File No-P-17024/5/2019-RC (E-365906)

Government of India Ministry of Rural Development Department of Rural Development Rural Connectivity (RC) Division

> Room No.376 Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi Dated: 19th June, 2023

MINUTES

Subject: Minutes of the Meeting of the Pre- Empowered Committee held on 12th June, 2023 at 10:00 AM to discuss the proposal of 03 approach roads on Inter-State Bridges of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh under RCPLWEA. – reg.

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith the Minutes of the Pre-Empowered Committee held on 12th June, 2023 at 10:00 AM under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (RD) & DG, NRIDA (through Video Conferencing) to discuss the proposal of 03 approach roads on Inter-State Bridges of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh under RCPLWEA.

2. State is requested to furnish the compliance on the observations made during the meeting to the NRIDA/Ministry at the earliest.

Encl. as above.

(Anjali Yadav) Assistant Director (RC)

Distribution:

- i. The Secretary (PWD), New Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhawan, New Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492002
- ii. The Engineer-in-chief, New Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhawan, New Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492002
- iii. Chief Engineer, New Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhawan, New Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492002
- iv. Superintending Engineer, Maharashtra
- v. All Directors of NRIDA

Copy for Information to:

- (i) PS to Secretary (RD)/PPS to AS (RD)/PPS to JS (RC)
- (ii) Deputy Secretary (LWE), North Block, MHA, New Delhi-110001

Minutes of the Meeting of Pre- Empowered Committee held on 12th June, 2023 to discuss the proposal of 03 approach roads on Inter-State Bridges of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh under RCPLWEA.

A meeting of the Pre-Empowered Committee was held on 12th June, 2023 at 10:00 AM under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (RD) & DG, NRIDA (through Video Conferencing) to discuss the proposal of 03 approach roads on Inter-State Bridges of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh under RCPLWEA.

The following officials were present in the meeting: -

MoRD/ NRIDA representatives						
Dr. Ashish Kumar Goel	Additional Secretary ,RD & DG (NRIDA)					
Shri K.M. Singh	Director (RC)					
Shri BC Pradhan	Director, (Technical) NRIDA					
Shri Pradeep Agrawal	Director (Projects-I), NRIDA					
Dr. IK Pateriya	Director (Projects-III), NRIDA					
Sh. Nirmal Bhagat	Director (F&A), NRIDA					
Chhattisgarh State Government representatives						
Shri Kamlesh Kumar Pipari	Engineer-in-Chief, PWD					
Shri G.R. Rawate	Chief Engineer, PWD					
Shri Binod Kumar Lal	Financial Controller					
Maharashtra State Government representatives						
Ms. Neeta Thakre	Superintending Engineer					

2. The details of the proposal submitted by the State Government is as under: -

	As per OMMAS as on 12.06.2023					
Items	Nos	Length (in km)	Cost (Rs in Crores)	Avg. Cost/km (Lakhs)		
Approach Roads (Chhattisgarh side) to LSBs sanctioned in Maharashtra State under RCPLWEA	3	62.8	50.24	80.42		
Total	3	62.8	50.24	80.42		

*MoRD Share: Rs. 30.15 Crores

State Share: Rs. 20.09 Crores

3. General Observations:

- (i) The State of Chhattisgarh has submitted proposal for 03 approach roads on Inter-State Bridges of Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh under RCPLWEA of length 62.80 Km costing Rs. 50.24 crores.
- (ii) All the 03 road works of 62.80 Km are of 3.75 Km width with average cost of Rs. 80.42 Lakhs/Km.
- (iii) All proposals have been uploaded and scrutinized by the STAs on OMMAS.

4. Distribution of roads based on Traffic Category:

		3.75 m carriageway width					
SI No	Sl No Traffic		Length in km	Pavement cost	Cost/km	Total Cost Rs. In Crores	Avg cost/km
1	Т6	3	62.80	3479.72	55.68	50.24	80.42
	Total	3	62.8	3479.72	55.68	50.24	80.42

The average cost is higher than the proposals submitted during 2020-21 which was 60.39 Lakhs/Km. State clarified that cost is high due to the fact that these are all new constructions. Earlier, it was consolidation/widening of existing road works. The other reason is the alignment issue, entailing large non-pavement cost. However, the Schedule of Rates (SoR) remains same.

5. Road-wise cost details:

Sl. No	Road Name	Length	Average pavement Cost	Average Non pavement Cost	Average Total Cost
1	O-BEDRE NUGUR KONDE ROAD	8.6	52.05	29.90	81.94
2	O-Construction of Approach (Chhattisgarh state side) of Proposed inter state Bridge on Nagil Nalla on Wangeturi Pakhanjore Road	3.2	61.47	44.10	105.57
3	O-PHARSEGARG SENDRA CHERPALLI	51	55.60	22.47	78.07
	Total	62.8	55.68	24.74	80.42

It was observed that the non-pavement cost for road work mentioned at Sl.No.2 namely; "Nagil Nalla on Wangeturi Pakhanjore Road" is high i.e. 44.10 lakhs though the road length is less than the other two road works. It was clarified that the cost is high due to drainage/culverts. Also its length is less than the other two roads hence the average cost has increased, owing to the CD structures being present in a short stretch of the road.

