

WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT ORDER

1.1 Order

Whereas the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority is entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring equitable, efficient and sustainable management of the State's water resources;

And Whereas preservation of water quality throughout the hydrological cycle is indispensable for protecting downstream users, public health, aquatic ecosystems and long-term water security;

And Whereas the Authority is empowered under the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005 to promote efficient utilisation of water resources, water conservation and preservation of water quality, and has issued the Criteria for Distribution of Surface Water Entitlements and the Bulk Water Tariff Order governing bulk water users;

And Whereas it is expedient to prescribe a uniform procedure for water quality monitoring, sampling, laboratory analysis, verification of compliance with applicable environmental standards and recovery of water quality assessment charges from the concerned bulk water user;

Therefore, the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority hereby issues this order for Water Quality Assessment of Bulk Water Users for ensuring scientific, transparent and uniform assessment of water quality in furtherance of sustainable water resources management and in accordance with the provisions of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005 and other applicable laws. This Order applies to bulk water consumer who discharge treated / untreated effluent generated after use.

1.2 Background

Water is a finite and shared public resource essential for human life, agriculture, industry, commerce, ecological sustainability and overall economic development. Water resources within the State constitute an integrated hydrological system wherein water is abstracted from rivers, reservoirs, lakes, canals, groundwater and other sources for authorised uses and, after such use, is discharged into the natural environment either through sewage treatment plants, effluent treatment plants, common effluent treatment plants or other approved treatment systems, as applicable or untreated.

The treated / untreated discharge re-enters the natural water cycle and forms part of the available water resources utilised by downstream users, environmental flows and aquatic ecosystems. Accordingly, every water user is both a beneficiary of upstream



water quality and a custodian of downstream water quality. Preservation of water quality throughout the hydrological cycle is therefore fundamental to sustainable water resources management.

Effective water governance requires regulation of both the quantity and quality of water throughout the stages of abstraction, conveyance, utilisation, treatment, discharge, reuse, recycling and return flows. Continuous monitoring and assessment of water quality are essential for ensuring compliance with prescribed standards, protecting downstream users, promoting reuse and recycling, preserving ecological integrity and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the State's water resources.

The Maharashtra State Water Policy, the Integrated State Water Plan and the principles of recognise that sustainable management of water resources requires coordinated regulation of water quantity and water quality through scientific monitoring, water auditing and regulatory oversight.

1.3 Statutory Authority

The Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005 entrusts the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority with the responsibility of regulating, managing and promoting equitable, efficient and sustainable utilisation of the State's water resources.

This order is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under Sections 11(d), 11(q), 12(4), 12(5), 13 and other enabling provisions of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005, read with the Criteria for Distribution of Surface Water Entitlements by River Basin Agencies for Domestic and Industrial Uses, the Final Criteria for Determination of Bulk Water Tariff for the Control Period 2026–2029, the Fourth Bulk Water Tariff Order (2026–2029), the Maharashtra State Water Policy, the Integrated State Water Plan and other applicable laws governing water resources and environmental protection.

1.4 Water Quality Assessment

Water quality assessment forms an integral component of water governance, water auditing and sustainable management of water resources. The assessment of water quality enables verification of compliance with applicable environmental standards, environmental permissions, statutory consents and conditions governing authorised water use regarding the quality of treated/ untreated effluent discharged into natural drain after used by the bulk water user.

Accordingly, it is necessary to establish a uniform, transparent and scientifically sound procedure for collection of samples, laboratory analysis, monitoring, water quality verification and regulatory assessment applicable to bulk water users receiving water



from projects regulated by the Authority discharging the treated or untreated water /effluent generated after use into a natural drain.

The procedures prescribed under this order are intended to facilitate scientific assessment of water quality for the objectives as mentioned in para 2.3 and shall not substitute, undermine from the statutory functions and regulatory powers of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board or any other competent authority under applicable environmental laws.

1.5 Recovery of Water Quality Assessment Charges

Whenever a bulk water user is selected for routine monitoring, random sampling, water audit, water quality verification, regulatory verification or investigation under this Order or where such user fails to produce valid environmental permissions, consents, authorisations or compliance orders required under applicable laws, the cost of sample collection, preservation, transportation, laboratory analysis and water quality assessment shall be borne by such bulk water user.

