



भंडागारण विकास एवं विनियामक प्राधिकरण
Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority
भंडारण दर्पण - त्रैमासिक समाचार पत्रिका
Bhandaran Darpan - A Quarterly News Bulletin
<https://wdra.gov.in>



Issue 6

WDRA Bulletin for October 2023 – December 2023

FOREWORD BY CHAIRPERSON

During the last quarter, WDRA crossed a land mark of 5000 warehouse registrations. This was indeed a moment of great pride for all of us in WDRA and an affirmation of the work put in by all employees. At this juncture, my sincere thanks goes out to all of them on this remarkable achievement.

Work continued in WDRA at a steady pace. Outreach programmes were done in various parts of the country, notably in Jammu & Kashmir. WDRA conducted farmers awareness programmes and participated in several exhibitions. On the occasion of its 13th Foundation Day a Seminar on the "Role of Financial Institutions in promoting NWR based Pledge Finance" was conducted at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, where several bankers, warehousemen and other stakeholders participated.

A notable feature of the seminar at the India Habitat Centre was the presentation of awards by WDRA to warehousemen and bankers for various activities, such as issue of eNWR and pledge finance extended etc. Such awards serve to increase WDRA's bonding with its stakeholders and to increase pledge finance against eNWR. Details of all the above activities are given in this volume.

Last but not the least WDRA continued with its traditions of having several social and cultural activities for its employees. There was a competition on 'rangoli making' and another on writing a discussion paper on 'assaying of commodities'. The Rashtriya Ekta Diwas was celebrated on 31st October, 2023 and WDRA's Swachh Bharat activities continued unabated.

(T K Manoj Kumar),
Chairperson, WDRA

**WDRA WISHES EVERYONE
A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

CHAPTER I: Reaching Out to Our Stakeholders

WDR continued to actively reach out to its stakeholders in the period under report through seminars, conferences, melas, international fairs and outreach programs such as farmers awareness programs. We celebrated our 13th Foundation Day with many fruitful activities. MoUs were signed with agricultural universities and other agencies such as CSC to facilitate warehouse registration with WDR. These activities are detailed below:

A. National Conferences and Programmes:

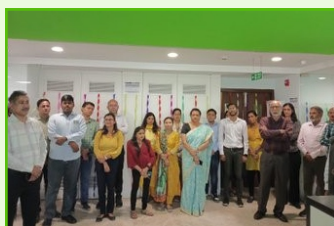
(i) WDR's Foundation Day Celebrations

- a) WDR celebrated its Foundation Week from 26th October to 1st November, 2023. The celebrations commenced with the lighting of the lamp in WDR, included competitions on Rangoli Making, submission of Discussion Papers on 'Assaying of Commodities', Farmers Awareness Programmes and finished with a Seminar on 'Pledge Financing' and a Conference with Training Partners.



WDR celebrated its 13th Foundation Day on 26.10.2023

On this occasion, Shri Mukesh Kumar Jain, Member, Shri Arun Kumar Shrivastava, Member and Shri Dheeraj Sahu, Joint Secretary addressed the officials about the journey of WDR in the last 13 years and the way forward.



b) Seminar on the "Role of Financial Institutions in Promoting e-NWR Based Pledge Finance"

WDR organized a Seminar on the "Role of Financial Institutions in Promoting e-NWR Based Pledge Finance" on the occasion of its 13th Foundation Day on 1st November, 2023 at the India Habitat Center, New Delhi.

Shri Sanjeev Chopra, Secretary, Department of Food and Public Distribution graced the occasion as the **Chief Guest** and addressed all the stakeholders for improving e-NWR based pledge finance. Shri T K Manoj



Kumar, Chairperson, WDR highlighted the significant improvement in WDR's performance metrics and its efforts to rationalize the regulatory burden on stakeholders. Shri Dheeraj Sahu, Joint Secretary, WDR emphasised the progress made by WDR and its significant outreach activities for increasing registration and e-NWR based pledge finance.



Shri Mukesh Kumar Jain, Member, WDR moderated a **panel discussion** on increasing pledge finance.

The panelists included Shri Shantanu Pendsey, CGM, SBI, Shri Sunil Kumar Chug, CGM, PNB, Shri BS Sivakumar, President, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Shri Lokendra Tomar, Product Head, ICICI, Shri Omkar Reddy, MD, APSWC and Shri Jayant Chaudhary, warehouse owner.

