

**Energy Efficiency (Control of Non-Essential Grid-Powered Activities)
Regulations 2026**

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THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACT

Regulations made by the Minister under section 23 of the Energy Efficiency Act

1. These regulations may be cited as the **Energy Efficiency (Control of Non-Essential Grid-Powered Activities) Regulations 2026**.

2. In these regulations –

“Notice” means a Notice to Comply issued by the Energy Efficiency Management Office;

“residential consumer” has the same meaning as in the Electricity (Metering, Billing and Collection) Regulations 2022.

3. The Energy Efficiency Management Office shall promote the efficient use of energy and for this purpose, shall issue guidelines, conduct sensitisation programmes and prescribe measures to reduce non-essential energy consumption during periods of grid system stress.

4. No person, other than a residential consumer, shall, without reasonable excuse, and up to 1 November 2026, use grid electrical power to –

- (a) operate decorative lighting not required for safety or security;
- (b) illuminate the exterior of a building for aesthetic or nonessential purposes;
- (c) operate illuminated advertising boards, billboards or digital displays;
- (d) operate air conditioning in unoccupied areas of nondomestic premises;
- (e) operate air conditioning in non-domestic premises at a temperature lower than 24°C;
- (f) operate outdoor lighting installations that are not necessary for public safety;
- (g) operate decorative fountains, water features or similar installations; or

(h) operate lighting in outdoor playground when not in use.

5. These regulations shall not apply to the following places and services –

- (a) hospitals, clinics and medical facilities;
- (b) emergency services including police, prisons, fire and disaster response services;
- (c) public street lighting necessary for public safety;
- (d) airport, port, air navigation and maritime safety systems;
- (e) water supply, wastewater treatment and other essential public utilities;
- (f) power generation sites;
- (g) radio and Television Terrestrial Transmission services; and
- (h) any other places or services as may be determined by the EEMO.

6. Any person who contravenes these regulations shall be served with a Notice to Comply by the Energy Efficiency Management Office, specifying the matter constituting the contravention and the time frame for complying with such Notice.

7. Any person who fails to comply with the Notice shall commit an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 200,000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.

8. These regulations shall come into operation on 1 May 2026.

Made by the Minister on 28 April 2026.
