

No.P-17024/20/2022-RC (FMS No. 382407)

**Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
Department of Rural Development**

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated the 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2022

**Minutes**

**Sub: Minutes of the Pre- Empowered Committee meeting held on 29th November 2022 at 03:00 PM to discuss the project proposals of LONG SPAN BRIDGES (LSBs) submitted by the Government of Odisha under PMGSY-III, (Batch-I, 2022-23)-reg.**

A copy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Pre-Empowered Committee held on on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 through Video Conferencing to consider the project proposals under PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23 is forwarded herewith for information and necessary action.



(Devinder Kumar)

Director (RC)

Tele No 011 2307 0129

**Distribution:**

- (i) The Principal Secretary, Rural Development Department, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar-751001.
- (ii) The Chief Executive Officer, Odisha Rural Roads Development Agency, Bhubaneswar.
- (iii) The Chief Engineer, Odisha Rural Roads Development Agency, Bhubaneswar.
- (iv) All Directors in NRIDA.

**Copy to:-**

PPS to AS (RD) and PPS to JS (RC)

**Minutes of the Pre- Empowered Committee meeting held on 29th November 2022 at 03:00 PM to discuss the project proposals of LONG SPAN BRIDGES (LSBs) submitted by the Government of Odisha under PMGSY-III, (Batch-I, 2022-23)**

A Meeting of the Pre- Empowered Committee was held through Video Conference on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 03:00 PM under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (RD) & DG, NRIDA to discuss the project proposals of Long Span Bridges (LSBs) submitted by the State of Odisha under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-III (PMGSY-III) for the year 2022-23 (Batch-I) on the roads already sanctioned under PMGSY-III.

2. The following officials were present in the meeting:-

Dr. Ashish Kumar Goel	Additional Secretary (RD), MoRD& DG, NRIDA
Shri Amit Shukla	Joint Secretary (RC)
Shri Devinder Kumar	Director (RC), MoRD
Shri B C Pradhan	Consultant/Director (Tech), NRIDA
Shri Pradeep Aggarwal	Director (Projects-I), NRIDA
Dr. I.K. Pateriya	Director (Projects-II&III), NRIDA
Shri Pardeep Kumar	Deputy Director (Finance), NRIDA
Shri Jitendra Kumar Agrawal	Section Officer (RC), MoRD
<b>State Govt. Representatives</b>	
Shri Sudarshan Parida	CEO, Odisha SRRDA
Shri A.K Pradhan	Chief Engineer, Odisha SRRDA
Shri Sudhir Tripathy	SQC, Odisha SRRDA
Shri A.K.Mishra	ITNO, Odisha SRRDA

**3. Details of Proposal**

The details of the proposal of Long Span Bridges submitted by the State of Odisha under PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23 are as under:-

As per OMMAS as on 28.11.2022				
Item	Nos	Length (in m)	Cost (Rs in Crores)	Avg. Cost/m (Lakhs)
LSBs	58	3364.46	296.55*	8.81
<b>*MoRD Share: Rs. 169.54Cr.</b>		<b>State Share: Rs. 127.01 Crores</b>		

**4. General Observations**

(i) The State of Odisha has been allocated target of 9400 km under PMGSY-III, against which all road length has already been sanctioned to the State.

(ii) State was asked to ensure that all current proposals of LSBs are on those roads which have already been sanctioned under PMGSY-III. It was also mentioned by the state that this is the full and final proposal for LSBs, and no other proposal will be submitted under PMGSY-III.

(iii) All proposals have been scrutinized on OMMAS by STAs. PTA has scrutinized 17.2% proposals on OMMAS.

(iv) 05 LSB proposals are yet to be uploaded on Geo-Sadak. State was asked to ensure that all LSBs are uploaded on Geo-Sadak.

(v) 03 LSBs bearing packages nos- (i) No- OR08LSB124 (ii) OR14LB-81 & (iii) OR15LB74 are not across the PMGSY-III road. These are required to be deleted.

(vi) State should upload the photographs of all the existing bridges on GeoSadak. This should be checked by NRIDA critically, as to the genuine requirement of a new LSB. If the existing bridges are within their design life or in usable condition, they need not be replaced just for widening from 3.75 to 5.5m. This aspect will especially be examined by NRIDA.

(vii) The average cost of bridges has increased from Rs. 6.63 lakh/m under PMGSY-III (2021-22, B-3) to Rs. 8.81 lakh/m (+30%) in the current batch. State was asked to examine the average cost. NRIDA should critically examine cost elements, bridge wise, and bring out the reasons for such increase.

(viii) While analyzing the proposal district-wise, the Committee observed that the average cost is abnormally high in Balasore, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Ganjam, Jharsuguda, Malkangiri, Nuapara & Puri districts. The State was asked to examine the high cost of bridges in detail and furnish proper justification for the same.

(ix) State may also ensure that the length of a bridge should not be more than 150 m and also overall width of bridge should not exceed 8.40 m. As per para 5.8 & 5.9 of programme guidelines of PMGSY-III, the cost of length over and above 150 m and width over 8.40 m shall be borne entirely by the State.

(x) Out of 58 LSBs, 34 are Bridge cum Bandhara. State should segregate the cost of Bridge and Bandhara separately and then work out the cost comparison of bridges.

## 5. Compliance on the observations on sample DPRs

(i) **Cement Concrete approach road of 200 m length:** – State was advised to adopt BT for approach road instead of CC pavement.

(ii) **Replacement of vented causeway (VCW) (9x900mm) as seen in the photographs:** - The state was asked to submit detailed justification in support of the proposal alongwith geotagged photographs of the existing causeways.

