

Minutes of the meeting of the National Steering Committee for the North Eastern Region Urban Development Programme held under the Chairmanship of Shri Navin Kumar, Secretary (UD) on 29.03.2011

The fourth Meeting of the National Steering Committee (NSC) was held on 29th March, 2011 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Urban Development) at 12:30 PM in the Conference Hall of the Ministry of Urban Development. List of the participants is placed at Annex 'A'.

2. Secretary (UD) welcomed the participants and observed that over all progress was slow and gradually the projects are falling behind schedule. As the programme was being funded through an external agency, the states should be more proactive in pushing through the work. They needed to engage effectively with all concerned to expedite the work. He indicated that the next review would be held in June, 2011 in one of the states by which time all states should report progress on all milestones.

3. Joint Secretary (Urban Development) gave a brief account of the current status of project activities in the states. He then requested the states to make their presentations.

4. The Project Directors, SIPMIU, Mizoram, Sikkim and Meghalaya made their presentations giving status of Tranche-I project, status of reforms and preparations for Tranche-II. Representatives of SIPMIUs of Nagaland and Tripura narrated the status of activities in respect of their projects. JS(UD) asked these two states to prepare presentations and submit for record. He desired that these should also be placed on the web.

5. Director (UD) apprised the committee of the check list of the project activity time lines formulated by DEA for Externally Aided Projects (EAP). It was emphasized that the activities need be carried out in conformity with the check list so that loan negotiations with the ADB could be held as per schedule. In case preparations were not in accordance with the check list, Tranche-II negotiations would have to be deferred.

6. Project Director, Aizawl informed that work was going on in the Tranche-I projects and would be completed by December 2011. The Tranche-II DPRs are likely to be ready by April'11 for appraisal.

7. The Project Director, SIPMIU, Shillong, Meghalaya stated that the contract for civil works has been delayed due to some problem in getting clearance for cutting of trees on the present land-fill site which is pending with the MoEF. On the reforms part the Project Director informed that Model e-governance structure is under development and may be completed by June'11. Public consultations and awareness campaigns are being conducted with the help of IDC consultants. However, there are problems in holding municipal elections which are being opposed by local traditional institutions. It was opined that in view of the prevailing circumstances, the local authorities should decide the best way forward and may move in gradual incremental steps. Project Director informed that state PHED is proposed to be restructured and a committee has been set up to develop a corporate model for providing water and sewerage services on lines of Bhubaneswar model. JS(UD) desired that the PMMC should get a reform action plan from the states and monitor the same closely. The PMMC should study the applicability of the Bhubaneswar model to the cities covered under NERUDP and suggest effective ways to adopt the same for usage by the cities.

8. Project Director, SIPMIU, Agartala informed that land is available for Tranche-II projects and Tripura Govt. has been asked to transfer available land to Urban Development Deptt, this is expected to be completed by end April'11. Bid documents are ready and will be submitted for appraisal after approval of DPRs. The PMMC informed that one set of DPRs had been reviewed and returned for compliance by the state. The SIPMIU was advised to coordinate closely with MoUD for clearance of DPR.

9. Additional Programme Manager, SIPMIU, Nagaland informed that they were facing problem in awarding contract for WS project although bids have been issued twice. JS(UD) suggested that it should be executed by PHED now as the bidding process had led to prolonged delay. It was informed that Nagaland SIPMIU was facing problem in getting environmental clearance from SEIA. The matter was being pursued by the Chief Secretary, Nagaland with SEIA in this regard. JS(UD) asked Project Director to get it resolved within three months. On reforms side, Project Director informed that electoral rolls for KMC elections are ready and elections may possibly be held during 2011 itself. Other reform measures would be started as soon as IDC consultants are in place. In Tranche-II a provision has been made for 6000 household water meters. JS(UD) wanted

that since households would be more than 20,000 in Kohima, Project Director should ensure that all households get water meters.

10. Director (UD), once again emphasized upon strict compliance with all the action points mentioned in the DEA's checklist before loan negotiation for Tranche-II is done.