Where laboratory analysis establishes non-compliance with the applicable standards or where the bulk water user fails to permit collection of samples in accordance with this Order the applicable tariff-based consequences, if any, shall be governed exclusively by the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005, the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order and other applicable laws. Nothing contained in this order shall be construed as creating any new penalty, environmental compensation or civil liability beyond those already provided under the applicable statutory provisions.

2 COMMENCEMENT, APPLICABILITY AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Commencement

2.1.1 This order may be called the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Water Quality Assessment of Bulk Water Users) order, 2026.

2.1.2 It shall come into force on such date as may be notified by the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority.

2.1.3 This Order shall be read harmoniously with the provisions of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005, the Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Criteria and Bulk Water Tariff Orders issued thereunder and the applicable environmental laws in force.

2.2 Applicability

2.2.1 This order shall apply to every Bulk Water Supply Entity and every Bulk Water User Entity and Individuals receiving water from any water resources project regulated by the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority.



2.2.2 Without prejudice to the generality of Clause 2.2.1, this Order shall apply to bulk water supplied for—

- (a) Domestic use;
- (b) Industrial use;
- (c) Commercial use; and
- (d) Agriculture.

2.2.3 Nothing contained herein shall restrict or affect the statutory powers of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Central Pollution Control Board or any other competent authority under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any other applicable law.

2.3 Objectives

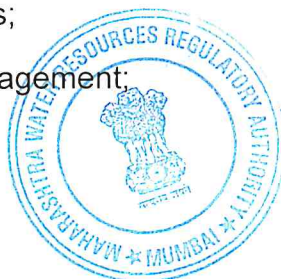
The objectives of this Order are to—

- (a) Establish a uniform, transparent and scientifically sound procedure for water quality assessment of bulk water users, who discharge treated/ untreated effluent generated after use.
- (b) Protect the quality of surface water and associated water resources throughout the hydrological cycle;
- (c) Verify compliance with applicable environmental standards, statutory consents, authorisations and conditions governing bulk water utilisation;
- (d) Facilitate water quality monitoring, water audit and regulatory verification;
- (e) Promote conservation, recycling, reuse and efficient utilisation of water resources;
- (f) Provide a consistent mechanism for collection, preservation, transportation and laboratory analysis of water samples;
- (g) Establish a transparent system for reporting, verification and maintenance of water quality records;
- (h) Recover water quality assessment charges from the concerned bulk water user in accordance with this order; and
- (i) Support effective implementation of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005, the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Orders and other applicable laws.

2.4 Guiding Principles

Implementation of this order shall be guided by the following principles—

- (a) Sustainability of water resources;
- (b) integrated water resources management;



- (c) Protection of water quality throughout the hydrological cycle;
- (d) Transparency, scientific integrity and procedural fairness;
- (e) Equitable utilisation of water resources;
- (f) Accountability of bulk water users;
- (g) evidence-based regulatory decision-making; and
- (h) Coordination with statutory authorities responsible for environmental regulation and water quality management.

2.5 Relationship with Other Laws

This order shall supplement and not substitute the provisions of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Rules, Regulations, Orders, Standards, Guidelines and Orders issued thereunder.

In the event of any inconsistency, the provisions of the applicable Central or State law shall prevail to the extent of such inconsistency.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 The words and expressions used herein and not specifically defined shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in following and as updated from time to time —

- (a) The Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005;
- (b) The Rules and Regulations made thereunder;
- (c) The Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Fixing Criteria for and Issuance of Tariff Orders for Bulk Water) Guidelines, 2019;
- (d) The Criteria for Distribution of Surface Water Entitlements by River Basin Agencies;
- (e) The Final Criteria for Determination of Bulk Water Tariff (Control Period 2026–2029);
- (f) The applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order; and
- (g) The applicable environmental laws.

3.2 For the purposes of this order unless the context otherwise requires, —

3.2.1 "Authorised Representative" means an officer authorised by the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority or nominated by the concerned Bulk Water Supply Entity, including the respective Irrigation Development Corporation, within its jurisdiction, to carry out inspection, collection of water samples, verification,



documentation, transportation of samples and such other functions as are assigned under this order

3.2.2 "Designated Laboratory" means a laboratory recognised, approved or notified by the Central Government, the State Government, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), or accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), or any other laboratory approved by the Authority (minimum ISO Certified) for carrying out analysis of water samples for the parameters specified under the applicable statutory standards.