As a part of WDR's training initiatives, a film on SoPs of scientific storage and pest control for warehouses registered by WDR was launched and screened before the audience. An **Award Ceremony** was also held to felicitate warehousing corporations, banks, marketing boards and cooperative societies in recognition of their role in promoting pledge finance against e-NWR throughout the country.



Shri Dheeraj Sahu, JS, WDRA, Shri Dinesh Rai, former Chairman, WDRA, Shri T K Manoj Kumar, Chairman, WDRA, Shri Mukesh Kumar Jain, Member, WDRA, Shri Arun Kumar Shrivastava, Member, WDRA with award winner Kotak Mahindra Bank.



Shri Shantmanu, AS&FA, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Shri Amit Kumar Singh, MD, CWC and Shri Goverdhan Singh Rawat, CGM, NABARD attending the Seminar with other distinguished guests

Felicitation:

The best performing stakeholders of WDRA were felicitated on the parameters of number of warehouse registration, e-NWR issuance and extending pledge finance against e-NWR in an **award ceremony** organised by WDRA on 01.11.2023 in New Delhi in view of its 13th Foundation Day.

The list of awardees in the various categories is as per table below:

Category	Saluation	Name of Organization	Position
Warehouseman with highest Pledge Finance	M/s	Central Warehousing Corporation	First
Warehouseman with highest Pledge Finance	M/s	National Commodities Management Services Limited (NCML)	Second
Warehouseman with highest Pledge Finance	Ms.	Bhagyamma N Chalageri	Third
Warehouseman with highest e-NWR- Number wise	M/s	National Commodities Management Services Limited	First
Warehouseman with highest e-NWR- Number wise	M/s	StarAgriWarehousing CollateralManagementLimited	Second
Warehouseman with highest e-NWR- Number wise	M/s	LTC Commercial Company Private Limited	Third
SWC with Highest Registration - Absolute Number Wise	M/s	Madhya Pradesh State Warehousing Corporation	First
SWC with Highest Registration - Absolute Number Wise	M/s	Haryana State Warehousing Corporation	Second
SWC with Highest Registration - Absolute Number Wise	M/s	Telangana State Warehousing Corporation	Third
Cooperative Societies With Highest Registration	M/s	Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Tamil Nadu	
Marketing Board with Highest Registration	M/s	Tamilnadu Agricultural Marketing Board	First
Marketing Board with Highest Registration	M/s	Maharashtra Agricultural Marketing Board	Second
Banks with highest Pledge Finance- Public Sector Bank	M/s	State Bank of India	First
Banks with highest Pledge Finance- Public Sector Bank	M/s	Punjab National Bank	Second
Banks with highest Pledge Finance- Public Sector Bank	M/s	CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA	Third
Banks with highest Pledge Finance- Private Sector Bank	M/s	Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd	First
Banks with highest Pledge Finance- Private Sector Bank	M/s	ICICI BANK LIMITED	Second
Banks with highest Pledge Finance- Private Sector Bank	M/s	AXIS BANK LIMITED	Third
eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Pvt Warehouseman)			
Central Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Pvt Warehouseman)	Shri	Jayant chaudhary	First
East Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Pvt Warehouseman)	M/s	ERGOS Business Solutions Pvt Ltd	First
North Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Pvt Warehouseman)	M/s	Yamada Logistics Private Limited	First
SOUTH Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Pvt Warehouseman)	M/s	National Commodities Management Services Limited	First

WEST Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Pvt Warehouseman)	M/s	National Commodities Management Services Limited	First
eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Public Sector Warehouseman)			
CENTRAL Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Public Sector Warehouseman)	M/s	Central Warehousing Corporation	First
NORTH Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Public Sector Warehouseman)	M/s	Uttar Pradesh State Warehousing Corporation	First
NORTH EAST Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Public Sector Warehouseman)	M/s	Central Warehousing Corporation	First
SOUTH Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Public Sector Warehouseman)	M/s	Central Warehousing Corporation	First
WEST Zone eNWR issuance- Number Wise (Public Sector Warehouseman)	M/s	Rajasthan State Warehousing Corporation	First
Individual Warehouseman - e-NWR Issuance-Number Wise	Shri	Jayant chaudhary	First
Individual Warehouseman - e-NWR Issuance-Number Wise	Ms.	Bhagyamma Chalageri	Second
Individual Warehouseman - e-NWR Issuance-Number Wise	Shri	Pusaram Tak	Third

c) Conference with Training Partners

A conference was organized by WDRA with its training partners at India Habitat Centre on 01.11.2023 in the second half. The progress of Farmers Awareness Programmes, Warehouseman Training Programmes and Assayers Training Programmes was reviewed.

