

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

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**Case No. CGRF(NUZ)/303/2014**

Applicant : Shri Natthu M.Thawakar,  
Godawari, Ramjiwadi,  
Nagpur.

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

Quorum Present : 1) Shri Shivajirao S. Patil,  
Chairman.  
  
2) Adv. Subhash Jichkar  
Member.  
  
3) Shri Anil Shrivastava,  
Member / Secretary.

**ORDER PASSED ON 16.1.2015.**

1. The applicant filed present grievance application before this Forum on 25.11.2014 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 has paid the bills of both the connections Consumer No. 410010335284 and 410010335292 by Cheque Dt. 28.9.2014 for Rs. 640/- & Rs. 550/- respectively. But both the cheques were bounced by the bank due to the discrepancy on

the cheque in respect of date and signature also found missing on the cheque. Therefore SNDL has raised debit of Rs. 350/- for each connection towards administrative charges due to bounced charges. Applicant is denying additional charges saying that such cheques should not have been accepted by collection center Incharge and they should not have been presented in the bank. Applicant requested for withdrawal of additional charges of Rs. 350/- for each connection. Being aggrieved by the order passed by I.G.R.C. rejecting his grievance application, he approached to this Forum.

3. Non applicant denied applicant's case by filing reply Dt. 24.11.2014. It is submitted that applicant issued cheques of Rs. 640/- & 540 Dt. 28.9.2014, for both the connections respectively. However, applicant did not sign the cheques and had not mentioned date on the cheques and therefore the cheques were dishonoured. As per MERC tariff order dated 16.8.2014, additional charges of Rs. 350/- and DPC are leveled in the bill of the applicant. Grievance application deserves to be dismissed.

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

5. During the course of arguments applicant admitted in clear terms that on one cheque he did not sign and on another cheque he did not mention the date. We have carefully perused Commercial Circular No. 175 issued by M.S.E.D.C.L. (Ref. PR-III/Tr/25230 Dt. 5.9.2012). In para 18 of the circular, it is specifically mentioned that –

**18. Administrative Charges for Cheque Bouncing:**

*The Commission has approved the Administrative charges for cheque bouncing of Rs. 350/- irrespective of cheque amount towards compensation of bank charges and MSEDCL's administrative charges.*

6. Therefore as per MERC's tariff order Dt. 16.8.2012, the Commission has approved additional charges of Rs. 350/- per bounced cheque irrespective of cheque amount and charges are applicable from 1.8.2012.

7. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant consumer to issue correct cheque and since this has not been admittedly done by him, therefore charging of administrative charges of Rs. 350/- per cheque is quite justified and it is approved as per schedule of charges fixed by MERC vide its order Dt. 16.8.2012 in case No. 19/12. Therefore these charges can not be withdrawn.

8. Order passed by Learned I.G.R.C. is legal and proper and therefore needs no interference. 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