

No. P-17024/15/2017-RC (FMS No. 358623)

Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated the 12th January, 2022

Minutes

Subject: Minutes of Meeting of Pre-Empowered Committee to discuss the project proposals for Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Area (RCPLWEA) (Batch-I, 2021-22) submitted by the State Government of Maharashtra -reg.

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith the Minutes of the meeting of the Pre-Empowered Committee held on **31st December at 10:30 AM** under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (RD)& DG, NRIDA to discuss the project proposals submitted by the State Government of Maharashtra under RCPLWEA for the year 2021-22 (Batch-I).

2. It is requested that a compliance report on all the observations of the committee may be sent to Ministry/NRIDA.



(Lalit Kumar)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Distribution:

- (i) The Chief Engineer, Nagpur Region
- (ii) The Superintending Engineer, Gadchiroli, PWD Circle
- (iii) All Directors in National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA), 15 NBCC Tower, 5th Floor, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110001

Minutes of the Pre-Empowered Committee Meeting held on 31stDecember 2021 for consideration of proposals of the State of Maharashtra under Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA)-Batch-I of 2021-22

A Meeting of the Pre-Empowered Committee was held through video conferencing on 31stDecember 2021 at 10:30 AM under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary & DG, NRIDA to consider the project proposals submitted by the State of Maharashtra under Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA), Batch-I of 2021-22. The following officials were present in the meeting. **No official from PWD (Mantralaya) was present in the meeting.**

Government of India Representatives	
Dr. Ashish Kumar Goel	Additional Secretary (RD) & DG (NRIDA)
Shri Devinder Kumar	Director (RC), MoRD
Shri Jitendra Kumar Agrawal	Section Officer (RC), MoRD
Shri. B C Pradhan	Consultant (Tech), NRIDA
Shri Deepak Ashish Kaul	Director (F&A), NRIDA
Dr. I.K.Pateriya	Director (P.III), NRIDA
Shri Pradeep Agarwal	Director (P.I), NRIDA
State Govt. Representatives	
Shri Sanjay Dashpute	Chief Engineer, Nagpur Region
Smt Neeta Thakre	SE, Gadchiroli, PWD Circle
Shri Atul Meshram	EE, Allapalli

2. Details of Proposal

The current proposals of the State Government of Maharashtra under RCPLWEA-2021-22 are as under -

Item	As per States letter dated 27.12.2021				As per OMMAS dated 30.12.2021			
	No	Length (in meter)	Cost (Rs in Crores)	Avg. Cost per meter (Lakhs)	No	Length (in meter)	Cost (Rs in Crores)	Avg. Cost per meter (Lakhs)
LSBs	4	1165	88.54	7.60	4	1165	88.54	7.60
Total	4	1165	88.54	7.60	4	1165	88.54	7.60
*MoRD Share: Rs. 51.58 Crore					State share: Rs. 36.96 Crore			

3. General Observations

All proposals are scrutinized by the STAs on OMMAS. **Proposals are yet to be scrutinized by PTA.**

The current proposals of 4 no LSBs are in Gadchiroli district. **Out of 4 LSBs, length of 3 LSBs is more than 100 m and length of 1 LSB is less than 100 m. In one LSB CW width is 12m.**

According to state, out of these 4 LSBs, three are interstate LSBs, sharing border with the state of Chhattisgarh.

As per para 6.2 of programme guidelines of RCPLWEA, where the length of the bridge is more than 100 meter and the width of the carriageway of the proposed road is more than 5.5 meter, the additional cost, over and above the cost, than permitted under the project will be borne by the state. Hence, extra cost of the bridge, over and above 100 meters length and 5.5 m CW width has to be borne by the state. Therefore, state is requested to amend the proposals accordingly on OMMAS depicting extra cost as higher specification cost to be borne by the state, as extra state share.

4. Average cost trends

Average cost of LSBs in the earlier batches of FY 2017-18 and 2019-20 were Rs.4.29 lakh/m and Rs.4.96 lakh/m respectively. There is substantial increase in cost of bridge in the current batch of proposal which is Rs.7.60 lakh/m. *State was asked to examine this high cost and render justification.* State was also advised to explore the possibility of use of modular bridges for faster construction.

5. DPRs Issues

- i. Provision for Acceptance load testing of span before opening to traffic should be made in the DPR.
- ii. Design and drawings of elastomeric bearings and methodology of installation should be attached with DPR.
- iii. Drawings should be supported by the design. State was advised that the bridge should be designed by LSM by referring IRC 112: 2020 and other relevant codes. Design should be vetted from govt agency.
- iv. State has not attached the design of the proposed bridges. Moreover, there was a mismatch in the type of bridge proposed and attached drawings. State needs to recheck the same.
- v. As per para 6.2 of programme guidelines of RCPLWEA, where the length of the bridge is more than 100 meter and the width of the carriageway of the proposed road is more than 5.5 meter, the additional cost, over and above the cost, than permitted under the project will be borne by the state. Hence, extra cost of the bridge, over and above 100 meters length and 5.5 m CW width has to be borne by the state
- vi. *State needs to provide the status of the forest land clearance wherever required. During the meeting, the state informed that FC would be required in all these cases; and as these are interstate bridges, the clearance will be required from both the states, which is going to take a very long time. How will the cost be shared between the two states, and how are these going to be completed by March 2023, need to be explained by the state. The Chief Engineer has no answer to these questions.*
- vii. Provision of reaction blocks shall be made in the drawings as the cost of this item is very less in comparison to other cost and seismic safety. (MH10-101)
- viii. State has attached Structural Drawings for 20m span, and the proposed bridge have 25m span. There is no design in the DPR. Furthermore, it is to state that the drawings

