembly by Sh. Pankaj Pushkar, Hon'ble MLA, and referred to the Committee on Petitions on 09.01.2018.
2. It was alleged in the petition that TPDDL had not been issuing new electricity connections in some part of Wazirabad village despite the fact that applicant had already deposited the demand money according to the rates fixed in gali no. 6, part of gali no. 6 and gali no.12 on the pretext of being un-electrified and there is no land available with Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (TPDDL) for installing new transformers.
3. It was also alleged that electricity pole bearing number 532-34/11/5/6 in Sangam Vihar area has tilted on the nearby building and is standing with the support of that building which have live electricity wires attached to it and is very dangerous for the local residents.
4. The petitioner alleged in the Ram Ghar, main gali, Wazirabad village, the TPDDL has installed poles on both sides of the road, where one side is HT line and another side LT and because of this negligence the road has become much narrower and is difficult for a vehicle to take a turn easily in the gali.
5. It was also alleged that there is a pole in front of SBI bank, Vijay Nagar, single story located in the middle of road and because of this there is frequent traffic snarls on the road. Many complaints have been made to TPDDL however they have installed new pole adjacent to the old one but never shifted the wires from the old pole to the new pole.

6. The petitioner further alleged that there are various dark spots in Timarpur constituency - Malkaganj, Wazirabad village and Vijay nagar double storey etc. and policy to remove dark spots.

PROCEEDINGS

1. In order to ascertain the facts and investigate the allegations levelled in the said Petition, the Committee on Petitions conducted its meetings dated 23.01.2019, 13.03.2019 and 02.08.2019, and deliberated the matter comprehensively with the officers of Officers of Department of Power, Government of NCTD, Officers of the Distribution Company i.e. Tata power-Delhi Distribution Limited (TPDDL) and Delhi Electricity Commission. (DERC).
2. Upon receiving the Petition, the Committee, in the first instance, sent it to the Secretary, Department of Power, Government of NCT of Delhi, Chairman, Delhi Electricity Regulation Commission (DERC) and Chief Executive Officer, TPDDL seeking information on the issues cited in the petition to be submitted by 18.01.2019.
3. DERC in its submissions vide letter No.F. 17(266)/DERC/Engg./2018/2018-19/Part-I/6404/3328 dated 17.01.2019 informed the Committee that the issue raised in the petition are site specific and to the licensed areas of TPDDL. As per section 42 of the Electricity Act, 2003, it is the duty of the Distribution Licensee to develop and maintain an efficient coordinated economical distribution system in its area of supply. Accordingly, the comments from TPDDL were sought. TPDDL vide letter No. TPDDL/Regulatory/2018-19/03/448 dated 17.01.2019 submitted the reply on the specific issues as under:

Sr. No	Issue	Response by TPDDL
1	Non- issuance of new electricity connections by TPDDL to the residents of Wazirabad village	1. With the rapid growth and ongoing construction activities in this area of Wazirabad, suitable locations for installation of distribution transformers have been explored to meet the upcoming demand of power supply and therefore TPDDL tried to explore the suitable location for installation of Distribution Transformer (DT) and no suitable space have been provided by the RWA/Builder for installation resulting in non-release of

		<p>connections. In this regard, correspondence with the suitable correspondence with Hon'ble MLA Sh. Pankaj Pushkar has already been made.</p> <p>2. Communication with agencies/authorities for providing space for installation of Distribution transformers has also been made. Applicants had also been intimated about space constraint/cancellation of request. In this regard, three schemes vide no. HRU0532/00001,HRU0532/00005 and HRU0532/00007 were framed but could not be executed due to non-availability of space.</p> <p>3. During the month of September 2018 to December 2018 various site visits were conducted along with Hon'ble MLA Sh. Pankaj Pushkar, Hon'ble Councillor Ms. Premlata Sangwan and some applicants but suitable space is not been provided.</p> <p>Further, the connection in un-electrified areas as per regulation 11(4) (iii) (e)of DERC(Supply code and performance standards), 2017 is given within the time schedule and subject receipt of service line cum development charges(SLD) and availability of right of way and land, wherever required.</p> <p>Further, as per Regulation 22(1) Provided that if there is no specific developer in an area and the augmentation of the existing distribution system requires the space for installation of grid substations, transformers, switch gears, etc. to meet out the load demand, the distribution licensee shall approach the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, within fifteen days of such requirement, for allotment of</p>
--	--	--

