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DELHI JAL BOARD
GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI

Minutes of the 166th Board Meeting of Delhi Jal Board held on 13.06.2023 (Tuesday) at 09:00 A.M. in Conference Room No.02, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110 002.

P R E S E N T

1.	Sh. Saurabh Bharadwaj, Hon'ble Minister (Water)	Chairman
2.	Sh. Somnath Bharti, Member of Legislative Assembly	Vice Chairman
3.	Sh. Sanjay Goel, IAS Chief Executive Officer, DJB (Link Officer)/ Secretary (UD)	Member
4.	Sh. Naresh Balyan, Member of Legislative Assembly	Member
5.	Sh. Sharad Kumar Chauhan, Member of Legislative Assembly	Member
6.	Mr. Azimul Haque, IAS Member (Admn.)	Member
7.	Mrs. Ruchika Katyal, IAS Member (Finance)	Member
8.	Sh. S.L. Meena, Member (W), DJB	Member
9.	Sh. Ajay Gupta, Member (DR.), DJB	Member
10.	Ms. Shilpi Gupta, Scientist-'C'	Representative of CGWB
11.	Sh. Amit Kumar Jain	Secretary, DJB

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of 164th meeting of the Board held on 11.01.2023 were confirmed. It was discussed that DDA did not issue the NOC to DJB for installation of Tube wells. Therefore, Board directed that the implementation of resolution Nos. 1329, 1330, 1331 & 1333 be kept on hold. CEO, DJB informed to Board that in these items action has already been taken and DDA has also deposited the payment. Hon'ble Chairman directed to refund the amount, if required as DDA is not cooperating in issuing the NOC for Tube Wells of DJB. For resolution No. 1326 Board directed that the National Productivity Council be directed to submit a presentation for improvement of performance/productivity in DJB.

ACTION TAKEN NOTE

The action taken notes in respect of the decisions taken in 164th meeting of the Board held on 11.01.2023 were placed before the Board, and the same was taken on record.

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RESOLUTION NO. 1340**ITEM NO. ADMN.-627 Revised Budget Estimates for the year 2022-23 and Budget Estimates for the year 2023-24**

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/Dir.(F&A)/B&A/2023/1549 dated 24-04-2023 of Director (F&A) and resolved to approve the Revised Budget Estimates for the year 2022-23 and Budget Estimates for the F.Y. 2023-24 enabling the discharge of responsibilities and to meet out all essential expenditure during 2022-23 (RE) and 2023-24 (BE) on ongoing projects, undischarged liabilities and new projects including the establishment expenditure for all categories of staff. The Board also resolved to approve bulk final collecting rate of water, the disposal rate of sewerage for 2021-22, estimated collected rate of water and disposal rate of sewerage for 2022-23 (RE) and 2023-24 (BE) at which NDMC and MES shall be billed.

RESOLUTION NO. 1341

ITEM NO. ADMN.- 628 Engagement of retired Ex. Engineers & Assistant Engineers from Delhi Jal Board as Engineering Consultant initially for a period of one year or till further orders whichever is earlier on short-term contract along with all the executive powers on short-term contract

The Board considered the proposal contained in Proposal No. DJB/Dir.(A&P)/AC(T)2023/787 dated 02-05-2023 of Director (A&P) and resolved to defer the proposal with the directions to examine the proposal whether as per DoPT guidelines executive/financial powers can be given to the retired Executive Engineers on Contract Basis. Chairman further enquired about the number of vacant posts in DJB at the level of Executive Engineers. M(A) informed that 10 number of posts are deliberately kept vacant in order to accommodate retired Executive Engineers. Chairman, DJB showed displeasure and instructed to the fill the vacant post immediately with regular candidates of DJB

RESOLUTION NO. 1342

ITEM NO. ADMN.-629 Review of Office Order No.238 dated 03.12.2021 issued in pursuance of Resolution No.1206 approved under minutes of 159th Board Meeting held on 22.11.2021

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/Dir.(A&P)/AC(T)/ 2023/788 dated 02-05-2023 of Director (A&P) and approved the proposal regarding review of Office Order No.238 dated 03.12.2021 issued in pursuance of Resolution No.1206 approved under Minutes of 159th Board Meeting held on 22.11.2021. Accordingly, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved that the decision of the Board vide Resolution No.1206 dated 21.11.2021 regarding up-gradation of 40 posts of Assistant Engineer is hereby withdrawn and the status quo ante as on 21.11.2021 is restored, meaning thereby that there would be no post of AEE for direct recruitment of DJB."

