

**BEFORE THE HARYANA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION AT
PANCHKULA**

Case No. HERC/P. No. 24 of 2025

Date of Hearing : 10/06/2025

Date of Order : 10/06/2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

Petition under Section 43, 46, 47, 86 (1)(e) and Section 181 of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Regulation 16 to 19 of the Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/Gross Metering), Regulations, 2021 (“the Regulations, 2021”) seeking framing of requisite Regulations and/or suitable Amendments/Relaxation of the existing Regulations, 2021, to the extent it relates to the waiver of processing fee, meter procurement fee, requirement of net metering/ gross metering agreement etc., for the purposes of releasing the connections under the PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojna in terms of D.O. No. 318/17/2024 dated 04.03.2025 issued by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Petitioner

Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited (DHBVNL) Vidyut Sadan, Vidyut Nagar, Hisar.

Present

On behalf of the Petitioner

1. Ms. Sonia Madan, Advocate
2. Sh. Love Preet Singh, Advocate
3. Sh. Sunil Grewal, SDO, DHBVN

QUORUM

Shri Nand Lal Sharma, Chairman

Shri Mukesh Garg, Member

ORDER

1. Petition:

- 1.1 That the present petition is being filed through Sh. Subhash Kumar Singh, Superintending Engineer/ Commercial, Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited (hereinafter referred to as “DHBVNL” or “the Petitioner”), who is fully conversant with the facts of the case on the basis of knowledge derived from the record maintained in the regular course of business by the Petitioner.
- 1.2 That DHBVNL is a State-Owned Power Distribution Company and registered under the companies Act, 1956, formed under corporatization/ restructuring of erstwhile Haryana State Electricity

- Board and is holder of distribution and retail supply of electricity License (License No. DRS-2 of 2004) in the Southern Zone of Haryana.
- 1.3 That the Petitioner is filing the instant petition seeking framing of requisite Regulations and/or suitable Amendments/Relaxation of the existing Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/Gross Metering), Regulations, 2021 (hereinafter referred to as “the Regulations, 2021”), to the extent it relates to the waiver of proceeding fee, meter procurement fee, requirement of net metering/ gross metering agreement etc., for the purposes of releasing the connections under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna (hereinafter referred to as “PM Yojana”).
- 1.4 That the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (hereinafter referred to as “MNRE”) had issued DO No. 318/17/2024-Grid Connected Rooftop-Part (10) dated 04.03.2025 wherein it has been asked to remove the various charges (application fee, meter procurement fee) applicable for Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/Gross Metering as well as the requirement of net metering/gross metering agreement for Rooftop Solar System (hereinafter referred to as “RTS”) Connections to be released under the PM Yojana.
- 1.5 That, at present, the release of connections of the Rooftop Solar System (hereinafter referred to as “RTS”) are being dealt with by the Regulations, 2021. Certain provisions of the Regulations, 2021 such as the processing fee, meter procurement fee etc. to be paid by the consumer act as a deterrent to the consumers of the State who want to install RTS and are also otherwise eligible under the PM Yojana. Moreover, there needs to be a concurrence between the Regulations framed by this Hon’ble Commission vis-à-vis the operational guidelines issued by MNRE for effective implementation of the PM Yojana in its letter and spirit. As such, the Petitioner is constrained to approach the Hon’ble Commission to fill in the Regulatory gap/seeking relaxation of Regulations, in terms of MNRE D.O. No. 318/17/2024 Grid connected Roof top Part (10) dated 04.03.2025.

BRIEF FACTS LEADING UPTO THE FILING OF THE PRESENT PETITION:

- 1.6 That the Hon’ble Commission on 19.07.2021 notified the Regulations, 2021, laying down the conditions to be complied with by the consumer as well as the Distribution License i.e. the Petitioner herein for installation and release of the connection for the RTS. The relevant provisions of Regulations, 2021 are reproduced below for ready reference:

“4. General Principles:

4.1. The distribution licensee shall allow the eligible consumers, the facilities of net metering/gross metering, in its area of supply on a non-discriminatory and first come first served basis.

