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# TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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## Part VI—Section 2

Notifications of interest to a section of the public issued by Heads of Departments, etc.

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### NOTIFICATIONS BY HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, ETC.

### TAMIL NADU ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION, CHENNAI

AMENDMENTS TO CONSUMER GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL FORUM AND ELECTRICITY OMBUDSMAN REGULATIONS, 2004.

(No. TNERC/CGRF & EO/ 06-12)

(Lr. No. TNERC/Legal/1360/D.No.1683/2023, 11-12-2023)

No.VI(2)/25/2023.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (5), (6), (7) of section 42 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (Central Act 36 of 2003), read with Section 181 of the said Act, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission hereby makes the following amendments to the Regulations for Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum and Electricity Ombudsman 2004, the draft of the same having been previously published as required by sub-section (3) of Section 181 of the said Act.

2. It shall come into force from the date of publication in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette.

AMENDMENTS

In the said Regulations; -

### 1. In regulation 3, in sub-regulation (4), the clause (c) shall be substituted with the following, namely:-

"(c) Another member shall be a graduate from a recognized university and must possess an experience of not less than two years from registered society of NGO or consumer organization or being a consumer activist for a minimum period of two years. He shall be nominated by the Commission."

2. In sub-regulation 6(2), the term "Annexure-I" shall be substituted with the term "Appendix- I".

### 3. In regulation 7, for sub-regulation (7), the following sub-regulation shall substituted, namely:-

"(7) On receipt of the remarks from the Licensee or otherwise, the Forum shall initiate enquiry in regard to the complaint after serving a notice of the said enquiry on the complainant and the Licensee concerned, mentioning "date, time and venue" of the enquiry by registered / speed post / special messenger / e-mail / SMS and Licensee's. web portal. The Forum shall complete the said enquiry expeditiously and pass appropriate order on the complaint within a period of thirty days and in any case not exceeding forty five days from the date of receipt of complaint by the Forum."

4. In Regulation 8, the term "Annexure III" shall be substituted with the term "Appendix-III" .

5. For the Regulation 9 and entries related thereto, the following Regulation and entries related thereto shall be substituted, namely:-

#### "9. Monitoring by Licensee / Commission

The Distribution Licensee shall give wide publicity of the Forum office, its complete address, e-meil id, contact details and procedure for registration of grievances tbrough, print and electronic media, Licensee website, notice boards of its various offices and consumers' electricity bills. The Distribution Licensee shall provide access to consumers through dedicated web portal, mobile app, etc., on the status of complaints raised.

The Distribution Licensee shall set up a mechanism for monitoring of the grievances redressal through a web portal.

The performance of CGRF shall also be monitored by the Commission. The Licensee shall furnish quarterly reports to the Commission and Ombudsman, the consumer grievance related particulars showing the extent to which the time schedule has been followed in redressing the consumer grievances. Such particulars shall be submitted in the format specified in Appendix-IIA and Appendix-IIB of this Regulation.

Above particulars shall also be updated simultaneously in the CGRF web portal of the Commission".

6. In sub-regulation 17(1), the terms "Annexure-III" shall be substituted with the terms "Appendix- III".

7. In sub-regulation 17(2), the term "Annexure-III" shall be substituted with the term "Appendix- III".

8. The Annexure-I and the entries related thereto of the said regulation shall be substituted with the following, namely:-

"Appendix-I CONSUMER REDRESSAL FORUM COMPLAINT FORMAT
(Please tick( $\checkmark$ ) in the box whichever is applicable) DATE:
1) SERVICE CONNECTION RELATED
i) For New Service: Date of Application LT HT
Domestic Commercial Industrial Agriculture Others
ii) For existing service: Service Connection No:
Replacement of     Metering     Disconnection /       Service lines     related     reconnection
Addition/reductionConversion toShifting of serviceof demand3 phase
Name Transfer Tariff Change Billing related
Deficiency in Other Services Complaints
Date of representation
Date of payment made if any
iii) Quality of power supply:
Low voltage Voltage Fluctuation Frequent Supply Interruption