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RESOLUTION NO. 1343

ITEM NO. ADMN.- 630 Review of various Board Resolutions through which additional layers/ designations were created in the hierarchy of Engineering Wing of Delhi Jal Board- reg.

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/Dir.(A&P)/AC(T)/ 2023/ 789 dated 02-05-2023 of Director (A&P) and directed to defer the proposal regarding review of various Board Resolutions through which additional layers/ designations were created in the hierarchy of Engineering Wing of Delhi Jal Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 1344

ITEM NO. ADMN.- 631 Extension to M/s WIPRO/ System Integrator for continued implementation of RMS 2.0 for 06 months w.e.f. 01.04.2023 to 30.09.2023 and by another 03 months, if necessary, after a review

The Board was apprised of the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/DOR/Preamble/2023/247 dated 02-05-2023 of DOR and the Board resolved to approve the extension to M/s WIPRO Limited/ System Integrator for 06 months (w.e.f. 01.04.2023) and by another 03 months, if necessary, after a review.

RESOLUTION NO. 1345

ITEM NO. ADMN.- 632 Guidelines for Exemption of Infrastructure Charge\ (IFC) in Sewerage Scheme with Zero Waste Water Discharge.

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/DOR/Preamble/2023/248 dated 02-05-2023 of DOR and directed to defer the circulated guidelines and further directed to submit the report for its implications in terms of revenue by exemption of IFC.

RESOLUTION NO. 1346

ITEM NO. ADMN.- 633 Hiring Manpower for online spot reading, billing and distribution of bills and other activities in outsourced Zonal Revenue Offices through Intelligent Communication Systems India Limited (ICSIL)

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/DOR/Preamble/2023/249 dated 02-05-2023 of DOR and resolved to accord ex-post-facto approval of Hiring Manpower for online spot reading, billing and distribution of bills and other activities in outsourced Zonal Revenue Offices through Intelligent Communication Systems India Limited (ICSIL).

RESOLUTION NO. 1347

ITEM NO. ADMN.- 634 Continuation of appointment of Sh. Vinod Kumar, Consultant (GIS) and Syed Tauseef Hussain, Consultant (Sewage) on contract basis for further period of one year w.e.f. 13.01.2023 to 12.01.2024 with enhancement in their monthly remuneration.



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The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/Dir.(A&P)/(T)/2023/ 790 dated 03-05-2023 of Dir.(A&P) and resolved to accord ex-post-facto approval for Continuation of appointment of Sh. Vinod Kumar, Consultant (GIS) and Syed Tauseef Hussain, Consultant (Sewage) on contract basis for further period of one year w.e.f. 13.01.2023 to 12.01.2024 with enhancement in their monthly remuneration.

RESOLUTION NO. 1348

ITEM NO. ADMN.- 635 Reporting hierarchy in respect of Addl. Chief Engineer (Maintenance) of DJB

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/Dir.(A&P)/(T)/2023/791 dated 03-05-2023 of Dir. (A&P) and resolved to defer the proposal for reporting of ACE(M) to Chief Engineer concerned.

