



भारत सरकार/Government of India
विद्युत मंत्रालय/Ministry of Power
केन्द्रीय विद्युत प्राधिकरण/Central Electricity Authority
एन.पी.सी. प्रभाग/National Power Committee Division
6th Floor, Sewa Bhawan, RK Puram, New Delhi-66

No. CEA-GO-15-14/1/2021-NPC Division

47

Date: 15.04.2026

To

(As per distribution list)

विषय: 27.02.2026 को विशाखापत्तनम, आंध्र प्रदेश में आयोजित एनपीसी की 16वीं बैठक का कार्यवृत्त के संबंध में।

Subject: Minutes of the 17th Meeting of NPC held on 27.02.2026 at Vizag, Andhra Pradesh-reg.

27.02.2026 को विशाखापत्तनम, आंध्र प्रदेश में आयोजित एनपीसी की 17वीं बैठक का कार्यवृत्त आपकी जानकारी और आवश्यक कार्रवाई के लिए संलग्न है।

The Minutes of the 17th meeting of NPC held on 27.02.2026 at Vizag, Andhra Pradesh is enclosed herewith for your kind information and necessary action, please.

भवदीय/Yours faithfully

Encl: As above

(ऋषिका शरण/Rishika Sharan)

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Special Invitees

1. Member (PS), CEA, R. K. Puram, New Delhi-110066
2. CMD, PowerGrid, Saudamini, Plot No.2, Sector-29, Gurugram-122001

Copy for kind information to:-

3. SA to Chairperson, CEA, New Delhi
4. SA to Member (Go&D), CEA, New Delhi

Minutes of 17th Meeting of National Power Committee (NPC)
held on 27.02.2026 at Vizag, Andhra Pradesh.

The 17th meeting of National Power Committee (NPC) was held on 27.02.2026 at Vizag, Andhra Pradesh. The meeting was hosted by NRPC. The list of participants is enclosed at **Annexure-A.**

1.1 **Member Secretary, NRPC** extended a warm and heartfelt welcome to Shri Ghanshyam Prasad, Chairperson, CEA/NPC, Shri Hemant Jain, Member (GO&D), Shri V.K. Singh, Member (PS), CEA, Shri-S.C. Saxena, CMD, Grid-India, Shri Minhaj Alam, Chairperson, SRPC/CMD, KSEB and all NPC members and delegates participating in the 17th NPC meeting. She mentioned that with the establishment of “One Nation, One Frequency,” the need for coordinated and harmonized operational procedures has become even more critical. Citing the role of NPC as the apex body for implementing Policies/Rules/Regulations formulated by MoP, CERC, and CEA, uniformly across the five Regions, the pivotal role played by NPC in ensuring uniformity in grid operations across all regions of the country was highlighted. She mentioned that NPC has served as a central platform for standardization of Operational/Protection/Commercial /Communication practices, issuance of SOPs, and resolution of inter-regional issues, thereby enhancing grid security, reliability, and economic efficiency.

1.2 She highlighted the increasing penetration of renewable energy, particularly in Rajasthan, which has led to grid stability challenges including oscillations and low Short Circuit Ratio (SCR). It was noted that even planned transmission line shutdowns are becoming increasingly complex due to system constraints. Instances were cited where opening of transmission lines led to oscillatory conditions and multiple trippings resulting in generation loss. The matter was emphasized as requiring urgent technical deliberation and coordinated intervention.

Another major concern raised pertained to Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, where internal generation capacity has not increased significantly over the past few years. During winter months, nearly 42–50% of demand is being met through market procurement, thereby increasing dependence on interstate transmission systems. It was highlighted that region is presently connected through a single 220 kV circuit between Kashmir and Leh, traversing difficult snowbound terrain and prone to frequent tripping. The need for an alternate transmission corridor on priority was strongly emphasized.

1.3 Addressing the gathering, **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** extended a warm welcome to Chairpersons of RPCs/TCC, Member Secretaries of all RPCs, distinguished delegates and officials from the member Central and State sector utilities. He acknowledged the progressive strengthening of NPC as a decision-making and coordination platform. He noted that the number of agenda items has increased significantly over the years, reflecting growing confidence in the forum. However, he stressed that resolution of issues should not be delayed and advised Chief Engineer, NPC, to conduct periodic review meetings between two NPC meetings, preferably on a quarterly or bi-monthly basis, with Member Secretaries of RPCs to ensure continuous monitoring and faster resolution of

pending matters. He also encouraged convening special meetings, including virtual meetings, whenever urgent issues arise rather than waiting for the scheduled NPC meeting.

- 1.4 **Chairperson, SRPC/CMD, KSEB** extended a warm welcome to Chairperson, CEA, Member (GO&D) and Member (PS), CEA, CMD, Grid India and other dignitaries from RPCs and Central Utilities. He thanked NPC forum for serving as a key platform for discussion, knowledge sharing, and coordinated decision-making across RPCs. He mentioned that agenda highlights several initiatives, including finalization of the SOP for diversion of RPC approved spare transformers and reactors to ensure streamlined and time-bound implementation during emergency situations. Strengthening cybersecurity across all sectors, improving AMR data transfer to RLDCs, and expanding MPLS-based communication infrastructure are critical for operational efficiency. Further, consolidating solar generation data will support accurate planning, load forecasting, and reliable integration of distributed generation.
- 1.5 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC**, expressed hope for meaningful discussions leading to constructive and actionable decisions, along with a clear roadmap for the future during the meeting. He then requested Chief Engineer/MS, NPC, to proceed with the agenda of the meeting.
- 2.0 MS, NPC, proceeded with the deliberations on the Agenda Items of the 17th NPC Meeting in a sequential manner.

2.1 Confirmation of Minutes of 16th Meeting of NPC:

- 2.1.1 The Minutes of 16th Meeting of NPC held on 04.07.2025 at Shillong, Meghalaya were circulated vide letter No. CEA-GO-15-14/1/2021-NPC division/160 dated 15.09.2025. The inputs were received from ET&I Division, CEA and CTUIL.
- 2.1.2 The Committee confirmed the minutes of 16th NPC meeting with inclusion of the comments/amendment received from ET&I Division, CEA, only. The comments/amendments posed by CTUIL were not agreed to.
- 2.1.3 Based on the comments received from ET&I Division, CEA, the Para Nos. 2.2.8 & 2.2.9 (iv) of **Agenda 2.2: Introduction of MPLS Technology in ISTS Communication system (Agenda from CTUIL)** of 16th NPC Minutes are modified as below:

Para No. of 16th NPC Minutes	Existing Clause of 16th NPC Minutes	Modified Clause as per comments of ETI Division, CEA
2.2.8	Chairperson, CEA/NPC further suggested that the Technical Specifications (TS) for MPLS-TP deployment may be finalized within four (04) months, in parallel with the processing of Make in India (MII) policy	Chairperson, CEA/NPC further suggested that the Technical Specifications (TS) for MPLS-TP deployment may be finalized within four (04) months, in parallel with the processing of

Para No. of 16 th NPC Minutes	Existing Clause of 16 th NPC Minutes	Modified Clause as per comments of ETI Division, CEA
	relaxations. The matter concerning Make in India (MII) compliance may be taken up by the ET&I Division, CEA, with the Ministry of Power (MoP). He advised to place the agenda for the implementation of MPLS technology in the ISTS system before the NCT for consideration and approval within the next <u>six months</u>. Additionally, he advised CTUIL to initiate the necessary exercise in consultation with States, on their FOTE requirements, to facilitate an informed assessment of the overall market potential and a comprehensive implementation plan with reduced timelines for deploying MPLS technology in ISTS and intra-state (InSTS) communication systems, extending down to the 11 kV level, may be formulated.	Make in India (MII) policy relaxations. The matter concerning Make in India (MII) compliance may be has already been taken up by the ET&I Division, CEA, with the Ministry of Power (MoP) and matter may be pursued again.
2.2.9 iv.	Matter related to 'Make in India' compliances for FOTE (Fiber Optic Terminal Equipment) equipment shall be taken up by ET&I Division, CEA with MoP	Matter related to 'Make in India' compliances for FOTE (Fiber Optic Terminal Equipment) equipment shall be taken up again by ET&I Division, CEA with MoP.
New Para to be added in 16th NPC Minutes as proposed by ET&I Division, CEA.		MS (NPC) informed that as per information received from ET&I Division that in pursuance of the decision taken vide para 10 e (ii) of minutes of 15th NPC meeting dated 14.11.2024, necessary action has been taken. A detailed proposal with justification was sent to MOP on 8.5.2025 to provide for exemption and to allow both Class -I and Class-II suppliers to participate in tenders for FOTE (MPLS-TP/IP) equipment's. Queries of Ministry of Power has been replied on 13.6.2025 and on 2.7.2025 annual demand supply position

Para No. of 16 th NPC Minutes	Existing Clause of 16 th NPC Minutes	Modified Clause as per comments of ETI Division, CEA
		of FOTE equipment has been provided to Ministry of Power. Now, matter is under consideration in Ministry of Power.

