Ref: IPDS/ Varanasi  /35 350

Date: 14th Jan 2016

Sub: Record notes of Meetings held on 8th January 2016 at Mumbai to study the best practices in Underground Cabling

Ms. Radhika Jha, IAS, ED (IPDS) visited Mumbai on 8th Jan 2016 to study the best practices in underground cabling being used at Mumbai. The record notes of meetings held with MSEDCL, Tata power and Reliance power Mumbai are enclosed herewith for kind information please.

Encl. – As above.

(A. K. Rathore)
STA to ED, IPDS

For kind information to:

1. CMD, PFC Ltd,
2. CMD, PGCIL, Gurgaon
3. CMD, MSEDCL, Mumbai
4. Sh B. P. Gantayat, ED, PGCIL, Gurgaon
5. Sh Manish Mantri, Vice President, KEI
6. AGM (PFC)/ Nodal Officer (U.P.)
Ms. Radhika Jha, ED (IPDS) visited Mumbai on 8th Jan 2016 to study the best practices in underground cabling being used at Mumbai. Meetings were held at MD, MSEDCL Office and Tata Power Dharavi, during the meetings issues regarding completion of work of underground cabling at Varanasi (old Kashi area) in targeted one year time were discussed. The DISCOMs shared their expertise and experiences. In this context following were observed

- For narrow lanes due to limitation of space, so far they have not attempted any mechanized way for making trench. They have gone for manual excavation after gauging the area through trial pits.
- M/s KEI discussed their implementation plan of using HDD for broader lanes and impact/ Manual moling in case of narrow lanes. MSEDCL and Tata power have largely accepted the methodology recommended by M/s KEI and suggested for very close monitoring and supervision.
- Tata Power shall provide inputs regarding details of OEMs of materials they are using and agencies deployed by them at Mumbai.
- Tata power emphasized that mapping of cables laid on GIS is very important from O & M requirements.
- MSEDCL informed that normally they lay standby cable with new LT cables.
- Regarding restoration of cable trench, DISCOMs informed that restoration follows immediately after back filling by utility in 3 to 7 days and is carried out by MCGM. Utilities are not allowed to take up this job.
- Getting permission from Municipal Corporation at Mumbai for cable laying work takes some time; this aspect should be looked in at Varanasi for speeding up the pace of work.
- In order to advise for work at Varanasi M/s Tata Power and MSEDCL shall be sending their experts to share their experiences in the next review meeting to be chaired by Addl. Secretary (Power) MoP, GoI, scheduled at Varanasi on 19th January 2016.

A Meeting was also held at Reliance power with representatives from PGCIL, KEI and PFC. Following additional salient aspects were observed

- M/s reliance shall share documents of cable laying and quality procedures.
They are laying optical fiber cable along with the power cable, as this is a futuristic requirement and huge future costs and work can be avoided by a marginal cost by laying with power cable.

For proper identification of cable routes, joints, bends etc. they are putting RFID tags (active and passive). Active tags have data regarding the cable laying and can be retrieved from it.

Discussions were held with BMC and their trenching policy was also studied. PGCIL and KEI were also advised to follow timely & quality road restoration, resulting in no or minimum inconvenience to general public.

In the end it was decided that PGCIL & KEI will study the Best Practices from MESDCL-Mumbai, Bangalore, Gujarat, Tata power and Reliance power and make implementation plans for Varanasi works, accordingly.

ED (IPDS) offered to coordinate & facilitate inputs from Bangalore and Gujarat Discoms in this regard. Experts from Bangalore and Gujarat may be requested to travel to Varanasi for the review meeting & share their experiences, likewise.