RESOLUTION NO. 1349

ITEM NO. ADMN.- 636 - LPSC and Bill Recasting Scheme 2023

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/Dir. (Rev.)/ LPSC & recasting scheme/2023/250 dated 03.05.2023 of Director (Revenue) and resolved to approve the proposal of LPSC and bill recasting scheme with the modification in the conditions (i) that the benefit of the scheme be given to those consumers also who have never paid in the last 11 years i.e. from July, 2012. (ii) that the cases where value/average is below 0.5 times of the median value be included in the Scheme. CEO, DJB stated that he was of the view that consumers who are habitual defaulters for the last 11 year and did not make payment should not be included in the Proposed Scheme. This will defeat the purpose of the Scheme of recasting the bills. Further, Member (Finance) submitted that it would not be appropriate to include the above category of consumers in the benefit. This would lead to further huge financial implications. Moreover, the consumers who did not pay any amount in the last 11 years even did not avail the Amnesty Scheme of DJB, are supposed to be wilful defaulter and do not want to pay water utility bills. Hon'ble Chairman, DJB stated that this is not a Amnesty Scheme and it is a way to reduce the grievances of wrong billing/higher billing, therefore, it is not appropriate to say that this would lead to huge financial implications.

Further, Member(Finance) has submitted her dissent note dated 14.06.2023 which is reproduced as under:

"Following observations were submitted to the Board by the undersigned regarding the scheme:

1. This scheme was announced in Jan.,2023 when the earlier LPSC waiver scheme was operational which affected the revenue collection during that scheme and since then, the revenue receipts from domestic consumers have gone down with the announcements regarding OTS. (LPSC Waiver Scheme revenue collection dipped from January, 2023 onwards as the collections were approx. Rs.13 cr for Oct'22 (half month), Rs.53 cr for Nov'22, Rs.202 cr for Dec'22, Rs.31 cr for Jan'23, Rs.18 cr for Feb'23 and Rs.44 cr for Mar'23) As such, no announcement of the scheme be made for the public till the time it is approved by the competent authority in GNCTD.



2. Such schemes lead to moral hazard and consumers tend to get habituated to not paying and waiting for similar amnesty scheme.
3. Currently, the scheme is for domestic consumers and it may lead to demands from commercial consumers as well.
4. DJB is an Autonomous body and due to lack of sufficient revenues, is dependent on GNCTD and such a scheme would increase the dependence on outside sources of loan/grants and move away from the goal of becoming truly self-sufficient. Revenue receipts are only around 65% of the Total operating expenditure and DJB is dependent on ways and means advance of around Rs. 900 cr. Per annum from GNCTD to meet operational expenditure.

In addition to the dissent to the scheme as above, the undersigned humbly submits the following dissent to the following changes which have been proposed by the Hon'ble Chairman:

The scheme was earlier proposed as a bill recasting scheme to cater to the grievances of the consumers regarding billing not being aligned to the actual consumption of the consumers with a lot of cases pertaining to COVID period when actual consumption was not taken or billing was done on average basis due to meter stop cases, etc.

Original Proposal	Reason for Original Proposal	Change Made	Dissent and reason for dissent
It was originally proposed that the benefit of the scheme shall not be available to the consumers who have never made any payment since RMS 1.0 (i.e. July, 2012).	Since these consumers have never paid in last 11 years, it seems that these consumers do not have willingness to pay their dues as they have failed to pay their dues even during the two amnesty schemes launched since 2012. These consumers do not seem to fall under the category of grievance holders due to incorrect billing.	Benefit shall be given to the consumers who have never paid in last 11 years as well.	This would lead to a further financial implication including write-off of Rs.2266 cr of LPSC and Rs.123 cr of Principal amount in addition to Rs.578 cr of demand regarding subsidy owing to benefit of 20 KL scheme from GNCTD. Therefore, this category should not be included in the scheme.
For calculating the rectified average consumption of a consumer for recasting the bill, it was proposed that the values	Based on the analysis of the average consumption pattern for the year, checks and balances were kept in the	It has been proposed that the clause pertaining to removing the outlier less than 0.5 times the median value	This would result in calculation of a skewed rectified consumption average by excluding what is not beneficial to the consumer and

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above 2 times and below 0.5 times of the median value should be excluded as outliers.	scheme and in calculation of outliers, it was suggested that values higher than 2 times and lower than 0.5 times should be excluded for calculating Rectified Average consumption of a consumer.	should be done away with.	including what is beneficial to the consumer instead of taking a rational measure of excluding outliers of both high and low values. Therefore, the undersigned does not agree with the said change.
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Addressing the dissent raised by Member (Finance) with respect to **"item no. ADMN. 636: LPSC and Bill Recasting Scheme 2023", Chairman, DJB explained**

The problem of unreasonably high-water bills of DJB has been a serious concern of the people of Delhi for many years now. In fact, the concern is so widespread that it has not only been brought up in almost all meetings of the Elected Representatives with the Revenue Department, DJB but also discussed in most of the public forum hosted by elected representatives of the Delhi.

