

TAMIL NADU ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Draft Notification No.TNERC/CGRF & EO 11 – dated 8.10.2016

(Comments/suggestions invited by 8.11.2016)

1. The following draft of the amendment to regulation 14 and regulation 15 of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum and Electricity Ombudsman Regulations, 2004 (hereinafter referred to the “said Regulations”) which it is proposed to make in exercise of the powers conferred by section 181 read with sub-section (5) of section 42 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (Central Act 36 of 2003) and all other powers enabling it in this behalf, is hereby published for information of all persons likely to be affected thereby, as required by sub-section (3) of section 181 of the said Act.

2. Notice is hereby given that action will be taken to publish the proposed amendment in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette after thirty days from the date of hosting it in the website of the Commission and that any objection or suggestion which may be received from any person with respect thereto before the expiry of the aforesaid period will be considered by the Commission.

3. Objection or suggestion, if any should be addressed in duplicate to the Secretary, Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission, 19-A Rukmini Lakshmi pathy Salai, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.

AMENDMENT

In the said Regulations, for regulations 14 and 15 the following regulations shall be substituted, namely:-

“14. Remuneration:-

The salary and other perquisites payable to Electricity Ombudsman will be determined by the Commission from time to time and shall be borne by the Commission along with the regular establishment cost of the Commission.

15. Secretariat:-

The Electricity Ombudsman shall be provided with a secretariat. The cost of the secretariat shall be borne by the Commission along with the regular establishment cost of the Commission.”

(By order of the Commission)

(S. CHINNARAJALU)
Secretary
Tamil Nadu Electricity
Regulatory Commission

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Regulations 14 of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Consumer Redressal Forum and Electricity Ombudsman Regulations, 2004 provides that the salary and other perquisites to the Electricity Ombudsman will be determined by the Commission from time to time and shall be borne by the distribution licensees in such proportion and in such manner as may be determined by the Commission. Inasmuch as the grievances of the consumers to be settled by the Ombudsman are against the distribution licensee it may not be desirable to make the Ombudsman financially dependent on the distribution licensee for carrying on day-to-day activities and functions. Such financial dependence would undermine and militate against the very concept of consumer protection and in order to free from the influence of the distribution licensee, the Commission has decided to bear the expenses towards the salary and other perquisites of Electricity Ombudsman and his secretariat along with the regular establishment of the Commission.

2. The proposed amendment seeks to give effect to the above decision.

STATEMENT SHOWING EXISTING PROVISION AND PROVISION EMBODYING AMENDMENT

Existing provision	Provision embodying amendment
14. Remuneration:- The salary and other perquisites payable to Electricity Ombudsman will be determined by the Commission from time to time and shall be borne by the Distribution licensees in such proportion and in such manner as may be determined by the Commission	14. Remuneration:- The salary and other perquisites payable to the Electricity Ombudsman will be determined by the Commission from time to time and shall be borne by the Commission along with the regular establishment cost of the Commission.
15. Secretariat:- The Electricity Ombudsman shall be provided with the secretariat. The staff pattern and salary etc., shall be approved by the Commission. The cost of the secretariat will be shared by the distribution licensees in such proportion as may be determined by the Commission.	15. Secretariat:- The Electricity Ombudsman shall be provided with the secretariat. The cost of the secretariat shall be borne by the Commission along with the regular establishment cost of the Commission.

(By order of the Commission)

(S. CHINNARAJALU)
Secretary
Tamil Nadu Electricity
Regulatory Commission