

**Proceeding of the Regional Review Meeting for the States of Assam,
Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal held at Bhubneswar,
Odisha on 30th January, 2019**

A one day review meeting to review the progress of implementation of PMGSY programme for the States of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal held at Bhubneswar, Odisha on 30th January, 2019. The meeting was chaired by Joint Secretary (RC), MoRD & DG, NRIDA, Government of India. Meeting attended by senior officers from the States, officers from MoRD and NRIDA. After that progress of ADB funded projects was also discussed in the presence of State officials and Consultants engaged for implementation of PMGSY works in these States.

At the outset, Principal Secretary, Rural Development Department, Govt. of Odisha welcomed the chair, Directors of NRIDA, Joint Director (RC), MoRD and State representatives & expressed gratitude on behalf of the State Government for having been given the opportunity to organize this Regional Review Meeting of PMGSY at Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Principal Secretary informed that PMGSY is one of well designed programme for the rural areas, with well scripted manuals. Principal Secretary assured that targets fixed by MoRD in terms of Length and habitations will be achieved timely. Habitations are being connected in the State by other funding schemes also.

In his opening remarks, JS (RC) thanked the OSRRDA for organising Regional Review Meeting at a very short period at Bhubaneswar. JS (RC) informed that last year, Odisha was one of the best performing State. This year also Odisha has on track, lot of works has been done. At the end of January, 19, against the total target of 58,000 km road length, only 24,457 km (42%) length has been achieved nationally which has been behind schedule and slower than the last year's January achievement i.e. 28,000 km. States of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand and Bihar will play a major role in achieving the national goals for length.

JS (RC) gave a detailed presentation on the overview of PMGSY in the States including details of Status of Connectivity, Unawarded works, pending works of more than 4 years, Green Technology, GIS, works with Zero Expenditure as well as quality related issues of the programme. Js (RC) further suggested the necessity of the close monitoring of physical progress, bringing down time taken for tender and award of works and the important role to be played by the participating States in achieving the national target for 2018-19 was stressed upon and the support of the States were solicited. For the next two months, the States would require more efforts to achieve the targets. The pace of awarding works is also very slow. All these works are required to be

awarded on priority basis to achieve the target of PMGSY-I by March 2019 and PMGSY-II, LWE by March 2020.

JS (RC) was very much concerned about the State of progress of the allotted target of 2018-19. Out of allotted target 5,000 km, State of Assam was able to achieve only 1,722 km road construction as on date. Chhattisgarh has achieved only 1,139 km, Madhya Pradesh has achieved 2,465 km, Odisha has achieved 3,423 km and West Bengal has achieved 2,221 km. States officials were apprised to increase the pace of progress with personal involvement into day to day work with a little more effort will be able to achieve 100% targets. Intensify review with PIUs and contractors will help in achieving the targets.

States were also advised to submit realistic month-wise completion plan of more than 4 years old works and also follow up with concerned PIUs and contractors. Chief Engineer, Assam assured all pending road works would be completed by end of March, 2019 except 5 works of Dibrugarh district. Chief Engineer, Chhattisgarh informed that balance 100 works of 481 km length pertains to LWE areas, all efforts will be made to complete by end of February, 2019. CGM, MPRRDA informed that only 63 works are remaining for completion, out of which 52 works would be completed by end of March, 2019 and 11 works held up due to forest clearances will be completed during next financial year. Chief Engineer, Odisha informed that out of total pending 357 works, 211 works will be completed by end of March, 2019 and remaining works beyond March, 19. Joint Secretary, WBSRDA informed that out of total 145 works, 112 works would be completed by end of March, 2019, for 33 works proposal already submitted for dropping to MoRD.

(Action: All SRRDAs)

JS (RC) highlighted physical progress made under PMGSY-II by the States of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh and advised to speed up the execution of works. Chief Engineer (PMGSY), Chhattisgarh assured that 95% road length would be completed by end of March, 2019. JS (RC) also informed that entire road length 3,760 km eligible under PMGSY-II has been sanctioned to Odisha. Chief Engineer (PMGSY), Odisha informed that tenders have been invited and Financial Opening will be done by 28th February, 2019. Chief Engineer, Assam informed that preparation of DRRP is under process and assured by end of February, 19 DRRP of PMGSY-II roads would be submitted.

(Action: All SRRDAs)

JS (RC) also briefed about status of works not yet awarded. 1,063 works of 2,611 km by the State of Assam, 476 works of 2,261 km by Chhattisgarh, 186 works including bridges of 57 km by Madhya Pradesh, 1,163 works of 5,297 km by Odisha and 230 works of 551 km by West Bengal is not yet awarded. Chhattisgarh responded that most of the untendered works are in Bastar region. States should ensure early action is taken in awarding these works. All

these works are required to be awarded on priority basis to achieve the target of PMGSY-I by March 2019 and PMGSY-II by March, 2020. It was decided again review the status of Assam State at Guwahati during second week of February, 2019.

