

**BEFORE THE TAMIL NADU ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
CHENNAI**

**Order No T.O. 1 - 73 dated 20/02/2006**

<b>Present :</b>	<b>Hon'ble Thiru. A.Balraj,</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
	<b>Hon'ble Thiru S.Thangarathnam,</b>	<b>Member</b>
	<b>Hon'ble Thiru B.Jeyaraman,</b>	<b>Member</b>

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**In the matter of : Tariff to women Self Help Groups promoted by M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation.**

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In the letter dated 29.8.2005, the Executive Director of M/s. M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation represented the following:

- (i) In one of their Outreach Field Centers at Pudukottai where they are operating a special project on Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, they have promoted two Self Help Groups for production of Trichogramma parasite as a livelihood and income enhancement micro enterprise.
- (ii) The Trichogramma parasite is used as a bio control agent for pest control in sugarcane, cotton and other crops.
- (iii) The production of Trichogramma parasite is carried out in a thatched shed using a small size fridge, UV lamp and Pest-O-Flash for catching the flies.
- (iv) The SHGs are remitting the electricity charges at domestic rate.
- (v) The TNEB have told that as the SHGs are selling trichogramma to the EID Parry India Ltd., the electricity charges should be paid at Commercial tariff.

- (vi) The women SHGs find much economic constraints in continuing the production of trichogramma.
- (vii) The SHG members are coming under BPL and they have started the above venture with the bank loan and subsidy sanctioned by the Project Officer / DRDA. The sudden hike in electricity tariff will be a constraint for their further development.
- (viii) They may be charged at domestic tariff.

(2) The representation was forwarded to the TNEB.

(3) The TNEB in their letter dated 28.12.2005 have stated the following:

- (i) There are 3 LT services used by the women SHGs promoted by the MSSRF and the following activity is carried out

"By receiving the eggs of Trichogramma from EID Parry, production of large Trichogramma is carried out in a thatched shed. The same has been pasted on the paper strips and returned to EID Parry. Fridge and lamps are used for the above process."

- (ii) Since M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation has promoted the women SHGs for development of Rural, it is suggested that LT Tariff II B, which is applicable to Laboratories and Research Institutes may be adopted for these LT services, as a special case.

(4) In this context, the Commission considered the following:

- (i) The women SHG comprising members coming under Below Poverty Line, are stated to have been promoted as a livelihood and income enhancement micro enterprise.
- (ii) The activity involved is **rearing** of Trichogramma parasite which is used as pest control agents for sugar, cotton and other crops and cannot be related to research. It cannot also be classified as Cottage Industries as such classification require certificate from District Industries Centre
- (iii) Considering the usage of electricity and user group, i.e. women SHG with BPL members, the Commission **notify** that the LT services to SHGs be classified under **LT Tariff I C**, which is applicable to LT bulk supply to Railway Colonies, Plantation Worker Colonies, etc. **and other notified categories as decided by the Commission from time to time.**

**(By Order of the Commission)**

**R.Balasubramanian  
Secretary**

To

The Chairman, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, Chennai 600 002.