

MINUTES OF THE 290TH MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF WEST BENGAL STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION HELD ON 19/02/2025 AT 12.30 P.M. AT THE MEETING HALL OF KHADYASHREE BHAVAN (7TH FLOOR), KOLKATA - 700087.

MEMBERS PRESENT

1.	Parwez Ahmad Siddiqui , I.A.S.	CHAIRMAN
2.	The Director, Directorate of DDP&S, Food & Supplies Department, Govt. of West Bengal	DIRECTOR
3.	Smt. Sima Halder, WBCS (EXE), Joint Secretary, Food & Supplies Department, Govt. of West Bengal.	DIRECTOR
4.	Sri Suranjan Dawn, WBA&AS, Financial Adviser & Ex-Officio Additional Secretary, Consumer Affairs Department, Govt. of West Bengal	DIRECTOR
5.	The Director of Finance, Food & Supplies Department, Govt. of West Bengal	DIRECTOR
6.	Dr. H.B. Das, General Manager (Fin),CWC (Joined through V.C.)	DIRECTOR
7.	Sri Narendra Kumar, General Manager(G), Regional Manager, CWC	DIRECTOR
8.	Sri Alok Jain, Deputy General Manager (ABU & GSS), State Bank of India (Joined through V.C.)	DIRECTOR
9.	Sri Sristidhar Santra, IAS (Retd.), Managing Director(Officiating) and OSD & E.O. Secretary, WBSWC	MANAGING DIRECTOR

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED		
1.	Sh. Sangeet, Director (Sugar & V.Oils), Govt. of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Department of Food & Public Distribution	DIRECTOR
2.	Sri Bibhas Chandra Adhikari	Non-Official Director

PARWEZ AHMAD SIDDIQUI, I.A.S., Hon'ble Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Corporation took the Chair and welcomed all the members of the Board and granted leave of absence for the aforesaid 02 (Two) members and also directed the M.D. to start the agenda wise discussion.



SRI SRIVIDHAR SANTRA, IAS (RETD.),
Managing Director, WBSWC



(Approved by)

Chairman, WBSWC

At the outset the Managing Director welcomed the Hon'ble Chairman, Parwez Ahmad Siddiqui, IAS and all the members participated in the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 1:- To confirm the proceedings of the 289th BoD Meeting held on 07/01/2025.

Resolution:

Noted and granted. The Chairman, WBSWC once again reiterated that the proposal (Agenda item No. 5 of 289thBoD meeting) was aiming at unification of different posts of almost similar nature engaged from time to time to cope up with the operational needs. It is not related to creation of any post but only to manage the day-to-day operational needs by engaging manpower through agency as and when required. The members were in agreement.

Agenda Item No.2:- To consider and approve the Revised Budget Estimate of WBSWC for the FY 2024-2025 and the Budget Estimate for the FY 2025-2026.

Agenda Notes :-The Revised Budget Estimate of the West Bengal State Warehousing Corporation for the Financial Year 2024-2025 and proposed Budget Estimates of West Bengal State Warehousing Corporation for the Financial Year 2025 -2026 are placed before the Board for kind perusal and approval.

Resolution :-

The different aspects of budget proposals were discussed in a threadbare manner. The R.E. for the F.Y. 2024-25 and the B.E. for the F.Y. 2025-26 were accepted and approved by the board with following observations and recommendations which are as under:

- a) The matter of projected occupancy and income of SWC owned warehouses were discussed with a great zeal. So conservative approach of 72% projection in B.E. 2025-26 was discussed and specific proposal from the members to show more aggressive and dynamic approach in this regard to achieve at least the target of 80% occupancy.
- b) It was also mentioned that the pattern of representation of capacity & utilization report of SWC owned warehouses needs to be modified in detailed manner, viz., Food, Fertilizer and others.
- c) The matter of utilization regarding Salt Lake land, Dharmatala GFD and others including cost involvement were discussed. Resolved to form a committee by the officials of WBSWC to carry out a market survey to determine business feasibility of that area. The committee will be consisting of M.D. - Chairman, S.E. -Member, E.E.(ELEC.) –Member, A.O. – Member, G.M.(COMM.) – Convener and Z.O. (ADMIN.) – Member.



