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Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
RC Division

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
Dated the November, 2012

Subject: Meeting of the Pre-empowered committee for PMGSY held on 15th November, 2012- Minutes thereon.

A copy of the Minutes of the Meeting of Pre-empowered committee for PMGSY held on 15th November, 2012 to discuss the proposals for providing connectivity to eligible habitations in the State of Tamil Nadu under PMGSY is forwarded for necessary action.


(P. Manoj Kumar)
Director (RC)

Distribution:-

1. Principal Secretary (RD&PR), Department of Rural Development, Government of Tamil Nadu, Fort St. George, Chennai-600009.
2. Dr. S Vijayakumar, Commissioner, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600015.

Copy to :

PS to Hon'ble Minister (RD)/Sr. PPS to Secretary(RD)/ PS to AS& FA/ PS to JS(RC)/ Director (Tech.)/ Director (P-I)/ Director (P-II)/ Director (P-III), NRRDA, Ms. Anubha Goel, Director (Technical), NIC.


(P. Manoj Kumar)
Director (RC)

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRE-EMPOWERED COMMITTEE FOR
PMGSY HELD ON 15th NOVEMBER 2012**

STATE: Tamil Nadu

A Meeting of the Pre-Empowered Committee (EC) for PMGSY was held on 15th November 2012 at 11.00 AM in the Chamber of Joint Secretary (RC), Department of Rural Development to discuss the proposals for providing connectivity to eligible habitations in the State of Tamil Nadu under 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	
Dr.S. Vijayakumar	Commissioner, RD&PR
Shri M. Neelamegam	Chief Engineer National Highways Chennai
Shri S. Ouu ReDay	Divisional Engineer, National highways Sivagangai TN
Shri K. Megraj	Add. Director (RD), Tamil Nadu
Shri R. Balachandran	Data Officer (FC) Tamil Nadu
Shri R. Chakravarthy	IT Nodal Officer Tamil Nadu
Shri K. Jayabalan,	Scientist D, NIC

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

Value of projects proposed (Rs. in crore)		1133.02
Total no. of road works		1296
Total No. of Bridge works		47
Total length of road works (in km)		3088.138
Total no. of Habitations Benefited		2278
New connectivity	Cost (Rs. in crore)	36.01
	No. of road works	38
	Length (km)	81.846
	Number of Habitations covered	55
	Average cost per km (Rs.in Lakhs)	44

Upgradation	Cost (Rs. in crore)	1016.32
	No. of road works	1258
	Length (km)	3006.483
	Number of Habitations covered	2213
	Average cost per km (Rs. in lakh)	33.80
Long Span Bridges	Cost (in Rs)	80.69
	No. Of Bridge Works	47

3. The Pre-Empowered Committee reviewed the progress since the previous Empowered Committee Meeting held on 23rd February 2009 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. The issue of taking up upgradation of road works in the State under RRP-II of World Bank was discussed in the Meeting with the State Government Officials. Commissioner, RD&PR sought certain clarifications regarding implementation of the works and funding. JS (RC) and Director (P-III), NRRDA clarified that the road works will be implemented in accordance with the existing guidelines and the funds will be released by MoRD. Further, the State was advised to formally communicate indicating their willingness to take up the works under RRP-II of World Bank to the Ministry. Commissioner, RD&PR informed that the matter will be taken with the Principal Secretary (RD&PR), Tamil Nadu on going back to the State and accordingly a formal communication indicating their willingness will be sent to the Ministry.

5. Following issues were discussed in the Meeting.

5.1. OMMAS entries are fully not updated. All entries on OMMAS must be updated.

5.2. The Committee observed that financial closure in respect of all completed works have not been uploaded on OMMAS. The State was advised to update OMMAS accordingly.

5.3. 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) The data entry in proposal module on OMMAS should be properly verified with details of CBR, traffic and proposec surface type.
- 2) Habitants shown in the core net work are different from that mentioned in DPR on some of the roads. This should be verified and corrected.
- 3) It was observed that all the 332 roads of Highway Department have been designed for 5 years, design life. All the roads should be designed for 10 years. Also, the calculations of ESAL should be as per relevant IRC code of design.
- 4) In case of Roads designed for more than 2 MSA projected traffic for 10 years, the pro-rata cost for traffic more than 2 MSA should be borne by the State.
- 5) The provision of Gravel shoulders, wherever applicable, should be replaced by earthen shoulders or the excess cost should be borne by the State.