11. JS(FA) felt that undue delay in project preparedness by some states, better performing states should not suffer and in that case ADB loan should be disaggregated state-wise.

12. Project Director, SIPMIU, Gangtok informed that the bids for Tranche-I water supply had been advertised in March'11 and bids would close by mid April'11. He requested that the DPR evaluation procedure needed streamlining and the CPHEEO should complete appraisal expeditiously. He felt that the MoUD should issue broad guidelines on how the SIPMIU should be constituted and run. This would help provide the required stability that is necessary for smooth functioning of the SIPMIU. He further informed that revised DPRs of Tranche-II incorporating comments by PPMC would be sent back shortly for final appraisal.

13. JS(UD) wrapped up the meeting with the following action points :
- (i) Payments to SIPMIUs will be linked with performance against achievement of milestones.
 - (ii) MoUD will write to state govts. to avoid transfer of officers posted in SIPMIUs till completion of the project in the public interest, and delegate adequate financial powers to Project Directors for smooth execution.
 - (iii) Reform Action Plan along with milestones need be submitted immediately by SIPMIUs. PPMC to monitor.
 - (iv) PPMC to prepare PERT charts to enable JS(UD) to monitor progress. To expedite, states could crash activities but costs must remain reasonable.
 - (v) SIPMIUs to ensure that delay in tranche-I projects is covered up and lessons learnt are applied to avoid delays in Tr-II and project activities are carried out with commitment. Tranche-II would be taken up for those states where there is adequate progress.

- (vi) The states should indicate the goals that will be achieved by June. The PPMC would keep track and report in the next meeting of the National Steering Committee. (Format at Annex-B)
- (vii) SIPMIUs to maintain proper accounts as per ADB guidelines and standard accounting procedures and to ensure that audit by respective AGs is completed by June every year.
- (viii) SIPMIUs need to submit physical progress in percent terms also.
- (ix) Baseline survey work has been assigned and is under way. The SIPMIUs need to provide all assistance to PRUDA, the agency hired for this purpose.
- (x) PPMC to assist SIPMIUs in project execution and monitoring.

Meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants for 4th National Steering Committee meeting held on 29.03.2011.

1. Shri. A.K.Mehta, Joint Secretary (UD), MoUD
2. Ms. Sudha Krishnan, Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, MoUD
3. Shri. Ashutosh Joshi, Director (UD), MoUD
4. Shri K. Guite, Director, MoDONER
5. Shri. VK Chaurasia, Dy. Adviser, CPHEEO, MoUD
6. Shri Moti Lal, Director (Budget), MoUD
7. Shri SK Singh, US(ADB-1), DEA
8. Shri J.D. Bhutia, Project Director, SIPMIU, Sikkim
9. Shri. B.Dutta, Project Director, SIPMIU, Meghalaya
10. Shri Valbuanga, Project Director, SIPMIU, Mizoram
11. Shri.Ashim Chakraborty, Project Manager, SIPMIU, Agartala
12. Shri. Khupi Natso, Addl. Program Director, SIPMIU, Nagaland
13. Shri Pritam Kapur, Team Leader, PMMC, MoUD
14. Shri SS Narula, Water Engineer, PMMC, MoUD

Milestones for Pre-construction activities in Tranche-II for each Projects State

Name of State: _____	<u>Activity Date:</u>
1. Submission of DPRs
WS
SWM.
Sewerage
2. Examination & Comments on DPRs by PMMC (15 days)
3. Incorporation of Comments by SIPMIUs
4. Approval of DPRs by MoUD
5. EC Clearances:	
1. Preparation of documents & reports EIA
2. Evaluation by the SEC
3. Queries & replies
4. Final approval
6. Land Acquisition	
1. Identification (completed)
2. Survey Gazette notification
3. Filing of objections
4. Disposal of objection and final order
5. Land Acquisition & payment
7. Resettlement
8. Preparation and submission of bid documents
9. Approval of any special condition in Bid document (10 days)
10. Approval of bid document by PMMC (7 days)
11. Unforeseen delays
12. Release of Advertisement for procurement

After release of advertisement, timelines of contract awards to be as per CRAM sheet format of ADB.
