

MINUTES OF THE 291st MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF WEST BENGAL STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION HELD ON 05/03/2025 AT 03.30 P.M. AT THE MEETING HALL OF KHADYASHREE BHAVAN (7TH FLOOR), KOLKATA - 700087.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED		
1.	The Director, Directorate of DDP&S, Food & Supplies Department, Govt. of West Bengal	DIRECTOR
2.	Sh. Sangeet, Director (Sugar & V.Oils), Govt. of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Department of Food & Public Distribution	DIRECTOR
3.	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 03 (Three) members and also directed the M.D. to start the agenda wise discussion.



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



(Approved by)

Chairman, WBSWC

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

Agenda Item No. 1:- To confirm the proceedings of the 290th BoD Meeting held on 19/02/2025.

Resolution:-

Noted and granted. The Chairman has mentioned that the instant meeting has been arranged within a very short time of two weeks and the minutes have been signed just the day before the meeting. In spite of the fact, he invited the members to come forward for discussion. The M.D., WBSWC has mentioned that as per resolution adopted in the last meeting, the projected occupancy of SWC owned godowns for the F.Y. 2025-26 has been increased by 8% and accordingly the projected income has been increased by Rs. 2.93 crore. The members expressed satisfaction over the matter.

Agenda Item No. 2:- To consider and approve the proposed Revision of Storage tariff Schedule of WBSWC w.e.f. 01st April'2025

Agenda Notes:-

Background:

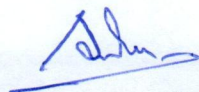
Storage tariff schedule of West Bengal State Warehousing Corporation was lastly revised in the year 2022 and was in effect from 01.04.2022. As per decision of the Authority of the Corporation, a new committee was constituted for fixation of rationalized Storage Tariff Schedule, comprising the following 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. Further, two (02) nos. of meeting of the committee formed by the Chairman in the 290th BoD in connection with the same was held on 25.02.25 & 03.03.25.

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. 01.04.2025 (both space wise and commodity wise).
- (ii) A Market Survey report (SWOT) prepared by the Godown-in-charges of SWC Warehouses which reflects the current rate of Private Warehouses in the locality.




- (iii) General principles for 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.
- (iv) For long term bulk storage, special relaxation has been considered for different time periods.
- (v) Commodities-wise (Food, Fertilizer & Others) occupancy details of SWC Godowns studied for last three years (April'22 to Jan'25) to understand
 - a. Where the storage space are unutilized for a long period.
 - b. Where there are any scope to find out new depositors other than food & fertilizer.

Decision & Recommendation of the Committee:

1. Where CWC tariff is available, 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 rate of the local Private godowns has been followed.
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.

(It was proposed to revise the item-wise rate by enhancing the rate by 10% on the existing rate. Exceptional I : Sl. No. XV (1) - Industrial Items (Sl. No. 1) @10% enhanced for Type-I SWC Godowns & @5% enhanced for the Type - II SWC Godowns. Exceptional II : Sl. No. XV - Industrial Items (Sl. No. 2 to 5) and No. XVI - Chemicals (including Pesticides, Sl. No. 1 to 3) in Type -II SWC godown rate is fixed at 15% less than the rate of the Type-I SWC Godown.)
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. The Corporation will allow 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 and the existing rate will be discontinued w.e.f. 01.04.2025 and new enhanced rate will be implemented from that date positively.
6. Storage rate (area basis) at GFD Cossipore may be fixed at Rs. 30/- per sq.ft. per month (Previous Rate Rs. 28/-) and GFD Bagrakote may be fixed at Rs. 22/- Per sq. ft. per month (Previous Rate Rs. 20/-) considering the rates of surrounding godowns and also their location.
7. For the SWC warehouses where F&S Deptt., Govt. of W.B. stored their procured rice, the existing rate is Rs. 140/- per MT per month. Now, it is proposed to enhance Rs. 10/- per MT per month i.e. the revised rate is Rs. 150/- per MT per month.



8. 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 hundred rupee values (highest during the month) of stock per month.
9. Ad Valorem Surcharges (Stock Management, Record Keeping & Insurance) shall be added as applicable.
10. 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.
11. 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).
12. 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.
13. 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 13 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 : -

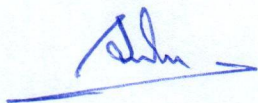
The matter was discussed in a detailed and threadbare manner with different sets of Primary and Secondary data in connection with rationalization and fixation of storage tariff for both area wise and commodity wise. The members of the review committee, constituted for this purpose, highlighted different pros and cons of the study along with the weakness of WBSWC in this regard. CWC members advised to explore the guideline of CWC in all respect like yearly revision of the tariff schedule, policy of enhancement / decrease of storage charges as per situation, fixation of rate of open space (60% of cover space) and plinth (75% of cover space) in conformity with that of covered space etc.

Finally, the following matters were resolved -

- 1) WBSWC will engage one professional agency through tender process for location wise market survey within coming three months.
- 2) The agency selected shall study each location with local / adjacent players' status (including google location for all such godowns) to have a clear idea of market, demand of commodities, raw materials available in that area, existing market rate for such items/ commodities, access etc.
- 3) The agency will complete the study and submit report within three months from the date of engagement.
- 4) The committee of WBSWC formed for this purpose will study the same along with data analysis within one month and place it before the Board for review / consideration.
- 5) The agency will also study about the business feasibility for new construction at the vacant spaces (open space) of different warehouse location.
- 6) Present proposal for revision of tariff schedule has been approved for one year only. After reviewing the entire matter after 7-8 months, the same will again be placed before the Board with proper modification as and where required including rates (both types), proposal of specific business exploration, construction of new godown if any, conversation of nature of godown from one specific product to others etc.

Encl : Annexure - I (location wise rate) & II (Commodity wise rate)

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



SRI SRIVIDHAR SANTRA, IAS (RETD.), PARWEZ AHMAD SIDDIQUI, I.A.S.,
Managing Director, WBSWC



Chairman, WBSWC