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PMC finalises rates for water tankers

PUNE: The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) on Monday fixed the rates for <u>water</u> tankers following allegations that they were charging the citizens exorbitantly.

"Following complaints, we have fixed the rates for tankers that purchase water from the PMC. They should charge Rs 600 for 10,000 litres of water, Rs 700 for 15,000 litres and Rs 800 for 20,000 litres. If any tanker operator is found charging more than this, citizens should contact the PMC's ward office and register a complaint," said municipal commissioner Mahesh Zagade.

The civic chief told reporters that the PMC was plying 23 tankers in the city, including six for Urali Devachi and Phursungi. "The PMC has hired 47 tankers on contract and they make 300-350 trips in various parts.

Additional municipal commissioner M S Devnikar said a survey for digging of borewells was being conducted. "The PMC has decided to acquire borewells in public

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places so that their ownership remains with the civic body."

The BJP had alleged that tankers were selling water at almost six to seven times the cost at which they were getting it from the PMC. Citizens also complained that the PMC provided water at Rs 200 per tanker of 10,000 litres, but the tanker owners sold it for Rs 800-900 per tanker. In many places, the rate was still higher, the citizens have alleged.