

Minutes of the 51st Meeting of Punjab Water Regulation and Development Authority held on 05.08.2022 at 10.30 AM in the Committee Room under the Chairmanship of Sh. Karan Avtar Singh, Chairperson.

Present: Sh. Sushil Gupta, Member

In attendance: Mr. J K Jain, Additional Secretary.

Item No. 51.01: Confirmation of the Minutes of 50th Meeting of PWRDA.

The Minutes of 50th meeting was circulated to all concerned. May be confirmed with the following corrections:

In the decision recorded for Item No.50.06 there are typographical errors. In paragraph 1 (b) in the first line the figures “5.1 A” be read as “5.2 A”. The paragraph 2. “**Approval of Government may be sought in terms of section 17(5) of the Act.**” be added to this decision which was inadvertently missed.

Decision: *Confirmed as proposed.*

Item No. 51.02: Action Taken Report:

ATR on the decisions taken in 48th, 49th and 50th meeting of the Authority is as under:

Item No. 48.03: Annual Account Statement for the financial year 2021-2022.

This item was Deferred.

Item No. 48.04: Appropriation of Authority Fund (F.Y. 2021-22).

This item was Deferred.

Item No. 48.05: Refund of unspent Grant in Aid (Non-Salary Head).

This item was Deferred.

Item No. 48.06: Constitution of Committees under the Punjab Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2019 & Punjab Transparency in Public Procurement Rules, 2022.

This item was Deferred.

Item No. 48.07: Water Conservation in Agriculture.

Funds released to Directorate of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Punjab vide order dated 14.07.2022 (**Annexure A-1**).

Item No. 49.03: Annual Account Statement for the financial year 2021-2022

This item was Deferred

Item No. 49.04: Appropriation of Authority Fund (F.Y. 2021-22).

This item was Deferred

Item No. 49.05: Refund of unspent Grant in Aid (Non-Salary Head).

This item was Deferred

Item No. 49.06: Constitution of Committees under the Punjab Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2019 & Punjab Transparency in Public Procurement Rules, 2022.

This item was Deferred

Item No. 50.03: Contractual Employment of Mr. Balwinder Singh Thind, Administrative Officer.

Performance appraisal report will be submitted after approval of format for the same.

Item No. 50.04: Regarding approval of Tour Program of Members.

Office order dated 21.07.2022 has been issued (**Annexure A-2**).

Item No. 50.05: Regarding Tour Programme and Travelling Allowances of PWRDA Staff.

Office order dated 21.07.2022 has been issued (**Annexure A-3**).

Item No.50.06: Regarding representation of CII for relaxation in Advance Deposit on Groundwater Usage.

Reference has been made to the Government vide letter dt. 20.07.2022(**Annexure A-4**)

Decision: *Noted.*

Item No. 51.03: Annual Account Statement for the Year 2021-2022.

This item was placed before the Authority in the 49th meeting. Authority observed that security deposit may not be treated as revenue receipts since it is refundable. Annual Account Statement has been redrawn accordingly.

Annual Account Statement for the Year 2021-2022			
Receipts (in lakh)		Payments (in lakh)	
By Opening Balance		761.85	To Opening Balance
			101.67
By Receipts		3526.09	To Payments
			285.12
Receipts			Salary
2015.02			163.94
Application fees	40.87	Office Contingency (Non- Salary)	100.53
Registration Fees	46.73	Office Expense	2.25
G. W. E. Charges	1886.64	Telephone & Internet Expense	1.93
Other Charges/ Objection fee	7.09	Electricity Expense	1.47
Interest	33.69	Water Expense	0.09
Deposits	1228.32	Advertisement Expense	1.01
Advance Security	1143.86	Lift/Elevator Expense	0.33
Suspense Account	84.46	Furniture	8
Grant in Aid	282.75	Computerization/Software & Website dev./Maintenance	47.8
Grant in Aid (Salary)	162.75	Consultancy/ Professional Charges	0.71
Grant in Aid (Non-Salary)	120	POL	1.94
		Rent, Rate and Taxes	35
		Grant In Aid (Salary) Refund	9.58
		Grant In Aid (Non-Salary) Refund	11.07
			20.65
		To Surplus (Excess of Receipts over Payments)	3901.15

		Advance Security (FDRs)	1143.86	
		Authority Income (FDRs 2404.91 + Bank Balance 352.38)	2757.29	
Total	4287.94	Total		4287.94

Placed before the Authority for information

Decision: *Noted. The phrase 'Authority Income' below the sub-heading 'To Surplus (Excess of Receipts over Payments)' may be replaced with 'Other Receipts'.*

Item No. 51.04: Quarterly Statement of Receipts & Payments for the First Quarter ending 30.06.2022

Quarterly Statement of Receipts and Payments for the first quarter ending 30.06.2022.					
Receipts (Rs. Lakhs)			Payments (Rs. Lakhs)		
Heads	Budget Estimates FY 22-23	Progressive Receipts FY 22-23 (April 22 to June 22)	Heads	Budget Estimates FY 22-23	Progressive Payments FY 22-23 (April 22 to June 22)
Receipts			2.1 Salary & Allowances		
1.1 Application fees	34.64	9.17	2.1.1 Salary	216.2	44.46
1.2 Registration Fees	40.86	7.21	2.1.2 Payment to Service Providers	240	14.29
1.5 Ground Water Extraction Charges	1741.8	722.54	2.1.3 Travelling Allowances	20	0.22
1.6 Interest	56	2.96	2.3 Office Expenses		
Deposits			2.3.1 Contingency	40	0.72
Advance Security		215.32	2.3.2 Electricity Charges	8	0.21
Suspense Account		50.86	2.3.4 Hospitality & Entertainment Charges	6	0.08
			2.3.3 Telephone and Internet Expense	7.2	0.4
			2.3.5 Advertisement / Publicity	50	0.14
			2.3.7 Water Charges	1.8	0.01
			2.6 Consultancy & Professional Charges	75	0.1
			2.7 Computerization/Software and Website dev. & Maintenance	200	15.8
			2.8 POL	40	0.67
			2.9 Purchase of Staff Cars/ Vehicles	60	18.87
			2.12 Water Conservation Scheme	2601.2	6.7
			To Surplus (Excess of Receipts over Payments)		
			Advance Security	215.32	905.39
			Authority Income	690.07	
Total		1008.06	Total		1008.06

Quarterly Financial Report FY 22-23 (Period from 01-04-2022 to 30-06-2022)

Surplus (Excess of Receipts over Payments)		Amount (Rs Lakhs)	Deposits		Amount (Rs Lakhs)
FY 2020-2022(up to March,2022)		3901.15	FDRs FY 2020-2022	3548.77	4338.85
FY 2022-2023 (April,2022 to June 2022)		905.39	FDRs FY 2022-2023 (April ,2022 to June 2022)	790.08	
Advance Security	215.32		Balance as per passbook & Cash book		467.69
Authority Income	690.07		TOTAL		4806.54
TOTAL		4806.54	TOTAL		4806.54

Placed before the Authority for information.