Thus, when in January, 2023 Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Manish Sisodia Ji called for a meeting on the issue, it was highlighted that consumers are very agitated because of the slow and inefficient resolution of the Consumer Billing Grievances at DJB ZRO offices.

The consumer redressal mechanism at the DJB ZROs is very cumbersome. As per a calculation of the DJB Revenue Department in the past 8 months, only 8,000 deletions have been undertaken in 42 DJB zones in Delhi, resulting in an average of <1 consumer grievance redressals per ZRO per day. If continued with the same rate, DJB will be able resolve pending complaints of 11.71 Lakh consumer in ~100 years.

I have myself seen many complaints with evidence, wherein our meter readers have not entered the actual meter readings. Consequently, consumers complained of discrepancies in bills. However, despite discussing this matter multiple times with the Vigilance Department, GNCTD no concrete action has been taken against the wrongdoers. However, in the ongoing concern neither Govt. of the NCT of Delhi nor DJB should penalize the consumers for the wrongdoings of the staff of the Revenue Department, DJB

It is noteworthy that in January 2023, DJB announced an LPSC Waiver Scheme conceptualized by the CEO, DJB and Member (Finance). Through this scheme the then Member (Finance) herself approved the waive off of Rs.2,266 crores of LPSC. Thus, her current dissent to continue with this LPSC waiver, initially proposed by the Department, for the One-Time Settlement (OTS) Scheme seems contradictory. Moreover, it may be noted that the OTS Scheme is not a waiver scheme and does not promote to write off Rs.123 crores of principal amount. The OTS Scheme intends to give a one-time offer to all its beneficiaries to settle their previous pending and inflated bills. This one-time offer uses the past water consumption pattern of each consumer to provide a fair and just tailor-made solution by extrapolating the consumers average consumption for the total unpaid period.

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DJB currently has 27.61 Lakh consumers spread across 42 zones of which ~10% (2 Lakh) consumers have not paid in the last 11 years. The OTS Scheme may incentivize these consumers to resolve their pending bills and continue with correct payment behavior in future. However, there is a high chance that many of them do not avail the offered One-Time Settlement amount as well. In that case, this offer will expire as per the guidelines of the schemes and these consumers shall be again liable to pay their original demand bill amount. Hence, the dissent in this regard too offers no basis to suggest that the change in the scheme requires a write off Rs.123 crores.

Furthermore, through this offer if even a miniscule percentage of this category of consumers resolves its arrears, it will only add to the revenue of DJB. DJB stands to only gain from the above proposition!

Majority of the consumer grievances is because of the well accepted fact that the meter readers did not record the actual meter readings. These meter readers did not undertake their duty of responsibly visiting the premises and capturing the correct meter readings. But instead created fictitious readings which resulted in consumers receiving arbitrary and unreasonable bills. The consumers cannot be penalized for irregularities done by DJB staff and lack of supervision by Senior Officers of Revenue and Vigilance Department. It may be noted that the DJB has long since been using a process wherein readings above 1.5 times are scrutinized for any unwanted system irregularities. Thus, suggesting changes in the meter readings upto 1.5 times are normal and accepted. This mechanism also suggests that any decline in the meter readings without any measurable threshold is also normal and accepted. A decline in the meter reading can be attributed to natural life changes such as certain members of the household left for jobs, wedding, death etc. In the revised scheme, the threshold has been revised to 2 times the median reading. As such, the consumer has to already bear the additional cost of the increased threshold. It is against the vision of the Govt. of the NCT of Delhi to further penalize the consumers by even taking away the readings below 0.5 times the median. As such, the dissent raised by the Member (Finance) in this regard is also unnecessary and unwarranted.

