

## Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum, Kalyan Zone Behind "Tejashree", Jahangir Meherwanji Road, Kalyan (West) 421301 Ph.– 2210707 & 2328283 Ext: - 122

# IN THE MATTER OF GRIEVANCE NO.K/E/055/0064 OF 06-07 OF SHRI MEWALAL K. CHAUDHARI WITH CONSUMER GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL FORUM KALYAN ZONE, KALYAN ABOUT THE EXCESSIVE ENERGY BILL.

Shri. Mewalal K. Chaudhari (Here in after

Ambedkar Nagar, referred to

Ulhasnagar – III as consumer

#### <u>Versus</u>

Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution (Here in after Company Limited through its referred to Ulhasnagar Sub-Division III as licensee)

1) Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum has been established under regulation of "Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Consumer

#### Grievance No.K/E/055/0064 of 06-07

Grievance Redressal Forum & Ombudsman) Regulation 2003" to redress the grievances of consumers. This regulation has been made by the Maharashtra Electricity Commission vide powers confirmed on it by section 181 read with sub-section 5 to 7 of section 42 of The Electricity Act, 2003. (36 of 2003).

2) The consumer is L.T. consumer of the licensee connected to their 415-volt network. Consumer is billed as per industrial tariff the consumer registered his grievance with the forum on dated 18/05/2006.

The details are as follows: -

Name of the consumer: Shri Mewalal K. Chaudhari

Address: Same as above

Consumer No:-. 021510821936.

Disputed amount: - Rs. 1,51,240/-

Reason of dispute: The consumer received bill of Rs. 151240/- as his meter was found slow by 37% during testing on 27/01/2005 by flying squad and the paper seal provided on side of meter found broken and excesses load 6 HP.

The electricity bill stands in the name of Shri Mewalal K. Chaudhari consumer using energy for industrial use.

- 3. The consumer-received a bill for Rs. 1,51,240/- dated 28/01/2005 against this consumer has paid 40,000/- under protest.
- 4. The consumer made an appeal dated 2/02/2005 to the licensee stating the following points.
  - 1) Issue of provisional bill for theft of energy for two years is not acceptable.
  - 2) The consumer made part payment as stated above. He has also paid the cost of meter and reconnection charges on 31/01/2005.
  - 3) Allegation of excess load for 6 HP is not acceptable to him and he is asking for the re inspection and confirmation of load.

- The Ex. Engineer O & M Circle Administrative Kalyan had written a letter No. 1155 dated 01/06/2005 to Ex. Engineer CGRF, Kalyan stating following points.
  - A) Consumer was checked by flying squad Kalyan on 27/01/2005 and the spot inspection report indicates following irregularities.
    - i) Excess load of 6 HP.
    - ii) Meter slow by 37%.
    - iii) Paper seal provided on the side of meter found broken
  - B) Bill was prepared as per the calculation done by the flying squad and issued to the consumer.
  - C) Necessary police panchanama was carried out by F.S. Kalyan as per the licensee's rules and the documents were given to the licensee's Advocate to file the suit in the court B-80 sheets were submitted to the higher authority for approval The supply was reconnected as per the instruction from higher authority after making the part payment of Rs. 40,000/-
- 6. The Ex. Engineer Ulhasnagar I Was instructed to the Dy. EE vide letter No. 3844 dated 20/10/2005 for issuing the final bill immediately as per the Act 2003, and licensee's rules.
- 7. The Ex. Engineer Administrative has written to the Ex. Engineer Ulhasnagar I for issue of the final bill to the consumer, which is not yet issue.
- 8. The hearing was scheduled on 20/12/2005 at 16.00 hrs. in the ICGRC. The consume had given a authority letter for authorizing Mr. Pappan to sign on his behalf for signing all the documents pertaining to this case.
- 9. As there were no proceedings in the matter the consumer approached to the forum on 10/05/2006 by post. The forum received the application for the redressal of grievance on 17/05/2006. The case was registered on 18/05/2006. he consumer had asked for fast hearing and withdraw of the provisional bill.

- The hearing was scheduled on 19/06/2006 at forums office on 15.00 hrs. and same was communicated to both parties on 3/06/2006 vide letter No. 0582.
- 11. The hearing was held on forums office on 19/06/2006 at 15.00 hrs. attended by forums member, Member Secretary Shri D.B. Nitnaware and Member Sau V.V. Kelkar, licensee's representative Shri P.S. Date Assistant Engineer, Shri S. K. sawle DY. Ex. Engineer and Shri J.R. Patil UDC and consumer Shri Mewalal Chaudhari and his representative Shri R.C. Tekchandani.
- 12. The consumer stated that he had made part payment of Rs. 40000/-dated 31/01/2005 of provisional bill under protest again Rs. 151240/- the licensee has not issued a final bill till to day, in spite of a directive from senior authority. He had requested to issue a final bill immediately up to 26/06/2006.
- 13. The consumer complaints that his supply was disconnected on dated 1/03/2005 and re connected on dated 10/03/2005.
- 14. Consumer has agreed for theft of energy and he also accepts the signature on Panchanama report dated on 27/01/2005 by Flying Squad, Kalyan. He was personally present at the time of Panchanama of meter, and testing at testing laboratory.
- 15. The licensee representative stated that he consumer premises checked by flying squad on 27/10/2005 and following irregularities were found.
  - i) Meter seal found broken.
  - ii) Meter slow by 37%.
  - iii) Excess load of 6 HP.
- 16. The licensee representative stated that a bill of Rs. 151240/- was issued to the consumer based on the reports of flying squad
- 17. The licensee representative submitted following papers.
  - i) Panchanama report dated 27/01/2005.

- ii) Spot inspection report by flying squad dated 27/01/2006.
- iii) Flying squad to Dy. Ex. Engineer Ulhasnagar about detection of theft of energy.
- 18. The licensee representative was instructed by forum to submit the following documents related to the case by 26/06/2006.
  - 2) Lab test report.
  - 3) Court case CR No.
  - Details of disconnection and reconnection of power supply to the consumer premises.
  - 5) Copy of the final bill issued to the consumer.
- On dated 20/06/2006 the licensee submitted documents of the consumer towards the payments of bill-dated 31/01/2005 and court CR No. 291/5 dated 30/03/2005.
- 20. Forums Observation.
  - The inspection done by the flying squad on 27/01/2005.
     Based on his reports provisional bill for theft of energy issued to the consumer on 28/01/2005 but the licensee has not issue the final bill till today resulting in loss of revenue.
  - 2. The hearing was not held in the ICGRC in spite of the hearing scheduled on 20/12/2005 at 16.30 hrs.
  - 3. The forum agreed with the flying squad report, and panchanama, which clearly indicate the case of theft of energy under, section 135 and 138 of Electricity Act 2003. As above type of cases are not under the preview of the forum. The case is here by dismissed unanimously and no separate order has been issued by CGRF.

Date: - 29/06/2006. Preview of CGRF

(V.V.Kelkar) (D.B. Nitnaware)

Member Secretary

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**CGRF Kalyan** 

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