



TAMIL NADU ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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PRESS NOTE

Subject :- Overcharging of electricity tariff by landlords from tenants

The attention of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission has been drawn to reports appearing in media highlighting the overcharging of electricity tariff from tenants by landlords.

2. The attention of tenants is drawn to the order of the Commission T.O. 1-3 dated 24-06-2003 waiving development charges and service connection charges, whenever a landlord decides to instal additional service connections in the same premises. These waivers are designed to lighten the burden on the landlord and benefit the tenants.

3. Despite this order, complaints continue to pour in of landlords overcharging the tenants. It is brought to the knowledge of the tenant that the highest tariff applicable to a domestic consumer is Rs.4.05 per unit as on date, if the total consumption of the household exceeds 600 units bi-monthly. Therefore, no landlord is within his rights to collect anything more than Rs.4.05 per unit. If consumption for the whole house is less than 600 units, the tariff would be Rs.2.20 / Rs.1.50 / Rs.0.85 / Rs.0.75 per unit depending on consumption.

4. Overcharging of tenants is an offence under Sections 142 and 146 of the Electricity Act 2003 punishable with fine upto Rs. one lakh and imprisonment upto 3 months. The TNEB has been advised to file complaints before the Commission under Section 142 of the Electricity Act 2003 or before the appropriate judicial magistrate under Section 146 of the Electricity Act 2003.

(K. Shanthi)
Public Relations Officer