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Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
(RC Division)

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi,
Dated the 20th September, 2013

Subject: Minutes of the Meeting of the Pre-Empowered Committee held on 17th September, 2013 at 10:00 AM under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (RC) to discuss the project proposal of Maharashtra for New Connectivity and Upgradation proposals of left out habitations, including 3 roads of Nandurbar district under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

A copy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Pre-Empowered Committee held on 17th September, 2013 at 10:00 AM under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (RC) to discuss the project proposal of Maharashtra for New Connectivity and Upgradation proposals of left out habitations, including 3 roads of Nandurbar district under PMGSY is forwarded for necessary action.


(P. K. Singh)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Distribution:-

1. Shri S.S. Sandhu, Principal Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Maharashtra Rural Roads Development Association (MRRDA), Rural Development & Water Conservation Department, Government of Maharashtra, Bandhkam Bhawan, 7th Floor, 25 Marzban Road, Fort. Mumbai-400001.
2. Shri P.L. Kadu, Chief Engineer (PMGSY) & Empowered Officer(MRRDA), Rural Development & Water Conservation Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Bandhkam Bhawan, 7th Floor, 25 Marzban Road, Fort. Mumbai-400001.

Copy to:- Sr. PPS to Secretary (RD)/Sr. PPS to SS&FA/PPS to Additional Secretary/PS to JS (RC) /Deputy Secretary(RC-MR)/Consultant(Finance)/Director(F&A)/Director(P-1)/Director(Tech.)/Director(P-III), NRRDA.

ISSUED
20/9/13

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRE-EMPOWERED COMMITTEE FOR
PMGSY HELD ON 17th September, 2013**

STATE: MAHARASHTRA

A Meeting of Pre- Empowered Committee was held on 17th September, 2013 at 10.00 am under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary (RC), MoRD to discuss project proposal of Maharashtra for new connectivity and upgradation proposals of left out habitations, including 3 roads of Nandurbar district under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). List of participants is annexed with minutes.

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

Item	New Connectivity Left out Schedule-V	Upgradation	Missing Bridges	Total
Value in Rs. Crores	142.14	278.83	25.04*	446.01@
No. of Road/Bridge works	15	93	23	108 Roads 23 Bridges
Length in Km	143.52	496.85	731.10 m	Roads-640.37Km bridges-731.10m
Average Cost (Lakh / Km)	99.04	56.12	3.42 lakh/ m	-
No. of Habitations	6 of 1000+ 8 of 500+ 10 of 250+ 8 of 250 less	-	-	6 of 1000+ 8 of 500+ 10 of 250+ 8 of 250 less

- *MoRD Share : 23.56 crore
- @MoRD share : 444.53 crore

State share : 1.48 crore
State share : 1.48 crore

3. The Pre-Empowered Committee reviewed the progress of the implementation of PMSGY in the State of Maharashtra since the last Empowered Committee Meeting held on 5th September, 2013 which agreed in-principle for revision of core network in the case of 3 downgraded routes of Nandurbar district after detailed deliberations and considered all aspects of implementation of PMGSY works in the State.

4. The Committee further discussed the current proposals and progress after Empowered Committee meeting of 5th September, 2013:

4.1. Issue of high average cost:

It was observed that average cost per km under current proposals is as high as Rs. 99.04 and Rs. 56.12 for New Connectivity and upgradation works respectively. The State representative mentioned that proposed 3 routes of Nandurbar district in current

proposals, being in hilly and difficult terrain with much higher road length, has increased overall average cost of New Connectivity proposals. Director (Tech) and Director (P-III) stressed that abnormal increase in average cost is not only caused by these 3 routes of Nandurbar but also because of substantial lacunas in DPR preparations at the PIU level. JS (RC) directed the State officials to rectify the DPRs as per technical observations of NRRDA within one week.

