

**COURT OF THE LOK PAL (OMBUDSMAN),  
ELECTRICITY, PUNJAB,  
PLOT NO. A-2, INDUSTRIAL AREA, PHASE-1,  
S.A.S. NAGAR (MOHALI).**

**(Constituted under Sub Section (6) of Section 42 of  
Electricity Act, 2003)**

**APPEAL No. 03/2025  
PROCEEDINGS DATED 06.03.2025**

**In the Matter of:**

M/s. K.K. Rice Mills,  
Mannwala Road,  
Dhuri-148024.

**Contract Account Number: S82MS820265H (MS)**  
...Appellant

Versus

Addl. Superintending Engineer,  
DS Division, PSPCL,  
Dhuri.

...Respondent

**Present For:**

Appellant: Sh. Kashmir Singh,  
Appellant's Representative.

Respondent : Er. Mohanpreet Singh,  
AEE, DS Division, PSPCL,  
Dhuri.

At the start of hearing, the issue of condoning of delay in filing the Appeal beyond the stipulated period was taken up. The Appellant's Representative submitted that the Appellant did not have any knowledge of the amount payable as per decision dated 15.01.2025 of the Corporate Forum, Ludhiana until it received Notice No. 286 dated

10.02.2023. So, the delay was due to late receiving of Notice from the PSPCL. The Appellant's Representative requested this Court for the condonation of delay in filing the Appeal & prayed that Appeal be heard on merits in the interest of justice. I find that the Respondent did not object to the condoning of the delay in filing the Appeal in this Court either in its written reply or during hearing in this Court.

In this connection, I have gone through Regulation 3.18 of PSERC (Forum and Ombudsman) Regulations, 2016 which reads as under: -

*"No representation to the Ombudsman shall lie unless:*

*(ii) The representation is made within 30 days from the date of receipt of the order of the Forum.*

*Provided that the Ombudsman may entertain a representation beyond 30 days on sufficient cause being shown by the complainant that he/she had reasons for not filing the representation within the aforesaid period of 30 days."*

It was observed that refusal to condone the delay in filing the Appeal would deprive the Appellant of the opportunity required to be afforded to defend the case on merits. Therefore, with a view to meet the ends of ultimate justice, the delay in filing the Appeal in this Court

beyond the stipulated period was condoned and the Appellant's Representative was allowed to present the case.

Arguments of both the parties were heard. The Respondent submitted that the meter was not defective but only its display was defective. He was asked to get the clarification in this regard in writing from the Sr. Xen/Enforcement-cum-EA & MMTS, Barnala & produce it before this Court. He was also asked to provide the para-wise reply to the Appeal alongwith the supporting documents & the consumption data upto date well before the date of hearing. The Respondent asked for time of two weeks, which was granted by this Court.

The next date of hearing is fixed for 24.03.2025 at 12.30 PM. Both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing.

March 06, 2025  
S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali).

(ANJULI CHANDRA)  
Lokpal (Ombudsman)  
Electricity, Punjab.