

**KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

**Present:** Sri T.K.Jose, Chairman  
Adv. A J Wilson, Member  
Sri B Pradeep, Member

**OP No 27/2024**

In the matter of	:	Petition seeking immediate installation of Sub Station at Seethangoli and for speeding up the stopped Mylatty Vidyanagar 110 KV feeder drawal
Petitioner	:	Sri Rathnakaran Mavila, President, Anathapuram Industrial Development Association, Anathapuram P.O, Kannur
Petitioner represented by	:	1) Adv VRB Nair 2) Sri Rathnakaran Mavila 3) Sri K.K Ibrahim 4) Sri Sajith K 5) Sri Nishad P.A 6) Sri Sunilkumar T 7) Sri Manoj K. R
Respondent	:	1) The Chairman, Kerala State Electricity Board Limited, Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram 2) The Deputy Chief Engineer, Kasargod Circle, Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Vidyanagar 6711243
Respondent represented by	:	1) Sri Rajan M.P, Deputy Chief Engineer, TRAC 2) Smt Priya Govind, Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Kannur 3) Basheer P.K, Executive Engineer in Charge, Transmission Circle, Kannur 4) Smt Santhi K, Chief Engineer (Trans) North 5) Smt Sheeba K.S, Chief Engineer, Transgrid 6) Sri Sureshkumar S.B, Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Kasaragod 7) Sri Binu A, Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Kannur 8) Sri Suresh V, Deputy Chief Engineer, O/o CE Transgrid 9) Sri Rajesh. R, AEE, TRAC, KSEBL 10) Sri Shine Raj, AEE, TRAC, KSEBL 11) Smt Asha. A.V, AE, TRAC, KSEBL
Date of hearing	:	1) First hearing on 25/09/2024 at 11 AM 2) Second hearing on 09/10/2024 at 2.30 PM 3) Third hearing on 06/02/2025 at 2.30 PM
Venue	:	Court Hall of the Commission

**Interim Order dated 11.03.2025**

- 1) Sri. Rathnakaran Mavila, President, Ananthapuram Industrial Development Association, Kannur, Kasargod District filed a petition before the Commission on 23-09-2024 ***seeking immediate installation of a Sub Station at Seethangoli and for speeding up the stopped Mailatty Vidyannagar 110 KV feeder drawal work***. The petition is admitted as OP No. 27/2024. The gist of the petition is given hereunder.
- 2) The industries of Ananthapuram industrial area formed a registered Association 'Ananthapuram Industrial Development Association (AIDA)' for the wellbeing of all industrialists in the development area. For the last so many years, the industrialists in the area are facing the following prominent issues, which significantly and badly affects the day-to-day functioning of the industries and the same is leading to heavy losses and damages to their business. The issues faced by the industries are
  - (a) Fluctuations in voltage: - Due to insufficient capacity and fluctuations in voltage, the industries are under severe distress. Proper running of machines cannot be ensured and the working of the industries is disturbed. The voltage issues have to be rectified emergently so as to run the industries properly.
  - (b) Frequent power restrictions: - All the industrialists in the area are facing frequent power restrictions. These power restrictions without prior notice/intimation are badly affecting the smooth running of the industries and causing heavy losses and damages to the industries. Provisions in Regulation 25(2) of Supply Code 2014 are violated in these cases.
  - (c) Low voltage and variations in voltage: - Due to the shortage in voltage, the industries cannot run their machines/motors properly and the same leads to heavy losses and damages to the industries. In many occasions, the heavy motors/machines are burnt/damaged on account of low voltage. Provisions in Regulations 5 to 7 of Supply Code 2014 are violated in these cases. The association further stated that, in total, the regulations 7 & 8 of KSERC (Standards of Performance of Distribution Licensees) Regulations, 2015 are violated.
- 3) The petitioner prayed for
  - (a) *Immediate installation of a Substation at Seethangoli, near to the industrial area. This will help not only the entire industrial area but also the entire Seethangoli town. So appropriate direction may be given to the respondents to that effect.*

*(b) Speed up the stopped Mailatty Vidyanagar 110 KV feeder drawal work. Now this work is in dormant stage. The immediate completion of this work not only help the entire industrial area but also the entire Seethangoli town. So appropriate direction may be given to the respondents to that effect.*

*(c) To grant such other and further reliefs under the circumstance of the case in the interest of justice.*

- 4) The first hearing on the petition filed by Shri Rathnakaran, Mavila, President, Ananthapuram Industrial Development Association was conducted on 25.09.2024 at the Court Hall of the Commission. In the public hearing, KSEB Limited explained the present feeding arrangements to the Ananthapuram Industrial area and transmission constraints experienced in Kasargod District as detailed below.

