

KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD

Abstract

Scheme for Reward to Informants (SRI) for furnishing information leading to detection of theft of energy and to officers for successfully detecting theft of energy punishable under the Electricity Act, 2003 – Sanctioned – Orders issued.

LAW SECTION

B.O. (FB) No.710/2006 (LA.II/1917/2006). Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 03.03.2006.

Read:- (1) Note No.LA.II/1917/2006 dated 10.02.2006 of the Secretary, KSE Board.

(2) Proceedings of the Board Meeting dated 15.02.2006 (Agenda item No.37/2006).

ORDER

There are reasons to believe that theft of electricity, unauthorized use of electricity, violation of rules and regulations in this regard and such other malpractices exist on a fairly large scale in spite of the best effort taken by the KSE Board. As the Board has only limited employees to find out theft all over Kerala, it is very difficult to cover every nook and corners of the State for detecting theft and unauthorized use of energy.

The Board has considered a proposal for reward to the public spirited citizens and Non-Governmental Organizations, who give information regarding theft of energy and provide assistance to the power utility in detecting the same leading to penal assessment resulting in additional income to the utilities at and also rewards to the officers, who detect theft of energy resulting in additional income to the Board. On a detailed examination of the proposal, it was felt that, if a reward is given to the informants and official, who detect these irregularities, it would go a long way in boosting the morale of the informants/officials and the electricity theft can be brought down drastically.

Accordingly, the Board has decided to implement a scheme for cash reward to the informants (SRI), who give information leading to successful detection of theft of electricity and also to the officers, who detect theft of energy resulting in actual realization of additional income to the Board, as detailed in (2).

(1) Eligibility for the Reward:

(a) The reward to informants shall be admissible only in respect of information relating to theft of energy cases received from the members of the public. As the accent is on curbing theft of energy, this reward scheme is not applicable in respect of information received about violations such as unauthorized extension, connection of additional load, violation of peak hour restrictions etc whether they bring additional revenue to Board or not.

(b) The reward shall also be admissible to the officials of the Board who detect power theft on their own, resulting in realization of additional revenue to the Board. In such cases the Chairman will exercise his discretion and give cash award and/or merit certificate to them, depending upon the merit of each case. The cash award shall not exceed the quantum mentioned below:

(2) Quantum of Cash Reward:

The amount of cash reward shall not exceed 5% of the additional income actually realized or Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand only) whichever is less in each case. The reward shall be given after the revenue becomes final, settled and collected.

(3) Furnishing of information about Theft of Energy:

In order to become eligible for the reward, the informant shall furnish full particulars required for prompt detection of theft of energy, such as name and address of the consumer, manner in which theft of energy is committed etc., either

in person or in writing. The information about theft of energy may be given over phone also. Information about theft of energy shall be given to the Chairman, KSEB, Vidyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram, preferably in name cover or in a cover superscribed as 'Personal' so that the Chairman can directly receive the information and maintain confidentiality about it.

a) In case, where the information has been furnished by more than one person in a single case, the reward may be given to the person who has furnished the information first, in writing. If information from more than one person has contributed to the successful detection of theft of energy, the Chairman at his discretion may suitably apportion the reward.

b) The identity of the informant shall be kept secret by the Board.

(4) Maintaining of Register to record information about theft of energy and assignment of Secret Number:

a) A register may be maintained in the personal custody of Chairman, KSEB. Information about the name and addresses of the offender, name and full address of the informant, date of receipt of information, brief details of information about theft of energy, amount assessed, the amount of reward given, date of payment of reward etc and other relevant information will be recorded in the register at each stage. After recording each information about the theft of energy, the Chairman may assign a special number to it called as Scheme for Reward to Informants Number (*SRI*). The contents of the information about theft of energy quoting only SRI No: may be passed on to Inspector General of Police (V&S) or Anti Power Theft Squad (APTS) or any other officer as decided by the Chairman depending on the urgency of the matter for investigation and detection of alleged case of theft of energy. The name and address of informant shall not be divulged on any account.

b) Information about theft of energy received over phone shall be recorded in a register with the details. The informant may be identified by calling and confirming his/her phone/mobile number and the confirmation recorded. The informant may also be informed that unless he/she sends the information by post (preferably registered post with acknowledgement due) he/she will not be eligible for cash reward. On receipt of information the same shall be registered, SRI No: assigned and forwarded to Inspector General of Police (V&S) or APTS or any other officer depending on the urgency of the matter.

c) Information received in person may also be registered in the same register and the persons identity (ID card/ration card/any other identity) may be recorded. The signature, thumb impression of the informant may also be obtained in the register.

(5) Reward to the Officers:

On detection of theft of energy, the officers who detect theft shall report to Inspector General of Police (V&S) in the prescribed proforma the details of the energy theft detected specifically mentioning the SRI number if any.

(6) Payment of Reward:

a) When the assessment is final, settled, amount collected and appeal from the consumer if any is disposed, the payment of reward will be made. The Chairman will issue sanction order for the cash reward in the case of theft of energy based on the report of Inspector General of Police (Vigilance and Security).

b) The Chairman will arrange to issue crossed cheque in favour of the informant maintaining confidentiality after due verification. The informant can be identified based on documents such as family ration card, voter's identity card, passport, bank passbook, certificate of identification from revenue officials such as Village Administrative Officer/Revenue Inspector etc.

- c) When the assessment is final, settled, collected and appeal from the consumer, if any, is disposed of the payment of reward will be made.
- d) The same procedures indicated above will be followed for payment of final reward amount to the Board Officials, who detect power theft. The reward will be sanctioned by the Chairman to the officials based the report of Inspector General of Police (Vigilance and Security).
- (7) Publicity about the Scheme for Reward to Informants:
The Public Relation Officer will arrange to give wide publicity for this scheme through newspapers, electronic media, official website of the Board etc.
- (8) Review of the Scheme:
A report on the efficacy of cash reward scheme will be put up by the Inspector General of Police (V&S) to the Chairman by the end of each financial year.

The Scheme shall come into effect immediately.

By Order of the Board,
Sd/-
C.U. Mathai,
SECRETARY.

To

The Inspector General of Police (Vigilance and Security), KSE Board.
The TA to Chairman, Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Thiruvananthapuram.

Copy to:

All Chief Engineers, KSE Board.
The Financial Adviser/The Chief Internal Auditor.
The Legal Adviser and Disciplinary Enquiry Officer, KSE Board.
The Public Relations Officer, KSE Board.
The Deputy Chief Engineer (TRAC).
The Director (MIS).
The Joint Secretary (Law), KSE Board.
The Member (Distn.)/Member (Trans.)/Chief of Generation.
The PA to Member (Finance)/Secretary.
The Fair Copy Superintendent.
Stock File.

Forwarded / By Order

Senior Superintendent.