



KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
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No. 1466/Con(T)/2023/KSERC

Dated: 27.12.2023

To

The Chairman & Managing Director,
KSEB Ltd., Vidyuthi Bhavanam,
Pattom Palace P O.,
Thiruvananthapuram: 695 004
Email-id: trac@kseb.in

Sir,

Sub : One Time Settlement Scheme 2023 - reg.

Ref : (1) Order of Commission dated 19/07/2023 in Petition OP :35/2023
in the matter of "Scheme for one time settlement of Arrears(OTS
2023) petition filed by KSEB Ltd,
(2) KSEBL Letter No TRAC/GL/OTS-2023/2022-23/684 dated
04/12/2023.
(3) Letter of KSEBL even no: dated 22.12.2023.
(4) Letter of KSEBL even No: 26/12/2023.

With reference to the letters of the KSEBL cited under reference, I am directed by the Commission to inform the following.

1. As per the terms and conditions of the OTS 2023 proposed by KSEB Ltd, the consumers with arrears having age more than two years only eligible to participate in the OTS 2023. The Commission had approved the OTS 2023, after public consultation including public hearing on the terms and conditions of OTS 2023 proposed by KSEB Ltd. During the course of implementation of the OTS-2023, it is not appropriate to change the terms and conditions of OTS, without stake holder consultation, otherwise it may end up in legal issues. Hence the Commission cannot consider the proposal when only few days are remaining in the period of OTS to include the consumers having pendency of arrears more than one year in the OTS 2023.
2. The Commission also noted with displeasure that timely reporting of progress of arrear collection and publishing it in the website are not being carried out by KSEBL as prescribed in the Order dated 19.07.2023 in OP No: 35/2023
3. The Commission noted the suggestions of KSEBL to include the bill raised under Section 126 and Section 127 of the EA-2003 under OTS 2023.

The Commission hereby approve the proposal of KSEBL and may include the bill raised under Section 126 and Section 127 of the EA-2003 under OTS 2023, however no relaxation may be given for the amount assessed under

Section 126(6) except installment facilities for remitting the assessed amount in deserving cases.

4. The Commission noted the decision of the KSEBL, vide its Order BO No. 429/2023 dated 26.09.2023, to give relaxation/ reduction in maximum demand charges for demand based industrial consumers during the period of closure. As proposed by KSEBL, the Scheme may be extended to all demand-based consumers irrespective of the tariff category and may settle the amount after relaxation through the OTS 2023.
5. The Commission accept the proposal of KSEBL regarding settling the arrears of court cases.
6. The Commission has examined the request of KSEBL to extend the period of OTS-2023 up to 31.03.2024, and decide on the matter as follows.
 - (i) The Commission vide the Order dated 19.07.2023 in petition OP No. 35/2023 has approved the period of the OTS 2023 from 20.07.2023 to 31.12.2023, i.e., the Commission has approved a longer period of 5 months and 12 days for the Scheme. The Commission is of the considered opinion that, further extension of the scheme at this juncture do not serve the intended objective of the OTS scheme 2023. Hence, the request of the KSEBL is declined.
 - (ii) However, the Government departments and other Government agencies/ institutions whose money transaction is through Government treasuries and there is restriction in withdrawal of money through treasuries may be allowed a period up to 31.03.2024 for settling the arrears through OTS.
 - (iii) Benefits mentioned in 6(ii) above need not be extended to PSUs and Government agencies/institutions having own source of income and managing bank accounts for their operations
 - (iv) In other deserving cases, and cases under paragraph 3 above, KSEBL management/ its entrusted officers can extend time period beyond 31.12.2023 for small periods (but within 31.03.2024) for settling the arrears on a case to case basis after detailed appraisal of each case based on merits, separately.

The Commission noted the meagre progress in the arrears so far settled under OTS 2023, compared to the total outstanding arrears. Hence, KSEBL shall take all efforts to continue its sincere and dedicated efforts for the collection of maximum arrears through the OTS 2023.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/
Secretary