

Minutes of the Regional Review Meeting for the State of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana held at Hyderabad, Telangana on 08.11.2019

A regional review meeting to review the progress of implementation of PMGSY programme was held on 8th November, 2019 under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (RD), MoRD & DG, NRIDA for Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana. The meeting was attended by State officials, Director (RC), MoRD and Director(s) from NRIDA were also present.

At the outset, Shri Hari, Executive Engineer, PR Department welcomed the AS (RD) & DG, NRIDA, Director (RC), MoRD, Directors of NRIDA, and State representatives & expressed gratitude on behalf of the PR Department and Govt. of Telangana for having been given the opportunity to organize this Regional Review Meeting of PMGSY in this historical city Hyderabad and informed that PMGSY is one of well designed programme of Government of India for the rural areas. For effective monitoring of implementation of PMGSY works, NRIDA conducts Regional Review Meetings every six months. He informed that Telangana, newly formed State is one of progressive State of India. Under PMGSY-I, State has achieved 93.73% km of road length against the sanctioned length of 10,220 km. Under PMGSY-II, a total of 131 works i/c 17 bridges covering 944 km road length for an amount of Rs. 541.69 crore have been sanctioned, out of which 124 works i/c 14 bridges covering 893 km length have been completed and 7 works are in progress.

At the outset, Director (P-I), NRIDA welcomed AS (RD) & DG, NRIDA, Directors of NRIDA and officials of States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamilnadu and Telangana on behalf of Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India for attending the Regional Review Meeting and PMGSY-III workshop. All participating States are eligible for transit in PMGSY-III. Director(P-I), NRIDA highlighted that in case of Andhra Pradesh, Out of 352 balance works (275 Roads & 77 LSB), 267 works (210 Roads & 57 LSB) have been awarded, Balance 85 works (65 Roads covering a length of 865 Km and 20 LSB) which needs looked into. In case of Kerala, Out of 115 balance works (113 Roads covering a length of 324 Km & 2 LSB), 103 road works have been awarded, Balance 12 works (3 roads covering length 6 km under PMGSY-I and 7 roads works covering length 22 km and 2 LSB under PMGSY-II) is still unawarded which needs to be focused. In case of Tamilnadu, only 1 road work covering length of 3 km sanctioned under PMGSY-I is still unawarded. In Telangana, Out of 322 balance works (204 Roads covering a length of 824.92 Km & 118 LSB), 305 works (191 Roads and 114 LSB) have been awarded, Balance 17 works (12 roads covering length 53.57 km and 4 LSB under PMGSY-I and 1 road works covering length 38 km under RCPLWE) is still unawarded which needs to be focused.

AS (RD), MoRD & DG, NRIDA in her opening remarks welcomed officials from NRIDA, senior officials coming from the States. AS (RD) informed that we are in the beginning of third phase of PMGSY. This is a good time for planning and preparing PMGSY-III proposals. Maintenance costs are to be fully borne by the State and a MoU as effective maintenance management and monitoring through eMarg is to be signed with respective State before launch of the scheme.

AS (RD), MoRD & DG, NRIDA presented a bird's eye-view of the progress of the participating States under PMGSY and the appropriate actions required to be taken by the respective States. During 2018-19, Andhra Pradesh has achieved - 337 KM (67%) length

against the target of 500 km, Kerala has achieved 314 Km (63%) length against the target of 500 km, Tamilnadu has achieved 108% length against the target of 2000 Km and Telangana has achieved 76% length against the target of 500 Km. During the year 2019-20, till now, Andhra Pradesh has achieved only 13% length against the target of 800 km whereas Kerala has achieved 21%, Tamilnadu has achieved 32% and Telangana has achieved only 7% of their target. Andhra Pradesh assured that they will complete 52 Km road length in Nov'19 and 500 Km road length by Mar'20. Kerala State assured to complete all road length by Mar'20. Chief Engineer (PMGSY), Tamilnadu has assured that remaining targeted road length will be completed by end of March, 20. Telangana informed that around 215 Km road length is pending under forest clearance, court cases and non responsive tenders. **DG, NRIDA informed States if all works are not completed by Mar'20, No fund will be released from GOI and States will have to complete the works from State Share.**

Andhra Pradesh has 352nos. balance works covering road length of 1305.80 Km, out of which 900.01 Km have already been awarded and remaining 404.99 Km is unawarded road length. Kerala has 115 balance works covering length of 323.05 Km, out of which 294.04 Km have already been awarded and remaining 29.01 Km is unawarded length, Tamilnadu has 1075 balance works covering road length of 1081.84 Km, out of which only 1 work (3.0 Km) remains unawarded, and Telangana has 322 balance works covering road length of 826.72 Km, out of which 734.75 Km have already been awarded and remaining 91.97 Km is unawarded length. **DG, NRIDA has asked Director (RC) to organize a VC in next week to review the Status of award of works of Andhra Pradesh.**

