

പതിമൂന്നാം കേരള നിയമസഭ

അഞ്ചാം സമ്മേളനം

നക്ഷത്രചിഹ്നമിടാത്ത ചോദ്യം നമ്പർ 5153

05.07.2012 ൽ മറുപടിയ്ക്ക്

വൈദ്യുതി കണക്ഷൻ സംബന്ധിച്ച ഉത്തരവ്

ചോദ്യം

മറുപടി

ശ്രീ. വി. ചെന്താമരാക്ഷൻ

ശ്രീ. ആര്യാടൻ മുഹമ്മദ്  
(ഉാർജ്ജവും ഗതാഗതവും വകുപ്പു മന്ത്രി)

(എ) 28.10.11-ന് വൈദ്യുതി ബോർഡ്, (എ) 28.10.2011-ലെ ബോർഡ് ഉത്തരവിന്റെ വൈദ്യുതി കണക്ഷൻ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ഇറക്കിയ ഉത്തരവിന്റെ പകർപ്പ് ലഭ്യമാക്കുമോ; പകർപ്പ് അനുബന്ധമായി ചേർത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

(ബി) പ്രസ്തുത ഉത്തരവ് പ്രകാരം ഏതെല്ലാം (ബി) കേരള സ്റ്റേറ്റ് ഇലക്ട്രിസിറ്റി റെഗുലേറ്ററി വിഭാഗങ്ങൾക്കാണ് വൈദ്യുതി കമ്മീഷൻ പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ച കേരളാ ഇലക്ട്രിസിറ്റി സപ്ലൈ കോഡിലെ കണക്ഷൻ സൗജന്യമായി ലഭിക്കുന്നത്; വ്യവസ്ഥ പ്രകാരം 500 വാട്ട്സ് വരെ കണക്ഷൻ ലോഡുള്ള ബി.പി.എൽ വിഭാഗത്തിലുള്ളവർക്കും 1000 വാട്ട്സ് വരെ കണക്ഷൻ ലോഡുള്ള എസ്.സി/എസ്.ടി വിഭാഗത്തിലുള്ളവർക്കും ലൈൻ നീട്ടൽ ആവശ്യമില്ലാത്ത വൈദ്യുതി കണക്ഷനുകൾ സൗജന്യമായി ലഭിക്കും എന്നാണ് 28.10.2011-ലെ ബോർഡ് ഉത്തരവിൽ സൂചിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്.

(സി) ഈ സർക്കാർ അധികാരത്തിൽ (സി) വരുന്നതിന് മുമ്പ് സി.ഡി. അടച്ചതിൽ വരുന്നതിന് മുമ്പ് സി.ഡി. അടച്ചതിൽ ഏതെല്ലാം വിഭാഗത്തിലുള്ളവർക്കാണ് വൈദ്യുതി കണക്ഷൻ കൊടുത്തിരുന്നത് എന്ന് വ്യക്തമാക്കുമോ? വൈദ്യുതി കണക്ഷൻ സി.ഡി. അടക്കുന്ന മുറയ്ക്കും, ബോർഡ് കാലാകാലങ്ങളിൽ നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്ന ടാർജ്ജ് അനുസരിച്ചും നോർമൽ പ്രയോറിറ്റിയിൽ വൈദ്യുതി കണക്ഷൻ കൊടുത്തിരുന്നു. കൂടാതെ 1990-ലെ കണ്ടിഷൻസ് ഓഫ് സപ്ലൈ ഓഫ് ഇലക്ട്രിക്കൽ എനർജി പ്രകാരം ദാരിദ്ര്യരേഖയ്ക്ക് താഴെയുള്ളവർ, എസ്.സി/എസ്.ടി. വിഭാഗത്തിൽ പ്പെടുന്നവർ, ജവാന്മാർ, വികലാംഗർ, മാനസിക രോഗികൾ, ക്യാൻസർ രോഗികൾ തുടങ്ങിയവർക്ക് പ്രത്യേക

മുൻഗണനയിൽ വൈദ്യുതി കണക്ഷനുകൾ കൊടുത്തിരുന്നു. കേരളാ ഇലക്ട്രിസിറ്റി സപ്ലൈകോഡ് വന്നതിനു ശേഷവും കറേക്കാലം പ്രത്യേക മുൻഗണനയിൽ വൈദ്യുതി കണക്ഷനുകൾ നൽകുന്നത് തുടർന്നിരുന്നു.

