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

APPEAL No. 37/2021

Date of Registration : 07.04.2021 Date of Hearing : 28.04.2021 Date of Order : 29.04.2021

Before:

Er. Gurinder Jit Singh, Lokpal (Ombudsman), Electricity, Punjab.

In the Matter of:

Manjit Singh S/o Sh. Boor Singh, # 104/9, Chandigarh Road, Near Kapila Service Station, Samrala, Distt:-Ludhiana.

Contract Account Number R76-MS76-0005Y

... Appellant

Versus

Senior Executive Engineer, DS Division, PSPCL, Samrala.

...Respondent

Present For:

Appellant: Sh. Parvesh Chadha,

Appellant's Representative.

Respondent: 1. Er. Raghbir Singh,

Assistant Engineer,

DS Division, PSPCL, Samrala.

2. Sh. Dinesh Sachdeva, Revenue Accountant

Before me for consideration is an Appeal preferred by the Appellant against the decision dated 02.03.2021 of the Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum (Forum), Patiala in Case No. CGP-24 of 2021, deciding that:

"The outstanding amount of account MS76/0038 is recoverable against account no. MS76/0005 in line with the provisions of ESIM Regulation no. 92.1."

2. A scrutiny of the Appeal and related documents revealed that the Appeal was received in this Court on 07.04.2021 i.e. within thirty days of receipt of copy of decision dated 02.03.2021 sent the office of the CGRF, Patiala vide Memo No. 584bv 85/CGP-24/2021 dated 04.03.2021. The Appellant submitted copies of receipt nos. 153726943 dated 11.01.2021 ₹ 1,32,000/- and 157636800 dated 05.04.2021 for ₹ 1,32,000/alongwith the Appeal. Thus, the Appellant had deposited ₹ 2,64,000/- on account of 40% of the disputed amount of ₹ 6,60,000/-. Therefore, the Appeal was registered and copy of the same was sent to the Senior Executive Engineer/DS Division, PSPCL, Samrala for sending written reply/para wise comments with a copy to the office of the CGRF, Patiala under intimation to the Appellant vide letter nos. 532-534/OEP/ A-37/2021 dated 07.04.2021.

- 3. With a view to adjudicate the dispute, a hearing was fixed in this Court on 22.04.2021 at 11.30 AM and an intimation to this effect was sent to both the sides vide letter nos. 629-630/OEP/A-37/2021 dated 19.04.2021. On the telephonic request dated 21.04.2021 of the Respondent, the hearing was adjourned to 28.04.2021 at 11.00 AM and both the sides were informed on WhatsApp on 21.04.2021 itself and also by e-mail sent vide letter nos. 649-650/OEP/A-37/2021 dated 22.04.2021. As scheduled, the hearing was held on 28.04.2021 in this Court.
- 4. During hearing, the Appellant's Representative submitted an application stating as under:

"Please find enclosed an application from Sh. Manjeet Singh requesting for withdrawal of the subject cited Appeal. It is requested that the Appeal may be allowed to be withdrawn."

In the application referred to above, the Appellant submitted as follows:

"With due respect, it is submitted that appellant has been charged the amount of another connection account no.MS760038 (outstanding amount) recoverable from account no.MS760005 in line with the provisions of ESIM Regulation no.92.1.

Kindly allow to deposit the balance 60% amount in 12 equal instalments without interest/LPS and the supply be restored after deposit the 1st instalment. I herby withdraw my case."

- The Respondent did not object to the request of the Appellant's Representative for the withdrawal of the present Appeal.
- 6. The Court decides to accept the request of the Appellant and its Representative for withdrawal of the present Appeal. As such, the decision dated 02.03.2021 of CGRF, Patiala in Case No. CGP-24 of 2021 shall be implemented by the Respondent. Further, this Court is not inclined to consider the request of the Appellant for deposit of the remaining disputed amount without interest/LPS (Late Payment Surcharge) in 12 equal installments and restoration of power supply on receipt/deposit of 1st installment because the appeal has not been decided/disposed of on merits of the case due to its withdrawal by the Appellant before hearing on 28.04.2021. However, the Respondent is at liberty to consider this request of the Appellant and to take appropriate action as per instructions of PSPCL.
- 7. The Appeal is dismissed as withdrawn.

April 29, 2021 S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) (GURINDER JIT SINGH) Lokpal (Ombudsman), Electricity, Punjab.