

BEFORE THE CONSUMER GRIEVANCES REDRESSAL FORUM  
(Under the Electricity Act, 2003)  
PUDUCHERRY

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PRESENT:

**THIRU T. GOPALAKRISHNAN, B.E.,**  
CHAIRMAN

**THIRU A.S. JITENDRA RAO, B. Tech., M.B.A.,**  
LICENSEE MEMBER

**THIRU R. KRISHNAMURTHY, B.Com., LLB., PGDFL.,**  
JERC NOMINATED MEMBER

THURSDAY, THE 23<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2023

**CONSUMER CASE No.06/2023**

**SUO MOTO PETITION taken on file based on the article published in The Hindu daily dated 13/01/2023**

- 1) The Executive Engineer –Rural-North O&M,  
Electricity Department,  
Puducherry.
- 2) The Assistant Engineer -Lawspet,  
Electricity Department,  
Puducherry.
- 3) The Junior Engineer –Gorimedu,  
Electricity Department,  
Puducherry.

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Respondents

This case in C.C. No.06/2023 came up before this Forum for final hearing on 13/02/2023. After having stood over till this date for consideration this Forum has delivered the following:

The case of the Complainant is as follows:

1. An Article was published in the English newspaper 'The Hindu' dated 13/01/2023. In the complaint it has been stated that the Thattanchavady Industrial Estate was set up by the Government of Puducherry in the year 1962. There are

around 90 industrial units and employs more than 2000 people including women. For a long time there has been no improvement in lighting in the industrial area. The workers are facing difficulties in commuting through stretches of the industrial estate. The workers are very unsafe while passing through stretches having vacant plots. People in evening standing in groups are drinking in open places and creating nuisance. Women workers feel unsafe during the night hours. In some streets, poles were also not erected to put up lights. Under the cover of darkness the area is prone to criminal activities. Industrial bodies have already taken up the issue of absence of street lights in the estate with PIPDIC and Industries Department. Therefore it is requested for improving lighting facility to provide a secure and conducive environment for smooth functioning of industries. Hence, the complaint.

2. A Suo Motto case has been registered as C.C. No.06/2023 on 13/01/2023 and notice was issued to the Executive Engineer – Rural-North and others to furnish reply by 24/01/2023. Reply from the Assistant Engineer, Lawspet/ Respondent No.2 on 30/01/2023. The case was posted for hearing on 03/02/2023.

3. In the Affidavit dated 23/01/2023, the Assistant Engineer-Lawspet/Respondent No.2 on behalf of Respondent No.1 and 3 had stated that, the spot was inspected on 13/01/2023 with the Junior Engineer, Gorimedu and field staff. During the visit, it was came to know that an unidentified container lorry cut down the LT lines at midnight, most of the street lights were also damaged due to short circuit of LT lines. Due to emergency in nature the LT line cuts were attended immediately and after arrangements of street light fittings, the street lights also replaced with new one

4. Hearing was held on 03/02/2023. The Respondents were present. This Forum is not satisfied with the reply filed by the Respondents and directed to file additional Affidavit with the required information by 10/02/2023. The Respondents have

submitted that they came to know that an unidentified container lorry cut down the LT lines during mid-night and no police complaint has been lodged by the Respondents to that effect. Further, the Respondents are directed to file a sketch of the street lights. The case was again posted on 13/02/2023.

5. In the additional Affidavit dated 09/02/2023 the Assistant Engineer, Lawspet / Respondent No.2 had submitted a sketch showing the details of lighting facility available in the Thattanchavady Industrial Estate.

6. Hearing was held on 13/02/2023. The Respondents were present and filed the sketch of the street lights as directed. The Respondents have submitted that they have completed the work as assured in the Affidavit. The Respondents also added that sufficient lights were provided earlier in the service road near the bus stops and also on the road leading to Subbiah Nagar from Government Press along the external road of the industrial estate. This Forum is satisfied with the action taken by the Respondents. However, the Respondents were advised to obtain satisfaction letter from the Thattanchavady Industrial Forum for providing sufficient street lights in the Industrial estate.

### ORDER

i. Since the grievances have been resolved, the complaint is treated as closed.

Dated at Puducherry on this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2023

**Sd/-**

**(R. KRISHNAMURTHY)**  
**JERC NOMINATED MEMBER**

**Sd/-**

**(A.S. JITENDRA RAO)**  
**LICENSEE MEMBER**

**Sd/-**

**(T. GOPALAKRISHNAN)**  
**CHAIRMAN**