Further, it was observed that for the road work mentioned at Sl. No.3 namely "O-Pharsegarg Sendra Cherpalli" road length is 51 Km. State was requested to confirm whether its alignment had been checked and whether there was no alternative route for connectivity around the Tiger Reserve. The State mentioned that the proposed alignment passes through the Tiger Reserve and it is the only feasible alignment. It was also inquired whether the State Government had obtained the required permission for construction of this road from National Board for Wildlife as the proposed road work would pass through Forest area and also through Tiger Reserve. The State Govt. representative informed that NOC has been taken for Differential Global Positioning System survey and subsequent other clearances would also be applied for. The State Government assured that it is taking all required efforts for obtaining required forest and wildlife clearance and it was quite hopeful of receiving it as such projects have been given clearance in the past. It further added that the works would be taken up in compliance with forest and wildlife clearances.

District wise proposal details

Sl.No	District	No of Roads	Length	Average pavement Cost	Average Non pavement Cost	Average Total Cost
1	Bijapur	2	59.6	55.08	23.54	78.63
2	Kanker	1	3.2	61.47	44.10	105.57
Total		3	62.8	55.68	24.74	80.42

6. **DPR Issues:**

- OGPC + Seal Coat provision has been made in all the DPRs which should be replaced by 30mm SDBC, so as to reduce the maintenance requirement, as these roads passe through very sensitive area and due to security concerns its maintenance will be difficult. Similar provisions have been made under RCPLWEA in other states.
- 2m/3m Slab culverts are proposed at the rate of 4 culverts per km on the package no. CG08PJORE04 which have been agreed to due to security reasons, as opposed to the suggestion of Hume pipe culverts.
- State was asked to confirm whether the proposed alignments are as per the road alignments approved by the MHA. Also, it was directed to share the same with MHA. Further, State officials from Maharashtra were directed to share the alignment and design of bridges also. It was also decided that both the states will appoint a nodal officer to deal with the issues relating to the approach roads and bridges and for finalization of best alignment. For this purpose a joint inspection need to be carried out by both the states so as to avoid any communication gap.
- It was suggested that alignment should be finalized by the state in consultation with Police/ ADG (LWE), district administration, forest and wildlife officials

7. Maintenance cost:

5 years routine maintenance costing Rs. 317.37 lakhs w.r.t 6.32% of construction cost has been agreed to. However, it was observed that 6th Renewal cost was not entered on OMMAS. State was suggested that the same is also required to be incorporated in the proposal.

8. Progress of PMGSY works:

State has been allocated a target of 812 Km for the Financial Year 2023-24. Out of this, 42 Km has been completed till date. 18 Km will be completed by June, 2023. Balance length of 205 Km will be completed after June. In nutshell, all the pending road works including and 63 bridges will be completed by December, 2024.

There are total 102 road works of 697 Km and 63 Bridges which are unawarded. State has informed that out of 102 works, 07 works are old unawarded works of Phase-I. Out of these 07 works, 05 works are to be dropped, 01 work has been re-tendered and remaining 01 work is under tendering process. Further, out of the newly sanctioned 95 works, 08 works have already been sanctioned under other State schemes and these are proposed to be dropped. Thus, State has to construct 87 road works and 63 Bridges by March, 2024. So, remaining 95 road works and 63 bridges which were sanctioned on 20.06.2022 are targeted to be completed by the State.

In view of the proposed dropping of total 13 road works i.e. 05 old unawarded works of Phase-I and 08 newly sanctioned works, the State was requested to obtain prior permission of MHA before sending the proposal to Ministry for dropping.

In so far as pending 63 bridges are concerned, tenders of 37 works have been received and will be finalized in June. The remaining 26 works are under process. 01 Bridge work was to be dropped but the same has been tendered and will be renewed soon.

9. **e-Marg:**

Chhattisgarh- RCPLWEA has not yet properly on-boarded on e-MARG even after multiple trainings conducted by NRIDA. Out of the total 871 packages, total roads eligible for RI in May is 619. Total roads where RI Routine Inspection (RI) is missing is 12. Also, the payment for 63 packages is yet to be made. State has clarified that works against which payment has not been made are more than 06 months old and works which are less than 6 months old already have been ob-boarded on e-Marg. State was asked to monitor and expedite the on-boarding of remaining works on eMarg at the earliest, and certainly before the proposals can be considered by EC. Also, NRIDA was directed to give necessary training to the officials of State.

10. Quality:

 Target for SQM Inspections during 2023-24 is 563 against which 82 inspections have been carried out so far. State needs to allocate sufficient no. of works to the SQMs for inspections in order to achieve the target.

- From June, 2020 to May, 2023, 25 % maintenance works have been graded as unsatisfactory by NQM whereas SQM has reported 0.76% unsatisfactory grading for these works. The same difference can be seen for one year period (June, 2022 to May, 2023). There is a huge variation in NQM and SQM Reports. State was asked to clarify the same. Also, SQM Teams should focus on the quality issues.
- Action Taken Reports for 03 completed works and 08 ongoing works are pending. State
 was requested to submit the pending reports immediately.

11. Financial Issues:

- i. State has not submitted Internal Audit Reports for F.Y 2018-19 to 2020-21. Interest recovery of Rs. 7.82 Cr. is pending from Bank. State has clarified that under PMGSY, interest is calculated on retail rate whereas Bank has levied bulk rate. Out of 7.82 crore of pending interest, Rs. 21,80,000/- has already been received.
- ii. 14 works are pending for financial closure for more than 180 days as on 09.06.2023.

State was asked to expedite the submission/completion of above mentioned financial issues.

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 and from the chair.