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	Addres	From (Date)	From (Time)	To (Da		To (Time)	
2)	OTHER	COMPLAINTS					
	a.	Discourtesy					
	b.	Denial of requisite Information					
	С.	Wanton delay on ac	count of				
	Reg	gistration of application	on	Ac	ceptance of p	ayment	
		Fixing of meter		Eff	ecting service	connection	
3)	DESCRI COMPL	PTIVE DETAILS OF AINT	THE		(Add s	sheets if required	1)
4)		AINANT'S DETAILS		Ĺ			
				Telephone / Mobile No	,		
				E-mail id			
						Signature of th	e Complainant
	ii) Compl	ate sheets if necessa laint will be assured t ete postal address of	hat there will be no	harassment for g	iving this com		
			FO	R OFFICE USE			
Grievand	ce No			ame and Designation horized person	on of		
Date of r	receipt						
Division						Signature	"

## 9. The Annexure-II and the entries related thereto of the said regulation shall be substituted with the following, namely:-

		Nature of complaints											
SI. No	Status of the complaints of grievance	Application related/ Delay in effecting supply	Quality of Supply	Supply interru- ptions	Metering related	Billing related	Tariff related	Others   Total					
1.	Opening balance at the beginning of the quarter. (complaints for which hearing to be conducted plus complaints for which hearing conducted but orders to be passed)												
2.	Received during the quarter												
3.	Rejected during the quarter as per Regulation 7(2) and 7(3).												
4.	Nett total (1+2) -3												
5.	Orders passed during the quarter within the time stipulated in sub-regulation 7(7).												
6.	Orders passed during the quarter beyond stipulated time.												
7.	Closing balance at end of the quarter. 4-(5+6)												
8.	Reason for delay in disposal with date war break up details							for each	case				

### "Appendix - IIA CGRF- COMPLAINT STATUS MONITORING FORMAT

Appendix- IIB

### **CGRF - IMPLEMENTATION OF REDRESSAL STATUS MONITORING FORMAT**

			Nature of Grievances											
SI. No	Status of implementation of CGRF orders	Application related/ Delay in effecting supply	Quality of Supply	Supply interruptions	Metering related	Billing related	Tariff related	Others	Total					
1.	Opening balance at the beginning of the quarter (orders passed before the quarter but pending to be implemented)													
2.	Orders passed during the quarter.													
3.	Total (1+2)													
4.	Orders implemented during the quarter (for total cases mentioned in SI.No.3)													
5.	Closing balance at the end of the quarter. (Total cases for which orders passed but pending to be implemented) (3-4)													

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6. Reason for the delay in implementing the CGRF orders mentioned in SI. No.5 for each case and action taken with date war break up details from the date of CGRF order.

10. In the said Regulations, in Annexure-III, the heading "Annexure-III" shall be read as "Appendix-III".

(By Order of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission)

Chennai-600 032, 6th October 2023. C. VEERAMANI, Secretary, Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission.

### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Ministry of Power, Govt. of India has issued Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 which, *inter alia,* includes following provisions:

- 1. The independent member of the Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF) to be nominated by the State Commission shall be familiar with the consumer affairs and the qualification and experience of such member would be as per guidelines specified by the State Commission.
- 2. The grievance of the consumer shall be decided by the CGRF within a period of thirty days and in any case not exceeding forty five days, to ensure timely justice to consumers.
- The Distribution Licensee shall give wide publicity of the existence and other details of CGRF, mode of access to CGRF by consumers and the monitoring mechanism of the functioning of the CGRF.
- 4. Apart from the above, the format for complaint to CGRF and monitoring report requires to be modified to set out the nature of grievances prescribed in the Regulation, and for effective monitoring of redressal of grievance.

Accordingly, the amendment seeks to incorporate the above provisions in the Regulations of the Commission.

(By Order of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission)

Chennai-600 032, 6th October 2023. C. VEERAMANI,

Secretary, Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission.

