

HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE T.SUNIL CHOWDARY

WRIT PETITION No.26318 of 2016

ORDER:

This writ petition is filed seeking a writ of Mandamus declaring the interim award dated 02.08.2016 passed by the Vidyut Ombudsman in Appeal No.51 of 2016 insofar as imposing payment of 1/3rd of the demand amount as arbitrary and illegal.

2. Heard Sri M.P.Chandramouli, learned counsel for the petitioner and Sri R.Vinod Reddy, learned Standing Counsel appearing for respondents 1 to 5 (Telangana).

3. A perusal of the record reveals that the petitioner herein approached the Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum-I challenging the penal charges levied for the months of June 2014 to September 2014. After affording a reasonable opportunity to both parties, the Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum rejected the complaint. Feeling aggrieved by the orders dated 23.06.2016, petitioner filed appeal No.51 of 2016 on the file of the Vidyut Ombudsman for the State of Telangana. While admitting the appeal on 02.08.2016, the Vidyut Ombudsman passed interim award directing the petitioner to deposit 1/3rd of the demanded amount. Challenging the interim award dated 02.08.2016, the present writ petition is filed.

4. It is a settled principle of law that this Court shall not lightly interfere with the discretionary orders passed by the lower Court authorities. There is no error apparent on the face of the record which warrants interference of this court with the orders passed by the learned Ombudsman.

5. At the time of hearing, learned counsel for the petitioner requested two months time for deposit of the amount mentioned in the interim award. The learned standing counsel submitted that one week time may be granted to the petitioner.

6. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case and also in view of the submissions made by both counsel, the petitioner is hereby directed to deposit 1/3rd of the demanded amount within one month from today.

7. With the above direction, this writ petition is disposed of. No order as to costs. Miscellaneous petitions, if any, pending in this writ petition shall stand closed.

T.SUNIL CHOWDARY, J

August 5, 2016.

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