

IN THE PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT AT
CHANDIGARH

117

CWP-5305-2024

Date of Decision: 02.04.2024

VANDHANA DEVI

... Petitioner

VERSUS

PSPCL AND OTHERS

... Respondents

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

Present: Mr. Vishal Nehra, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. K.S. Kharbanda, Advocate
for respondents No.1 to 3.

Mr. Ravi Chadda, Advocate
for respondents No.5 to 8.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (ORAL)

Challenge in the present petition is to the impugned notice dated 30.04.2019 (Annexure P-3) issued by the respondents-Department, vide which the Department has illegally denied to issue electricity connection to the petitioner's residential house.

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner could not controvert the fact that the dispute in question is with regard to issuance of electricity connection for which a statutory remedy in the form of Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum under Section 42 of the Electricity Act, 2003 is duly prescribed. He, however, contends that the respondents have issued the impugned notice dated 30.04.2019 (Annexure P-3) vide which they have illegally denied the issuance of electricity connection to the petitioner and the same was done without even affording an opportunity of hearing to the petitioner. It is further submitted that the petitioner is ready and willing to pay all the statutory charges for the alleged electricity connection.

After arguing vehemently at some length, learned counsel for the petitioner prays that as an alternative efficacious remedy under the Statute and the Regulations framed thereunder is already in place, he seeks to withdraw the present petition with liberty to take recourse to the alternative remedy available to him in accordance with law and that the Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum may be directed to expeditiously adjudicate upon the grievance of the petitioner lest the losses accrued to the petitioner on account of non-issuance of electric connection are escalated.

The present petition is accordingly disposed of as withdrawn with liberty to the petitioner to approach the Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum under the Act and the Regulations framed thereunder against the present cause of action.

Needless to mention that in the event of the petitioner approaching the Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum, an expeditious decision shall be taken thereupon after affording an opportunity of hearing to the respective parties and final order shall be passed expeditiously and preferably within a period of 06 weeks of receipt of certified copy of this order.

APRIL 02, 2024
rajender

(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No