#### ANNEXURE

CONSUMER GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL FORUM AND ELECTRICITY OMBUDSMAN	Í

SI. No.	Existing Regulation	Regulation as amended
1.	3. Constitution of forum(s) for redressal of consumer grievances	<i>3. Constitution of forum(s) for redressal of consumer grievances</i>
	(4) xxx	(4) xxx
	(a) xxx	(a) xxx
	(b) xxx	(b) xxx
	(c) Another member shall be from a registered Society of NGO or a consumer organization or a consumer activist and shall be nominated by the Commission.	(c) Another member shall be a graduate from a recognized university and must possess an experience of not less than two years from registered society of NGO or consumer organization or being a consumer activist for a minimum period of two years. He shall be nominated by the Commission

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2.	6. Grievance filing procedure	6. Grievance filing procedure
	(1) xxx	(1) xxx
	(2) Every grievance to the forum must be submitted in writing to the Chairperson of the forum in the complaint format given in Annexure-I. The complaint can also be lodged through email to the respective forum's email ID (which will be published by them widely). Such mode of complaint can be in text format with the required information and address of the complainant.	(2) Every grievance to the forum must be submitted in writing to the Chairperson of the forum in the complaint format given in Appendix-I. The complaint can also be lodged through email to the respective forum's e-mail id (which will be published by them widely). Such mode of complaint can be in text format with the required information and address of the complainant.
3.	7. Grievance handling procedure for the forum	7. Grievance handling procedure for the Forum
	(1) to (6) xxx	(1) to (6) xxx
	(7) On receipt of the remarks from the licensee or otherwise, the forum shall initiate enquiry in regard to the complaint after serving a notice of the said enquiry on the complainant and the licensee concerned, mentioning "date, time and venue" of the enquiry by registered/speed post/special messenger and complete the said enquiry expeditiously and pass appropriate order on the complaint within a maximum period of fifty days from the date of receipt of complaint by the forum.	(7) On receipt of the remarks from the Licensee or otherwise, the Forum shall initiate enquiry in regard to the complaint after serving a notice of the said enquiry on the complainant and the Licensee concerned, mentioning "date, time and venue" of the enquiry by registered / speed post / special messenger / e-mail / SMS and Licensee's web portal. The Forum shall complete the said enquiry expeditiously and pass appropriate order on the complaint within a period of thirty days and in any case not exceeding forty five days from the date of receipt of complaint by the Forum.
4.	8. Appeal	8. Appeal
	Any consumer aggrieved by an order made by the forum may prefer an appeal against such order to the Electricity Ombudsman within a period of 30 days from the date of the order, in the form as prescribed in Annexure III.	Any consumer aggrieved by an order made by the forum may prefer an appeal against such order to the Electricity Ombudsman within a period of 30 days from the date of the order, in the form as prescribed in Appendix- III.
	Provided that the Electricity Ombudsman may entertain an appeal after the expiry of the said period of 30 days if the Electricity Ombudsman is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not filing it within that period.	Provided that the Electricity Ombudsman may entertain an appeal after the expiry of the said period of 30 days if the Electricity Ombudsman is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not filing it within that period.
	Provided further that the Electricity Ombudsman shall entertain no appeal by any party, who is required to pay any amount in terms of an order of the forum, unless the appellant has deposited in the prescribed manner, twenty five percent of the amount as ordered by the forum.	Provided further that the Electricity Ombudsman shall entertain no appeal by any party, who is required to pay any amount in terms of an order of the forum, unless the appellant has deposited in the prescribed manner, twenty five percent of the amount as ordered by the forum.

