

MODEL BY LAWS FOR WATER SUPPLY

By law for.....Village Panchayat.....Panchayat Union
of.....District.

Approved by the Village Panchayat/.....20.....

PART I

GENERAL

1. The jurisdiction of the Bylaw is limited to domestic and non-domestic water supply to the villages and hamlets within the Village Panchayats.
2. These By Laws prepared keeping in view the Constitution of India (Articles 243G, 243H, 243I and 280), the relevant provision of the State Panchayat Acts on the responsibilities and powers of Village Panchayat on water supply and the JJM guidelines.
3. The Village Water and Sanitation Committee(VWSC) is here by appointed Executive Authority and is authorised to manage, operate and maintain the public water supply system within the boundaries of the villages within the Gram Panchayat and to fix terms and rate under which water facilities may be supplied and water used,
4. Water of adequate quantity and quality within the technical and financial capacity of the village panchayat shall be supplied for domestic and non domestic use daily at times and place decided and announced by the VWSC.
5. The rates as set out in Schedule A and Schedule B are here by imposed on water and the rates shall be levied and collected in accordance with the schedules.
6. The rates shall be revised once a year to reflect changes in the cost of delivery of water services.
7. Revenue collected for providing household service connections and water charges shall only be used by the purpose of operation and maintenance and renewal of water supply schemes in the Village Panchayat.

8. Any person who contravenes any provision of the Bylaw commits an offence punishable, and is liable to a fine as stipulated in schedule C of the By law.

PART II

House Service Connections

Application

1. Every application for the FHTC shall be submitted to the Executive Authority in writing signed by the applicant (owner or occupier of the house with the written consent of the owner of the premises.). The applicant shall indicate if the connection is for Domestic or Non-Domestic Purpose.
2. The turn “House” occurring in the Bylaw shall mean building that is assessed as one unit under the House tax.
3. After receiving the application the Executive Authority will investigate and decide whether the capacity of the water supply system allows the connection to be given without unduly affecting the supply of water to existing household service connections / FHTCs. Application shall be considered and approved in the order they are received.
4. After approval of the application for house service connection the work necessary for such supply shall not be commenced until the applicant has remitted to the Executive Authority the estimated service connection fee and the fixed deposit amount as specified in Schedule A.
5. A formal agreement signed by the Applicant and the Executive Authority shall be prepared and a copy of the By-law for Water Supply shall be given to the Applicant.

User category

1. The FHTC shall be either for Domestic or Non-Domestic use.
2. Supply of water in the following places shall be classified as Non-Domestic irrespective of the fact that building is used for the purposes or not.
 - i. For any small business like village restaurants / tea stalls
 - ii. For government or private institutions

- iii. For the purpose of home-based / cottage industries
 - iv. For the purpose of building constructions
 - v. For any other mechanical purpose – not meant for drinking
 - vi. Other than domestic purposes
 - vii. If the house owner or occupier draws water from the Panchayat pipe supply through hose pipe or movable pip or other device attached to the taps sanctioned for the FHTC.
3. The supply of water to Temples, Mosques and Churches shall be only for drinking purposes and shall be classified as Domestic.
- i. The management of the institutions shall have to pay all the charges incurred for the installation of tap connection and its maintenance.
 - ii. If the water supplied for the above said institutions is found to be wasted or used for other purposes. The charges will be collected as for Non-Domestic use.
 - iii. If at any time the taps are found leaking. Or mishandled defeating the automatic action. The Executive Authority shall disconnect the tap forth with.

Technical stipulations

1. Every house to which water supply connections pipe is laid, shall be provided with only one service connection from the main (controlled by a “Screw Down” ferrule and a stop cock), which can be used for three faucets inside a house. The flow shall be maintained as 5 litres per minute. No house shall be supplied with water from existing or prospective service connection of any adjoining house or building.
2. The House owner/occupier of the premises shall not have any right to claim FHTC in a particular distribution main. The connection will be given only on the distribution main approved by the Executive Authority.
3. Subject to these by-laws the diameter and the character of the service connection pipes, and the number, size and kind of stop cock or tap, shall in each case, be determined by the Executive Authority having regard to the

pressure available at the “off take” point at the main. The standard service connection shall be 15mm (1/2”) service pipe with 10mm (3/9”) ferrule.

4. All taps in domestic service shall be of G.I or bronze and “screw” type or any other type approved by the Executive Engineer/PHED / RWS Department. The water supply connection pipe and fittings shall conform to the Indian Standard Specification and as specified by the Executive Authority.
5. No tap of any FHTC shall be in such a position as to render it liable to be submerged by water discharged from it at any time or in a position where the spill (or) waste water can be discharged to the nearest panchayat recharge pit, or drain, by gravitation.
6. The house owner or occupier shall not draw water from the piped supply through any pump or other device or movable pipe attached to the tap sanctioned for domestic or non-domestic connection.

