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

Case No. CGRF(NUZ)/169/2013

Applicant : Shri Gurudeosingh K. Mohor,

Sonarpura, Gurunanak Medical College, OLE No. KGN/39, Swarnajayanti nagar,

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 B.A. Wasnik, Member Secretary.

ORDER PASSED ON 11.9.2013.

- 1. The applicant filed present grievance application before this Forum on 23.8.2013 under Regulation 6.5 of the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum & Electricity Ombudsman) Regulations, 2006 (hereinafter referred to as Regulations).
- 2. The applicants' case in brief is that M/s. SPANCO has disconnected residential supply without notice. Applicant approached to I.G.R.C. I.G.R.C. passed order but applicant did not satisfy with order of I.G.R.C. and therefore filed present grievance application

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before this Forum. It is requested that supply may restored, compensation may be given as per S.O.P. and bill may be revised.

- Non applicant M/s. SPANCO denied applicant's case by filing reply dt. 10.9.2013. It is submitted that bill issued to the consumer is correct and proper. I.G.R.C. has passed order Dt. 16.8.2013. M/s. SPANCO will comply the said order. Grievance application may be dismissed.
- 4. Forum heard arguments of both the sides and perused the record.
- 5. C.P.L. of the consumer shows that supply was released on 11.7.2011. However, surprisingly first bill was issued in December 2011 for 5 months on average of 200 units per month. Thereafter bills from January 2012 to May 2013 were issued on average basis with "RNT" Meter Status. Bill for June 2013 is issued for 3554 units for 12 months giving credit of past bill slab benefit. It appears that so far as issuance of bill is concerned, bill appears to be correct. However, it highly objectionable that issuance of metered consumption bills for 23 months in one stroke is definitely improper and illegal. It is common sense that poor consumer can not pay 23 months bill in one stroke. There are specific regulation framed by Hon'ble MERC and as per those regulations it is bounden duty of distribution licensee or it's franchisee to issue monthly bills. Therefore issuance of bill of 23 months in one stroke is not proper. We fail to understand as to why applicant meter could not be read for 23 months and metered consumption bill was not issued from time to time. In such

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circumstances definitely applicant is entitled for withdrawal of DPC / interest and accordingly suitable installments for making payment.

5. Furthermore, non applicant has disconnected theelectricity supply without service of statutory notice. True it is that non applicant produced one copy of notice Dt. 3.4.2013 alleged to have been issued u/s 56 of Electricity Act 2003. However, there is nothing on record to show that this notice was either served personally on the applicant or at least sent by U.P.C. Therefore non applicant filed to prove that they have issued statutory notice u/s 56 of Electricity Act 2003 and hence disconnection without notice is illegal. Therefore supply needs to be restored. During the course of hearing applicant expressed his willingness that he is ready to pay Rs. 5000/- within 3 days and he will pay remaining amount of Rs. 18000/- in suitable installments. On this premises, Forum proceeds to pass following order:-

ORDER

- 1) Grievance application is partly allowed.
- 2) Non applicant is hereby directed to revise the bill of the applicant as per the directions given in the order of Learned I.G.R.C. Dt. 16.8.2013.
- 3) Suitable installments for payment of arrears are hereby granted to the applicant as below : -
- a) Applicant shall pay Rs. 5000/- within 3 days and on such payment non applicant shall restore electricity supply of the applicant forthwith.
- b) Applicant shall pay remaining arrears of Rs. 18000/- in six installments of Rs. 3000/- per month along with current bills.

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- c) In case of any default by the applicant in above said payment, non applicant is at liberty to recover the amount at once and may disconnect the supply after service of statutory notice u/s 56 of Electricity Act 2003.
- d) Non applicant to comply within 30 days from the date of this order.

(Shri B.A. Wasnik) MEMBER / SECRETARY (Adv.Subhash Jichkar) MEMBER (ShriShivajirao S.Patil) CHAIRMAN

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