

BEFORE THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL-CUM-LABOUR COURT, ERNAKULAM

जेग्ने Present: Shri.V.Vijaya Kumar, B.Sc., LLM, Presiding Officer. (Monday the 22nd day of February, 2021)

Appeal No. 340/2019

(Old No.ATA-740(7)2015)

Appellant

M/s. India Vision Satellite Communications Ltd ., Titus Towers, Padivattom NH Bye pass Kochi – 682034.

By Adv. M/s. Menon & Pai

Respondent

The Regional PF Commissioner EPFO, Sub Regional Office Kaloor, Kochi – 682017

By Adv. Sajeev Kumar K.Gopal

This case coming up for hearing on 22/02/2021 and this Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court issued the following order on the same day.

<u>order</u>

Present Order issued U/s 7A of EPF & MP Act assessing the regular dues to be paid by the appellant establishment. The appeal was admitted vide order dt. 06/03/2020, subject to a pre-deposit of 40% of assessed dues U/s 7(O) of the Act, with the respondent within one month . The appellant was also directed to produce proof remittance with the respondent on or before 17/4/2020. Thereafter the appeal was posted on various dates and finally on 8/12/2020. The respondent filed counter and submitted that the appellant failed to remit the pre-deposit U/s 7(O) as directed by this Tribunal. On the request of the learned Counsel for the appellant the matter was posted to 22/02/2021 for confirmation of pre-deposit amount. The Counsel for the respondent submitted that no pre-deposit is made by the appellant. The learned Counsel for the appellant submitted that he has no instruction from the appellant

2. As per Sec 7(O) of the Act, "No appeal by the employer shall be entertain by a Tribunal unless he has deposited with it 75% of the amount due from him as determined by an Officer referred to in Sec 7A provided that the Tribunal may for reasons to be recorded, waive or reduce the amount to be deposited under this section". In M/s. Muthoot Pappachan Consultancy and Management Services Vs. Employees Provident Fund Organization and Others, 2009(1)KHC 362 the Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala held that the deposit of 75% U/s 7(O) of EPF Act is a pre-condition for maintaining the appeal and not a condition for staying the operation of the order under appeal. U/s 7(O) of the Act, the normal rule is deposit of 75% of the amount assessed U/s 7A. In the special circumstance of this case, the pre-deposit was reduced to 40%.

3. The appeal is admitted on the condition that the appellant shall remit 40 % of assessed dues within one month from the date of admission. Even after one year the appellant has not remitted the pre-deposit amount as directed by this Tribunal while admitting the appeal. Hence the appeal is not maintainable

The appeal is dismissed as not maintainable.

Sd/-

(V. Vijaya Kumar) Presiding Officer

3