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

Case No. CGRF(NUZ)/0126/2006

Applicant : Shri Chandrabhan Ramji Sakhare,

Laskaribag Circle No. 17 / 23,

Nagpur.

Non-Applicant : The Nodal Officer-

Executive Engineer, Civil Lines Division,

Nagpur representing the MSEDCL.

Quorum Present : 1) Shri S.D. Jahagirdar,

Chairman,

Consumer Grievance Redressal

Forum,

Nagpur Urban Zone,

Nagpur.

2) Smt. Gouri Chandrayan,

Member,

Consumer Grievance Redressal

Forum,

Nagpur Urban Zone,

Nagpur.

ORDER (Passed on 22.05.2006)

The present grievance application has been filed on 25.04.2006 under Regulation 6.4 of the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum & Electricity Ombudsman) Regulations, 2006 here-in-after referred-to-as the said Regulations.

The grievance of the applicant is in respect of erroneous energy bills issued by the non-applicant from March 1998 onwards till January 2000 against his meter, being meter no. 21001185. His grievance is also in respect of illegal Page 1

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disconnection of his power supply w.e.f. 04.03.2004. He has requested for restoration of his power supply with immediate effect and also for revision of his past energy bills appropriately.

He had earlier raised this grievance before the Executive Engineer, Civil Lines Division, MSEDCL, Nagpur by filing his complaint application dated 22.02.2006 which was received by the Executive Engineer Office on 23.02.2006.

The matter was heard by us on 11.05.2006 and 18.05.2006.

A copy of the non-applicant's parawise report dated 29.04.2006 submitted by him in terms of the said Regulations was given to the applicant on 04.05.2006.

Before going into the merits or demerits of the case it needs to be first decided whether the present grievance application can prima-facie be entertained by this Forum.

Regulation 6.6. of the said Regulations clearly provides that the Forum shall not admit any grievance unless it is filed within two years from the date on which the cause of action has arisen.

In the instant case, the applicant is claiming relief pertaining to his energy bills from March 1998 onwards till January 2000 against his old meter, being meter no. 2104485. His old meter was changed in the month of January 2000 and a new meter was installed in its place. The applicant has no complaint in respect of functioning of his new meter, being

meter no. 514510 and in respect of energy bills generated by this new meter.

Evidently the cause of action in respect of the applicant's grievance has arisen much prior to the period of two years prior to 25.04.2006 on which date the applicant has filed his grievance application. As such his grievances in respect of revision of his past energy bills cannot be admitted by this Forum in terms of Regulation 6.6. of the said Regulations. His other grievance is about illegal disconnection of his power supply which was permanently disconnected on 04.03.2004 because of non-payment of amount of energy bills. This date of cause of action is also older than the permissible period of two years. Hence, as laid down in Regulations 6.6 of the said Regulations, the applicant's grievances cannot be entertained by us.

The applicant & his nominated representative were given opportunity to offer their say on the legal provision contained in 6.6 of the said Regulations. However, he has nothing to say about the applicability of legal provision of Regulation 6.6.

In view of above legal provision, we are unable to admit the applicant's grievance application since it is not filed within a period of two years from the date or dates on which the cause of action has arisen. The question of going into merits or demerits of the case, therefore, does not arise.

In the result, this grievance application stands disposed off as not admissible.

Sd/- Sd/-

(Smt. Gauri Chandrayan)
MEMBER

(**S.D. Jahagirdar**) CHAIRMAN

CONSUMER GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL FORUM MAHARASHTRA STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION CO LTD's NAGPUR URBAN ZONE, NAGPUR.

Member-Secretary Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum, Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co.Ltd., Nagpur Urban Zone, NAGPUR

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