

PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD

The Chairman,
Punjab State Electricity Board,
Patiala.

All Chief Engineers,
All Superintending Engineers,
Chief Accounts Officer, P. S. E. B., Patiala.
All Executive Engineers.

Memo. No. 141627¹/₁₀ P.B-2(45)70

Dated Patiala, the 11 Nov., 1970.

Sub:-

Institution and Defence of cases on behalf of the Board.

It has come to the notice of the Board that the matters with regard to institution and defence of suits/cases in the field offices are not being attended to by the officers concerned, with the requisite speed and attention. The result is that in quite a few cases the Board's interests are jeopardised. Even some times the cases go by default.

Recently, a case came to the notice of the Board wherein wages of an employee were not paid by the office concerned in time, forcing the official concerned to go to a Court of Law. Even Mr. Civil Suit against the Board instituted by the official was not defended with the requisite attention. This resulted in an ex-parte decree being awarded in favour of the plaintiff and against the Board. Not only this, even the remedy against the ex-parte decree was not sought within the available period of limitation, and the Board was left with a 'fait accompli' in the nick of time to pay the decretal amount. This is certainly a very unsatisfactory state of affairs.

In this connection, it might be relevant to recapitulate that the field offices have already been duly authorised to make timely arrangements for the defence/institution of legal cases on behalf of the Board, at District/Divisional level. They are already authorised to sign plaints, documents, applications, affidavits, the powers of attorney and the like. They can also engage counsel, where-over indicated, from out of the approved panel of advocates maintained, district-wise, by this office. In this connection, your attention is

Encl: 2

1. Cited to this office order No.88 PSEB dated 2.4.59 and Memo.No. 812/456/LB-3(1)68 dated 4th July, 1968.

The object behind this delegation was to achieve prompt, timely, adequate and effective action so as to safeguard the Board's interests.

4. It is, hereby, reiterated to all the officers concerned that institution and defence of suits etc., in the field offices of the Board is the personal and direct responsibility of the Executive Engineers concerned, after observing the pre-requisite formalities. They have to follow up all such cases during various proceedings. It may be understood that any failure in this behalf shall be viewed very seriously and the resulting loss, if any, to the Board in such cases, shall be made good from such of the officers as fail to take prompt and effective action.

DA/NIL.

D.N. Dhir
(D.N. Dhir) 10/11/73
SECRETARY,
Punjab State Electricity Board,
Patiala.

Endst No. 141779/888 LB-2(451)73

Dated 12.11.70

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

- i. Deputy Secretary.
- ii. Deputy Secretary (Vigilance)
- iii. Executive Engineer (Enforcement)
- iv. All Accounts Officers
- v. All Assistant Secretaries.
- vi. All Assistant Accounts Officers.
- vii. All Heads of Sections in the Board Secretariat and the offices of the Chief Engineers.
- viii. P.S. to Chairman and P.A.s to Members and Secretary, P.S.E.B., Patiala.

DA/NIL

Ravinder Nan
Assistant Secretary (Legal),
for Secretary Punjab State Elec., Board,
Patiala.

Legal-290

11/11/70