The Ananthapuram industrial area is fed from the 33 KV Substation at Ananthapuram, which receives power from 110 KV Substation at Vidyanagar. The Vidyanagar Substation is normally fed from the single circuit 110 KV transmission line from Mylatty 220 KV Substation. The upgradation work of the twelve-kilometre 110 KV SC line to 220KV/110KV MCMV line is progressing. The work is being carried out by by-passing three kilometres of the line along the existing RoW by constructing a temporary line using A-poles and covered conductor, so as to maintain the power supply from Mylatty 220 KV substation during the construction of the new line. KSEB Limited further submitted that, despite the above arrangements, the temporary line has to be switched off, often due to insufficient working clearances while erecting the towers and stringing of conductors of the new MCMV line. KSEB Limited further submitted that, during this time, power for the Ananthapuram Industrial area is availed from Karnataka side and power quality issues are mostly reported during this time. During the deliberations of the hearing, the Commission directed KSEB Limited to submit the following additional details through a written submission on or before 7/10/2024. The Commission also directed the respondents, via KSERC letter No. 2044/Con(T2)/2024/KSERC/792 dated 01.10.2024, to provide the required details in a written submission by the same date.

- *Whether the inverters of the solar parks at Paivalike and Ambalathara are providing dynamic reactive power support to the KSEB grid? If, not steps have to be taken for ensuring dynamic reactive power support.*
- *The maximum and minimum voltage recorded at Mylatty 220 KV, Vidyanagar 110 KV, Kubanoor 110 KV and Ambalathara 33 KV*

*substations for the months of March, April, May, June, July & August of 2024 with date & time.*

- *The maximum and minimum voltage recorded at the 11 KV feeder(s) feeding the Ananthapuram Industrial area for the months of March, April, May, June, July & August of 2024 with date & time.*
  - *Maximum demands recorded in the 33 KV Ananthapuram S/s and 11 KV feeder(s) feeding the industrial area during the above months.*
  - *Details of new HT & LT connections given and additional load connected in the industrial area during the year 2024 and total power requirement of the industrial area.*
  - *Number and duration of scheduled and unscheduled interruptions on the 11 KV feeder(s) feeding the Ananthapuram Industrial area for the months of March, April, May, June, July & August of 2024*
  - *The status of construction of the MCMV line from Mylatty to Vidya Nagar and steps taken for speeding up the work and the date of completion of the work.*
  - *Plan for providing the temporary by-pass network sufficiently away from the existing line route, so as to avoid switching off the line during erection and stringing of the new line, at least in the remaining stretches.*
  - *The progress of construction of the 400 KV transmission line from Udupi to Kasargod and the 400 KV Substation at Karindalam in Kasargod District.*
  - *Whether there is any monitoring system in KSEB limited for monitoring the progress of the above work?*
  - *The Recorded Maximum Demands of the traction substation at Uppala for the last six months and the Contract Demand.*
- 5) The second hearing on the petition was conducted at 2.30 PM on 9.10.2024. During the hearing, the Commission observed that the requirement of power in the Ananthapuram industrial area is increasing in a faster pace. In order to promote new investments in the industrial area as well as to address the concerns of the petitioner regarding the poor quality of power supply in the industrial area, there is urgent need to fast track the Mylatty-Vidya Nagar MCMV line work and to complete the work on a war footing. Also, in view of the rapid growth in power demand in the area, transmission and distribution network in the area has to be strengthened by KSEB Limited and proper monitoring mechanism to ensure timely completion of Uduppi – Kasargod ISTS line and 400 kV Substation at Karindalam is required. The Commission also expressed displeasure against the respondent; KSEB Limited for not filing its version of the case and the details sought by the Commission in proper form, duly verified, signed and supported by affidavit, as envisaged in KSEB (Conduct of Business) Regulations

2003. Based on the deliberations during the hearing held on 09.10.2024, the Commission issued a daily order on 10.10.2024 with the following directives.

- (i) *The respondent shall file its version of the case and the details sought by the Commission, duly verified, signed and supported by affidavit on or before 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024.*
- (ii) *The official who signs the affidavit will be held responsible for further delays in the Mylatty-Vidya Nagar MCMV line project implementation.*
- (iii) *The respondent shall strictly comply with the timeline specified above*

6) The President of the Ananthapuram Industrial Development Association, in a letter dated 21.11.2024, informed that even after 40 days from the last hearing, they had not received any update from the Honorable Commission regarding the action plan submitted by KSEB Limited. The industrialists in the area are struggling due to regular and unexpected power outages, which disrupt the daily operations of their businesses. They have requested favourable action from the Commission to direct KSEB Limited to expedite the 110 KV line drawal work from Mylatty to Vidyanagar.

7) KSEB Limited submitted the counter affidavit to the petition on 09/12/2024. KSEB Limited states that over and above the prayers in the petition, the petitioner has raised concerns regarding frequent fluctuation in voltage, unauthorized power cut, voltage shortage/variation in the industrial development area. The gist of the counter affidavit is given below.