RESOLUTION NO. 1350

ITEM NO. ADMN.- 637Ex-post-facto approval regarding engagement of Sh. Pritam PalSingh as Secretary to Chairman, and Sh. Lalit Vijay as Addl. Private Secretary on co-terminus basis with the tenure of Hon'ble Chairman, Delhi Jal Board/ Minister (Water) Sh. Saurabh Bhardwaj, against sanctioned vacant post of Secy. to Chairman & Addl. Private Secretary in Level-11 & 10 respectively.

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/Dir.(A&P)/(T)/2023/792 dated 03-05-2023 of Dir. (A&P) and resolved to accord Ex-post-facto approval approval regarding engagement of Sh. Pritam Pal Singh as Secretary to Chairman, and Sh. Lalit Vijay as Addl. Private Secretary on co-terminus basis with the tenure of Hon'ble Chairman, Delhi Jal Board/ Minister (Water) Sh. Saurabh Bhardwaj, against sanctioned vacant post of Secy. to Chairman & Addl. Private Secretary in Level-11 & 10 respectively.



RESOLUTION NO. 1351**ITEM NO. ADMN.- 638**

Continuation of Engagement of Sh. Abhishek Banthia on co-terminus basis as Technical Advisor to Hon'ble Chairman, Delhi Jal Board/ Minister (Water) for implementation of policy matters / important matters in time bound manner

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/Dir.(A&P)/AC(T)/2023/794 dated 03-05-2023 of Dir. (A&P) and resolved to approve the continuation of engagement of Sh. Abhishek Banthia on co-terminus basis as Technical Advisor to Hon'ble Chairman, Delhi Jal Board/ Minister (W) for implementation of policy matters/ important matters in time bound manner.

RESOLUTION NO. 1352 -**ITEM NO. ADMN.- 639**

Extension of contractual engagement to the post of Doctor(GDO) Grade-II in respect of Dr.Rabita Singh, MOI-Mehrauli and Dr.Yahiya Khan, MOI-Coronation Pillar on contract basis against sanctioned vacant post of Doctor (Grade-II) for a period of one (01) year w.e.f. 22.05.2023 to 21.05.2024.

DJB/Dir.(A&P)/2023/793 Dated : 03.05.2023

The Board considered the proposal contained in proposal No. DJB/Dir.(A&P)/AC(D)/2023/793 dated 03-05-2023 of Dir. (A&P) and resolved to approve the extension of contractual engagement to the post of Doctor (GDO) in respect of Dr.Rabita Singh, MOI-Mehrauli and Dr.Yahiya Khan, MOI-Coronation Pillar on contract basis against sanctioned vacant post of Doctor (GDO) Grade-II for a period of one (01) year w.e.f. 22.05.2023 to 21.05.2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 1355

ITEM NO. T-423 Providing/ Laying/ Jointing Internal & Peripheral sewer lines in Hasanpur GOC under the command of proposed STP at Hasanpur

The Board considered the proposal contained in Preamble No.DJB/CE(DR.)Proj.-III/2023/02 dated 14.03.2023 of Chief Engineer(DR.)Proj.-III and it was discussed that there is financial crunch in the department, therefore, it would be appropriate to defer the proposal for award of work till the confirmation of funds under "AMRUT"2.0 Scheme.

RESOLUTION NO. 1356

ITEM NO. T- 424 Review of "Delhi Water Board Septage Management Regulations 2018

The Board considered the proposal contained in Preamble No.DJB/ACE(P)-7/2023/01 dated 06.04.2023 of ACE(P) and resolved to accord the approval for the amendments in the existing "Delhi Water Board Septage Management Regulations 2018" as proposed in the preamble as per Annexure- A.

