



The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry

(Formerly known as FTAPCCI)

Empowering Industry, Commerce & Trade

Registered under the Companies Act, 1956

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April 18, 2020

Sri Jayesh Ranjan, I.A.S
Principal Secretary
Department of Industries and Commerce
Government of Telangana
D-Block, 5th Floor, BRKR Bhavan
Hyderabad

Dear Sir,

Sub: Covid-19: seeking relief measures on power bills - reg

At the outset we appreciate and commend the measures taken by the government of Telangana to control the impact of pandemic Covid-19 and we extend our complete support and cooperation to make the efforts fruitful and secure the State from spreading of disease.

You are aware that all the industrial units work on a precarious state of finances and any minor disruptions in their regular flow of works will upset their production and cash flows and is harmful for the overall health. While the loss and difficulties of workers and employees is predictable, it is equally difficult for the large scale and MSME units and businesses to pay the salaries and wages, utility bills such as power & water, by taking additional loans while foregoing the production and revenues.

With the lockdown extended till May 3, 2020, now the total number of days under lockdown is 40 days. Majority of the industries and commercial establishments, other than essential items, are closed and the situation is so extraordinary that, there is no certainty of when these things become normal.

We have been requesting the government of Telangana since the beginning of the lockdown to extend some relief measures for the support of industry and businesses, particularly regarding energy bills. Unfortunately, inspite of our repeated requests no relief is announced so far. It is pertinent to mention here that many states have already announced various incentives to the industries in their respective states.

The payment due date is fast approaching and industrial consumers are receiving the notices for payment or else disconnection of supply of electricity. In this situation, we request you to announce some relief immediately or we are afraid it will be very difficult for the industrial units to resume operations after the lockdown.

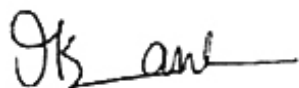
Another issue that is troubling the industry is – large numbers of migrant labourers are residing in the factory premises and if the supply of electricity for lighting purpose is disconnected to the industrial colonies, it will be very difficult to retain the workers leading to severe shortage of workforce – causes disruptions in production activities.

We understand that the relief sought by industries in energy bills causes financial losses to the DISCOMs, but they can be supported by the government and even central government where as in the case of industries it is individuals who have to take the burden and thus the capacity is very limited. In the absence of hand holding support to the industrial and commercial establishments, the State economy suffers a severe setback causing huge disruptions in the revenue sources of government and people at large.

We once again request the government of Telangana to extend relief to the industrial and business establishments to face the crisis created by Covid-19 lockdown and help putting the economy back on growth track.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely



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