		space, indicating the probable space available in such areas. DERC in its order dated 31.08.2017 has again referred the notification dated 09.06.2011 of Department of power, GNCTD under which distribution licensee shall approach Government of NCT of Delhi for space requirement.
2	Electricity pole bearing number 532-34/11/5/6 in Sangam Vihar area has tilted on the nearby building and is standing with the support of that building	It was submitted that the site got visited by zonal team and was observed that the said pole is encroached by the residents/owners during the unauthorised construction made by the adjacent premises. Besides this, the said pole is duly supported by the 'stud pole' and is not supported by the building as alleged.
3	In the Ram Ghar, main gali, Wazirabad village, the TPDDL has installed poles on both sides of the road, where one side is HT line and another side LT and because of this negligence the road has become much narrower and is difficult for a vehicle to take a turn easily in the gali.	HT and LT poles in the said area were erected long back for electrification as well as to provide new connections to the residents/applicants. HT poles on one side of the road are part of HVDS network with single phase transformers and LT poles on the other side of the road have been laid additionally to cater to the road growth in the area. TPDDL further stated that the reason for getting the roads narrow appears to be un-authorized construction and encroachment done by the residents/owners/builders during construction activities and parking of the vehicles on the road.
4	There is a pole in front of SBI bank, vijay nagar, single story located in the middle of road and because of this there is frequent traffic snarls on the road. Many complaints have been made to TPDDL however they have installed new pole adjacent to the old one but never shifted the wires from the old pole to the new pole.	TPDDL stated that multiple site visits were done in the case and details were shared with RWA. Further in order to shift the line, NOC from the concerned residents were still awaited. RWAs were requested to intervene and arrange for resolutions mutually.

5	The issue of many Dark spots in Timarpur Constituency and policy to remove dark spots.	<p>Malkaganj: Street light working efficiency is 99% Issue of dark spots in the area raised for the first time.</p> <p>Wazirabad Village: The complaints regarding specific pole numbers have been provided. More than 99% street lights are functioning properly.</p> <p>Vijaynagar Double story: Working with 99% efficiency. 44 new street lights were installed wherever feasible.</p> <p>TPDDL further stated that for installation of street lights, there is provision in MLA-LAD scheme. Concerned MLA may place a request before the DISCOM with his consent to prepare an estimate for installation of street lights in his area of constituency. After approval of the estimate, the estimate is sent to the Department of Urban Development, GNCTD for payment and post payment of, DISCOMS execute the work.</p> <p>It was stated that DERC in its DERC (Supply Code and performance standards) Regulations, 2017 has made the standards of performance for rectification of faults in street lights maintained by the distribution licensees and compensation payable.</p>
---	--	--

4. In the meeting dated 23.01.2019, the issue of installation of transformers and issuance of new electricity connection in Gali no. 6, 9 and 12 in Wazirabad village was discussed. On a notarised affidavit filed by Sh. Vinod Shastri, resident of gali no. 12 who claimed that he was denied an electricity connection for the past one and the half years due to issues involved in installation of transformer. It was further informed to the Committee that it was TPDDL's responsibility to install the transformer for which land was to be provided by Irrigation and flood control department, GNCTD. In the meeting, the Committee requested Irrigation and Flood Control Department, GNCTD to conduct a joint operation with TPDDL to decide the feasibility of permission and consider taking lenient view of the situation as I&FC Department is the custodian of the land and public

interest needs to be served. In a letter dated 07.03.2019, a copy of letter by Sh. Vinod Shastri dated 13.02.2019 along with enclosures (copy of affidavits filed by Sh. Vinod Shastri and Sh. Sushil Sehgal was forwarded to Department of Power, GNCTD wherein the petitioner alleged circle head of TPDDL Sh. Rajesh Behl to buy land from Sh. Jagdish Gupta and pay rent accordingly in order to arrange space for installation of Transformers and address the issue of installation of transformer in Gali No. 12. Committee expressed displeasure in this regard and requested the Department of Power, GNCTD to furnish an Action Taken Report on the in the matter by 14.03.2019. In this regard, a reminder was sent on 27.03.2019 to department of Power, GNCTD along with DERC and TPDDL wherein the committee expressed its displeasure over no response from the respective authorities in not responding its communication in a time bound way and reiterated to furnish an Action Taken Report by 02.04.2019.

