

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

---

**Case No. CGRF(NUZ)/215/2014**

Applicant : Shri Vishwanath R. Sathawane,  
Plot No. 205, Reshimbagh Chouk,  
Ganpati Apartments,  
Nagpur : 09.

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 1.11.2014.**

1. The applicant filed present grievance application before this Forum on 2.9.2014 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 his meter is burnt on 11.6.2013 but still bills were issued on average basis for the month of July to September 2013. He approached to I.G.R.C. Being aggrieved by the said order he approached to this Forum.

3. Non applicant denied applicant's case by filing reply Dt. 18.9.2014. It is submitted that applicant has Consumer No. 410016738275 being commercial connection of 3 phase since 13.9.2007. CPL shows that during the month of February to June 2013 there was locked status. In July 2013 to August 2013 there was Inaccessible Status and average consumption was shown 518 units per month. In July 2013 to September 2013, faulty status was shown. In September 2013 average bill was issued. It is incorrect to say that though there was no supply bill was issued. Load of the applicant is 5.6 kW. Considering this load consumption is proper.

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

5. It is pertinent to note that Consumer No. 410016738275 is commercial connection of the applicant for Rajani Beer Bar. There is also another commercial of the applicant for Kaustubh Fabrication Consumer No. 410015086606 used for L.T.-VI industrial purpose. We have carefully perused spot inspection report prepared by one Shri Anil Patankar (having no date) in Column 10 of remark column, it is mentioned "Meter was burnt in the month of July 2013 and supply was temporarily shifted on other meter having Consumer No. 410015086606". The burnt meter was disconnected and load was shifted on above mentioned meter. Hence average billing (Faulty) would be withdrawn. This spot inspection report is signed by Anil Patankar. It is pertinent to note that intentionally no date is written any where on spot inspection report either on the top or the bottom for the reasons best known to employee of SNDL Shri Anil Patankar. After careful perusal of the entire record we are of the considered opinion that this spot inspection report is manipulated by the

applicant after joining hands with SNDL employee Shri Anil Patankar and this fact is evident on perusal of CPL of both the meters of the applicant, one for Rajani Beer Bar and another for Kaustubh Fabrication.

6. If really meter was burnt in July 2013 and supply was temporarily shifted on another meter bearing Consumer No. 410015086606, the said consumption of Rajani Beer Bar would have been reflected in CPL of Kaustubha Fabrication. Directions were also given to SNDL to produce another CPL of Kaustubh Fabrication. It is rather surprising to note that in CPL of Kaustubha Fabrication in the month of July 2013 & August 2013 consumption is shown '0' & '0' units respectively. Therefore it is a bold false that meter of the applicant was burnt in July 2013 and supply was shifted on another meter. If really supply of Rajani Beer Bar was diverted on another meter of Kaustubha Fabrication, it was necessary to have at least some consumption in the month of July 2013 and August 2013 of Kaustubha Fabrication but reading in those month as stated above is '0'. Therefore it is clear that though both the shops i.e. Rajani Beer Bar and Kaustubh Fabrication were working, even then '0' consumption was shown. Therefore it is clear that applicant any how succeeded in making these false entries after joining hands with the employees of SNDL. It is noteworthy that in CPL of Consumer No. 410015086606 i.e. Kaustubha Fabrication reading in December 2013 is only '1' units, in January 2014 '0' units, in February 2014, March 2014, April 2014, May 2014, June 2014, July 2014 '0' units every month. In August 2014 only '1' unit. Therefore it is clear cut manipulation. Only inference which can be drawn from the circumstances is that it is the applicant who designed and personally burnt his own meter with dishonest intention to suppress the meter reading. In other words, it is a theft case which ought to have been taken seriously and it was required to

initiate criminal action. Applicant must be thankful to SNDL that he is not prosecuted up till now.

7. As we have already pointed out employee of SNDL Shri Anil Patankar is signatory of spot inspection report but wisely had not mentioned date on the document to suppress his mis-chief. It is common sense that it is necessary to mention date on each and every spot inspection report. This Shri Anil Patankar took bold note that meter is burnt in July 2013 and supply was shifted on another meter but this aspect is falsified by the entries in CPL. Therefore it is bold / utter false that meter was burnt in July 2013 and supply was shifted on another meter. For this purpose, it is necessary to take action against employee of SNDL Shri Anil Patankar in accordance with law. We have also carefully perused CPL of Rajani Beer Bar, Consumer No. 410016738275. It is noteworthy that in March 2012, April 2012 & May 2012 “Locked” status is shown in every month. In July 2012, August 2012, September 2012, October 2012, November 2012 and December 2012 “**Locked**” status is shown in every month. Again in February 2013, March 2013, April 2013, May 2013, June 2013 there was locked status. In July 2013, August 2013, status was Inaccessible. In September 2013 & October 2013, there was faulty status. Even in July 2014 there was Locked status. Rajani Beer Bar is commercial connection. Applicant is running this shop during all Beer Bar hours. Therefore it is impossible to have locked status. According to applicant, there was alleged burning of the meter in July 2013 but surprisingly prior to July 2013 also in all the months there was locked status. This forms a big question mark. Therefore it is clear that applicant is managing the staff of SNDL and not allowing to take accurate meter reading. When a larger period was passed and it was difficult for the staff to show locked status in further period also, then perhaps drama of burning of meter is imagined. Another surprising point is that till

October 2013 there was one and same meter and meter was not changed. Therefore in our considered opinion everything is manipulated in this matter to suppress meter reading of Rajani Beer Bar, Consumer No. 410016738275 and Consumer No. 410015086606 of Kaustubh Fabrication. It needs a serious enquiry and serious action. Record shows that applicant is running both these shops without any payment of bills of electrical energy. Therefore we hold that meter was not burnt but it was intentionally burnt by the applicant to suppress the meter reading and therefore bills can not be revised.

8. Order passed by Learned I.G.R.C. is legal & proper and needs no interference. Hence following order :-

#### ORDER

- 1) Grievance application is dismissed.
- 2) Business Manager of SNDL is hereby directed to take suitable departmental action against its employee Shri Anil Patankar for preparation of undated bogus spot inspection report.
- 3) SNDL is directed to conduct detail enquiry about '0' consumption and faulty status of Consumer No. 410016738275 and consumer No. 410015086606 and to take action against the concerned employee who are responsible for joining hands with the applicant to suppress the consumption.
- 4) Non applicant is directed to submit compliance within 30 days from the date of this order.

Sd/-  
(Anil Shrivastava)  
MEMBER  
SECRETARY

Sd/-  
(Adv. Subhash Jichkar)  
MEMBER

Sd/-  
(Shivajirao S. Patil),  
CHAIRMAN