



## KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED

(Incorporated under Companies Act, 1956)

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### ABSTRACT

Exempting disconnection of Cinema theatres for non-payment of electricity bills due to Lock Down and granting installments-Ratification - Orders issued.

### CORPORATE OFFICE (SBU-D)

B.O(FTD) No. 166/2021 (D(D, IT & HRM)/D6-AE1/COVID 19 /2020-21)dated 23.02.2021  
Thiruvananthapuram

Read:1.Letter dated 23.12.2020 of the General Secretary, Film Exhibitors United

Organization of Kerala addressed to the Hon'ble Minister for Electricity.

2. B.O. (FTD) No .363 /2020 (KSEB/TRAC-D/Covid Pandemic – Tariff Concession/2020-21) dated,Tvpm 30.05.2020.
3. Note No.D(D&IT)/D6-AE1/Covid 19/2020-21 dated 18.01.2021 of the Director (D, IT& HRM) to the Chairman & Managing Director
4. Letter no.362/Note/Min/Ele/2021 dated 19.01.2021 of the Hon'ble Minister for Electricity
5. Note No.D(D,IT&HRM)/D6-AE1/COVID 19/2020-21 dated 29.01.2021 of the Director (D,IT& HRM) to the Full Time Directors(Agenda 59/2/21)

### ORDER

The General Secretary, Film Exhibitors United Organization, as per letter read as 1<sup>st</sup> above, has informed that the Cinema theatres were closed due to COVID 19 from March 2020 onwards according to the Government directives, and have hence requested to waive the fixed charges of theatres for the above period and allow payment of electricity charge dues in installments within one year after the commencement of functioning of these theatres and have further requested to defer the disconnection of power supply to Cinema theatres due to non-payment of electricity charges.

On the above request of Film Exhibitors United Organisation of Kerala, the Hon'ble Minister has directed to submit suggestions on the subject matter and to allow sufficient time for payment before resorting to the disconnection of supply to Cinema theatres.

The Director (D, IT and HRM) has pointed out that since most of the Industrial/ Commercial consumer premises were in closed condition during the lock down period, based on the

Government directives, KSEBL have announced relief/exemption to those affected badly and decided to waive 25% of the fixed charge applicable to Industrial/Commercial consumers for the months of March, April and May-2020 and to defer the payment of balance fixed charge (75%) up to December-2020, without levying interest. Most of the Industrial/Commercial consumer premises were opened in different phases of Lock Down relaxation announced by the Government, but the functioning of Cinema theatres were not permitted until January 2021.

Considering the situation of the Cinema theatres, that were closed down since the beginning of the lock down and could not resume activities due to Government restrictions, the Director (Distribution, IT & HRM) had issued directions to the field officers to defer the disconnection of theatres till 31/01/2021.

Since the grace period allowed for remitting the dues in fixed charges and electricity charges for the Lock Down period have all ended by December 2020, many LT consumers are approaching KSEBL with request to pay their dues in installments and avoiding disconnection of service connections. The Director (D, IT & HRM) has suggested that since these institutions/premises have just resumed functioning, it shall be appropriate to allow payment of electricity charge dues in installments based on their request to the concerned Deputy Chief Engineer/Executive Engineer, on a judicious analysis of each case.

The Director (D, IT & HRM) has brought the above matters to the attention of the Chairman and Managing Director as per the note read as 3<sup>rd</sup> above wherein it was directed to place the matter before the Full Time Directors.

The Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, as per letter read as 4<sup>th</sup> above, has informed that several complaints had been received from consumers in the collection of arrear dues of KSEBL. In order to avoid difficulty faced by the consumers in remitting the arrears, and suggested to allow 6 installments (for all arrear dues) upon the consumer's request and the disconnection shall be avoided if the consumer shall pay the first installment within the allotted time.

In line with the direction of the Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, the Director (Distribution, IT & HRM) has issued directions to the field officers that upon receipt of a written request from any LT consumer, they shall be granted a maximum of six monthly installments or the installments requested for whichever is less with applicable surcharge. Also, requests for installments from HT consumers shall be submitted to the Special Officer Revenue (SOR) or the Office of the Director (Finance), for sanction.

The matter was placed before the Full Time Directors as per note read as 5<sup>th</sup> above for ratification.

Having considered the matter in detail, the Full Time Directors of the Board in its meeting held on 17.02.2021 resolved to ratify the direction of Director (Distribution, IT & HRM) to defer the disconnection of cinema theatres for default of payments till 31/01/2021, as the cinema theatres have just resumed business after relaxation of lock down condition due to COVID-19.

Further resolved to ratify the direction issued by the Director (Distribution, IT & HRM) in allowing installments on the current charge dues of consumers as detailed below.

- a. The Deputy Chief Engineer of concerned Electrical Circles shall be entrusted to grant a maximum of six monthly installments or the installments requested for whichever is less with applicable surcharge on a judicious analysis of each case, upon written request from an LT consumer seeking installments.
- b. Requests from HT consumers seeking installments shall be submitted to Special Officer Revenue (SOR) or Office of the Director (Finance) for grant of installments.

Orders are issued accordingly.

By Order of the Full Time Directors  
Sd/-  
**Lekha.G**  
Company Secretary-in charge

Copy to:

The Chief Vigilance Officer/Legal Advisor & Disciplinary Enquiry Officer/ Chief Internal Auditor/ Chief Engineer (IT , CR & CAPS)  
The TA to Chairman & Managing Director  
The TA to Director (Distribution, IT& HRM / Generation -Electrical & SCM / Transmission & System Operation/ REES, Safety & Planning / Generation- Civil)  
The Deputy Chief Engineer (Commercial & Planning) with full powers of Chief Engineer  
The RAO/ECA/RCAO/The Legal Liaison Officer  
The PA to Director (Finance) / C.A. to Secretary (Administration)/ Company Secretary  
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Assistant Engineer