The Conference was attended by representatives from NCCT, ICM Madurai, ICM Hyderabad, NCDC LINAC, DEESKNAU Jobner, SVPUAT Meerut, BUAT Banda, Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Agriculture University Jodhpur and Maharashtra SWC.



d) Farmers' Awareness Programme and Warehouseman Training Programme



08 Farmer Awareness Programmes in Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Bihar and 01 Warehouseman Training Programme in Tamil Nadu in collaboration with various institute were conducted during the Foundation week celebrations from 26th Oct 2023 to 1st Nov 2023.

(ii) Conference on Climate Smart Agriculture organised by FICCI

Shri T K Manoj Kumar, Chairperson, WDRA delivered a Special Address in the conference on Climate Smart Agriculture organised by FICCI on 19th October, 2023 at FICCI Federation House, New Delhi.



During his address, Chairman, WDRA emphasised the importance of adopting green warehousing practices. He further said that to achieve the goal of climate smart agriculture, we must ensure uniform and government enforced standards across the warehousing sector. Chairman also said that WDRA is playing a pivotal role in this process by registering warehouses that issue negotiable warehouse receipts

(iii) FPO Mela, 2023

WDRA participated in the FPO Mela organised by NCDC and SFAC in NCDC Campus, New Delhi on 19th October & 20th October, 2023 to showcase its activities.



Shri T K Manoj Kumar, Chairman, WDRA inaugurated WDRA's Pavilion in the FPO Mela. Shri Mukesh Kumar Jain, Member, Shri Arun Kumar Shrivastava, Member, Shri Dheeraj Sahu, Joint Secretary, Shri B.K. Gairola, Advisor (IT) and Shri H.K. Dabas, Under Secretary (Tech) were also present

(iv) Sahakar Mela, 2023

WDRA participated in the Cooperative Fair (Sahakar Mela) 2023, organised by the National Cooperative Union of India in NCUI Campus, New Delhi from 3rd to 8th November 2023.



Shri T K Manoj Kumar, Chairman, WDRA inaugurated WDRA's Pavillion in the Cooperative Fair (Sahakar Mela) 2023. Shri Mukesh Kumar Jain, Member, Shri Arun Kumar Shrivastava, Member and Shri H.K. Dabas, Under Secretary (Tech) along with other officials were also present.

NCUI President Shri Dileep Sanghani and International Coop. Alliance (Asia Pacific) President Dr Chandrapal Singh Yadav, NCUI's Chief Executive Dr Sudhir Mahajan and Deputy Chief Executive Savitri Singh along with senior officials of cooperative



fraternity visited WDRA's pavilion

**(v) 14th Agrovision Summit**

WDRA participated in the 14th Agrovision (India's premier Agri Summit) held at Nagpur from 24.11.2023 to 27.11.2023 to showcase its activities.



B. Awareness and Publicity:

Participation in the India International Trade Fair, 2023

An exhibition was organised by WDRA at the India International Trade Fair 2023 from 18.11.2023 to 27.11.2023 to showcase its activities.



Shri T K Manoj Kumar, Chairman, WDRA inaugurated WDRA's Pavilion in the 42nd India International Trade Fair (IITF) on 14.11.2023 at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Shri Mukesh Kumar Jain, Member, Shri Arun Kumar Shrivastava, Member, Shri Dheeraj Sahu, Joint Secretary and other senior officers of WDRA were also present during the inauguration ceremony



C. Signing of MoUs

(i) Signing of MoUs between WDRA and Agriculture Universities:

In the period October to December 2023, an MoU was signed with the Sher-e-Kashmir University of

Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) on 23.11.2023 at Srinagar for creating awareness among the farmers, warehouse owners, traders for scientific storage of agriculture produce, preservation practices, assaying procedures and stacking practices.