Decision: *Noted. The phrase 'Authority Income' below the sub/heading 'To Surplus (Excess of Receipts over Payments)' may be replaced with 'Other Receipts'.*

Item No.51.05: Quarterly Report of Authority Fund placed in term deposit/ fixed deposit during the first quarter of 2022-23.

ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਵਲੋਂ ਏਜੰਡਾ ਆਈਟਮ ਨੰਬਰ 28.04 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਨਿਰਧਾਰਿਤ ਨੀਤੀ ਮੁਤਾਬਿਕ ਪਿਛਲੇ ਵੱਤੀ ਵਰ੍ਹੇ 2021-22 ਦੌਰਾਨ 31.03.2022 ਤੱਕ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕੁੱਲ ਰਾਸ਼ੀ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ 37,48,77,000/- ਰੁਪਏ ਫਿਕਸਡ ਡਿਪਾਜਿਟ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਿਵੇਸ਼ ਕੀਤੇ ਗਏ ਸਨ।

ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਦੀ ਪਾਲਿਸੀ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਪੇਸ਼ਗੀ ਸਕਿਊਰਿਟੀ ਮੱਦ ਅਧੀਨ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਰਕਮ 3 ਸਾਲ ਕੁਝ ਦਿਨ ਅਤੇ ਬਾਕੀ ਮੱਦਾਂ ਅਧੀਨ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਰਕਮ ਇੱਕ ਸਾਲ ਕੁਝ ਦਿਨ ਲਈ FD ਵਿੱਚ ਰੱਖੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ।

ਕਿਸੇ ਇੱਕ ਬੈਂਕ ਵਿੱਚ 40% ਤੇ ਵੱਧ ਰਾਸ਼ੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਰੱਖੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ।

ਮਹੀਨਾ ਜੂਨ 2022 ਵਿੱਚ ਮਿਤੀ 09-06-2022, Axis Bank, Sector-36 ਵਿੱਚ ਵਿਆਜ ਦਰ 5.25 % ਸਲਾਨਾ ਤੇ 90,00,000/-ਰੁਪਏ ਅਤੇ 50,00,000/- ਰੁਪਏ ਦੀਆਂ ਦੋ ਐਫ ਡੀ ਆਰਜ਼ ਕਰਵਾਈਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਸਨ। ਪਰੰਤੂ ਕੁੱਝ ਦਿਨ ਬਾਅਦ ਹੀ ਬੈਂਕ ਵਲੋਂ ਵਿਆਜ ਦਰ ਵਧਾ ਕੇ 5.75 % ਸਲਾਨਾ ਕਰ ਦਿਤੀ ਜਾਣ ਕਾਰਨ ਇਹ ਐਫ ਡੀ ਆਰਜ਼ ਤੁੜਵਾ ਕੇ ਰਿਵਾਇਜ਼ ਵਿਆਜ ਦਰ ਤੇ ਇਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਕੁੱਲ Proceed ਸਮੇਤ ਵਿਆਜ ਕ੍ਰਮਵਾਰ 90,04,932/- ਰੁਪਏ ਅਤੇ 50,02,740/- ਰੁਪਏ ਦੀਆਂ ਨਵੀਆਂ ਐਫ ਡੀ ਆਰਜ਼ ਕਰਵਾਈਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ। ਜੇ ਕਿ ਉੱਕਤ ਸਾਰਨੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰਜ ਹਨ।

ਸਾਲ 2022-23 ਦੀ ਪਹਿਲੀ ਤਿਮਾਹੀ (ਅਪ੍ਰੈਲ ਤੋਂ ਜੂਨ) ਦੌਰਾਨ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ 7,90,07,672/- ਰੁਪਏ ਦੀ ਰਾਸ਼ੀ ਫਿਕਸਡ ਡਿਪਾਜਿਟ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਿਵੇਸ਼ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ।

ੳ) 3 ਸਾਲ ਅਤੇ ਕੁਝ ਦਿਨ:

ਲੜੀ ਨੰ:	ਰਾਸ਼ੀ	ਵਿਆਜ ਦਰ
1.	66,00,000	5.70%
2.	65,00,000	5.45%
Total	1,31,00,000	

ਅ) 1 ਸਾਲ ਅਤੇ ਕੁਝ ਦਿਨ

ਲੜੀ ਨੰ:	ਰਾਸ਼ੀ	ਵਿਆਜ ਦਰ
1.	1,40,07,672	5.75%
2.	70,00,000	5.60%
3.	74,00,000	5.40%
4.	1,76,00,000	5.30%
5.	96,00,000	5.25%
6.	65,00,000	5.20%
7.	38,00,000	5.15%
Total	6,59,07,672	

2. ਇਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ 30.06.2022 ਤੱਕ ਫਿਕਸ ਡਿਪਾਜਿਟ ਦੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਿਵੇਸ਼ ਕੀਤੇ ਕੁੱਲ 45,38,84,672/- ਰੁਪਏ, ਵਿੱਚ 19,28,37,000/- ਰੁਪਏ 3 ਸਾਲ ਕੁਝ ਦਿਨਾਂ ਲਈ ਅਤੇ 26,10,47,672/- ਰੁਪਏ ਇੱਕ ਸਾਲ ਕੁਝ ਦਿਨਾਂ ਲਈ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਨਿਤ ਬੈਂਕਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਫਿਕਸ ਡਿਪਾਜਿਟ ਕਰਵਾਏ ਗਏ ਹਨ।

ਸੂਚਨਾ ਹਿੱਤ ਪੇਸ਼ ਹੈ।

Decision: *Noted.*

Item No. 51.06: Regarding Review of Procedure for placing Authority Fund in Fixed Deposit.

