

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

PRESENT:

THIRU T. GOPALAKRISHNAN, B.E.,
CHAIRMAN

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

TUESDAY, THE 19TH DAY OF JULY 2022

CONSUMER CASE No.117/2022

M. Jothy W/o Murugan
No.33, First Cross,
Annamalai Nagar,
Koodapakkam,
Puducherry.

....

Complainant

Vs.

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

....

Respondents

This case in C.C. No.117/2022 came up before this Forum for final hearing on 14/07/2022. After hearing both sides and having stood over till this date for consideration this Forum has delivered the following:

The case of the Complainant is as follows:

1. A Complaint was received from M. Jothi W/o Murugan during the public interaction programme of this Forum held at Ramanathapuram on 21/06/2022. In the complaint, the Complainant had stated that she has resided in the above

mentioned address. Presently, she is residing in a rented house. Since HT lines are passing through her plot, she was not able to construct a house. Similarly, there are more than 10 families are suffered due to the presence of the HT line. Therefore, She prayed for shifting of HT lines. Hence, the Complaint.

2. The complaint was registered as C.C. No.117/2022 on 21/06/2022 and copy of the complaint was handed over to the Executive Engineer, Rural (North) and others to furnish reply by 01/07/2022. Reply received from the Respondents on 01/07/2022 and a copy of the same was communicated to the Complainant. The case was posted for hearing on 14/07/2022.

3. In the Affidavit dated 01/07/2022, the Assistant Engineer, Sedharapet / Respondent No.2 for himself and on behalf of Respondent No.1 and 3 had stated that, as requested by the Director of Survey and Land Records, Puducherry, an estimate has been prepared for shifting / re-routing of 22 KV HT line passing over the proposed free plot at Koodapakkam village including the Complainant's area for an amount of Rs.6,31,321/- under Deposit Head of Account and sent to Division Office for sanction on 31/01/2020. The Directorate of Survey and Land Records, had not turned up to pay the estimated cost for shifting / re-routing of HT line and the work could not be taken up. The Respondents further stated that if the Complainant is ready to pay the estimated cost, the existing HT line at Koodapakkam village including Annamalai Nagar will be shifted / re-routed within three months.

4. Hearing was held on 14/07/2022. Both the Complainant and Respondents were present. During the hearing the Complainant submitted a copy of photograph by standing with the family under the HT lines which is crossing above her house. She further submitted that there are more houses constructed in the area. But nobody is residing there out of fear and requested for immediate action. The Complainant and other residents of the area were advised to approach the appropriate authority for pursuing the matter for remittance of the estimated amount to complete the work at the earliest.

Observation: The high tension line is in existence for more than thirty years. The Director of Survey and Land Records had sought opinion of the existing high tension line before demarcating the land as allotment of housing plots to the beneficiaries. However, the requisitioning authority failed to deposit the estimated charges towards shifting of lines. On remittance of the shifting charges, the Respondent may arrange to shift the existing line before any loss of any to the human life as feared by the Complainant

ORDER

- i. On Remittance of the shifting charges, the Respondent is to take up the shifting work and complete within 3 months from the date of remittance. On completion of the work, the Respondent shall send his report within 10 days thereafter.
- ii. Thus, the complaint is allowed.
- iii. The Complainant, if aggrieved, by non-redressal of his / her grievance by the Forum or non-implementation of CGRF Order by the Licensee, may make an Appeal in prescribed Annexure-IV to the Electricity Ombudsman, Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the state of Goa and Union Territories, 3rd Floor, Plot No. 55-56, Pathkind Lab Building, Service Road, Udyog Vihar, Phase IV, Sector -18 Gurugram, Haryana-122015; Phone 0124-4684708; email ombudsman.jercuts@gov.in within 30 days from the date of this Order under intimation to this Forum and the Respondents.
- iv. Non-compliance with the directions of Forum by the Licensee shall attract remedial action under Sections 142 and 146, of the Electricity Act 2003.

Dated at Puducherry on this the 19th day of July, 2022

Sd/-

Sd/-

(R. KRISHNAMURTHY)
JERC NOMINATED MEMBER

(T. GOPALAKRISHNAN)
CHAIRMAN