The MoU was signed by Shri H.K. Dabas, Under Secretary, WDRA and Prof Haroon R Naik, Director (Research), SKUAST-K, in the august presence of Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, and Shri T.K. Manoj Kumar, Chairman, WDRA

(ii) Signing of MoUs between WDRA and CSC:

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) and Common Service Centre CSC e-Governance Services Private Limited (CSC) on 05.12.2023 at WDRA, New Delhi for increasing registration. The MoU signed between WDRA and CSC will facilitate interested applicants to apply for warehouse registration with WDRA.



Shri T.K. Manoj Kumar, Chairman, WDRA, Shri Mukesh Kumar Jain, Member, WDRA, Shri Arun Kumar Shrivastava, Member WDRA, Shri Dheeraj Sahu, JS, WDRA, Shri Jeetesh Sharma, Director (A&F), WDRA, Shri H.K. Dabas, Director (Technical), WDRA and Shri Sanjay Kumar Rakesh, MD, CSC, Shri Krishan Kumar Singh, Senior Vice President, CSC and Shri Sarvdeep Singh, Assistant Vice President, CSC at the MoU signing at WDRA on 05.12.2023

D. Outreach Programmes:

Many outreach programmes were conducted all over India to disseminate information about WDRA far and wide. Glimpses of a few are given below:

(i) Outreach programme in Assam

An outreach programme was jointly organised by WDRA and the Assam State Warehousing Corporation (ASWC) on 5th October, 2023 at the Assam Administrative Staff College (AASC) in Guwahati, Assam.



The programme was graced by Shri Arun Kumar Shrivastava, Member, WDRA as Chief Guest in the august presence of Shri Tej Prasad Bhusal, Secretary (Agriculture), Govt. of Assam.

Shri Arun Kumar Shrivastava informed the stakeholders about the benefits of registration with WDRA. He also highlighted the importance of the eNWR ecosystem and its benefits for the farmers. The outreach programme was attended by nearly 60 participants from the Agri. Dept, Govt. of Assam, Assam State Warehousing Corporation (ASWC), Assam State Agriculture Marketing Board (ASAMB), Assam Agricultural University (AAU), members of FPOs and reps. from private warehouses, etc.

(ii) Outreach programme in Jammu & Kashmir

An outreach programme for Warehousing Registration and integration of CA Stores with eNAM was organized by the Department of Horticulture Planning and Marketing, Jammu & Kashmir on 23.11.2023 at SKICC, Srinagar under the guidance of Shri Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production and Farmers' Welfare Department in collaboration with WDRA.



The outreach programme was organised with the twin objectives of raising awareness about registration of warehouses under Warehousing (Development & Regulation) Act, 2007 and bringing CA Stores in the fold of eNAM for giving maximum returns to the farmers for their produce.



Shri T K Manoj Kumar, Chairman, WDRA in his address, explained the advantages of registration of warehouses and emphasized that the e-NWR issued by WDRA registered warehouse shall act as a prime tool of trade and loan.

The outreach programme was attended by nearly 250 participants including Director & Special Secretary(Horticulture), MD, JKHPMC, Director I&C, Director(Agriculture), CGM NABARD, President, FCIK, Chairman, PHDCCI, representatives of KCCI, officers of Horticulture (P&M) Department, DMI, NABARD, Department of Food, Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs, FCI, Industries and Commerce, SIDCO, SICOP, Cooperatives, SKUAST, various banks, CA Stores owners, owners of warehouses, farmers, and presidents of major fruit Mandis.

(iii) Meeting with Jammu & Kashmir Bank

On 24.11.2023, a meeting was held at the corporate headquarters of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd, Srinagar attended by Shri T.K. Manoj Kumar, Chairman, WDRA, Shri Sudhir Gupta, Executive Director, J&K Bank Ltd, Shri Vikash Sharma, Director, HP &M, J&K, Shri. H.K. Dabas, Under Secretary, WDRA, Shri. B.P. Yadav, Assistant Director, WDRA and Senior Officers of the J&K Bank Ltd.

The Chairman, WDRA briefed about the WDRA ecosystem of warehouse registration and making eNWR as prime tools of trade and pledge finance to farmers and depositors.

(iv) Visit to Controlled Atmosphere (CA) stores in Lassipora, Jammu & Kashmir



Shri T K Manoj Kumar, Chairman, WDRA conducted a visit to CA Stores in Lassipora as part of an impactful outreach programme.