4.2. Any eligible consumer, who intends to discontinue net metering/gross metering arrangement with the distribution licensee shall be allowed, subject to a written notice to the

distribution licensee made at least two months in advance. Any excess energy generation remaining unadjusted as on the date of termination of the agreement shall lapse and the same shall not be eligible for any payment or adjustment.

... ..

5. Eligible Consumers and Project Capacity:

5.1. All consumers of electricity, except AP Consumers, in the area of supply of the distribution licensee shall be eligible to avail net metering/gross metering for establishment of rooftop solar systems on a first-come-first-serve basis subject to technical limitations as specified in these Regulations.

Provided that the consumer shall be eligible to install rooftop solar system of capacity as specified in these regulations.

Provided that the eligible consumer availing gross metering arrangement under these Regulations shall not be allowed to apply for net metering arrangement within the same premises.

Provided that the eligible consumer availing net metering arrangement under these Regulations shall not be allowed to apply for gross metering arrangement within the same premises/

*Provided that the entire power generated from roof top installation shall be injected into the distribution system of the Licensee at the interconnection point
if the eligible consumer opts for gross metering.*

... ..

14. Application Process and Procedure

14.1. Filing of Application

a) The eligible consumer (applicant) may either apply online on the distribution licensee website and/or HAREDA website (Format 1) or submit the application in the prescribed form in the concerned subdivision. The application shall be accompanied with non-refundable processing fee of Rs. One thousand.

... ..

4.4. Signing of Agreement

a) The applicant shall submit duly filled and signed net metering/gross metering agreement using Format 3 to the distribution licensee(s) within 30 days of the date of issuance of LoA.

b) The agreement shall be then signed by the distribution licensee within three days of receipt of duly filled net metering/gross metering agreement from the applicant.

... ..

14.5. Procurement of Meters

a) In case the applicant intends to procure meter from the distribution licensee, the applicant shall submit the Intimation Form (Format 4) along with an appropriate procurement fee to the

distribution licensee. This shall be intimated to the distribution licensee at least 30 days prior to the expected date of submission of Work Completion Report (Format 5).

b) In case the applicant intends to procure meter on its own, the applicant shall submit the procured meter along with a safety certificate and request form for testing of meter (Format 4(a)) to the distribution licensee/test centers approved by the distribution licensee, at least 30 days prior to the expected date of submission of Work Completion Report (Format 5).

Provided that the consumer shall procure meter from the empaneled vendor of the Distribution Licensee.

c) The distribution licensee/test centers shall intimate the applicant (Format 4(b)) regarding the completion of the meter testing and the results thereto.”

Apart from the above, other conditions were also laid down to be complied with by the Distribution Licensee i.e. the Petitioner herein for the release of the connection for the Rooftop Solar Systems installed/ to be installed by the consumer in its area of supply.

1.7 That subsequent to the notification of the Regulations, 2021, the Hon’ble Prime Minister on 13.02.2024 announced the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna, to install rooftop solar on one crore households and empower residential households to generate their own free/low-cost electricity. The objective behind the PM Yojana was to promote the solar energy by way of widespread installations of RTS by the consumers.

1.8 That in pursuance of the PM Yojana, the Ministry of New and Renewable Resources (hereinafter referred to as “MNRE”) vide Office Memorandum No. 318/17/2024-Grid Connected Rooftop dated 07.06.2024 issued operational guidelines for implementation of the PM Yojana. The relevant provisions of which are reproduced below:

“ h) Feasibility Approval: As per the provisions of the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 and subsequent amendments, applications for rooftop solar systems up to 10 kW capacity shall be deemed to have been accepted without requiring approval of technical feasibility by the DISCOMs. Till the operationalization of this provision by respective Regulatory Commissions/DISCOMs, the consumer shall upload the necessary documents for seeking feasibility approval, wherever required as per extant state regulations.

