



KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD.

(Incorporated under the Indian Companies Act, 1956)

CIN : U40100KL2011SGC027424

Reg. Office: Vidyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram – 695 004, Kerala

**Office of the Special Officer (Revenue) , Vidyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom,
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ABSTRACT

M/s. Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facility Project, Brahmapuram – Request of the Secretary, Municipal Corporation, Kochi to waive the Meter Fault penalty – Sanctioned – Orders issued.

CORPORATE OFFICE – SPECIAL OFFICER (REVENUE)

B.O No.747/2019 (SOR/HTB-15/4777/2019-20). Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 14 /10/2019.

- Read:-
- (1) No.ISO/MOE 2/565/2018 dated 04.05.2019 of the Secretary, Kochi Municipal Corporation.
 - (2) Letter No.SOR/HTB-15/4777/2019-20/81 dated 26.06.2019 addressed to the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Ernakulam.
 - (3) Endt. No.D(D&IT) D2/Arrears/0001/2019-20 dated 27.06.2019 of the Director (D & IT).
 - (4) Note submitted to the Director (D&IT) dated 11.07.2019.
 - (5) Endt. No.D(D&IT)/D2/Arrears/0001/2019-20 dated 25.07.2019 of the Director (D & IT).
 - (6) Note No.SOR/HTB-15/4777/2019-20 dated 31.08.2019.
 - (7) Note No.SOR/HTB-15/4777/2019-20 dated 20.09.2019 – Agenda Item No.34/9/19.

ORDER

M/s. Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facility Project of Municipal Corporation, Kochi is an HT Consumer with LCN-15/4777 under Electrical Section, Puthencruz and Electrical Circle, Ernakulam. As per letter No.AEE 1/HT/Con.Code 15/4777/MSWD/17-18/694 dated 09.06.2017 of the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Ernakulam, it is intimated that the energy meter reading of M/s. Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facility Project, Brahmapuram was not taken from 05/2017 as the entry into the area of the metering panel was inaccessible due to dumping of waste and accordingly it was recommended to issue bills on average consumption to the consumer for the period from 05/2017 onwards. Even though, the matter was taken with the Secretary, Municipal Corporation, Kochi by the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Ernakulam and Special Officer (Revenue) subsequently there was no response from the consumer and the billing was accordingly done on average basis as recommended by the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Ernakulam. The physical disconnection of the service connection was not reportedly effected by the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Ernakulam in consideration of the social impact consequent upon the disconnection.

However, penalty for meter fault has also been imposed on monthly invoices issued to the consumer with effect from 08/2017 on the assumption that the subject meter has gone faulty. It was observed that the consumer has been making payment of current charges without fault after excluding penalty portion. Thus, the arrears accumulated towards non-remittance of Meter Fault penalty to Rs.6,97,821/- as on 31.05.2019. Aggrieved by this, the Secretary, Municipal Corporation, Kochi has submitted a request to the Special Officer (Revenue) as per letter read (1) above to waive the Meter Fault penalty on the following grounds:-

- (1) The meter has been working without any fault during the period of imposition of penalty.
- (2) Inaccessibility to the metering premises has been assured to be redressed through required arrangement for meter shifting at a convenient location.
- (3) There is no point in raising false allegation by KSEB Ltd. officials regarding non-accessibility of metering equipment due to dumping of waste.

In this connection, the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Ernakulam has forwarded downloaded metering data of the service connection taken by the TMR Unit, Angamaly as per read (3) above. The TMR officials have attached reading particulars of the subject meter on 03.05.2017 and 15.08.2018. They also reported that the power of the meter is seen failed from 15.08.2018 due to inundation of flood water into the consumer premises.

Subsequently the Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section, Puthencruz reported that the meter panel of the service connection was shifted to a new location accessible to KSEBL Officials for securing meter reading and the same was commissioned on 04.07.2019 by the TMR Unit, Angamaly thereby resolving the issue.

On perusal of the Meter Testing Report of TMR Division, Angamaly, it is learnt that the subject meter was working properly as on 03.05.2017 although the power of the meter is reported to have been failed as on 15.08.2018 due to inundation of flood water. It is noted that the TMR Division, Angamaly has not specifically reported that the subject meter was faulty with effect from 15.08.2018. They only pointed out that the power of the meter is seen failed from 15.08.2018. Further as per letter No.CE(DC)/AEE II/HT Genl/2019-20/230 dated 22.06.2019, the Chief Engineer (Distribution Central) has reported that there is no willful intention of illegal actions in metering on the part of the consumer in this regard.

It has been reported as per note read (7) above, that –

- 1) On verification of the downloaded data of the subject meter, it has been found that the consumption recorded during period from 03.05.2017 to 15.08.2018 is lesser than that of the average billed consumption during the same period.

- 2) As per the TMR report, the subject meter was working properly as on 03.05.2017, although the power of the meter is reported to have failed as on 15.08.2018 due to inundation of flood water. The TMR Division, Angamaly has not specifically reported that the meter was faulty with effect from 15.08.2018 but, only pointed out that the power of the meter is seen failed with effect from 15.08.2018.
- 3) On review of the highlighted facts of the case, it is found that the KSEB Ltd. has not sustained any financial loss in this regard since the consumer was charged a compensatory average during period from 05/2017 to 05/2019.

Having examined the matter in detail, the Full Time Directors meeting held on 27.09.2019 resolved to accord sanction to withdraw the demand raised against the service connection No.HTB 15/4777 in respect of M/s. Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facility Project, Brahmapuram towards penalty for meter fault imposed for the period from 08/2017 to 05/2019 amounting to Rs.6,97,821/-. Further resolved to accord sanction to the bills issued on average consumption from 05/2017 to 08/2018 based on the report of the Assistant Engineer concerned to this effect, to the actual consumption recorded in the meter.

Orders are issued accordingly.

By Order of the Full Time Directors
Sd/-
LEKHA. G
COMPANY SECRETARY (IN-CHARGE)

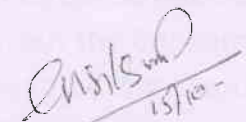
To

The Secretary, M/s. Municipal Corporation, Kochi.

Copy to:-

1. The Financial Adviser/ The Chief Internal Auditor.
2. The Chief Engineer (IT).
3. The Chief Engineer (Distribution-Central), Ernakulam.
4. The Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Ernakulam.
5. The TA to Chairman & Managing Director/ Director (Distn.&IT)/ Director (Trans. & System Operation)/ Director (Gen. Civil)/ Director (Gen, Ele., SCM).
6. The PA to Director (Finance)/ Senior CA to Secretary (Administration).
7. The Special Officer (Revenue).
8. The Regional Audit Officer.
9. Stock File.

Forwarded / By Order


Senior Superintendent.