The focus was on Warehousing Registration and seamless integration with WDRA and interactive discussions were held with stakeholders, including with Controlled Atmosphere (CA) Store owners.

(v) Farmers' Awareness Programme in Kerala



WDRA in collaboration with ICM, Thiruvananthapuram conducted a one-day Farmers' Awareness Programme for farmers and traders at Elappully Primary Service Cooperative Bank, Palakkad District, Kerala on 07.12.2023. 50 participants attended the programme.

(vi) Farmers' Awareness Programme in Tamil Nadu



WDRA in collaboration with the National Institute of Cooperative Management (NICM), Chennai conducted a one-day Farmers' Awareness Programme for farmers at the office of the Joint Registrar of Cooperative Society, Collectorate, Tirupathur, Tamil Nadu on 04.12.2023.

(vii) Farmers' Awareness Programme in Telangana



WDRA in collaboration with NIPHM, Hyderabad and KVK Madanapuram, Telangana conducted Farmers Awareness Programme for farmers, traders and Dal Mill owners on WDRA and eNWR at KVK, Madanapuram, Wanaparthy district, Telangana on 20.12.2023. 50 farmers participated and attended practical demonstration at WDRA registered godown TSWC, Madanapuram.

(viii) Farmers' Awareness Programme in Andhra Pradesh



WDRA in collaboration with NIPHM, Hyderabad and APSWC, Tenali conducted Farmers Awareness Programme for farmers, traders and Dal Mill owners on WDRA and eNWR at Tenali, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh on 21.12.2023. 50 farmers participated.

CHAPTER II: Significant Updates in Regulation

Some of the important measures taken regarding regulation as well as discussion papers on assaying of commodities written by some of our staff members for which they were felicitated during WDRA's 13th Foundation Day Celebrations are given below:

Waiver of application fee and renewal fee:

The Government of India vide Notification dated 20.10.2023 waived the application fee for registration of warehouses with WDRA or renewal of warehouses already registered with WDRA storing only agricultural goods till 25th October, 2025.

CHAPTER III: Do you Know?

(i) Registration of certain Statutory Entities with Negative Network:

The Government of India has through a notification enabled the Authority to register warehouses of certain entities, created under an Act of Parliament or State

Legislature, that do not meet the net worth requirement. Such entities would have to submit an indemnity bond in lieu of net worth certificate.

(ii) Introduction of New Insurance regime:

WDRA insists for comprehensive insurance coverage of goods stored in the registered warehouses. Hence various types of insurance policies are submitted by warehouseman at the time of registration. To reduce the burden of the insurance cost on warehouseman, WDRA introduced a new insurance regime while also continuing with the old regime.

In the new regime, warehouseman may obtain insurance on the basis of self-declared value of stock subject to a minimum declared value of Rs. 1,00,000/-. Insurance coverage is to be upgraded as per the arrival of stock in the warehouse.

Performance Matters

- Valid registration of warehouses in WDRA touched an all-time high of 5138 on 31.12.2023.
- During the financial year 2023-24, 1382 warehouses were registered by WDRA till 31.12.2023.

DISCUSSION PAPER ON ASSAYING OF COMMODITIES

Enhanced Digitisation and Artificial Intelligence (AI) can significantly improve farmers' and traders' trust in mandis' assaying facilities. Automated, reliable, and quick facilities can bring better prices for farmers and increase cross-mandi trading.

In a 2017 article published in the Economic & Political Weekly, the authors found that farmers and traders lacked confidence in assaying instruments and relied on visual inspection by commission agents. Farmers felt that the tests were inaccurate, cost-benefit trade-off was not right, assaying reduced commodity's price, etc. Traders wondered whether assaying captured all parameters. Assaying was also unavailable for all commodities. It took 10 minutes to an hour, which was unfeasible commercially during peak season. Tremendous space and personnel would be required to assay all mandi arrivals. The farmers and traders did not have faith in third party assaying mechanisms and felt that the prevailing system worked better. Thus, cross-mandi trading was rare, there was mixing of commodities and non-attraction of new players.

The narrative has changed little since then.