The committee will carry out an extensive study regarding business feasibility and submit report before the Board in the next meeting.

It was also suggested that necessary assistance from any private architectural agency might be taken in respect of designing the proposed commercial building at the land in Salt Lake.

d) The Chairman has also advised the SWC officials to be more cautious regarding physical and geographical nature of land accessibility before final call for selection of the land for any project particularly Godown.

Agenda Item No.3 :-To consider and approve the proposed Revision of Storage Tariff Schedule of WBSWC w.e.f. 01st April'2025.

Agenda Notes :-

Background:

Storage tariff schedule of West Bengal State Warehousing Corporation was lastly revised in the year 2022 and was in effect from 01.04.2022. As per decision of the Authority of the Corporation, a new committee was constituted for fixation of rationalized Storage Tariff Schedule, comprising the following members – OSD & EO Secretary, WBSWC (Chairman); General Manager (Storage), WBSWC (Convener); C.G.M. (Finance), WBSWC (Member); G.M. (Finance), WBSWC (Member); Z.O. (Storage), WBSWC (Member).

Till date, four (04) nos of meeting of “Revision of Storage Tariff Schedule” committee were held on 30.12.24, 20.01.25, 29.01.25 & 11.02.25 respectively at WBSWC, H.O.

Principles:

Based on the resolutions of the meeting, the following factors have been taken into consideration for fixation of the revised storage tariff.

- (i) Existing storage rate of Central Warehousing Corporation w.e.f. 01.04.2024 (both space wise and commodity wise).
- (ii) A comparative study was made with the tariff of Central Warehousing Corporation and some other SWCs also.
- (iii) A Market Survey report (SWOT) prepared by the Godown-in-charges of SWC Warehouses which reflects the current rate of Private Warehouses throughout the State.
- (iv) General principles of providing relaxation to Co-operative Societies (10%) and Primary producers to the extent of 15% (as followed throughout the country) was also taken into consideration.
- (v) For long term storage also special relaxation were considered for different time periods of booking.



Decision & Recommendation of the Committee:

1. Where CWC tariff have been broadly followed, the proposed storage tariff for both area wise and commodity wise are proposed less than CWC rate.
2. Where CWC rates are not available:
The higher of the remaining two alternatives is proposed excepting few.
3. The proposal of storage tariffs prepared on the above mentioned principles are annexed in :
 - a. Annexure I : Centre-wise Area Basis Storage Schedule.
 - b. Annexure II : Commodity-wise Storage Schedule. (approx. 10% hike in most of the cases).
4. The existing rebate of 10% to Co-Operative Societies will be continued and a rebate of 15% may be allowed to farmers i.e. bonafide agriculturist/ primary producers for the storage of their products raised by themselves of their land.
5. If the Corporation allowed any space on guaranteed occupancy/Joint locking self-operation/actual occupancy/ micro guaranteed occupancy /special arrangement basis mentioning the provision that revised rate will be applicable with effect from the date of such revision, the existing rate will be discontinued w.e.f. 01.04.2025 and new enhanced rate will be implemented from that date positively. But in case there is no reference regarding the enhancement of storage tariff in the existing storage agreement on allotment order in favour of depositors, the previous tariff will be continuous till expiry of such contract.
6. Storage rate (area basis) at GFD Cossipore& GFD Shalimar may be fixed at Rs. 30/- per sq.ft. per month (Previous Rate Rs. 28/-) considering the rates of surrounding godowns as also their location. Storage Rate (area basis) at GFD Bagrakote& GFD Dabgramgodown may be fixed at Rs. 22/- Per sq. ft. per month (Previous Rate Rs. 20/-).
7. GST or any other tax as levied by the Central Govt. / local bodies, if any, will be charged extra if applicable in addition to storage and/or insurance charges etc. The ad valorem surcharges including insurance to be charges separately except for food grains where the tariffs are fixed inclusive of such charge. The Ad Valorem surcharges may continue for actual occupancy/ micro guaranteed occupancy and guaranteed occupancy business at the same rate of Rs. 0.10 per hundred rupee values (highest during the month) of stock per month excepts chemical fertilizers. In case of chemical fertilizers Ad Valorem surcharge will be Rs. 0.05 per hundredrupee values (highest during the month) of stock per month.
8. Ad Valorem Surcharges (Stock Management, Record Keeping & Insurance) shall be added as applicable.
9. The storage rates will be increased automatically upto 15% (maximum) after 3 years (from 01.04.2028), if the same is not revised formally. This is as per the principle



prescribed by the L& LR Deptt., Govt. of W.B. for revision of rent of premises taken on hire for public purpose.

