

# Power & Functions of Inspectorate of Electricity, Assam

## 1. OVERVIEW:

Inspectorate of Electricity, Assam, under the Power (Electricity) Department, Government of Assam is a Directorate Level establishment with the Chief Electrical Inspector -cum- Adviser as the Head. There is no Plan Scheme in so far as the Electrical Inspectorate is concerned. This Inspectorate is not executing any project work presently, but is concerned with administration of certain provisions of the Electricity Acts and Regulations made there under to ensure safety.

The Inspectorate is one of the oldest directorate of the Govt. of Assam, originally started functioning since 1930s. After shifting of capital from Shillong, it started functioning in Guwahati since last 47 Years. Now, the Head Quarter Office of the Inspectorate is situated at its own office accommodation at 1<sup>st</sup> floor, West End Block of HOUSEFED Complex, Dispur, Guwahati – 781 006, Assam.

The Inspectorate of Electricity also has four (4) Zonal Offices at Silchar, Tezpur, Jorhat and Dibrugarh. The entire Inspectorate is under NON-PLAN and there is no Plan Scheme in so far as it is concerned.

The CEIA is the Chief Electrical Inspector and Addl.CEIA/Dy.CEIs/Sr.EIs are Electrical Inspectors under provision of the Electricity Act, 2003. Similarly, they are Chief Inspector and Inspectors of Lifts and Escalators under provision of the Assam Lifts and Escalators Act, 2006.

The CEIA has certain Advisory functions such as technical scrutiny and forwarding of proposals for load sanction (above 2000 KW) received from the APDCL to the Govt., as required under the Assam Electrical Energy (Regulation and Supply) Order, 1977. The CEIA may also require to give technical opinion/advice in matters related to Electricity Act and Regulations or any other matter connected with generation, transmission and/or utilization of electricity as may be referred by the State Govt. for scrutiny on its behalf.

This Inspectorate is also the State Designated Agency (SDA) under the Energy Conservation Act (EC Act), 2001 for the State of Assam to co-ordinate, regulate and enforce the provisions of the Energy Conservation Act within the State. In tandem with and through the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), the SDA act as buffer organization between the State Government and the Central Government in the matter of Energy Efficiency and Conservation within term of the EC Act.

The Inspectorate of Electricity has jurisdiction throughout the State, excluding the works belonging to Defense, Railways and Central Government installations.

The mission and objective of the Inspectorate is to make an Accident Free State from use of electricity and lifts and escalators apart from use of energy in practicable efficient manner to avoid losses.

Functions of this Inspectorate are thus interloped to achieve the objectives of making this State an Accident Free State that consumes Energy only in Efficient Way.

2. **FUNCTIONS:** The functions of the Inspectorate are as below:

**2.1 Administration of Electricity Act, 2003 and Central Electricity Authority (Measures Relating To Safety and Electric Supply) Regulations, 2010:** (Formerly Indian Electricity Rules, 1956, since repealed):

The Electricity Act, 2003 and Rules/Regulations made thereunder provide for safety and related Rules/Regulations to be followed by organizations/personnel involved in Generation, Supply/Transmission, Distribution and Utilization of Electrical Energy, with an objective to provide safety to Human/Animal Life and equipments/properties. In order to enforce the Act and Rules/Regulations the Inspectorate discharges the following duties:

- a) Inspection of installations of voltage exceeding 650 Volts and Multistoried Complexes for the purpose of ensuring safety and accord approval for their commissioning, as required under Electricity Rules/Regulations.
- b) Periodical inspection of electrical installations of EHV/HV installations and Lifts and Escalators etc.
- c) Scrutiny of and according approval of drawings of electrical installations, indicating the method of construction and layout of electrical equipments/switchgears/earthing, EHV/HV installations and Multistoried Complexes as per the Regulations and Codes.
- d) To investigate Electrical Accidents and submit Enquiry Report to the Government suggesting/insisting upon remedial measures on the concerned authorities to eliminate the occurrence of such electrical accident from similar antecedents.

**2.2 Administration of certain provisions of the Assam Cinema (Regulation) Rules, 1960 made under The Assam Cinema (Regulation) Act, 1960:**

Under provisions of this regulation, permanent Cinema Halls are to be inspected and tested from this Inspectorate every year for the purpose of issuing Electrical Safety Certificates. Similar, Safety Certificates are to be issued for Temporary Cinema halls. The Cinema Operator's License are issued and renewed by the Inspectorate.

**2.3 Administration of the provisions of the Assam Electrical Licensing Board Regulation, 1992:**

The Electrical Licensing Board is constituted by the State Govt. under the above regulation with the CEIA as the ex-officio Chairman and one Senior Electrical Inspector as the Member Secretary. The main functions of the Board are:

- (a) Receiving, scrutinizing and processing the applications for the issue and yearly renewal of Electrical Contractor's License to Electrical Contractor.
- (b) Receiving and processing of applications pertaining to grant of Certificate and Permits to Supervisors and Workmen respectively and renewal of those.
- (c) Conducting Examination for issue of Supervisor's Certificate of Competency for the Electrical Supervisors and Wiremen, every year.

- (d) Preparation for issue of Certificates to Supervisor and Permit.
- (e) Enquiry in to malpractices in electrical works and disputes between the Licensed Electrical Contractor and the prospective/existing consumers of Electricity about contravention of Licensing Rules.

#### **2.4 Administration of provisions of the Assam Lifts and Escalators Rules, 2010 made under the Assam Lifts and Escalators Act, 2006:**

As a large number of Electric lifts have been installed in the multistoried buildings in Guwahati and other cities and towns of Assam, in order to ensure safety from use of lifts and escalators, the Government of Assam made the Assam Lifts and Escalators Rules, 2010 to make statutory provisions to regulate the installation, maintenance and safe operation of lifts and escalators within the state of Assam.

#### **2.5 Administration of provisions of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001:**

The Government of Assam designated the CEIA as the SDA to co-ordinate, regulate and enforce provisions of the EC Act 2001 within the State of Assam. Accordingly some works relating to Energy Conservation were carried out under fund assistance from BEE, GoI. The Government of Assam constituted the 'Assam State Energy Conservation Fund' as required under the Section 16 of the EC Act, 2001.

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