

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS
DATED : 26.08.2019
CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.DHANDAPANI

W.P.No.22132 of 2010
And
M.P.Nos.1 and 2 of 2010

M/s.Amarjothi Spinning Mills Ltd (Unit - A)
Rep by its Chairman
N.Rajan

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.Tamil Nadu Electricity Board,
Rep by its Chairman,
Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 002.

2.The Superintending Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Electricity Board,
No.36, Kutchery Street,
Gobi Electricity Distribution Circle,
Gobichettipalayam.

3.The Superintending Engineer,
Udumalpet Electricity Distribution Circle,
Udumalpet.

4.The Superintending Engineer,
Tirunelveli Electricity Distribution Circle,
Tamil Nadu Electricity Board,
Tirunelveli - 627 011.

5.The Deputy Financial Controller/ Gobi
No.36, Kutchery Street,
Gobi Electricity Distribution Circle,
Gobichettipalayam.

... Respondents

Prayer:

Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus calling for the records of the 5th respondent relating to the electricity bill dated 30.08.2010 in respect of service connection bearing No.HTSC 36 in the name of the petitioner and quash the same so far it relates to the consumption charges claimed in clause 14 of the bill and consequently

direct the respondents either to refund the amount or adjust the same in the future electricity bills.

For Petitioner : Mr.G.Ethirajulu
For Respondents : Mr.Aravind Pandian, AAG
Assisted by
Mr.S.K.Rameshwar

O R D E R

The issue raised in the present writ petition has already been settled before the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL). The writ petition challenges the excess charges levied for exceeding quota by the 5th respondent. In this regard, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission has passed an order on 04.05.2010, relevant portion of which reads as follows:

"Para 11.7 para 3.9 of the order of the commission in RPNO.2 of 2008 explicitly states as follows,

It must be borne in mind that excess demand charges and excess energy charges are liable in addition to the penalty of drastic reduction of electricity supply to 5% (or 10%) during the following 48 hrs as the case may be for violation of restriction and control measures."

2.Against which, the aggrieved similarly placed persons filed appeal before the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL) and obtained final order on 11.01.2011.

3.In this regard, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board approached the Hon'ble Supreme Court by filing Civil Appeal Nos.1090 - 1099 of 2011 and the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 04.02.2011 entertained the Civil Appeals against the judgment of the Appellate Tribunal. On a perusal of the interim order dated 04.02.2011, there is a direction to the appellant therein/Tamil Nadu Electricity Board to furnish Bank Guarantee of a Nationalized Bank in favour of the Registrar (Judicial) of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

4. Since the issue involved in the present writ petition is pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court at the instigation of the respondent herein/ Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, the writ petition is disposed of

directing the respondent to maintain status-quo as on date. Subject to the outcome of the Supreme Court order, the parties may seek remedy in the manner known to law.

5. Accordingly, the writ petition is disposed of. No costs. Consequently, the connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

Sd/-
Assistant Registrar(CS VI)

//True Copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

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To

1. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Electricity Board,
Anna Salai, Chennai - 600 002.
2. The Superintending Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Electricity Board,
No.36, Kutcheri Street,
Gobi Electricity Distribution Circle,
Gobichettipalayam.
3. The Superintending Engineer,
Udumalpet Electricity Distribution Circle,
Udumalpet.
4. The Superintending Engineer,
Tirunelveli Electricity Distribution Circle,
Tamil Nadu Electricity Board,
Tirunelveli - 627 011.
5. The Deputy Financial Controller/ Gobi
No.36, Kutcheri Street,
Gobi Electricity Distribution Circle,
Gobichettipalayam.

+1cc to Mr.G.Ethirajulu , Advocate SR.No. 72977

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And

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A.SK(30/09/2019)