

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND
LADAKH
AT JAMMU

WP(C) No. 3745/2025
CM No. 8549/2025

Date of pronouncement : 30.12.2025
Uploaded on : 02.01.2026

Trikuta Pulp & Nectars
.....Petitioner

Through:- Mr. Rahul Pant, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Aniruddh Sharma, Advocate.

V/s

UT of J&K & Ors.
.....Respondents

Through:- Mr. Raman Sharma, AAG with
Ms. Sheikh Saliqa, Assisting Counsel.

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAHUL BHARTI, JUDGE
JUDGMENT (ORAL)

01. The petitioner – Trikuta Pulp & Nectars is an industrial concern being a sole proprietorship of Mr. Rajneesh Sharma.

02. The petitioner, as an industrial concern, is a manufacturing unit engaged in the manufacturing of beverages, as mentioned in para 4 of the writ petition duly registered and licensed under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 with a license No. **10019061000403**.

03. The petitioner's unit is situated at village Panthal tehsil Katra district Reasi.

04. The petitioner is carrying **74 KW Power Load Electricity Connection** sanctioned vide an order No. **SEB/32 of 2019** dated **03.01.2019** issued by the Superintending Engineer, Electric, Maintenance and Rural Electrification Circle-III, Batote.

05. In terms of electricity consumption, the petitioner bears Consumer ID No. **0112010011341**.

06. The petitioner came to be served with a notice No. **SDK/1250-52** dated **23.12.2025** from the end of the Assistant Executive Engineer, JPDCL Electric Sub Division, Katra on the subject of **“Notice for disconnection of supply for default of payment under section 56 of Electricity Act, 2003”**.

07. In the said notice dated 23.12.2025, the purported failure on the part of the petitioner to pay electricity dues for the month of December 2025 amounting to **Rs. 37,22,100/-** against Installation No. **Trikuta/P/02** Consumer ID No. **0112010011341** is demanded to be payable from the end of the petitioner by holding violation of Regulation 7.34 and 7.35 of the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission Electricity Supply Code Regulation, 2023 for the UT of J&K.

08. Thus, the petitioner was called to pay said due amount of **Rs. 37,22,100/-** in full on or before **29.12.2025**, failing which disconnection of the electricity connection was meant to be carried out, besides resorting to recovery

proceedings under the Electricity Act, 2003, without any further notice to the petitioner.

09. The petitioner comes forth with the present writ petition assailing the purported demand of liability of **Rs. 37,22,100/-** on account of electricity consumption against installation No. **Trikuta/P/02** Consumer ID No. **0112010011341**, on the ground as set forth in para 21 (a to g).

10. The major exploit of the challenge from the petitioner's end to the impugned notice is that the timeline as provided in section 56 of the Electricity Act, 2003 has been breached by calling upon the petitioner to make the payment within a period of five days as against the statutory period of not less than fifteen days.

11. The petitioner has further pleaded that there is an error of computation on the part of the respondents in coming up with the purported default amount against the petitioner.

12. In the writ petition, the petitioner has submitted that there is no remedy available at its end against the impugned course of action at the end of the respondents culminating in issuance of impugned notice No. **SDK/1250-52** dated **23.12.2025**.

13. The petitioner submits that disruption/disconnection of electricity supply to the petitioner's running unit on the purported account of non-payment of demanded electricity dues, which is being disputed by the petitioner,

would render the petitioner's unit to a standstill, thereby constituting a serious economic loss not only to the petitioner but also to the Union Territory of J&K in terms of an ongoing industrial activity.

14. Mr. Raman Sharma, learned AAG, entering appearing upon instructions of this Court on behalf of the respondents in accepting notice, submits that the petitioner has an alternate and efficacious remedy for redressal of its grievance, if the same is genuine, and for that purpose the petitioner is required to approach the prescribed authority.

15. Mr. Rahul Pant, learned Sr. Advocate assisted by Mr. Aniruddh Sharma, learned Advocate for the petitioner submits that in case petitioner's grievance can be examined and considered by the higher authority concerned, then the petitioner has no hesitation, in exhibit of its bona fide, by approaching the very said authority, provided no adverse/coercive action in the intervening time comes to be resorted against the petitioner.

16. Keeping in view of the aforesaid, the present writ petition is ***disposed of*** with a direction to the petitioner to approach **Level-IV, Chief Engineer Level (3-Members)** with requisite representation/appeal for addressing its objections to the notice in reference for enabling the decision of the concerned authority thereupon.

17. Therefore, the petitioner is directed to approach the aforesaid authority of **Level-IV, Chief Engineer Level (3-**

Members) within a period of 15 days from the date of passing of this order, whereupon the concerned authority of **Level-IV, Chief Engineer Level (3-Members)** to consider the representation/appeal of the petitioner by affording an opportunity of hearing also and then to pass final order with reasons on merits.

18. Needful exercise to be done within a period of 30 days from the date of appearance of the petitioner with representation before the authority concerned.

19. The final outcome, if still prejudicial to the petitioner, can then be questioned by the petitioner by resorting to the appropriate legal course of action as may be available.

20. Till the final outcome coming forth from the authority concerned, the electricity supply to the petitioner's installation No. **Trikuta/P/02** Consumer ID No. **0112010011341** not to be put to any disconnection.

21. The present writ petition is, accordingly, **disposed of** along with connected application.

(RAHUL BHARTI)
JUDGE

JAMMU
30.12.2025

Bunty

Whether the judgment is speaking: Yes/No

Whether the judgment is reportable: Yes/No