The Committee confirmed the above Minutes of 16th NPC with above modifications/amendment.

2.2 Final SOP/ Guidelines for diversion of RPC approved Spare Transformers and Reactors to the constituents / State Transmission Utilities (Agenda from SRPC and NRPC):

- 2.2.1** Briefing the Agenda item, **MS, NPC**, informed that the agenda for SoP/ Guidelines for diversion of RPC approved Spare Transformers and Reactors to the constituents / state transmission utilities were received from SRPC and NRPC and emphasized on concerns related to prolonged utilization without replenishment and possible misuse. She also informed that NRPC had already developed and adopted an SOP which is placed in the 17th NPC to ensure pan-India uniformity.
- 2.2.2** **MS, SRPC** enquired as to whether private Transmission Service Providers (TSPs) are permitted to utilize or divert the RPC approved spare transformers and reactors. Further, clarification was required regarding the procedure to be followed in case such diversion of these spare assets is allowed,.
- 2.2.3** **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** opined that private Transmission Service Providers (TSPs) may be considered for diversion of RPC approved spare transformers and reactors on a case-to-case basis, subject to discussion in the respective Regional Power Committee (RPC) forum.
- 2.2.4** It was suggested that all RPCs may review the existing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) prepared by SRPC (attached at **Annexure-IA**) and NRPC (attached at **Annexure-IB**) in their respective forums, obtain comments from stakeholders, and submit their suggestions. The matter may thereafter be deliberated in the Operation Sub-Group of the NPC for finalization of a uniform SOP at the national level.
- 2.2.5** **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** further suggested that a suitable mechanism for periodic rotation/usage of spare transformers and reactors within the utility or among the constituents / State Transmission Utilities (STUs) may be explored. This would

ensure that spare transformers and reactors do not remain unused for prolonged periods and become too old without operational utilization.

2.2.6 Decisions of the NPC:

- i. All RPCs to explore a suitable mechanism for periodic rotation/usage of spare transformers and reactors within the utility or among the constituents / State Transmission Utilities (STUs) and also examine the inclusion of Private Transmission Service Providers in the scheme. All RPCs may also review the existing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) prepared by SRPC and NRPC in their respective RPC forums.

(Action: All RPCs)

- ii. Consolidated suggestions received from RPCs may be deliberated in the Operation Sub-Group of NPC for finalization of a uniform SOP at the national level and may be adopted by RPCs so as to be placed in the next NPC Meeting for information.

(Action: Operation Sub group of NPC)

2.3 Congestion Statement for RE entities (Agenda from SRPC):

- 2.3.1** Briefing the agenda item, **MS, NPC** informed that WRPC has been issuing Congestion Statements that include Renewable Energy (RE) entities, whereas the Southern Region (SR) has not adopted this practice. This indicates a variation in the approach among regions in the treatment of RE generators during congestion scenarios. In this regard, the matter was deliberated in the Commercial Sub-Group meeting of NPC. During the discussion, it was agreed that the Congestion Statements may include RE entities in accordance with the prevailing Congestion Regulations issued by CERC.

- 2.3.2** The Committee agreed with the recommendation of the Commercial Sub-Group to include Renewable Energy (RE) entities in the Congestion Statements, in accordance with the prevailing Congestion Regulations issued by CERC.

2.3.3 Decision of the NPC:

- i. It was decided that Congestion Statements may include RE entities as per the prevailing Congestion Regulations of CERC.

(Action: All RPCs)

- ii. RPCs to align their existing accounting procedures as per regulatory provisions and implement the uniform practice across regions.

(Action: All RPCs/NPC Secretariat)

2.4 Modification in REA Format/Computation for 55%-SFC Compensation (Agenda from SRPC):

2.4.1 **MS, NPC** informed that Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) had issued the revised Regulations and Procedure on Part-Load Compensation vide order dated 14.07.2025. In line with these provisions, modifications have been incorporated in the REA statement, particularly under the section “Compensation for Degradation of Station Heat Rate (SHR) and Auxiliary Energy Consumption (AEC)”. The Energy Charge Rate (ECR) for each ISGS is now to be determined up to three decimal places (₹/kWh) on an ex-power plant basis, leading to changes in the table heading and column structure. Additionally, a new table has been introduced to capture scheduling details when generating stations operate below 55% of effective capacity, including ISGS schedules and the ratio of beneficiary, SCED, and SCUC schedules during such periods.

2.4.2 She further informed that in the Commercial Sub-Group meeting of NPC held on 27.10.2025, it was agreed that the computation of compensation related to operation below 55% capacity, particularly the Secondary Fuel Consumption (SFC) compensation, may be carried out on a cumulative basis. However, since this involves certain methodological considerations, it was proposed that the matter may be referred to 17th NPC for further deliberation and formal approval.

2.4.3 **MS, SRPC** informed that the pre-meeting held on 23.02.2026 had also deliberated on the issue and decided that 55% SFC compensation may be computed on a cumulative basis. It was further agreed that the Secondary Fuel Oil Consumption (SFC) of generating stations may be reviewed by respective RPCs on a quarterly basis in their Commercial Sub-Committee meetings. Additionally, for the purpose of SFC compensation calculation, both schedule & actual generation data being less than 55% of the normative level may be considered for SFC computations.

2.4.4 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** observed that format for computation of 55% SFC compensation needs to be incorporated in the REA statement through Unified Account Software (UAS). He further stated that before its final implementation, the proposed format may be discussed and finalized in the Implementation Committee of UAS.

2.4.5 Decision of the NPC:

- i. **55% Secondary Fuel Oil Consumption (SFC) compensation may be computed on a cumulative basis and to consider both schedule & actual generation data less than 55% for SFC compensation calculation.**

(Action: All RPCs)

- ii. **SFC of generating stations may be reviewed on a quarterly basis in the Commercial Sub-Committee meetings of the respective RPCs as per the CERC approved Procedure.**

(Action: All RPCs)

- iii. The format for computation of 55% SFC compensation may be finalized and incorporated in REA statement through Unified Account Software (UAS) after due deliberation and finalization.

(Action: Implementation Committee of UAS/NRPC)

2.5 Revised Procedure for Compensation due to Part Load Operation (Agenda from SRPC):

- 2.5.1 Briefing the agenda, **MS, NPC** informed that this agenda pertains to the procedure issued by CERC vide Order dated 14.07.2025 under Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2024 regarding compensation for degradation in SHR, AEC, and SFC due to part-load operation and multiple start/stop of generating units. The procedure requires RPC Secretariat/SLDC to issue monthly compensation statements by the 20th of the following month, with revisions along with the final REA/SEA and a 15-day window for reporting discrepancies. However, certain clauses related to issuance of compensation statements were found missing in the draft circulated by NLDC. The issue was discussed in the 64th SRPC Commercial Sub-Committee meeting, where members noted that RPCs should have been consulted before prescribing timelines and provisions for recording delays.
- 2.5.2 **MS, SRPC** informed that under the approved procedure, in case of delay in issuance of the compensation statement beyond 20th of the month, the designated generating stations may be entitled to recover the part-load compensation charges from the beneficiaries or the pool along with carrying cost, at the bank rate specified in the Tariff Regulations, 2024 and pointed out that such delays may give rise to legal complications with respect to the payment of carrying costs.
- 2.5.3 He further stated that the timely issuance of such statements depends on the availability of data from RLDCs, generating stations, Energy Charge Rate (ECR) data, and outage details. Therefore, issuance of the accounts before the 20th of the month may not always be feasible unless the required inputs are received in time. In view of this, he suggested that the clause mandating issuance of the compensation account before the 20th of the month for the preceding month may be reviewed.
- 2.5.4 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** observed that concerns were raised regarding delays in the issuance of accounts, the associated financial implications, and carrying cost burden, which ultimately impacts consumers. In this regard, Chairperson suggested exploring the possibility of issuing provisional compensation statement based on available data with subsequent adjustments once final data becomes available. He further emphasized the need for automation of data exchange between RLDCs and RPCs through machine-to-machine transfer and the development of a unified software platform to minimize manual intervention.

2.5.5 It was agreed by all the members that Commercial Sub-Group of NPC would examine the feasibility of issuing provisional compensation statement, identify the associated regulatory constraints, and propose practical solutions in alignment with the prevailing CERC Regulations.

2.5.6 **Decision of the NPC:**

i. **Due to legal complications, it was decided that Grid-India may take up with CERC for removal of the clause regarding issuance of compensation account before 20th of month for the preceding month and provision of carrying cost in the compensation procedure.**

(Action: Grid-India)

ii. **The Commercial Sub-Group of NPC to study the feasibility of provisional compensation statement issuance, assess regulatory and other constraints, and submit recommendations for further consideration by NPC.**

(Action: Commercial Sub-Group of NPC)

2.6 **Contract Rate for QCA (Agenda from SRPC):**

2.6.1 Briefing the agenda, **MS, NPC** informed that the matter pertains to the determination of the contract rate for Qualified Coordinating Agencies (QCA) under the Deviation Settlement Mechanism Regulations issued by CERC. As per the said Regulations, in cases where Wind/Solar (WS) generators are aggregated at a pooling station through QCA, the contract rate for the purpose of deviation settlement shall be the weighted average of the contract rates of all participating WS sellers. It was further clarified that the computation is to be carried out solely on the basis of the contracted rates specified in the respective Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs).

