

**PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED  
FORUM FOR REDRESSAL OF GRIEVANCES OF CONSUMERS  
P-1 WHITE HOUSE, RAJPURA COLONY, PATIALA  
PHONE: 0175-2214909 ; FAX : 0175-2215908**

Case No. CG-65 of 2013

Instituted on : 22.05.2013

Closed on : 25.06.2013

**Sh. Rajinder Singh ,  
S/O Sh. Ajmer Singh ,  
H.No.200, New Punjabi Bagh,  
Patiala.**

..... Appellant

**Name of the Op. Division: Comml.Patiala.**

A/c No. 300060470

Through

Sh. Rajinder Singh, PR

V/s

**PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD. ....Respondent**

Through

**Er. Surinder Loomba, ASE/Op. Comml. Divn., Patiala.**

**BRIEF HISTORY**

Petition No. CG-65 of 2013 was filed against order dt. 20.03.2013 of the CDSC, Patiala deciding that the account of the consumer from dt.27.02.2012 to the period upto 'D' code, be overhauled on the basis of consumption of corresponding period of previous year.

The consumer is having NRS category connection with sanctioned load of 19.800 KW operating under AEE/Comml. East Sub-Divn.Patiala.

The consumer was billed on 'D' code on average consumption basis of 6530 units for the period 19.05.12 to 12.09.12. In this bill arrear amount

of Rs.40,406/- for three energy bills prior to this period was also included. Further two more energy bills were issued to the consumer on 'D' code and the balance amount recoverable from the consumer became Rs.1,19,790/-. The consumer made an appeal in the CDSC on the basis that the premises which was occupied by a coaching center was vacated on 31.12.2011. After that his house remained vacant and he had been charged on the basis of previous year consumption due to defective meter, when the Coaching Centre was running in his premises.

The CDSC heard the case on 20.03.2013 and decided that the account of the consumer be overhauled from dt. 27.02.2012 to the date upto 'D' code on the basis of corresponding period. As per the decision of the CDSC, the AEE/East Comml.Sub-Divn.Patiala overhauled the account for the period 27.02.2012 to 12.09.2012 on the basis of corresponding period. An amount of Rs.38491/- has been adjusted (alongwith surcharge) and consumer was asked to deposit balance amount of Rs.65,074/- within a week vide notice dt. 9.04.2013.

Being not satisfied with the decision of the CDSC, the consumer made an appeal in the Forum. The Forum heard the case on 04.06.2013, 11.06.2013, 18.06.2013 and finally on 25.06.2013, when the case was closed for passing speaking orders.

**Proceedings:**

PR contended that prior to 31-12-2011 the Educational Institution was running in these premises. After 31-12- 2011 the premises was vacated by the Educational Institution & the house was closed. After that only one or two points were to be used & the consumption was

minimum. If the meter is giving high consumption in this period then it seems that the meter is defective and running fast. Now the meter has been changed about three months ago which is giving actual consumption. So the disputed period billing from 31-12-11 may be billed on the basis of consumption of new meter. PR also submitted original Rent agreement the same has been verified by the Forum and copies of the rent agreement has been taken on record.

Respondent contended that the amount is outstanding against the consumer due to non-regular payment of bill. The average charged was due to defective meter which was not taken correctly by the system. The CDSC has rightly decided the case and given due relief to the consumer which has been credited to their account. The contention of the consumer that the meter is running fast is not tenable as the consumer has never challenge the accuracy of the meter & also no grievance in this regard has ever been made by the consumer. The amount. charged is as per prevailing regulation and is chargeable.

Both the parties have nothing more to say and submit.

The case is closed for speaking orders.

**Observations of the Forum:**

Written submission made in the petition, reply, written arguments of the respondents as well as petitioner and other material on record have been perused and carefully considered.

Forum observed that the account of the consumer for the disputed period was overhauled due to defective meter ('D' code) on the basis of average consumption recorded during the corresponding period of the last year(2011). On the other side the consumer contended in his appeal that he is a teacher and he rented out his 'Kothi' on rent to an educational institute from 01.03.2011 to 31.12.2011. The institution vacated his premises on 31.12.2011 as per rent agreement. The premises is lying vacant from 01.01.2012 to-date. The meter got defective in Feb/ 2012. PSPCL could not replace the energy meter timely. Had PSPCL replaced the meter timely, probably billing would have been on actual basis & consumer will not have been under distress/stress.

Forum observed that overhauling the account of disputed period on the basis of consumption recorded during the year 2011 is not justified. So Forum is of the view that the account of the consumer for the disputed period be overhauled on the basis of consumption recorded during the year 2010/2011.

**Decision:**

Keeping in view the petition, reply, oral discussions, and after hearing both the parties, verifying the record produced by them & observations of Forum, Forum decides that:

- \* **The account of the consumer for the period from 27.02.2012 to the date of change of meter i.e. 19.03.2013 be overhauled on the basis of the consumption recorded in the corresponding months of the year 2010/2011.**

- \* Forum further decides that the balance amount recoverable/refundable, if any, be recovered/refunded from/to the consumer along-with interest/surcharge as per instructions of PSPCL.
- \* As required under Section-19 (1) & 19 (1A) of Punjab State Regulatory Commission (Forum & Ombudsman) Regulation-2005, the implementation of this decision may be intimated to this office within 30 days from the date of receipt of this letter.

(CA Rajinder Singh)  
Member/CAO

(K.S.Grewal)  
Member/Independent

(Er.Ashok Goyal)  
EIC/Chairman