Authority in its 28th meeting held on 13.09.2021 vide Agenda Item No. 28.04 (**Annexure A-5**) approved the procedure for placing the Authority Fund in Fixed Deposits which is not to be utilized immediately. Key points of the procedure are:

- Security deposit should be kept for around 3 years (35 to 37 months).
- A portion of all other ground water charges fees extra after keeping aside the anticipated expenditure for ensuing 3 months may be kept in Term Deposits for shorter period of around 1 year (11 to 13 months).
- Each Term deposit/ Fixed deposit should normally be of Rs. 1 cr. or less.
- The sum of FDs/TDs with any one Bank should never exceed 40% of all the FDs/TDs placed with all Banks.
- Most Banks have limit (Generally of 2 cr. for Term deposit from one customer in a day. However, some banks have no such limit and allow multiple Term Deposits of up to 2 cr. in a day. In such cases the TD/FD to be given in a bank should depend on the rate of interest being offered even if the deposit has to made on multiple days.
- Senior manager (Administration and Coordination) is authorized to approve the monthly investment as per policy on the recommendation of Manager Accounts based on the current interest rates quoted by Banks/ Downloaded from the website.

2. In the month of July 2022, some banks quoted significantly higher rate of interest (6.30%) for shorter duration say 12 to 18 months plus few days and lower rate of interest (5.75%) for longer duration say 36 months plus few days for a single non withdrawable FD of Rs. Two crore or more. Hither to fore, fixed deposit of less than Rs. two crores for longer duration (say 36 months plus few days) attracted higher rate of interest. The interest rates offered in the month of July, 2022 are at **Annexure A-6**. The comparative chart of interest rates offered during the last six months i.e. January 2022 to June 2022 are at **Annexure A-7**.

3. In view of situation given in paragraph 2 above and keeping in view the financial interest of the Authority, in the month of July 2022, the entire surplus Fund of Rs. 3.50 Crore (Security Deposit amounting Rs. 106.00 lakh and other Receipt of Rs. 244.00 lakh) available after keeping aside anticipated

expenditure for ensuing 3 months was placed in fixed deposit in HDFC Bank @ 6.30% for the period of 18 months 1 day with the permission of the Chairperson PWRDA.

4. Fixed deposit done as per paragraph 3 above may be ratified.

5. Further, in the financial interest of the Authority, the existing Investment Procedure may be reviewed in the light of fluctuating bank interest rate trend so as to avail higher rates of interest for fixed deposit of shorter duration. Therefore, Authority may consider modifying the conditions contained in paragraph 3(a), 3(b) and 3(d) of the existing Investment Procedure. The fixed deposit may be decided keeping in view the prevailing rates of interest for different durations. A bank offering a higher rate of interest for a shorter duration may be preferred in certain situations. Provided that the existing condition that the total sum of FDs with any one bank should never exceed 40% of all the FDs placed with all banks, shall continue to apply.

Placed before the Authority for consideration.

Decision:
a. Proposal at Paragraph 4 approved.
b. Proposal paragraph 5 deferred. Practices followed by professionals or institutions for placing money in debt instruments (including fixed deposits) of different durations may be studied and a fresh proposal be placed.

Item No. 51.07: Resignation of Sh. Som Nath Bhatt (Manager Accounts) – regarding payment of remuneration.

Sh. Som Nath Bhatt was appointed for the post of Manager Accounts on contract basis initially for the period of one year & he has joined on 01.02.2021. Contract of Sh. Bhatt was renewed till 31.01.2023 vide Authority resolution no 35.03 (**Annexure A-8**) on the same terms and conditions as contained in the existing contract with emoluments of Rs. 68500/- per month inclusive of all benefits and perquisites.

2. Mr. Som Nath Bhatt submitted his resignation notice on 14.02.2022 (**Annexure A-9**) stating that:

“ ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਦੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਮਿਤੀ 31.01.2022 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਮੇਰੀ ਸੇਵਾ ਵਿਚ ਦੂਜੇ ਸਾਲ ਦਾ ਵਾਧਾ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਸੀ ਅਤੇ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਹੁਕਮਾਂ ਦੇ ਸਨਮੁੱਖ ਮੈਂ ਮਿਤੀ 01.02.2022 ਨੂੰ (ਦੁ ਪ) ਜੁਆਇੰਨ ਕਰ ਲਿਆ ਹੈ।
ਉਕਤ ਦੇ ਸਨਮੁੱਖ ਬੇਨਤੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਮੈਂ ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਵਿਖੇ ਘਰੇਲੂ ਮਜ਼ਬੂਰੀ ਦੇ ਚਲਦਿਆਂ ਹੋਰ ਨੌਕਰੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਨਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦਾ।
ਇਸ ਲਈ ਮੈਂ ਮੇਰੀ ਨਿਯੁਕਤੀ ਪੱਤਰ ਦੀ ਸ਼ਰਤ ਨੰ. 8 ਅਨੁਸਾਰ 16.02.2022 ਤੋਂ ਦੋ ਮਹੀਨੇ ਦਾ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰਦਾ ਹਾਂ ਜੀ ਅਤੇ ਮਿਤੀ 15.04.2022 ਨੂੰ ਬਾਅਦ ਦੁਪਿਹਰ ਮੈਨੂੰ ਨੌਕਰੀ ਤੋਂ ਫਾਰਗ ਸਮਝਿਆ ਜਾਵੇ ਜੀ ”

3. His resignation was accepted vide Chairperson order dated 15.02.2022. Notice period starting from 16.02.2022 expired on 15.04.2022 AN but he was relieved on 13.04.2022 (AN) as 14.04.2022 & 15.04.2022 were gazetted holidays. He was paid up to 13.04.2022.