2.6.2 **MS, SRPC** informed that it has been represented by Manikaran Power Limited, which is acting as a QCA, that in NRPC region the weighted average PPA rate is reportedly being computed based on the schedules, particularly in cases where one of the generators under the aggregation is selling power in the power exchange market segments. This practice raises a concern since the existing regulatory provision does not explicitly provide for schedule-based computation of the weighted average contract rate. Therefore, there appears to be lack of clarity and possible variation in implementation across regions.

2.6.3 He further viewed that Grid-India may provide schedule along with the contract rate of QCA/generators. Grid-India may collect the information from QCA/generators in their NOAR/WBES portal. Grid-India agreed to share the NOAR data.

2.6.4 The complexities involved in the Deviation Settlement Mechanism (DSM) were discussed. It was noted that block-wise computation and varying tariff structures

under Section 62 and Section 63 arrangements create practical challenges in implementation. In this regard, **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** emphasized the need to simplify the computational methodology while ensuring compliance with the applicable regulatory provisions. He further suggested that a common approach across all RPCs may be evolved. Accordingly, the matter may first be deliberated in the Commercial Sub-Committees of the respective RPCs, and the consolidated inputs and suggestions may thereafter be discussed and finalized in the Commercial Sub-Group of NPC to ensure uniformity in implementation.

2.6.5 Decision of the NPC:

- i. Grid-India to collect the required contract rate information from QCA/generators through the NOAR/WBES portal and share the relevant data with RPCs.**

(Action: Grid-India)

- ii. RPCs to examine the implementation challenges arising from the present DSM computation methodology for RE aggregation and identify possible simplifications while ensuring compliance with the applicable Regulations.**

(Action: All RPCs)

- iii. RPCs may deliberate the matter in their respective Commercial Sub-Committees and submit consolidated suggestions for further discussion in the Commercial Sub-Group of NPC.**

(Action: All RPCs/Commercial Sub-Group of NPC)

2.7 Inclusion of RE Generation in the Islanding Schemes (Agenda from SRPC):

- 2.7.1 MS, NPC,** informed that in the review meeting of RPCs held under the Chairpersonship of the Chairperson, CEA on 02.02.2026 it was decided that a Dynamic Islanding Scheme may be designed wherever there is inclusion of RE generators in the scheme by RPCs. She also informed that in pre-meeting held on 23.02.2026 all RPCs were of the view that the feasibility of inclusion of RE in Islanding Schemes may be referred to existing Committee for Uniform Anti-islanding Protection Philosophy of the connected RE plants.

- 2.7.2** On the issue of dynamic islanding schemes, **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** stated that the existing islanding schemes have largely been designed considering thermal as the primary anchor sources. However, with the increasing penetration of Renewable Energy (RE) in the grid, particularly during solar hours when many thermal plants operate at reduced load levels, maintaining load-generation balance within the islanding schemes may become challenging. Therefore, the need to examine the feasibility of incorporating RE within dynamic islanding schemes was highlighted.

2.7.3 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** suggested that solar, hydro, and pumped storage plants may also be considered for integration into dynamic islanding schemes. **CMD, Grid-India** also expressed a similar view and emphasized the need for Renewable Energy stability studies in this regard. Accordingly, the Committee agreed that a detailed technical study may be undertaken to assess the feasibility, operational implications, and cybersecurity aspects before finalizing any guidelines or operational philosophy on the matter.

2.7.4 **Decision of the NPC:**

i. **It was agreed that the matter regarding inclusion of Renewable Energy in islanding schemes may be referred to the existing Committee for Uniform Anti-islanding Protection Philosophy of connected RE plants for detailed examination. The Committee may study the feasibility of incorporating Renewable Energy sources in islanding schemes and suggest suitable approaches.**

(Action: Committee for Uniform Anti-islanding Protection Philosophy/WRPC)

2.8 **Regional Cyber Security Coordination Forums (Agenda from SRPC):**

2.8.1 **MS, SRPC** informed that this agenda item pertains to the cyber security coordination framework in the Indian power sector and the status of regional cyber security coordination forums across various sub-sectors. Under the Information Technology Act, 2000 and provisions of the Indian Electricity Grid Code, 2023, Sectoral CERTs have been designated to establish coordination forums for addressing cyber security issues and facilitating information sharing among utilities. Ministry of Power, has notified sectoral CERTs for thermal, hydro, transmission, distribution, grid operation, and renewable energy. While some regional forums, such as those for transmission and grid operation, are functional in the Southern Region, others are yet to be constituted or their status is awaited. The matter is placed before the Committee for deliberation and guidance on expediting their formation and ensuring effective participation.

2.8.2 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** emphasized the need for greater participation of utilities and distribution companies in cyber security coordination forums to ensure effective dissemination of cyber security practices. RPCs were advised to sensitize the matter in their respective RPC forums and encourage active participation of all utilities at both headquarters and field levels to enhance awareness and preparedness regarding cyber security issues. NPC Secretariat was also advised to write a letter to Cyber Security Division, CEA to facilitate training for all utilities.

2.8.3 After detailed deliberations, it was agreed that DP&T Division, CEA may formulate a common Regional Cyber Security Coordination Forum for all DISCOMs. It was further decided that NPC Secretariat, CEA may write a letter to MNRE for the formation of a Regional Cyber Security Coordination Forum for the Renewable

Energy Sector (CERT–Renewable Energy), along with the conduct of regular meetings to discuss and resolve emerging cyber security issues.

2.8.4 Decision of the NPC:

- i. **RPCs to sensitize the issue in their respective RPC forums and encourage active participation of all utilities at both headquarters and field levels for cyber security coordination activities.**

(Action: All RPCs)

- ii. **NPC Secretariat may write a letter to Cyber Security Division, CEA to facilitate training/awareness program for Central & Regional Sectoral CERTs.**

(Action: NPC Secretariat & Cyber security Division, CEA)

- iii. **DP&T Division, CEA to formulate Central and Regional Cyber Security Coordination Forum for all DISCOMs as per IEGC Regulation 2023.**

(Action: DP&T Division, CEA)

- iv. **NPC Secretariat may write a letter to MNRE for the formation of a Regional Cyber Security Coordination Forum for Renewable Energy Sector as per IEGC Regulation 2023.**

(Action: NPC Secretariat)

2.9 Storage before Inverters in Solar PV project with Energy Storage System (Agenda from SRPC):

- 2.9.1 **MS, NPC**, informed that that BESS and RE generations connections are being established by some developers, where the battery gets connected directly from the solar panels, i.e., before inverters. Some RE developers are requesting for metering before inverters and for that DC meters may be required to account the energy transactions between RE and BESS as per DSM Regulations. However, the extant Metering Regulations do not contain provisions in this respect.

- 2.9.2 NPC forum discussed the need to develop appropriate metering arrangements and technical specifications to enable accurate measurement of energy flows in such configurations. It was also noted that similar configurations may emerge in future solar projects and rooftop installations, and therefore the issue requires careful examination.

- 2.9.3 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** suggested that a meeting may be convened under the Chairmanship of Member (GO&D), CEA with the project developers (such as Hero Cycle) and meter manufacturers to understand the proposed configuration and metering requirements in detail. In the meantime, CTUIL in coordination with PowerGrid were requested to explore the development of Technical Specifications for DC meters and participate in the meeting convened by CEA.

- 2.9.4 Further, it was agreed that CTUIL may prepare draft Technical Specifications (TS) in the meantime, while BIS may work towards standardization of the same. Any

amendment in the Metering Regulations, if required, may be taken up by DP&T Division, CEA.

2.9.5 Decision of the NPC:

- i. A meeting may be convened under Chairmanship of Member (GO&D), CEA with project developers (such as Hero Cycles), meter manufacturers, PowerGrid and CTUIL to discuss the proposed DC meter requirements and configurations.**

(Action: DP&T Division, CEA)

- ii. CTUIL in coordination with PowerGrid to explore the development of technical specifications for DC meters and participate in the meeting convened by CEA.**

(Action: PowerGrid/CTUIL)

- iii. CTUIL to prepare draft Technical Specifications (TS) for DC meters and the matter may be referred to Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for need of Indian standards for DC Meters.**

(Action: CTUIL)

- iv. DP&T Division, CEA to examine the proposal regarding installation and operation of DC meters and take up amendments in the Metering Regulations, if required.**

(Action: DP&T Division, CEA)

2.10 Implementation of Travelling Wave Fault Locator (TWFL) on critical transmission lines in the Northern Region (Agenda from NRPC):

2.10.1 MS, NRPC, informed that this agenda pertains to the proposal by PowerGrid for implementation of TWFL on critical transmission lines in NR, which was discussed in the 80th meeting of NRPC. A Sub-Group comprising representatives from CEA, CTUIL, NRLDC and other stakeholders evaluated the technology and recommended phased implementation on long, critical, renewable evacuation, inter-regional, and hilly terrain transmission lines. The Sub-Group observed that TWFL enables highly accurate fault location ($\approx \pm 500$ m), thereby reducing outage time and improving system reliability. Subsequently, it was suggested that a uniform national policy framework for TWFL implementation in ISTS and intra-state systems may be formulated by CEA in consultation with CTU, Grid-India and other stakeholders. She also informed that that pilot installations of the technology have already been carried out by PowerGrid on a transmission corridor of around 75 km and results were found to be useful in facilitating faster identification of faults. The matter is placed before the Committee for deliberation on the recommendations and guidance on developing a pan-India policy framework.

