



KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED

(Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956)

Reg. Office: Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram – 695 004

CIN:U40100KL2011SGC027424

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ABSTRACT

Release of connections for agriculture purposes listed under V-(B) category without insisting on certificates /permits from competent authorities – Sanctioned– Orders issued.

CORPORATE OFFICE (SBU-D)

B.O. (FTD) No. 666/2020 (D (D&IT)/D6-AE3/Ease of Doing Business/2018-19) dated, Tvpm 05.11.2020

Read: 1. Notification No 1504/DD (T)/Supply Code 2016/KSERC dated 26.10.2016 of KSERC.

2. B.O (FTD) No. 1902/2018(D (D&IT)/D-6-AE3/Ease of doing business/2018-19) dated, Tvpm 02.11.2018.

3. B.O (FTD) No. 178 /2020 [No. D (D&IT)/ D6-AE3/ Ease of doing business/ 2019 - 2020/] dated, Tvpm 13.03.2020.

4. Representation dated 24.05.2020 of Sri. Aravind G, Trivandrum District

5. Note No.D (D&IT)/D6-AE3/Ease of Doing Business/2018-19 dated 14.10.2020 of the Director (Distribution, IT &HRM) to the Full Time Directors (Agenda Item No.9/11/20).

ORDER

The Kerala State Electricity Board Limited, as per the BO read as 2nd paper above had issued clarifications to release electricity service connections on production of two documents, i.e. proof of identity and proof of ownership/legal occupancy in normal cases in line with Ease of Doing Business considerations.

Considering the necessity to eliminate unwarranted stipulations regarding agriculture service connections and for relieving the field officers from the onus of verifying the land extent and to grant electricity connections after verifying the purpose, as in the case of all other tariff assignments, KSEBL vide BO read as 3rd paper above, has accorded sanction to release agriculture connections under LT V-(A) tariff category to applicants on production of two documents along with the application, one regarding proof of ownership and the other regarding proof of identity, after ensuring that the purpose for which the connection is sought is included in the list of activities under the LT V-(A) category in the prevailing tariff order, irrespective of whether the applicant has produced letter of authorization or certificate from the concerned authority in Agriculture department or the land holdings of the applicant is not in conformance with the relevant stipulations of the State Government.

Live stock and other farming practices also form a major asset in boosting the economy of the State. The Government has formulated various schemes to promote and reform such farming

among existing and expected new entrepreneurs in farming sector. A significant chunk of farmer's investment is dependent on machinery for replacing tedious traditional man work; for which electricity is a primary requirement.

LT V-(B) tariff is applicable to the supply of electricity for the use of livestock farms, combination of livestock farms with dairy, poultry farms, rabbit farms, piggery farms, hatcheries; silk worm breeding units, sericulture; floriculture, tissue culture, agricultural and floricultural nurseries, mushroom culture; aquaculture, fish farms including ornamental fish farms, prawn farms, other aqua farms, aquarium run by the Agency for Development of Aquaculture, Kerala; cheenavala without fish farming and egger nurseries. This tariff is also applicable to the dairy farms, which have facilities for collection and storing of milk, till it is sent to the processing units, and also applicable to the primary milk producer's co-operative societies, the primary function of which is the collection of milk from the farmers and to sell the same to the processing units in bulk. This tariff will be also applicable for retail sales outlets if the connected load of sales outlets does not exceed 10% of the total connected load. Also electricity used for running electric motors for making rubber sheets from Latex are also eligible for connections under this category.

Note 1.3 (iii) of the B O read as 3rd above, states that *"In the case of agricultural connection, the claim shall be substantiated by certificate from the respective Agricultural Officer or Veterinary Surgeon /Senior Veterinary Surgeon / Asst Director of Animal Husbandry department"*, thus the field officers continue to insist on certificate from the respective Veterinary Surgeon / Senior Veterinary Surgeon/ Asst Director of Animal Husbandry department along with the application for service connection for agricultural purposes under LT V-(B) category, which discourages the farmers from availing connection. This has caused unwanted speculations disrupting KSEBL's image among the prospective consumers which further escalates the delay in providing connection.

As per the prevailing Tariff orders, all connections for agricultural purpose are eligible for agricultural tariff. Hence, for granting agricultural connections also there is no need to mandate approvals from competent authority, which was reiterated by the Commission, vide paper read as 1st above. As per Regulation 138(f) of the Kerala Electricity Supply Code, electric connections are liable to be disconnected either temporarily or permanently, if any statutory authority requests the officer of KSEBL to do so in writing. In the prevailing scenario, insistence on these additional qualifying conditions for availing connection under LT V-B category is contrary to the Ease of Doing Business principles and is to be avoided.

Hence the Director (Distribution, IT& HRM), vide Note read as 5th above suggested that a general direction be issued to field officers considering the facts stated above, which was placed before the FTDs for a decision.

Having considered the matter in detail, the Full Time Directors in its meeting held on 04/11/2020, resolved to accord sanction for the following:-

1. To release agriculture connections under LT V-(B) tariff category to applicants on production of two documents along with the application, one regarding proof of ownership and the other regarding proof of identity, after ensuring that the purpose for which the connection is sought is included in the list of activities under the category LT V-(B) in the prevailing tariff order, irrespective of whether the applicant has produced the requisite certificates/ approvals/ permits from the competent authority.
2. To authorise the Chief Engineer (IT, CR & CAPs) to effect suitable changes in the OrumaNET software.

Orders are issued accordingly.

By Order of the Full Time Directors

Sd/-

Lekha.G

Company Secretary-in charge.

To: The Chief Engineers (Distribution)
The Deputy Chief Engineers of all Electrical Circles
The Chief Engineer (IT & CR) /The CPRO
The Deputy Chief Engineer (Commercial & Planning) with full powers of Chief Engineer

Copy to: The Chief Internal Auditor/LA&DEO/CVO/ Financial Advisor
The TA to Chairman & Managing Director
The TA to Director (Distribution, IT&HRM / Transmission, System Operation & REES, Generation-Electrical & Supply Chain Management / Generation-Civil/Planning & Safety)
The RCAO/The RAO/The LLO
The PA to Director (Finance) /CA to Secretary (Administration)/Company Secretary
The Fair Copy Superintendent/ Library/Stock File

Forwarded / By Order


Assistant Engineer