

CONSUMER GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL FORUM

CENTRAL REGION

(Formed under Section 42(5) of the Electricity Act 2003)

220 kV Substation Compound, HMT Colony P.O., Kalamassery, Pin – 683 503
Phone No. 0484-2556500 Website: cgrf.kseb.in, Email: cgrf.ekm@gmail.com,
CUG No. 9496008719

Present

(1) Smt. Sheeba. P
 (2) Smt. Jayanthi. S
 (3) Sri. Biju Varghese

Chairperson
2nd Member
3rd Member

Petitioner

Sri. Johnson. V. George,
 28/922, Zodiac Square,
 S.A. Road, Kadavanthara,
 Kochi, Pin -682 020

Respondent

The Assistant Executive Engineer,
 Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd,
 Electrical Sub Division,
 College, Ernakulam
 (Electrical Section, Girinagar)

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No.CGRF-CR/OP No.81/2023-24

Date:12.03.2024.

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ORDER

Background of the case:

The petitioner holds a Low Tension VII-A tariff connection with consumer number 1155428025755 under the Electrical Section, Girinagar, Ernakulam District, with a sanctioned connected load of 25000 Watts. Initially, the connected load of the consumer was 9240 Watts. Subsequently, the petitioner remitted Rs.15,000/- as Additional Cash Deposit (ACD) on 27.12.2018 for enhancing the connected load to 25000 Watts. However, during an audit conducted by the Regional Audit Office, of the licensee, it was discovered that the Estimated Cost of Service Connection (ECSC) charges amounting to Rs. 14,550/- plus GST for the connected load enhancement had not been collected from the petitioner. Consequently, following the audit report, the petitioner was issued a demand notice

for Rs. 14550 plus GST and directed to remit the same amount. Dissatisfied with this, the petitioner filed a complaint before this Forum.

Version of the Petitioner:-

The petitioner has enhanced the connected load of the connection from 9240 Watts to 25000 Watts. For this, they have remitted Rs.15,000/- as Additional Cash Deposit (ACD) on 27.12.2018. Later, the petitioner received a notice from Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section Girinagar, to remit Rs.14550 plus GST as short collection of ECSC charges in connection with load enhancement. The connected load enhancement has been made during 2018. The petitioner states that the claim of KSEBL is barred by limitation embodied in Section 56(2) of the Electricity Act, 2003.

Version of the Respondent:-

The Petitioner's connection is three phase with connected load of 25000 Watts under Electrical Section, Girinagar. Initially, the connected load was 9240 Watts. The connected load was enhanced to 25000 Watts during 2018. For this purpose, Rs.15000/- was collected from the petitioner as ACD but no ECSC charges were collected. Regional Audit Officer in their audit report dated 31.12.2020 pointed out this short collection. Then, Office of the Assistant Engineer demanded this amount from the petitioner.

The respondent further informed that in connection with the complaint, they have inspected the premises of the petitioner and found that the connection was given to fifth floor of a multi storied building. The respondent also submits that the internal distribution net-works of this premises has been done by the consumer. It is also submitted that in such cases where the internal distribution net-works in a multi storied building has been done by the consumers, then the consumer is not liable to pay ECSC amount. So the Assistant Engineer of the Section was directed to cancel the demand notice issued to the petitioner.

Analysis and findings:

No hearing was conducted for this petition. Having examined the petition in detail and the statement of facts of the respondent, considering all the facts and circumstances in detail and perusing all the documents of both sides, the Forum comes to the following observations, conclusions and decisions thereof.

The respondent has informed before this Forum that the petitioner is not obligated to pay the Estimated Cost of Service Connection (ECSC) charges. According to a letter dated 20.02.2024 issued by the Office of Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section Girinagar, the demand note raised for the ECSC charges amounting to Rs. 14550 plus GST was subsequently cancelled. Following the issuance of this letter, the petitioner withdrew their petition filed before this Forum. Consequently, the petitioner informed this Forum of their withdrawal of the petition in this matter.

Given that the demand note issued to the petitioner has been cancelled and the petition before this Forum has been withdrawn by the petitioner, the matter is considered settled and disposed of accordingly.

DECISION:

Considering the above facts and circumstances, the Forum issues the following orders:-

1. The petitioner is allowed to withdraw the petition.

2. No cost ordered.

The petitioner is at liberty to file appeal before the State Electricity Ombudsman, D.H. Road, Off shore Road Junction, Near Gandhi Square, Ernakulam, Pin – 682 016 (Ph: 0484 -2346488 , Mobile No. 8714356488) within 30 days of receipt of this order, if not satisfied with this decision.

Dated this 12th day of March 2024

Sd/-

Sri.Biju Varghese
3rd Member
CGRF, Ernakulam

Sd/-

Smt. Jayanthi.S
2nd Member
CGRF-CR, Ekm

Sd/-

Smt. Sheeba. P
(CHAIRPERSON)
CGRF-CR, Ernakulam

Endt. On CGRF-CR/OP No.81/2023-24 Dated

Delivered to

Sri. Johnson. V. George,
28/922, Zodiac Square,
S.A. Road, Kadavanthra,
Kochi, Pin -682 020

Sd/-
CHAIRPERSON
(DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER)
CGRF-CR, KALAMASSERRY

Copy submitted to: 1)The Secretary, KSEBL, Vydhyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom,
Thiruvananthapuram.
“ 2) The Secretary, Kerala State Regulatory Commission,
KPFC Bhavanam, C.V Raman Pillai Road, Vellayambalam,
Thiruvananthapuram.

Copy to: - (1) The Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, KSEBL, Ernakulam
(2) The Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, KSEBL, Ernakulam
(3) The Assistant Executive Engineer, Electrical Sub Division KSEBL,
College, Ernakulam
(4) The Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section, Girinagar