MAHAVITARAN
Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd
Office of the Director (Operations),"Prakashgad", Stn. Rd, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400 051
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Ref. No. : Dir.(Opr.)/LM/Loss/Gen/ No 39973 Date : 31 DEC 2009

CIRCULAR

Sub :- Compensation against loss to the crops & damage to other property of outsiders because of sparking / fire on MSEDCL's lines / installation etc. and the procedure for payment of compensation.

Many times the crops (sugarcane & other crops) of an agriculturist & other property such as cotton bales, Kadaba, grass, out-house, cow shed, Zopadpatti etc. get burnt or damaged because of sparking on MSEDCL's lines & compensation is to be paid to the concerned. At present the cases are finalized as per delegation of powers vide Resolution No. 1664 dtd. 30/03/1979 & MSEB Circular No. MZ/Loss/Gen./20630 dtd. 27/04/1979.

As no specific powers are delegated to field officers the correspondence is required to be made to H.O. for approval of compensation which causes inconvenience & inordinate delay in finalization of payment of compensation to be paid against burning of crops / damage to other private properties due to faults on electrical equipment / lines.

In order to avoid approach to the board in each case and consequent delay in finalizing the compensation payable, powers are delegated at the filed level by the Board vide Resolution No. 989 dtd. 01/12/2009 as mentioned hereunder :

Sr. No.	Officer / Authority	Limit of powers
1	Superintending Engineer in field in consultation with Asst. Manager (F&A)	Upto Rs. 50,000/-
2	Chief Engineer in field in consultation with Manager / Dy. Manager (F&A).	Upto Rs. 1,00,000/-
3	Regional Executive Director in consultation with General Manager / Manager / Dy. Manager (F&A).	Upto Rs. 2,00,000/-
4	Director (Operations) in consultation with Director (Finance)	Upto Rs. 5,00,000/-
5	Managing Director in consultation with Director (Operations) & Director (Finance)	Full powers

1. The Board has further directed that the compensation should be paid on the basis of following reports / documents relevant to each case.

All the crop losses / damages to the private property due to fault on MSEDCL's side or its officer should be certified by

a) The preliminary report of sub-divisional officers for the incident occurred and it's cause in the prescribed form.
b) Investigation report of Executive Engineer concerned in prescribed form.
c) Investigation report of the Area Electrical Inspector on the basis of sopt verification carried out by him / his subordinates within stipulated time after the intimation / date of incident causing loss to the crops or private property.

The cause & responsibility for the loss shall be ascertained / established.

2. The compensation should be paid on fulfillment of the following documents relevant to each case.

i) A suitable certificate stating the nature & extent of loss should be furnished by the owner / legal heir of the property from a responsible authority like Tahasildar, Municipal Authority etc.
ii) Panchanama by Police or Revenue Authority and Police Patil & panchas of the place in case of rural area. This should be insisted upon by our field officers or staff where intimation of the loss has been brought to their notice.
iii) If the loss is caused on account of negligence by the concerned officer / employee of MSEDCL, disciplinary action shall be taken against the person(s) responsible for the cause resulting in loss to the crop / property of the party.
iv) The payment should be made only to the owner / legal heir as per the situation.

Undertaking on stamp paper mentioning that no claim has been lodged and no amount / financial help has been received from any insurance company or any other sources must be obtained from the owner / legal heir

3. The party should furnish the following relevant evidence to prove the extent of loss :

a) In case of loss of crops 7/12 abstract from revenue authority (Talathi) for last 3 years.
b) In case of sugarcane crop a certificate from Tahasildar / Agricultural Officer for the quantum of loss & certificate from the sugar factory regarding the rate for sugar cane paid by them. The factory has also to state in their certificate, the quantity of cane supplied during last 3 years so as to arrive at the possible quantity of sugarcane lost and amount of loss to be paid thereon.

c) In case of cotton crop, certificate from the Cotton Marketing Federation & Tahasildar to arrive at the quantum of loss i.e. quantity mentioning rate and probable amount of loss.

d) In case of other crops certificate from the Tahasildar based on the 7/12 abstract / crop grown in the field for the past 2-3 years and average crop in that area for the year. The rate payable should be worked out considering the support price and the current market price for the quantity of grain / crop etc. which was standing or likely to be grown.

e) In case of Kadaba / grass, the loss is to be estimated by the Revenue Authority / Agricultural Officer on the basis of the quantity in existence prior to the fire and the market rate in existence at the time of incident.

f) In case of residential house / shed for animals / zonpadpatti etc. the records of ownership from the Gram-Panchayat / Municipality / Mahanagar Palika in which it is situated or certificate from recognized estimator / Civil Engineer could be taken as the basis.

4. a. The concerned filed officers must verify the facts in each case and the amount of compensation must be calculated on factual grounds.

b. All dues from the claimant, whether towards electricity bills or otherwise, shall be adjusted against the compensation payable to him.

c. Specific responsibility be fixed on the concerned officers to ensure a transparent and time bound process for payment of compensation.

d. The proposal should also invariably indicate whether responsibility for the loss has been fixed on any staff / officer(s) of the company and the present stage of proceedings.

e. The proposal should be in detail and duly audited before submission to C.A. for Approval of payment of compensation.

5. The previous pending cases which are not yet finalized shall be finalized as per above directives.

6. As per the above directives all the field officers are requested to verify the facts in each case and the amount of compensation should be calculated on factual grounds.

Director (Operations)

To,

All as per mailing list.