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Citizen consumer and civic Action Group

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February 16, 2023

The Chairperson
Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission
4th Floor, Sidco Corporate Office building
Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy
Chennai 600 032.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Issues related to Tariff 1D and suggestions for revision – Reg.

Greetings from Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG)!

Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG) is a 37-year-old non-profit, non-political, professional organisation working towards protecting citizen's rights in consumer and environmental issues and promoting good governance processes including transparency, accountability and participatory decision making.

We write this letter to bring to your notice the concerns of domestic consumers about the recently introduced Tariff 1D, for common facilities in multi-tenements. The rate is fixed at Rs.8/- per unit, which is a huge burden on low- and middle-income groups. It is to be noted that a large percentage of the population belongs to this category, and are witnessing a huge increase in their bi-monthly bills for common areas – going up even by 1500% in some cases.

CAG understands that the Commission would like to differentiate the tariff for individual households and the common facilities. At the same time, we are of the opinion that fixing uniform high tariff for common facilities across all categories of multi-tenement consumers, is not the right approach, for reasons cited above. CAG would like to suggest the following for the Commission to consider:

1. Retain Domestic tariff I A rates for the common facilities like light, water pumps and lift for multi-tenements having basic common amenities.
2. Luxury apartments with additional facilities like gym, community hall, etc. may be charged on the basis of new tariff I D.

We sincerely hope that our suggestions would be favourably considered for the benefit of the ordinary consumer.

Thank you.

Regards,

K. Vishnu Mohan Rao
Senior Researcher

Trustees

Dr. George Thomas (Orthopaedic Surgeon)
Dr. R. Hema (Associate Professor)

Dr. C. Rammanohar Reddy (Economist and Editor)
Mr. Sriram Panchu (Senior Advocate)
Dr. Suchitra Ramkumar (Doctor and Teacher)

Advisors

Ms. Tara Murali (Architect)
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