

UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM

PRESS NOTE

Chandigarh, Oct. 30 – In order to avoid prolonged litigations and to settle long pending court cases, the Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam has decided to introduce the 'Out of Court Settlement of Cases Scheme'. The scheme will remain in operation from November 1 to December 31, 2009.

Giving details, a spokesman for the Nigam said here today that the scheme will be available for settlement of all cases except the cases of theft of electricity. The cases pending with Courts, District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum, State Commission and Arbitration as on September 30, 2009 and in which the penalty had been levied by the Nigam will be settled under this scheme. The consumer/applicant will have to pay a reduced amount of 50 percent of the amount initially assessed along with simple interest @ 15 percent per annum on the unpaid amount of the reduced amount.

The scheme shall also be applicable to the cases, where dispute is on account of applicability of multiplying factor wherein the amount calculated as per multiplying factor shall be charged along with simple interest @ 15 percent instead of surcharge. In cases where unauthorized load detected resulted in change of category from Low Tension (LT) to High Tension (HT) industrial, LT surcharge at the prescribed rate of 25 percent of Sale of Power shall be payable in addition to the amount charged for out of courts settlement.

The spokesman further stated that where the court cases had arisen on account of surcharge levied and principal amount had already been paid, the matter would be settled under the scheme by levying simple interest @ 15 percent per annum from the date of charging of the amount till the date of payment of principal amount.

The amount charged due to checking by Maintenance and Protection wing from the last date of checking to the date of present checking on account of slowness can also be considered for settlement provided the consumer pays the reduced amount of 50 percent along with simple interest @ 15 percent per annum. The scheme will also be applicable to the cases where amount had been charged on average basis. The disputes will be settled after payment of 50 percent amount along with simple interest @ 15 percent per annum on the unpaid balance amount of the reduced amount.

The Nigam has authorized its Sub Divisional Officers to settle the cases. They will personally contact the consumers whose disputed amount was less than Rs. one Lakh. Instructions have been given to Executive

Engineers to contact those consumers personally whose principal amount was more than Rs. one lakh.

The spokesman clarified that the cases, in which, the assessed amount was not correct and on the higher side, would be revised by the Nigam. The scheme would not be applicable to the cases where 100 percent payment had been made by the consumer, he added.