

**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. 27/2024
PROCEEDINGS DATED 18.12.2024**

In the Matter of:

Smt. Punam,
Ward No. 2, Near Bhangu Telecom,
Badesha Road, Khamano.
Contract Account Number: 3007383935 (DS)
...Appellant

Versus

Addl. Superintending Engineer,
DS Division, PSPCL,
Samrala.
...Respondent

Present For:

Appellant: Smt. Punam,
Appellant.

Respondent : 1. Er. Kanwal Preet Singh Sidhu,
Additional Superintending Engineer,
DS Division, PSPCL,
Samrala.
2. Er. Amarjit Singh, AAE.
3. Sh. Nitish, RA.

At the start of hearing, the issue of condoning of delay in filing the Appeal beyond the stipulated period was taken up. The Appellant submitted that the Respondent's office issued Revised Demand Notice vide Memo No. 717 dated 08.11.2024, received by the Appellant on 13.11.2024 through Whatsapp. As such,

there was delay in filing the Appeal. The reason for delay in filing the Appeal is delay in implementation of decision of the Corporate Forum, Ludhiana. The Appellant requested for the condonation of delay in filing the Appeal & prayed that Appeal be heard on merits. 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 was allowed to present the case.

Arguments of both the parties were heard. This Court directed the Respondent to submit on or before 23.12.2024, full details of defaulting amount of ₹ 71,969/- standing against the Appellant as on 22.05.2020.

The next date of hearing is fixed for 30.12.2024 at 01.30 PM. Both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing.

December, 2024
S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali).

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