

**To start the “Chief Minister Solar
Agricultural Feeder Scheme” in the State..**

**Govt. of Maharashtra
Industry, Energy & Labor Department
Govt. Resolution No.: SS-2016/C.No.354/Energy-7
Madam Cama Road, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,
Ministry, Mumbai-400 032.
Date: 14 June, 2017.**

Reference:

1. Govt. Decision, Industry, Energy & Labor Dept. No. APU-2015/C.No.49/E-7, dated 20 July, 2015.
2. Govt. Decision, Industry, Energy & Labor Dept. No. APU-2015/C.No.49/Part-8/E-7, dated 09 September, 2015.
3. The Letter No. Mahanirmiti/S.N.S./Solar Energy/Agricultural Feeder/03630, dated 25 March, 2017 of the Chairman & Managing Director, Mahanirmiti.

Pre-face:

Approximately 30% energy is used for the agriculture area of the total energy being used in the State. The said electricity is used to supply the electricity to the agricultural pumps and Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd. (MSEDCL) has to suffer from the revenue loss. But, as it is also necessary to make available the electricity at a reasonable rate to the farmers under such circumstances, the Govt. provides a grant in large scale every year for the same to MSEDCL. And, MSEDCL charges more electricity rate in the form of cross subsidy to the Commercial and Industrial consumers to keep the electricity rate reasonable for the agricultural consumers.

In the view that the farmers in the State should get the electricity at reasonable rate and as per their convenience, the Govt. was considering to start the Solar Agricultural Feeder scheme in the State. For that, if the Agricultural Feeders are electrified through the Solar Energy in the places of the rural areas of the State where separation of Residential & Agricultural Feeders has been completed, the conventional electricity can be save in a large scale. Also, the said electricity can be used for other productive tasks. As such, the expenses of MSEDCL incurred on purchasing the electricity will be reduced, conventional electricity will be saved, will be helpful in increasing the revenue of MSEDCL and will help to keep the electricity rate low for the commercial and industrial consumers.

Govt. Decision:-

1. The Govt. recognition is being granted to the scheme of electrification of the Agricultural Feeders through the solar energy in the places of the rural areas of the State where separation

of Gavthan & Agricultural Feeders has been completed and this scheme shall be referred to as the "Chief Minister Solar Agricultural Feeder Scheme".

2. As per the scheme, the Govt. recognition is being granted to implement the solar Agricultural feeder scheme on experimental basis through one at Ralegansiddhi of Dist. Ahmednagar and other at Kolambi of Dist. Yavatmal.
3. The said scheme will be implemented through Mahanirmiti (also known as Maharashtra State Power Generation Company Ltd.). But the MahaUrja (also known as Maharashtra Energy Development Agency) and MSEDCL shall have their participation at the respective places during the stages of implementation of the said scheme.
4. The availability of the govt. land will be searched through Mahanirmiti company in the 5 Km to 10 Km vicinity of the 11 KV to 132 KV sub-stations in the State. And, taking into consideration the load of the Agricultural feeder connected and separated at the sub-station situated at that place and the number of the consumers on it and the availability of the govt. land, the selection of the solar Agricultural feeder will be finalized. Before that, the Mahanirmiti company, after conducting a study, will also take the opinion from MSEDCL and MahaPareshan companies about the practicability of the project.
5. The strategic and detailed Order will be issued by the Revenue Department separately to make available the govt. land, with the approval of the respective departments and the Revenue Department, on lease at a nominal rate of Rs. 1/- for a period of 30 years which has been finalized for the project of solar Agricultural feeder scheme. The Revenue Department will give such land to the Mahanirmiti company on lease of 30 years. The Mahanirmiti will give such land on lease to the private investors. The terms and conditions should be mentioned in the agreement accordingly. The private land owners can also give their waste land on lease basis for the solar energy project.
6. There will be no need to make the land Non-agricultural (N/A) to be made available for the solar Agricultural feeder. The Mahanirmiti register this project with the MahaUrja free of cost. Also, it will not be mandatory to convert such lands into Non-agricultural lands and such lands or the solar energy projects will be exempted from all the taxes/fees being charged by the Revenue dept. or Local Bodies etc. for 30 years from the project erection.
7. The said scheme will be implemented by the Mahanirmiti company on PPP (Public-Private Partnership) basis.
8. After finalizing the place of project, the private investor on PPP (Public-Private Partnership) basis will be selected as per the prescribed procedure by the Mahanirmiti company by

implementing the transparent and competitive bidding process after considering the number of potential consumers.

After receiving the bid from the private investors, that bidder will be allotted the work whose electricity rate will be the lowest (L-1). However, if any of the bidders is ready to supply the electricity from the project at yet lower rate than L-1, the one such bidder will be selected who will supply the electricity at the lowest rate amongst them and the approval of the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission will be given to him.

