

TAMIL NADU ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATION

Regd. No. 181-8524/1998 – CIN.No. U37102TZ1998GAP008524

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CIRCULAR

To All Members

Dear Members,

Subject: Outcome of Meeting with Ministry of Power on Draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill

Members are aware that TECA submitted its comments on the Draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill on 08.11.2025.

Pursuant to the same, the Ministry of Power convened a meeting on 16.01.2026 with TECA and other stakeholders who had submitted comments, to discuss the proposed amendments.

TECA was represented in the said meeting through virtual mode by its President, Mr. L. Santhosh, and its Immediate Past President, Mr. N. Pradeep.

During the meeting, TECA placed the following key suggestions and concerns on record:

1. Demand Charges under Proposed Section 43(4):

The proposed insertion of sub-section (4) under Section 43 exempts the distribution licensee from the obligation to supply electricity where the consumer's maximum demand exceeds 1 MW. In such cases, TECA suggested that demand charges should not be levied, as the consumer would not be availing supply under the statutory obligation of the distribution licensee. Levy of demand charges in these circumstances would be inconsistent with the legislative intent of the exemption and would impose an undue financial burden on large consumers opting for alternate supply arrangements.

2. Restriction of Demand Charges Based on Recorded Demand:

It was suggested that where the recorded demand remains below 80% of the sanctioned demand for a continuous period exceeding three months, the demand charges should be restricted to the recorded demand instead of the sanctioned demand.

3. Strengthening of APTEL Accessibility and Timelines:

TECA reiterated the long-standing need for the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL) to establish benches in key metropolitan centres such as Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu), Bengaluru (Karnataka), and Hyderabad (Andhra



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Pradesh). This would facilitate quicker disposal of cases, reduce pendency, and improve regional access to justice for consumers and stakeholders.

Further, TECA emphasized the need for framing regulations mandating disposal of appeals and cases within a stipulated period of 90 days, so as to ensure timely regulatory certainty and effective redressal.

The above submissions were made in the interest of protecting consumer rights, ensuring regulatory clarity, and improving the overall efficiency of the power sector.

Further updates will be shared as and when developments arise.

With Warm Regards

L. Santhosh
President