



Tamil Nadu Electricity Board Engineers' Sangam

தமிழ்நாடு மின்சார வாரிய பொறியாளர் சங்கம்

Regd. No. 124/MDS (Recognised)

(Affiliated to All India Federation of Power Diploma Engineers)

144, Electricity Avenue, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 002.

44, Ramasamy Garden Street, Royapettah, Chennai - 600 014.

Phone : 28521968, E-mail: tnebes@yahoo.co.in

PRESIDENT

Er.A.ANTONY PADOVARAJ
9443872166

GENERAL SECRETARY

Er.V.S.SAMPATHKUMAR
9840956783

GENERAL TREASURER

Er.G.KARTHIKEYAN
9841150516

To

THE DIRECTOR / DISTRIBUTION,
TANGEDCO,
Chennai-600002.

Lr.No.P/TNEBES/F1/D 27 /2019, Dt.10.09.2019

Madam,

Sub: Grievances in Distribution Section Offices – Pending for a quite long
Time - Date for discussion – Requested – reg.

The distribution section offices are the back bone of the TNEB. Today the functioning of the distribution sections has turned up into a new face with techno commercial functioning.

The works of these sections has been increasing voluminosly, but the facilities and man power provided to the sections are very much lagging.

The day to day works in the section offices are carried out with much hardship, thus creating stress and destructing the physical and mental health of the staff of those sections including the Section Officers.

Even though the list of problems to be addressed are aplenty, the following major problems need immediate attention.

1. Difficulties faced in testing of defective meters at MRT.
2. Difficulties in executing the work through K2 agreement.
3. Problems faced in GIS mapping and other scheme related works.
4. Difficulties in effecting of daily disconnection of defaulters.
5. Problems faced in replacement of defective meters.

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Even though we Sangam have represented for the cause of Distribution Sections continuously, the management is yet to hear us. Hence, we request the Director / Distribution a date for discussion at the earliest to express our concern and views on the above said issues for resolving it.

Thanking you, Madam

Yours sincerely,



(A. ANTONY PADOVARAJ)
State President.

Encl: Detailed points on the above said issues.

Copy to:

1. The Chief Engineers / Distribution Regions
2. The Superintending Engineers / Distribution Circles.

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Detailed points for Discussion

1. Testing of Defective meters

- As per the circular dated 07.05.2019 issued by Chief Engineer / Commercial, all the meters released from service whether it is defective or replacement of high quality, electromechanical meters should be handed over to the MRT before devolution to stores. Instructions has also been issued to down load the details of the released static meters (Defective & dismantled). Even though, the instructions are focusing on arresting of revenue leakage, there is lot of problems / issues created in downloading of data in MRT.
 - No Transport facility is provided to shift the released meters to MRT and vice versa.
 - Long distance to reach circle head quarters from where MRT wing is functioning mostly.
 - Dearth of staff in MRT for carrying out the works like downloading, recording, communicating of the test reports and accounting the released meters..
 - Percentage of defective static meters has risen from 5% to 8% per annum and dearth of staff results in accumulation of meters in MRT / Distribution section.

To overcome the above issues, Sangam suggests to create one MRT Sub centre per division with one Technical Assistant and Field Assistant. Until creation and arrangements of facility for transporting the meters, the earlier procedure may be followed.

2. Execution of works through K2 Agreement

- Sangam has already represented about the acute shortage of man power in Field Assistant and Wireman categories. Instructions have been issued from head quarters to engage works contract where the staff are available in scarce. Now the works contract are being awarded to certain works including engagement of shift staff for substations, through K2 contracts.
- The main issue is identifying the contractors for the remote O&M sections. When the K2 contractor is engaged the arrangement of all materials in single stroke for the entire work is the major criteria, which is practically not possible. The bill payments are also getting delayed. Even with the hiked labour cost, we are unable to get qualified contractors.
- Regional level and Circle level forecasting and consolidation of works shall be done for a time frame and the tender may be floated at the Region / Circle level to get suitable contractors who can cater financially to execute the work. This will be the correct solution to the Board for developing the infrastructure in a constructive / organized manner.

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Sangam suggests that the practice of forcing field Engineers to search for contractor who has to perform labour works in lakhs of rupees has to be abandoned, instead Circle / Regional level e-tenders may be floated to execute the scheme / improvement works, which will make the works execution uniformly all over the Circle / Region and to complete the works in time, thus reducing the burden of distribution section officers.

3. Engaging Works contract for GIS Mapping :

- For non RAPDRP areas, instructions are received to perform GIS mappings with available department staff.
- The updation of network and service datas in GIS is not a kind of work to get completed in a ultra speed that the management is expecting. Almost most of the sections are having only around 25% of RWE staff strength. The sections has to manage every regular important and priority works with very less staff strength. In spite of that the sections are implementing the GIS updation steadily. The management has to realize the fact and is requested not to pressure the field to complete the GIS updation within a shorter frame of time.
- Exclusive practical training program to be conducted for the staff members to perform the subsequent development works and alterations in GIS.

Sangam suggests that, considering the voluminous of routine field works in those rural sections and area vast in nature and due to shortage of man power, necessary works contracts may be arranged to be awarded for GIS mapping works for initial quantum of works. Subsequent development works and alterations can be done by departmental staff. Till then section offices need not be forced to continue the GIS mapping works in an unimaginable time frame.

4. Daily disconnection of Defaulters:

- 30 Days Assessment and collection is implemented in the TANGEDCO with a condition of disconnection of services to be made by the O&M on 10th, 20th & 30th day of every month.
- During implementation, the Board has not considered the requirement of WM/FA to make DC/RC in the O&M sections.
- This is the big task of the O&M section now days. The Officials on the accounts side are simply viewing the defaulters list in the computers and posting messages in the whatsapp stating that the number of the Defaulters services pending. But the ground reality is well known that there isn't sufficient field staff in the section to do this job.
- Due to the work pressure it is directed to make the entry as disconnected in the LT billing software without disconnecting the LT Service physically. This makes huge revenue loss to the board.

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- o Also due to the disconnection entry in the LT billing the Service connection will not come for the assessment and the service may run unauthorized.

Sangam suggests that, the 30 days assessment & collection to be redesigned to suit the present O&M scenario. Till then the disconnection of services to be made on 10th, 20th & 30th day of every month as per the initial instruction.

5. Replacement of Defective Meters

- The new meters are not supplied by the Board in regular intervals. Hence huge number of defective meters gets accumulated. The meters for replacement for defective meters are allotted in single stroke and the higher officials are instructing to replace the defective meters in one day.
- Due to non-availability of field staff, it is practically not possible in the section to carry out the meter replacement work in a short period of time.

Sangam suggests that, as instructed sufficient rolling stock of meters shall be allotted and to be maintained at section level and this has to be monitored and the stock position shall be maintained consistently.



A. ANTONY PADOVARAJ
State President.