

Terms of Reference for the post of ‘Economic Regulation Expert’ Assam Inland Water Transport Project (AIWTP)

Background – Assam Inland Water Transport Regulatory Authority has been constituted by the Government of Assam as per AIWTRA Act 2018 to promote the development of safe, efficient, reliable, environmentally sound and economically viable inland water transport and terminal services for the benefit of ferry users, freight consignors and water tourism in the state of Assam.

Objectives of the assignment:

- Strategic support:
 - Ensure preparation, revisions (based on stakeholder consultations), and finalization of economic regulation guidelines under the designated premises and ensure compliance of all Rules and Regulation regarding economic regulation of AIWTRA Act/Rules.
 - Support dissemination of economic regulation guidelines via stakeholder meetings/workshops.
 - Develop economic regulation manual as per provisions of AIWTRA Act and Rules and other relevant Acts/Rules.
- Regulatory compliance:
 - Lead regulatory enforcement of RA Rules and Policies.
 - Conduct economic regulation briefings and meetings regarding economic regulation issues.
- Promotion of excellence in economic and regulatory analysis:
 - Develop best practices in fare setting for Assam IWT based on: (i) study of fare setting mechanisms of other similar public transit in India and outside, (ii) assessment of feasibility and scenario building for fare change, (iii) developing recommendations for Assam IWT.

Educational Qualification:

Bachelor’s degree in Economics, Business Law, Business Management, Urban Transport, Transportation Engineering

Master’s Degree in Transportation Economics/Development Economics/Regulatory Economics/Urban Transport planning/Public Policy/Accounting & Finance/Business Law/Management

Experience:

Minimum 7 years of professional experience in role/organization dealing with economic regulations and transportation demand and supply analysis.

Experience with transportation pricing, tariff rationalization (preferably in transportation sector) with demonstrated expertise in development/application of economics models/software, public policy principles, fixed and variable costs, negative and positive externalities.

Proficiency in use of Computers to manage data base and generation of reports with overall good communication skills (in English and Hindi); knowledge of Assamese language is preferable.

Knowledge/understanding of sociological impacts of large infrastructure projects; associated mitigation measures; and community consultations.

Experience in Inland Waterways/ Ports / Harbours is desirable.

Skills/Competencies Required:

- Source and systematically manage large amount of data
- Ability to combine economic and regulatory analysis with inputs from other disciplines to develop a broader vision
- Strong conceptual, analytical skills with clarity of thought process and problem solving skills.
- Ability to work under tight deadlines.
- Excellent organizational skills.
- Ability to work independently as well as in a team.
- Strong communication skills with the ability to clearly and concisely convey necessary information, explain reasoning, and support conclusions using data and facts.

Deliverables / Scope of work/Time to complete.

Reporting into the Chairman and designated Members of the RA, the expert shall lead the work on scoping, preparation, stakeholder consultations / dissemination, revision and finalisation of economic regulations for IWT sector in Assam. The expert shall provide relevant strategic input to support the broader activities of RA, including through the drafting of high – quality documents, analytical reports, strategy briefs and other material on a wide range of issues related to economic regulations, transport pricing, tariff analysis and strategy.

Specific deliverables to include

- Draft Economic regulation guidelines (3 months from start of assignment)

- Final Economic regulation guidelines based on feedback from stakeholders (6 months from start of assignment)
- Economic regulation manual as per provisions of AIWTRA Act and Rules and other relevant Acts/Rules
- Draft report on best practices in fare setting (4 months from start of assignment)
- Final report on best practices in fare setting (6 months from start of assignment)

In addition the consultant would be expected to provide support that would include but not be limited to review of reports concerned with regulatory aspects, preparation of economic regulation briefings and participation in meetings regarding economic regulation issues.

Period of Service:

The contract shall be initially for a period of 1 (one) year with a provision of further extension on an annual basis subject to the satisfactory performance as assessed by the Chairman, AIWTRA.

Remuneration:

Consolidated Remuneration will be in the range of Rs 1, 00, 000/- to Rs. 1, 20,000/-per month. Depending on qualification, experience and competency of the candidate, the salary is negotiable.