5. Further, Department of Power, GNCTD vide letter No. F.11 (1)/Leg.2018/959 dated 27.03.2019 informed the Committee that the matter relating to non-issuance of electricity connection by TPDDL was forwarded to TPDDL and DERC regarding Action Taken Report. DERC vide letter No.F. 17(266)/DERC/Engg./2018-19/Part-I/6404/03 dated 01.04.2019 informed the Committee with regard to the above mentioned matter that TPDDL was directed to look into the matter and provide requisite reply directly to the Assembly Secretariat with a copy to the Commission.
6. TPDDL in its submissions vide letter no. TPDDL/GA/2274 dated 02.04.2019 informed the Committee in addition to its letter no. TPDDL/Regulatory/2018-19/03/448 dated 17.01.2019:
 - I. Gali no. 6, Wazirabad Village: One part of gali no. 6 is un-electrified. With rapid growth of and on-going construction activities , additional electrical network was required to meet the demand of power supply, therefore a suitable location was required for installation of Distribution Transformer (DT) and no such space was provided by the builder for installation of DT.

Present status: Public Works Department granted permissions for installing additional 400KVA trf under flyover, the scheme was approved and would be executed after **30.04.2019 and all pending new connections will be released after 15.04.2019.**

- II. Gali no. 9, Wazirabad Village: One part of Gali no.9 was un-electrified. With rapid growth of and on-going construction activities , additional electrical network was required to meet the demand of power supply, therefore a suitable location was required for installation of Distribution Transformer (DT). Accordingly, a suitable space was for installation of DT was identified during the joint inspection by TPDDL officials and applicants/residents of the area. Scheme no. HR/U0532/00008 was prepared for the said purpose and a double pole structure was erected at site but due to strong public hindrance for getting it 2- 3 mtrs. shifted from the proposed location, the work could not be carried forward

Current status: 250KVA DT has been installed, work for laying LT feeders and transformer fencing had started and completed by **15.04.2019. Pending new connections was to be released by 16.04.2019.**

- III. Gali no. 12, Wazirabad Village: One part of gali no. 12 is un-electrified. With the approval of the competent authority i.e. Irrigation and Flood Control Department, GNCTD a suitable space for installation of DT was finalized during the joint inspection by TPDDL officials and applicants/residents of the area. Scheme no. HR/U0532/00005 was prepared for the purpose but due to strong public hindrance the scheme could not be executed despite various efforts.
7. In response to the allegations levelled against TPDDL by Sh. Vinod Shastri in a letter dated 13.02.2019 (Affidavit filed), TPDDL vide letter no. TPDDL/GA/2275 dated 02.04.2019 submitted that due to strong resistance from the plot owner, Sh. Jagdish Gupta when TPDDL tried to augment 400kVA DT to release pending new connections as he claimed

that augmenting the above said DT would cause hindrance at his entry gate. This matter was brought before Sh. Pankaj Pushkar Hon'ble MLA and a joint visit was carried out with him in the presence officers of TPDDL, I&FC and applicants/residents of the area and the said place was found to be suitable. It was also informed that the allegations made by Sh. Vinod Shastri were baseless as the entire discussions were held in the presence of officials of TPDDL with an intention to resolve the long pending release of new connections in Gali no.12, Wazirabad Village.

8. In response to letter no. TPDDL/GA/2274 dated 02.04.2019 a submission was made by Hon'ble MLA, Timarpur Sh. Pankaj Pushkar wherein expected dates for execution of schemes was mentioned as 30.04.2019 and 15.04.2019 respectively for Gali no. 6 and Gali no. 9 of Wazirabad Village. Further, in the case of Gali no. 9 it was informed that due to strong public hindrance the scheme could not be executed despite best efforts. In this regard, Hon'ble MLA had stated that installation of transformers in Gali no.6 and 9 were not executed and as far as Gali no. 12 is concerned, the work was not completed by 26.04.2019, a deadline given by TPDDL. It appears that TPDDL in its letter dated 02.04.2019 communicated wrong information to the Committee as it violated all the deadlines assured to the Committee. The Committee in this regard, requested TPDDL to furnish its reply by 20.05.2019 in its communication dated 09.05.2019.
9. DERC vide letter no. No.F. 17(266)/DERC/Engg./2018-19/Part-I/6404/309 dated 10.05.2019 on receipt of Committee letter dated 09.05.2019 regarding non-compliance of timelines directed TPDDL to submit the status to DERC for release of electricity connections of the applicants in Gali no. 6, 9 and 12 Wazirabad Village and the installation of DT in the said areas, separately.
10. TPDDL vide letter no TPDDL/GA/2320 dated 20.05.2019 informed the Committee as under:
 - I. Gali No. 9, Wazirabad Village: Work related to transformer installation and laying of LT poles had been completed. The initial delay was due to the strong public resistance in installation of transformers. During laying of LT network

there was constraints in transportation and installation of LT poles due to huge encroachments by local area residents but despite that rigorous efforts were made for completion of work. All the new pending cases in this area have been cleared on 03.05.2019 and 16 connection notifications had been processed