വൈദ്യുതി കണക്ഷനുകൾ നൽകുന്നതിന് ബോർഡിന് ചെലവാകുന്ന തുകയുടെ ഒരു ഭാഗം സർവ്വീസ് കണക്ഷൻ ചാർജ്ജ് എന്ന പേരിൽ ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഉപഭോക്താക്കളിൽ നിന്ന് ഈടാക്കിയിരുന്നു.



സെക്ഷൻ ഓഫീസർ

5153. (600002)mb

# KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD

## Abstract

Service Connection Charges – non compliance of the order issued by Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission – prohibition of collection of service connection charges – collection of charges as approved by the Commission – orders issued.

### Corporate Office (Commercial and Tariff)

B.O. (FM) No. 2536/2011 (KSEB/TRAC/S Code/SCC/R2/09) Thiruvananthapuram dated 28-08-2011

- Read: 1. Order no: 010/CEX/2010 dated 25-08-2011 of KSERC  
2. Order dated 08-09-2010 of KSERC in the matter of collection of service connection charges from HT and EHT consumers  
3. Proposal no: KSEB/TRAC/S Code/R2/09/138 dated 18-02-2011  
4. Petition dated 25-04-2011  
5. B O (FM) no 2667 /2010/(KSEB/TRAC/S Code/SCC/R2/09) dated 13-10-2010  
6. B O (FB) no 2983 /2010/ (KSEB/TRAC/S code/SCC/R2/09) dtd 19-11-2010  
7. Letter from KSERC dated 01-12-10  
8. Letter no. KSEB/TRAC/S Code/SCC/R2/09/938 dated 27-12-2010  
9. Notice no. 0010/CEX/2010/KSERC/186 dated 28-02-2011 from KSERC  
10. Letter no 574/DD/T&C/TP 80/2010/KSERC dtd 16-03-2011  
11. Note no. KSEB/TRAC/S Code/SCC/R2/09/ dated 01-10-2011 of the Chief Engineer (Commercial & Tariff)

## ORDER

The Kerala State Electricity Regulatory commission in a petition filed by Kerala HT and EHT Industrial Electricity consumers Association had issued order vide paper read as (2) above, directing KSEB not to collect service connection charges from the date of the order. The commission has observed that collection of service connection charges from the date of notification of supply code in 2005 is not in order. The commission has also noted that collection of service connection charges over and above the approved estimated rates is not in order and is against the directions and regulations issued by the commission.

In compliance of the order of the Hon'ble Commission as above, KSEB vide papers read as (5) and (6) above, had dispensed with the collection of service connection charges from HT and EHT consumers forthwith. For HT and EHT consumers the service connection charges were being collected over and above the estimate rates applicable for releasing the service connections. It was also ordered that the amounts collected after 08-09-2010 from such consumers on this account are to be adjusted against future energy bill.

In the case of LT consumers the estimate rates for distribution works were initially approved by the Hon'ble commission on 26-07-2005. While adopting these rates the Board vide order dated 24-08-2005 had clarified that service connection charges need not be levied from consumers who are availing power connection by remitting the estimate amount approved by the Hon'ble Commission. However in the case of LT consumers,

who were not remitting the estimate rates KSEB continued to collect the service connection charges and such connections were released under normal category based on targets fixed by Government from time to time.

However as per the provisions of Kerala Electricity Supply Code 2005 notified by the Hon'ble Commission in accordance with the provisions of Electricity Act, 2003 all applicants for service connections were to remit the approved estimate rates, except BPL and SC/ST applicants with connected loads less than 500W and 1000W respectively and where extension of distribution mains were not needed.

