



KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED
(Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956)
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ABSTRACT

Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) – Implementation of Prepaid Smart meter in KSEBL without Project Implementation Agency (PIA) - Sanctioned – Orders issued.

CORPORATE OFFICE (IT)

B.O.(FTD) No. 72/2023 (IT/Proj/RDSS/Smart Meter/2022-23) Thiruvananthapuram, dated 13.02.2023

Read: 1. B.O. (FTD) No.298/2022(CEITCR-AE8/2022/19), dated 11.04.2022.
2. B.O. (FTD) No.14/2023(ITPD-AE8/2022/1131), dated 10.01.2023
3. G.O. (Rt) no. 30/2023/POWER dated 07.02.2023.
4. Note No. IT/Proj/RDSS/Smart Meter/2022-23/ 462 dated 13.02.2023 of the Chief Engineer (IT, CR &CAPs) Agenda No. 14/2/23.

ORDER

The Chief Engineer (IT, CR & CAPs) as per the note read above has reported that sanction was accorded for the implementation of Prepaid Smart Meters for all consumers and system meters (as mandated by Government of India) in various phases under DBFOOT (Design Build Fund Own Operate & Transfer) mode of implementation under RDSS. Under this mode, a single agency will be contracted for supplying, maintaining and operating the metering infrastructure for the purpose of meter related data and services to the DISCOM.

M/s. RECPDCL was appointed as PIA (Project Implementation Agency) for Phase 1 implementation of AMI in KSEBL (for around 37 lakh smart meters) as per B.O. read as 1st above, and subsequent Work Order dated 19.05.2022.

PIA was appointed to assist KSEBL in Bid Process Management, Finalization & approval of Technical Specifications, drawings etc., Quality assurance, Monitor the supply chain of materials, Statutory compliance, identification of bottlenecks in project implementation & preparation of remedial action plan, coordination and reporting to various stakeholders including MoP and Nodal agencies, fund flow management, Concept-to-commissioning services (i.e design, procure, supply, install, test and commission) during implementation and Services to be provided as per SLA agreed with KSEBL including maintenance of entire AMI field & Back-end Infrastructure along with AMI communication Network during O&M period. Also this being a new technology, KSEBL lacks sufficient expertise in this field.

As per B.O. read as 2nd above, sanction was accorded for implementation of around 37 lakh smart meters on DBFOOT basis under TOTEX mode as a single package, which includes all system meters, Govt. & HT consumers and all consumers under 14 Electrical Divisions. The

approximate estimated cost (excluding auxiliary items such as service wire, LT power cable for DT etc.) would be around Rs. 2,400 crore.

In the meeting convened by the Hon'ble Minister for Electricity on 03.02.2023 with officials of KSEBL, Addl. Chief Secretary (Power) and CMD, KSEBL, the possibility of carrying out the implementation without PIA was discussed since RDSS guidelines do not stipulate the appointment of PIA. Subsequently, as per G.O. read as 3rd above, KSEBL was entrusted to explore the possibility of carrying out the implementation of Prepaid Smart meter without PIA.

As per the G.O. an expert committee has been constituted for looking into various aspects and possibilities of smart meter implementation in KSEBL and to submit the report to the Govt. on or before 28.02.2023.

To proceed with the implementation of Smart metering without Project Implementation Agency, the existing implementation team is to be strengthened such as in the case of Transgrid project. The existing team under the Chief Engineer (IT, CR & CAPs) can be entrusted with preparation of RfP.

For implementation of the project, strengthening of the team is inevitable in view of the following :

- Pre-paid smart metering is a new technology being adopted by KSEBL.
- The project is to be completed within the stipulated time frame, for availing eligible grant for RDSS (including distribution infrastructure and SCADA works) and other benefits (such as additional GSDP borrowing for the State) from Govt. of India.
- Coordination and constant monitoring all over Kerala up to Distribution Section / consumer level is needed.
- The approximate estimate for implementation of phase 1 smart meter is around Rs. 2400 crore being tendered as a single package.
- In view of the huge financial and technical investment needed, a separate team with technical and financial personnel as in the case of Transgrid under CE(IT,CR& CAPS) would be a suitable option for the successful and timely execution of the project.

Since, this being a new project of high financial volume requiring technical expertise in various fields, guidance of external experts having adequate technical experience in smart meter implementation would be advisable.

In view of the above, the Chief Engineer (IT, CR & CAPs) as per the note read 4th above has suggested to cancel, the B.O read 1st above and subsequent Work Order issued to RECPDCL as PIA.

Having considered the matter in detail, the Full Time Directors in the meeting held on 13.02.2023, resolved to accord sanction for the following:

- To proceed with the implementation of Prepaid Smart meter in KSEBL under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) of Govt. of India without PIA (Project Implementation Agency) directly by KSEBL for Phase 1 implementation of Smart meter in KSEBL (for around 37 lakh smart meters) by cancelling the B.O. No. 298/2022 dated 11.04.2022.
- To authorize the Chief Engineer (IT, CR & CAPs) to invite tenders for appointment of Advanced Metering Infrastructure Service Provider (AMISP) for Phase 1 implementation of Smart meter in KSEBL (for around 37 lakh smart meters) on DBFOOT basis under TOTEX mode as a single package at an estimated cost of around Rs.2,400 Crore (excluding auxiliary items) after getting RFP document vetted by PFC, the nodal agency since currently PMA is not appointed for the project.
- To constitute a specific RDSS smart meter implementation team with technical and financial personnel under Chief Engineer (IT, CR & CAPs) similar to Transgird team for the successful implementation.
- To utilize the guidance of external technical assistance having adequate technical experience in contract management, procurement services as per the requirement with Board's approval.

Orders are issued accordingly.

**By Order of the
Full Time Directors**

Sd/-

**Lekha G.
Company Secretary (I/C)**

To

The Chief Engineer (IT, CR & CAPs)

Copy to:

1. The Financial Advisor / CIA, KSEBL
2. The TA to CMD / Director (D SCM & IT) / GC / T & SO, Planning & Safety / GE & HRM / REES including SOURA, Nilaavu, Sports & Welfare)
3. The PA to the Director (Finance) / Secretary (Administration)
4. Company Secretary
5. Records/Stock file and Library / AB Section

Forwarded / By Order



Assistant Engineer