**I. a) *Fluctuations in voltage:***

KSEB Limited submitted that no frequent and significant voltage fluctuations are observed in the affected area, ***except during the momentary inrush of traction load in two phases under Manjeswaram and Kubanoor 110kV substations.*** Ananthapuram 33kV Substation, which is located near petitioner's industrial area is fed from 110kV Substation Vidyanagar through 9.5 km 33kV OH line. Vidyanagar 110kV Substation is fed from 110kV Mylatty-Vidyanagar feeder. Further, both Mylatty & Vidyanagar substation is having capacitor banks and hence there is no significant voltage fluctuations.

**b) *Frequent power restrictions:***

KSEB Limited submitted that no frequent power restrictions were imposed in the area, except for huge increase in the demand observed during last summer season and in connection with the construction of 220/110kV MCMV line of Mylatty-Vidyanagar through the existing RoW

of 110kV Mylatty- Vidyanagar single circuit line. As there is no alternative feeding to 110kV Vidyanagar substation, load restriction was necessitated in the summer season depending on the load in the feeders.

**c) Low voltage and variations in voltage:**

KSEB Limited submitted that on analyzing the substation voltage profile and loading details of the transmission system of the affected area in the backdrop of the system constraints observed during the last summer season, it is noted that there was no significant voltage variation in these substations and also no other substations are operating beyond their maximum capacity.

II. Regarding the main prayers, KSEB Limited submitted the following

**a) Construction of Seethangoli 110 KV Substation**

KSEB Limited submitted that administrative sanction for the construction of new 110 kV Substation at Seethangoli was accorded on 13-05-2024 and identification of suitable land for construction of the substation is in progress. Expression of interest was invited for the acquisition of land through LARR process from interested land owners. Three land owners expressed their interest, and KSEBL selected the land at Bela village, Badikda Panchayath. The project is expected to be completed within 18 months after obtaining land.

**b) Upgradation of Mylatty-Vidyanagar 110kV feeder**

KSEB Limited submitted that KSEBL had never stopped the work as alleged by the petitioner and the work is still in progress. KSEB Limited further informed that North Malabar Region of the State is primarily served by the 220kV substations Mylatty, Ambalathara and 110kV supply from Karnataka side, which caters to the 110kV Substations Manjeswaram and Kubanoor. Power is also available from two 50 MW capacity solar plants at Ambalathara and Paivalike to support the northern grid during day time. The 110kV Konaje-Manjeswaram line with old Lynx conductor (in Karnataka side) and Wolf conductor in Kerala side, feeds Manjeswaram, Kubanoor and Uppala Railway Traction Substation loads. The existing Mylatty-Vidyanagar 110kV line with old Tiger conductor faces loading constraints during summer due to limited line capacity.

The upgradation of the 110kV Mylatty-Vidyanagar line to MCMV lines was sanctioned on 24-05-2018 and awarded to M/s Omicron on 10-06-2019. Delays occurred due to challenges in shutdown permits and the lack of an alternate feeder.

The project was intended as a single 12 km stretch expecting additional power from Karnataka to support the 110kV Vidyanagar substation and others. Due to shutdown difficulties, the project was divided into four 3 km sections. A bypass arrangement using a 110kV covered conductor for the first stretch was completed in March 2023 at a cost of Rs. 4.7 Cr. The first 3 km stretch was delayed to March 2024 due to the contractor's financial constraints.

KSEB Limited further informed that only 5-hour daily shutdowns were permitted instead of the requested 8 hours, slowing tower erection. So far, 11 towers and 0.66 km of stringing were completed. The inability to shift the 3 MVA traction load to Karnataka, due to railway restrictions, further delayed progress. The completion of the work is now expected by **December 2026**. Additionally, KSEBL is actively exploring options to procure additional power from Karnataka. This initiative aims to facilitate extended shutdown periods on the Mylatty-Vidyanagar feeder, thereby expediting the construction process and ensuring timely project completion.

KSEB Limited further informed that the entire northern region Vatakara to Manjeswaram is fed through two 220 kV feeders from Areekode substation and one 110 kV feeder for Konaje (Karnataka). The present demand of Kasaragod, Kannur, Vatakara regions is about 700-900 MW, the capacity of 220kV feeder from Areekode is only about 600 MW. Also, voltage fluctuations occur due to drawal of traction load at Uppala Railway traction substation.

As part of the Uduppi-Kasargod inter-state transmission system being developed by M/s UKTL, the construction of 400kV Substation at Karinthalam is already completed and the 400kV line work from Uduppi to Kasargode and Wynad – Kasargod line works is in progress. Upon commissioning either of this project and its downstream network, the power related issues in Kasaragod district will be resolved completely.

