

Section 4(1)(b)(i)

WAREHOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The Particulars of its Organization, functions and duties:

Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority under the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution was set up on 26th October, 2010 under the provisions of the Warehousing (Development & Regulation) Act, 2007.

The office of the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority is located at following address: -

Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority

Government of India

4th Floor, NCUI Building, 3, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg,

Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110016

Objectives:

The main objectives of the Authority are to make provisions for the development and regulation of warehouses, negotiability of warehouse receipts and related matters. The Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs) issued by the warehouses registered under this Act would help farmers to seek loans from banks against NWRs and avoid distress sale of agricultural produce. It would also be beneficial for a number of other stakeholders such as banks, financial institutions, insurance companies, trade, commodity exchanges as well as consumers. It will encourage farmers to store their agricultural produce in scientific registered warehouses wherein storage losses would be minimized and quality of the commodities would be maintained during storage period.

Role of the WDRA:

WDRA has prescribed minimum standards of construction of warehouses for registration so that the agricultural commodities may be scientifically stored in these warehouses. The WDRA registers only those warehouses which meets the minimum norms prescribed by the WDRA and have all required facilities for safe storage of commodities.

The role of the WDRA is summed up as follows:

1. Regulation and development of warehousing sector.
2. Registration of warehouses to enable them to issue Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs)/electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (eNWRs).
3. Building fiduciary trust of Banks in Negotiable Warehouse Receipts to enable farmers/depositors to seek loans from Banks against the pledge of commodity stored in warehouses.
4. Encouragement of scientific warehousing of goods.
5. Encouraging farmers to avoid distress sale of agriculture produce during peak marketing season.

Functions:

The major functions of the Authority are to implement the provisions of the Act as well as the Rules and regulations framed there under to regulate and promote orderly growth of warehousing business in the country. The main functions of the Authority are listed below:

- i. To register warehouses including cold storages and silos which would issue NWRs upon receipt of stocks
- ii. To implement Negotiable Warehouse Receipt system.
- iii. To empanel inspection agencies for conducting physical inspection of warehouses as well as stocks audits.
- iv. To specify the qualification, code of conduct and practical training for warehousemen and staff engaged in warehousing business.
- v. To regulate process of pledge, creation of charges and enforcement thereof in respect of goods deposited with the warehouse.
- vi. To promote efficiency in conduct of warehouse business.
- vii. To promote scientific warehousing of goods.
- viii. To promote professional organizations dealing with warehousing business.
- ix. To develop and regulate electronic system of holding and transfer credit balances of goods deposited in the warehouses.
- x. To register Repositories for creation and management of electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (e-NWRs).

Regulation of Warehousing Business:

As per Section 3 of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007, no person shall commence or carry on the business of warehousing for issuing Negotiable Warehouse Receipts unless he has obtained a registration certificate from the Authority after fulfilling the prescribed norms in respect of the concerned warehouse or warehouses.

Requirement for Registration of Warehouses:

The Government of India has notified the requirements for registration of warehouses, vide notification of Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Registration of Warehousing Rules, 2017 effective from 23.02.2017, which broadly are as follows:

- (i) The warehouses should be constructed as per Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) / FCI / CWC specifications and storage worthy.
- (ii) The applicant should be a fit and proper person.
- (iii) The warehouse shall have adequate security arrangements.
- (iv) The warehouse shall have adequate trained staff with expertise for scientific storage of goods.
- (v) The warehouse shall have requisite equipment for weighment and insect/pest management operations.
- (vi) The warehouse shall have adequate insurance of stocks against fire, flood, theft, burglary, misappropriation, riots, strikes or terrorism.
- (vii) The warehouse shall have requisite net worth as provided in the Rules.

- (viii) The warehouse shall be compliant to local laws for carrying out the business of warehousing.
- (ix) The warehouse should follow a Standard Operating Procedure for various warehouse operations as prescribed by the Authority.
- (x) Any other requirement prescribed by the Authority from time to time.