2.10.2 She informed that in the pre-meeting between RPCs and NPC held on 23.02.2026, all RPCs were of the view that PowerGrid/TSPs may implement the

scheme and the associated expenditure may be booked under O&M so that it does not burden the beneficiaries. It was further suggested that the matter may be referred to the PSE&TD, CEA for preparation of appropriate guidelines/procedure.

2.10.3 MS, SRPC stated that in existing lines TWFL may be implemented on criticality basis since it had significant cost implication. On an enquiry regarding the cost by **Chairperson, CEA**, representative from PowerGrid informed that the estimated cost of installation of such systems is relatively modest (approximately ₹15–20 lakh for a single circuit line, depending upon the configuration). In view of this, it was observed that the technology may be considered for wider deployment.

2.10.4 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** suggested that such systems may be considered for installation in new transmission lines during the planning stage itself, particularly for long transmission corridors, so that fault location and restoration timelines can be improved.

2.10.5 **Chairperson, TCC, NERPC** requested that while the present criteria primarily consider higher voltage transmission lines, deployment of such systems for lower voltage levels (e.g., 132 kV) in NER may also be considered, as it may be operationally beneficial in NER. The members agreed for the same.

2.10.6 **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **PSE&TD, CEA may prepare guidelines/procedure for implementation of Travelling Wave Fault Locator (TWFL) on critical transmission lines for 220 kV and above (132 kV and above for NER) voltage levels. For new long transmission line, provision for installation of Travelling Wave Fault Locator (TWFL) may be included during planning/RfP stage.**

(Action: PSE&TD, CEA/CTUIL)

- ii. **For existing critical transmission line, PowerGrid/TSPs may implement the scheme on criticality/ need basis and associated expenditure may be booked under O&M so that it does not burden the beneficiaries.**

(Action: PowerGrid/TSPs)

2.11 **Ramping impact on states due to bulk collective purchase by industries (Agenda from ERPC):**

2.11.1 Briefing the Agenda Item, **MS, NPC**, mentioned of the information received from ERPC Secretariat about the issue raised by Odisha SLDC in the 55th TCC meeting held on 16.12.2025 regarding operational challenges arising from large collective market purchases. It was highlighted that sudden reductions in State demand due to large purchases in RTM/DAM markets create scheduling challenges because generator ramping constraints prevent immediate downward revision of injections, leading to under-drawl and financial losses for the State. TCC observed that

regulatory intervention may be required and advised ERPC Secretariat to place the matter before NPC for guidance.

2.11.2 It was informed that in the pre-meeting between RPCs and NPC held on 23.02.2026, SRPC viewed that the matter is completely under the purview of SERCs, therefore the matter may be taken up by respective SERCs.

2.11.3 The issue of rapidly increasing data centre loads and their impact on grid behavior was deliberated. Members noted that data centres typically exhibit high constant loads, with possible ramping characteristics depending on global time zones and server distribution.

2.11.4 It was agreed that a dedicated study may be undertaken to assess the load behavior patterns of data centres, their implications under the DSM framework, impact on grid stability, issues related to variation and discrimination under DSM, and the possible need for separate classification or regulatory treatment. After detailed deliberations, the members decided that a committee may be constituted by Grid-India with participation from CERC, RPCs, RLDCs, and technical experts to study the operational behavior of large data centres and recommend appropriate operational, policy and regulatory measures.

2.11.5 Decision of the NPC:

i. Grid-India to constitute the Committee with participation from CERC, RPCs, RLDCs, and technical experts to study and examine the operational, policy and regulatory aspects related to large data centres and submit its recommendations for further consideration in the next NPC meeting.

(Action: Grid-India)

ii. Odisha-SLDC is requested to take up the matter with respective SERC as the matter is under the purview of SERC.

(Action: Odisha-SLDC)

2.12 Conducting the Examination for Protection Auditor Certification (Agenda from NRPC):

2.12.1 **MS, NPC**, informed that the issue of examination for Protection Auditor certification was discussed in 64th Protection Sub-Committee Meeting (held on 21.11.2025). In this meeting, members expressed that NPTI is suitable Institute for conducting examination as NPTI has institutes located across India. Further, NPTI can maintain uniformity and quality of examination also.

2.12.2 **Member (GO&D), CEA** replied that the participation of RPCs and PowerGrid would be necessary for taking the initiative forward, particularly for developing appropriate training modules and suggested that instead of limiting the exercise to

a single organization, experienced personnel from the protection audit teams constituted in different regions may also be associated.

2.12.3 Members deliberated that 2–3 competent protection auditors from each region may be nominated by respective RPCs and associated with NPTI for developing structured training and certification programmes. It was further suggested that organizations already engaged in similar technical work may also be involved. Experts from utilities such as PowerGrid, particularly those involved in protection audits, may contribute to the development of course content and technical modules.

2.12.4 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** noted that while certain common procedures for protection audits have already been developed, the next step would be to establish a structured certification mechanism for protection auditors and develop formal training courses. It was suggested that six months timeline may be considered for developing and operationalizing these certifications and training programmes. Members also observed that such an initiative would create a new and valuable training stream for NPTI, strengthening technical capacity in the field of protection system audits.

2.12.5 **Decision of the NPC:**

i. **National Power Training Institute (NPTI) to take the lead in developing the training and certification programmes in coordination with HRD Division, CEA, RPCs, and PowerGrid within 6 months.**

(Action: NPTI)

ii. **RPCs to nominate 2–3 experts in protection audit from each region and associate them with NPTI for developing structured training modules and certification framework.**

(Action: All RPCs)

iii. **Experts from PowerGrid involved in protection audits to assist NPTI in preparing course content and technical modules.**

(Action: PowerGrid)

2.13 **Unified Accounting Software (UAS) for RPCs and NPC (Agenda from NRPC):**

2.13.1 **MS, NPC** informed that under the proposal for UAS Phase–II, several operational modules have been identified, including LGBR, power supply position, transmission and generator outage planning, protection audit, communication audit, protection setting approvals, and protection data management, which may be taken up after the go-live of the core accounting modules. She further informed that the matter had been deliberated in the pre-meeting, wherein it was decided that the proposal may be discussed in the Commercial Sub-Group of NPC with participation of members from the Operation, Protection, and Communication Sub-Groups of NPC.

2.13.2 **MS, SRPC** highlighted that at present most of these activities are being carried out manually through Excel sheets, including outage planning and protection audits. Further, he stated that if these processes are developed through UAS, stakeholders could login with authorized access and submit the required data directly, which would improve efficiency, transparency, and data management. A common database would also enable better visibility of protection settings and system data across locations.

2.13.3 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** suggested adopting a holistic architecture rather than developing individual modules in isolation. In particular, protection audit, protection setting approvals, and protection data management are considered closely related and should be developed under a common framework. Similarly, LGBR, power supply position, and generator/transmission outage planning are noted to be interlinked processes and could be integrated within a unified architecture, since outage planning and transmission planning are largely derived from the power supply position reflected in LGBR. The communication audit component may be handled by CTUIL, since procedures for communication audits are already developed to some extent. All members agreed for the same.

2.13.4 During deliberation, it was also informed that NERPC, ERPC, and SRPC have already implemented the Protection Database Management System in their respective regions, which provides provisions for storing protection and relay setting data. However, NRPC and WRPC are maintaining protection setting approvals, and other protection-related data through Excel.

2.13.5 After detailed deliberations, members were of the view that keeping in view the Protection Database Management Systems (PDMS) already implemented in NERPC, ERPC, and SRPC, all RPCs may explore the Protection audit, protection setting approvals, and other protection data collection modules under Protection Database Management Systems (PDMS).