Further, KSEB Limited submitted that for strengthening the distribution network in the Kasargod district, KSEBL had already submitted Kasargod package amounting to Rs 394.15 Crore in the capex plan of distribution before the Hon'ble commission. The works include construction of the HT lines, installation of distribution transformers etc.

III. ***Item wise remarks to the details sought vide daily order dated 10.10.2024.***

The Commission vide letter dated 2044/Con(T2)/2024/KSERC dated 01.10.2024 and vide its daily order dated 10.10.2024 sought certain

details from the KSEB Limited. The queries and responses of the licensee are given below.

- a. *Whether the inverters of the solar parks at Paivalike and Ambalathara are providing dynamic reactive power support to the KSEB grid? if, not steps have to be taken for ensuring dynamic reactive power support.*

The SLDC has already addressed the need for dynamic reactive power support from solar and wind generators to the grid. However, upon examining the reactive power generation details of Paivalika and Ambalathara solar parks, SCADA data reveals that, the reactive power is injected into the grid during generation period and the same is drawn from grid during low voltage period. In response, SLDC has directed generators to provide reactive power support based on grid conditions and submit monthly compliance reports to ensure grid stability.

- b. *The maximum and minimum voltage recorded at Mylatty 220 kV, Vidyanagar 110kV, Kubanoor 110 kV and Ambalathara 33 kV substations for the month of March, April, May, June, July, August of 2024 with date and time.*

KSEB Limited submitted the requested details

- c. *The maximum and minimum voltage recorded at 11kV feeders feeding the Ananthapuram industrial area for the months of March, April, May, June, July, August of 2024 with date and time.*

KSEB Limited submitted the requested details

- d. *Maximum demands recorded in the 33 kV Ananthapuram S/s and 11 kV feeder feeding the industrial area during the above months.*

KSEB Limited submitted the requested details

- e. *Details of new HT & LT Connections given and additional load connected in the industrial area during the year 2024 and total power requirement of the industrial area.*



<b>Details of new HT &amp; LT connections &amp; additional load connected in the Ananthapuram Industrial Area in the year 2024.</b>					
<b>Type of connection</b>	<b>No. of new connections</b>	<b>Connected Load (kW)</b>	<b>Contract Demand (kVA)</b>	<b>Addl. Load Connected (kW)</b>	<b>Total Power Requirement in kVA</b>
<b>HT</b>	4	3468	2380	0	15000 (As per data from the industrial department)
<b>LT</b>	11	1200	-	327	
<b>Total</b>	15	4668	2380	327	

- f. Number and duration of scheduled and unscheduled interruptions on the 11 kV feeder (s) feeding the Ananthapuram Industrial area for the months of March, April, May, June, July & August of 2024*

KSEB Limited submitted the requested details.

- g. The status of construction of the MCMV line from Mylatty to Vidyanagar and steps taken for speeding up the work and the date of completion of the work*

The status of construction of the MCMV line from Mylatty to Vidyanagar and steps taken for speeding up the work and the date of completion of the work are detailed below.

- Total length of the line - 12 km
- Number of tower locations - 31 Nos
- Tower foundations completed - 22 Nos
- Tower erection completed - 11 Nos
- Stringing completed - 668 mtrs

The stringing of the next 700 meters of the 220kV line is almost complete, and the stringing of the 110kV line is currently in progress. The construction of Mylatty-Vidyanagar MCMV line is being carried out after bypassing a stretch of 3 km length out of the total 12 km at a time for avoiding supply interruptions. This work can only be carried out after bypassing every 3 km as mentioned above. There is no alternate method for speeding up the work as of now as it is very difficult to get continuous shutdown of the line. The expected date of completion of the work by making bypass arrangement for 3 km in four stretches is December 2026. KSEB Limited also submitted the schedule of the work.

KSEB Limited further informed that as directed by the Hon'ble Commission during the hearings, the Deputy Chief Engineer, TRAC visited the site on 19.10.2024 along with the Chief Engineer (Distribution) North Malabar, Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Kannur, Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Kasargod and other senior officers of Distribution, Transmission and TransGrid wings and the contractor representative responsible for the transmission line works and 110kV bypassing work. There are 2-3 critical areas where the bypassing work is not possible due to the geographical restrictions and highway construction works. Hence it is required to get sufficient power from Karnataka for feeding Northern area of Kasargod for taking continuous shutdown for the Mylatty-Vidyanagar feeder. This was discussed with the CMD, Director, Chief Engineer (Transmission) North and Chief Engineer (T& SO). During the last SRPC meeting conducted on 30.11.2024, the matter was discussed with CMD of Karnataka utility and proactive steps are taken to arrange an additional 50MW power from Karnataka side for availing continuous shutdown of Mylatty – Vidyanagar feeder, for next one year. In a meeting convened by the Director (Transmission & System Operation) with M/s Omicron to review the progress, the firm cited poor financial position and requested rate revision, price variation of materials and amendment to payment conditions.

