

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

Case No. CGRF(NUZ)/176/2006

- Applicant : Shri Vasant M. Rewatkar
At post Bhisnoor,
Taluka, Narkhed,
Dist. Nagpur.
- Non-applicant : MSEDCL represented by
the Nodal Officer-
Executive Engineer,
Katol 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.

ORDER (Passed on 24.01.2007)

The present grievance application has been filed
on 26.12.2006 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 non-energisation of his agricultural (electrical) pump despite payment of demand note amount and submission of test report etc.

Before approaching this Forum the applicant had filed his complaint under the said Regulations on 09.11.2006 before the Internal Grievance Redressal Cell (in short the Cell). The Cell, upon enquiry, passed an order on 29.11.2006 rejecting the applicant's grievance. The Cell held that electric connection shall be released to the applicant as per seniority list maintained for the purpose of energization of agriculturalists' electric pumps on first come first served' basis. being aggrieved by this decision of the Cell, the applicant has filed this grievance application under the said Regulations.

The matter was heard by us on 19.01.2007.

A copy of the parawise report submitted on 19.01.2007 by the non-applicant was given to the applicant and he was given opportunity to make his submissions on this parawise report also.

The applicant contended that he had applied for releasing a new electricity connection for his agricultural pump on 12.08.2005. He has also paid the demand note amount of Rs.4,270/- on 25.11.2005 issued by the non-applicant. He had also submitted the requisite test report on 30.11.2005. Despite this position, his application is still pending without releasing the new electricity connection. He

further submitted that the demand note issued by the non-applicant was under zero pole scheme. He requested that the electricity connection may be released immediately and that he may also be compensated as per provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. He has demanded compensation of Rs.25,000/- towards the losses incurred by him and also compensation of Rs.5,000/- towards his mental harassment.

The non-applicant has stated in his parawise report and also in his oral submissions that the demand note of Rs.4270/- was issued to the applicant as normal service connection charges for releasing the connection and further that augmentation of the existing infrastructure is necessary in this case. One pole is required to be erected considering the distance of 0.042 Km. of LT line. The applicant stands at serial no. 127 as per the sub-division's seniority list. The applicant will have to pay additional amount of Rs.10,000/- in addition to the demand note amount already paid by him if he wants connection out of turn. He added that electricity supply can be given as per the time-schedule prescribed by MERC if the applicant pays the entire cost of infrastructure under REC-SPA scheme. Electricity connections are released to the agricultural pumps depending upon receipt of funds borrowed from REC and subsidy from Govt. Works are carried out as per target fixed by the Govt. and connections are released on 'first come first served' basis as per Regulation 4.4 of the MERC (Supply Code and Other Conditions of Supply) Regulations, 2005. He further submitted that in case the applicant wants connection early, he should pay the entire estimated cost of the work as per Regulation 3.3 of the Supply Code Regulations.

The non-applicant has produced on record a copy of the order dated 22.08.2006 passed by the Ombudsman under the said Regulations in representation no. 49/2006 in a similar matter of giving electricity connection to agricultural pump. This case pertains to Sangli District. Relying on this citation, the contention of the non-applicant is that the Ombudsman had held in this case that the appellant before him is required to pay all expenses as specified in Regulation 3.3.2 of the Supply Code Regulations in order that he becomes eligible to get electricity connection within the time stipulated in the MERC (Standards of Performance of Distribution Licensees, Period for Giving Supply and Determination of Compensation) Regulations, 2005 hereinafter referred to as the SOP Regulations.

The stand taken by the non-applicant based on the Ombudsman's order is correct. The applicant will have to pay the expenses in terms of Regulation 3.3.2 of the Supply Code Regulations in order that he becomes eligible to get electricity connection within the time stipulated in the SOP Regulations. His request for award of compensation cannot also be granted in view of above position.

During the course of hearing when asked as to the date by which the applicant's agricultural pump can be energized under the existing circumstances, the non-applicant replied that the applicant's agricultural pump shall be positively energized on or before 31.03.2007. The applicant thereupon voluntarily stated that he is prepared to wait till 31.03.2007. Thus, the applicant's agricultural pump is going to be energized before 31.03.2007.

Considering this position, we find that no other points survive now.

The grievance application thus stands disposed off accordingly.

Sd/-	Sd/-	Sd/-
(S.J. Bhargawa)	(Smt. Gauri Chandrayan)	(S.D. Jahagirdar)
Member-Secretary	MEMBER	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**