pertain to submersible bridge but proposed one is High Level Bridge. This need Relook. (MH10-101)

- ix. There is mismatch in the width of the bridge written as 12m in “General Features of the Bridge” and Proforma-C whereas the standard drawings of Govt. of Maharashtra (attached) are of different with 7.9m width. State needs to recheck the same. (MH10-101)

6. Progress of RCPLWEA Roads

Annual physical target for the State under RCPLWEA is construction of 400 Km of road length against which only 29.89 km of road length has been completed. Details are as under:

Roads

SANCTIONED		COMPLETED		BALANCE	
Nos.	Length (Km)	Nos.	LENGTH (Km)	No. of Roads	Length (km)
46	619.68	4	61.89	42	557.79

LSBs

Sanctioned (Nos.)	Completed (Nos.)	Balance (Nos.)
108	12	96

Govt of India has recently extended the deadline of RCPLWEA works upto March 2023. Pre-Empowered Committee asked the state about their action plan to complete balance 557 km road length and 96 bridges.

Pre-Empowered Committee observed that there was no line of action available with the state to complete these balance works by March 2023. It appeared that no senior officials of the state are reviewing these works at state level. Chief Engineer was not aware whether these works could be completed by March 2023 or not. State should seriously look into it and senior officials of the state should attend meeting.

7. Pending Forest Clearance

RCPLWEA	District	Works			Forest NOC Received			Pending works		
		Road	Bridge	Total	Road	Bridge	Total	Road	Bridge	Total
Phase-I	Gadchiroli	5	16	21	2	7	9	3	9	12
Phase-II	Gadchiroli	16	31	47	5	3	8	11	28	39
Total		21	47	68	7	10	17	14	37	51

In the case of forest clearance issues also, Chief Engineer was not aware of the status of various proposals pending with forest authorities. According to state they have received approval of 8 more works and now the forest clearance required are for 43 works. *Pre-*

Empowered Committee has requested that the state should submit detailed update and likely clearances of all pending proposals.

8. **e-Marg**

Out of total 4 packages under DLP, no package has been pushed to e-MARG. No payment has been done using e-MARG. The state was asked to saturate 100% roads on e-MARG before sanction of projects.

9. **Quality**

- a. Out of 138 ongoing packages, QC labs have not been established in 42 packages. According to state, due to forest clearance issues works have not been started in these packages. State has assured to establish QC labs before physical start of the works.
- b. Number of active SQMs are 81. During 2021-22, 723 SQM inspections are targeted and till date, 85 inspections have been conducted. State should assign more number of works to SQMs so that yearly target can be achieved.
- c. Unsatisfactory grading by NQM from November 2018 to November 2021, for ongoing works is 5.56% and for bridge works it is 6.25%. Unsatisfactory grading for bridge work is a serious issue and state should seriously look into it.
- d. There are 04 ATRs of ongoing works are pending at State level. State should take immediate action.
- e. Some anomalies noticed in SQM inspections are as under, for which the state needs to submit ATR before the EC: -
 - i. Percentage of filler provided in WBM is very high still graded as satisfactory (Package Number: - MH1009)
 - ii. Quality of road has been ascertained by seeing top layer only, tests on lower layers has not been conducted (Package Number: - MH1014)
 - iii. Work has been graded satisfactory despite of field dry density of soil observed as 98.34% & 98.89% at chainage 36.340 & 38.870 respectively against prescribed 100% in the specification. (Package Number: - MH0820C)
 - iv. Wrong way has been adopted to measure chamber at chainage 39.800 (Package Number: - MH0820C)
 - v. Work has been graded satisfactory despite of field dry density of soil observed as 96.99% & 97.27% at Chainage 1.585 & 2.220 respectively against prescribed 100% in the specification. (Package Number: - MH856)
 - vi. No field test has been conducted by SQM on 29.58km long road. Repeated photos are uploaded. State was asked to seek clarification & conduct the inspection again as per prescribed guidelines. (Package Number: - MH1012)

10. **Financial Issues**

- a. Audited Balance Sheet has not been submitted for FY 2020-21.
- b. Bank Interest verification reports for FY 2018-19 to 2020-21 have also not been submitted.
- c. State budget has not been reflected in PFMS TRSY-07 report.

d. Interest remittance undertaking letter for FY 2020-21 has not been submitted yet.

State should look into above financial issues.

11. 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.
