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

Case No. CGRF(NUZ)/052/2008

Applicant	: Officer Incharge Shri P.P. Jain Mahabeej Biotechnology Centre, Civil Lines, Telengkhedi, NAGPUR.
Non–applicant	: MSEDCL represented by the Nodal Officer- Executive Engineer, Civil Lines Division, NUZ, Nagpur.
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.
	3) Shri S.J. Bhargawa Executive Engineer & Member Secretary, Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum, Nagpur Urban Zone, Nagpur.

Interim ORDER (Passed on 15.10.2008)

This grievance application is filed on 06.10.2008 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 applicant's grievance is in respect of excessive billing done to him from the month of August 2008. According to him, the commercial tariff rate applied by the non-applicant for charging the applicant's consumption is not applicable to him since the project undertaken by him is meant for expansion and strengthening of tissue culture laboratory facilities for research activities and production of planting materials. He contended that the project is funded by Govt. of India and it is basically a research & development activity. He further stated that the non-applicant has issued a notice, being notice dated 30.09.2008, asking the applicant to make payment of energy bill amount for August 2008 with DPC amounting to Rs. 1,21,130/- within 15 days failing which his power supply will be disconnected under Section 56 of the Electricity Act, 2003. Earlier tariff rate of Rs. 1.60 per unit was applicable. He also stated that a regular grievance has already been filed with the Internal Grievance Redressal Cell on 24.09.2008 and his case is pending there for final decision.

He, therefore, requested that his power supply may not be disconnected till the Internal Grievance Redressal Cell decides the matter. He urged that the disconnection notice may be quashed.

There is no written submission filed on record in this case by the non-applicant. However, Shri Kamble Assistant Engineer, NUC, MSEDCL, Nagpur was present during hearing on 15.10.2008. He simply stated that the billing done to the applicant is correct. He admitted that the applicant's case is already pending before the Internal Grievance Redressal Cell. He assured that the matter will be decided by the Internal Grievance Redressal Cell within the prescribed period as per said Regulations and further action will be taken depending upon the decision of the Cell.

In view of above, we direct the non-applicant to get the matter decided by the Internal Grievance Redressal Cell in terms of the said Regulations. The non-applicant may take further action depending upon the decision of the Internal Grievance Redressal Cell. The matter should now be decided on merits by the Internal Grievance Redressal Cell. The applicant shall also be at liberty to come before this Forum in the event of Internal Grievance Redressal Cell's decision going against him.

Question of going into the merits of the case does not arise at this stage.

The disconnection notice stands quashed. The grievance application stands disposed of accordingly.

Sd/-Sd/-(S.J. Bhargawa)(Smt. Gauri Chandrayan)(S.D. Jahagirdar)Member-SecretaryMEMBERCHAIRMANCONSUMER GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL FORUMMAHARASHTRA 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