



Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission
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Petition No. 10 of 2026

In the matter of

"Seeking exemption from having dedicated feeder for availing open access for Solar PV power at user end under provisions of clause 5(5) of CSERC (Connectivity and Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2011 and amendment Regulations, 2012."

M/s Fortune Metaliks Limited
23 Milestone, Village - Kaspasda, Tehsil - Dharsiwa,
Dist.- Raipur (Chhattisgarh)

... Petitioner

Versus

1. Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited
Vidhyut Seva Bhawan, Raipur (C.G.)
 2. Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Company Limited
Vidhyut Seva Bhawan, Raipur (C.G.)
- ... Respondents

PRESENT : Vivek Ganodwale, Member (Law)
Ajay Kumar Singh, Member (Technical)

Appearance : Shri Shobhit Joseph, representative for petitioner.
Smt. Alka Yadav, EE for Respondent CSPDCL.
Shri V.G. Ekka, SE for respondent CSPTCL.

ORDER
(April 27, 2026)

The petitioner, M/s Fortune Metaliks Ltd. is a registered company and is engaged in manufacturing of TMT Steel and pipes in its plant located at Village-Kaspasda, Tehsil- Dharsiwa, Distt- Raipur. The petitioner is availing contract demand of 40000 KVA at 132 KV through

Fortune-Hindustan Coils multi-consumer feeder emanating from 220/132/33 KV Kuthrel substation.

- 2.** The respondent No. 1 is Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited (in short, 'CSPDCL' or Respondent No. 1') the state owned distribution licensee and the respondent No. 2 is Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Company Limited (in short, 'CSPTCL' or Respondent No. 2') the transmission licensee in the State.

Petitioner's Submission:

- 3.** The petitioner is in the process of increasing its contract demand to 45 MVA and also for installation of 25 MW (DC) co-located captive Solar PV Power plant of under 'Behind the Meter' (BTM) arrangement, for which they have applied for permission from appropriate authorities. Power from this solar plant shall be consumed in the existing premises by its captive user. As per the petitioner, the solar power plant is expected to commission by 31.05.2026.
- 3.1** The petitioner also intends to purchase power from other interstate / intrastate sources, in future, for which exemption from having a dedicated feeder as specified in the clause 5(5) of CSERC (connectivity and Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2011 (in short, 'open access, Regulations') at user end is required. As per the regulations, the Commission is empowered to provide exemption to the bulk consumers from having dedicated feeder subject to load restrictions.

- 3.2** Further, as there is a requirement of dedicated feeder for connectivity of the solar power plant, captive consumption of power from proposed solar PV power plant is not permitted.
- 3.3** It is further submitted that upon such exemption of having dedicated feeder, the Petitioner undertakes to develop data communication facilities to SLDC and to install requisite metering and other equipments and also agrees on situations of load restriction in the respective common distribution feeder of CSPDCL at the user end, if required by it. The petitioner also undertakes to abide by any other judicious conditions imposed by the Commission, if any.
- 3.4** With the above submissions, the petitioner prays to grant exemption from having dedicated feeder to avail open access under clause 5(5) of CSERC (connectivity and Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2011 as amended and approval of open access through common distribution feeder of respondent No. 1 CSPDCL at petitioner's premises.
- 3.5** Petitioner further submitted that they do not required banking facility for their 25 MW (DC) solar power plant proposed to be set up under Behind the Meter arrangement. The petitioner further submits that all applicable procedures relating to scheduling, energy accounting and billing adjustments shall be duly complied with through the appropriate Load Despatch Centres and CSPDCL / CSPTCL, as per prevailing regulations.

Respondent No. 1 - CSPDCL's Reply

- 4.** Respondent No. 1 submitted that petitioner has not clarified the mode i.e., IDRES or BTM in which the solar PV power plant will be

installed because the energy settlement modalities for both the cases are entirely different. Further, detailed information regarding application for connectivity is not provided in the petition.

5. Respondent CSPDCL vide additional reply dated 10.03.2026 submitted that the Commission has already clarified the regulatory framework for Behind the Meter solar PV projects and independent distributed renewable energy systems in its recent orders dated 05.02.2026 and 06.02.2026 in petition No. 63 of 2025 and 64 of 2025 respectively.
6. The Commission may consider the prayer of the petitioner to grant necessary exemption from having dedicated feeder at drawl end to avail long-term open access to petitioner subject to the following technical considerations:
 - (i) Grid Safety – installation of Reverse Power Relay (RPR), anti-islanding and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is essential for BTM solar PV projects.
 - (ii) Data communication – Real time data communication to SLDC is mandatory for grid monitoring and control.
 - (iii) Metering and control – ABT compliant meters and remote logging systems must be installed. CSPDCL reserves the right to impose load restrictions on the petitioner's plant, if required for grid stability.