- h. Plan for providing the temporary bypass network sufficiently away from the existing line route, so as to avoid switching off the line during erection and stringing of the new line, at least in the remaining stretches.*

The existing line is passing through thickly populated and vegetated area. Emergency Restoration System (ERS) using 110kV covered conductor of 3 km is already drawn through the extreme possible end of the RoW considering the safety aspects as per Regulations. Shifting the ERS further away from the RoW is almost impossible. So, the possibility of avoiding switching off the line during erection of towers and stringing of line in the remaining stretch is remote in view of the safety aspects

- i. The progress of construction of the 400 kV transmission line from Udupi to Kasargod and the 400 kV Substation at Karindalam in Kasargod District.*

The status of the construction of 400kV Uduppi-Kasargod transmission line and 400kV Substation at Kasargod, as reported by M/s UKTL is given below.

*Line work in Kerala side*

Total no. of tower locations in Kerala side - 101

- Foundations completed - 93
- Tower erection in progress - 82
- Forest permission required from MoEF&CC - 08 locations (in forest area)

As per the Govt order dated 06.04.2024, the Revenue Department has transferred 17.073 hectare of land for compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest land to be diverted for the construction of Uduppi-Kasargod 400kV line. The Divisional Forest officer granted permission for tower construction as per order dated 15.10.2024. The UKTL company informed that tree cutting and foundation work has begun and is ongoing in forest area. Line stringing works started at Karindalam area in Kasargod district and completed 840 meter (out of total 47 km) and now the work is in stalled condition due to severe protests from land owners demanding higher compensation. Discussions are in progress at Government level with the various stakeholders to arrive at a consensus on the compensation package.

*Line work in Karnataka side*

- Total no. of tower locations in Karnataka side - 177 nos
- RoW clearance done - 35 nos
- Tower foundations completed - 30 nos
- Tower erection completed - 8 nos
- Line stringing (total length 68 km) could not be started due to severe protests by land owners and litigations

*400kV Substation work at Karindalam*

- Civil work - 100%
- Equipment erection - 100%
- CEA charging approval received on 31.10.2023
- 2 Nos of 400kV bay extension at 400kV UPCL yard test charged on 30.07.2023

- j. *Whether there is any monitoring system in KSEBL for monitoring the progress of the above work.*

The Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Kannur is designated as the nodal officer to monitor the work of M/s UKTL in Kerala side. Even though M/s UKTL has been requested to share the details of activities and hurdles, if any, to the nodal officer on a weekly basis, this is not being done so far.

- k. *The recorded Maximum Demand of the Traction substation at Uppala for the last six months and the Contract Demand.*

The contract demand of Railway Traction substation at Uppala is 5 MVA only. Railways is drawing more than their contract demand. Also, during the starting of locomotive engine, the drawal of power is three times more, which leads to frequent tripping of the source Manjeswaram-Kubanoor feeder.

KSEB Limited submitted that, it is taking all possible measures to address the challenges in providing reliable and quality power to consumers in Kasaragod and other affected regions. Despite numerous constraints, including land acquisition issues, forest clearances, technical limitations, and contractor-related challenges, KSEBL is actively pursuing solutions to expedite ongoing projects such as the Mylatty-Vidyanagar MCMV line and the Seethangoli 110 kV Substation. Furthermore, steps are being taken to strengthen grid stability through dynamic reactive power support, enhanced monitoring systems, and improved coordination with stakeholders, including additional power procurement from Karnataka. KSEBL remains committed to ensuring uninterrupted power supply, addressing consumer grievances, and fulfilling its responsibility to the consumers of the state.

- 8) The third hearing on the petition was conducted on 06/02/2025 at 2:30 PM at the Court Hall of KSERC in hybrid mode. The following representatives from KSEB Limited participated in the hearing on behalf of KSEB Limited:

- Smt. Santhi K, Chief Engineer, Transmission North
- Sri Binu A Palappillil, Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Kannur
- Smt. Sheeba K.S., Chief Engineer, Transgrid
- Sri Suresh V, Deputy Chief Engineer, Transgrid
- Sri Sureshkumar SB, Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Kasaragod

- (a) The petitioner, AIDA, raised concerns over the lack of a decision on their petition regarding the supply of quality power with minimal interruptions in the industrial area. They highlighted ongoing power disruptions that severely impact continuous process industries. AIDA requested the formation of a committee with representatives from both AIDA and KSEB Limited, under the Commission's supervision, to ensure stable power supply.

Regarding the Mylatty-Vidya Nagar MCMV line work, which started in 2019, KSEBL initially projected completion by August 2025 but later extended it to December 2026, which AIDA attributed to KSEBL's laxity. AIDA also disputed KSEBL's claim that there were no significant voltage issues, arguing that the data used was insufficient. They further

pointed out KSEBL's failure to appoint a nodal officer for the MCMV project and expressed doubts about the timely completion of the new Seethangoli substation within the stated 18-month period. In light of these concerns, AIDA urged the Commission to take immediate action.

