

**CONSUMER GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL FORUM  
KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD- SOUTHERN REGION  
VYDYUTHI BHAVANAM, KOTTARAKKARA**

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Present: 1. Smt.Laila.N.G,Deputy Chief Engineer, Chairperson  
2. Sri. Sanjeev Koshy,Executive Engineer, Member II  
3. Sri.C.K.Harikumar, Advocate,Member III

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June,2025

**OP No.87/2024-25**

Between

Petitioner: Sri. Thomas Mathew  
Manalil Shalom,Arinalloor PO  
Kovoor,Kollam,Kerala-690538

And

Respondents : (1) The Assistant Executive Engineer  
Electrical Sub Division,Karunagapally  
  
(2) The Assistant Engineer,  
Electrical Section, Thevalakara.

**ORDER**

**1. Grievance of the petitioner**

The petitioner Sri Thomas Mathew is a solar prosumer under Electrical Section Thevalakkara with consumer number 1145729004777. The petitioner alleged that the licensee has collected excess fixed charge wrongly from him on the basis of total consumption of energy by clubbing the energy imported from the utility net work and the energy self generated from his solar plant. The petitioner argued that the tariff order issued by KSERC vide order date 8/07/2019 and the prevailing tariff Orders have mandated KSEBL to collect fixed charge only on the basis of volume of consumption of electricity supplied by it to its consumers only. The tariff order issued by KSERC did not mandate or advised KSEBL to collect fixed charge based on the total volume of electricity used by the prosumer including the volume used by him from the self generation electricity from the solar plant.

The petitioner pointed out that KSERC on retail tariff is legally binding only for the charges applicable to consumption part of prosumers who consumes electricity supplied from the distribution utility. The charges applicable for generation part of the prosumer who are consuming electricity from the self generation is governed by RE&Net-Meter regulations,2020 and its amendment issued by KSERC. Accordingly, the charges meant for the prosumers for their captive generation/self generation is to be charged through banking charges, wheeling charges, transmission charges and cross subsidy charges. As per regulations 21(6) of KSERC(RE&NET-Meter regulations,2020 , a prosumer is exempted from payments of transmission charges, wheeling charges and cross subsidy charges for electricity generated and consumed in the same premises from renewable energy systems under net metering facility. The banking charges for the entire prosumers and wheeling charges for wheeling of electricity to other premises are also governed by the same regulations. Therefore fixed charge levied from petitioner based of the self generation and its consumption in his own premise from his solar plants is illegal and violation of electricity act, its subordinate regulations. So the petitioner prays the Forum to refund excess of fixed charges collected from him.

## **2. Version of the respondent**

The petitioner is a solar prosumer bearing consumer number 1145729004777 in the name of Sri Thomas Mathew Manalil Shalom, Arinalloor PO Kovoov, Kollam. The contention of the petitioner is that fixed charge is wrongly collected from the prosumer on the basis of total consumption of energy by clubbing the energy imported from the utility net work and the energy directly used by the prosumer which is self generated from their solar plant. The respondent stated that the fixed charges are charged on LT-1 Domestic consumers based on monthly consumption slab as per relevant Tariff order issued by Regulatory Commission followed by KSEBL. The applicable tariff order explicitly states that the fixed charge is calculated based on total monthly consumption, which includes both imported energy from the grid and self

generated solar energy consumed within the premises. So the fixed charge levied on the petitioner is in accordance with the regulatory framework and is legally sustainable. The respondent contended that fixed charge for domestic consumers and prosumers are decided as per the tariff order issued by the KSERC from time to time and the licensee is strictly following this order and in the petitioner's case also, the bills are issued strictly as per the above tariff order. Therefore the respondent prays the Forum to dismiss the petition.

### **3 Analysis and Findings**

The hearing of the case was conducted on 27/03/2025. The petitioner was not presented. The respondent were present and heard the matter in detail. On examining the petition, the counter statement of the respondent, the documents attached and arguments made during the hearing and considering all the facts and circumstances of the case, this forum comes to the following findings and conclusions leading to the decision thereof.

The subject matter of the case pertains to the excess fixed charge imposed on the petitioner. The main contention of the petitioner is that the collection of fixed charge should be on the basis of volume of consumption of electricity supplied by to its consumers. The tariff order issued by KSEBL did not mandate or advise licensee to collect FC based on the total volume of electricity used by the prosumer including the volume of electricity used by the prosumer including the volume used by him from the solar plant installed at the roof top.

The forum observed that the fixed charge collected by the licensee is in accordance with the tariff approved by KSERC. The tariff revision issued by the Hon'ble KSERC on 31/10/2023 and circular issued by KSEBL dtd 16/11/2023, the fixed charge of net metered solar consumers is to be levied on the basis of their total consumption. However, KSERC has not taken a decision that the circular issued by the licensee is not correct. The Forum also pointed out that in calculating the fixed charge, there is no specific calculation method for the solar prosumer in the tariff order. Therefore the forum is of the opinion that the matter needs to be clarified

and the status quo should continue until the Hon'ble KSERC intervenes this matter. So the Forum dismissed the petition.

**DECISION**

1. Considering this as a policy matter, this Forum has dismissed the petition and directed the petitioner to approach the KSERC/Government and to obtain a clarification/Order in the matter.
2. No order as to cost.

If the petitioner is not satisfied with the above order of this Forum, he is at liberty to prefer appeal before the Electricity Ombudsman within 30 days from the date of receipt of this order.

The address of the Electricity Ombudsman is furnished below.

'The State Electricity Ombudsman, D.H & Foreshore Road Junction, Near Gandhi Square, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682 016. Phone: 0484 2346488'.

Sd/ -	Sd/-	Sd/-
C .K.HARIKUMAR	SANJEEV KOSHY	LAILA.N.G
ADVOCATE MEMBER III	EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MEMBER II	DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER CHAIRPERSON

Forwarded  
Sd/-

CHAIRPERSON  
(DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER)

No: CGRF/KTR/OP No. 87/2024-25/ 829

Dated :12/06/2025

Delivered to:

1. Sri.Thomas Mathew,Manalil Shalow,Arinalloor,kovoor,kollam.
2. The Assistant Executive Engineer, Electrical Sub Division, Karunagapally.
3. The Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section, Thevalakkara

Copy to:-

4. The Secretary, KSERC, KPFC Bhavanam, Vellayambalam, Thiruvananthapuram.
- 5..The Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, Karunagapally
6. The Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Kollam.