... ..

l) Meter Installation and Agreement: The meter shall be installed by DISCOM after rooftop installation is complete and the DISCOM and the consumer will sign the appropriate metering agreement as per state regulations. The net meter will be provided by the DISCOM or the consumer may procure the net meters from enlisted meter vendors. A model net metering agreement is shown at

Annexure 4. However, the actual agreement may vary. All metering arrangements (net metering, gross metering, net billing, virtual net metering, group net metering etc.) approved by the respective Electricity Regulatory Commissions of States/UTs shall be covered under the scheme.”

- 1.9 That, thereafter the Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/Gross Metering), Regulations, 2021 (1st Amendment) Regulation, 2024 (hereinafter “1st Amendment Regulations, 2024”) were notified by the Hon’ble Commission on 15.07.2024. It is humbly submitted that in line with Clause 6(h) the aforesaid operational guidelines read with the Electricity (Rights of Consumer) Rules, 2020, the 1st Amendment Regulations, 2024, the sub-clause 14.2 (c) of Regulations, 2021 was substituted with the following proviso:

“Provided that the applications for roof top solar photo voltaic systems upto 10 kW capacity, complete in all respects shall be deemed to have been accepted without requiring technical feasibility study and any commensurate enhancement of the sanctioned load of the consumer, as may be required, shall be carried out by the distribution licensee.”

- 1.10 That, at this stage, the DO No. 318/17/2024-Grid Connected Rooftop-Part (10) from the MNRE dated 04.03.2025 necessitates changes in the existing Regulations:-
- a. The MNRE vide the said letter dated 04.03.2025 highlighted that the DISCOMS, i.e. including the Petitioner herein, is imposing various fees and charges at different stages of the rooftop solar application process. Further, the issue with respect to the waiver of requirement of the net metering agreement, requirement of the processing fee, meter procurement fee etc. were also highlighted, mandating certain amendments in the existing Regulations and/or relaxation of the existing Regulations.
 - b. That the MNRE has mandated the requirement to simplify net-metering process by doing away with the requirement of net-metering agreement or PPA, eliminating all fees and charges since the incentives provided to DISCOMS under PMSG: MBY are far greater than the DISCOM expenses, establishing dedicated RTS teams, enhancing net-meter availability, publicizing and mobilizing applications, training field engineers, and implementing reward systems.
 - c. It is further important to note that for the said purposes, incentive amount has been proposed by the MNRE as Rs. 14.58 Crore which shall be released upon the confirmation regarding waiver of all fees and charges associated with RTS connections, etc.
 - d. In this connection, the MNRE has also issued a DO No. 318/107/2024-GCRT dated 24.03.2025 requesting to simplify the process and encourage rooftop solar by domestic consumers under PMSG: MBY.
 - e. It is submitted that the framing of such regulations and provision of such waivers, as above, are ultimately in the benefit of the

consumers and shall also facilitate in achieving the scheme targets, and also DRE RPO and overall climate goals of the country through participation of citizens in contributing through adoption of clean energy.

1.11 That it is further pertinent to bring to the notice of this Hon'ble Commission that the respective Electricity Regulatory Commissions of other States are also seized of the instant issue or have decided the instant issue. Attention in this regard is brought to the following:

f. A petition bearing No. RERC/2293/2025 was filed by the Discoms operating in the State of Rajasthan seeking relaxation in certain provisions of the Regulations to promote installation of rooftop solar on the basis of the aforesaid PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana. The said petition stands decided vide order dated 07.03.2025 by the Ld. Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission, Jaipur. the relevant part of which is reproduced below:

"19. In view of the foregoing discussion, we hereby allow the petition and order as under:

(a) The requirement of the application fee and security deposit for rooftop solar installations by the domestic consumers under regulation 8.3 of the RERC DREGS Regulations, 2021 is waived of.

(b) The requirement for Connection Agreement under regulation 9 of the RERC DREGS Regulations, 2021 for domestic consumers opting for Net Metering is waived of.