3.2.3 "Sampling" means the process of collection, identification, preservation, sealing, labelling, transportation, chain of custody and documentation of water samples in accordance with the procedure prescribed under this order

3.2.4 "Water Quality Assessment" means the process of inspection, sampling, laboratory analysis, verification of compliance with the applicable statutory standards, and preparation of the Water Quality Assessment Report in accordance with this order

3.2.5 "Water Quality Assessment Charges" means the actual expenditure incurred towards inspection, sampling, preservation, packaging, sealing, transportation, laboratory analysis, referee analysis, documentation reporting and all incidental expenses connected with Water Quality Assessment, which shall be recoverable from the concerned Bulk Water User as additional water charges in accordance with this Order and the applicable tariff order.

3.2.6 "Water Quality Assessment Report" means the report prepared by the Authorised Representative on the basis of the Water Quality Compliance Certificate issued by the Designated Laboratory, inspection findings and other supporting records, indicating compliance or non-compliance with the applicable statutory water quality standards and containing recommendations, wherever necessary, for implementation of the Polluter Pays Principle under the applicable tariff order.

4. SELECTION OF BULK WATER USERS FOR WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

4.1 Water Quality Assessment under this order shall be undertaken for the purpose of monitoring compliance with applicable environmental standards, verification of statutory compliances, water quality monitoring, water audit and implementation of the applicable provisions of the Act, the Bulk Water Tariff Order and other applicable laws.

4.2. Selection of Bulk Water Users

4.2.1 A Bulk Water User may be selected for Water Quality Assessment by the Authority or the Bulk Water Supply Entity under any of the following circumstances:—

(a) Routine water quality monitoring;



- (b) Random selection;
- (c) Water audit;
- (d) Regulatory verification;
- (e) Receipt of any complaint or information relating to water quality;
- (f) Failure to furnish valid environmental permissions, consents, authorisations or compliance reports required under the applicable laws;
- (g) suspected discharge of untreated or inadequately treated sewage, trade effluent or wastewater;
- (h) Verification of compliance with the conditions governing water allocation, entitlement or tariff;
- (i) Follow-up verification of previously observed non-compliance;
- (j) Directions issued by the Authority or any competent authority; or
- (k) Any other reason considered necessary by the Authority in the interest of protection and sustainable management of water resources.

4.2.2 The selection of Bulk Water Users for Water Quality Assessment may be based on risk assessment, random selection, compliance history, complaints, environmental sensitivity, water use pattern, water audit findings, intelligence inputs or any other relevant consideration as the Authority may deem appropriate.

4.3 Designation of Authorised Representative

4.3.1 The Authority may designate one or more officers of the Authority or authorise the Bulk Water Supply Entity to nominate one or more officers as the Authorised Representative for implementation of this Order

4.3.2 Every Authorised Representative shall discharge the functions assigned under this order in accordance with the provisions of the Act, the applicable Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Criteria, Bulk Water Tariff Orders and applicable environmental laws.

4.4 Functions of the Authorised Representative

The Authorised Representative shall—

- (a) Identify and select Bulk Water Users for Water Quality Assessment in accordance with this order;
- (b) Conduct inspections and collect water samples in accordance with the prescribed procedure;
- (c) Verify applicable statutory permissions, consents, authorisations and compliance orders;



- (d) Prepare and maintain records relating to sampling, inspection and Water Quality Assessment;
- (e) Forward samples to the Designated Laboratory for analysis;
- (f) Obtain and examine the laboratory analysis reports;
- (g) Prepare the Water Quality Assessment Report; and
- (h) Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the Authority from time to time.

4.5 Assistance and Cooperation

4.5.1 Every Bulk Water Supply Entity shall extend necessary assistance to the Authorised Representative for implementation of this Order

4.5.2 Every Bulk Water User shall provide reasonable access to the Authorised Representative for carrying out Water Quality Assessment and shall produce such records, permissions, consents, authorisations and compliance orders as may be required under this Order

4.5.3 The Bulk Water User or its authorised representative shall extend necessary cooperation during inspection, sampling and verification.

4.6 Failure to Cooperate

Where the Bulk Water User refuses access, obstructs inspection or sampling, declines to acknowledge the proceedings or fails to produce the applicable permissions, consents, authorisations or compliance orders, the Authorised Representative shall record such facts in the Water Quality Assessment Report and proceed in accordance with the provisions of the Act, the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order and this order.

5. WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

5.1.1 Water Quality Assessment shall be carried out by the Authorised Representative in accordance with the provisions of this order.

5.1.2 The assessment shall be undertaken in a fair, transparent and scientific manner so as to ensure the integrity and reliability of the sampling and assessment process.

5.1.3 The Bulk Water User or its authorised representative shall be given a reasonable opportunity to remain present during the sampling process.

5.2 Inspection

5.2.1 The Authorised Representative may inspect the premises, water source, treatment facilities, conveyance system, storage facilities, discharge points and any other location considered necessary for carrying out Water Quality Assessment.



5.2.2 During inspection, the Authorised Representative may verify—

- (a) Source of water supply;
- (b) Quantity of water abstracted and utilised;
- (c) Treatment facilities provided;
- (d) Recycling and reuse arrangements;
- (e) Point of discharge;
- (f) Applicable environmental permissions, consents, authorisations and compliance reports;
- (g) Operational records relating to water utilisation; and
- (h) Such other records as may be necessary for Water Quality Assessment.

5.3 Collection of Samples

5.3.1 Water samples may be collected from one or more locations as per the procedure set out in Annexure V including—

- (a) Source of water supply;
- (b) Raw water intake;
- (c) Treatment facilities;
- (d) Storage structures;
- (e) Distribution system;
- (f) Discharge point;
- (g) Receiving water body; or
- (h) Any other location considered necessary by the Authorised Representative.

5.3.2 The number of samples, sampling locations and sampling frequency shall be determined by the Authorised Representative having regard to the purpose of assessment, nature of water use and applicable standards.

5.3.3 Sampling shall be carried out using appropriate containers, preservation techniques and documentation procedures to maintain the integrity of the samples.

5.3.4 The Authorised Representative may collect grab samples, composite samples or adopt any other scientifically recognised sampling methodology having regard to the purpose of assessment, applicable standards and the nature of water use.

5.4 Documentation

5.4.1 At the time of sampling, the Authorised Representative shall prepare a Sampling Record containing such particulars as per Annexure I



5.4.2 The Sampling Record shall, inter alia, include—

- (a) Date and time of sampling;
- (b) Location of sampling with coordination;
- (c) Source of sample;
- (d) Purpose of assessment;
- (e) Description of sample;
- (f) Details of sealing and identification; and
- (g) Signatures of the Authorised Representative and the Bulk Water User or its authorised representative, wherever available.

5.4.3 Refusal of the Bulk Water User or its authorised representative to sign the Sampling Record shall not invalidate the sampling process, and such refusal shall be recorded by the Authorised Representative.

5.5 Preservation and Transportation

5.5.1 Samples shall be preserved, sealed, labelled and transported to the Designated Laboratory in accordance with the applicable standards and recognised laboratory protocols.

5.5.2 The integrity and chain of custody of every sample shall be maintained until its receipt by the Designated Laboratory.

5.5.3 The Authorised Representative may collect duplicate, split or additional samples wherever considered necessary for independent verification or confirmation of analytical results.

5.5.4 Timelines

5.5.4.1 The Authorised Representative shall forward the samples to the Designated Laboratory as expeditiously as practicable after collection.

5.5.4.2 The Designated Laboratory shall endeavour to issue the Laboratory Water Quality Analysis Report as per Annexure II within the time prescribed by the Authority, having regard to the nature of analysis.

5.5.4.3 The Authorised Representative shall prepare the Water Quality Assessment Report as per Annexure III upon receipt of the Laboratory Water Quality Analysis Report within such time as may be specified by the Authority.

5.6 Failure to Permit Sampling

Where the Bulk Water User refuses access, prevents collection of samples or otherwise obstructs the Water Quality Assessment, the Authorised Representative



shall record the facts in writing and submit the matter to the Competent Authority for appropriate action under the Act, the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order and this order

6 LABORATORY ANALYSIS AND WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT REPORT

6.1 Laboratory Analysis

6.1.1 Every sample collected under this order shall be forwarded by the Authorised Representative to a Designated Laboratory for analysis.

6.1.2 The Authority or the Bulk Water Supply Entity may engage one or more Designated Laboratories for carrying out laboratory analysis under this Order

6.1.3 Laboratory analysis shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable standards, recognised analytical methods and quality assurance procedures prescribed under the applicable laws.

6.1.4 The Designated Laboratory shall analyse the sample for such physical, chemical, biological, microbiological or other parameters as may be applicable having regard to—

- (a) The category of water use;
- (b) The purpose of Water Quality Assessment;
- (c) The applicable environmental standards;
- (d) The applicable consent conditions; and
- (e) Any directions issued by the Authority.

