Office of the Electricity Ombudsman

(A Statutory Body of Govt. of NCT of Delhi under the Electricity Act, 2003) B-53, Paschimi Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi – 110 057 (Phone No.: 32506011, Fax No.26141205)

Appeal No. F. ELECT/Ombudsman/2013/585

Appeal against the Order dated 30.08.2013 passed by CGRF-TPDDL in CG.No.5238/05/13/PPR.

In the matter of:

Shri Vinod Kumar Bhatia

Appellant

Versus

M/s Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd.

Respondent

Present:-

Appellant:

Shri Vinod Kumar Bhatia was present in person.

Respondent:

Shri Vivek, Sr. Manager (Legal), attended on behalf of the

TPDDL

Date of Hearing: 10.12.2013

Date of Order

: 13.12.2013

ORDER NO. OMBUDSMAN/2013/585

The Complainant, Shri Vinod Kumar Bhatia, resident of H. No.88, Shubh Enclave, Parwana Road, Zone H 4/5, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034, has filed an appeal against the order of the Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum - Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd. (CGRF-TPDDL) dated 30.08.2013 in which his request for shifting of meters against connections meant for H. No.85, 86, 87 was rejected.

The complainant approached the CGRF that the meters installed for connections meant for neighbouring houses/flats in his Corporate Group Housing Society should be shifted from the wall of his flat. The CGRF did not agree as it did not find that the meters had been installed in a wrong location finding that the wall under staircase where these were installed is in a common area and not in a

private area. The CGRF also mentioned that there is a dispute among some families which appears to be the basis of the complaint.

In the representation filed before the Ombudsman various reasons were given against the judgement, including that the meters are installed on his personal property wall and not in a common area; that the residents of one flat are manhandling his fuse box; that the residents of another flat are stealing water from his overhead tank and, finally, the residents of another flat also stole electricity from his meter. He claimed that there are wires dangling in the location which is unsafe.

A hearing was held and it was brought out that these meters have been in the same location for the last 20 years of so, and that the complainant has purchased the property in question from someone else recently. This has given rise to the various complaints. The TPDDL's reply was that the meters are in a common area, as per normal technical design, and the shifting of meters is not technically feasible or safe. The complainant is objecting for reasons other than safety/improper installation.

The photographs of the installed meters submitted by the DISCOM were seen. There does not appear to be any visual problem in the installation. No cables are seen dangling dangerously in the photographs provided. In case the meter of the complainant is being interfered with or the fuses/MCBs are being interfered with, the DISCOM can find other appropriate solutions, if the problem indeed exists, subject to verification.

Since no cogent arguments could be advanced by the complainant to justify his case, the order of the CGRF is upheld and the appeal is rejected.

(PRADEEP SINGH) Ombudsman

December, 2013