



KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD

(Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956)

CIN : U40100KL2011SGC027424

Corporate Office (Vigilance), Vidyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom,
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No:VIG/B3/3178/2022/1019

Date: 19/04/2022

NOTICE

Sub:- Unauthorized use of KSEBL vehicle for unauthorized private purpose without paying rentals to KSEBL - Notice issued to Sri. M.G. Suresh Kumar, Executive Engineer, Power System Engineering, KSEBL - Recovery of loss sustained to KSEBL -Reg.

Read:-(1) Note No. D(F) Enquiry/21-22/49 dated 16.04.2022 of Director (Finance).

(2) Note No. CMD/106/vehicle/2022 dated 11.04.2022 of the Chairman & Managing Director addressed to Director.

(3) Circular No. 50/FIW-G1/08/Fin dated 30.08.2008 of Principal Secretary (Finance).

(4) Circular No. 41/2008/Fin dated 02.08.2008 of Principal Secretary (Finance).

On 12/2/2022, a petitioner withholding name as requested and one another Shri. K.K.Surendran preferred petitions along with enclosures of log books of vehicles of KSEBL secured under the Right to Information Act, 2005 stating the allegation that you, Shri. M.G. Suresh Kumar, Executive Engineer, Power System Engineering, Thiruvananthapuram, while being appointed as Additional Private Secretary to the former Power Minister, misused official vehicles of KSEBL for your private trips to your house at Kuttiady or whereabouts Kozhikode without any specific references in the log book justifying such long trips or any authorization by

any competent authority. It also stated that no official functions were assigned to you by the then Private Secretary, his official superior or the Hon'ble Minister to those destinations on those days.

2. The petition further stated that you are liable to pay for such private trips from your personal account otherwise it would be misuse of official power as well as the loss of the Company finances involved. It is further alleged that there is abuse of other official power for personal gain as well. The petition concludes by stating that you, Shri. M.G. Suresh Kumar should be posted away from the Corporate Headquarters on account of the irregularities committed by misusing your official position as he might interfere with the probe etc.
3. Director (Finance), KSEBL was directed to enquire into the matter in detail and he has, after due examination of all the connected records maintained in the Vehicle Monitoring Cell, KSEBL the Secretary (Administration) of KSEBL and the Company Secretary of KSEBL reported on 5/4/2022 that the Company vehicle bearing Registration No. KL01 BQ 2419 was under the custody of Shri. M.G. Suresh Kumar, Additional Private Secretary to Hon'ble Minister for Electricity from 1/8/2017 to 27/6/2020. You have maintained and authenticated the log book showing various official and non official travels.
4. Firstly no order by any competent authority could be traced in both offices concerned sparing the vehicle for your official use as required while sparing a Company asset to officer deputed to Government. Competent Company orders were necessary to spare

the asset. It is also not seen that you had remitted any amount to KSEBL for the stated non-official uses of the official vehicle whereas very specific non-official journeys are clearly performed by the vehicle as well as other Company vehicles commandeered by you during the period.

5. A detailed analysis of the log book attached as Annexure (1) reveals that you frequently travelled to your native place and nearby places (Chakkittappara, Perambra, Kuttiady in Kozhikode district) from your official Headquarters station at Thiruvananthapuram for no palpable or stated official purpose at the destination. Such long trips has been in excess of 400 kilometers or more and the halts have been recorded dozens of times at Kozhikode addresses. The Assistant Engineer, Vehicle Monitoring Cell has furnished a reply to the Enquiry Officer on 21/3/2022 stating that no amount has been remitted by you so far for the official use of the said vehicle during the period.
6. As a result at least 48,640 kilometers could be clearly categorized as trips without any official purpose / significance to your native place which have been recorded diligently by the concerned drivers and countersigned by the officer himself.
7. In a connected enquiry the Chief Vigilance Officer has received a statement from Shri. C.V. Nandan, Chief Engineer (Dist. Central) (Retd.), Shri. M.A. Tenson, present Chief Engineer (Distribution Central) and Shri. V.A. Krishnankutty, driver of former Chief Engineer, that you commandeered with the official vehicle of Chief Engineer (Distribution Central) with Headquarters at Ernakulam for non-official journey to Kuttiady and Wayanad on 17/11/2017

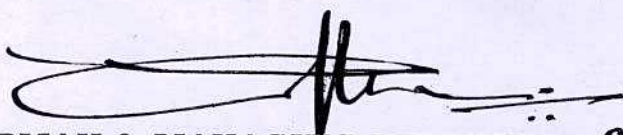
and returned on 18/11/2017. You were not authorized to do so at all.