- (b) The Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Kasaragod, stated that the prospective power requirement for the industrial area, as per the Industrial Department is 15,000 kVA. Currently, the total contract demand of existing connections in the industrial area stands at 2,380 kVA. Several new HT and LT services are being added, and KSEBL is supplying power to the area through a single-circuit 33 kV feeder. All substations from Mylatty to Manjeshwar (northward) are fed through single-circuit 110 kV feeders. Additionally, all the 33 kV feeders from the 110 kV substations to the 33 kV substations are also single-circuit feeders. A major challenge in the northern part of Kasaragod is the lack of redundancy, as both the Mylatty-Vidyanagar feeder (Kerala supply) and the Konaje-Manjeshwar feeder (Karnataka supply) are single-circuit feeders. These feeders struggle to meet the summer peak load, and in the event of a fault in either, supply restoration is possible only after fault clearance.

To address these issues, transmission-side works need to be completed at the earliest. The Deputy Chief Engineer provided details of the power interruptions that occurred in the industrial area during December 2024 & January 2025 and emphasized the urgent need to strengthen and upgrade the transmission network in Kasaragod district to effectively resolve the concerns raised by AIDA.

- (c) The Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Kannur, stated that the first reach of the Mylatty-Vidyanagar feeder upgradation work was completed and energized on December 7, 2024. Work on the next reach has commenced, and tree-cutting for the bypass arrangement has been completed. The bypass is expected to be finished by February 25, 2025. Following this, the second reach, including MCMV tower erection, foundation, and stringing, is scheduled for completion by May 31, 2025. The bypass arrangement for the third reach will be completed by June 2025, with the third reach expected to be finished by September 2025. For the fourth reach, the bypass arrangement is planned for completion by October 15, 2025, and the entire project is targeted for completion by **15<sup>th</sup> of December, 2025**.

Regarding the Seethangoli substation, two landowners have agreed to provide their land for the project. The land documents have been forwarded to the Board HQ for approval, and work will commence upon receiving the necessary sanction.

- (d) The Commission then reviewed the progress of the construction of the 400 kV transmission line from Udupi to Karindalam in Kasargod (Projects under TBCB route carried out by UKTL) and Payyampally in Wynad to Karindalam (North Green Corridor Project). The Chief Engineer, Transmission North, shared preliminary information on the progress of the works and informed that the second work is being supervised and monitored by the Chief Engineer, Transgrid of KSEB Limited. The Chief Engineer, Transgrid, along with the Deputy Chief Engineer, O/o CE Transgrid, also joined the meeting to provide updates and share relevant information.

The Chief Engineer, Transgrid, and Deputy Chief Engineer, Transgrid, Shoranur, informed that the 115 km, 400 kV Quad Moose line from Udupi to Kasaragod, along with the Karindalam 400/220 kV GIS substation, is being constructed by M/s UKTL on the TBCB route. Of this, 47 km falls within Kerala. Out of the 101 tower locations in Kerala, 99 foundations have been completed, and 91 towers have been erected. However, two locations fall within a forest area, causing delays.

The major issue delaying the project is related to the compensation package. To address this, a meeting was held on January 22, 2025, chaired by the Honorable Minister for Electricity at the Niyamasabha Conference Hall, attended by all MLAs from Kasaragod, affected parties, and representatives of the action committee. During the meeting, a compensation package was introduced, which the landowners agreed to in principle. The Deputy Chief Engineer, Transgrid, informed that M/s UKTL has committed to completing the Kerala portion of the Udupi-Karindalam 400 kV feeder work by May 2025.

Regarding progress in Karnataka:

- In Dakshina Kannada District, with a line length of 62 route kilometers, 31 tower foundations have been completed, and tower erection have been done at 22 locations out of 161.
- In Udupi District, with a line length of 6 route kilometers, 8 foundations have been completed out of 16 tower locations, and tower erection have been done at two locations.

The compensation issue in Karnataka has been resolved, and Kerala is now adopting the same compensation package as provided to landowners in Karnataka.

For the Karindalam-Payyampally 124 kilometers, work is being carried out on a turnkey basis, supervised by the Transgrid wing of KSEB Limited. The line route includes 359 tower locations, with:

- 108 tower foundations completed
- Tower erection completed at 68 locations

The major hurdles for the project remain forest clearance and land compensation issues. To settle the disputes raised by land owners along the route, a follow-up meeting will be convened next month by the Honorable Minister for Electricity to discuss the extension of the same compensation package to land owner of this route as that given for landowners along the Udupi-Karindalam line. The line is targeted for completion by December 2025, provided the Right of Way (RoW) issues are resolved.

