In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 48 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (38 of 1963), the Tariff Authority for Major Ports hereby extends the validity of the existing Scale of Rates of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited in the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust as in the Order appended hereto.

(T.S. Balasubramanian)
Member (Finance)
This case relates to the extension of the validity of the existing Scale of Rates of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) operating the Liquid Cargo berth at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT).

2. The existing Scale of Rates (SOR) of BPCL was approved by this Authority vide Order No. TAMP/46/2016-BPCL dated 8 February 2017 following Tariff Guidelines of 2005. This Order was notified in the Gazette of India on 06 March 2017 vide Gazette No. 94. The Order prescribed a tariff validity till 31 March 2019.

3.1. In this backdrop, the BPCL vide its letter dated no. BPCL/JNP/OPS/TAMP dated 1 February 2019 has stated that it is in the process of formulating a proposal for new rates with effect from 01 April 2019. The said working is reported to include tendering, collecting data and working out the annual revenue requirement vis-à-vis return required on the capital employed.

3.2. Accordingly, the BPCL has requested to extend the validity of its existing Scale of Rates for a further period of three months i.e. upto 30 June 2019 to enable them to charge the same from the consumers. The BPCL has also stated that, the new proposal would be submitted by or before 30 June 2019 on completion as per TAMP requirement.

4.1. Since the validity of the existing tariff of BPCL will expire on 31 March 2019 and based on the request made by BPCL for the reasons cited by it and considering the time required for processing the proposal (to be) filed by the BPCL and in order to avoid a vacuum in the tariff, it is felt appropriate to extend the validity of the existing tariff of BPCL beyond 31 March 2019.

4.2. In view of the above position, this Authority is inclined to extend the validity of the existing tariff of BPCL for a period of 3 months i.e. from 01 April 2019 to 30 June 2019, as requested by BPCL.

4.3. With regard to submission of the proposal, considering that the validity has been extended upto 30 June 2019 and the revised SOR may have to be in place in time, the BPCL is advised to file its proposal for general revision of its tariff by 30 April 2019, instead of 30 June 2019, as requested by BPCL.

4.4. If any additional surplus over and above the admissible cost and permissible return emerges for the period post 01 April 2019, during the review of its performance, such additional surplus will be set off fully in the tariff to be determined.

(T.S. Balasubramanian)
Member (Finance)