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5.	9. Monitoring Report	9. Monitoring by Licensee / Commission
	The forum shall submit a report to the Commission on the category-wise number of complaints received, redressed and pending for every quarter of calendar year in the Format given in Annexure-II.	The Distribution Licensee shall give wide publicity of the Forum office, its complete address, e-mail id, contact details and procedure for registration of grievances through print and electronic media, Licensee website, notice boards of its various offices and consumers' electricity bills. The Distribution Licensee shall provide access to consumers through dedicated web portal, mobile app, etc., on the status of complaints raised.
		The Distribution Licensee shall set up a mechanism for monitoring of the grievances redressal through a web portal.
		The performance of CGRF shall also be monitored by the Commission. The Licensee shall furnish quarterly reports to the Commission and Ombudsman, the consumer grievance related particulars showing the extent to which the time schedule has been followed in redressing the consumer grievances. Such particulars shall be submitted in the format specified in Appendix-IIA and Appendix-IIB of this Regulation.
		Above particulars shall also be updated simultaneously in the CGRF web portal of the Commission.
6.	Procedure for filing a complaint	Procedure for filing a complaint
	<b>17(1).</b> Any consumer, who is aggrieved on the order on the grievance or non-redressal of his grievances by Forum constituted under section 42(5) of the Electricity Act 2003 (Central Act 36 of 2003) by licensees relating to providing of electricity supply, may himself or through his representative make a complaint to the Electricity Ombudsman in the form as in Annexure <b>III.</b> Complaints of common nature (which may be considered applicable to more than one Forum) can be directly brought upto Electricity Ombudsman by any of the consumer or by a State level Consumer Association in the form as prescribed in Annexure <b>III.</b>	<b>17(1)</b> . Any consumer, who is aggrieved on the order on the grievance or non-redressal of his grievances by Forum constituted under section 42(5) of the Electricity Act 2003 (Central Act 36 of 2003) by Licensees relating to providing of electricity supply, may himself or through his representative make a complaint to the Electricity Ombudsman in the form as in Appendix-III. Complaints of common nature (which may be considered applicable to more than one Forum) can be directly brought upto Electricity Ombudsman by any of the consumer or by a State level Consumer Association in the form as prescribed in Appendix-III.
7.	<b>17(2).</b> The complaint shall be in writing duly signed by the complainant or his authorised representative in the form as prescribed in Annexure III.	<b>17(2)</b> . The complaint shall be in writing duly signed by the complainant or his authorised representative in the form as prescribed in Appendix-III.
	<b>Note:</b> The Licensees shall ensure that the address of the Electricity Ombudsman to whom the appeals could be made by the consumers against the order of the Forum are displayed in their premises. The Licensees shall also ensure that copies of these Regulations are made available to the consumers on payment of a cost, which shall not be more than the cost of printing or reproduction.	<b>Note:</b> The Licensees shall ensure that the address of the Electricity Ombudsman to whom the appeals could be made by the consumers against the order of the Forum are displayed in their premises. The Licensees shall also ensure that copies of these Regulations are made available to the consumers on payment of a cost, which shall not be more than the cost of printing or reproduction.

8	ANNEXURE-I CONSUMER REDRESSAL FORUM COMPLAINT FORMAT (Please tick (√) in the box whichever is applicable)	Appendix - I CONSUMER REDRESSAL FORUM COMPLAINT FORMAT (Please tick ( $$ ) in the box whichever is applicable)
		DATE:
	1) SERVICE CONNECTION RELATED	1) SERVICE CONNECTION RELATED
	i) <u>For New Service:</u> Date of Application	i) For New Service: Date of Application
	LT HT Domestic Commercial	LT HT Domestic Commercial
	Industrial Agriculture Dothers	Industrial Agriculture Dothers
	ii) <u>For existing service:</u>	ii) For existing service:
	Service Connection No:	Service Connection No:
	Replacement of Meter Problems Service lines	Replacement of Metering related Service lines
	Meter Capacity Additional Load	Disconnection / Addition / Reduction C
	Conversion to Shifting of Service 3 Phase	Conversion to Shifting of Service 3 Phase
	Name Transfer Tariff Change	Name Transfer 🔲 Tariff Change 🦳
	Billing Problems Deficiency in Other Complaints Services	Billing related Deficiency in Other Complaints Services
	Date of representation	Date of representation
	Date of payment made if any	Date of payment made if any
	iii) Quality of power supply	iii) Quality of power supply:
	Low Voltage Frequent Supply Voltage Fluctuation	Low Voltage Frequent Supply Voltage Fluctuation
	From (Date) From (Time) To (Date) To (Time)	From (Date) From (Time) To (Date) To (Time)
		Address of the location of the existing / proposed
	Address of the location of the existing / proposed service connection (common to all complaints)	service connection (common to all complaints)