AS (RD) briefed about works pending from more than 4 years. Andhra Pradesh has 46 works, State informed that 28 works are in progress & 22 works will be completed by Mar'20, dropping proposal for 8 works to be submitted shortly, 2 works are pending for Forest clearance, 8 works are in LWE district Vishakhapatnam. Kerala has total 32 works, out of which 14 works are in progress and likely to be completed by Mar'20, 10 works are held-up due to forest clearance (2), under revision of estimate approval from State Govt (6), retendering (2) and dropping proposal for 8 works will be submitted by next week. Telangana has total 36 works, out of which 31 works are in progress and 19 works will be completed by Mar'20, proposals already submitted for dropping for 1 work to NRIDA, proposal for 2 works will be submitted shortly, proposals already submitted for pre-closure for 1 work to NRIDA and for 1 work proposal will be submitted shortly. AS (RD) also briefed about pending works due to forest clearance. Andhra Pradesh has 21 works (103.45 Km), Kerala has 2 works (7.61 Km) and Telangana has 21 works (85.90 Km) pending due to forest clearance. Director (P-1) pointed out regarding fewer entries on OMMAS. **DG, NRIDA instructed States to get the forest clearance otherwise send the dropping proposal to MoRD.**

AS (RD) also highlighted the progress made by the States under PMGSY-II and layer wise length in progress by the States and advised to complete 100% works by end of March, 2020. CE, Kerala informed that 3 works are not yet tendered. AS (RD) asked State to drop these 3 works and take sanction of another 3 works.

AS (RD) briefed about achievements under Green Technology during the year 2019-20 and overall length sanctioned and achieved. States of Kerala and Tamilnadu were advised to speed up the progress of works under R&D. Further, States were advised to submit the

performance evaluation report for the good practices under R&D. CE, Andhra Pradesh informed that they are facing problem in using Terrazyme Technology in road works in Vishakhapatnam district, especially in hilly section. This was discussed in detail & AS (RD) cum DG, NRIDA, advised the State to submit proposal for change of Technology, justifying the difficulties in execution subject to condition that the mandatory percentage of New Technology length should not be less than the prescribed limit.

DG, NRIDA also briefed about status of on-boarding on EMARG and advised all the participating States to complete all the pending activities at the state end including package verification and contractor registration. She further informed that 1st January 2020 onwards, all the payments for the maintenance of PMGSY roads should be made strictly through eMARG only and no bill older than 6 month be allowed for payment. She further opined that since EE is responsible for the overall road condition, they may be allowed to make the payment to the contractor for the maintenance purpose. The state may take the appropriate call on the same.

DG, NRIDA briefed on maintenance fund requirement and provisions. During last year 2018-19, no accruable amount has been credited in SRRDA account by Telangana State and during this year 2019-20, except Tamilnadu no other State has credited the accruable amount in SRRDA account. DG, NRIDA asked the States as to why the maintenance fund was not yet credited to SRRDA account.

Regarding financial incentive Vs Expenditure on maintenance renewal length, DG, NRIDA proposed that a separate account on OMMAS be developed for Incentive/State share/other roads expenditure and a separate official be appointed as Nodal Maintenance Officer.

In the context of NQM inspections on maintenance works, it was emphasised that in order to preserve the huge assets value, maintenance of roads must be given priority by the States. DG, NRIDA informed that the percentage of unsatisfactory works in Maintenance should be mandatorily limited to 15% as per national standard, which was 18.28%, 17.37%, 18.14% & 28.07% in case of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamilnadu and Telangana respectively. States were advised to reduce the % of unsatisfactory works in maintenance as it is constantly being reviewed by NITI Aayog. In Kerala, U grading was found 16.13% in completed works and 13.18% in ongoing works, against the total inspection of 31 and 129 works. State was advised to improve it.

Quality Control Mechanism

During the review meeting, Director (P-III & CQC) highlighted the cases where field laboratories are not established. In Andhra Pradesh (25 packages -23%), Kerala (9 packages -10%) and Telangana (63 packages-26%) field labs have not been established. CQC informed that as per Guidelines field labs should be established before commencement of work and should be upto 10 in number.

Works that are not inspected even once in the Completed and Ongoing category, but for which payment of more than Rs. 1 lakh has been made were also discussed. 18 such road works, out of 75 works of Andhra Pradesh, 15 road works out of 30 works of Kerala, 13 road works out of 172 works of Tamilnadu and 29 road works out of 72 works of Telangana

fall in this category. States were advised to inspect all pending works where no inspection has been done on priority.

Director (P-III) further informed that for the project sanction year 2013-19 in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Nos. of Contractors involved was 204, out of which 203 no. of contractor are such whose works are inspected by NQM and 1 No (0.49%) of Contractor is such whose work has not been inspected even once by NQM. In case of Kerala Nos. of Contractors involved were 159 out of which 156 nos. of contractors are such whose work inspected by NQM and 3 Nos (1.88%) of Contractors are such whose work not inspected even once by NQM. In Tamilnadu Nos. of Contractors involved were 667 out of which 558 nos. of contractors are such whose works inspected by NQM and 109 Nos (16.34%) of Contractors are such whose work not Inspected even once by NQMs. SQCs were advised to assign these works on priority.