- (e) During the hearing, the Commission directed KSEB Limited to closely monitor the progress of works and submit monthly updates on the work progress, including photographs. PERT/CPM charts should be prepared for the following three projects and submitted to KSERC with the agreed timelines mentioned in the preceding paragraphs:

1. Mylatty-Vidya Nagar MCMV line
2. Udupi-Karindalam (Kasargod) 400 kV line
3. Karindalam (Kasargod)-Payyampally (Wynad) 400 kV line (North Green Corridor Project)

Chief Engineer (Transmission) North was directed to study the necessity of construction of an alternate 33 kV feeder from Vidya Nagar to Ananthapuram and if it is required urgently, action shall be taken for completing the work along with the Mylatty-Vidya Nagar upgradation work. If funding for the project cannot be met from RDSS funds, an alternative funding option from KSEB Limited's own resources should be explored.

Additionally, the lack of dynamic reactive power compensation from the solar plants at Paivalike and Ambalathara shall be resolved and reported to the Commission. KSEB Limited must ensure the availability of adequate quality power at the Ananthapuram Industrial Area to meet its future power requirements, thereby supporting industrial growth in the Ananthapuram development area.

## **9) Analysis & Decision of the Commission:**

- (a) The instant petition has been filed by the Ananthapuram Industrial Development Association (AIDA) seeking quality power supply with minimal interruptions in the industrial area. The Association also highlighted momentary power disruptions that severely impact continuous process industries.

To address these issues, AIDA proposed the timely completion of two key projects:

- Speeding up the stopped upgradation of the 110 kV feeder from Mylatty to Vidyanagar to an MCMV line.
- Installation of a new 110 kV substation at Seethangoli, near to the industrial park.

In its counter affidavit, KSEB Limited stated that there are no significant low voltage issues or interruptions in the park area, except during the shutdown of the 110 kV Mylatty-Vidyanagar feeder for upgradation work.

KSEB Limited refuted the petitioner's claims, stating that work on the Mylatty-Vidyanagar 110kV line is ongoing and was never halted. The North Malabar Region is primarily powered by the 220kV Mylatty and Ambalathara substations and 110kV supply from Karnataka, with additional support from 50 MW solar plants at Ambalathara and Paivalike. The Konaje-Manjeswaram 110kV line and the Mylatty-Vidyanagar 110kV line face loading constraints during summer.

The Mylatty-Vidyanagar line upgradation to MCMV was sanctioned in 2018 and awarded to M/s Omicron in 2019 but faced delays due to shutdown restrictions and lack of alternate feeders. The 12 km stretch was divided into four 3 km sections to ease execution. The first bypass arrangement was completed in March 2023 at a cost of Rs. 4.7 Cr, but financial issues with the contractor delayed the first stretch to March 2024. Shutdowns were restricted to 5 hours daily instead of 8, slowing progress. So far, 11 towers and 0.66 km of stringing have been completed, with full project completion expected by December 2026.

KSEBL is also exploring additional power procurement from Karnataka to facilitate longer shutdowns for quicker execution. Currently, the northern region (Vatakara to Manjeswaram) is supplied through two 220kV feeders from Areekode and a 110kV feeder from Konaje (Karnataka). However, with regional demand at 700-900 MW and the Areekode feeder capacity limited to 600 MW, voltage fluctuations persist, particularly due to railway traction load at Uppala.

To resolve these issues, UKTL's Udupi-Kasaragod 400kV transmission project is progressing, with the Karinthalam 400kV substation already completed. Upon commissioning this project and its downstream network, Kasaragod's power issues will be resolved.

Additionally, KSEBL has proposed a Rs. 394.15 Cr capex plan to the Commission for strengthening the distribution network in Kasaragod, including HT line construction and new distribution transformers.



- b) Kasaragod, traditionally known for its agriculture and tourism, is witnessing rapid industrialization driven by infrastructure development, power projects, and government initiatives. Upon reviewing the submission of KSEB Limited, it is evident that Kasaragod District is currently facing power supply issues due to inadequate transmission and distribution networks. The Ananthapuram Industrial Development Area, which is fed from the Vidyanagar 110 kV substation, experiences frequent interruptions due to the ongoing upgradation work on the Mylatty-Vidyanagar feeder. Additionally, effective back feeding could not be arranged due to the unavailability of sufficient power from Karnataka.