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2) OTHER COMPLAINTS	2) OTHER COMPLAINTS
I) Discourtesy     II) Denial of requisite Information	<ul> <li>I) Discourtesy</li> <li>II) Denial of requisite Information</li> </ul>
III) Wanton delay on account of	
Registration of   Acceptance of     Application   payment	III)       Wanton delay on account of         Registration of       Acceptance of         Application       payment
Fixing of meter Effecting service connection iv) Demand / Acceptance of bribe Date Time Place	Fixing of meter Effecting service connection
LICENSEE'S EMPLOYEE AGAINST WHOM COMPLAINT IS MADE (for more than one person fill in separate form)	3) DESCRIPTIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPLAINT (Add sheets if required)
Name	4) COMPLAINANT'S DETAILS
Designation	Name and Address Telephone /
Office Address	Email id
Descriptive details of the Complaint (common to	Signature of the Complainant
all complaints)         3)       COMPLAINANTS DETAILS         Name and Address       Telephone No         Email ID	Note: i) Separate sheets if necessary to cover the details of complaint may be attached. ii) Complainant will be assured that there will be no harassment for giving this complaint. iii) Complete postal address of the complainant is essential for taking action.
Signature of the Complainant Note: i) Send separate sheets if necessary to cover the	FOR OFFICE USE
<ul><li>details of complaint</li><li>ii) Complainant will be assured that there will be no harassment for giving this complaint</li></ul>	Grievance No Name and Designation of the authorised
iii) Complete postal address of the complainant is essential for taking action	Date of receipt
FOR OFFICE USE Grievance No Date of receipt	Division Signature
Division Signature	

-

	[												Na	ture o	f com	plaint	s		
		Delay	N Quality			nplaints Biiling	Tariff	Oth	Tot	SI.	Status of the complain	Applicati on related/	ity	Supp ly	Mete ring	Billin g	Tariff	Other	T
No	Complaints Status	in Effect- ing	of voltage	up	ing	Prob lems	Prob lems			No.	ts of grievance	Delay in effecting supply	of Sup ply	interr uptio ns	relate d		relat ed	S	
		supply								1.	Opening balance at								
1.	Complaints										beginning of the								
	Pending										quarter.								
	during the										(complaints								
	starting										for which								
	of the										hearing to be								
ĺ	last quarters										conducted								
2.	Complaints				╞──┤				┢╋		plus								
	received										complaints for which								
	during										hearing								
	the last quarter										conducted								
3.	Total										but orders to be								
0.	Complaints										passed)								
	-									2.	Received								T
4.	Complaints attended										during the								
I	during									3.	quarter Rejected								t
	the last									0.	during the								
	quarter										quarter as								
5.	Balance										per Regulation								
I	complaints to be										7(2) and								
	attended										7(3).								ļ
										4.	Nett total (1+2) -3								
6.	Complaints									5.	Orders								╀
	pending More than										passed								l
	3months										during the								
	But less										quarter within the								
	than 6 months										time								
	6 months										stipulated								l
											in sub- regulation								l
7.	Complaints										7(7).								
	pending for more									6.	Orders								ſ
	for more than										passed during the								l
	6months										quarter								l
											beyond								
Not	e: The pres	ent sta	ge for e	ach c	ompla	int pend	lina fo	n m	lore		stipulated time.								
	6 months n									7.	Closing								t
		-		•							balance at								
											end of the								l
											quarter. 4-(5+6)								
												or delay in d	isposa	l of th	e com	plaints	s men	tioned	1
										8.	SI. No.6 s	shall be su	, bmitte	d for	each	case	with c	late v	Vä
										0.	break up complaint.	details of e	very s	tage fi	rom th	ne dat	e of r	eceipt	

				Application related/ Delay in effecting supply	Quali ty of Supp ly	Supp ly interr uptio ns	Mete ring relate d	ing	Tar iff rel ate d	Other s	Tot al
		1. 2.	Opening balance at beginning of the quarter (orders passed before the quarter but pending to be implemented) Orders passed during the quarter.								
		3.	Total (1+2)								
		4.	Orders implemented during the quarter (for total cases mentioned in SI.No.3)								
		5.	Closing balance at the end of the quarter. (Total cases for which orders passed but pending to be implemented) (3-4)								
		<ul> <li>Reason for the delay in implementing the CGRF orders</li> <li>mentioned in Sl. No.5 for each case and action taken with date war break up details from the date of CGRF order.</li> </ul>									
10.	Annexure-III	Appendix – III									
	XXX	XXX									

### Appendix- IIB CGRF - IMPLEMENTATION OF REDRESSAL STATUS MONITORING FORMAT

TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

(By Order of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission)

Chennai-600 032, 16th October 2023. C. VEERAMANI, Secretary, Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission.