

No.P.17024/3/2012-RC
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
(Rural Connectivity Division)

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated the 12th December, 2012

Sub.:- Meeting of the Pre - Empowered Committee (Pre-EC) held on 10.12.2012 for Assam under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (RC) – Minutes thereon.

A copy of the Minutes of the Pre - Empowered Committee meeting held on 10.12.2012 under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (RC) to discuss the project proposals submitted by the Government of Assam under Phase-IX (Batch-I) of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is forwarded herewith for necessary action.

Encl.: As above.


(P. Manoj Kumar)
Director (RC)
011-23074307

Distribution:-

1. Shri M.C. Boro, Commissioner & Special Secretary, Public Works Department, Government of Assam, Dispur, Guwahati.
2. Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam.

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Sr. PPS to Secretary (RD)/PS to AS/ PS to AS&FA /PS to Joint Secretary (RC)/Director (RC-YSD) Director (RC-PMK)/Deputy Secretary (RC-MR)/Director (Tech.)/Director (P-I)/Director (P-II)/Director (P-III)/Director (F&A), NRRDA.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRE-EMPOWERED COMMITTEE
FOR PMGSY HELD ON 10th DECEMBER 2012**

STATE: ASSAM

A Meeting of the Pre-Empowered Committee (EC) for PMGSY was held on 10th December 2012 at 12.00 noon at NRRDA, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (RC), Department of Rural Development to discuss the proposals for providing connectivity to eligible habitations in the State of Assam under phase IX (Batch-1) of PMGSY. The following officers attended the Meeting.

Dr P K Anand	Joint Secretary (RC), MoRD
Dr I K Pateriya	Dir(Tech), NRRDA
Shri. N.C. Solanki	Dir (P-I), NRRDA
Shri. Bhupal Nanda	Dir (F&A), NRRDA
Shri P K Katare	Dir (P-III), NRRDA
Shri P.Manoj Kumar	Director (RC), MoRD
State Govt Representatives	
Sh.M.C.Boro	Commissioner & Special Secretary
Sh.K.C.Hazarika	Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam
Sh.R.K.Das	Director, RRL, PWD & SQC
Sh.D.Goswami	I.T.N.O., Assam
Sh.B.K.Seal	Chief Account Officer, ASRB (SRRDA, Assam)
Sh.S.M.Hassan	Supt.Engineer, Traffic Engineer
Sh.D.N.Gogoi	Assistant Executive Engineer

2. Details of proposals discussed by the Committee for the State of Assam are as under:

Value of projects proposed (Rs. in crore)	117.023
Total no. of road works	123
Total length of road works (in km)	281.096
Total no. of Habitations Benefited	156
Average Cost per km (in Lakh)	41.41

3. The Pre-Empowered Committee reviewed the progress since the previous Empowered Committee Meeting held on 30th January 2012 and 27th February 2012 and considered the institutional capacity of the State to efficiently execute the PMGSY works with the requisite attention to quality. The Pre-Empowered Committee also considered achievements under PMGSY, public disclosure norms in terms of the physical and financial and accounting data entered by the State in the programme software, Quality Monitoring, OMMAS and the diligence in maintenance of the high quality assets created under the programme for the long term reduction of poverty.

4. Following issues were discussed in the Meeting.

4.1. OMMAS entries have not been updated. Most of the OMMAS entries do not match with the figures given in the Brief of the proposals. The State was advised to fix the responsibility to IT Nodal Officer to update OMMAS. The State agreed to complete the works within 2 weeks.

4.2. The Committee expressed serious concern on the slow progress of the work. It was observed that that the State has huge incomplete works under regular PMGSY and ADB. The State was advised to furnish the completion plan for all incomplete works immediately. The Phase-wise status of completion of road works is given below:

Phase	Works Sanctioned	Works Completed	Balance works
I	212	212	-
II	294	290	4
III	109	108	1
IV	195	193	2
V	292	269	23
VI	629	496	133
VII	1137	587	550
VIII	1171	439	732
ADB (phase V)	196	178	18
ADB (phase VII)	274	214	60

4.3. The Committee advised the State that the financial closure in respect of all completed works should be made on OMMAS. The State was further advised to send consolidated proposals for dropping of roads in the prescribed format to the Ministry for approval.