To promote new industrial investments and address the concerns regarding poor power quality, there is an urgent need to fast-track the Mylatty-Vidyanagar MCMV line work and complete it on a war footing. Considering the rapid growth in power demand, KSEB Limited must strengthen the transmission and distribution network and implement a proper monitoring mechanism to ensure the timely completion of the Udupi-Kasaragod ISTS line. The 400 kV GIS substation at Karindalam is in its final stages of construction, and the 400 kV transmission line from Payyampally in Wynad to Karindalam must be expedited to improve the power situation in Kannur and Kasaragod Districts. However, the line work is not progressing as per schedule due to landowner protests and forest clearance issues. During the last hearing on 06/02/2025, the Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Kannur, assured the Commission that the Mylatty-Vidyanagar upgradation work would be completed by 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2025. The Commission considers that the commissioning of the MCMV line will provide significant relief to consumers in the industrial area. However, to meet future power demands, the timely completion of the ISTS line from Udupi to Karindalam (Kasaragod) and commissioning of 400 KV substation at Karindalam is essential. Timely commissioning of the 400 kV line from Payyampally (Wynad) to Karindalam is also required since it acts as a 400 KV ring main system in the northern region. Additionally, along with the commissioning of the 400 kV substation at Karindalam, the necessary downstream works for power evacuation to nearby 220 kV substations must be completed. The construction of an alternate 33 kV feeder to ensure redundancy for the 33 kV substation at Ananthapuram must also to be explored. Furthermore, the Commission considers it urgent to resolve the reactive power related issues from the solar parks at Paivalike and Ambalathara on a priority basis. The Commission notes that the timely completion of transmission and distribution works is crucial to addressing power issues in Kasaragod District. To ensure that these projects are completed as per schedule, effective coordination and supervision from

higher officials is essential. Additionally, the availability of materials, manpower, and funds, along with efficient liaising, is necessary to prevent delays in project execution.

In view of this, the Commission considers it necessary to assign the following officers with designated responsibilities to oversee the expedited completion of these projects on a war footing.

<b>Sl No.</b>	<b>Role/Responsibilities</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>
<b>1</b>	Monitor the construction of Udupi-Karindalam (Kasargod) 400 KV line work & progress reporting	CE (Transgrid)/ Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Kannur (nodal officer)
<b>2</b>	Monitor the construction of Karindalam (Kasargod)-Payyampally (wayanad) 400 KV line work, progress reporting & commissioning	Chief Engineer, Transgrid
<b>3</b>	Monitor the downstream works of 400 KV substation, Karindalam	Chief Engineer, Transgrid
<b>4</b>	Monitor the upgradation of Mylatty-Vidyanagar 110 KV SC feeder to MCMV feeder, progress reporting & commissioning	CE (Transmission North)/Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Kannur.
<b>5</b>	Follow up the land acquisition process for the new substation at Seethangoli and for taking steps for advance possession, if required	Chief Engineer (Transmission North)
<b>6</b>	Exploring the immediate requirement of constructing additional feeder to 33 KV substation, Ananthapuram and if necessary, prioritizing the work including in the normal development plan of KSEB Limited	Chief Engineer (Transmission North)
<b>7</b>	Monitor the special distribution package for distribution at Kasargod district and progress reporting	Deputy Chief Engineer (Electrical Circle), Kasargod

#### **10) Orders of the Commission:**

In view of the facts and circumstances stated above, deliberations during the last hearing, provisions in the Electricity Act, 2003, Rules and Regulations made thereunder, the Commission issues the following interim orders:

1. KSEB Limited shall furnish the PERT/CPM chart for the following three projects with their respective time schedules as concurred in the last hearing on 06/02/2025, within one month from the date of this order:
  - Upgradation work on the Mylatty-Vidya Nagar feeder
  - 400 kV line construction from Karindalam to Payyampally (North Green Corridor Project)
  - Downstream network works of 400 KV substation at Karindalam
2. KSEB Limited shall collect the PERT/CPM chart for the Udupi-Karindalam 400 kV line work with timelines from M/s UKTL and submit it to the Commission within one month from the date of this order.
3. KSEB Limited shall resolve the reactive power issues at the solar parks in Paivalike and Ambalathara and report the action taken report to the Commission within one month from the date of this order.
4. KSEB Limited shall submit monthly reports to the Commission on the physical and financial progress of the projects mentioned in sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) of this order.
5. KSEB Limited shall submit a report within one month from the date of this order on the necessity and actions taken for constructing an additional feeder to the 33 kV substation at Ananthapuram to ensure redundancy of supply.
6. The Commission further directs that the officers listed in paragraph 10(b) of this order shall be responsible for close monitoring, supervision, overall coordination and progress reporting. Any lapse in fulfilling these assigned responsibilities will result in penal actions under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003.
7. The Commission directs the responsible officers to closely monitor the progress of transmission and distribution works. If any impediments arise, corrective measures must be implemented with the support of higher officials. Any challenges or delays in executing these works, along with the actions taken to resolve them and steps to ensure timely completion, must be promptly reported to the Commission.

Ordered accordingly.

Sd/-  
**T.K. Jose**  
**Chairman**

Sd/-  
**Adv A.J. Wilson**  
**Member**

Sd/-  
**B Pradeep**  
**Member**

Approved for issue

Sd/-  
**C.R.Satheesh Chandran**  
**Secretary**