CCS National Institute of Agricultural Marketing published a study in 2020 on 'Benefits of e-NAM Process to Farmers', finding that farmers identified the significance of assaying but practically carrying out assaying in mandis in peak season with unskilled and limited staff was challenging.

In April 2023, in an article on National Agriculture Market (E-NAM), the authors stated that for a trader to bid from another location, a reliable way to assess the quality of the produce was required. The major drawback in e-NAM was that it was impossible to assay all arrivals and that the majority of the traders preferred and trusted visual inspection by their own agents.

The existing digitisation seems to require to be taken a step further to address the concerns of farmers and traders on the lines of FastTag and UPI. Apps may work better than bulky assaying apparatus. Some organisations have utilized AI, phones, internet connectivity and digital awareness to address this gap. An article in Oct 2023 in startupindia.gov.in talks of businesses such as Aspire Business Solution and Agrics Labs that have come up with novel technologies which grade produce within minutes.

As per a case study on indiaai.gov.in in 2019, Intello Labs, an agri-tech start-up uses AI to build a platform for grading and quality monitoring of agricultural commodities. They provide image-based solution through a smartphone app that tests, grades, and analyses visual quality parameters of some agricultural products. The solution has reduced the quality testing time from 15 minutes to 2 minutes and provides quality results with more than 95% accuracy. It allows real-time data sharing across multiple locations and screens, standardises quality assessment, and removes subjectivity.

As per an article published by INDIAai.gov.in in Dec 2021, Telangana signed an MOU with Nebulaa Innovations Pvt Ltd. to introduce an AI-based quality assaying model to check the quality of crops brought to procurement centres across Telangana and determine the grade, quality, moisture and other parameters in paddy, red gram and Bengal gram with the report delivered in just a minute. Under the existing process, the selection officers take a handful of grains and rub them in their hands to decide the grains' moisture content, colour and size. This method has scope for error. The AI model would be faster and more objective. Under this model, a few grain samples would be placed in a tray of the AI based machine, which captures

360 degrees images of the grains. Based on the algorithm, it would identify the type of grains, colour, size, etc. The report can help alter farming practices as it gives analysis of samples' chemical content and thus, the farmer can change the use of fertilisers or the crop pattern to get better yields.

In 2023, artificial intelligence helped Telangana chilli farmers get fast and accurate quality reports. Where a quality test in a lab takes more than 24 hours, AI algorithms check the physical, chemical and moisture parameters of the chilli crop in approx. 20 to 25 minutes per 100 grams and the results are instantly shared with the farmer via SMS. The initiative is a part of Saagu-Baagu (agricultural advancement), a public-private partnership in collaboration with the World Economic Forum, agri-tech industry and the start-up community under the state's AI4AI (AI for agricultural innovation) programme launched in 2020. AGNEXT is a start-up that is providing the AI solution and its AI machines provide quality outcomes with 98% accuracy.

Reliable and quick assaying facilities may help tackle information asymmetry, help break cartelisation and provide farmers with best prices for their produce.

Warehouses registered by Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) are mandatorily required to have assaying facilities. This is checked both at the time of applying for warehouse registration and in inspections. WDRA also conducts Assayers Training Programs.

There is thus tremendous scope for growth and implementation of customised technology especially using artificial intelligence for improving assaying facilities.

**Ms. Pooja Magoo,
Deputy Director (HR), WDRA**

The above is the abridged version of the discussion paper submitted by the author who won 1st prize in the competition on Discussion Papers on 'Assaying of Commodities' that was organised during WDRA's Foundation Week, 2023.

MODIFICATIONS IN GUIDELINES FOR INSPECTION AGENCIES AND INSPECTION OF WAREHOUSES

The Guidelines for Inspection Agencies and Inspection of warehouses have been recently modified on 28 Nov 2023. The following clauses have been added in the Guidelines:

