

THE KERALA ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY BILL

A BILL to provide for the exploitation of alternative sources of energy in the State on a large scale.

Preamble. — WHEREAS the rate of consumption of electricity in the State is increasing day by day;

AND WHEREAS the production of sufficient electricity is essential for the development of the State;

AND WHEREAS the Kerala is rich in alternative sources of energy;

AND WHEREAS the exploitation of the alternative source of energy is necessary for the development of the State;

BE it enacted in the Fifty-ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows:

1. Short title, extent and commencement.—(1) This Act may be called the Kerala Energy Self-Sufficiency Act, —

(2) It shall come into force on such date as may be notified by the Government.

(3) It extends to the whole of Kerala.

2. Energy from alternative sources.—(1) The Government shall promote the production of electricity from natural sources of energy like water, wind, sunlight, waves and waste.

(2) The Kerala State Electricity Board shall use its resources and relevant expertise to prepare strategies and implement them with high priority for the purpose of producing energy from Waterfalls, Water storage, Wind power, Tidal power, Solar power and Garbage or other waste which could be converted into Biogas or Electricity in an ecologically friendly manner.

(3) The Board shall prepare and submit an annual report to the legislature on the measures taken for energy generation from the source stated in sub-section (2).

(4) The Government shall issue appropriate direction to the Board for the purposes stated in the above sub-section and in case of neglect or dereliction, entrust it to alternative bodies for carrying out energy strategies from the natural resources available in the State.

3. Industrial establishment to produce electricity.—(1) Every industrial establishment public or private in the State shall make endeavor to produce electricity for use in their establishment from any of the alternative sources of energy.

(2) The Kerala State Electricity Board shall provide all the necessary technical support to the industrial establishment for production of electricity from alternative sources.

(3) There shall also be agreement with the Board for the purchase of electricity from the industrial establishment in cases where they produce more electricity than the actual use in their establishments.

Statement of Objects and Reasons

The energy needs of the people of Kerala are met mostly by hydro-electric power generated out of water resources dependent entirely on the regularity of monsoons and adequate rainfall. Power shortage has become common when monsoons fail and reservoirs become empty. Power is essential for the development of industries in the State and for the various needs of the people. It is not as if there are no alternative sources of energy. Energy can be generated from Wind Power, Tidal Power, and more so from Solar Power, Garbage and other waste which could be converted into Electricity or Biogas. Some advanced countries have developed mechanism to harness the Solar Power for manifold purposes which can be adopted in this State also. It is to ensure self-sufficiency and promotion of production of energy from alternative sources that the Bill is proposed.