2.13.6 **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **Protection audit, protection setting approvals, and other protection data collection modules may be separated from Phase-II of the Unified Accounting Software. All RPCs may explore the Protection audit, protection setting approvals, and other protection data collection modules under Protection Database Management Systems (PDMS).**

(Action: All RPCs)

- ii. **The implementation modalities of the LGBR, Power Supply Position, and generator/transmission outage planning modules may be deliberated and finalized in the Operation Sub-Group of NPC and submitted in the next NPC meeting for approval for implementation under phase-II of Unified Accounting Software.**

(Action: Operation Sub-group of NPC/GM Division, CEA)

- iii. **CTUIL to take up the development and operationalization of the communication audit component within the overall architecture of UNMS.**
(Action: CTUIL)

2.14 Five (5) minute Interface Energy Meters along with AMR system for PAN India (for all Five regions) (Agenda from CTU):

- 2.14.1 Explaining the agenda item, representative **from CTUIL** informed that, as per earlier directions, DPR had been prepared by PowerGrid in consultation with CTUIL, RPCs, and Grid-India. The proposal was placed before NCT in July 2025. As discussed in the said NCT meeting and recorded in the minutes, CTUIL and Grid-India subsequently deliberated on the hosting of the AMR system. CTUIL stated that, as per the “Joint Committee Technical Specifications of Meter & AMR”, AMR system is to be hosted at the RLDC. It was further informed that in the recent meeting of WRPC held in January 2026, the members agreed in principle to provide the necessary space for hosting the servers required for AMR system. The proposal envisages that the servers may be housed either at RPC premises or at RLDC locations, subject to availability of space and technical feasibility.
- 2.14.2 **Director (System Operation), Grid-India** mentioned that the primary objective of the 5-minute metering data is for energy accounting, while grid operation will continue to rely primarily on SCADA/EMS systems, which already provide near-real-time operational data at much shorter intervals. However, it was also observed that once 5-minute metering data becomes available, the system could potentially support monitoring and analytical applications, and over time it may facilitate the transition of other processes, including scheduling and accounting frameworks, towards 5-minute time blocks instead of the existing 15-minute blocks.
- 2.14.3 He also raised concerns regarding cybersecurity and system architecture, particularly since the metering data is transmitted in encrypted form and is intended to be processed centrally by Grid-India, which would compute the accounting data and disseminate it to the concerned stakeholders. It was clarified that the servers being discussed are primarily for hosting and processing the encrypted data, while most users would access the processed data through API-based interfaces, rather than directly using the servers. He stated that MDP would be ready as per the timeline identified.
- 2.14.4 During the deliberations, **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** emphasized that the issue of space for server installation may be resolved without further delay, noting that the requirement is limited to a small server and associated application infrastructure. Members were asked to clearly indicate whether the servers would be hosted at RPC locations or RLDCs or alternatively at facilities such as CPRI as in case of SRPC, so that the implementation may proceed. It was also suggested that, where feasible, existing premises such as RLDC or RPC facilities may be utilized and

suggested CTUIL, may submit the updated proposal without waiting for further meeting minutes, so that it can be taken up in the next NCT meeting.

2.14.5 After detailed deliberations, ERPC, NRPC, WRPC, and NERPC agreed to the installation of AMR servers at their respective RPC locations, while for SRPC, it was agreed that the servers would be installed at the SRLDC/CPRI building.

2.14.6 CTUIL observed that PGCIL is not inclined to take up the AMR project. **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** advised CTUIL to formally write a letter with detailed note with location-wise information and implementation requirements to **Chairperson, CEA/NPC**, and thereafter the matter may be taken up with CMD, PowerGrid to ensure necessary support and avoid delays in execution.

2.14.7 **Decision of the NPC:**

i. **CTUIL to submit updated AMR proposal indicating server locations and implementation requirements in the next NCT meeting.**

(Action: CTUIL)

ii. **For ER, NR, WR & NER Regions, AMR servers will be installed at respective RPC premises and for SR region, AMR server will be installed at SRLDC/CPRI Building.**

(Action: All RPCs/SRLDC)

iii. **CTUIL to submit a formal letter along with a detailed note to Chairperson, CEA indicating location-wise details and implementation requirements. The matter may thereafter be taken up with CMD, PowerGrid by CEA to ensure necessary support and avoid delays in execution.**

(Action: CTUIL)

iv. **Grid-India to complete the MDP in same timeframe of AMR.**

(Action: Grid India)

2.15 **Uniform Anti-islanding Protection Philosophy of the connected RE plants (Agenda from SRPC):**

2.15.1 It was informed that as per the directions of last NPC Meeting held on 04.07.2025, a Committee had been constituted under SE(Protection), WRPC, with representatives from WRPC, SRPC, Grid-India, experts from IITs, OEMs, PowerGrid, major RE Developer and NPC, for preparation of the Uniform Anti Islanding Protection philosophy of the connected RE plants for further action by WRPC. In this context, it was informed by WRPC that the report may be submitted by the end of March, 2026, after which WRPC would initiate the planning process. It was noted that inputs from all five RPCs are required, and any regional concerns may be incorporated in the report. However, considering the task related to the inclusion of Renewable Energy in islanding schemes, the matter requires detailed examination which necessitates additional time upto the end of April, 2026.

2.15.2 In this regard, **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** suggested that after finalization of the draft report by WRPC by the end of April, 2026, a meeting may be convened by WRPC under the Chairmanship of Chairperson, CEA to review the findings and the proposed approach of Uniform Anti-islanding Protection Philosophy of the connected RE plants.

2.15.3 **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **WRPC to consider inputs from all RPCs, incorporate regional concerns and also examine inclusion of Renewable Energy in Islanding Scheme for finalization of the report by April, 2026.**

(Action: WRPC)

- ii. **WRPC to convene a meeting under the chairmanship of Chairperson, CEA/NPC to review the findings of the report and the proposed approach of Uniform Anti-islanding Protection Philosophy of the connected RE plants.**

(Action: WRPC)

2.16 **Unified Real Time Dynamic State Measurement (URTDSDM) project phase-II (Agenda from PowerGrid):**

2.16.1 Briefing the agenda, CTUIL informed that the proposal has already been discussed and approved in all RPCs. However, DPR has not yet been submitted. CTUIL also informed that for Transmission schemes for which bidding was completed before December, 2022 i.e. the date of notification of Central Electricity Authority (Technical Standards for Construction of Electrical Plants and Electric Lines) Regulations, 2022, PMU installation may be considered as per placement philosophy of Sub-Committee report and as per the decision taken in the 14th NPC meeting.

2.16.2 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** observed that the project had originally been initiated by CTUIL/ PowerGrid, and therefore the implementation responsibility should remain with PowerGrid, similar to the earlier URTDSDM Phase-I. It was clarified that there should be no confusion regarding the implementing agency, and PowerGrid should proceed with the project implementation in coordination with CTUIL, wherever required.

2.16.3 Members also deliberated on the cost recovery mechanism, particularly whether the expenditure would be recovered through the transmission tariff under the sharing mechanism or through a separate cost recovery arrangement from constituents. It was noted that earlier projects such as SCADA and communication systems had been implemented under Regional Entity (RE) sharing mechanism. In case the cost is included in the ISTS transmission tariff, it would fall under the sharing mechanism, whereas if the cost is recovered separately from beneficiaries, routing through such tariff mechanisms may not be required.

2.16.4 After detailed deliberations, it was agreed that for older transmission scheme (bid before 27.12.2022), Grid-India may identify critical lines and based on the identification, TBCB project may be covered under change in law and RTM project may be covered in Additional Capitalization (Add-Cap).

2.16.5 During the discussion, **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** emphasized that a consistent approach should be adopted across similar projects, including initiatives such as AMR and PMU-related deployments, so that there is no ambiguity regarding implementation and cost recovery. He mentioned that PMU placement guidelines and related clarifications have already been issued by CEA, and therefore no further policy clarification may be necessary at this stage and suggested that agenda may be placed before NCT by CTUIL for further consideration and approval.

2.16.6 Decision of the NPC:

i. **Grid-India to identify critical lines. Based on the identification, TBCB projects may be covered under Change in Law provisions, while RTM projects may be considered under Additional Capitalization (Add-Cap).**

(Action: Grid-India)

ii. **CTUIL to place the agenda before the NCT for further consideration and approval.**

(Action: CTUIL)

2.17 Membership of RE Generators in Southern Region (Agenda from SRPC):

2.17.1 Briefing the agenda, **MS, SRPC** informed that in the 16th NPC meeting the issue of participation and membership of renewable energy (RE) generators in RPC forums was discussed and decided that SRPC may take up the matter with Member (GO&D), CEA and concerned RE developers to facilitate their participation in RPC forums in line with the Ministry of Power guidelines. Subsequently, communication had been initiated with eligible RE generators (≥ 1000 MW capacity) through Member (GO&D), CEA, and developers such as M/s Greenko Group, M/s ReNew and M/s Suzlon have now expressed interest/consented to become members of SRPC forum and participating in relevant Sub-Committee meetings.

2.17.2 **All members noted the same.**

2.18 Old cases of Certification of Transmission system availability of deemed ISTS/natural ISTS lines of States (Agenda from NRPC):

2.18.1 **Briefing the agenda, MS, NRPC** informed that requests were received from RVPN and PTCUL for transmission system availability certification for various such transmission assets and lines for different periods since 2014/2016. Certain assets of PTCUL have already been approved for CoD and tariff by CERC, while tariff

petitions for later periods are under consideration. Difficulties have been faced by NRPC Secretariat in verifying outages for certification. In the review meeting chaired by Chairperson, CEA held on 02.02.2026, it was decided that a uniform approach for transmission system availability certification across all RPCs may be deliberated at the NPC level.

