

**Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd.'s
Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum
Nagpur Urban Zone, Nagpur**

Case No. CGRF(NUZ)/246/2014

Applicant : Shri Abdul Alim A. Latif,
Garib Nawaj Nagar, Galli No.9,
Nizamuddin Col. Kalamna Road,
Nagpur.

Non-applicant : Nodal Officer,
The Superintending Engineer,
(Distribution Franchisee),
MSEDCL, N.U.C.,
NAGPUR.

Quorum Present : 1) Shri Shivajirao S. Patil,
Chairman.

2) Adv. Subhash Jichkar
Member.

3) Shri Anil Shrivastava,
Member / Secretary.

ORDER PASSED ON 20.11.2014.

1. The applicant filed present grievance application before this Forum on 24.9.2014 under Regulation 6.4 of the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum & Electricity Ombudsman) Regulations, 2006 (hereinafter referred to as Regulations).

2. The applicant's case in brief is that he received excessive bills for June 2014 for 1337 units for 2 months. Therefore Bills may be revised.

3. Non applicant denied applicant's case by filing reply Dt. 10.10.2014. It is submitted that meter was tested by acucheck and it is found O.K. As per order passed by Learned I.G.R.C. meter is replaced, old meter is tested in the laboratory and it is found O.K. Therefore bills can not be revised.

4. Forum heard arguments of both the sides and perused the record.

5. It is true that in the month of June 2014 consumption is shown for 1337 units. In July 2014, 99 units and in August 2014, 1209 units. This bill of June 14, 1337 units is for 2 months.

6. It is very interesting case of tampering of meter. Record shows that since January 2012 to October 2012, there was very less consumption, even below 100 units. In November 2012 meter was replaced. After replacement of the meter also there was very less consumption, i.e. 56 units in November 2012, 23 units, in December 2012, 26 units, in January 2013 28 units, in February 2013, 75 units in March 2013, 71 units in April 2013 and similar is the trend of consumption till May 2014. Thereafter for the first time reading as per consumption based on actual meter reading was issued. In June 2014, bill was issued for 1337 units for 2 months.

7. Spot inspection report specially column No. 3 dt. 7.10.2014 shows that meter box seal was open. This tampering of the meter was investigated by SNDL and filed tamper summary report on record regarding Meter No. G-1015830. This report is generated on line and it

shows that there was tampering in the meter. Therefore in fact it is theft case. Applicant should be thankful to SNDL that they have not taken criminal action u/s 135 of Electricity Act 2003. It appears that by tampering in the meter consumption is reduced by the applicant for many days.

8. However, meter testing report by acucheck dt. 14.8.2014 and meter testing report in meter testing lab dt. 18.9.2014 shows that meter is O.K. Therefore it is clear that meter is O.K. but applicant continuously tampered with the meter and reduced the consumption for months together. In some months he could not tamper for the reasons best known to him, reading was displayed.

9. Under these special circumstances in fact as it is a case of tampering of meter and theft of electricity energy therefore there is prima facie case u/s 135 of E.A. 2003 and hence this Forum has no jurisdiction. Grievance application deserves to be dismissed. Hence following order : -

ORDER

- 1) Grievance application is dismissed.

Sd/-
(Anil Shrivastava)
MEMBER
SECRETARY

Sd/-
(Adv. Subhash Jichkar)
MEMBER

Sd/-
(Shivajirao S. Patil),
CHAIRMAN