(c) The meter testing charges for domestic rooftop solar installation required be deposited by the domestic consumers under regulation 11.6 of the RERC DREGS Regulations, 2021 are also waived off."

g. Similarly, the Uttar Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission, on a petition filed on behalf of Uttar Pradesh New & Renewable Energy Development Agency, vide an interim order dated 07.04.2025 held as under:

"5. The Commission observed that apart from the issue raised in the present petition, there were certain other respect such as waiver of requirement of Net Metering agreement, requirement of security deposit, meter, testing charges, and treatment of consumers having areas, which have been flagged in the letter dated 24.03.2025 issued by MNRE and it would be prudent to address all the related issues, holistically, if considered necessary by the Petitioner. Accordingly, 15 days' time is granted to the Petitioner to decide and make amendment to the petition if any."

h. The Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission have notified Regulations [namely, the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Grid Interactive Renewable Energy Systems and Related Matters) Regulations, [Revision-II], 2024 {RG-39(II) of 2024}] enabling the Discom to have the net metering arrangements wherein the eligible consumer may install the renewable energy system under net metering arrangement.

- 1.12 That it is submitted that the proposed Amendments relate to financial and procedural relaxations that aim to remove barriers to consumer participation in the scheme. In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully prayed that the Hon'ble Commissions may waive off/amend the Regulations appropriately to help Discoms implement directives under PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna.
- 1.13 That the present petition is *bonafide* and has been filed in furtherance to the objective of PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna.

PRAYER

In view of the facts and circumstances mentioned hereinabove, the Petitioner most respectfully prays the Hon'ble Commission may kindly be pleased to:

- a) Frame Regulations and/or make suitable Amendments/ Relaxation of the existing Regulations, 2021, to the extent it relates to the waiver of processing fee, meter procurement fee, requirement of net metering/ gross metering agreement etc., for the purposes of releasing the connections under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna in terms of D.O. No. 318/17/2024 dated 04.03.2025 issued by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy; and/or
- b) Pass any other order as the Hon'ble Commission may deem fit, keeping in view the facts of the matter submitted by Petitioner.

AND FOR THIS ACT OF KINDNESS AND JUSTICE THE PETITIONER SHALL AS IN DUTY BOUND EVER PRAY.

2. The case was heard on 02/06/2025, Ms. Sonia Madan Counsel for the petitioner re-iterated the contents of the petition and submitted that the amendment / relaxation of the regulation has been sought in light of the directions of MNRE and compensation/subsidy to be provided by central Govt. for wide acceptance of PMSG:MBY. Ms. Madan referred the circular of MNRE dated 04.03.2025, wherein Rs. 14.58 Cr. Subsidy has been allocated to DHBVN subject to waiver of ibid charges. She also emphasised that similar relaxations have been provided by other SERCs. The Commission enquired the amendment / relaxation is going to impact whole state of Haryana whereas the petition is filed by DHBVN only. The UHBVN stand on the matter is also required for further decision in this case. DISCOMs shall also clarify that the relief sought qua waiver of processing fee, meter procurement fee is only for the applicant under PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojna, which is applicable for Domestic Supply. Further, DHBVN shall clarify as to how the said amount has been assessed and for how many consumers. UHBVN should also mention the amount of subsidy allocated to them. The Commission adjourned the matter and directed the petitioner to submit the above said clarifications

and draft of proposed amendment/relaxation along with stand of UHBVN before next date of hearing

3. Submissions by petitioner in Compliance with the order Dated 03.06.2025 :

3.1 The Petitioner has filed the above titled petition seeking framing of requisite Regulations and/or suitable Amendments/Relaxation of the existing Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/Gross Metering), Regulations, 2021 (hereinafter referred to as “the Regulations, 2021”), to the extent it relates to the waiver of processing fee, meter procurement fee, requirement of net metering/ gross metering agreement etc., for the purposes of releasing the connections under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna (hereinafter referred to as “PM Yojana”).

3.2 The Hon’ble Commission heard the issues involved in the instant matter in the hearing dated 02.06.2025. Pursuant thereto, the DISCOMs were directed as under –

“The Commission directed the DISCOMs to:

i) Clarify that the relief sought, i.e., waiver of processing fee, meter procurement fee, and other related charges, is applicable only to the applicants under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna, which pertains to the Domestic Supply category;

ii) Provide justification for the amount of subsidy claimed/allotted, including the basis of computation and the number of beneficiaries considered by DHBVN;

iii) Submit the amount of subsidy allocated to UHBVN under the said scheme, along with its position/stand on the proposed amendment/relaxation to the HERC Regulations, 2021.”