RESOLUTION NO. 1357**ITEM NO. T-425 Boring and Installation of Tube wells (Civil and E&M work) around Bhalswa Lake and other Suitable locations**

The Board considered the proposal contained in Preamble No.DJB/CE(GW)/2023/01 dated 18.04.2023 of Chief Engineer(GW) and resolved to approve the administrative approval of the estimate amounting to Rs. 41,01,93,717/- i.e. Rs. 20,59,48,502/- for Civil works and Rs. 20,42,45,215/- for E&M works and also accorded approval for the award of work in favour of lowest bidder M/s Raj Conbuild Pvt. Ltd. @ 22.80% above the amount put to tender Rs.40,81,54,623/- at a total cost of Rs. 50,12,13,877/- (Fifty Crore Twelve Lakh Thirteen Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Seven Only) for the boring and installation of tube wells (Civil & E&M) work) around Bhalswa Lake and other suitable locations.

RESOLUTION NO. 1358**ITEM NO. T-426 Improvement of Water Supply System including Operation and Maintenance of Transmission & Distribution pipes, Pumping Stations, Service Connections and Consumer Meters with DMA formation and NRW Reduction in Chandrawal WTP command area, Package-4 (East)**

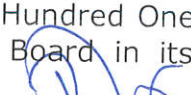
The Board considered the proposal contained in Preamble No.DJB/CE(W)Proj.-II/2023/P-02 dated 25.04.2023 of Chief Engineer(W) Proj.-II and it was discussed that in this case there is single bid and performance of the company is also required to be checked, therefore, it would be appropriate to defer the proposal for award of work in favour of single bidder M/s JWIL Infra Limited.

RESOLUTION NO. 1359**ITEM NO. T-427 Up-gradation of 70 MGD Wastewater Treatment Plant at Coronation Pillar and laying of rising main from Coronation Pillar to Upstream of Wazirabad in Delhi (for Apprising to the Board)**

The Board was apprised of the proposal contained in Preamble No.DJB/CE(DR.) Proj.-II/2023/P-02 dated 01.05.2023 of Chief Engineer(DR.) Proj.-II. The Board took in on record and accepted the information that the tenders of "Up-gradation of 70 MGD Wastewater Treatment Plant at Coronation Pillar and laying of rising main from Coronation Pillar to Upstream of Wazirabad in Delhi" have been discharged and the proposal of up-gradation of construction of 70 MGD ultra-filtration unit at Coronation Pillar have been dropped.

RESOLUTION NO. 1360**ITEM NO. T-428 Proposal for appraisal and seeking directions on the already approved project of "Providing and laying third raw water main of 2400mm dia from Delhi Sub Branch near Haiderpur WTP up to outfall at Wazirabad WTP"**

The Board was apprised of the proposal contained in Preamble No.DJB/CE (Water) Project-I/2023/02 dated 02.05.2023 of Chief Engineer (Water) Proj-I and resolved to approve the proposal to take up the work of "Providing and laying third raw water main of 2400mm dia from Delhi Sub Branch near Haiderpur WTP up to outfall at Wazirabad WTP" amounting to Rs.301.66 Cr. (Rs.Three Hundred One Crore Sixty Six Lakh Only) which was earlier approved by Delhi Jal Board in its 136th meeting vide resolution No.534 dated 01.02.2018.



RESOLUTION NO. 1361

ITEM NO. T-429 Construction of 7 Nos. of Decentralized Sewage Treatment Plant and Sewage Pumping Station along with other associated/ allied appurtenant work on under Najafgarh drainage zone, Delhi, along with ten years Operation & Maintenance and two years defect liability period on Hybrid Annuity Mode

The Board considered the proposal contained in Preamble No.DJB/CE (DR.) Project.-III/2023/ 04 dated 02.05.2023 of Chief Engineer (DR.) Proj-III and it was discussed that in this case there is single bid and moreover performance of the contractor is also not reported satisfactory. Therefore, Board resolved to reject the proposal for awarding the work of Construction of 7 Nos. of Decentralized Sewage Treatment Plant and Sewage Pumping Station along with other associated/allied appurtenant work under Najafgarh Drainage Zone, Delhi. Board further directed that it may be apprised in the next meeting of the Board regarding action taken for debarring contractor due to poor performance.