8. Statements recorded by the Chief Vigilance Officer from Shri. C.V. Nandan, former Chief Engineer and then driver Shri. V.A. Krishnankutty clearly states that you have travelled from Ernakulam and reached your residence at Kuttiady, Kozhikode on 18/11/2020 and the traveller was offered a black tea by your spouse and he returned on the same day. You have not remitted any amount due to KSEBL on account of this clear misuse of the official vehicle provided to Shri. C.V. Nandan, the then Chief Engineer (Distribution Central) whereas it was spared by the Chief Engineer (Distribution Central) for the purely private purpose upon your commandeering the vehicle as a staff officer of the Hon'ble Minister for Electricity. By no stretch of authority could the Chief Engineer KSEBL's official vehicle be used by an Assistant Executive Engineer/Additional Private Secretary in Government for private purpose.
9. There are very well laid out guidelines for the rent / lease rates to be levied on an official vehicle used for private purpose by the custodian or other officer of Government or a public sector organisation like KSEBL. As per the standing order applied in KSEBL Rs.11/- per kilometer has to be defrayed for private journeys (as per G.O. No.62/2020/FIN dated 20/5/2020 which was adopted by KSEBL vide B.O. (FTD) No. 553/2020 (Estt. V/4314/2020) dated 3/9/2020) and you have to remit the same at an early date to avoid a severe disciplinary action on this account which is inevitable for wrongful securing and retaining of the official vehicle, after deputation from the KSEBL without competent

Board Orders and also putting it to purely private use over an extensive period without compensating the Board the due rental amounts and also for commandeering and misusing the official vehicle allotted to the Chief Engineer (Distribution Central) for a clear private trip to Kuttiady, Kozhikode on 18/12/2017. This loss to the Company works out to Rs. 5,40,540/- as per applicable norms.

10. You are also required to remit the penalty as provided in the Government Order circular No. 41/2008/Finance dated 2/8/2008 which would be equal to the 50% of the amount spent on fuel account of the vehicle for the month highest fuel consumption in a particular year which is computed to be Rs. 1,32,020/- in addition to the lease amount in this case.
11. The competent authority of KSEBL has therefore decided to levy the above monetary damages upon you and it is required to remit the amount of Rs. 6,72,560/- within 21 days of receipt of this notice failing which the same would be recovered from your pay for the next 12 months in equal installments with a penal interest of 12% levied for period of recovery.
12. You are therefore required to Show Cause in writing why the amount of Rs.6,72,560/-(Rupees Six Lakh Seventy Two Thousand five Hundred sixty only) being the computed monetary loss sustained to KSEBL due to the action from your part by the way of unauthorized use of official vehicle for private purpose during your tenure as Additional Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister for Electricity from 01.08.2017 to 27.06.2020 should not be recovered from you as per rules.

13. You are directed to remit the above said amount within 21 days of receipt of this notice, failing on which the same would be recovered from your due pay for the next 12 months in equal installment with a penal interest of 12% levied for period of delay computed from the date of this notice.
14. You are allowed 10 days from the date of receipt of the notice to submit your written statement of defence. If your written satisfactory reply is not received in time the matter will be proceeded on the presumption that you have no explanation at all to offer and the action to recover lost amount and disciplinary action taken forward.
15. You are permitted to examine records based for the notice upon request to Chief Vigilance Officer and take notes upon mutual consensus.


CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR S. H. Loni

To

Sri.M.G.Suresh Kumar,
Executive Engineer,
Power System Engineering.

[Through ~~the~~ The Director (T&SD) [The Proceedings in triplicate is forwarded herewith. The original may be served on the addressee and duplicate returned to this office with dated acknowledgement of the party.]

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Engineer (HRM), KSEBL, Tvpm.
2. The PA to Director (Finance)
3. CA to Secretary (Administration), KSEBL, Tvpm.