3.3 The response to the queries of the Hon’ble Commission is being set out hereunder -

RE: CLARIFICATION ON THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE INSTANT PETITION-

3.4 In response to the query raised by the Hon’ble Commission as regards the relief sought, it is submitted that the Discoms are now only seeking waiver of processing fees, meter testing fees, meter installation charges and execution of net metering agreement, strictly applicable only to applicants availing rooftop solar connections under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna (‘PMSG: MBY’). The relief sought is restricted to Domestic Supply (DS) category consumers as per MNRE guidelines.

3.5 It is pertinent here to highlight that in the instant petition, although prayer was made for the waiver of the meter procurement fee, however, subsequent to filing of the petition, in the joint meeting held between the Discoms, it was decided that the meter procurement cost shall be borne by the consumer seeking connection under PMSG: MBY. As such, the relief sought qua meter procurement fee is now not being pressed.

RE: JUSTIFICATION FOR THE AMOUNT OF SUBSIDY CLAIMED/ALLOTTED -

3.6 The provisions for granting performance-based incentives to DISCOMs under Component-B of Phase-II of the Grid Connected Rooftop Solar

(GCRT) Programme have been clearly defined in Clause 5.2 of the Operational Guidelines, which have been further reaffirmed by the D.O. letter dated 29.11.2024 issued by the Additional Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). As per the said guidelines, incentives are to be extended to DISCOMs in recognition of their additional responsibilities and efforts undertaken in the form of manpower deployment, infrastructure creation, capacity building, public awareness (IEC) activities, and fostering a conducive ecosystem for the rapid and large-scale deployment of Rooftop Solar (RTS) systems.

- 3.7 The Petitioner respectfully submits that in line with the above framework and as per the MNRE's D.O. letter dated 29.11.2024 and circular dated 04.03.2025, Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (DHBVN) has been allocated a subsidy of ₹14.58 Crores under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna (PMSG:MBY) for financial year 2023-24. The release of this subsidy/incentive is subject to waiver of certain consumer charges and simplifying the process with waiver of execution of net/gross metering agreements for eligible domestic consumers availing benefits under the scheme. The subsidy assessment has been carried out in accordance with the methodology prescribed by MNRE, where the Base Capacity installed at the end of FY 2023-24 is taken as the benchmark for calculating incremental capacity and associated eligibility. As of the end of FY 2023-24, a total of 3613 new connections were released, adding 66.120 MW of capacity, bringing the total cumulative RTS capacity to 297.117 MW. The year-wise details are as under:

Financial Year	Total no. of Connections	Capacity installed (MW)	Total Cumulative Capacity (MW)
Upto 2020-21	5479		120.899
2021-22	2589	58.617	179.516
2022-23	2319	51.480	230.996
2023-24	3613	66.120	297.117

- 3.8 The Petitioner further submits that, the incentives to DISCOMs under Component-B shall be calculated on the basis of the incremental RTS capacity installed in their licensed distribution area over and above the installed base capacity as on 31st March of the preceding financial year. The timeline for such assessment shall be financial year-wise, beginning from 01.04.2024 to 31.03.2025 and so on for the remaining duration of the Programme. The incentive structure is designed as a progressive mechanism, wherein higher achievement over the base capacity entitles the DISCOM to higher rates of incentives. The details of the incentive pattern is provided below:

S. No.	Parameter	Incentive to be Provided
1	Installed capacity achieved up to 10% over and above base capacity	Nil
2	Installed capacity achieved above 10% and up to 15% over base capacity	5% of the applicable cost for capacity above 10% of the installed base capacity