4.4. Some of the observations of NRRDA on proposals based on the scrutiny are as under which should be complied before seeking the date for Empowered Committee:

- 1) Some of the roads are not in the Core Network. State must verify and remove such works from the proposal.
- 2) On some of the roads single habitations of less than 500 population has been mapped, which makes the road ineligible. The State should rectify and update on OMMAS.
- 3) Proforma P-IV giving the road wise details of habitations should be provided by the State after confirmation with the Core Network.
- 4) In some of the cases, no habitation has been mapped in the proposal. Such proposals are not eligible.

- 5) Mapping of habitations has not been done;
- 6) The roadway width for link roads should be limited to 6 m in place of 7.5 m.
- 7) The average height of road embankment formation is about 1.60 m in some of the proposals. The quantities of earthwork are extremely high. The height of embankment for rural roads should be limited to 1.20 m. Wherever required, this should be supported with X-Sections and levels.
- 8) The issue of not allowing the provision of subgrade in some proposals was raised by the State. This has been verified from sample DPRs provided by the State and in these DPRs the provision of Subgrade is there.
- 9) Maintenance amount on the respective roads has not been updated properly on OMMAS;
- 10) The State was advised to include the proposals of Long Span Bridges on the roads of current proposals whether 15 to 50 m or more than 50 m and bring updated Brief of EC including these bridges for consideration by Empowered Committee.
- 11) The State was also advised to bring all the 289 or more proposals of Missing Bridges (Including bridges of more than 50 m Span).

4.5. Quality

4.5.1. It was observed that out of 361 NQM inspections carried out during April 2011 to November 2012, 33 % of the completed works (total inspection- 42) and 25 % of the on-going works (total inspection - 361) were graded as 'Unsatisfactory'. The Committee expressed serious concerns on the low quality of roads constructed/maintained by the State. Moreover, out of 179 ATRs due for submission based on NQM Reports, only 23 reports were submitted by the State. The State was advised to take immediate action to upload remaining ATRs on OMMAS.

4.5.2. The number of photographs uploaded based on SQM inspections was found to be inadequate. It was found that 12,826 photographs were uploaded based on 1701 SQM inspections during the period April 2011 to November 2012, which is 75 % only.

4.6. Maintenance

4.6.1. The Committee observed that the amount of maintenance credited by the State was inadequate. No maintenance was credited to SRRDA during the current year against the requirement of Rs.18 crore, which is a prerequisite for any release of fund to the state as well as for sanctioning of new projects. Also, the expenditure made by the State on this account is dismal. The percentage of expenditure made under maintenance was 43.11 % and 21.22 % during the years 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively. The State was advised to send a contingency plan to have a proper maintenance on all completed roads. The State clarified that the Finance Department in the State has not released the amount despite repeated effort. The State agreed that it will take up the matter rigorously and also take action to strengthen the maintenance system.

5. Financial Management/Accounting.

5.1. Though Bank guarantee valuing Rs. 6,94,93,314 and STDR of Rs. 1,822,020 was sent to the Bank for encashment but was not honoured by the issuing bank. The Committee advised that the same should be recovered from the programme fund during the release in the current financial year itself.

5.2. An amount of Rs.883.80 core under programme fund and Rs. 3.94 crore in Administrative fund was lying unused with the State;

5.3. An amount of Rs. 829 crore has not been shown under RIDF (NABARD) separately in the Balance sheet;

6. The State was advised to complete all activities mentioned at para 4 and 5 above immediately and to send a compliance report to the Ministry to fix up an early date for the Empowered Committee Meeting.

7. It was also decided that a D.O. letter at the level of MRD may be sent to Chief Minister, Assam indicating the issues like, slow progress, quality of the roads, maintenance, fund recovery etc.

8. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.