- 6) Names of roads mentioned in DPRs are different from the core network. It Should be corrected as per core Network.
- 7) In case of roads proposed with Coir Technology, the cost of Coir should be charged either from Coir Board or it should be included in the DPR cost.
- 8) In case of roads proposed with RBI 81 technology, the cost comparison with traditional technology should be justified.
- 9) The provision of Maintenance cost should be as per the Operation Manual and should be above 5 %.
- 10) In case of Long Span Bridges, a Joint Site inspection by STA and SE should be done and a certificate in this regard should be provided by the State. Also, the cost of bridges for more than 70 m length and more than 5.5 m carriageway should be provided from the State Share.
- 11) The Roadway width in case of through routes should be 7.5 m and for link routes it should be 6 m. In case the roadway width proposed is more than 6 m, the State should make appropriate provision from the State share.

5.4. Quality

5.5.1. It was observed that out of 288 inspections carried out by SQMs during April 2011 to September 2012, 7 works were graded as 'Unsatisfactory', which is just 2.4 %. It was also observed that in some of the districts viz. Theni, Tiruchirapalli, Tirunelveli, no SQM inspections were carried out during the said period. It was also found that the quality of SQM reports have not been satisfactory as the reports of NQMs and SQMs, in general, do not match.

5.5.2. The number of photographs uploaded based on SQM inspections was not found to be adequate. Out of 285 inspections, only 1797 photographs have been uploaded, which should have been at least 2850. As regard to Action Taken Reports (ATR) of NQM inspections, out of 57 ATRs required, only 42 ATRs have been uploaded. The State was advised to take immediate action to upload remaining ATRs on OMMAS.

5.5.3. It was informed that following initiatives have been taken by the State for improving the quality

- i. Quality Control Labs have been set up in each district.
- ii. About 60 Sub Divisions have been set up in the State exclusively for road and bridge works.
- iii. Some SQMs have been removed from the panel on account of poor qualitative inspection of works
- iv. Propose to Impart Training to Contractors before starting of the works

5.6. Maintenance

5.6.1. The Committee observed that though the amount of maintenance credited by the State was adequate, the expenditure made by the State on this account is dismal. The percentage of expenditure made under maintenance was 39 % and 22 % during the years 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively as per OMMAS. It was clarified that the expenditure on this account has gone

up to 62 % and 50% in the said period. The State has further agreed that it will take immediate action to further improve the situation. The State was advised to have a contingency plan to have a proper maintenance on all completed roads.

6. Following observations have been made concerning to Financial Management/Accounting.

6.1. Audited balance sheet which was due in the month of September 2012 has not been received from the State. Also, the Audited Balance Sheet for the year 2010-11 for Admn. Fund has also not been received. The State has agreed that it will send both the reports by 23.11.2012.

6.2. It was observed that the State has opened two Savings Account and one Current Account under PMGSY, which is violation of Guidelines. The State has clarified that there are two implementing Departments for PMGSY in the State viz. RD&PR and Highway Department and hence two accounts are maintained.

6.3. It was observed that funds have been diverted from programme funds to Admn. Fund, which needs to be reconciled.

7. The State was requested to complete all activities mentioned above immediately. The State was also requested to update the proposal module, after necessary corrections, on OMMAS immediately to fix up an early date for Empowered Committee Meeting.

8. The State has informed that two road works viz. Gandhinagar-Malaiyur and Annamalai Alli-Andherikottai in Dharmapuri district sanctioned under Phase-II (2001-02) could not be constructed due to non clearance of land from Forest Department. The State has further informed that the forest clearance has now been obtained for these roads, and requested the Ministry to approve revised sanction for the escalated cost. The State was advised to send a specific request to the Ministry in the prescribed format for dropping of these roads with adequate justifications immediately so as to include the same in the current proposals subject to the approval.

9. The State has informed that the amount of Rs. 10,000/km is insufficient for DPR preparation and requested to reimburse upto Rs. 15000/km or actual whichever is less. The Committee has requested NRRDA to consider the case in accordance with the guidelines.

10. A Web-based Real Time Monitoring Software using Android based Mobile application has been developed by NIC, Chennai, at the request of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Government of Tamil Nadu. The application was demonstrated during the meeting. Commissioner, RD&PR, requested DG (NRRDA) to allow the State to make Real Time Monitoring for PMGSY works on a pilot basis with full financial assistance of NRRDA/MoRD, Govt.

11. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.