3	Installed capacity achieved beyond 15% over base capacity	5% for 10–15% and 10% for capacity beyond 15%
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**Installed base capacity shall mean the cumulative RTS capacity installed within the jurisdiction of DISCOM at the end of 31" March of the year preceding the year for which the calculation is being done. This will include total RTS capacity installed under residential, Institutional, Social, Govt., PSU, Statutory/ Autonomous bodies, Private Commercial, Industrial Sectors etc. Incentive to DISCOMs for the year 2024-25 shall, therefore, be calculated on the basis of baseline capacity of DISCOMs as on 31" March, 2024.*

*** applicable Cost is the applicable benchmark cost of MNRE for the State/ UT for RTS capacity of 1 kW, which is currently Rs 50,000 for general States and Rs 55,000 for special category States. In case the benchmark cost is revised in the middle of the financial year, the incentive shall be calculated on the basis of the weighted average benchmark rate for that financial year, weighted as per the number of days for which the benchmark rate was operational.*

3.9 The calculation for incentive to DISCOMs has been illustrated for FY 2024-25 in the following table:

DISCOMs	Installed base capacity (MW)	Additional installations during FY 2024–25	Increment over installed base capacity	Eligible for 5% incentives	Eligible for 10% incentives	Incentives calculated as per benchmark cost of FY 2024-25 which is Rs. 50,000/kW
A	100MW	110	10%	Nil	Nil	Nil
B	100MW	112	12%	2 MW	Nil	Rs. 50,00,000 (2000kW* 5% * Rs. 50,000/kW)
C	100MW	220	120%	5 MW	105 MW	Rs. 53,75,00,000 (5000kW* 5%* Rs. 50,000/kW + 1,05,000kW* 10%* Rs. 50,000/kW)

Note: The capacity eligible for incentives by DISCOMs would cover the entire capacity installed including the capacity installed without CFA and with CFA

INCENTIVE CALCULATION FOR DHBVN (FY 2023–24) -

3.10 The calculation of incentive payable to DHBVN for the Financial Year 2023–24, in accordance with the guidelines and benchmarks prescribed by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), is as under -

- As per the scheme framework, the base cumulative capacity as on the start of FY 2023–24 was 230,996 kW, and an additional 66,120 kW was installed during the year, resulting in a total cumulative capacity of 297,116 kW at year-end. This represents

a 28.62% increase over the base capacity. The lowest rate discovered during the year was ₹39,153/kW. Based on this, the eligible incentive has been computed as follows:

Calculation sheet for incentives to DISCOMs	
FY	2023-24
State/UT	HARYANA
DISCOM	DHBVN
Base capacity i.e. Cumulative as on starting of FY (kW)	230996
RTS capacity addition during FY (kW)	66120
Cumulative as on end of FY (kW)	297116
Capacity addition as % of base capacity	28.62
Lowest Rate discovered during FY (Rs. /kW)	₹ 39,153
10% of base capacity (KW)	23099.60
15% of base capacity (KW)	34649.40
capacity addition above 10% and up to 15% of base capacity (KW)	11549.80
capacity addition above 15% of base capacity (KW)	31470.60
Incentive For capacity addition above 10% and up to 15% of base capacity	₹ 2.26,10,465.97
Incentive for capacity addition above 15% of base capacity	₹ 12,32,16,840.18
Total Eligible incentives for FY 2023-24 (in Crore)	₹ 14.58 crore (approx.)

- Accordingly, the incentive for capacity addition above 10% and up to 15% has been assessed at ₹2.26 Crores, and the incentive for capacity addition beyond 15% at ₹12.32 Crores, making the total eligible incentive for DHBVN for FY 2023–24 approximately ₹14.58 Crores.

