

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE AUTHORITY

The Authority has the following powers and duties:

- To receive irrigation supplies at the barrages falling within the province and from the inter-provincial or link canals and deliver the same in agreed quantities to the various water users and Area Water Boards in the Province.
- To ensure conveyance of drainage effluent to the outfall in co-ordination with Area Water Boards and Farmers Organizations as the case may be
- To exercise all the powers under the Canal and Drainage Act 1873, the Soil Reclamation Act 1952 and any other law relating to the subject matter of these Acts
- To fix the rates in consultation with the Government for the supply of irrigation water and of the drainage cess (aabiana) payable for the disposal of the drainage effluent
- To charge appropriate surcharge for late payments and recover arrears from defaulters under the Land Revenue Act provided that in case the Government declares a remission, waiver, re-scheduling or suspension of payment of any of the dues of the Authority, the same shall be debited to the account of the Government who shall simultaneously notify how the Authority shall be compensated for the loss thereby caused to the Authority or any other entity shall be established under this Act
- To formulate and implement policies in the water resources sector with a view to continuously improve and achieve effective, economical and efficient utilization, preservation and improvement of such water resources by the water users of the Province on a sustainable basis
- To formulate and implement policy guidelines and procedure for the proper and efficient exercise of powers available under this Act by the various entities and their directors and employees and to prescribe training requirements and programs which may be conducted by the various entities under this Act in this behalf
- To conduct any inquiries and hear any complaints and adjudicate on any dispute or differences of opinion between the Authority and different entities established under this Act and any individual and the said entities in accordance with the principles of natural justice relevant thereto and to faithfully and punctually implement such decisions as per letter and spirit thereof
- To prescribe and adhere to the procedures for the filing of documentation regarding water allocation in the Province and all concessions, licenses and leases granted by any entity under this Act and to ensure availability thereof to the general public for inspection and taking of copies thereof

- To establish criteria and procedure for granting, modifying, reassigning, renewing, suspending or revoking any concessions, licenses or subleases granted by the Authority to any other entity or person and for the management of the infrastructure in the event of suspension or revocation of a concession, license or sublease
- To operate and maintain the irrigation tube-wells, drainage, shortage reservoirs and flood control infrastructure in the Province including hill torrent control and development works for irrigation of adjoining lands including watershed management practices in catchment areas
- To plan, design, construct and improve the irrigation, drainage, storage reservoirs and flood control system with a view to ensure optimal utilization of the water resources of the Province on an equitable and efficient basis.
- To maintain all relevant and necessary records, registers and data banks as may be relevant or necessary for the effective performance of any or all of its powers and duties
- To issue such directions and take all such steps as may reasonably be necessary for the prevention and removal of encroachments and unauthorized construction along or on the properties of the Authority
- To prescribe rates, fees and other charges to be payable in respect of various types of services which the Authority may be required to render or provide under this Act
- To operate and maintain the equipment, machinery and stores of the Authority effectively, efficiently and in a business like manner
- To undertake anti-erosion operations including conservation of forests and reforestation and with a view to achieve this purpose, to restrict or prohibit by general or special order the clearing or breaking up of a land in the catchment areas of any rivers, hill torrents and other streams
- To undertake any work, incur any expenditure, procure machinery, plant and stores required for use by the Authority and to negotiate, execute, adopt and ratify all such contracts as may be considered necessary or expedient
- To acquire and dispose of any land, property or machinery or equipment or any other interest in or regarding any land or property
- To direct that any work required to be carried out by a person in connection with training of rivers, hill torrents and any other streams or undertaking of anti-erosion measures including conservation of forests and reforestation but remaining undone shall, after reasonable notice to such person and due consideration of any objections raised by him in this regard, be undertaken by the Authority and determine the cost to be borne by such person, or after notice and due inquiry, by any other person who may be held by the Authority to be liable for the same

- To utilize the Authority Fund to meet the cost and expenses incurred on account of and in connection with the due performance of the various functions of the Authority under this Act including the payment of salaries and other remunerations to the management and employees of the Authority
- To formulate, implement and continuously review and improve the policies and procedures relevant to the management of finances and maintenance of the accounts of the Authority as well as for the inventory and assets valuation and disposal and for the recruitment, promotion, retirement (upon attainment of age of superannuation or otherwise) and earlier conclusion of employment of the employees of the Authority
- To formulate financial policies aimed at ensuring that the finances of the Authority are managed in a consistent, conservative and diligent manners to protect as assets including providing for their maintenance and periodic replacement as necessary, preserve its capital and reserves, and promptly service its debts and obligations
- To formulate, adopt and implement policies aimed at promoting, formation, growth and development of Area Water Boards, Farmers Organizations and compilation and faithful monitoring of the results thereof as per the requirements prescribed under this Act and to ensure orderly and systematic induction thereof into the operations of the Authority
- To prepare or cause to be prepared and regularly update or cause to be updated Staff, Operational and Financial Plans
- To prepare and implement policies with a view to ensure that the staffing levels within the Authority and other entities under this Act conform with the corresponding levels indicated in the Staffing, Operational and Financial Plans prepared and updated as above
- To formulate and implement policies with a view to ensure that the Authority and other entities as the case may be under this Act become fully operative as self-supporting and financially self-sustaining entities, to the extent of full recovery of O & M cost of canals and subsidiary drains within a period of 7 to 10 years
- To formulate, implement and regularly update policies, studies and research programs with a view to development and management of water resources, solve and eliminate and prevent water logging and salinity, and to develop irrigated agriculture in the Province
- To conduct studies with a view to regularly analyze and evaluate the impact of the operations and policies of the Authority on the ecology and environment within the Province with a view to establish the various available options for the minimization of the adverse impact of such operations and policies, if any, and to adopt the optimal options for further action
- To co-ordinate and regulate the measures being undertaken or required to be undertaken in the Province for recording and gauging surface waters, monitoring of groundwater table and quality of water and the compilation of data relevant thereto and in this regard

to establish and regularly maintain proper liaison with similar work being undertaken in other province

- To cause studies, surveys, experiments, technical investigations and research to be conducted in connection with or regarding the functions and duties of the Authority or of any other entity under this Act
- To publish or cause to be published various policies, details, data and information relevant to the affairs of the Authority on a regular basis and to ensure reasonable access of the public to the same