



GS/SEA/AKOLA/2024/155

DT.09.01.2025

To,
The Chairman & Managing Director,
M.S.E.D.C.L. Prakashgad,
Mumbai

Subject: Regarding installation of Smart Meters-public hue and cry thereof.

Dear Sir,

The Company has undertaken a huge programme of installing smart meters in place of electronic meters throughout the state. This programme is being implemented through various Companies/Agencies without giving any prior notice to the consumers which is mandatory as per MERC supply code regulations, 2021. Neither any public notice is published in local newspapers making aware of this activity to general consumers nor any awareness programme is conducted through print media, social networks etc.

This is an utter failure of the Management which needs immediate attention and corrective steps thereof. The Association has never opposed the introduction of new technology in our Company considering that such introduction may result in better services to common consumers, increase in revenue etc. But we have certain reservations on introducing smart meters without taking into confidence the general consumers through a lot of platforms easily available to anybody.

Such apathy on the part of Management is resulting in public unrest, hue & cry, agitations, vandalising our section/subdivision offices, beating of staff etc at the places where these meters are being installed. The public is opposing these smart meters' installations on various grounds but most importantly fearing that their electricity bills would get enhanced. This could have been avoided if proper education of the public is carried beforehand.

Even though the Association welcomes the introduction of new technology, our experience tells a different story. We have an experience of such pockets where new technological innovations are carried out, those pockets were handed out to private players who hugely ripped the benefits. The Company and the Engineers/staff got nothing in return even though all the stake holders participated with full enthusiasm giving their best to implement the innovations. Our members feel that they face the same fate due to smart meters and it's a step towards privatization of lucrative pockets of the Company.

As such our members are in opposition towards such steps which may deprive them of the jobs, Time is still there to find an amicable solution and pave a middle way in the situation.

We, as an Association oppose vehemently the implementation of Smart meter scheme as is being implemented. We are ready to have discussions across the table through which something good can come out acceptable to all the parties.

We therefore demand to stop the installation of Smart meters throughout the state at once. Thanking you.

Yours Truly

Er. Santosh S. Khumkar
General Secretary, SEA

Copy submitted with respect to:

1. The Director (Operations / Finance / Commercial / Project), MSEDCL, Mumbai.
3. The CIRO, MSEDCL, Mumbai.

Copy submitted for information with respect to:

1. Shri. Vishwas Pathak, Independent Director, M.S.E.B Holding Company.
2. Shri. Ashish Chandarana, Independent Director, M.S.E.B. Holding Company.

Copy submitted with compliment to:

The President/Vice-President/Organizing Secretary, SEA