

provide the current and he was not interested in anything that required fraud. The engineer assured him that it was all legal. He only had to sign a contract with a services company, pay 50 thousand dinars and it would all be taken care of. Since he had a commitment to the bank, he signed the contract, and paid the fees. After a week he received the approval and he noticed the signature at the bottom was the very same representative of MEW who told him that connecting the building to the grid would be impossible. Within two days they started digging up the road and cables were laid from the relay station across the street. Our friend told the engineer that, according to MEW, this station was at its maximum capacity. "This station could supply ten more buildings like yours!" he laughed. "The actual capacity never matches what's on record with the ministry. There are few people at MEW who know the actual loads available at any of these stations."

This is what I heard from him, but only God knows. I would like to note that Ministry's leaders are working very hard to uplift the performance of the department, but the existing system is like a black hole. Payments are not being collect fairly and on time, leading to accumulated bills putting pressure on the citizen. In my humble opinion, the government needs to slow down. Before implementing rate increases, it has to reform the system and privatize the electricity sector into several competitor companies similar to systems of our neighboring countries. I hope that the National Assembly will not accept such half-solutions and start looking to the root of the problem and not its branches. Excluding private housing is not enough. The citizen will suffer from inflation and the Ministry of Commerce cannot help him with that. At the same time, these measure won't give us the kind of savings which would be able to rescue the State budget.