(Action: All SRRDAs)

JS (RC) briefed about progress achieved by the States under Green Technology during 2018-19. Against an annual target of 1,000 km, the State of Assam has achieved 771 km, 203 km by Chhattisgarh, 894 km by Odisha and 210 km by West Bengal. States of Chhattisgarh and West Bengal were asked to improve their performance with respect of green technology works. JS (RC) further informed that the progress is being rigorously monitored by PMO and NITI Aayog. Among the participating States, only Madhya Pradesh has achieved 100% length. Chief Engineer, Assam and Joint Secretary, WBSRDA has agreed to complete the balance road length by end of March, 2019. Performance Evaluation of the PMGSY roads constructed with R&D works to be carried out through research institutions like CRRI/ PTAs/ STAs/ IITs/ NITs.

(Action: All SRRDAs except Madhya Pradesh)

JS (RC) briefed about works pending for financial closure. As per OMMAS, State of Assam (52), Madhya Pradesh (218), Odisha (210) and West Bengal (53) final pending bills of more than 6 months. It is a serious matter; States should deal with on a priority basis. Chhattisgarh has only pending 5 works. JS (RC) informed that after considering request received from some of the States for revocation to make payment of such works, it has been decided that the deadline of financial closure of physically completed works is extended till 31.03.2019 (*Earlier it was 30th Nov. 2018*). Hence, the States are requested to do the financial closure of physically completed works within this period positively. After this deadline, the State would not be able to make further payment from PMGSY scheme and the States have to bear the cost of such works. No request for extension of this deadline will be entertained henceforth.

(Action: All SRRDAs except Chhattisgarh)

JS (RC) opined that data of NQM inspections from April, 2015 to January, 19 reveals that the States of Assam (18.18%) and West Bengal (8.20%) have a very high "U" grading in completed works against the national target of 5%. In the case of maintenance works, the State of Assam (49.05%), Odisha (22.56%) and West Bengal (26.05%) have "U" grading more than 20% well above the national target of 15%. The States were asked to focus and pay more attention to maintenance.

It was also seen that 81% roads have zero payment in the last 5 years in Assam, 22% in Chhattisgarh, 48% in Odisha and 38% in West Bengal which

indicated that no expenditure were done on these roads. States were advised to earmark the fund for post 5 years as well post 10 years for the road works constructed under PMGSY for maintenance.

(Action: Assam, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and West Bengal)

GIS mapping to be given high priority as it is primary criteria for sanction of road works under PMGSY-II. All layers should be on GIS. All efforts should be done within one month to reduce the data gap. GIS consultant engaged by the respective States can also share their issues, if any with NRIDA. JS (RC) informed that as per Agreement, total ground-truthing of 2,60,000 km is equally divided between CGARD and NRSC. The collection of start and end points of the roads to be assessed in a State will be split between the PIU personnel and NRSC/CGARD. The Districts will be split based on the length to be assessed in the State and the total length to be verified under the project. NRIDA along with NRSC, CGARD may facilitate the splitting of the Districts with SRRDA. Remaining 2,00,000 km will be verified with the help of PIUs of respective States. Work of verification may be assigned those PIUs where workload is minimum. Meetings should be organised between officials of NRSC, CGARD and PIUs.

Further, JS (RC) informed that a MoU has been signed with NIC, Bhopal for an effective maintenance monitoring to preserve constructed asset through eMARG. A meeting with all ITNOs will be organized shortly at Delhi. Mr. Govind Pancholi, ITNO of Madhya Pradesh SRRDA will be Master Trainer.

(Action: All SRRDAs/ NRIDA)

During the meeting, Finance and Accounts Issues based on the Balance Sheet for FY 2017-18 were discussed with the Financial Controller of the respective States. States were advised to settle all financial issues pointed out in Balance Sheet 2017-18. Wrong entries should be rectified. Programme Fund Balance Sheet should be OMMAS based. States were asked for taking necessary action on the issue of pending Stale Cheques, unauthorized head special works, Outstanding Advances, Expired Bank Guarantees etc. States were also advised to expedite the progress of uploading the maintenance expenditure. Balance Sheet for maintenance funds 2017-18 have not been submitted by the States of Assam and Madhya Pradesh.

(Action: All SRRDAs)

The meeting ended with Vote of thanks to and from the Chair.