FINANCIAL IMPACT ON DHBVN FROM WAIVER OF CHARGES AND CUMULATIVE INCENTIVE RECEIVED FOR THE SAME -

3.11 The projected financial impact on DHBVN owing to the proposed waiver of processing fees, meter testing fees, and meter installation charges under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna (PMSG:MBY) has been carefully assessed based on the scheme target. DHBVN has been assigned a target of 1.22 lakh Rooftop Solar (RTS) installations by 31.03.2027. Assuming that 85% of the applications will be for systems up to 5 kWp and 15% for systems above 5 kWp, the financial burden is estimated as follows:

Case / Capacity Segment	Fee Component	Rate per Application (₹)	Share of Applications	No. of Applications	Calculated Amount (₹ Crores)
Case 1: ≤ 5 kWp (85 %)	Processing fee	1,000	85 %	1,22,000	10.37
	Meter-testing fee	90	85 %	1,22,000	0.93
	Meter-installation fee	150	85 %	1,22,000	1.55
	Subtotal – Case 1				12.85

Case 2: > 5 kWp (15 %)	Processing fee	1,000	15 %	1,22,000	1.83
	Meter-testing fee	330	15 %	1,22,000	0.60
	Meter-installation fee	300	15 %	1,22,000	0.55
	Subtotal – Case 2				2.98
Grand Total (Case 1 + Case 2)					15.83 Crores

Accordingly, the total estimated financial burden on DHBVN due to these proposed waivers amounts to approximately ₹15.83 Crores.

- 3.12 DHBVN is eligible for a total incentive amount of approximately ₹57.26 Crores from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) as per circular dated 30.12.2024 on account of Rooftop Solar (RTS) capacity additions under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna (PMSG: MBY) and earlier schemes for the financial years 2019–20 to 2023–24. The incentive amounts for each respective year are tabulated below:

Financial Year	Amount (₹)
2019-20	11,16,62,046
2020-21	8,01,40,731
2021-22	13,92,17,440
2022-23	9,58,07,081
2023-24	14,58,28,750
Total	57,26,56,048

It is respectfully submitted that, from the foregoing, it is evident that sufficient incentives are being provided by MNRE to support the proposed relaxations and waivers extended to domestic consumers for RTS connections under the said scheme.

JOINT POSITION OF DISCOMS ON WAIVER PROPOSAL-

- 3.13 Both DHBVN and UHBVN are actively participating in the implementation of the *PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna (PMSG:MBY)* and have assessed the financial implications arising from the proposed waiver of various charges. While DHBVN has filed the present petition before the Hon'ble Commission seeking waiver of certain charges, and execution of net/gross metering agreements, it is submitted that both DHBVN and UHBVN are in agreement that the waiver of meter procurement fees shall not be applicable under the scheme. It is further clarified by both DISCOMs that the proposed waivers should be limited to the Domestic Supply (DS) category consumers installing Rooftop Solar Systems under PMSG:MBY, in line with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

RE: UHBVN TARGETS, FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT, AND INCENTIVE STATUS-

- 3.14 As per the comments received from UHBVN, the projected target is 1,00,000 Rooftop Solar (RTS) installations by 31.03.2027. It is

estimated that 85% of these installations would be for capacities up to 5 kWp, and the remaining 15% for capacities above 5 kWp. Based on this projected distribution, the total financial burden on UHBVN arising from the proposed waiver of charges under the *PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna* is estimated to be approximately ₹12.99 Crores, which includes waiver of processing fees, meter testing fees, and meter installation charges.

- 3.15 That it is further submitted that UHBVN has already received ₹31.77 Crores as incentive from MNRE for the financial years 2019–20 to 2021–22, and an additional claim of ₹35 Crores is under process for FY 2022–23 and 2023–24. In contrast, DHBVN has been allocated ₹14.58 Crores for FY 2023-24 by MNRE as part of the subsidy for RTS installations under the Scheme, based on its assessed targets and installed capacity. The financial relief measures proposed by both DISCOMs are aligned with the overarching policy goal of promoting wider adoption of rooftop solar systems by reducing upfront financial barriers for domestic consumers and ensuring effective implementation of the national solar mission objectives.

Re: SUBMISSION OF DRAFT AMENDMENT FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE HON'BLE COMMISSION

- 3.16 With respect to the proposed Draft Amendment to the *Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/ Gross Metering) Regulations, 2021*, the petitioner is appending herewith the proposed draft regulations for the kind perusal and necessary approval of the Hon'ble Commission.

