

**CONSUMER GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL FORUM  
KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD- SOUTHERN REGION  
VYDYUTHI BHAVANAM, KOTTARAKKARA**

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Present: 1. Smt.Laila.N.G,Deputy Chief Engineer, Chairperson  
2. Sri. Sanjeev Koshy,Executive Engineer, Member II  
3. Sri.C.K.Harikumar,Advocate,Member III

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>December,2023

**OP No.54/2023**

Between

Petitioner: The Director (SEMAT- Kerala)  
State Institute of  
Educational Management and Training,  
Kerala, M.G. Road,  
East Fort Thiruvananthapuram.

And

Respondents: (1) The Assistant Executive Engineer,  
Electrical Sub Division, Fort, Thiruvananthapuram.

(2) The Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section, Fort, Thiruvananthapuram.

**ORDER**

**1. Grievance of the petitioner**

The petitioner is a consumer under Electrical Section Fort, bearing consumer No.1145034013900.He is aggrieved by a short assessment bill amounting to Rs.2,01,032/- , based on the report of Regional audit wing of the licensee. The petitioner (SIEMAT- Kerala) is an autonomous institution aided and run by Government of Kerala.

They were assigned LT VIA tariff but based on the report of the Audit wing of the licensee tariff was changed from LT VI A to LT VI B from 01/2016 onwards. Hence a short assessment bill amounting to Rs.2,01,032/- was issued to the petitioner for the period from 01/2016 to 12/2022. Also the petitioner has filed a complaint before the Kerala State Regulatory Commission for hearing about this matter. The decision of commission is awaited. So the petitioner prays the Forum to quash short assessment amount and retain the tariff at LT VIA.

## **2. Version of the respondent**

SIEMAT- Kerala is a consumer under Electrical Section Fort, Thiruvananthapuram bearing consumer No.1145034013900. It is registered under "Travancore Cochin Literacy scientific and charitable Societies Act XII of 1995," 30.03.2004. Electricity bill were issued with LT VI A tariff under the assumption that SIEMAT- Kerala is a Government aided educational Institution. Based on the Regional Audit Office report dated 24/11/22, it is decided to change the tariff from LT VIA to LT VIB from 2016 onwards. Subsequently, a short assessment bill of Rs.2,01,032/- was issued at LT VIB tariff is applicable to state/central Government offices or institution as decided by the Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission. Based on this, as a section initiated tariff change the tariff of SIEMAT- Kerala was changed from LT VIA to LT VI B on 01.12.2022. On 08.12.2022 a short assessment bill of Rs.2,01,032/- was issued. Even though satisfactory explanation was given they have approached The Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission for Redressal for grievances.

The primary aim of SIEMAT- Kerala is to impart training management for various institutes under Government Sector. So SIEMAT- Kerala is not considered as an educational institution. It is not regularly conducting classes as educational institution. So it is a government aided institute. No penal interest or surcharge has been levied from them, only short assessed amount has been demanded. This amount can be refunded as and when the Kerala State regulatory Commission orders. So the respondent prays the Forum to dismiss the petition.

## **3. Analysis and Findings**

Hearing was conducted on 17.10.2023 both the petitioner and respondent were present and heard the matter in detail. On going through the petition and other documents in file the Forum viewed that the case is with regard to issuance of short assessment bill amounting to Rs.2,01,032 /- and change of tariff from LT VIA to LT VI B by licensee. The petitioner contended that it is unjustifiable to issue such an amount. The respondent argues that from the official website of SIEMAT- Kerala their primary aim is to impart training in management. So tariff was fixed from LT VIA to LT VIB. The respondent further reported that the short assessed amount can be refunded as and when the Kerala State Regulatory Commission orders. The Forum viewed from the statement of both respondent and petitioner that subject matter is under consideration of Kerala State Regulatory Commission. So the Forum does not want to go into the merit of the case.

#### **4. Decision**

Considering the facts and circumstances of the case mentioned above the Forum ordered as follows.

1. The respondent is directed to assign suitable tariff to the petitioner as directed by the Kerala State Regulatory Commission.
2. No order as to cost.

If the petitioner is not satisfied with the above order of this Forum, he is at liberty to prefer appeal before the Electricity Ombudsman within 30 days from the date of receipt of this order.

The address of the Electricity Ombudsman is furnished below.

*'The State Electricity Ombudsman, D.H & Foreshore Road Junction, Near Gandhi Square, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682 016. Phone: 0484 2346488'.*

Sd/-	Sd/-	Sd/-
C .K.HARIKUMAR	SANJEEV KOSHY	LAILA.N.G
ADVOCATE MEMBER III	EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MEMBER II	DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER CHAIRPERSON

Forwarded  
Sd/-

CHAIRPERSON  
(DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER)

No: CGRF/KTR/OP No.54/2023/317

Dated :19 /12/2023

Delivered to: 1. The Director (SEMAT- Kerala), State Institute of Educational Management and Training, Kerala, M.G. Road East Fort Thiruvananthapuram.

2. The Assistant Executive Engineer, Electrical Sub Division, Fort, Thiruvananthapuram.

3. The Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section, Fort Thiruvananthapuram.

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, KSERC, KPFC Bhavanam, Vellayambalam, Thiruvananthapuram.

2. The Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Thiruvananthapuram.

3. The Executive Engineer, Electrical Division ,Power House Building Thiruvananthapuram.