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

Case No. CGRF(NUZ)/64/2015

Applicant : Shri Ganesh Fulchandji Khandekar,

Lihigaon, Post Dighori (Kale),

Taluka Kamptee, Nagpur – 441 104.

Non-applicant: Nodal Officer,

The Executive Engineer,

(O&M) Division No. I, N.R.C., MSEDCL,

NAGPUR.

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

Chairman,

2) Shri Anil Shrivastava Member / Secretary.

ORDER PASSED ON 8.5.2015.

- 1. The applicant filed present grievance application before this Forum on 18.3.2015 under Regulation 6.5 of the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum & Electricity Ombudsman) Regulations, 2006 (hereinafter referred to as Regulations).
- 2. Along with main application the applicant also claimed Interim Relief under section 8.3 of the said regulations.
- 3. Applicants case in brief is that in the month of January 2015 the meter reading had shoot up abnormally and

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he received excessive bill of 50972 units for Rs. 6,54,250/-. This bill is excessive and bill may be revised.

- 4. He approached to I.G.R.C. I.G.R.C. passed order dated 12.3.2015 and gave some relief to the applicant but applicant is not satisfied with this order. Therefore he approached to this Forum.
- 5. Non applicant denied applicants case by filing reply dated 23.3.2015. It is submitted that Meter No. 07225258 has been tested 2 times at Kamptee testing unit and at the laboratory of Testing Division (Rural) Nagpur and meter is found O.K. Meter reading for the month of October 2014, November 2014 and December 2014 was not taken and average bill was issued. As from the bill of January 2015, it is concluded that consumption units are accumulated in the meter and reading shown unit of 50972 kWh is correct. Grievance application deserves to be dismissed.
- 6. Forum heard arguments of both the sides and perused the record.
- 7. CPL shows that in the month of January 2015 consumption is shown 50972 units for 4 months. It is pertinent to note that in the premises of the applicant, there is a Petrol Pump. In February 2014, consumption is 926 units. However, during the period March 2014, April 2014, May 2014 and June 2014 consumption was surprisingly 22 units, 4 units, 4 units & 4 units respectively. Therefore it is clear that some mischief was Page 2 of 5

played by some body. It was Petrol Pump running day and night. In such circumstances, it is impossible to have consumption of 22 units, 4 units, 4 units & 4 units during the period March 2014 to June 2014 respectively and therefore accumulated consumption which was available in the meter is reflected in July 2014 i.e. 1797 units for 4 months.

- 8. Again some mischief was played by some body else. In August 2014, reading is shown 297 units, in September 2014 201 units, in October 2014 382 units, in November 2014 382 units, in December 2014 382 units. Inaccessible status is shown during the month October 2014, November 2014 & December 2014. Therefore this accumulated consumption is reflected in the meter in January 2015 i.e. 50972 units for 4 months. Slab benefit of Rs. 10483.82 is already given to the applicant in January 2015.
- 9. Meter is tested in Testing Laboratory of Kamptee and Secondly meter is tested in the Laboratory of M.S.E.D.C.L. and found O.K. Therefore consumption recorded by the meter is the consumption utilized by the applicant.
- 10. It is pertinent to note that the mischief committed by the meter reader by joining the hands with the applicant is also exposed in MRI data. M.S.E.D.C.L. has produced the entire M.R.I. Data. MRI data shows that consumption of alternate dates are only recorded during the period 20.12.2014 to 12.2.2015. It is noteworthy that after the date 12.2.2015 and 13.2.2015 there are dates of 20.2.2015, 23.2.2015, 25.2.2015 and Page 3 of 5

7.3.2015. Though the petrol pump was working day and night on all dates, in MRI data consumption of every day is not recorded. Gap of about 3 to 8 days is shown during the period 12.2.2015 to 7.3.2015 and there is 1 day or 2 days gap since 20.12.2014 to 12.2.2015. Therefore it is clear that during these suspiciously omitted dates, supply must have been made direct and that is the only reason why in MRI data some dates are intermittently omitted. Therefore it is designly defective system adopted by this VIP consumer, owner of the petrol pump by joining the hands with meter reader.

- 11. Meter is tested in the laboratory of M.S.E.D.C.L. and it is found O.K. Accumulated consumption is shown by the meter and it is correctly reflected in CPL. Slab benefit is already given to the applicant. Therefore bill of the applicant can not be revised.
- 12. We have carefully perused order passed by Learned I.G.R.C. Dt. 12.3.2015 in which it is directed to M.S.E.D.C.L. to revise the bill of the applicant for January 2015 as per connected load 3.2 kW utilized as a continuous service for petrol pump (For 4 months)

1) October 2014 - 2304 units

2) November 2014 - 2304 units

3) December 2014 - 2304 units

4) January 2015 - 2304 units

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- 13. It is further ordered by Learned I.G.R.C. that SDO Mouda may send meter to the manufacturer for investigation for ascertaining any damage and tampering of the meter. As per report of the manufacturer, M.S.E.D.C.L. is at liberty to initiate legal action u/s 138 of Electricity Act 2003. In our opinion, order passed by Learned I.G.R.C. is legal and proper and hence needs no interference. We find no substance and no merits in the grievance application and application deserves to be dismissed.
- 14. In this matter, this Forum had passed Interim Order on Dt. 24.3.2015 granting conditional interim relief to the applicant. Now, we are deciding the grievance application on merits. Therefore it is necessary to set aside and cancel the interim order dated 24.3.2015. Hence following order:

ORDER

- 1) Grievance application is dismissed.
- 2) Interim order dated 24.3.2015 passed by this Forum in this matter is hereby modified and cancelled.

Sd/-(Anil Shrivastava) MEMBER/ SECRETARY Sd/-(Shivajirao S.Patil) CHAIRMAN

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