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KERALA WATER AUTHORITY

Jalabhavan
Thiruvananthapuram-695033
Kerala

No. KWA/HO/RMC/R1/500/2019

Dated: 03.11.2020

CIRCULAR

Sub:- KWA-RMC-District Level Revenue Adalath, Connection Melas 2020-2021, and settlement of un identified Connections - Further Directions issued.

- Ref :- 1.Resolution NO' 10833 OF 409 th Authority Board meeting held on 17-5-2019.
2.Circular No.KWA/HO/RMC/R1/500/2019 Dated 5/2/2020'
3.Circular.No.KWA/HO/RMC/R1/500/2019Dated 27/2/2020
4.G.O. No.117/220/GAD Dated 18/06/2020

The Authority in its meeting held on 17/05/2019 had decided to conduct District Level Revenue Adalath, Connection Melas and settlement of unidentified connections in the fourteen Districts of Kerala vide reference 1st cited. Detailed procedures of conducting the Adalath were issued from this office Circulars vide reference 2nd and 3rd cited above. Based on this Adalaths were conducted in Malappuram, Palakkad, and partially in Kollam Districts in March 2020. Decisions were taken in the petitions submitted by the consumers and they were directed to remit the decided amounts within 30 days of the date of Adalath conducted. But due to the out break of the Covid-19 in March 2020, Government of Kerala issued orders to limit the travel and lock down was declared and many offices functioned with 50% of staff. Hence the revenue from the consumers could not be realized. Application in huge numbers were in various offices and they were remained unsettled and water charges remained unpaid in these cases. This has caused much financial deficit to the exchequer of Kerala Water Authority. In the present circumstances it is not feasible to conduct Revenue Adalath



resulting in public gathering which will violate the Covid Protocol and Government of Kerala norms. As the main issue is to avoid public congregation, we have to adopt other measures to settle the petitions without much public gathering maintaining social distancing. Hence the following orders are issued with immediate effect.

1. Re - Constitution of Adalath Bench And Powers Re defined

A. The Higher Adalath Bench is re-constituted with the following members:

- 1 Chief Engineer of concerned region.
2. Accounts Manager/Deputy Accounts Manager
3. Superintending Engineer of concerned Circle.

The Bench will have powers as ordered earlier vide circular (2) referred above and conducts its function through Video Conference.

B. The Sub Adalath Bench is constituted with the following members:

1. Executive Engineer.
2. Revenue Officer /Divisional Accounts Officer.
- 3 Assistant Executive Engineer concerned.

The Bench will have powers as ordered for Sub Adalath Bench vide circular (2) referred above.

The Regional Chief Engineers will monitor the overall process of Adalath and ensure that it is conducted as per the strict guidelines of Government of Kerala.

2. The physical presence of the consumers should be avoided as far as possible. For that, the application should be sorted out at Division level and decision should be taken by the Adalath Bench provisionally. Then the decision should be informed to the consumer by phone and his agreement/disagreement should be recorded in the form prescribed and the case should be settled accordingly. He shall also be informed of the decision and the time in which the amount should be remitted.

3. The disputes in which the presence of the petitioner is extremely essential, he shall be allowed to attend the office at the allotted time slot by the the Adalath Bench, maintaining Covid Protocol.

4. The process of Adalath may be completed by taking sufficient working days depending on the nature of petitions received in each Divisions. However it should be completed on or before 31.12.2020..

5. The Internal Adalath shall be conducted and decided by the Higher Adalath Bench by



maintaining Covid Protocol.

6. Depending on the number of petitions, in order to avoid much difficulties to the public in these pandemic days, if found necessary the venue may be decided at Sub Division level also.

7. In cases of petitions in which decisions were taken in Malappuram, Palakkad and partially in Kollam district and the consumer could not comply the order within the stipulated time resulted in accumulation of fines, shall be waived off up to 15/11/2020.

8. Due to the outbreak of Covid-19, the water charges could not be collected in time. As per the directions of the Government of Kerala, the fine of water charges of all the consumers including LSGD and Bulk consumers are exempted for the period from March 2020 to 31st August 2020 .

The settlement of petitions already received in the adalath shall be completed strictly in accordance with the Covid-19 protocol and you have to ensure that not more than 5 petitioners at a time present in the office premises.

Pranabjyoti Nath IAS
Managing Director