Respondent No. 2 - CSPTCL's Reply

7. CSPTCL submitted that they have no objection to consider the prayer of the petitioner and to grant necessary exemption as per Open Access Regulations, 2011 and its amendments to allow

long-term open access, if the petitioner fulfils the following conditions:

- (i) Drawl entity shall pay all the open access charges, SLDC charges as per prevailing regulations / tariff order for transaction of power under open access.
- (ii) Drawl entity has to make an arrangement for installation of ABT meter with AMR, RTU for online data communication etc. at the point of drawl of power as per prevailing metering regulations.
- (iii) Drawl entity shall not be allowed to lodge any claim in case of failure/under scheduled maintenance/shut down / non operation of multi-consumer HV feeder supplying power to the petitioner, due to the reason whatsoever, also agree to load restrictions, if any, imposed by the licensee on the feeders serving them.
- (iv) Drawl entity shall submit an undertaking to the respondents No. 1 & 2 i.e. CSPDCL and CSPTCL regarding condition specified at (ii) above.

Analysis and Decision

- 8.** After going through the submissions of the parties and hearing the arguments, the Commission is of the view that following issues are involved in this particular case, for which the parties to the petition needs clarity and desired approvals:

Issue –I: Exemption from the requirement of the dedicated feeder for future requirements through inter / intra-State open access.

Issue –II: Issues related to the internal connectivity of the plant with the captive load and approval of 'Behind the Meter' project.

Issue – I

- 9.** As regards exemption from the requirement of the dedicated feeder for its requirements of conventional / non-conventional power through inter / intra-State open access, the petitioner vide its undertaking dated 17.04.2026 has agreed to fulfil the metering and data communication requirement as required by the respondents, as per the provisions in open access Regulations. The conditions, generally put by the respondents for this purpose has been undertaken by the petitioner.
- 10.** Therefore, we are of the view that petitioner's plants (captive users) would be exempted from having dedicated feeder to avail open access, according to the provisions of clause 5(5) of the Open Access Regulation, 2011 and its amendments, subject to fulfilment of conditions placed by the respondents.

Issue- II

- 11.** Further, issue related to internal connectivity of the plant with the captive load, it is to mention here that the Commission has already specified express provisions for DRE project in the CSERC (Grid Interactive Distributed Renewable Energy Sources) Regulations, 2019 and its subsequent amendments. This has been settled by the Commission vide order dated 20.06.2024 in the matter of 'M/s Fortune Metals Ltd. vs. CSPDCL' in petition No. 41 of 2024. Relevant para is reproduced below:

"14. In view of this the power plant may be permitted to synchronise with internal grid after ensuring that all protection, metering and associated accessories are in place as per Grid standards. As per the mandate in State Grid Code RTU, ABT and other necessary facilitates are required to be install. However, the petitioner should install these meter and

other required facilities before synchronisation so as to enable system operators and licensee for proper supervision and control of State Grid. However, as the plant will be synchronized after 27.12.2023, banking and other related charges as specified in the DRE Regulations (Second Amendment) is applicable.”

In view of the above, the prospective solar plant qualifies for internal connectivity subject to payment / adjustment of relevant charges specified in DRE Regulations and orders issued there under. However, solar power banking facility is not permitted in this particular case, as submitted by the petitioner himself and shall be treated as BTM projects.

- 12.** Further, the requirement of BTM has already been dealt by the Commission in its order 05.02.2025 issued in petition No. 64 of 2025 in the matter of 'M/s. Sadbhav Renewables Pvt. Ltd. V. Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited & Another' has clarified in detail related to the requirement of grid connected BTM Solar Power Plant within the State. We feel that the provisions specified in this order are quite elaborative and sufficient to facilitate establishment, operation and maintenance of the grid connected BTM solar power projects. Relevant para of the order dated 05.02.2025 is reproduced below:-

"14. In view of the above deliberations, following clarification is drawn to remove ambiguity or confusions;

(a) Any type of installations such as rooftop, ground mounted and floating or any other configuration is permitted for off-Grid or for grid connected BTM solar PV projects and shall be part of IDRES. Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) can also be installed. BESS can also store the power from distant located solar PV projects for banking its extra generations.

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(c) *There shall be no capping on capacity of Grid Isolated (Off-Grid) Solar Power Plant as grid of the licensee is not being used. However, grid connected BTM solar PV projects (either co-located or distantly located) shall be governed by the provisions specified in DRE Regulations 2019 and its subsequent amendments.*

(d) *Requirement of installation of Reverse Power Relay and/or any other equipment for the grid safety as per CEA regulations is must for BTM solar PV projects, which needs to be verified/inspected by the licensees.*

(e) *Metering arrangement and other technical requirements shall be as per the prevailing regulations notified by the Commission and CEA.*

(f) *Applicability of transmission charge, wheeling charge and any other charges shall not be applicable for off-grid stand alone solar installations and also for grid connected BTM Solar PV projects.*

(g) *Banking of power with licensee for grid connected BTM Solar PV projects shall not be permitted. However, power from the distantly located IDRES can be banked with either licensees as per prevailing regulations and order issued there under or BESS installed at the consumer's premises."*

In view of the above deliberations, the case is disposed off.

Sd/-
(Ajay Kumar Singh)
Member (Tech.)

Sd/-
(Vivek Ganodwale)
Member (Law)