4. Sh. Bhatt made a representation (**Annexure A-10**) for release of salary for two days i.e. 14-04-2022 and 15-04 2022.

5. The condition no. 7 and 8 of the offer letter (**Annexure A-11**) of Sh Bhatt is reproduced below:

“7) PWRDA reserves the right to terminate your employment at its absolute discretion without assigning any reasons after giving a notice of two months or pay in lieu thereof. However, PWRDA shall also have the right to terminate your contract without notice for any misconduct, negligence, or unsatisfactory performance.

8) “You may resign from service by giving a notice of two months or depositing requisite pay in lieu of the notice period. However, the Authority reserves the right not to accept your resignation in the event of pending proceedings or for any other reasonable cause”.

6. In the Punjab Water Regulation and Development Authority (Appointed & Service Conditions of Employees) Regulations, 2020 (**Annexure A-12**) in Regulation 6 (4) it is provided that:

“The Authority may terminate the Services of any employee engaged on Contract basis with a notice of two months without assigning any reasons, and the employee may also terminate the contract by giving a notice of two months, unless the terms of contract provide otherwise.”

7. The Manager Accounts has opined on the e-Office file that keeping in view the contents of Regulation 6 (4), and condition no. 7 & 8 of his offer letter, Authority has to pay two months’ salary from the date of notice i.e. 16-02-2022

Placed before Authority for ratification of acceptance of resignation of Sh Som Nath Bhat and for considering payment of two days salary.

Decision: *Approved.*

Item No. 51.08: Hiring of Motor Vehicles on Daily Basis.

ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਵੱਲੋਂ “Punjab Directions for Groundwater Extraction and Conservation 2022” ਨੂੰ ਅੰਤਿਮ ਰੂਪ ਦੇ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਇਹ ਡਾਇਰੈਕਸ਼ਨਜ਼ ਨਿਕਟ ਭਵਿੱਖ ਵਿੱਚ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਿਤ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ ਜਾਣੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਜਲ ਸਰੋਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ (ਪ੍ਰੋਜੈਕਟ ਸ਼ਾਖਾ) ਦੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਮਿਤੀ 05.05.2022 (**Annexure A-13**) ਰਾਹੀਂ ਉਕਤ ਡਾਇਰੈਕਸ਼ਨਜ਼ ਨੂੰ ਲਾਗੂ ਕਰਨ ਅਤੇ ਨਿਗਰਾਨੀ ਕਰਨ ਹਿੱਤ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਪੱਧਰ ਤੇ District Implementing Committee for Water Regulation and Development (DICWRD) ਦਾ ਗਠਨ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਪੱਧਰ ਤੇ ਬਣਾਈਆਂ ਕਮੇਟੀਆਂ ਨਾਲ ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਤਾਲਮੇਲ ਕਰਨ, ਰੈਗੂਲਰ ਫੀਲਡ ਵਿਜ਼ਿਟ, ਸਪਾਟ ਵਿਜ਼ਿਟ ਅਤੇ ਟਰੇਨਿੰਗ ਆਦਿ ਲੋੜੀਂਦੀ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਦੇ ਪੱਧਰ ਤੇ ਐਕਸੀਅਨ ਅਤੇ ਟੈਕਨੀਕਲ ਅਡਵਾਈਜ਼ਰ ਦੀ ਨਿਗਰਾਨੀ ਹੇਠ 2 ਕਮੇਟੀਆਂ/ਟੀਮਾਂ ਬਣਾਏ ਜਾਣ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਮਾਮਲਾ ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਦੇ ਪੱਧਰ ਤੇ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਅਧੀਨ ਹੈ। ਇਸਤੋਂ ਇਲਾਵਾ ਬਲਾਕ ਸੁਨਾਮ ਅਤੇ ਧੂਰੀ, ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸੰਗਰੂਰ ਵਿਖੇ Water Conservation in Agriculture- Pilot Project ਚੱਲ ਰਹੇ ਹਨ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਪ੍ਰੋਜੈਕਟਸ ਦਾ ਡਾਟਾ ਕੁਲੈਕਟ ਕਰਨ ਅਤੇ ਜਾਂਚ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਮਾਮਲਿਆਂ ਤਹਿਤ ਟੈਕਨੀਕਲ ਅਡਵਾਈਜ਼ਰ/ ਟੈਕਨੀਕਲ ਮੈਨੇਜਰ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਫੀਲਡ ਵਿਜ਼ਿਟ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ ਜਾਣੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਦੇ ਅਧਿਕਾਰੀਆਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਉਕਤ ਕਾਰਜਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਨੇਪਰੇ ਚਾੜ੍ਹਨ ਹਿੱਤ ਵਹੀਕਲਜ਼ ਲੋੜੀਂਦੇ ਹਨ।

2. ਭਾਵੇਂ ਦਫ਼ਤਰੀ ਵਰਤੋਂ ਲਈ ਦੋ ਨਵੀਆਂ ਕਾਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਖਰੀਦ ਅਥਾਰਟੀ ਦੇ ਵਿਚਾਰ ਅਧੀਨ ਹੈ ਪ੍ਰੰਤੂ ਇਸ ਚ ਕਾਫੀ ਸਮਾਂ ਲੱਗਣ ਦੀ ਸੰਭਾਵਨਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸਤੋਂ ਇਲਾਵਾ ਭਵਿੱਖ ਵਿਚ ਇੱਕੋ ਸਮੇਂ ਦੇ ਤੋਂ ਵੱਧ ਗੱਡੀਆਂ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਪੈ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਆਪਾਤਕਾਲ ਸਥਿਤੀ ਚ ਦੋ ਤੋਂ ਵੱਧ ਗੱਡੀਆਂ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਪੈ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ।

3. ਪੰਜਾਬ ਸਰਕਾਰ, ਟਰਾਂਸਪੋਰਟ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਜਾਰੀ ਹਦਾਇਤਾਂ ਮਿਤੀ 18.06.2021 (Annexure A-14) ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪਾਤਰਤਾ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ Daily Basis ਤੇ ਗੱਡੀਆਂ ਹਾਇਰ ਕਰਨ ਦੇ ਸਬੰਧ ਵਿੱਚ ਰੇਟ/ਦਰਾਂ ਆਦਿ ਨਿਰਧਾਰਤ ਹਨ ਜੋ ਕਿ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਹਨ-