2.18.2 It was informed that in pre-meeting held on 23.02.2026, it was decided that for previous cases of transmission system certification received prior to October 2020, SOP for transmission system availability certificate may be prepared by operation subgroup of NPC.

2.18.3 Members expressed concerns regarding dynamic power flows and challenges in applying criteria such as percentage-based flow thresholds. It was emphasized that certification criteria should be uniformly applicable across states and Committee noted that any change in sharing philosophy may require regulatory approval and alignment with prevailing CERC orders. It was agreed that clarity must be obtained on whether existing schemes would continue under old methodology or be transitioned under new framework.

2.18.4 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** suggested that NRPC may take the lead in formulating the SOP for Certification of Transmission system availability of deemed ISTS/natural ISTS lines of States, which may then be shared and discussed with all RPCs. The SOP may be finalized in the Operation Subgroup of NPC and subsequently placed in the next NPC meeting for approval.

2.18.5 **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **NRPC to take the lead in preparing the draft SOP for Certification of Transmission system availability of deemed ISTS/natural ISTS lines of States received prior to October 2020, share it with all RPCs for comments, and finalize it in the Operation Subgroup of NPC. The finalized SOP shall be placed for approval in the next NPC meeting.**

(Action: NRPC / All RPCs / Operation Sub-Group of NPC)

2.19 **Training on Emergency Restoration System (ERS) in the Southern Region as per MoP Guidelines (Agenda from SRPC):**

2.19.1 **MS, SRPC informed** that readiness of Emergency Restoration Systems (ERS) in Southern Region was reviewed as per MoP/CEA directions, with States and licensees were advised to prioritize procurement or seek mutual assistance for shortfalls. ERS availability and compliance are regularly monitored in OCC and SRPC meetings. Hands-on training was also conducted by TANTRANSCO and PGCIL for personnel from transmission utilities. Ministry of Power directed PGCIL to procure 20 ERS sets under Make in India and organized the training in Meerut. Given the critical role of ERS in system restoration and transmission line diversion, regular hands-on training by NPTI-HLTC at Bengaluru was proposed for all transmission and distribution utilities.

2.19.2 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC**, emphasized the need to monitor utilization closely, as ERS resources are often idle for long durations. In such cases, arrangements for deployment on rental basis may be considered for critical lines or urgent shutdowns.

2.19.3 **Chairman, TCC, SRPC** stated that in the Southern region, critical shutdowns are assessed individually, and ERS is deployed only after confirming its feasibility for critical lines, including highways and railway crossings, where longer shutdowns are restricted.

2.19.4 **MS, WRPC** informed that, as of date, no Emergency Restoration System (ERS) has been established in Gujarat. In response, **Chairperson, CEA** advised WRPC to submit a formal communication to the office of Chairperson, CEA indicating the exact status of ERS availability in Gujarat, so that the matter may be taken up appropriately by CEA.

2.19.5 After detailed deliberations, it was decided that PSE&TD, CEA may examine the feasibility of deploying ERS systems through rental arrangements and it was also decided that PSE&TD, CEA may coordinate with suppliers, vendors, and manufacturers to facilitate the establishment of ERS set up in the training institute of NPTI for imparting training on use and deployment of ERS to power sector professionals.

2.19.6 **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **WRPC to submit a formal communication indicating the exact status of ERS availability in Gujarat to office of the Chairperson, CEA for appropriate action. Information of any other entity which has not made provision for ERS may be reported to office of Chairperson.**

(Action: WRPC/RPCs)

- ii. **PSE&TD, CEA to examine the feasibility of deploying ERS systems through rental arrangements. PSET&D also to coordinate with suppliers, vendors and manufactures for establishment of ERS set up at training institute of NPTI for imparting training on use and deployment of ERS to power sector professionals.**

(Action: PSE&TD, CEA)

2.20 Status of Emergency Restoration System (ERS) (Agenda from NPC):

2.20.1 **MS, NPC** informed that the details regarding the status of availability of entity-wise ERS were sought by NPC Division, CEA from all RPCs and PowerGrid. Further, RPCs were also requested to update the status of availability of ERS in their region in every OCC meeting, based on data up to the last day of the preceding month and also include the status of ERS in the Minutes of the OCC meeting.

2.20.2 Further, in the review meeting of RPCs held under the Chairpersonship of the Chairperson, CEA on 02.02.2026, Chairperson, CEA had directed to refer the matter to PSE&TD, CEA to examine and standardize the minimum number of towers required to be maintained in an ERS set considering tension and suspension tower numbers.

2.20.3 All members agreed to the decision of the review meeting and took note of the same.

2.20.4 **Decision of the NPC:**

i. **PSE&TD, CEA to examine and standardize the minimum number of towers required to be maintained in an ERS set considering tension and suspension tower numbers.**

(Action: PSE&TD, CEA)

ii. **RPCs to update the status of availability of ERS in their region in every OCC meeting, based on data up to the last day of the preceding month and also include the status of ERS in the Minutes of the OCC meeting.**

(Action: All RPCs)

2.21 Frequent outages of HVDC Champa-Kurukshetra and its impact on Indian power system (Agenda from Grid-India):

2.21.1 **MS, NPC** informed that a Committee had been constituted in the 16th NPC meeting under the Chairmanship of Member (Power System) to examine the issue of frequent outages of HVDC Champa–Kurukshetra link. It was further informed that the committee has submitted its report to NPC (attached at **Annexure-II**) after detailed deliberations with Grid-India, NRLDC, WRLDC, and other concerned stakeholders.

2.21.2 **Member (Power System), CEA**, informed that the Committee has recommended short-term, medium-term, and long-term technical measures to address the issue and requested that the recommendations of the Committee may be examined in the respective RPC forums, particularly by NRPC and WRPC, along with NRLDC and WRLDC, and necessary actions may be taken for implementation.

2.21.3 **Director (SO), Grid-India** further highlighted that the Champa–Kurukshetra corridor is a critical inter-regional link for power transfer from the Western to the Northern Region, carrying around 6000 MW during peak demand periods. Members noted that even when the line was not at full load, tripping occurred during the incident of 17th November 2024. Earlier investigations identified issues related to CTs, cards, and other protection components, for which corrective actions are being taken by OEM and implementing agency. It was suggested that lessons from these incidents may be incorporated in similar HVDC systems.

2.21.4 During the discussion, the possibility of additional reactive power support (such as STATCOM) at nearby substations was also suggested to help stabilize voltage

fluctuations. It was agreed that CTU may examine the technical requirement for additional STATCOM installations, and after approval at the NRPC forum, the proposal may be taken up in NCT by CTUIL for further consideration.

2.21.5 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** suggested that PowerGrid and OEM may indicate clear timelines for completion of software upgrades and other recommended actions, preferably by March–April, 2026 and that the implementation of all recommendations may be monitored by Member (Power System), CEA.

2.21.6 **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **NRPC and WRPC in coordination with NRLDC and WRLDC, to examine the Committee's recommendations and initiate necessary actions for implementation of all recommendations which may be monitored by Member (Power System), CEA.**

(Action: NRPC / WRPC / NRLDC / WRLDC/ Member (PS), CEA)

- ii. **CTUIL to examine the technical requirement for installation of STATCOM or other reactive power support at nearby substations. After approval in NRPC forum, the proposal may be taken up in NCT by CTUIL for further consideration.**

(Action: CTUIL)

- iii. **PowerGrid in association with OEM to indicate clear timelines for completion of software upgrades and implementation of the recommended measures, preferably by March–April, 2026.**

(Action: PowerGrid)

2.22 **Requirement of Voice Communication for Operational Co-ordination (Agenda from SRPC):**

2.22.1 **MS, SRPC** informed that while voice communication systems are presently available for generators and transmission licensees, similar arrangements are not yet available for Qualified Coordinating Agencies (QCA's). The matter had earlier been deliberated in the concerned Sub-Committee, wherein the need for such communication facilities for QCA's was highlighted. It was further informed that, during the pre-meeting discussions, WRPC indicated that Grid-India had raised certain cyber security concerns regarding the provision of VoIP facilities for QCA's and requested Grid-India's views on the matter.

2.22.2 **Director (System Operation), Grid-India** stated that the concerns are particularly from a cybersecurity perspective, since QCA's may include private entities and may not necessarily have dedicated physical infrastructure such as control centres. Unlike generating stations or transmission licensees, which have established physical assets and operational facilities, QCA's may sometimes operate from minimal infrastructure, creating challenges in providing secure operational communication links.

2.22.3 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** stated that the requirement for voice communication should not be examined only in the context of QCAs. With the evolving power sector, several new participants such as large open-access consumers, data centres, green hydrogen facilities, and peer-to-peer market participants are emerging. Therefore, the issue should be considered holistically, keeping in view the future structure of the power sector and the growing number of participants requiring coordination with system operators. However, any such arrangement may be designed carefully to ensure the cybersecurity of the existing communication network.