1. **Clause 9A. Renewal of Empanelment:** An Inspection Agency already empanelled with WDRA can submit an application to WDRA at least two months prior to the expiry of empanelment period.
2. **Clause 12 Common inspection procedures for warehouses registered with the Authority :** Following two points are added under this clause
 - a) **Clause 12 (21):** Physical Inspection: In case, capacity of each warehouse is upto 5000 MT and are within a distance of 25 km, then an IO is allowed to inspect maximum two physical inspections in a day.
 - b) **Clause 12 (22):** Inspection photographs shall be Time, date and latitude and Longitude (Geo Coordinates) stamped.
3. **Clause 15. Obligations of inspection agencies:** Following point is added under this clause
 - a) **Clause 15 (15):** The Authorized Representative (AR) of the Inspection Agency (IA) should be separate from the Inspecting Officer(IO) and no person shall be allowed to carry out the functions of both AR and IO.
4. **Schedule 1 Part B: Performance data sheet for renewal of Inspection Agencies :** Performance of All Inspection agencies will assessed on the basis of this sheet during the renewal process.
5. **Schedule 2 Part B: Scoring Matrix :** This is the matrix on the basis of which Inspection Agencies application for empanelment or renewal will be assessed. Entities scoring more than 40% marks in aggregate shall be eligible for empanelment. Applicant has to obtain minimum qualifying marks against each criteria of the scoring matrix for qualifying to be empanelled as Inspection Agency of WDRA.
6. **Schedule 6, Point III.2(vii) – Page : 47 Storage Worthiness of Cold Storage:**
Storage worthiness of the cold storage shall be certified by concerned agency as given hereunder:
 - a) The applicant must submit basic data sheet as per format given at Annexure V which should be accompanied by a certificate from a chartered graduate mechanical /refrigeration engineering firm that –
“the heat load calculation has been done as per procedure laid down by ASHRAE fundamentals and Refrigeration Handbook with safety factor of 5% to 10% on estimated load and that the design is energy efficient, takes in to account safety of work men and goods stored and environmental concern”
 - b) No other documents will be required.
 - c) The above condition is applicable for cold storages constructed either under a government scheme or through own finance.
7. **Schedule 7 : System / Procedure / Norms for Stock Inspection and General Inspection of Warehouses Point 16. Planning of inspection programmes d) Time schedule for the inspections: (v) Stock/Surprise/General Inspection:**
The IO is allowed to inspect one warehouse per day.

Dr. Rachana Shalini,

CHAPTER IV: Celebrations in WDR A

Some of the activities that the WDR A staff participated in during this quarter are as follows:

(i) *In-house Rangoli and Discussion Paper Competitions*

During the Foundation Week celebrations, Rangoli Making competition was organised in WDR A and saw enthusiastic participation from the staff.

Discussion Papers on 'Assaying of Commodities' were also submitted.



Prizes were distributed to the winners of both competitions.

Winners of 'Rangoli making' competition



Winners of 'Discussion paper' competition



(i) Swachhata Pakhwada

With a view to continually keep incorporate cleanliness in everyday life:

- WDRA carried out weeding out of files and digitization of old records as a part of Special Campaign 3.0.
- On 14.10.2023 A "Cleanliness Drive for cleaning the balconies in WDRA Office" was done and all the outside balconies are were cleaned properly.
- On 27.10.2023, Scrap was sold out from WDRA's office on the occasion of Swachhta Hi Sewa Campaign 3.0.

(ii) Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, Fit India Freedom Run 4.0 and Vigilance Awareness Week

WDRA officials participated in the Run for Unity program to observe the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) on 31st October, 2023 on the 148th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Fit India Freedom Run 4.0.



डब्ल्यूडीआरए अधिकारियों द्वारा राष्ट्रीय एकता दिवस प्रतियोगिता और फिट इंडिया प्रतियोगिता ली गई।

MILESTONES:

New Appointments:

1. Shri Dinesh Pabshetwar who was earlier Section Officer (Administration & Finance) was appointed as Assistant Director (Stakeholders Affairs) w.e.f. 31.10.2023 AN.



2. Shri H. K. Dabas, Under Secretary (Technical) was promoted and appointed as Director (Technical) on 30.11.2023.

Prior to working in WDRA, Shri H.K. Dabas had worked in the National Horticulture Board. He has done M.Sc. (Agriculture)-Horticulture, PG Diploma in Ecology and Environment and has an MBA in Marketing. He has over three decades of experience in warehousing and horticulture matters.



This Bulletin is compiled by Editorial Team - Ms. Pooja Magoo, DD (HR), Ms. Venita Solomon, AD (HR), Shri Lalit Singh, Assistant and Shri Sandeep Kumar, PA, E-mail: wdra-bulletin@gov.in

Published by : Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority, 4th Floor, NCUI Building, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016

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