6.1.5 Where considered necessary, the Authority may direct analysis of additional parameters or testing of samples through one or more Designated Laboratories.

6.1.6 Where the Designated Laboratory observes any abnormality affecting the integrity or validity of the sample, it shall immediately intimate the Authority together with the reasons recorded in writing.

6.2 Laboratory Analysis Report

6.2.1 The Designated Laboratory shall furnish a signed Laboratory Analysis Report as per Annexure II containing the test results, analytical methods adopted and such other particulars as may be required under this order

6.2.2 The Laboratory Analysis Report shall constitute an integral part of the Water Quality Assessment proceedings.

6.3 Water Quality Assessment Report

6.3.1 Upon receipt of the Laboratory Analysis Report, the Authorised Representative shall prepare a Water Quality Assessment Report as per Annexure III



6.3.2 The Water Quality Assessment Report shall include—

- (a) Particulars of the Bulk Water User;
- (b) Details of inspection and sampling;
- (c) The Laboratory Analysis Report;
- (d) Verification of applicable environmental permissions, consents, authorisations and compliance orders;
- (e) Observations recorded during inspection;
- (f) Findings regarding compliance with the applicable standards; and
- (g) Recommendations, wherever considered necessary, in accordance with the Act, the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order and this Order

6.3.3 The Water Quality Assessment Report shall be submitted to the Competent Authority in such manner as may be specified by the Authority.

7 REGULATORY ACTIONS, RECOVERY OF WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT CHARGES AND TARIFF CONSEQUENCES

7.1.1 The Water Quality Assessment Report prepared under Chapter 6 shall form the basis for regulatory action under this order

7.1.2 The Water Quality Assessment carried out under this order shall be without prejudice to the powers of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, the Central Pollution Control Board or any other competent authority under the applicable environmental laws.

7.2 Recovery of Water Quality Assessment Charges

7.2.1 The Water Quality Assessment Charges incurred under this order shall be recoverable from the concerned Bulk Water User.

7.2.2 The Water Quality Assessment Charges shall include the actual expenditure incurred towards—

- (a) Collection of samples;
- (b) Preservation, sealing and transportation of samples;
- (c) Laboratory analysis;
- (d) Preparation of the Water Quality Assessment Report; and
- (e) Such other incidental expenditure directly attributable to the Water Quality Assessment.



7.2.3 Where more than one Designated Laboratory is engaged for analysis, the actual expenditure incurred for all such analyses shall form part of the Water Quality Assessment Charges.

7.3 Verification of Environmental Compliance

7.3.1 During the Water Quality Assessment, the Authorised Representative shall verify the applicable environmental permissions, consents, authorisations and compliance orders required under the applicable environmental laws.

7.3.2 Where such permissions, consents, authorisations or compliance orders are not available at the time of inspection, the Bulk Water User may produce the same within three months from the date of Water Quality Assessment.

7.3.3 Where valid environmental permissions, consents and applicable compliance orders are produced within the period specified under Clause 7.3.2, no tariff consequence shall be attracted solely on account of their non-production during inspection.

7.3.4 Where the Bulk Water User fails to produce valid environmental permissions, consents, authorisations or compliance orders within the period specified under Clause 7.3.2, the Authority may proceed in accordance with the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order and other applicable laws.

7.4 Refusal of Inspection or Sampling

7.4.1 Where the Bulk Water User or its authorised representative—

- (a) Refuses entry for inspection;
- (b) Prevents or obstructs collection of samples;
- (c) Interferes with the Water Quality Assessment; or
- (d) Refuses to cooperate with the Authorised Representative,

The Authorised Representative shall record the facts in the Water Quality Assessment Report.

7.4.2 Where inspection or sampling could not be completed due to such refusal or obstruction, the Authority may proceed in accordance with the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order as non-availability of the consent and compliance report and other applicable laws.

7.5 Tariff Consequences

7.5.1 Where the Water Quality Assessment establishes non-compliance with the applicable standards or where the Bulk Water User fails to comply with the requirements specified under this Order the applicable tariff consequences shall be governed exclusively by the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005, the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order and other applicable laws.



7.5.2 Nothing contained in this order shall be construed as creating any additional penalty, environmental compensation or civil liability beyond those provided under the applicable statutory provisions.

7.5.3 In the case of Agricultural Bulk Water Users, Water Quality Assessment may be undertaken wherever considered necessary under this order; however, no tariff-based penalty shall be levied unless specifically provided under the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order or any other applicable law.