2.22.4 After detailed deliberations, it was agreed that CERT-Grid Operation (NLDC) may prepare a comprehensive plan addressing cyber security issues related to the requirement of voice communication for operational coordination involving QCAs, large open-access consumers, data centres, green hydrogen facilities, and peer-to-peer market participants. The matter may be examined holistically, keeping in view the evolving structure of the power sector and the increasing number of participants requiring coordination with system operators.

2.22.5 **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **CERT-Grid Operation (NLDC) prepare a comprehensive plan for cyber security aspects of voice and data communication for QCAs, large open-access consumers, data centres, green hydrogen facilities, and peer-to-peer market participants, considering the evolving structure of the power sector.**

(Action: CERT-Grid Operation (NLDC))

2.23 Installation of OPGW on the existing lines of ISTS and STU (Agenda from CTUIL):

2.23.1 **Representative from CTUIL** informed that in the 16th meeting of NPC held on 04.07.2025, it was decided that proposals for installation of OPGW on existing ISTS lines may be deliberated in the respective RPC/NCT forums. Accordingly, CTUIL has taken up the agenda in various regional forums of RPC. It was further informed that the proposals for installation of OPGW on existing ISTS lines have been deliberated across all regions and have been approved in the Western Region (WR), Eastern Region (ER), and North Eastern Region (NER), as well as in NCT for these regions. Further, in-principle approval has been given in Southern Region (SR), while the matter is currently under consideration in Northern Region (NR).

2.23.2 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** requested CTUIL that, once the proposal for OPGW installation on existing ISTS is approved in Southern Region (SR) and Northern Region (NR), the same may be placed in the NCT meeting for further consideration and approval.

2.23.3 **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **CTUIL to place the proposal for OPGW installation on existing lines of ISTS in the NCT meeting after obtaining approval in the Southern and Northern regional forums.**

(Action: CTUIL)

2.24 **RE Generation Loss Events and performance of RE Plants (Agenda from Grid-India):**

- 2.24.1 **Member (Power System), CEA** informed that the Committee report on renewable energy (RE) integration and system performance has recently been submitted (attached at **Annexure-III**). Members from Northern, Western, and Southern Regions were requested to examine the report and initiate implementation of the recommendations within their respective regions, with the objective of reducing generation loss and improving system reliability.
- 2.24.2 He further emphasized that compliance with CEA Regulations, particularly with respect to Low Voltage Ride through (LVRT), High Voltage Ride through (HVRT), and other technical performance requirements, must be ensured by all generating stations. Members observed that coordination issues sometimes arise between Power Plant Controllers (PPCs) and OEM systems, and such mismatches should be addressed to ensure proper functioning of control systems. **CMD, Grid-India** also emphasized upon enforcing compliance.
- 2.24.3 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** observed about the importance of model validation, studies, and dynamic analysis, including the use of appropriate tools, to accurately assess system behavior. While detailed studies are typically carried out by specialized agencies, it was suggested that RPCs may formalize a systematic monitoring mechanism, including identification of parameters to be checked and the periodicity of compliance verification, similar to the approach followed for other periodic audits. This would help ensure that generating stations continue to comply with regulatory requirements over time.
- 2.24.4 It was further noted that PMUs play an important role in model validation and verification of plant performance. Therefore, installation of PMUs at appropriate locations where they are currently not available may be considered necessary for effective monitoring.
- 2.24.5 It was also discussed that that event-based analysis should continue, with detailed examination of disturbances and corrective actions communicated to the concerned plants. However, in addition to such post-event reviews, proactive monitoring and compliance verification mechanisms should also be strengthened.

2.24.6 Decision of the NPC:

- i. **A Standing Committee under CEA with representations from NLDC, RLDCs, RPCs, Academia, Inverter OEMs, WTG OEMs may be formed to discuss the common RE integration issues.**

(Action: PSE&TD, CEA)

- ii. **RPCs to formalize a monitoring framework, including identification of parameters to be checked and the periodicity for compliance verification, similar to the approach followed for other periodic audits.**

(Action: All RPCs)

2.25 Uniform criteria on Harmonics measurement in the grid (Agenda from NERPC):

2.25.1 MS, NPC informed that Grid-India had submitted the draft guidelines (attached at **Annexure-IV**) for uniform criteria on harmonic measurement and other parameters in accordance with the Regulations of the Central Electricity Authority.

2.25.2 Chairperson, CEA/NPC stated that the report on Uniform Criteria for Harmonics Measurement in the Grid may first be examined in all RPCs in coordination with RLDCs and other concerned stakeholders. Thereafter, the matter may be deliberated in the concerned Sub-Committee of RPCs. Members may submit their comments, following which the issue may be discussed in detail in the Protection Subgroup of NPC to evolve a uniform and implementable criterion in consultation with all stakeholders.

2.25.3 Chairman, TCC, SRPC raised the issue of technical standards for grid connectivity of railway traction loads and highlighted that railway systems often draw large loads (in the range of several megawatts) using two-phase supply, which may lead to higher harmonic injection and system imbalance and suggested that appropriate technical standards for such connectivity may be required. **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** requested **Chairman, TCC, SRPC** that a specific reference on the issue may be submitted to **Member (GO&D), CEA** for examination, given the unique nature of railway traction systems.

2.25.4 Decision of the NPC:

- i. **Grid-India report to be examined by RPCs in coordination with RLDCs and other stakeholders. The matter may thereafter be deliberated in the concerned Sub-Committees of RPCs, and comments may be submitted for further discussion in the Protection Subgroup of NPC to evolve a uniform and implementable criterion.**

(Action: All RPCs / RLDCs / Protection Subgroup of NPC)

- iii. **Chairman, TCC, SRPC to submit a reference regarding Railway traction loads that inject higher harmonics into the grid and create system**

imbalances to the Office of Member (GO&D), CEA for examination, considering the unique characteristics of railway traction systems.

(Action: Chairman, TCC, SRPC)

2.26 Establishment of State-of- the-Art National Unified Network Management System (N-UNMS) in main & backup configuration integrating all the regional UNMSs (Agenda from CTUIL):

2.26.1 **Representative from CTUIL** informed that the development of workflow module as decided in 16th NPC meeting was not originally part of the initial scope of work and was being developed subsequently with support from the vendor. The workflow format had been demonstrated earlier and certain comments had been received.

2.26.2 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** suggested that all stakeholders may coordinate and consolidate their inputs so that the workflow requirements may be finalized to avoid repeated revisions. It was emphasized that once the final inputs are communicated to the vendor, the implementation may proceed without further iterative changes to avoid delays. He further advised that the final set of comments already communicated to CTUIL may be treated as final and incorporated accordingly. A coordination meeting with the vendor and concerned stakeholders may be convened shortly by CTUIL to freeze the workflow requirements once for all.

2.26.3 Decision of the NPC:

i. CTUIL to finalize and freeze the workflow in coordination with vendor and concerned stakeholders.

(Action: CTUIL)

2.27 Introduction of MPLS Technology in ISTS Communication system (Agenda from CTUIL):

2.27.1 **Representative from CTUIL** informed that Technical Specifications have undergone two rounds of deliberations in the Joint Committee and are about to be finalized. The same are expected to be issued shortly within one month. It was also informed that interoperability aspects were to be addressed through a prototype deployment in NER. The prototype scheme will demonstrate the functionality and, based on the outcome, the technology may subsequently be deployed across the country.

2.27.2 The issue related to Make-in-India requirements and vendor availability was also deliberated. It was indicated that limited vendor participation may affect competition and cost. The matter regarding possible relaxations or inclusion of additional vendor categories is under examination at the appropriate level.

2.27.3 **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** observed that an assessment may be undertaken regarding the optimal configuration and capacity requirements so that unnecessary

cost escalation is avoided while ensuring adequate future readiness. Further, CEA has already taken up the matter with Ministry of Power regarding Make in India relaxation.

2.27.4 Decision of the NPC:

- i. **Joint Committee to finalize the technical specification and submit the same by May, 2026.**

(Action: Joint committee for MPLS)

2.28 Additional Agenda Items:

a. Ensuring flow of data on rooftop solar to DISCOMS in real time (Agenda from NERPC):

- i. Briefing the agenda, **MS, NPC** informed that as per the direction of Member (GO&D), CEA, the work of the pilot projects for ensuring real-time data flow from rooftop solar to DISCOMS shall be continued in the ongoing work in RPM division in association with ISGF to avoid duplication of work.
- ii. **Chairperson TCC (SRPC)** stated that Pilot Project can be envisaged in Kerala as they have significant roof top solar presence.
- iii. **Members noted the information.**

b. Qualifying criteria for the selection of prospective bidders (Company) for conducting Third-Party Protection Audits (Agenda from ERPC):

- i. **MS, NPC** informed that as per the decision of 16th NPC meeting, NPC Secretariat had held two meetings on 13.10.2025 and 27.11.2025 with the Protection subgroup of NPC and finalized the Qualification Requirements for the selection of prospective Bidders for the Third-Party Protection Audit (attached at **Annexure-V**) and the same was circulated to all RPCs on 09.02.2026. **Members noted the same.**

c. Report of the Committee to Evolve a Mechanism for Ensuring Thermal Generation at Technical Minimum Level for Grid Stability and Renewable Energy Integration:

- i. Briefing the agenda, **MS, NPC** informed that CERC vide Order dated 05.10.2025 in Suo-Motu Petition No. 9/SM/2024, has considered and accepted most of the recommendation of the Report of the Committee to Evolve a Mechanism for Ensuring Thermal Generation at Technical Minimum Level for Grid Stability and Renewable Energy Integration.

