



Petition No. 99 of 2025

Sunil Kumar Sao

... Petitioner

Versus

Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Co. Ltd.

... Respondent

True copy of order passed in order sheet dated 20.05.2026.

"Shri Ayush Verma, counsel for petitioner Shri Sunil Kumar Sao.

Shri Shrijan Shukla, counsel for respondent CSPDCL.

2. *The Commission is of the opinion that the matter is related to "Section 127" of the Electricity Act, 2003, wherein sub-section (1) of the section 127 provides that:-*

"(1) Any person aggrieved by the final order made under section 126 may, within thirty days of the said order, prefer an appeal in such form, verified in such manner and be accompanied by such fee as may be specified by the State Commission, to an appellate authority as may be prescribed."

3. *Further, with regards to the appellate authority under section 127 of the Electricity Act, 2003 following provisions are mandated in the rule 8 of the Chhattisgarh State Electricity Rules, 2006, which is reproduced below: -*

"For the purpose of appeals to be made under Section 127 of the Act, the appellate authority shall be as follows: -

(a) *In case of an officer or the Chief Electrical Inspector being the assessing officer, the next immediate officer shall be the appellate authority. In case of the Chief Electrical Inspector himself being the assessing*

officer, the officer designated by the State Government shall be appellate authority.

(b) In case of an officer of distribution licensee being the assessing officer:

(i) Next immediate higher officer of the rank not below the rank of Executive Engineer for connected load. LT industrial connection up to 15 KW.

(ii) Next immediate higher officer of the rank not below - the rank to Superintending Engineer for all LT connected load connection of more than 15KW.

(iii) In case of an officer not below the rank of Chief Engineer being the assessing officer, the Member in charge of Commercial Department of the CSEB or an officer of the equivalent rank of distribution licensee.”

4. As per the above provisions in case of an officer of distribution licensee is the assessing officer then the appellate has to be next immediate higher officer of the rank not below the rank of Executive Engineer for connected load, LT industrial connection up to 15 KW.

5. In the instant case it appears from the records that Assistant Engineer, CSPDCL, Bhilai (T) was the assessing officer whose name is not disclosed in the assessment order. It may be possible that the assessing officer at that time of the assessment order might be the next immediate officer in rank who is to be designated as the appellate authority.

6. *In view of the above the Commission hereby, directs the petitioner to present the appeal before the Executive Director (Durg) Region, of the respondent CSPDCL. The Executive Director (Durg) shall send the appeal to the appropriate appellate authority, who must be the next immediate officer in rank of the assessing officer i.e. Assistant Engineer, CSPDCL, Bhilai (T), not be below the rank of Executive Engineer, while taking caution that the appellate authority must not be the same person who issued the assessment order.*

7. *The petition is disposed off with the above directions."*

**Sd/-
Member (Tech.)**

**Sd/-
Member (Law)**