7.6 Consequences of Closure Order Issued by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board

7.6.1 Where the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, in exercise of its powers under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any other applicable law, issues an order directing closure, prohibition, stoppage or suspension of operations of a Bulk Water User Entity on account of non-compliance with the applicable water quality standards or discharge of untreated or inadequately treated sewage, trade effluent or wastewater, the concerned Bulk Water Supply Entity shall, upon receipt of such order or an authenticated copy thereof, suspend or discontinue the supply of bulk water to such Bulk Water User to the extent necessary for giving effect to the said order.

7.6.2 Notwithstanding anything contained in Clause 7.5A.1, supply of water required exclusively for essential domestic use, sanitation, fire protection, public health, environmental safety or such other minimum essential requirements as may be permitted by the competent authority shall not ordinarily be discontinued.

7.6.3 Suspension or discontinuance of bulk water supply under this clause shall remain in force until the Bulk Water User produces an order or written communication issued by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board or other competent authority permitting resumption of operations or withdrawal of the closure directions.

7.6.4 Action taken under this clause shall be without prejudice to the levy of the applicable Polluter Pays Penalty, recovery of Water Quality Assessment Charges or any other action permissible under the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005, the applicable Bulk Water Tariff Order or any other applicable law.

7.7 Communication of Findings

7.7.1 A copy of the Water Quality Assessment Report, together with the Laboratory Analysis Report, shall be communicated to the concerned Bulk Water User and the Bulk Water Supply Entity.

7.7.2 The Authority may communicate the Water Quality Assessment Report together with the Laboratory Water Quality Analysis Report to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board or any other competent authority, wherever considered necessary, for appropriate action under the applicable laws.



8 MISCELLANEOUS

8.1 Power to Issue Directions

8.1.1 The Authority may issue such directions, circulars, clarifications, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manuals or instructions as may be necessary for effective implementation of this order

8.1.2 Every Bulk Water Supply Entity, Bulk Water User and Authorised Representative shall comply with the directions issued by the Authority under this order

8.2 Forms, Registers and Records

8.2.1 The Authority may prescribe the forms, registers, formats, electronic records and reporting mechanisms required for implementation of this order

8.2.2 Records maintained under this Order may be maintained in physical or electronic form.

8.2.3 Digital Records

The Authority may maintain electronic records, geo-tagged photographs, digital signatures, QR code-based identification, online reporting systems and such other digital records or electronic evidence as may be considered necessary for implementation of this order.

8.3 Maintenance of Records

The Bulk Water Supply Entity shall maintain the Water Quality Assessment Reports, Laboratory Analysis Reports and other records generated under this Order for 6 water years and in such manner as may be specified by the Authority.

8.4 Confidentiality

Information collected during Water Quality Assessment shall be used only for the purposes authorised under the Act and applicable laws, except where disclosure is required under any law or by any competent authority.

8.4.1 Electronic records, geo-tagged photographs, digital images, electronic communications and other electronic evidence generated during Water Quality Assessment shall form part of the official records maintained under this order

8.5 Removal of Difficulties

If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Order the Authority may issue such orders, clarifications or directions, not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act and applicable laws, as may be necessary for removing such difficulty.



8.6 Interpretation

If any question arises relating to the interpretation of any provision of this Order the decision of the Authority shall be final, subject to the provisions of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005 and other applicable laws.

8.7 Relaxation

The Authority may, for reasons to be recorded in writing and where it is satisfied that such relaxation is not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act or prejudicial to public interest, relax the procedural requirements of this Order in any particular case.

8.8 Repeal and Saving

Upon commencement of this Order any administrative instructions or circulars issued by the Authority relating to matters covered by this Order shall, to the extent of their inconsistency with this Order stand superseded.

Notwithstanding such supersession, any action taken, assessment carried out, report prepared or proceeding initiated under the earlier instructions shall be deemed to have been validly taken or continued under the corresponding provisions of this order.

8.9 Annexures

The Annexures appended to this Order shall form an integral part of this order

The Authority may amend, substitute or add to the Annexures by issuing appropriate orders or directions, provided that such amendments are not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act or this order.

Sd/-

(Dr. Prabhat Jain)
Member (GWM)

Sd/-

(Shri. Rajendra Mohite)
Member (WRE)

Sd/-

(CA. Shwetali A. Thakare)
Chairperson & Member (Economics)



(Sunil Kale)

Secretary, MWRRRA