## GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA FINANCE DEPARTMENT

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No.\_\_\_\_\_7622\_\_\_\_/F, dated the 21.03.2017 FIN-WF2-MISC-0006-2017

From

Sri Tuhin Kanta Pandey, I.A.S. Principal Secretary to Government

То

<u>All Principal Secretaries</u> / <u>Commissioner-cum-Secretaries</u> / <u>Secretaries to Government</u>/ <u>All Heads of Department</u>/ All Collectors.

## Sub: Reconciliation and payment of outstanding dues of CESU, WESCO, NESCO and SOUTHCO by Government Offices within 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2017.

## Sir/Madam,

I am directed to say that the Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, Energy Department has submitted Department and Category/Entity-wise arrear outstanding electricity dues as on 31st December, 2016 in respect of Government Offices, Public Sector Undertakings, Local Bodies and other autonomous agencies in a meeting taken by the Chief Secretary on 20th March, 2017 (list enclosed). The aforesaid outstanding dues amount to Rs.482.75 crore.

2. Government Departments and Organizations under the control of the State Government should be model consumers so that other consumers would also emulate them and pay their dues in time. It has therefore become incumbent on Finance Department to issue suitable advisory to all Departments for timely payment of Electricity Dues in view of availability of provision in the budget and instructions issued by Finance Department earlier.

**3.** In this context, it is pertinent to mention that in Finance Department Circular No.26643/F dated 29.09.2016; all Departments were directed to project their full requirements for provision of funds in the Supplementary Statement of Expenditure, 2016-17 towards payment of electricity charges. During the pre- budget scrutiny, it was

also ensured that full allocation for payment of electricity dues is made available in the budget estimates for 2017 -18 on the basis of requirements furnished by the Departments.

**4.** In view of this, there should be no scope for complaint regarding inadequate budget provision for payment of electricity dues. There is a provision of Rs.240.37 crore in the Budget Estimates for 2016-17 and Supplementary Statement of Expenditure, 2016-17 for payment of electricity dues by various Government Offices.

**5.** In the Circular issued by this Department vide No.14915/F dated 18.05.2016 on Regulation of Expenditure out of the Annual Budget for the year 2016-17, it has been stipulated in para 4(iii) that Statutory dues viz. Sales Tax (VAT & CST), Municipal Tax, Compensation for Land Acquisition etc. as well as Electricity Dues and Rents, Rates and Taxes both amount and arrears should be cleared on the basis of provision made in the Budget after due verification and scrutiny and rebate wherever available should be availed. If any delayed payment surcharge is levied, it would be the personal responsibility of the concerned Heads of Office/DDO.

**6.** Keeping in view the provision of funds in the Budget Estimates for 2016-17 and Supplementary Statement of Expenditure, 2016-17, full payment of the arrear electricity dues of Government Offices under all Departments of Government are to be ensured by 31st March, 2017.

- i) The Administrative Department/ Controlling Officers are to provide funds to the Drawing & Disbursing Officers/Heads of Offices after ascertaining their requirement for payment of arrear and current electricity dues.
- **ii)** The concerned Heads of Offices/DDOs will reconcile their outstanding electricity dues with the Divisional Officers of CESU, WESCO, NESCO and SOUTHCO and ensure clearance of undisputed arrear electricity dues by 31st March, 2017 and furnish a certificate signed by the DDO along-with the salary bill for the month of April, 2017 that their arrear outstanding electricity bills upto "February, 2017 have been settled failing which the salary bills in respect of their establishment for the month of April, 2017 shall not be entertained in the Treasuries.
- **iii)** In respect of institutions and organizations where there are big residential colonies adjoining the main office building, such as Irrigation colonies attached to multi-purpose projects, residential colonies, hostels attached to educational institutions and medical

colleges etc. separate bills for consumption made by persons residing in such colonies arc to be issued by tile DISCOMs after segregation of the supply of electricity between Government buildings and individual houses hostels. Government are not liable to pay for electricity consumption by the residents of such colonies/hostels.

- iv) Bills on account of contract demands are to be immediately reviewed to ensure that they are in line with actual consumption. New contracts, if necessary, have to be executed with the Distribution Companies.
- v) All Heads of Offices/DDOs under the Administrative Departments are also to ensure that bills are raised as per meter reading and all the establishments have accurate working meters and electricity consumption is as per the norms prescribed In Finance Department Letter No. WF-II-60/2002(pt)/1182(45)/F dated 07.01.2003.
- vi) In case any Head of Office/DDO face any difficulty in reconciliation of the outstanding dues with the Divisional Officers of the DISCOMs, the matter should be reported to Energy Department/Ombudsman of the concerned DISCOMs/OERC.
- **vii)** No opportunity should be given to the DISCOMs to disconnect the line and all-out efforts should be made to clear outstanding dues on priority.

These instructions may kindly be brought to the notice of the Sub-ordinate Offices under your control.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-Principal Secretary to Government