Inspection and examination

1. All tap fittings etc of a house service connection shall be so fixed within, the purview of the Executive Authority easy access, and the owner or occupier of the houses shall afford all faculties for easy inspection by the Executive Authority or other representatives and servants authorized by him. If any resistance is offered, the supply of water shall be stopped.
2. The Executive Authority may remove at any time any pipe or fitting connected with any FHTC for the purpose of examining the condition of such pipes or fittings for rendering repairs. If it is found that the pipes or fittings are defective in any respect the Executive Authority may give notice to the owner (or) occupier of the premises to carry out within a specified time. If the work is not executed within the time specified in the notice or if the defect is likely to cause waste or contamination of water, the Executive Authority may himself execute such works, and shall recover the cost there of from the owner or occupier or stop supply of water to the premises by cutting off the connection.

Further, if on such examination if it is found that there is unauthorized additions or alternations or extension of pipes, taps, fittings or tampering with ferrule etc, the Executive Authority may cut off the service connection after giving 24 hours of notice to the owner or occupier of the premises concerned.

Interference and misuse of water

1. No person not duly authorized by the Executive Authority shall open or in any way interfere with any main or pipe connected with the panchayat water supply. Creation of so-called pit taps cause contamination and collapse of the whole water system. Any person suspected to have done this will be reported to the Police.
2. The Executive Authority reserves to himself/herself the right to cut off after giving 24 hours notice any supply granted for domestic or non-domestic purpose if in his opinion, it is found that the water supplied is being misused. In such case the Village Panchayat shall not be liable for any loss or damage.

Temporary cut off or restrictions of supply

1. The executive Authority reserves the right to cut off after giving seven days notice any supply granted for domestic or non-domestic purposes if in his/her opinion there is any scarcity of water at the source. In such cases, the Panchayat or the Executive Authority shall not be liable for any loss but the deposit shall be repaid if so requested.
2. The Executive Authority reserves to himself/herself the right to cut off after giving 24 hours notice any supply granted for domestic or non-domestic purpose in case of repair works.

Payment for service

1. The supply of water shall be chargeable as laid down in Schedule A irrespective of the number of internal taps, and according to the purpose for which it is used(Domestic or non Domestic) and charged at the rates specified.
2. Water charges shall be paid to the Panchayat monthly in advance.

3. In case of default in the payment of the Water Supply charges before the end of the month the Executive Authority shall have full powers to stop supply of water at any time. The Executive Authority of the Village Panchayat shall not be held responsible for any loss or inconvenience caused to the owner or occupier of house. If the water charges are not remitted in the coming month an amount as specified in Schedule A shall be added towards interest.
4. Payment for all water supply under the terms and conditions laid down in the Bylaw if not paid by the party concerned within the time stipulated shall be recoverable in the same manner as house tax.
5. A reconnection fee as specified in Schedule A will be charged for reconnection in case the supply of water is cut off for non-payment of water bills.
6. The water charges have to be continuously paid. Failure to remit the above water charges due to the Panchayat the amount will be recovered from the deposit amount.
7. Remission for non-use of water may be granted by the Executive Authority for the closure of water supply temporarily. A fee as laid down in Schedule A will be charged for reconnection and cut off in each time.
8. Water from a house service connection given for domestic consumption shall not be utilized for non-domestic purpose without the express permission of the Executive Authority in writing. But if the Executive Authority, has reasons to believe that in any case the water supply under the domestic rate is being used for other than domestic purposes, the owner or the occupiers may be required to pay at non-domestic rate of the services connection as specified in Schedule A from such date as the Executive Authority may notify and in default order for cutting off the supply. The decision of the Executive Officer is final.

Penalty

1. Whoever commits a breach of the above by-laws shall be punishable as laid down in Schedule C.

PART III

Public taps and hand pumps

Definition of users services

1. All houses within the village panchayat that have not obtained FHTC/ House Service Connections shall be deemed to be users of public taps or hand pumps.
2. The term “House” occurring in this By-law shall mean a building that is assessed as one unit under the House tax.

Use of services

No person

1. Shall draw water from a public fountain in a vessel of more than 30litres capacity
2. Shall draw water from a public fountain or hand pump for purpose other than domestic
3. Take bath or wash cloths, utensils, vehicles, animals at a public tap or hand pump
4. Shall draw water from a public fountain or hand pump more than once consequently when others are waiting.
5. Suffering from any contagious disease or infective disease shall use any public tap or hand pump.
6. Shall draw water from unauthorised taps, pit taps or broken pipes.
7. Shall draw water from FHTC for construction, gardening or any other purpose.

