VIDYUT OMBUDSMAN FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA



First Floor 33/11 kV substation, Hyderabad Boats Club Lane Lumbini Park, Hyderabad - 500 063

:: Present:: **R. DAMODAR** Friday, the Eleventh Day of July 2015 Appeal No. 64 of 2015 Preferred against Order Dt. 11-08-2015 of CGRF In CG.No: 32/2015 of Mahaboobnagar Circle

Between

M/s Scan Energy and Power Limited, 8-2-418, Meenakshi House,5th Floor, Road No. 7, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad - 500 034, Cell 8885027772.

... Appellant

<u>AND</u>

- 1. The ADE/OP/Shadnagar/TSSPDCL/Mahaboobanagar Dist.
- 2. The SAO/OP/Mahaboobanagar/TSSPDCL/Mahaboobnagar Dist.
- 3. The DE/OP/Jedcherla/TSSPDCL/Mahaboobanagar Dist.
- 4. The SE/OP/MBNR Circle/TSSDCL/Mahaboobnagar Dist.

... Respondents

The above appeal filed on 09.09.2015 coming up for hearing before the Vidyut Ombudsman, Telangana State on 10.12.2015 at Hyderabad and having considered the record and submissions of both the parties, the Vidyut Ombudsman passed the following;

<u>AWARD</u>

The Appellant has a HT Service Connection No. MBN 890 with CMD of 9990 KVA with voltage level prescribed at 33 Kv dedicated feeder. The complainant claims that the Respondents issued a wrong bill levying voltage surcharge during December, 2014, February and March, 2015 amounting to Rs 85,85,515/-. The Appellant claimed this voltage surcharge as contrary to the Tariff Order,2013-14. The Appellant asserted that their RMD is less than CMD and therefore levying of voltage surcharge is untenable.

2. The Respondents claimed that the Appellant had availed RMD exceeding CMD of 9990 with the licensee and therefore, the Appellant was levied voltage surcharge.

3. The Respondents further claimed that the Appellant filed Writ Petition in the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad in WP No. 18789/2015 in which the Hon'ble High Court issued interim order dt. 25.06.2015 in WP MP No. 24289 of 2015 that "There shall be interim stay of disconnection of power supply for non payment of the amount towards purported voltage surcharge for the months of December, 2014, February and March, 2015 until further orders."

4. The CGRF, in view of the pendency in the writ petition in the matter opined that the matter is subjudice and it is not appropriate on the part of the forum to issue directions, and disposed of the complaint through the impugned orders.

5. Aggrieved and not satisfied with the impugned orders, the Appellant preferred the present Appeal.

6. During the hearing, the Appellant was informed about the pendency of Writ Petition and their attempt to chose the forums. The Appellant then submitted a reply dt. 9.12.2015 stating that the management of the Appellant has decided not to withdraw the cases pending in the Hon'ble High Court in respect of the voltage surcharge.

7. Under Section 42 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the right of the Appellant under the Subsection 5(Forum for redressal of grievance), Sub section (6) Appeal to Ombudsman, shall be without prejudice to the right which the consumer may have, apart from the rights conferred by him by those Subsections under subsection 7.

8. As per regulation 3 of 2015 dt. 16.9.2015 of TSERC there are special provisions for entertaining Appeals by the Ombudsman. Clause 3.19.C reads as follows:

"The representation by the complainant, in respect of the same grievance, is not pending in any proceedings in any court, tribunal or arbitrator or any other authority; a decree or award or a final order has not been passed by any such court, tribunal, arbitrator or authority, a representation may be entertained by the Ombudsman."

9. In the present case the Writ Petition No. 18789/2015 on the file of the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad filed by the Appellant is pending disposal regarding voltage surcharge imposed in the CC bill of December,2014, February and March,2015 which is also the subject matter of the present Appeal. Thus as per clause 3.19.(C) of Regulation No.3 of 2015 of TSERC the Appeal is not maintainable. The Appellant submitted that its management has decided not to withdraw the cases pending on the file of the Honble High Court of Judicature at hyderabad.

10. Under the circumstances the Appeal is found not maintainable and is dismissed as such.

Corrected, Signed and Pronounced on this 11th day of December, 2015.

Sd/-

VIDYUT OMBUDSMAN

TYPED BY CCO

- M/s Scan Energy and Power Limited, 8-2-418, Meenakshi House, 5th Floor, Road No. 7, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad - 500 034, Cell 8885027772.
- 2. The ADE/OP/Shadnagar/TSSPDCL/Mahaboobanagar Dist.
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- 5. The SE/OP/MBNR Circle/TSSDCL/Mahaboobnagar Dist.

Copy to:

- 6. The Chairman, CGRF, Rural, TSSPDCL, Erragadda, Hyderabad.
- 7. The Secretary, TSERC, 5th Floor, Singareni Bhavan, Red Hills, Hyderabad.