

Bhupendra Rajendra

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.... Petitioner

1. The Bihar State Electricity Board through its Chairman, Bailey Road, Patna

3. The Chief Engineer, S.B.P.D.C.L., Bailey Road, Patna

5. The Assistant Engineer, Electric Sub-Division, S.B.P.D.C.L., Rajendra Nagar, Patna- 16

.... Respondent/s

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Suraj Narain Yadav

For the Respondent/s : Mr. Vinay Kirti Singh

ORAL ORDER

The petitioner runs a girls hostel in Rajendra Nagar, Patna, in the name and style of Gurukul Mahila Chhatrawas. He has NDS-III category connection. The premises of the petitioner was inspected on 10.06.2013. The seal of the meter box was found tampered, meter body seal and meter terminal seal were also found tampered. On testing with Tong tester, it was found that the current was flowing at 1/2 of its strength. A punitive bill of Rs. 5,82,147/- was raised and a compounding charge to the tune of Rs.1,60,000/- was also charged.

The petitioner paid both the compounding fee (Rs. 1,60,000/-) as well as the punitive bill (Rs.5,82,147/-) so assessed.

The petitioner seeks quashing of the punitive energy bill, dated 10.06.2013, and also the compounding energy bill of Rs. 1,60,000/-. He has denied the allegations and charges that either the meter or the seal was tampered.

In my view, the petitioner can raise all these objections under Section 126 of the Electricity Act before the Assessing Officer. In case, any such objection is filed, the same would be disposed of in accordance with law after giving an opportunity of hearing to the petitioner.

This Court has not expressed any opinion on the merit of the case.

This writ application stands disposed of.

(Samarendra Pratap Singh, J)

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