

**KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

**Present: Shri. R. Preman Dinaraj, Chairman**

**OP.No.30/2020**

In the matter of : Approval of reliefs to be extended to various categories of consumers of TCED due to lock-down restrictions imposed by the Government to curb the spread of Covid-19 pandemic.

Petitioner : M/s Electricity Department, Thrissur Corporation.  
Thrissur

Respondent : Kerala State Electricity Board Limited

Petitioner represented by Shri. Jose, Electrical Engineer  
Respondents represented by Shri. Manoj Asst. Exe Engineer

**Daily Order dated 25-11--2020**

1. The Petitioner M/s TCED has filed the instant petition for the approval of the following reliefs to the consumers in view of restrictions due to lockdown imposed by the Government to curb the spread of Covid-19 pandemic.
  - a. Allow a rebate of 25% on fixed charges applicable to HT and LT Industrial Consumers, Commercial consumers and Private Hospitals for the month of March, April and May-2020 and to defer the payment of balance fixed charge (75%) of these months to 15.12.2020
  - b. Exemption of surcharge applicable for the deferred payment of balance fixed charge of Industrial Consumers, Commercial consumers and private hospitals for the month of March, April and May 2020 up to 15.12.2020 by invoking the power of the Commission under Regulation 179 (power of relaxation and power to remove difficulties) of the Kerala Electricity Supply Code-2014
  - c. Allow the financial charges estimated by TCED due to subsidies allowed to domestic consumers as per instructions of Chief Minister on 18-06-2020
  - d. Allow pass through of the financial impact due to extension of due dates for all consumers during the lockdown period and deferment of fixed charges for Industrial consumers , commercial consumers, and private hospitals during truing up of FY 2020-21.

2. The matter was heard through video conference mode on 25-11.2020 at 11.00 AM. The petitioner, TCED represented by Shri. Jose, Electrical Engineer submitted that the petition is for seeking approval for allowing the rebates announced by Government of Kerala for the consumers of TCED. TCED decided to seek the approval of the Commission, since the G.O issued pertains to releasing rebates by KSEB Ltd. As per the estimates, the outflow for TCED would be about Rs. 274 lakh for allowing the concessions. It was submitted that except for the deferment of due date, so far no other rebates as announced by the Government have been extended to the consumers of TCED. TCED submitted that it would be discriminatory if the concessions announced for the consumers of KSEB Ltd is not allowed to the consumers of TCED.
3. During the hearing the Commission sought the details of month wise actual demand raised, actual payment received and number of consumers eligible for such subsidy as per the consumer category mentioned in the G.O. In reply, TCED mentioned that some of the consumers have already paid the bills whereas others have deferred their payment. They have received several requests from the consumers for allowing rebate, which are pending, for want of approval of the Commission. The Commission also sought details on the Government Orders if any on the close down of theatres due to spread of Covid-19 in the month of March 2020, ie., before the lockdown.
4. Shri. Manoj, Asst. Exe Engineer, represented the respondent KSEB Ltd. He mentioned that the stand of KSEB Ltd on this issue has been mentioned already during the two hearings held on the petition for approval of rebates filed by KSEB Ltd. KSEB Ltd pointed out that TCED has accumulated revenue surplus over and above the allowed ROE, of about Rs.146 crore. The funds from this surplus may be used to fund the rebates. The rebates extended to the consumers by KSEB Ltd was based on the Government direction as per the provisions of the Articles of Association of KSEB Ltd. KSEB Ltd has already an accumulated revenue gap of about Rs.6500 crore and accordingly is not in a position to take further burden of the rebates. Further, the actual rebates received by KSEB Ltd from the generating companies are also lower since some of the generating companies have not allowed the rebates announced by Government of India. There will be a further reduction in the rebates since the fixed charges of RGCCPP, Kayamkulam now is lower than the initially estimated amount. The Commission also pointed out that the mismatch and the additional burden on KSEB Ltd was on account of error in the estimates made by KSEB Ltd while announcing rebates higher than the actual rebate received from the central stations.
5. The Commission directed TCED to submit the following details by 21-12-2020
  - a. Estimate of the rebate extended to LT and HT consumers belongs to the category of industrial, commercial and private hospitals if the rebate of

25% fixed charges is allowed for the said categories during the lock down period from ie., from 24-3-2020 to 31-5-2020.

- b. Month wise details of demand raised, actual collection received, balance due from the above mentioned categories, including the number of consumers category wise.
  - c. The actual estimate of the amount required for allowing the rebate in electricity charges to the domestic consumers as announced by the Government
6. The order on the petition will be issued once the details are received on time. Accordingly, TCED shall furnish the details as above by 21-12-2020.
7. Hearing concluded. Reserved for Orders.

**Sd/-  
Preman Dinaraj  
Chairman**

**Approved for issue**

**Secretary (i/c)**