RESOLUTION NO. 1362

ITEM NO. T-430 Construction of 49.5 MLD Wastewater Treatment Plant at Mitraon with other associated/ allied appurtenant work along with ten years Operation & Maintenance and two years Defect Liability period on Hybrid Annuity Mode – DBO basis

The Board considered the proposal contained in Preamble No.DJB/CE (DR.) Project.-I/2023/01 dated 02.05.2023 of Chief Engineer (DR.) Proj-I and it was discussed that there is financial crunch in the department, therefore, it would be appropriate to defer the proposal for award of work till the confirmation of funds under "AMRUT" 2.0 Scheme.

RESOLUTION NO. 1363

ITEM NO. T-431 - Providing & Laying 300mm to 900mm nominal dia internal and peripheral sewer line in Shri Ram Colony, Rajiv Nagar and part of Sonia Vihar in Karawal Nagar, Delhi

The Board considered the proposal contained in Preamble No.DJB/CE(DR.)Proj.-III/2023/03 dated 02.05.2023 of Chief Engineer (DR.)Proj-III and it was discussed that there is financial crunch in the department, therefore, it would be appropriate to defer the proposal for award of work till the confirmation of funds under "AMRUT" 2.0 Scheme.

"Any other item with the permission of the Chairman"

ITEM No.1 CHAIRMAN-Transfer & Posting of Officers/Officials of DJB.

The Board considered the proposal and resolved to approve that a Committee of the following is constituted for transfer and posting among all categories of officers including and above the rank of Superintending Engineer/Director and its equivalent designations in any Department/Division etc. (by whatever designation it may be called) in DJB:

- | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|---|------------------|
| (i) | Minister Incharge of Water (DJB) | - | Chairman |
| (ii) | Vice Chairman, DJB | - | Member |
| (iii) | CEO, DJB | - | Member Secretary |

In so far as the transfer/posting of officers/officials who are not covered in above para are concerned, the concerned Member/CVO/Secretary or equivalent officers (by whatever designation it may be called) shall be the Competent Authority for the same.

After discussion it was decided that the work allocation will be decided by the Controlling Officer concerned. If transfer/posting falls across the domain of the Member/CVO/Secretary or equivalent officers (by whatever designation it may be called), the same may be done by above mentioned Committee.

In the interest of efficiency, efficacy, transparent administrative functioning and ensuring best services to the people of Delhi, the aforementioned policy of transfer, posting and allocation of work/additional work, shall be operational in normal circumstances and can be modified/ dispensed with by the Board, at any juncture.

C.E.O., DJB submitted that it would be appropriate to decide this issue before the regular C.E.O. in the next Board Meeting. He further submitted that the proposed agenda would dilute the powers of the CEO who is the Head of the Department and always represent the department before the public. It would also dilute the chain of command which would affect adversely the administrative work of the department. Therefore, it is not advisory to dilute the command of the CEO. By making transfer by the proposed committee of members, Inter-department/Wing transfers would be difficult. He also expressed that political representatives should not be involved in the transfer/posting in the department as it becomes difficult for political representatives to say 'No' to external persons. CEO expressed his dissent for the proposal. Member(Admn) and Member(Finance) submitted their dissent on the proposal.

Member(Admn.) has expressed certain reservations regarding this agenda item in his written dissent note dated 19.06.2023 which is as under:

"He submitted before the Board that there would be various problems with regard to implementation of the proposed delegation of power with respect to Transfer and Posting of Officers. He specifically pointed out regarding problems in respect of inter-departmental transfers in this regard. He further submitted that under the statutory provisions of the Delhi Water Board Act, 1998, one of the Members of the Board has been designated as Member (Administration), who would be a Senior Government Officer having specialized knowledge and practical experience of Personnel and Administrative matters. The work of transfer and posting of officers/officials pertains to the Personnel and Administrative domain and, therefore, the same should not be assigned to other Members having specialized domain knowledge in some other fields. This arrangement would be contrary to the provisions of general administration envisaged in the Act."