In light of the above and as per the suggestion of UHBVN, the Discoms respectfully prays that the Hon'ble Commission may kindly consider allowing waiver of processing fee, meter installation fee, meter testing fee, and the requirement of executing net/gross metering agreements for domestic consumers applying under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, while retaining that the cost of the meter shall be borne by the consumer.

Draft Amendment

Principle Regulation: - Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/Gross Metering), Regulations, 2021 (Regulation No. HERC/54/ 2021) dated 19 July 2021 & its first amendment on dated 15.07.2024.

1. Short title, Commencement, Extent and Interpretation:

1.1 These Regulations shall be known as Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/Gross Metering), Regulations, 2021 (2nd Amendment) Regulations, 2025. (Principal Regulation No. HERC/54/2021).

1.2 This amendment shall come into force with effect from the date of its publication in the Haryana Government Gazette.

1.3 These Regulations shall extend to the whole of the State of Haryana.

2. Amendment to Regulation 14 of the Principal Regulations:

2.1 Regulation 14.1(a) of Principal Regulations is amended as under:

New proviso shall be added to Regulation 14.1(a), as under:

"Provided that, no processing fee shall be payable in case of domestic consumers for Rooftop Solar Connections under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana. "

2.2 Regulation 14.4 of Principal Regulations is amended as under:

New provision shall be added to Regulation 14.4, as under:

"Provided that, no net metering/gross metering agreement shall be required in case of domestic consumers for Rooftop Solar Connections under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana."

2.3 Insertion of a new Regulation after 10.8 of Principal Regulation

A new Regulation 10.9 shall be added after Regulation 10.8 as under:

10.9 "Provided that, no meter installation and testing fee shall be payable in case of domestic consumers for Rooftop Solar Connections under PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana. "

4. Commission's Order:

- 4.1 The case was heard on 10/06/2025, as scheduled, in the court room of the Commission.
- 4.2 At the outset, Ms. Sonia Madan Counsel for the petitioner submitted reply to queries of the Commission. Ms. Madan, reiterating their written submissions, which are not reproduced here in toto for sake of brevity, submitted that DISCOMs are now only seeking waiver of processing fees, meter testing fees, meter installation charges and waiver of execution of net metering agreement, strictly applicable only to applicants availing rooftop solar connections under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna (PMSG: MBY) to promote the rooftop solar installation under the scheme. The relief sought is restricted to Domestic Supply (DS) category consumers as per MNRE guidelines. Recognizing the need to align their regulations with the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna, similar relaxations have already been provided by Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission.
- 4.3 Accordingly, it is observed that the petitioner in its submissions prayed for amendment/relaxation in Regulation 10, 14.1(a) and 14.4 in Net metering Regulations, pleading that the MNRE is providing significant incentive amounts to DISCOMs, to support the rapid and large-scale installation of rooftop solar systems and it has advised simplifying the net-metering process by doing away with the requirement of net-metering agreements or PPAs and eliminating all fees and charges. This simplification will streamline the application and installation process for rooftop solar systems, making it more consumer-friendly.

4.4 Regulation 18 of The Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/Gross Metering), Regulations, 2021 is refereed which reads as under:

“18. Power to Relax

The Commission may by general or special order, for reasons to be recorded in writing and after giving an opportunity of hearing to the parties likely to be affected, may relax any of the provisions of these Regulations.”

4.5 In view of the foregoing discussions and facts, the Commission exercising its power conferred under Regulation 18 of The Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (Rooftop Solar Grid Interactive Systems Based on Net Metering/Gross Metering), Regulations, 2021, allows the petition and orders the following relaxations to aforesaid Regulations, in case of domestic consumers for Rooftop Solar Connections under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna (PMSG:MBY) in the spirit of promoting solar energy adoption, reducing financial barriers for consumers, and ensuring the effective implementation of PMSG:MBY:

- i. No processing fees and meter installation & testing fee shall be payable.
- ii. No net metering/gross metering agreement shall be required.

4.6 The petition is disposed of in above terms.

This order is signed, dated and issued by the Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission on 10/06/2025.

Date: 10/06/2025
Place: Panchkula

(Mukesh Garg)
Member

(Nand Lal Sharma)
Chairman