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Regulate functioning of homes for senior citizens

Special Correspondent

Coimbatore Consumer Cause in a petition to Chief Minister Jayalalithaa said many homes for senior citizens that claim to run on a no-profit basis have become commercial ventures and required to be streamlined.

The change in lifestyle and other compelling reasons make the senior citizens in need of places where their basic requirements such as food, shelter and medical care are taken care of.

These homes are supposed to provide all these for a reasonable price, but in reality, many homes are actually houses leased to the senior citizens for a very high price, the petition said.

The residents being senior citizens have no platform to express their grievances against the irregularities in the functioning of these homes.

The main problem is that the details of the expenses incurred on food, water, electricity and maintenance which are generally shared by the residents, are not disclosed to them and prices are increased without appropriate reasons.

As of now, there was no department to look into these issues. It should be made mandatory that a qualified person audits the income and expenditure of the homes, which should be made available to all the residents.

The government should to amend rules in order to monitor, streamline and regulate the functioning of these homes, the petition said.

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