Chairman, DJB explained to the Board that, it is very clear from the DJB Act and Resolution no. 1 of the first board meeting dated 17.04.1998 that all powers of transfer and posting were vested with the Board which were subsequently delegated to certain officers. Thereafter, there have been many orders/resolutions to regulate these powers. Recently, as per ORDER no. 77 issued vide office order no. D-1542 dated 26.08.2022 signed by CEO, DJB Mr. P.Krishnamurthy stated that "transfer/posting proposals of all categories of officers/officials shall put up to the CEO for consideration and approval". After this order transfer posting of all the employees of DJB from Class 1 to Class 4 was being done after approval of single official i.e. CEO, DJB. Further, through another order no. 80 issued by CEO, previous ORDER no. 77 issued vide office order no. D-1542 dated 26.08.2022 was withdrawn. DJB is a public service department catering to almost every Delhi resident. There are multiple reasons when efficient working of Department is dependent on appropriate officers who are technically better suited considering need of the work. When all transfer/posting in DJB are to be decided by a single officer in the DJB, it leads to bottleneck in the efficient working of the Department. DJB is supposed to be a very agile and dynamic department wherein decisions should be reasonable and swift. Most importantly, it is a technical member who knows best about the requirement of best suited Engineer for a particular type of project or task. Thus, in order to make DJB more efficient and swifter, transfer /posting of the lower levels officers should rest with concerned Member(s).

Chairman, DJB also observed that in the draft minutes of meeting forwarded by CEO, DJB it is mentioned that Member (Finance) has dissented with the proposal. In this regard Chairman, DJB has opined that Member (Finance) as an afterthought is placing a new dissent regarding policy of transfer postings in DJB because no such dissent was raised by her during the Board Meeting. The video recording of the same is available and Member (Finance) is advised to avoid such afterthoughts in future.

ITEM No.2CHAIRMAN -Policy for Ad-hoc Promotion and also for entrustment of Current Duty Charge/Look After Charge on completion of 2/3rd of qualifying service.

The Board considered the proposal and it was decided with the consensus of all Members that DoPT Guidelines should be followed in granting the Ad-hoc Promotion. Therefore, it was decided that till the further decision of the Board, the existing policy as per DoPT guidelines and as approved by the Board in its 164th meeting dated 11.01.2023 for Ad-hoc Promotion be continued, hence this item was treated as withdrawn. However, for CDC/Look After Charge the department may take judicious decision as per functional requirement in the department.

It was also decided by the Board that a report be submitted within one (01) month with the reasons for non-conducting the DPCs/ non-granting the promotions in respect of all pending promotions and also submit the solutions to resolve the issues in granting the promotions for smooth functioning of the department. After submitting this report such report be submitted quarterly.

ITEM No.3 CHAIRMAN -Engagement of Law Firm for the projectscosting 10 crores &above at the time of draft NIT and Extension ofa Time"/EOT in all on-going as well future works in the cases where time has exceeded 1/3rd of the original project completion period should be issued by the competent authority after approval from Chairperson, DJB.

The Board considered the proposal contained in Resolution No.1365and resolved to approve that:

- (i) In supersession of earlier orders/circulars/Board resolution, legal firm be engaged in all the projects costing 10 crores and above. The legal firm will be engaged from DJB side at the time of Draft NIT. All communications between the DJB and the contractor will be legally vetted to protect the interest of DJB.
- (ii) In supersession of earlier orders/circulars/Board resolution,approval of final Extension of Time"/EOT in all on-going as well future works costing more than one crore where time isexceeded 1/3rd of the original project completion period be issued by the competent authority after approval from Chairperson, DJB.

During the discussion it was also decided by the Board that a review meeting every six months would be held to review the Performance of Contractors and for taking necessary action against the default contractors.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


(Saurabh Bharadwaj)
CHAIRPERSON, DJB


SECRETARY, DJB