## 6. Progress of PMGSY Works

(i) It was observed that 57 roads of 176.73 km length and 24 bridges are still balance under PMGSY-I and 05 roads of 4.85 km length & 01 bridge remains balance under PMGSY-II. State was asked to expedite the completion of these works.

(ii) 72 roads of 462.25 km length & 6 bridges under PMGSY-III are still un-awarded. State needs to expedite the tender process of these works.

(iii) Annual physical target of the State is 2000 Km, against which, State has so far completed only 866 Km. State still needs to complete balance target. State was asked to increase the pace of construction, so as to achieve the annual target.

## 7. Maintenance of roads under DLP

During 2021-22, against the liability of Rs. 166.10 crore, expenditure of Rs. 148.77 crore has been done. For the current financial year 2022-23, the maintenance liability is 182.29 crore and as on 28.11.2022, the expenditure is Rs. 70.79 crore only. State has not updated the OMMAS for the fund credited to SRRDA's account under DLP .

Only 658 km road length has been renewed during current year. The renewal target for this year is 4000 km. The State needs to confirm and update length renewal data & expenditure data on OMMAS. The same is required to be done immediately.

## 8. e-Marg

Out of total 7180 packages pushed to e-MARG, 261 (4 %) packages are pending for locking, 439 (6%) packages are pending for manual entry expenditure (MEE). 2346 roads are eligible for routine inspection in October 2022, 1137 roads (48%) are pending for routine inspection (RI) missed. 3568 packages are pending for payment for >3 months. 1237 (35%) packages are pending for payment for first payment for > 3 months. Payment of Rs.67.85 core has been done using e-MARG in FY 2022-23. Total expenditure of Rs. 24.80 crore has been done on bills having liability of FY 2022-23, out of total expenditure of Rs. 67.85 crore using e-Marg. The above position is not satisfactory. The State should take necessary steps to increase DLP expenditure on roads due for maintenance in 2022-23. There should be visible progress on e-Marg preferably before the EC meeting.

## 9. Award analysis

Out of total 1334 awarded works under PMGSY-III, 02 works have been awarded at -30% below than the sanctioned cost, 65 works at 24-30% below the sanctioned cost, 213 works at 18-24% below sanctioned cost, 350 works at 12-18% below sanctioned cost, 364 works at 6-12% below sanctioned cost, 226 works at 0-6% below the sanctioned cost and 114 works are awarded at cost above the sanctioned cost. **The State was asked to ensure additional visits of State Quality Monitors on the low quoted PMGSY works so that these works are completed with good quality, in terms of advisory dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 issued by NRIDA.**

## 10. Quality

(a) Out of 1203 ongoing packages, QC labs have not been established in 22 packages. There is 01 work which has not been inspected even once. These should be inspected immediately.

(b) Number of active SQMs is 100 against the requirement of 161 SQMs. During 2022-23, 9462 SQM inspections are targeted and till date, only 4606 inspections have been conducted which is meager. State was asked to expedite pace of inspection to achieve the target.

(c) 95 ATRs (31 completed works + 64 ongoing works) are pending at State Level. State should show substantial compliance for these pending ATRs before the EC meeting.

(d) Unsatisfactory grading by NQM from November 2019 to October 2022 for completed works is 6.91%, for ongoing works it is 7.82% and for maintenance works it is 31.76%. The unsatisfactory grading by SQM during the same period for completed works is 2.03%, for ongoing works it is 5.42% and for maintenance works it is 19.79%. Thus, the quality grading awarded by the SQM is abnormally low when compared to grading awarded by the NQM.

Unsatisfactory grading by NQM from November 2021 to October 2022 for completed works is 7.14%, ongoing works, it is 7.59% and for maintenance works, it is 20.37% as compared to quality grading of 1.69%, 3.17% and 19.35% for completed, ongoing and maintenance works respectively by the SQM.

The State was asked to review the performance of active SQMs on priority and take action against the defaulting SQMs.

(e) 04 complaints are pending at State level during the financial year 2021-22 & 2022-23 which is required to be resolved at the earliest.

*State was advised to take immediate corrective action and show some improvement in the aforesaid issues and furnish the ATR before the EC meeting.*

## 11. SQM Analysis

It was noticed during the meeting that SQMs empanelled by the State have graded very few works 'Unsatisfactory' out of the large number of projects inspected by them. The State was advised to scrutinize 10 such SQMs and find out whether the performances of such SQMs are satisfactory. **All the works inspected by them may be re-inspected by other SQMs under the supervision of SQC, EO and CEO.**

## 12. Financial issues

- (a) State has not completed internal audit. The same may be completed immediately.
- (b) State has pending number of cheques amounting to Rs. 33.33 crore which needs to be cleared immediately.
- (c) Adverse balance amounting to Rs. -96.68 crore under Maintenance Fund account and Rs. -23.77 crore under Central Administrative Expenses fund account has been shown which needs to be rectified by the State.
- (d) Interest verification certificate has also not been submitted for FY 2004-05 to 2021-22.
- (e) Books of Accounts on OMMAS are closed till September 2022 for Programme Fund & Admin Fund and upto March 2020 for Maintenance Fund.
- (f) Financial closure of 22 no of works is pending for more than 180 days as on 28.11.2022. The State may take immediate action and expedite pending financial closure of completed works.

The State was asked to look into these financial issues and take appropriate action.

13. The State was asked to furnish the compliance report on the observations of the Pre-Empowered Committee urgently so that the proposal could be placed before the Empowered Committee at the earliest possible.

Meeting ended with Vote of thanks to the chair.

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