Interference

No person

1. Not only authorized by the Executive Authority shall interfere with any stand post or hand pump for any purpose whatsoever.
2. Not duly authorized by the Executive Authority shall open or in any way interfere with any main or pipe connected with the water supply. Creation of

so-called pit taps cause contamination and collapse of the whole water system. Any person suspected to have done this will be reported to the Police.

3. Shall wilfully or negligently allow the water from a stand post or public water tap run waste
4. Shall so manipulate a stand post or a public water tap as to secure a continuous flow of water. The person by whose action or for benefit or advantage a continuous flow was so manipulated shall be considered to have violated this by-law.
5. Shall commit any nuisance at a public tap or a hand pump.
6. Shall wilfully or by neglect cause pollution or contamination of any public water source.
7. Not duly authorised by the Executive Authority shall open or in any way interfere with any reservoir, main or pipes or valves or other fittings or cause damage to any stand post, public water tap or hand pump connected with the Panchayat water supply scheme.
8. Shall allow children to play around with a public stand post or hand pump.
9. Shall use a public stand post or a hand pump for tying animals or use the tank as a cowshed.

Payment

1. The supply of water from a public fountain or hand pump shall be chargeable as laid down in Schedule B and charged at the rates specified.
2. Water charges shall be paid in the Panchayat monthly in advance.
3. In case of default in the payment of the water supply charges an amount as specified in Schedule B shall be added.
4. Payment for all water supply under the terms and conditions laid down in the By-laws if not paid within the time stipulated shall be recoverable in the same manner as house tax.
5. Remission for temporary non-use of water may be granted by the Executive Authority.

6. In exceptional cases the Executive Authority has the right to waive or reduce rates for poor individual water users or groups of water users if so decided by Gram Sabha.
7. Whoever commits a breach of the By-law and whoever has the care or custody of any child who commits a breach of the above By-laws or an animal that damages any part of the water supply shall be punishable with a fine in accordance with the rules specified in Schedule C.

SCHEDULE – A

Approved by the Village Water Sanitation Committee ____/____20____.

WATER RATES FOR HOUSE SERVICE CONNECTIONS

1. For Domestic use, water rate/month is Rs. /- (minimum Rs.50/-) to be paid monthly in advance to the Panchayat.
2. For Non-Domestic use, water rate/month is Rs /- (minimum double the domestic rate) and to be paid monthly in advance to the Panchayat.
3. The Supply of water to Mosques, Temples and Churches, only for drinking purpose, shall be regulated as Domestic use and water charge to be paid at the rate of Rs. /- (minimum Rs.50/-) per month in advance.
4. In case of late payment of the water rates an additional amount of Rs.10/- will be added for Domestic and Rs. 20/- for Non-Domestic use for every month the payment is delayed.

FHTC SERVICE CONNECTION FEE & DEPOSIT AMOUNT

1. For each House Service Connection (FHTC) for Domestic purpose a deposit amount of Rs.1000/- has to be paid to the Panchayat. Half of the deposit shall be paid before getting the connection sanctioned and half within 6 months after the connection has been made, if the Gram Sabha decided so.
2. For each Service Connection for Non-Domestic purpose a deposit amount of Rs. 2,000/- has to be paid to the Panchayat before getting the connection sanctioned.
3. Service connection fee-worked out towards actual cost for laying pipeline-labour and material charges shall be paid in advance to get the FHTC executed.
4. Delay in payment of the balance deposit in accordance with (1) above will be disconnected from the service without prior notice.
5. Reconnection charges in case of cut off of service for non payment of water supply charges is Rs. 200/-

SCHEDULE – B

Approved by the Village Water and Sanitation Committee _____/____20_____.

WATER RATES for use of public taps and hand pumps

1. For Domestic use water rate/month is Rs.25/- per house to be paid monthly in advance to the Panchayat
2. In case of late payment of the water rates an additional amount Rs.5/- will be added for every month the payment is delayed.

SCHEDULE – C

Approved by the Village Water and Sanitation Committee _____/_____/20____.

PENALTIES (Fines)

Major offence (wilful and active breach of Bylaw)

1. Breach of the By-law – Rs.500/- fine
2. For repeated breach – Rs.1000/- plus Rs.100/- for each day the breach continues after receipt of notice from the Executive Authority to discontinue such breach.

Minor offence

1. Breach of the By-law – Rs. 100/- fine
2. For repeated breach – Rs.250/- plus Rs.50/- for each day the breach continues after receipt of notice from the Executive Authority to discontinue such breach.