9. An appropriate agreement for a particular period will be made by the Mahanirmiti company for the erection of the solar Agricultura feeder project by the private investor at the proposed place, which shall include the terms and conditions of the electricity purchase. Before that, the Mahanirmiti company will seek permission from the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission for the electricity rate received through competitive bidding.
10. The erection of the said project and its maintenance/repairing will be done by the private investor for a fixed period as mentioned in the agreement made with the private investor.
11. The expenses incurred for the expulsion of the electricity up to the selected solar Agricultural feeder of the project will be done from the Green Energy Funds through the MahaUrja.
12. The selected solar Agricultural feeder will be separated from the electricity system of MSEDCL and the MSEDCL will supply the electricity to the Agricultural consumers of that feeder from the solar Agricultural feeder.
13. MSEDCL will collect the bills from the agricultural consumers against the electricity supply distributed from the said solar Agricultural feeder and all the amount of that collection will be deposited with the Mahanirmiti company.
14. The Mahanirmiti company will pay some fixed amount of the collected amount to MSEDCL for the expenses incurred in collection of the bills.
15. If the electric meters are not connected for the agricultural consumers at such places, the same will be connected by MSEDCL.
16. The amount of the electricity bill will be paid every month to the private investor by the Mahanirmiti company to the extent to which the electricity is supplied to the agricultural consumers from the total electricity generated by the said project.

17. The total amount of the grant will be paid by the Govt. to the Mahanirmiti company after considering the amount of the subsidy of the grant to be given to MSEDCL for the current agricultural consumers against per unit of the electricity supplied every month to concerned agricultural consumers by MSEDCL from the said feeder plus the amount of the cross subsidy to be received currently by MSEDCL or the potential funds/grant to be received for this scheme from the Central Govt.
18. This scheme will be implemented by the private or govt. institutions.
19. The capacity of the Agricultural feeder solar energy project will be finalized as per the load of the separated Agricultural feeder of the respective electrical sub-station and the available govt. land. Clusted AG solar feeder project will be erected by combining more than one Agricultural feeders of various sub-stations on the land available at such places where the govt. land is available in ample quantity.
20. The Mahanirmiti company will attempt to supply electricity through solar Agricultural feeders to all the lift irrigation schemes which supplies water to the farms in the State.
21. One or more farmers, after forming the cooperative society, may submit the proposal through the said society to Mahanirmiti company for erecting solar Agricultural feeder project. The solar Agricultural feeder may be erected after making an appropriate agreement with the said society and getting private investment through them and may supply the electricity from that project to the beneficiary farmers of the concerned society. The Mahanirmiti company will pay the electricity rate to the concerned private investor as per the competitive bidding for the electricity generated from such project.
22. Under the PPP project, the erection and complete repairing-maintenance of the solar Agricultural feeder project in this scheme will be done by the private investor.
23. For the proper implementation of the solar Agricultural feeder scheme a committee is being formed under the Chairmanship of the Principal Secretary (Energy) which shall be comprised of the concerned officers of MSEDCL, Mahanirmiti and MahaUrja. The said committee shall have the right to amend or modify the terms and conditions after considering the problems which arise at the time of the actual implementation of the said scheme.
24. The said Govt. Decision is being issued in compliance of the consent given by Planning Department and its Informal Ref. No. 173/K-1461 dated 28 May, 2017 and the consent given by the Finance Department and its Informal Ref. No. 146/2017 dated 26 May, 2017.

25. This Govt. Decision has been made available on the web site www.maharashtra.gov.in of the Govt. of Maharashtra, the Code of which is 201706141206080310. This Order is being issued after attesting it with digital signature.

By the Order and In the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

Digitally Sd/-

Ashok M. Atram

Co-Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra

Copy to:

1. The Additional Chief Secretary to the Hon. Chief Minister, Ministry, Mumbai.
2. The Personal Secretary to the Hon. Minister (Energy, New & Renewable Energy), Ministry, Mumbai.
3. The Personal Secretary to the Hon. State Minister (Energy, New & Renewable Energy), Ministry, Mumbai.
4. The Additional Chief Secretary, Finance/Planning Department, Ministry, Mumbai.
5. The Principal Secretary, Revenue Department, Ministry, Mumbai.
6. The Principal Secretary, Legislature Directorate, Mumbai.
7. The Managing Director, Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Sutradhar Company Ltd., Mumbai.
8. The Managing Director, Maharashtra State Electricity Generation Company Ltd., Mumbai.
9. The Managing Director, Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd., Mumbai.
10. The Managing Director, Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Company Ltd., Mumbai.
11. The Director General, Maharashtra Energy Development Agency (MahaUrja), Pune.
12. All the Ministerial Departments.
13. All the Divisional Commissioners.
14. All the Collectors.
15. All the Chief Executive Officers, Zilla Parishad.
16. All the Assembly Members, Legislative Council Members.
17. The select file-Energy-7 office, Industry, Energy & Labor Department, Ministry, Mumbai.