



Scrap Electricity Bill -2022 , Stop Privatisation of Power Sector and Installation of Prepaid SMART METER.

1 message

Electricity Movement <allindiaeca@gmail.com>

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To: minister-power@gov.in, minister-power@nic.in, secy-power@nic.in, ds.distribution-mop@gov.in



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CENTRAL COMMITTEE

**President: -Swapan Kr. Ghosh
Bhat**

General Secretary: - K. Venugopal

04.07.2024

To

**Mr. Monohar Lal Khattar,
Hon'ble Minister,
Department of Power,
Government of India,
Sharm Sakti Bhawan,
Rafi Marg,
New Delhi: 110001**

Subject : Scrap Electricity Bill -2022 , Stop Privatisation of Power Sector and Installation of Prepaid SMART METER.

Ref. Our letter No.06 dt 06.02.2024

Sir,

On behalf of All India Electricity Consumers Association, the broad based platform of the Electricity Consumers across the country, we would once again like to place here under some key aspects related to the interest of the Electricity Consumers and the Industry for your positive response.

(A) SCRAP THE ELECTRICITY (amendment) BILL- 2022:

It goes without saying, Electricity at present is an essential utility irrespective of economic status. There should not be any confusion under any circumstances Electricity may be considered as a super profit making commodity in the hands of the Corporate of home and abroad.

You are quite aware, after independence in accordance with the prescription of Dr. B R Ambedkar, Electricity (supply) Act - 1948 was enacted:

- (1) To provide Electricity at affordable rates to all classes of consumers.
- (2) To make Electricity the backbone of food security through irrigation pump sets.
- (3) To support the growth of Industry, Railways, Communication network etc.

We are constrained to point out, deviating from the said track, your Government has taken all-out steps to privatise the Power Sector for the interest of the Private operators jeopardising the interest of the common consumers at large.

Electricity (amendment) Bill- 2022 is the glaring example of that. The only objective of the proposed Bill in question is to privatise the entire Distribution system across the country. That Needless to

mention, through our earlier several representations we urged upon your Govt. to repeal the proposed Bill, but no action has taken so far.

Under the above backdrop, we would once again request your good office to withdraw the Electricity (amendment) Bill-2022 for the interest of the common consumers and the Industry as well.

(B) STOP PRIVATISATION OF ELECTRICITY

It is our considered opinion, attempt to privatise the Electricity is a heinous step towards swelling of private capital defeating the social objective.

We have already shown in our earlier representations, privatisation of the power sector in the hands of the private players has failed squarely to provide desired benefits to the consumers on the contrary it has flattered the coffer of the Corporate usurping the public property.

The experience of Privatisation in home and abroad is very dismal. No need to explain more. You are quite aware, in our country experiments in several States regarding privatisation of Electricity (Distribution system) have been proved abortive due to inefficiency and poor performance of the private agencies causing serious hardship to the common consumers.

From the above it is crystal clear, privatisation of the power sector means immense sufferings of the common consumers at large, which we can't encourage under any circumstances.

So, we demand stop privatisation of Electricity to save this core sector from the aggression of the profit mongers.

(C) STOP INSTALLATION OF PREPAID SMART METER

There should not be any confusion, installation of Prepaid SMART METER is a concrete step towards privatisation of the Distribution system of Electricity. Installation of Prepaid SMART METER is a clear violation of the existing contract / fundamental right of the consumers being enjoyed over the years. Introduction of Time of Date (TOD) tariff system i.e. dynamic price of Electricity linked with the demand of the market will throw the common consumers to an untold miserable condition in the days to come.

It is a matter of grave concern, the private operators will be allowed to run their business using the infrastructure of the state owned Distribution Companies built up at the cost of public exchequer without any investment.

You have already come to know, against installation of Prepaid SMART METER serious grievances have been generated amongst the common consumers throughout the country and in many States resistance movements have also been developed. Taking into consideration of the consumers resentment throughout the country and not to make this core sector a haunting ground of the profit mongers, we would urge upon you to refrain from installing the Prepaid SMART METER in this sensitive sector.

(D) WITHDRAW THE MANDATORY ORDER ISSUED TO THE GENERATING COMPANIES TO IMPORT COAL FOR BLENDING WITH THE DOMESTIC COAL

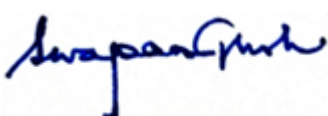
We have already drawn to your notice that the Mandatory order of imported Coal issued by the Ministry of Power, Government of India to the Generating Companies for blending with the domestic Coal will definitely increase the tariff of electricity swelling the capital of the monopolists.

We would therefore further urge upon you to withdraw the mandatory Coal imported order issued to the Generation Companies.

Looking forward for your favourable decision to materialize the demands mentioned here in above for providing natural justice to the common consumers and peasants.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



SWAPAN GHOSH
(President)



K. VENUGOPAL BHAT
(General Secretary)