“HIRING OF VEHICLES ON DAILY BASIS UPTO 250 KM

Group	Rate per day (min 250 Km per day and 8 hours) (in Rs.)	Rate of extra Kms (over 250 Km per day in Rs. Per KM) (in Rs.)	Rate of extra hours (over and above 8 hours per day) in Rs. Per hour (in Rs.)	Night Halting Charges (in Rs.)
Group 1 Cost of the Vehicles ranging from Rs. 5 Lacs to 8 Lacs (GeM prices/ex-show room prices)	2437	9.75	20	200
Group 2 Cost of the Vehicles ranging from Rs. 8 Lacs to 10 Lacs (GeM prices/ex-show room prices)	2687	10.75	25	200
Vehicles ranging from Rs. 10 Lacs to 12 Lacs (GeM/ex-show room prices)	2937	11.75	30	200

Wherever, There is entitlement of Innova Crysta Vehicles, the rates of the same are as

Group	Rate per day (min 250 Km per day and 8 hours) (in Rs.)	Rate of extra Kms (over 250 Km per day in Rs. Per KM) (in Rs.)	Rate of extra hours (over and above 8 hours per day) in Rs. Per hour (in Rs.)	Night Halting Charges (in Rs.)
Innova Crysta GX/VX	3200	14	50	200

The vehicles shall be hired as per entitlement fixed by the Motor Vehicles Board in its meeting held on 03.11.2020.”

4. ਟਰਾਂਸਪੋਰਟ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਮਿਤੀ 06.01.2021 (Annexure A-15) ਰਾਹੀਂ ਮੋਟਰ ਵਹੀਕਲ ਹਾਇਰ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਅਧਿਕਾਰੀਆਂ ਦੀ ਪਾਤਰਤਾ ਨਿਰਧਾਰਤ ਹੈ।
5. ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਦਰਸਾਈ ਸਥਿਤੀ ਦੇ ਸਨਮੁੱਖ ਟਰਾਂਸਪੋਰਟ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੀਆਂ ਹਦਾਇਤਾਂ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ Daily Basis ਤੇ ਗੱਡੀਆਂ ਹਾਇਰ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਫੈਸਲਾ ਲੈਣ ਹਿੱਤ ਪੇਸ਼ ਹੈ।

Decision: *Approved.*

Item No. 51.09: Approval of Changes in Groundwater Charges under Section 17(5) of the Act.

Authority has proposed changes in Groundwater Charges given in paragraph “5.1 Groundwater Charges” and paragraph “5.2 Security Deposit” of the Punjab Directions for Groundwater Extraction and

Conservation, 2022 (Groundwater Directions) vide resolution no 44.04 and 50.06 respectively, to further rationalize the Ground Water Charges and to facilitate compliance thereof at the User end.

The proposal submitted to the Government vide letter no. 75340/PWRDA-PWRD0GENL/37/2021-PWRDABR/35170 dated 20.07.2022 for seeking approval of changes in Groundwater Charges under Section 17(5) of the Act is given below:

S.No.	Existing Provision	Changed Provision
1.	<p>5.1 GROUNDWATER CHARGES</p> <p>A. A User shall pay all Groundwater Charges as applicable at all times for the extraction of groundwater or any activity connected therewith.</p>	<p>5.1 GROUNDWATER CHARGES</p> <p>A. A User shall pay all Groundwater Charges as applicable at all times for the extraction of groundwater or any activity connected therewith <i>but no charges shall be levied on extraction of ground water by an individual household exclusively for drinking and domestic use through non-energised means or through a pump of up to 2 HP capacity from a single tube-well in the household.</i></p> <p>B. <i>That where a Unit in the context of a Building or a Colony, extracts Ground Water for drinking and domestic use, then, such Unit shall be eligible for exemption of Ground Water Extraction Charges up to 30 Cubic Meters for each occupied individual household/dwelling unit/apartment per month in such building or colony.</i></p> <p><i>Explanation: A dwelling unit shall be considered to be Occupied only after the User submits a Completion Certificate issued by the competent Authority.</i></p> <p>C. <i>If such Unit extracts groundwater in excess of the exempted volume in any month, it shall pay Groundwater Extraction Charges for that excess volume of Groundwater Extracted for that month at the rate equal to the slab rate detailed in Table 5.1 corresponding to the Assessment Area (Block) where such a Unit is located.</i></p>
2.	<p>5.2 SECURITY DEPOSIT</p> <p>A. An amount equivalent to two months of the Groundwater Extraction Charges for the permitted volume of groundwater extraction by the Unit will be required to be paid in advance by the User as an interest-free Security Deposit along with the application.</p> <p>Explanation: The Security Deposit will be calculated on the basis of the rate of</p>	<p>5.2 SECURITY DEPOSIT</p> <p>A. An amount equivalent to <i>one month</i> of the Groundwater Extraction Charges for the permitted volume of groundwater extraction by the Unit will be required to be paid in advance by the User as an interest-free Security Deposit along with the application.</p> <p><i>Provided that for a User in the context of a Unit consisting of a Building or a Colony that extracts Groundwater for uses including</i></p>