- ii. **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** requested RPCs to monitor the implementation of the Committee's recommendations (report attached at **Annexure-VI**) at state level and also monitor the surplus capacity of state generators which is traded on Power exchanges.

- iii. **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **RPCs to monitor the implementation of recommendation of the Report of the Committee to Evolve a Mechanism for Ensuring Thermal Generation at Technical Minimum Level for Grid Stability and Renewable Energy Integration at state level and also monitor the surplus capacity of state generators that is being traded on Power exchanges.**

(Action: All RPCs)

- d. **Concern Regarding Non-Compliance in Power Supply under Long-Term Duration Contract (LDC) through PXIL (Additional Agenda from ERPC):**

- i. Briefing the agenda, **MS, ERPC** informed that this agenda item pertains to concerns raised by WBSEDCL regarding non-compliance of power supply under a Long-Term Duration Contract transacted through PXIL. Despite completing the transaction, the seller failed to supply the committed power, forcing WBSEDCL to procure power at higher rates, while the compensation provided under exchange Rules was limited. The issue was deliberated in ERPC forums, which emphasized the need to maintain the sanctity of exchange-based contracts and suggested stronger penalty mechanisms. The matter has been placed before NPC for wider deliberation on ensuring reliability, enforceability, and adequate regulatory safeguards for exchange-based long-term transactions.
 - ii. After deliberations, it was clarified that the matter essentially pertains to a contractual dispute under the Power Market Regulations. Accordingly, the affected entity was advised to file a petition before CERC or at appropriate legal forum, since the exchanges operate under CERC's regulatory framework.
 - iii. Members further noted that if evidence is available indicating that the generator defaulted on the contracted supply while simultaneously transacting power on the exchange platform, the same may be submitted before the Commission as part of the petition.
 - iv. It was agreed by all the members that contractual disputes cannot be adjudicated in NPC. Accordingly, it was suggested that WBSEDCL may approach CERC in this regard.

- v. **Decision of the NPC:**

- i. **WBSEDCL may approach CERC/appropriate legal forum in this regard.**

(Action: WBSEDCL)

e. Request for Intervention in Recovery of Outstanding Dues from Government of Sikkim (Additional Agenda from ERPC):

- i. **MS, ERPC** informed that this agenda item pertains to outstanding dues payable by the Government of Sikkim to WBSEDCL under a power purchase arrangement linked to the Rammam Hydel Project tariff operated by WBSEDCL. Despite regular power drawl, payments have largely remained unsettled since 2017, resulting in outstanding dues of about ₹100.22 crore including Late Payment Surcharge (LPSC). The issue was discussed in ERPC forum, where it was suggested that a provision may be incorporated in the PRAPTI Portal of the Ministry of Power, India to facilitate realization of such inter-state dues.
- ii. **Chairperson, CEA/NPC** observed that the issue is linked to contractual arrangements between the concerned state governments, and clarification regarding the underlying agreement is required. Referring to PRAPTI portal, which monitor payment security mechanisms in the power sector, he informed that certain inter-state payment issues involving state utilities or state governments may not be fully captured under the existing framework, particularly in cases involving licensee-to-licensee or government-level contractual arrangements.
- iii. After detailed deliberations, it was agreed that WBSEDCL may take up the matter with Ministry of Power.
- iv. **Decision of the NPC:**
 - i. **WBSEDCL may take up the matter with Ministry of Power.**

(Action: WBSEDCL)

f. Status of Agenda items:

Agenda items	Decision/Deliberations in the 17th NPC Meeting
Amendment in functions of National Power Committee (NPC) and its Conduct of Business Rule (Agenda from NPC)	MS, NPC informed that in accordance with the decisions of 16th NPC Meeting, NPC Secretariat has sent a letter dated 06.01.2026 to Ministry of Power for further action. Members noted the same.
Agenda of operational issues of DISCOMs at RPC level	RPCs to continue reviewing these common agenda items at RPC level to ensure regular monitoring and resolution of operational issues of DISCOMs.
Review of Status of Islanding schemes	Members noted that all RPCs are actively monitoring the status of islanding schemes within their respective regions. It was also informed that some new islanding schemes are under formulation and implementation to enhance grid resilience and system security.

Agenda items	Decision/Deliberations in the 17th NPC Meeting
List of substations and transmission elements to be covered for protection audit in cycle of five (5) years.	RPCs to update List of substations and transmission elements to be covered for protection audit in cycle of five (5) years.
Automatic Demand Management System (ADMS) (Agenda from Grid-India)	It was noted that ADMS implementation is currently limited to a few states, and broader adoption is yet to take place. Members emphasized the need for greater awareness and sensitization among utilities and stakeholders, and all RPCs were advised to encourage implementation of ADMS for grid security. Inbuilt ADMS feature with new SCADA system may be implemented for the purpose.
Sustained High Frequency in Indian power system during solar hours) (Agenda from Grid-India)	RPCs to continue monitoring frequency conditions in their meetings, review instances where frequency exceeds prescribed limits, and share best practices and experiences across regions for wider replication.

g. Hosting of NPC meeting:

- i. **MS, NPC** informed that as per the roster finalized in the 5th NPC meeting, the next NPC meeting would be hosted by ERPC. The Committee agreed to the proposal.
- ii. **Decision of the NPC:**
 - i. **The 18th NPC meeting will be hosted by ERPC. The date and venue will be finalized in consultation with NPC Secretariat.**

(Action: ERPC)

The meeting concluded with a Vote of Thanks to Chairperson, CEA, all NPC members, and participants for their valuable contributions and active participation.

**List of Participants in the 17th meeting of National Power Committee (NPC)
held on 27.02.2026 at Vizag, Andhra Pradesh.**

Central Electricity Authority (CEA)

1. Sh. Ghanshyam Prasad, Chairperson, CEA
2. Sh. Hemant Jain, Member (GO&D), CEA
3. Sh. V K Singh, Member (PS), CEA
4. Smt. Rishika Sharan, Member Secretary, NPC
5. Sh. Satyendra Kr. Dotan, Director, NPC
6. Sh. Shishir Kumar Pradhan, Dy. Director, NPC
7. Sh. Saurabh Raj, Assistant Director, NPC

Northern Regional Power Committee (NRPC)

1. Sh. G. P. Singh Arora, IAS, Chairperson TCC (NRPC)
2. Smt. Rishika Sharan, Member Secretary
3. Sh. Anzum Parwej, Superintending Engineer
4. Sh. Praveen Jangra, Executive Engineer
5. Sh. Reeturaj Pandey, Executive Engineer
6. Sh. Ravi Kant, Executive Engineer
7. Sh. Omkishor, Executive Engineer
8. Sh. Vipul Kumar, Executive Engineer

Western Regional Power Committee (WRPC)

1. Sh. Deepak Kumar, Member Secretary
2. Sh. P. D. Lone, Superintending Engineer
3. Sh. D. N. Gawali, Superintending Engineer

Southern Regional Power Committee (SRPC)

1. Sh. Minhaj Alam, IAS, Chairperson (SRPC)
2. Sh. Sivadas S, Chairperson TCC (SRPC)
3. Sh. Asit Singh, Member Secretary
4. Smt. N S Malini, Superintending Engineer
5. Smt. Anusha Das J, Executive Engineer
6. Sh. Dennis Rajan, Resident Engineer, KSEB

Eastern Regional Power Committee (ERPC)

1. Sh. K. B. Jagtap, Member Secretary
2. Sh. R.N Sinha, Chief Engineer (PTP), WBSEDCL
3. Sh. P. Banerjee, Addl. CE & In-charge ALDC, WBSEDCL
4. Sh. P. P. Jena, Executive Engineer

North- Eastern Regional Power Committee (NERPC)

1. Smt. Pansangiat Sun, Chairperson TCC (NERPC)
2. Sh. D. K. Bauri, Director
3. Sh. Alik De, Deputy Director
4. Sh. Vikash Shankar, Assistant Director

Grid-India

1. Sh. Samir Chandra Saxena, CMD
2. Sh. R. K. Porwal, Director (System Operation)
3. Sh. Subhendu Mukherji, DGM
4. Sh. Saibal Ghosh, Chief Manager
5. Sh. Rohit Shukla, Manager

CTUIL

1. Sh. Kailash Kumar Gupta, COO
2. Smt. Nutan Mishra, Sr. GM
3. Sh. Tej Prakash Verma, DGM

PGCIL

1. Sh. Anjan Kr. Das, Sr. General Manager (GA&C)
2. Sh. R. N. Gupta, PGCIL
