

BEFORE THE ELECTRICITY OMBUDSMAN
(For the State of Goa and Union Territories)
Under Section 42 (6) of the Electricity Act, 2003
3rd Floor, Plot No. 55-56, Udyog Vihar - Phase IV, Sector 18
Gurugram (Haryana) 122015,
, Email ID: ombudsman.jercuts@gov.in
Phone No.:0124-4684708

Appeal No-235 of 2025

Date of Video Conferencing: 12.03.2025

In the matter of

India Citizen Forum (Regd.),
Plot No 134, Industrial Area Phase-II,
Chandigarh.
(Through Mr. S K Nayar President)

.... Appellant

Versus

Executive Engineer,
Division-2, Industrial Area Phase-1,
Electricity Department,
Chandigarh and Others.

Executive Engineer,
Division-2, Industrial Area Phase-1,
Chandigarh Power Distribution Ltd. (CPDL),
Chandigarh.

.... Respondent

Parties present:

Appellant(s)

Mr S K Nayar President, India Citizen Forum.
Mr Narinder Sharma, General Secretary, India Citizen Forum

Respondent(s)

1. Mr Balbir Singh,
Executive Engineer,
Division-2, Industrial Area Phase-1,
Chandigarh Power Distribution Ltd. (CPDL),
Chandigarh.
2. Mr. Sukhwinder Singh, SDO,
Chandigarh Power Distribution Ltd. (CPDL),



Chandigarh.

3. Mr Dhruv Shakuntlam,
Executive Legal,
Chandigarh Power Distribution Ltd. (CPDL),
Chandigarh.
4. Mr Alok Sharma,
Chandigarh Power Distribution Ltd. (CPDL),
Chandigarh.

INTERIM ORDER

The representation was filed on 27th January, 2025 by Shri S K Nayar, President, India Citizen Forum, Plot No 134, Industrial Area Phase-II, Chandigarh under Section 42(6) of the Electricity Act 2003 read with Regulations 35 & 36 of Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum and Ombudsman) Regulations 2024 against the order dated 26.11.2024 and 20.12.2024 in case No. F-31/2024 passed by the Ld. Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF), Chandigarh was taken up for hearing through video conferencing on 25.02.2025, 05.03.2025 & 12.03.2025.

In reference to letter No. HR-33/24-25 dated 11th March 2025, Mr. Dhruv Shakuntlam, Executive Legal, and Ms. Deepti Ahlawat, Assistant Officer, have been duly authorized as representatives of Chandigarh Power Distribution Ltd. (CPDL). The contents of the letter are hereby recorded.

Further, it is noted that Mr. Alok Sharma, Legal Head of CPDL, has forwarded letter No. CPDL/DIR/2024-25/04 dated 11th March, 2025, from the Director of CPDL. This letter, which was also forwarded via email on the same date, informs that CPDL has raised the matter with the Chief Engineer of the Engineering Department, Chandigarh, concerning the implementation of the orders passed by the Ld. CGRF Chandigarh on 26th November, 2024. This communication is also taken on record.

Additionally, Mr. Dhruv Shakuntlam, Executive Legal of CPDL, has submitted that a request was made to the Chief Engineer of the Engineering Department, Chandigarh, for deputing the



concerned officer from EWEDC to attend the hearing on the scheduled date, ensuring compliance with the orders of the Ld. CGRF. However, no officer from EWEDC attended the hearing scheduled for 12th March, 2025, despite the fact that a separate email notice was sent to the Superintending Engineer, Electricity, Op Circle, directing attendance.

Moreover, in reference to letter vide Memo No SEE/OP/2025179 intimating therein that Electricity Department has filed a petition before Commission JERC on 13th January, 2025 an additional email was also sent on 6th March, 2025, to the Superintending Engineer, EWEDC, requesting the submission of copy of the petition filed before the Commission (JERC), along with the admission notice issued by JERC.

From: Chandra Mohan Sharma <ombudsman.jercuts@gov.in>

Thu, 06 Mar 2025 12:30:04 PM +0530Sent

To:"seelecty"<seelecty@gmail.com>,"seelo-chd"<seelo-chd@nic.in>

Cc:"reenachawla919"<reenachawla919@gmail.com>,"ce-chd"<ce-chd@nic.in>

This is about your letter vide Memo No SEE/OP/2025/179 dated 14/02/2025 it has been intimated that the Electricity Department Chandigarh has filed a Petition before the Commission, JERC, seeking clarification regarding the refund of meter rental charges and compensation to the Electricity Consumers of Chandigarh for the period 01.04.2023 to 05.11.2024.

In this regard, it is requested that a copy of the Petition filed be shared along with the Admission Notice issued by the Commission, JERC, so that the matter related to the Appeal filed by the India Citizen Forum can be adjudicated. The next hearing date has been fixed for 12.03.2025 @ 2:30 PM. Your reply to this mail must be sent before the next hearing date.

The Respondent has submitted vide letter No CPDL/DIR/2024-25/04 dated 11.03.2025 that EWEDC has not yet submitted the requisite fees for filling the petition before the Commission, JERC due to scarcity of funds in the Budget provisions for the FY2024-25 and fees shall only be deposited on budget allocation for the FY 2025-26.

The Respondents further submitted that since the matter is related to the period prior to 01.02.2025 (the date on which the operations of Chandigarh Distribution is taken over by the CPDL) and CPDL is still struggling to compile the consumer data for working out the amount to be refunded back to the consumers. The respondents further assured that they



have already initiated the process to sort out this issue with EWEDC but requested for some time to sort out the issue in a positive direction.

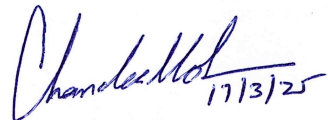
The Appellants did not raise any objections to it.

Considering that the implementation of the order will have a widespread impact on all consumers of EWEDC/CPDL and entails significant financial implications, the undersigned, in adherence to the principles of natural justice, has decided to grant CPDL a period of three weeks to finalize the matter in consultation with EWEDC.

Furthermore, CPDL is also directed to submit its detailed reply latest by 28.03.2025. A copy of the reply must also be provided to the opposite party.

The Appellant is permitted to file rejoinder, if any, within one week thereof from the date of receipt of CPDL's reply.

The next date of hearing is hereby fixed for 09.04.2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chandan Kumar Sharma', with the date '17/3/25' written below it.

(C M SHARMA)
Electricity Ombudsman
For Goa & UTs (except Delhi)

Dated: 17.03.2025