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**GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
LAW AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT**

**NOTIFICATION
(154 of 2024)**

21 OCTOBER 2024

Notification No.SOR(LG)8-11/2024, dated 21.10.2024 issued by the Local Government and Community Development Department, is hereby published in the Punjab Gazette (Extraordinary) for general information:

**"GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Dated Lahore, the 21st October, 2024

NOTIFICATION

No.SOR(LG)8-11/2024.- In exercise of the powers conferred under section 202 of the Punjab Local Government Act 2022 (*XXXIII of 2022*), Governor of the Punjab is pleased to make the following rules:

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) These rules may be cited as the Punjab Local Governments (Joint Authority) Rules 2024.

(2) They shall come into force at once.

2. Definitions.- (1) In the rules, unless the subject or context requires otherwise:

- (a) "Act" means the Punjab Local Government Act 2022 (*XXXIII of 2022*);
- (b) "joint committee" means a committee constituted under the rules; and
- (c) "rules" means the Punjab Local Governments (Joint Authority) Rules 2024.

(2) A word or expression used but not defined in the rules shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in the Act.

3. Establishment of joint authorities.- (1) The Heads of two or more local governments in a district may, through a written agreement, establish a joint authority for the provision of one or more of such public services which relate to a function assigned to them under the Act.

(2) An agreement referred under sub-rule (1) shall, among other things, provide for:

- (a) functions, assigned to the local governments under the Act to be performed by the joint authority and the manner in which the said functions shall be performed;
- (b) personnel, facility, amenity, equipment, plant, stores or apparatus required for performance of the assigned functions;
- (c) share of contributions by each constituting local government;
- (d) arrangements for maintaining the separate account and sharing the expenses in proportion of share agreed by each constituting local government;
- (e) rescission of the agreement with prior three months'

notice by the any Head of the constituting local government:

Provided that subsequent to rescission, the joint authority of remaining constituting local governments shall continue to provide public services to the extent of their local areas; and

(f) referring the matter of dispute for its resolution to the Secretary.

(3) A joint authority shall be responsible to each constituting local government for the provision of public services assigned to it.

4. Joining of a local government.- A local government may request the joint authority to become its constituent local government on mutually agreed terms and conditions.

5. Operating officer of a joint authority.- (1) The Chief Officer of the constituent local government contributing largest share shall be the operating officer of the joint authority.

(2) The operating officer shall be responsible for proper administration and discharge of responsibilities assigned to the joint authority.

6. Joint Committee.- (1) The constituting local governments may notify a joint Committee to oversee the functions of the joint authority.

(2) For the purpose of constitution of joint Committee, the constituting local governments shall determine the total membership of the joint Committee consisting upon the officers nominated by the Heads of the constituting local governments.

7. Maintenance of accounts.- (1) The joint authority shall maintain a separate account.

(2) All constituting local governments shall transfer amount of their contribution in proportion of share as mutually agreed by them in the agreement.

(3) The operating officer shall be the Principal Accounting Officer of the joint authority.

(4) The Head of a local government, contributing largest share from amongst constituting local governments, shall be the sanctioning authority for all payments being made from account of the joint authority.

(5) The accounts of the joint authority shall be jointly operated by the operating officer, Finance Officer and Accounts Officer of constituting local government, contributing largest share.

(6) The joint authority shall keep its accounts in accordance with the Punjab Local Governments (Accounts) Rules 2017.

(7) All payments to be made from the accounts of joint authority shall be pre-audited by the Accounts Officer of the constituting local government, contributing largest share.

8. Expenditure by a joint authority.- The expenses incurred by the joint authority shall be defrayed as per the proportion of share mutually agreed by each constituting local government in the agreement.

9. Assets etc. of a joint authority.- In relation to the working of a joint authority, the constituting local governments may:

- (a) designate officers and staff for performance of functions assigned to the joint authority;
- (b) make arrangements for use of any facility, amenity, vehicle, equipment, plant, stores or apparatus of a constituting local government by the joint authority in relation to provision of a public service and placement of the services of any person employed in connection with above said services;
- (c) purchase any facility, amenity, vehicle, equipment, plant, stores or apparatus; and
- (d) employ any person in relation to the working of the joint authority.

10. Audit.- For the purposes of the audit of each joint authority, the provisions of section 81 of the Act shall *mutatis mutandis* apply.

11. Dissolution of a joint authority.- (1) A joint authority shall stand dissolved, if:

- (a) all constituting local governments of the joint authority, after due notice, mutually agreed to such dissolution; or
- (b) only one constituting local government is left after rescission of the agreement by the others constituting local government.

(2) In case a joint authority is dissolved in terms of clause (a) of sub-rule (1):

- (a) all facilities, amenities, vehicles, equipment, plants, stores and apparatus purchased by the joint authority shall be succeeded by each constituting local government as mutually agreed;
- (b) all facilities, amenities, vehicles, equipment, plants, stores and apparatus lent to the joint authority by a constituting local government shall return to that local government;
- (c) all officers and staff transferred or lent to the joint authority by a constituting local government shall return to that local government; and
- (d) left over funds, if any, of the joint authority, shall be succeeded by each constituting local government in such amounts which are, as nearly as possible, proportional to the expenses of the joint authority

shared by it during the entire period of its continuation.

12. Dispute resolution.- In case of any dispute arising out of the agreement or consequent to the dissolution of the joint authority, the matter shall be referred by the operating officer to the Secretary, who shall appoint an arbitrator to decide the matter within thirty days whose decision shall be final.

SECRETARY

GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT"

(MUHAMMAD ASIF BALAL LODHI)

SECRETARY

Government of the Punjab
Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department