The Commission viewed the matter of continuation of collection of service connection charges from certain LT consumers as a contravention of the order of the Commission and sought explanation of the Board vide paper read as (7) above. KSEB vide papers read as (3), (4) & (8) above submitted a proposal before the Commission for continuation of the existing practice of releasing LT service connections to applicants under normal plan works after realizing a portion of the expenditure by way of service connection charges and line/post rent instead of realizing the entire estimate rates for providing electric connection for approval.

Even though the Board submitted the detailed proposal in this regard, KSERC issued notice dated 28-02-2011 vide paper read as (9) above against the Chairman, KSEB invoking penal action under section 142 of the Act based on the inspection conducted by the compliance examiner of the commission at electrical section, Puthunagaram, under Electrical Division Chittoor.

The orders of the Commission on the penal proceedings were issued vide paper read as (1) above. The Hon'ble Commission has dropped further action against KSEB, the Chairman KSEB and the Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section, Puthunagaram and directed KSEB to immediately issue orders in supersession of all its previous orders, citing commissions order dated 8.9.2010 and unambiguously directing all field offices, not to levy service connection charges from any class of consumers, HT/EHT or LT, either at the time of providing new connections or regularizing additional load. The Hon'ble Commission also directed KSEB to refund the amounts collected as service connection charges from all consumers who obtained their connection paying the approved rates for electric connections from the date of commissions order banning the collection of service connection charges i.e. from 08-09-2010.

As per section 46 of Electricity Act, 2003, KSEB as the distribution licensee can charge from any person requiring a supply the expenses reasonably incurred in providing any electric line or electrical plant used for the purpose of giving that supply only in accordance with the regulations notified by the State Commission. The regulations for this purpose were notified by the Commission as part of the Kerala Electricity Supply Code 2005. As per clause 7(3) of the supply code the expenditure to be charged by the Licensee shall be based on the schedule of rates approved by the Commission. The schedule of rates for distribution works were last approved by the Commission on 28-08-2009 and were published by KSEB vide circular no Plg.Com 4601/05/Distribution works/2009-10/901 dated 08-09-2009 and is attached as Annexure to this order. The guidelines and methodology for preparing estimates and levying charges for transmission works were approved by the Commission by order dated 23-05-2011 and implemented in the Board vide B.O (FM) No 1748/2011 (KSEB/TRAC/S Code/SCC/R2/09) dated 13-07-2011. In a bid to ease the difficulties of consumers in the absence of erstwhile schemes like release of connections under normal and special priorities and under minimum

gaurantee scheme without collecting entire estimate rates, the supply code authorises KSEB to allow the applicant to remit the cost for electric line extension/substation construction for new connections on installment basis, the maximum period of which shall be 60 months.

In view of the orders of the Commission, while processing an application for supply of power, the Board has to scrupulously follow the procedure laid out in the supply code and collect only the rates approved by the Commission from time to time, as the expenses towards releasing that supply.


Chief Engineer (Commercial & Tariff) vide paper read as (11) above has recommended compliance of the orders of the Commission. Having considered the recommendation of the Chief Engineer (Commercial & Tariff) the Board in supersession of all previous orders regarding recovery of the reasonable expenses while releasing new connections and additional demand hereby orders that:

1. while processing an application for supply of power from any consumer the officers concerned shall scrupulously follow the procedure laid out in the supply code and collect only the rates approved by the Commission from time to time, towards the estimate of expenses for releasing that supply
2. stop levying service connection charges from any class of consumers HT/EHT or LT either at the time of providing new connections or regularizing additional load
3. the Deputy Chief Engineers, Electrical Circles are authorised to refund the amounts collected as service connection charges from all consumers who obtained their connection by paying the approved rates for electric connection from 08-09-2010, by making deductions from the monthly/bimonthly bills before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011 and to submit the complete details including number of cases identified, amount collected as service connection charges over and above the approved estimate rates as well as additional service connection charges, amount refunded etc by 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012
4. Chief Engineer (Commercial & Tariff) shall approach the Commission for obtaining clarification on the matter of release of service connections to the applicants who have already registered prior to issuance of this order, without realising the entire expenses as per the rates approved by the Commission.

By order of the Board,

Sd/-

S. ROOPAKALA JAGATH  
SECRETARY



01/01/2012