S.No.	Existing Provision	Changed Provision
	<p>Groundwater Extraction Charges (exclusive of water conservation credits) as applicable at the time of submitting the application. The Security Deposit shall not be reduced in case the Unit is eligible for any water conservation credits.</p> <p>B. In case a User is given Permission for a lesser volume than the volume applied for, any additional payment made by the User on account of Security Deposit will be adjusted in future bills after retaining an amount equivalent to two months of the Charges for the permitted volume as Security Deposit.</p> <p>C. The Security Deposit may be returned to the User after settling all accounts of the User and deducting any dues of the User if the Permission is refused or is cancelled by the Authority or is revoked at the request of the User.</p> <p>D. When a User applies for renewal of Permission, it shall be required to pay the Security Deposit amount equivalent to two months of Groundwater Charges for the volume of groundwater extraction applied for, at the rates applicable at the time of submitting the application of renewal. Provided that any balance, after deducting the dues (if any) out of Security Deposit previously deposited by the User, will be adjusted while calculating the amount of Security Deposit to be paid with the application for renewal of Permission.</p> <p>E. For Users granted Ad-interim Permission their Security Deposit will be re-calculated as per the Charges in these Directions. In case of excess payment, the same will be adjusted in the future bills after deducting the dues (if any) and after retaining the amount equivalent to two months of the Charges for the permitted volume. In case of any shortfall, the User will be required to pay the additional Security Deposit.</p>	<p><i>drinking and domestic use, and is eligible for exemption of Groundwater Extraction Charges up to 30 Cubic Meters for each occupied individual household/dwelling unit/apartment per month, the Security Deposit shall be calculated on the reduced amount of groundwater charges as per provisions contained in para 5.1 above.</i></p> <p>Explanation: The Security Deposit will be calculated on the basis of the rate of Groundwater Extraction Charges (exclusive of water conservation credits) as applicable at the time of submitting the application. The Security Deposit shall not be reduced in case the Unit is eligible for any water conservation credits.</p> <p>B. In case a User is given Permission for a lesser volume than the volume applied for, any additional payment made by the User on account of Security Deposit will be adjusted in future bills after retaining an amount equivalent to one month of the Charges for the permitted volume as Security Deposit.</p> <p>C. The Security Deposit may be returned to the User after settling all accounts of the User and deducting any dues of the User if the Permission is refused or is cancelled by the Authority or is revoked at the request of the User.</p> <p>D. When a User applies for renewal of Permission, it shall be required to pay the Security Deposit amount equivalent to one month of Groundwater Charges for the volume of groundwater extraction applied for, at the rates applicable at the time of submitting the application of renewal. Provided that any balance, after deducting the dues (if any) out of Security Deposit previously deposited by the User, will be adjusted while calculating the amount of Security Deposit to be paid with the application for renewal of Permission.</p> <p>E. For Users granted Ad-interim Permission their Security Deposit will be re-calculated as per the Charges in these Directions. In case of excess payment, the same will be adjusted in the future bills after deducting the dues (if any) and after retaining the amount equivalent to one month of the Charges for the permitted volume. In case of any shortfall, the User will be required to pay the additional Security Deposit.</p>

Conservation, 2022 (Groundwater Directions) vide resolution no 44.04 and 50.06 respectively, to further rationalize the Ground Water Charges and to facilitate compliance thereof at the User end.

The proposal submitted to the Government vide letter no. 75340/PWRDA-PWRD0GENL/37/2021-PWRDABR/35170 dated 20.07.2022 for seeking approval of changes in Groundwater Charges under Section 17(5) of the Act is given below:

S.No.	Existing Provision	Changed Provision
1.	<p>5.1 GROUNDWATER CHARGES</p> <p>A. A User shall pay all Groundwater Charges as applicable at all times for the extraction of groundwater or any activity connected therewith.</p>	<p>5.1 GROUNDWATER CHARGES</p> <p>A. A User shall pay all Groundwater Charges as applicable at all times for the extraction of groundwater or any activity connected therewith <i>but no charges shall be levied on extraction of ground water by an individual household exclusively for drinking and domestic use through non-energised means or through a pump of up to 2 HP capacity from a single tube-well in the household.</i></p> <p>B. <i>That where a Unit in the context of a Building or a Colony, extracts Ground Water for drinking and domestic use, then, such Unit shall be eligible for exemption of Ground Water Extraction Charges up to 30 Cubic Meters for each occupied individual household/dwelling unit/apartment per month in such building or colony.</i></p> <p><i>Explanation: A dwelling unit shall be considered to be Occupied only after the User submits a Completion Certificate issued by the competent Authority.</i></p> <p>C. <i>If such Unit extracts groundwater in excess of the exempted volume in any month, it shall pay Groundwater Extraction Charges for that excess volume of Groundwater Extracted for that month at the rate equal to the slab rate detailed in Table 5.1 corresponding to the Assessment Area (Block) where such a Unit is located.</i></p>
2.	<p>5.2 SECURITY DEPOSIT</p> <p>A. An amount equivalent to two months of the Groundwater Extraction Charges for the permitted volume of groundwater extraction by the Unit will be required to be paid in advance by the User as an interest-free Security Deposit along with the application.</p> <p>Explanation: The Security Deposit will be calculated on the basis of the rate of</p>	<p>5.2 SECURITY DEPOSIT</p> <p>A. An amount equivalent to <i>one month</i> of the Groundwater Extraction Charges for the permitted volume of groundwater extraction by the Unit will be required to be paid in advance by the User as an interest-free Security Deposit along with the application.</p> <p><i>Provided that for a User in the context of a Unit consisting of a Building or a Colony that extracts Groundwater for uses including</i></p>