10. The items not covered under the present schedule will be considered on case to case basis by a special committee viz. 'Revision of Storage Tariff Schedule' Committee, consisting OSD & EO Secretary, WBSWC (Chairman); General Manager (Storage), WBSWC (Convener); C.G.M. (Finance), WBSWC (Member); G.M. (Finance), WBSWC (Member); Z.O. (Storage), WBSWC (Member).
11. Rebate on account of bulk storage, long term storage and other special circumstances shall be decided on case to case basis with prior approval of the Head Office of the Corporation. Allowing of such rebate will depend on different factors viz. the location of the warehouse, its conditions, general occupancy rate, other ancillary facilities like weighbridge, railway siding/ terminal etc. However, this rebate will not be allowed in case of Co-Operative societies or bonafide farmers for whom separate rebate is proposed at point 4. The allowable rebate may broadly be on the following ranges :
For bulk storage for longer period-
 - a. Not less than 1250 MT for a minimum period on one year; Rebate upto 10% on the existing tariff.
 - b. Not less than 1250 MT for a minimum period of 3 years; rebate upto 15% on the existing tariff.
12. The Managing Director may, further, allow additional concession as per the business scenario on case to case basis, as per approval given by the Board of Directors in its 268th meeting (Agenda 12) (annexed).

Proposal:

The recommendation of the Storage Tariff Fixation Committee as noted under point no. 1 to 12 are placed before the Board for consideration and approval.

If approved, the proposed tariff schedule may be take into effect from 01st April, 2025 or any other date as the Board may decide.

Resolution :-

The proposed policies regarding Revision of Storage Tariff Schedule of WBSWC and two tariff schedules for Centre wise (Area based) and commodity wise were discussed in a lucid manner.


- a) The R.M., CWC has pointed out that the rates of CWC for 2024- 25 has been followed. He suggested to follow the schedule of CWC for 2025-26.
- b) It was suggested to assess the entire storage capacity into food, fertilizer and others along with utilization for each separate category in last 03 (Three) years. Based on the assessment proposal for enhancement of rates should be proposed. It was also suggested that in case of non -utilization of fertilizer godowns for a long period, WBSWC will explore new business with necessary renovation works for storage of other commodities.

c) The Secretary, SWC was advised to monitor the matter for exploring new business procurement and enhancement of entire storage capacity of WBSWC as well, upon consultation with Storage and Commercial wings.

d) A new committee has been proposed to study the entire proposed storage tariff schedule with the following members -

Secretary, WBSWC (Chairman), DF (F&S Dept.), CGM (FIN.), GM (FIN.), GM (COMM.), ZO (Admin.), Z.O. (Accts.) and Arunav Mitra, A.D. (F&S Dept). The committee will meet on 25/02/25 and 01/03/25. With the recommendations of the Committee another Board Meeting will be arranged on 05.03.2025.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the chair.



SRI SRIVIDHAR SANTRA, IAS (RETD.), Managing Director, WBSWC



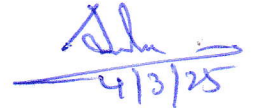
PARWEZ AHMAD SIDDIQUI, I.A.S., Chairman, WBSWC

No. 2329/(22)/Estab/A(I)-I/SWC/20-21;

Date. 04/03/2025

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to :-

1. The P.S. to the Principal Secretary, Food & Supplies, Govt. of West Bengal & the Chairman WBSWC, with the request to place it before the Principal Secretary, Food & Supplies Department and the Chairman, WBSWC.
2. to 12. All Members of Board of Directors of WBSWC (.....)
13. The Secretary, Central Warehousing Corporation.
14. The Special Secretary (GE&EM), Department of Food & Supplies, Govt. of W.B.
15. The C.G.M. (Finance), WBSWC.
- 16 to 21. All Section Heads at H.O. WBSWC.
22. Guard File.


4/3/25

OSD & E.O.Secretary