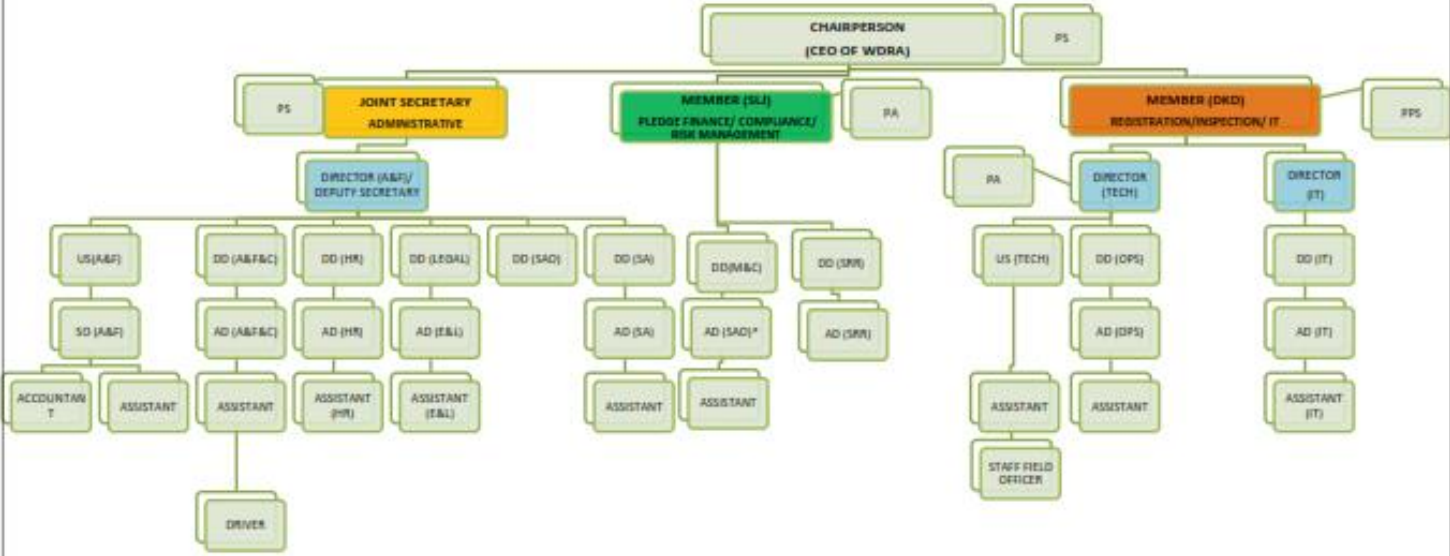
In case the application is found in order, the Authority may cause a physical inspection of the warehouse concerned to satisfy about fulfilment of the infrastructure requirement by the warehouse and other particulars as specified by the Authority in its inspection guidelines.

Power and Functions of the WDRA:

Powers, functions and duties of WDRA Authority (as per Chapter VI of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007) Link: https://wdra.gov.in/wd-r-act-2007	(1) Subject to the provisions of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007 and any other law for the time being in force, the Authority shall have the duty to regulate and ensure implementation of the provisions of this Act and promote orderly growth of the warehousing business. (2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions, the powers and functions of the Authority shall include the following, namely: (a) to issue to the applicants fulfilling the requirements for warehousemen a certificate of registration in respect of warehouses, or renew, modify, withdraw, suspend or cancel such registration; (b) to regulate the registration and functioning of accreditation agency, renew, modify, withdraw, suspend or cancel such registration, and specify the code of conduct for officials of accreditation agencies for accreditation of the warehouses; (c) to specify the qualifications, code of conduct and practical training for warehousemen and staff engaged in warehousing business; (d) to regulate the process of pledge, creation of charges and enforcement thereof in respect of goods deposited with the warehouse; (e) to promote efficiency in conduct of warehouse business; (f) to make regulations laying down the standards for approval of certifying agencies for grading of goods;
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	(g) to promote professional organizations connected with the warehousing business; (h) to determine the rate of, and levy, the fees and other charges for carrying out the provisions of this Act; (i) to call for information from, undertaking inspection of, conducting enquiries and investigation including audit of the warehouses, accreditation agencies and other organizations connected with the warehousing business; (j) to regulate the rates, advantages, terms and conditions that may be offered by warehousemen in respect of warehousing business; (k) to specify, by regulations, the form and manner in which books of account shall be maintained and statement of accounts shall be rendered by warehousemen; (l) to maintain a panel of arbitrators and to nominate arbitrators from such panel in disputes between warehouses and warehouse receipt holders; (m) to regulate and develop electronic system of holding and transfer of credit balances of fungible goods deposited in the warehouses; (n) to determine the minimum percentage of space to be kept reserved for storage of agricultural commodities in a registered warehouse; (o) to specify the duties and responsibilities of the warehouseman; (p) to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be prescribed.
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ORGANIZATION CHART OF WDRA



^aAD(SAC)- Assigned the work of pledge finance with reporting to DD (M&C)