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S.No.	Existing Provision	Changed Provision
	<p>Groundwater Extraction Charges (exclusive of water conservation credits) as applicable at the time of submitting the application. The Security Deposit shall not be reduced in case the Unit is eligible for any water conservation credits.</p> <p>B. In case a User is given Permission for a lesser volume than the volume applied for, any additional payment made by the User on account of Security Deposit will be adjusted in future bills after retaining an amount equivalent to two months of the Charges for the permitted volume as Security Deposit.</p> <p>C. The Security Deposit may be returned to the User after settling all accounts of the User and deducting any dues of the User if the Permission is refused or is cancelled by the Authority or is revoked at the request of the User.</p> <p>D. When a User applies for renewal of Permission, it shall be required to pay the Security Deposit amount equivalent to two months of Groundwater Charges for the volume of groundwater extraction applied for, at the rates applicable at the time of submitting the application of renewal. Provided that any balance, after deducting the dues (if any) out of Security Deposit previously deposited by the User, will be adjusted while calculating the amount of Security Deposit to be paid with the application for renewal of Permission.</p> <p>E. For Users granted Ad-interim Permission their Security Deposit will be re-calculated as per the Charges in these Directions. In case of excess payment, the same will be adjusted in the future bills after deducting the dues (if any) and after retaining the amount equivalent to two months of the Charges for the permitted volume. In case of any shortfall, the User will be required to pay the additional Security Deposit.</p>	<p><i>drinking and domestic use, and is eligible for exemption of Groundwater Extraction Charges up to 30 Cubic Meters for each occupied individual household/dwelling unit/apartment per month, the Security Deposit shall be calculated on the reduced amount of groundwater charges as per provisions contained in para 5.1 above.</i></p> <p>Explanation: The Security Deposit will be calculated on the basis of the rate of Groundwater Extraction Charges (exclusive of water conservation credits) as applicable at the time of submitting the application. The Security Deposit shall not be reduced in case the Unit is eligible for any water conservation credits.</p> <p>B. In case a User is given Permission for a lesser volume than the volume applied for, any additional payment made by the User on account of Security Deposit will be adjusted in future bills after retaining an amount equivalent to one month of the Charges for the permitted volume as Security Deposit.</p> <p>C. The Security Deposit may be returned to the User after settling all accounts of the User and deducting any dues of the User if the Permission is refused or is cancelled by the Authority or is revoked at the request of the User.</p> <p>D. When a User applies for renewal of Permission, it shall be required to pay the Security Deposit amount equivalent to one month of Groundwater Charges for the volume of groundwater extraction applied for, at the rates applicable at the time of submitting the application of renewal. Provided that any balance, after deducting the dues (if any) out of Security Deposit previously deposited by the User, will be adjusted while calculating the amount of Security Deposit to be paid with the application for renewal of Permission.</p> <p>E. For Users granted Ad-interim Permission their Security Deposit will be re-calculated as per the Charges in these Directions. In case of excess payment, the same will be adjusted in the future bills after deducting the dues (if any) and after retaining the amount equivalent to one month of the Charges for the permitted volume. In case of any shortfall, the User will be required to pay the additional Security Deposit.</p>

In this regard, Principal Secretary, Water Resources vide letter no. 11/21/2020-PJ-3/317 dated 02.08.2022 conveyed as under:

"(i) As per Para 5.1, exemption has been given to all users having pump of up to 2 HP capacity irrespective of whether such a person has got regular water supply connection through any municipal committee or corporation or village panchayat or not.

(ii) Justification in respect of each para may kindly be given.

(iii) In para 5.2 the reduced amount may kindly be appropriately clarified so that it reflects the clear intention."

Placed before the Authority for consideration.

Decision: *Discussed in detail. The Directions exempt all domestic and drinking usage (Paragraph 3.1), as such the addition made in Paragraph 5.1A may not be required. As regards Paragraph 5.2B the distinct cases of such Units with mixed usage of water and purely domestic usage could be treated differently. These issues be examined, and a fresh agenda item be submitted as per discussion.*

Item No.51.10: Regarding constitution of State Level Evaluation Committee (SLEC) for water conservation schemes.

The Authority in its 46th meeting vide resolution no. 46.08 resolved that in order to assist the Authority in evaluating the water conservation schemes, State Government may be requested u/s 29 of the Act to constitute a SLEC. Accordingly, a reference was made to the Government vide letter dated 15/06/2022 (**Annexure A-30**).

2. In reply to this reference the State Government vide letter dated 02/08/2022 (**Annexure A-31**) has conveyed as under:

Section 29 of the Punjab Water Resources (Management and Regulation) Act, 2020 which is reproduced as given below:

"The Government shall render effective assistance to the Authority for implementation of the decisions taken by the Authority under this Act, as and when required by the Authority."

From the above it may be seen that the State Government is to render effective assistance to the authority for implementation of the decisions already taken. It is being given to understand that the main job of the proposed State Level Evaluation Committee is to verify the documents submitted by the industries and other organizations regarding the Water Conservation Schemes. This job is to be done by the authority primarily through its own resources. In the present case it seems that the State Level Committee is being constituted for purpose of examining the schemes and proposals submitted by the various organizations/entities before the Authority. It is understood that this work is to be done by the Authority itself and not by the departmental officers. In case the authority takes a decision, the same shall be implemented either at the state level or at the district level. Apart from this, it is also submitted that the Department does not have the resources available to spare the same for the authority except the officers who are already on deputation with the Authority.

Placed before the Authority for information.

Decision: *Office to prepare a comprehensive proposal keeping in view the implementation of various provisions of the Groundwater Directions and put up a fresh agenda item.*

Item No. 51.11: Regarding Draft Tariff Regulation, 2022.

The Authority can issue Tariff Orders specifying the charges to be imposed by entities supplying water for commercial or industrial use as per Section 17 and Section 18 of the Punjab Water Resources (Management and Regulation) Act, 2020. The relevant Sections are reproduced at below:

“17. Tariff for Supply and Management of water:

(1) *Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab, the Authority shall periodically and at such intervals as may be prescribed, issue tariff orders specifying the charges to be imposed by entities supplying water for commercial or industrial use:*

Provided, however, that the charges for supplying water by entities for drinking, domestic and agriculture purposes shall be as per the policy of the Government notified from time to time.

- (2) *The tariff order issued by the Authority shall be duly implemented by the concerned entities **within the time stipulated** by the Authority.*
- (3) *The Authority may fix different tariff depending on the category of use, location, class of users or other relevant factors, as the Authority may deem fit.*
- (4) *The tariff shall be determined by the Authority in such manner, as may be prescribed, and shall be based on the principles of economy, efficiency, equity and sustainability. As far as possible, the tariff shall be based on volumetric measurement of water consumption and shall be designed to ensure economy in its use.*
- (5) *The Authority may with the approval of the Government, fix charges for extraction of groundwater by any person but no charges shall be levied on extraction of water by households drawing water for their own drinking and domestic purpose through non-energised means or through a pump upto 2 Horsepower from a single tube-well in the household where common piped water supply is not available.*
- (6) *While fixing the tariff, the special requirement of disadvantaged and economically weaker sections of the population of the State shall be duly considered and the policy of Government in this behalf may be adhered.*

18. Procedure for Tariff Order:

- (1) *An application for determination of tariff under section 17 shall be made to the Authority by the entity supplying water **in such form and manner and within such period**, as may be stipulated by the Authority.*
- (2) *The application shall be accompanied by **such fee**, as may be stipulated by the Authority.*
- (3) *The Authority shall conduct a preliminary scrutiny of the application to examine as to whether the application is complete and is in the form and manner, as stipulated by the Authority.*

(4) In case the Authority finds any modifications are required in the application, the entity shall make such modifications and resubmit the application to the Authority **within such time**, as may be stipulated by the Authority.

