IN THE COURT OF SOHAIB AHMED RUMI DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE/PRESIDING OFFICER DISTRICT CONSUMER CURT SARGODHA.

 Case No.
 75/2013

 Date of institution
 28.05.2013

 Date of Decision
 11.06.2013

Nasar Ahmed s/o Abdul Ghanni

r/o H. No.4, St. No.2, Block-Y, N.S Town, Sargodha (Complainant)

> Versus Chief Executive, FESCO etc. Faisalabad.

(Respondent)

<u>ORDER</u> 11.06.2013

Arguments of both the parties heard.

Case of the complainant is that he is a consumer of WAPDA bearing reference No. 20-13421-034500 having installed a domestic connection at his premises situated at House No. 4 Street No. 2 Block 'Y' New Seattleite Town Sargodha. On 11.04.2013 the electricity meter was removed by the respondents from site and detection bill amounting to Rs. 84180/- has been dispatched for payment whereas he has never been involved in any kind of theft of energy and he was made a victim of his enmity with local SHO who is close friend of SDO WAPDA. Respondents appeared in response to the summons issued by this court and submitted that premises of the complainant was checked by Task Force comprising of Line Superintendent and Meter Reader Supervisor where consumer was found using electricity from the direct supply through main PVC WAPDA. A Notice was served upon the consumer and a detection bill of 5700 units has been sent to the complainant.

I have perused the record produced by the Meter Reader Supervisor pertaining to the consumer's account. The consumer has been charged units calculated on the basis of 7KW load at site for 6 billing months. The Meter Superintendent was directed by this court to visit the site in the presence of the complainant for calculation of actual connected load which is not more than 4 KW at site because the house is comprising of two residential rooms only. No heavy electricity equipment like Air Conditioner etc. is installed there. If for the sake of arguments, contention of the respondents is admitted to, that the consumer was stealing the energy, although the respondents have not preserved the evidence of theft of energy at site, even than the consumer could not have been charged maximum units for more than 3 months as per connected load. In this case the consumer has been charged, as already recorded, consumption for 6 billing months without obtaining approval of CEO. According to the formula devised by the respondent's company 146 units per one KW is to be charged to the domestic consumer. The maximum penalty which could have been imposed in this case was according to the following formula:-

Estimated connected load 4-KW x 146 = 584x3=1752 units

Charging of the units on higher side tantamounts was by awarding of maximum penalty by the SDO WAPDA who admittedly is living in the same street where the complainant's premises is situated supports the version of the complainant that he has been victimized due to some personal grouch. Equity, justice and fair play demands that the consumer should be dealt fairly and in a transparent manner, therefore, detection bill charged to the consumer comprising of 5700 units is hereby set aside and respondents are directed to charge the consumer as per formula given above. The amended bill shall be issued to the consumer immediately on deposit of which the connection shall be restored. With these observations the complaint is disposed off. File be consigned to record room after due completion.

Sd/-Presiding Officer, District Consumer Court, Sargodha.