4.2. DPR issues:

(i) Director (Tech) pointed out that certain additional percentages are added in the Schedule of Rates (SoRs) while finalizing the estimated costs of current proposals, which are not allowed as per Operations Manual of PMGSY. It was decided to remove following proposed charges from DPRs:

- 1% Insurance charges
- 1% labour cess charges
- 0.5% VAT charges
- 10 % lumpsum additional charges for schedule-V areas

(ii) It was observed that geometric designs of roads have not been prepared in accordance with the provisions and the traffic data reported has been incorporated very casually in most of the DPRs and not matching with the DPR/ C-Performa. Some of the proposals have been proposed with gabion retaining wall without providing any justification whereas L-Section/ X-Section drawings and drawings of the CD works are not available with the DPR. Some of the proposals have no site photographs as per DPR template and cost of clearing/ grubbing, earthwork/ excavation is too high for an existing road. As the proposed cost of DPR preparation at Rs. 30,000/ km is on higher side, State needs to revise is suitably and ensure to prepare qualitative DPRs.

(iii) The State was advised not to charge cost of service road crossing culverts and fanning at culverts in the DPRs and provide justification wherever proposed CD works are higher in numbers.

(iv) It was observed that in some of the proposals, only one test report, without correlation among properties of soil, has been provided for 18 km long road and proposed crust design is very high. The State was advised to consider the thickness of existing crust in pavement design.

(v) Director (Tech) also pointed out that there are 5 roads of upgradation works which have population of less than 250; therefore this road would not be eligible under PMGSY. CE (PMGSY) mentioned that population is on lesser side but these routes need upgradation being Trough Routes of Schedule-V areas and in totality will benefit larger population of served habitations. State was advised to clarify the category status of these proposed upgradation works.

(vi) Provision of hard shoulders, RCC slab culverts and 50 mm Modified Penetration Macadam (MPM) need to be replaced by earthen shoulders, Hume pipe culverts and 75 mm WBM respectively. The provision of M15 encasing the Hume pipe should be

replaced by back filling materials and provision of PCC M15 concrete bed below Hume pipe needs to be replaced by Granular Sub-Base (GSB) material. Water Bound Macadam (WBM) grade I should be replaced by GSB and provision of offset for WBM layer should be reduced to carriage way width.

(vii) Provision of 3.7 / 5.50 metres carriageway needs to be reduced by 3.00 metres with formation width of 6.00 metres for route having motorized traffic less than 100.

(viii) Not a single road has been proposed under R&D. The State was advised to select suitable technology initiative to comply with directions of 15 % of proposed road works under R&D.

(ix) All DPRs need to be duly scrutinized by STA prior to seeking date for EC meeting.

4.3. Quality Issues:

Out of 1,184 SQM inspections (including bridge works) during the period April 2011 to June 2013, Unsatisfactory reports were reported for 5 % at ongoing stage and 1% at Completed Stage. The reports of 276 NQMs inspections show that the quality of the roads is not upto the expected level and during April 2011 to June 2013, a high number of unsatisfactory works have been reported by NQMs (**16% at on-going stage and 8% at completion stage**). As regards submission of ATR on NQM inspections, out of 77 ATRs required to be sent, the State has sent only 69 reports. The State is required to send 8 more ATRs prior to Empowered Committee Meeting for current proposals. The Committee opined that the monitoring mechanism under 2nd tier is weak and advised the State to strengthen the quality monitoring system in the State. The State was advised for sudden inspections to ensure deterrence effect of monitoring mechanism.

4.4 Habitation Updation on OMMAS:

The Committee observed that following discrepancy, in respect of eligible number of unconnected habitations, is reflected on OMMAS, which needs immediate attention of State for rectification:

Net eligibility* of unconnected habitations

Item	1000+	500+	250+	Total
As on 1 st April, 2000 (as reported by state on OMMAS)	201	912	94	1207
As per NRRDA record provided by State	178	779	798	1755
Additional Habitation approved for revision of core-network	19	209	176	404
Unconnected Habitation after revision of core-network	197	988	974	2159
Unconnected Habitation entered on OMMAS by State	177	775	54	1006

* Net eligibility means habitation arrived after excluding habitation covered by other scheme and not feasible

DS (RC) pointed out that State needs to revise the core-network in reference to recent relaxations in population norms for LWE affected blocks of IAP districts at the earliest as State is likely to send DPRs under PMGSY-II in the month of October. The State officials requested for 3 weeks time to revise the Habitation-Master regarding current proposals. CE (PMGSY), Maharashtra mentioned that construction of new road works may not be feasible due to Law & Order threats in IAP district but agreed to revise the core-network within a month time for these LWE affected blocks under IAP districts.