- II. Gali no. 12, Wazirabad Village: The scheme got delayed initially due to non-receipt of NoC from Irrigation and Flood Control Department, GNCTD and the permission was only received on 23.04.2019 after the intervention of the Hon'ble MLA. In the said case, the permissions were necessary as previous attempts failed due to strong public hindrance. In order to avoid further delay in release of connections, it was decided to release the pending connections by extending Low tension (LT) networks from the existing 400 kWA DT and install 630 kWA transformer in parallel. The LT extension and clearance for pending new connections was given on 10.05.2019. Till date 11 new connections had been released. However, there is still strong public resistance in the installation of 630 kWA transformer in this area and sought police support for its installation.
- III. Gali no. 6, Wazirabad Village: Order of scheme for installation of DT after necessary approvals at Gali no. 6 was received only on 23.04.2019. The LT network laying was expected to be completed by 22.05.2019 and will start the installation DT would be done in parallel. In the meanwhile, all the pending connections would be released by 22.05.2019.

11. With reference to the meeting held on 02.08.2019, a letter dated 08.08.2019 was received by the Committee from TPDDL reiterating their stand regarding the concerns raised in the meeting. Further, the clarification on pending new connections in Gali No. 6,9 and 12 had been provided as under:

- I. In Wazirabad Gali No. 6, overhead LT network had been laid charged through existing network to release the applied new connections. The payment for pending work on DT installation and underground LT network had been made and will be done after permission is received.
- II. In Gali No. 9, issue of installation of transformer had already been completed.
- III. In Wazirabad Gali No. 12, Overhead LT network had been laid charged through existing network to release the applied new connections. Due to public hindrance, technical team after numerous attempt had been unable to install DT. Consequently, team had also took support of Delhi Police, however, same could not be provided by the Police on law and order grounds.

OBSERVATIONS

From the scrutiny of the responses filed by Department of Power, GNCTD, Distribution Company i.e. TPDDL DERC and deliberations during the course of proceedings, the following observations brought on record:

1. The Committee observed that despite due clearances, TPDDL had not provided new connections to the consumers/applicants and they had been suffering, causing unbearable loss to the aggrieved petitioners.
2. The Committee also observes that TPDDL had violated the assurances tendered before the Committee with regard to the deadlines for execution of works.
3. It was also noted that TPDDL failed to comply with its own commitment on the stipulated dates for releasing new electricity connections in Gali no. 6 by 15.04.2019, Gali no. 9 by 16.04.2019 and assured the Committee to complete the work by 26.04.2019 but not even a single new connection was released in Gali no. 12 and the work was not completed even by 26.04.2019. Furthermore, no connections were released till the meeting dated 02.08.2019 causing immeasurable trauma and monetary loss to all the affected people.
4. The petitioner attended the meetings and updated their grievances to the Committee and expressed their anguish for not providing connection during the peak summer period i.e. May to August and appraised the Committee of their sufferings. They also informed the Committee that TPDDL had delayed the release of new connection without any valid reason pretending that Irrigation and Flood Control Department, GNCTD had not provided adequate space for installation. However, it was found that Irrigation and Flood Control Department, GNCTD had given them No Objection Certificate for installing new transformers, yet TPDDL had not requested adequate police force to mitigate any kind of expected public hindrance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. TPDDL should supply connections to all the consumers without further delay in a speedy manner and pay adequate compensation to all the aggrieved consumers for not providing the electricity connections within the stipulated period of 60 days as per the Regulation.
2. Stringent action should be taken against the officials of TPDDL for violating the deadlines as tendered before the Committee and delaying new electricity connections to the consumers/applicants.
3. The Committee requests Worthy Chief Secretary of GNCT of Delhi to submit Action Taken Report on the recommendations by the Committee to Legislative Assembly of Delhi within thirty working days of adoption of this report.

Date: 30.11.2019

Place: Delhi



SAURABH BHARDWAJ

CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS