

# KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

## THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

PRESENT : Shri. T.M. Manoharan  
Shri. P. Parameswaran, Member  
Shri. Mathew George, Member

No.392/SEA/2013

**Dated: 8-5-2013**

In the matter of:

Removal of anomaly and disparity in fixing quota for electricity for industrial consumers

Shri. Shaji Sebastain, Electricity Convener,  
KSSIA, Ernakulam

..... Petitioner

### **ORDER**

1. Above named petitioner filed a Petition for removing the anomaly and disparity in fixing quota for electricity for industrial consumers in the light of the orders of the Commission dated 12-12-2012 on introduction of restrictions in the use of electricity in the State. The petition is mainly against fixation of base average for new industrial units @105 units per KW. According to the petitioner, base average is insufficient. The petitioner has sought the following reliefs
  - a. For every consumer 80% of the consumption in a month is to be given as quota against the consumption in that month
  - b. Industries taking shut down during peak hours may be exempted from the restrictions
  - c. Adopt uniform penalisation @5% of the total consumption every month for all consumers
  - d. Without load shedding and restrictions, impose uniform surcharge utilising full generating capacity
  - e. Other reliefs if any.

2. Subsequently, the petitioner submitted additional documents in support of his petition showing the disparities in the decisions taken by the Grievance Redressal committees constituted by KSEB for redressing the complains on quota fixation. The Commission also received number of similar complaints on quota fixation. Considering these factors, the Commission issued notice to all persons for a hearing on the admissibility of the petition. Notice was also issued to the KSEB. Information was sought from KSEB whether or not the empowered Grievance Committees have been constituted and if so these issues have been considered by these committees.
3. Heard Shri. Shaji Sebastian the petitioner on 23-4-2013. Shri. Shaji Sebastian presented the various problems faced by the small scale industrial units when the order of the Commission dated 12.12.2012 imposing power restriction is being implemented in field. The various issues presented by Shaji Sebastian and others fall into following categories :
  - a. Consumption during the period adopted for calculation of base average (August 2011 – September 2012) was low or nil due to lockout, strike, shutdown etc. Consequently a very low base average consumption happened to be fixed.
  - b. Enhancement of contract demand after the period adopted for base average calculation (Aug 2011 – Sept 2012).
  - c. Seasonal variation in consumption of seasonal consumers like Sabarimala Devaswom, Pumping and dewatering units of Irrigation Department, plastic units manufacturing, bottles, rain guards etc.
  - d. New Industrial units which have to increase production in accordance with the market demand.
  - e. Enhancement in contract demand during the period taken for base average calculation wherein the enhancement in demand is for more than six months, but within September 2012.
  - f. Enhancement in contract demand during the period taken for base average calculation, but the period of enhanced demand is less than six months but within September 2012.
4. The Board has submitted in their written statement No. KSEB/TRAC/Power restriction 2012-13/319 dated 20.4.2013 that the Grievance Redressal Committee

constituted had received 76 complaints out of which 65 numbers have already been settled. The Commission found that the industrial units are generally co-operative since they are convinced of the acute power problem. They wanted to have more transparency in the process of fixing quota. Therefore Commission directed the Chief Engineer (Commercial), KSEB to present these issues before Board and get common solutions to these common problems.

5. Some of the industrial units expressed their views that they are ready to have power holiday rather than having power restriction and load shedding without prior notice. The ice plants and such other continuous process units explained that they are prohibited from availing power during peak hours from 06:30 to 10:30 or 07:00 to 11:00 as the case may be. Apart from that they have to face 1 ½ hrs load shedding. Thus, they can use power only for 5½ hrs in a day which amounts to 23% cut in energy. The restriction on use of power is over and above the above power cut. Representatives of Ice Plants pointed out that it takes approximately 20 hrs for the formation of ice. Therefore if restriction is continued as on today they will not be able to manufacture ice. Therefore such units prefer power holidays for ½ day in a week. There are many units having similar problems in various industrial estates.
6. The Commission instructed Chief Engineer (Commercial), KSEB to examine the possibility of giving power holiday to industrial units in industrial estates, in a fixed roster so that manufacturing units can function without any problem for 5 or 6 days in a week. The Commission instructed Chief Engineer, KSEB to examine and workout viable solutions. The Dy. Chief Engineers and Executive Engineers can be instructed to settle the problem at field level, for which common instructions may be given by the Board. Such instructions may also be uploaded in website.
7. The petition is disposed of with the above directions. Ordered accordingly.

Sd/-

**P. Parameswaran**  
**Member**

Sd/-

**Mathew George**  
**Member**

Sd/-

**T.M.Manoharan**  
**Chairman**

Approved for issue

Secretary