4.5 Maintenance:

The State was advised to increase the proposed maintenance cost of 4.98% in current proposal by 9% or in accordance with Operations Manual, which was agreed by the State. The details of maintenance funds required, released to SRRDA and utilized by them during the last three years and current year is given below:

Rs. In Crores

Sl. No.	Financial Year(s)	Maintenance Funds Required (as per contracts)	Actual release to SRRDA	Expenditure by SRRDA during the Financial Year	% Expenditure w.r.t fund required
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2010-11	13.43	68.20	14.52	100%
2	2011-12	68.20	68.20	68.20	100%
3	2012-13	33.40	33.40	33.40	100%
4	2013-14 (Upto June' 13)	31.02	31.02	4.45	14%
Total:		146.05	200.82	120.57	

It was observed that State has not only credited but also utilized the required maintenance funds on maintenance of assets created under PMGSY.

4.5. Absorption Capacity:

As per the capacity assessment study (index on expenditure, ongoing works, number of SQMs, average expenditure and no. of PIUs) State have works in hand of worth Rs. 1,366 cr. against absorption capacity of Rs. 820 cr. The State needs to increase qualitative inspections by 2nd tier to take up additional works and improve the pace of implementation of sanctioned road works in IAP districts. The State representative assured that SRRDA will improve as advised by the Ministry to execute sanctioned works within allowed time-frame.

4.6. Financial/ Accounting Issues:

It was observed that huge unspent balance, at the end of the Financial Year 2012-13, remained Rs.527 crore. Outstanding Advances and Outstanding TDS, Royalty and Labour Cess are amounting to Rs. 32.72 crore, which needs immediate attention of Financial Controller. Un-reconciled Bank Authorizations as on 31.03.2013 under Programme Fund is Rs. 52.92 crore and under Administrative Fund is Rs. 14.87 lakh is also matter

of concern. The State representative informed that after EC meeting of 5th September, 2013 a total number of 1,364 physically completed works were financially closed and remaining 3,784 physically completed works will be financial closed by 23rd September, 2013.

4.7 Physical Progress:

It was observed that a total no. of 124 works out of 941 incomplete works were sanctioned prior to March, 2011 under Phase-V to Phase X of PMGSY, which need to be completed on priority. State needs to comply with the work-completion plan for all these pending works.

5. The State will complete following activities to fix up an early date for Empowered Committee Meeting:

5.1 All the DPRs should be corrected as per the observations of the Committee and uploaded on OMMAS after due vetting by STAs.

5.2 Action should be taken to send pending ATRs on 8 NQM reports.

5.3 The Habitation-Master on OMMAS needs to be updated within 3 weeks time.

5.4 Provision of minimum 9% should be made for maintenance or current proposed maintenance should be revised as per PMGSY provisions under the current proposal.

5.5 Financial closure of 3,784 road works completed on OMMAS by 23rd September, 2013.

6. The State should send a compliance report on all issues as indicated at para 5 above along with Brief (10 copies) for the Meeting to the Ministry/ NRRDA while seeking date for EC meeting.

7. The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

Annexure

List of participants:

Sh. Rajesh Bhushan	Joint Secretary (RC)
Smt. Manju Rajpal	Deputy Secretary (RC)
Shri N. J. Thomas	Consultant (Fin), MoRD
Shri I. K. Pateriya	Dir (Tech), NRRDA
Shri P. K. Katare	Dir (P-III), NRRDA
Shri N. C. Solanki	Dir (P-I), NRRDA
Shri Bhupal Nanda	Dir (F&A), NRRDA
State Govt. Representatives	
Shri P. L. Kadu	Chief Engineer (PMGSY), MRRDA
Shri S. C. Mone	Financial Controller, MRRDA
Shri Herlekar	MRRDA, Maharashtra
Shri P. K. Ingole	SE, MRRDA
Shri V. B. Malunde	DE, MRRDA
Shri Shafee J. Sayed	MRRDA, Maharashtra
Shri S. S. Sangle	MRRDA, PMGSY