Director (P-III & CQC) further highlighted about pending ATRs w.r.t Completed as well as Ongoing works in the States. He informed that in case of Andhra Pradesh in completed works 2 ATRs and in ongoing works 9 ATRs are pending with State. In Kerala, 13 ATRs in ongoing works & 5 ATRs in completed works are pending. In Tamilnadu, 4 ATRs in completed works and 5 ATRs of ongoing works are pending. In Telangana, 3 ATRs in completed works & 19 ATRs in ongoing works are pending with State. States officials have been directed to submit the ATRs along with relevant documents within timeline and more focus needs to be given to ATRs of ongoing works. Old pending ATRs should be sent on priority. States should give priority for SRI nature ATRs and submit within one month's time to NRIDA.

CQC pointed out about unsatisfactory quality grading on maintenance works observed by NQMs. In case of Andhra Pradesh, out of total 262 inspections carried out, 41 maintenance related works (15.65%) were found to have U grading, in case of Kerala, total 277 inspection were carried out against which 48 inspection (17.33%) gave U grading to works, in Tamilnadu, total 408 inspection were conducted out of which 72 inspection (17.65%) gave U grading to works and in Telangana, total 191 inspection were conducted out of which 54 inspection (28.27%) gave U grading to works. CQC advised all the SQCs to reduce the U grading on maintenance and said that %age of U grading should be maximum 4% of Completed works, 5% of ongoing works and 15% of Maintenance works.

In case of Andhra Pradesh based on total 540 inspections accounted from 1/04/16 to 31/10/2019, 11.4% of unsatisfactory grading in works is due to S.E. & improper extra widening, 7.84% is due to improper Grain size, 5.88% is due to inadequate compaction and grain size and 74.5% is due to non restoration of rain cuts and improper dressing of berms and making up of shoulders.

In case of Kerala based on total 601 inspections accounted from 1/04/16 to 31/10/2019, 25.6% of unsatisfactory grading in works is due to inadequate compaction and grain size, 21.95% is due to thickness of layer not achieved and 45.12% is due to non restoration of rain cuts and improper dressing of berms and making up of shoulders.

In case of Tamilnadu based on total 1471 inspections accounted from 1/04/16 to 31/10/2019, 12.34% of unsatisfactory grading in works is due to Poor Workmanship in CD

works, 17.3% is due to inadequate compaction and grain size, 4.80% is due to thickness of layer not achieved and 50.96% is due to non restoration of rain cuts and improper dressing of berms and making up of shoulders.

In case of Telangana based on total 541 inspections accounted from 1/04/16 to 31/10/2019, 4.83% of U grading in works is due to inadequate compaction and grain size, 3.22% is due to thickness of layer not achieved and 70.96% is due to non restoration of rain cuts and improper dressing of berms and making up of shoulders.

Action to be taken by (All SQCs)

Finance & Accounts Issues

Dy Director (F&A) informed about anomalies seen in the Annual Accounts and Audit Reports of SRRDAs. In this regard, a letter has already been sent to respective States. States were advised to go through the points enlisted in the letter and sensitize the accounting staff working in the SRRDA and PIUs to ensure that these anomalies and irregularities do not occur in future. Further, Dy. Director (F&A) advised all the participating States to submit the OMMAS generated audited Balance Sheet. Participating States were advised to settle all the pending Statutory Liabilities. He further directed that these liabilities need to be paid timely else panel interest needs to be paid. Secondly, he emphasized on submission of OMMAS based balance sheet.

Dy. Director (F&A) informed that 22 works out of 72 of Andhra Pradesh, 25 out of 44 works of Kerala, 11 out of 71 works of Tamilnadu and 133 out of 185 works of Telangana are pending from more than six month.

All the States were directed to submit all the pending balance sheets alongwith supporting documents without further delay. State of Andhra Pradesh was instructed to take up the matter regarding P.D. account with Sate authorities, as continue with the green channel P.D. account will lead to loss of interest. **DG, NRIDA also directed RC Division to write a letter to State Govt. in this regard.**

Training Programmes for the Financial Year 2019-20

Director (P-II) informed about the training programmes scheduled for the year 2019-20. It was informed that it is planned to train 2,880 officials in 72 batches, covering 22 topics at different institutes such as IAHE, Noida, ESCI, Hyderabad, CRRI, New Delhi, NICMAR, Pune and AITD, New Delhi. Director (P-II) further informed that so far in the year 2019-20, 427 officials have been trained in 22 batches. Out of a target of nominating 108 officers, 108 were nominated and out of which 10 were absent from Andhra Pradesh. For Kerala, out of a

target of nominating 70 officers, 40 were nominated and all were present. For Tamilnadu out of a target of nominating 64 officers, 42 were nominated and 10 were absent and For Telangana out of a target of nominating 58 officers, 52 were nominated and 2 were absent. States have been advised not to nominate engineers who had already attended the same training programme. Director (P-II) requested States to ensure presence of the nominated Engineers at the training programme.

Action to be Taken by (All SRRDA)

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.
