## BEFORE THE FORUM

### FOR REDRESSAL OF CONSUMER GRIEVANCES

# IN SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF A.P LIMITED TIRUPATI

On this the day of 29 th May 2018

In C.G. No: 321/2017-18/Tirupati Circle

### Present

Sri. A. Jagadeesh Chandra Rao Sri. A. Sreenivasulu Reddy Sri. D. Subba Rao Sri. Dr. R. Surendra Kumar Chairperson Member (Finance) Member (Technical) Independent Member

Between

Sri. K. Arun Kumar, Basavaiahpalem, Thotttambedu (M), Srikalahasti, Chittoor – Dist Complainant

AND

- 1. Assistant Accounts Officer/ERO/Srikalahasti
- 2. Assistant Engineer/CCO/Thottambedu
- 3. Assistant Divisional Engineer/OSD/Srikalahasti

Respondents

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### ORDER

- 1. A consumer complaint was received from Sri K. Arun Kumar, Basavaiahpalem, Thottambedu, Srikalahasti during the Vidyut Adalat conducted at Srikalahasti on 25.01.2018 wherein he has informed that a huge bill was issued and he is not able to pay the amount in lumpsum and hence requested to permit him to pay the bill in installments. At present he preferred to pay 50% of the amount.
- 2. The Respondent No.1 in his written submission has explained that a notice was served on the complainant for payment of Rs.43,546/- towards short billing amount since the service was released under wrong sub category, the complainant is liable for payment of the said amount since the short billing is raised for the actual sub category for which he is availing supply.
- 3. A personal hearing was conducted in the Forum office on 18.4.2018 for which both the complainant and Respondents 1,2 and 3 attended.

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- 4. Heard both the parties.
- 5. The Respondents reiterated their stand that the complainant is liable to pay the amount since the same is in accordance with the tariff order only. The complainant has requested to grant permission to pay the amount in installments.
- 6. On perusal of the short billing statement furnished by the Respondent No.1 it is observed that the Respondents have erroneously billed the service connection under agua culture tariff instead of industrial Category -III (General) from 10/2016 to 01/2018 and thus the shortfall amount of Rs.43,546/-. The complainant is not at fault he had cleared all the bills as per the demand notices issued. The short assessment arised only on account of erroneous categorization by the Respondents. Hence it is pertinent to point out that the request of the complainant to allow him to pay the amount in installments is quite reasonable.
- 7. In the light of the above, the Respondents are directed to permit the complainant to pay the balance short assessment amount in six equal monthly installments. Accordingly the case is disposed off.

If aggrieved by this order, the complainant may represent to the Vidyut Ombudsman, Andhra Pradesh, Flat No:401, 4th Floor, Ashoka Chambers, Opposite to MLA Quarters, Adarsh Nagar, Hyderabad-500063, within 30 days from the date of receipt of this order. This order is passed on this, the 29 th day of May 2018.

Sd/-Member (Finance) Sd/-

Sd/-

Sd/

Member (Technical)

**Independent Member** 

Chairperson

Forwarded By Orders

Secretary to the Forum

To

The Complainant

The Respondents

Copy to the General Manager/CSC/Corporate Office/ Tirupati for pursuance in this matter. Copy to the Nodal Officer(Chief General Manager/Operation)/CGRF/APSPDCL/TPT Copy Submitted to the Vidyut Ombudsman, Andhra Pradesh, Flat No:401,4th Floor, Ashoka Chambers, Opposite to MLA Quarters, Adarsh Nagar, Hyderabad-500063. Copy Submitted to the Secretary, APERC, 11-4-660, 4th Floor, Singareni Bhavan, Red Hills, Lakdikapool, Hyderabad- 500 004.

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