

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

133

CWP-25542-2022

Date of decision: 10.11.2022

ARPNA BHADU

.....Petitioner

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA AND OTHERS

.....Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ

Present:- Mr. Anurag Chopra, Advocate with
Ms. Seerat Saldi, Advocate
for the petitioner.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

The instant petition has been filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for the issuance of a writ in the nature of Mandamus for directing the respondents No.2 to 4 to release/issue a new electricity connection at the premises of the petitioner for doing the business of fisheries.

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner contends that he had earlier approached the Right to Service Commission, however, on account of certain delays in adjudication of the matter, the said proceedings before the Right to Service Commission were withdrawn by him. The counsel for the petitioner petitioner has been confronted with the Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission Guidelines for establishment of Forum for Redressal of Grievance of the Consumers, Electricity Ombudsman and Consumer Advocacy Regulations, 2019 which under chapter-2, 'classification of grievances' stated that 'consumer' also includes an applicant who is

applying for release of new electricity connection and is entitled to approach the Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum constituted under Section 42 (5) of the Electricity Act, 2003 for redressal of any such grievance in relation to release of new connection.

Learned counsel for the petitioner thus seeks withdrawal of the present petition and seeks liberty to approach the statutory forum for seeking redressal of his grievance. He, however, contends that the said Forum may be directed to expedite hearing in the matter and to pass an order regarding release of connection in favour of the petitioner in a time bound manner since all requisite statutory compliance have already been done by the petitioner.

Petition is accordingly disposed of as withdrawn. In the event of the petitioner approaching the Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum constituted under Section 42 (5) of the Electricity Act and as per the applicable Regulations within a period of 04 weeks from today, the Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum shall take expeditious decision and preferably within a period of 04 weeks thereafter.

(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

NOVEMBER 10, 2022

Vishal sharma

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether reportable	:	Yes/No