(5) The entity shall publish the application, in not less than two newspapers including at least one daily regional language newspaper having wide circulation in the State, in such abridged form and manner, as may be stipulated by the Authority.

(6) After publication of the application, the public may file objections before the Authority in such **manner and within such time**, as may be stipulated by the Authority.

(7) After considering the application under sub-section (1) and the objections received by it under sub-section (6), the Authority shall, within such time, as may be provided by the **regulations**,

(a) issue a tariff order accepting the application with such modifications or such conditions, as may be considered appropriate by the Authority; or

(b) reject the application for reasons to be recorded in writing and issue a tariff order after considering such relevant factors, as the Authority may deem necessary:

Provided that the entity shall be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard before issuing the tariff order:

Provided further that the Authority may hold a common hearing for considering the objections received by it from the public.

(8) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, the Authority may hold a combined hearing of several entities for determination of tariff and may in its discretion issue a single tariff order for any group or class of entities.

(9) In case an entity supplying water fails to submit an application **within the time stipulated** by the Authority, the Authority may issue a tariff order in respect of that entity after consulting the Government and considering such relevant factors, as the Authority may deem necessary.

(10) The Authority shall seek the views of the Government on the application received from all such entities which are of statutory nature or are owned or managed by the State Government, before making tariff order.

(11) The Authority shall, within fifteen days of making the tariff order, send a copy of the tariff order to the concerned entity and the Government.

(12) The tariff order shall, unless amended or revoked, continue to be in force for such **period**, as may **be stipulated** in the tariff order. Such an order may be extended by the Authority till a fresh order is passed.

Explanation: Provisions of this section shall apply even to those entities that are supplying or intend to supply treated wastewater to any consumers or group of consumers."

2. The Authority in its 1st meeting held on 09.09.2020 approved the Tariff Regulations, 2020 (**Annexure A-20**). Later on, some shortcomings were noticed. These were further discussed vide Agenda item no. 26.04 in the Authority meeting held on 11.08.2021 wherein Forms & Tables were revised (**Annexure A-21**).

3. The draft was referred to Local Government Department to seek their comments to see whether these draft Regulations are inconsonance with the existing Local Government laws (**Annexure A-22**).

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4. A meeting with Principal Secretary, Local Government was held on 12.05.2022 (MoM are attached as **Annexure A-23**), during which the Draft Tariff Regulations, 2022 were discussed and comments were sought from the Department. These comments are attached as **Annexure A-24**.
5. To comply with the provisions of Section 17 and Section 18 of the Act, the following proposals may be considered:
- A. Draft Tariff Regulations (**Annexure A-25**) under sub section 7(a) & (b) of Section 18 (7) of the Act.
 - B. Proposed fee structure (**Annexure A-26**) under Section 18 (2) of the Act.
 - C. The Forms as required under Section 18 (1) and Section 18 (6) of the Act for making application and raising of Objection are attached at **Annexure A-27**.
 - D. The timelines to be stipulated by the Authority under Section 17 (2), Section 18 (1), Section 18 (4), Section 18 (6) and Section 18 (9) are proposed at **Annexure A-28**.

Placed before the Authority for consideration.

Decision: *Draft Tariff Regulations, Fee structure and Forms were discussed in detail, the changes suggested be incorporated and a fresh agenda item be placed in the next meeting. Proposal at Paragraph 5D was deferred.*

Item No.51.12: Comments on Draft Integrated State Water Plan (ISWP).

ISWP is to be prepared by the State Government as per Section 14 of the Act. The relevant provision is reproduced below:

“14. (1) The Government shall prepare an Integrated State Water Plan based on water plans prepared for every block.

(2) Water Plan for every block shall be prepared in such manner, as may be prescribed and it shall cover all aspects of demand and supply and water for various purposes.

(3) The Integrated State Water Plan shall be placed before the Council, which may, with such modifications as deemed necessary, approve it within a period of six months from the date of submission.

(4) The Integrated State Water Plan may be reviewed after every three years from the date of its approval by the Council.

(5) For the purpose of the Integrated State Water Plan, the Government may divide the State into different categories based on the stage of groundwater development, the trend of groundwater level depletion, the level of water table, quality of groundwater, availability of surface water or other relevant criteria, as it may deem appropriate in view of the local conditions:

Provided that the categorization shall not take effect unless a notice in this regard is published in not less than two newspapers, including at least one daily regional language newspaper having wide circulation in the State.

(6) Any person may file written objections against the categorization along with such fee, as may be specified, within one month from the date of publication.

(7) The Government shall within a period of two months, consider and settle all objections received against the proposed categorization and notify the final categorization of the areas from such date, as it may deem fit.”

A draft of ISWP received from the State Government was circulated to all concerned and was deliberated in a meeting held on 26.07.2022 wherein it was decided to send brief comments of the Authority to the State Government. The draft comments are attached as **Annexure A-29**.

Placed before the Authority for consideration.

Decision: *Deferred.*

Item No.51.13: Study on Urban Water Tariff.

The Authority has received the data related to 51 Urban Local Bodies of Punjab from Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Board (**Annexure-24**). The data shows that the O&M cost for the water supply in these towns is not being met. Also, there is no study available regarding the Water Tariff setting for Urban areas in the State of Punjab.

Further, there is no data regarding wastage/leakage of water in the process of supply. The unaccounted-for water can be saved through analysis of scientific studies of water supply schemes. However, such studies are available for major cities of India such as Delhi, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, etc.

Authority may consider to take up with the State Government for conducting study on the Urban Water Tariff settings.

Placed before the Authority for consideration.

Decision: *Office may seek information from the Department of Local Government regarding any studies conducted or being conducted on urban water tariff in Punjab.*

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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Administrative Officer
Punjab Water Regulation and Development Authority

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09.8.2022

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