

Report on ADB Review Mission in Kohima on 17th -18th June 2012

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Site visit report-17-6-2012

1) Sanitary landfill site: Work continues to be in site preparation phase. Widening of road and its allied works also continues. Other activities such as construction of compost plant building, water system, retaining wall etc. is yet to start. 17% work is complete vs target of 27%. 9 months out of 24 months total time have elapsed. Soil compaction is on the critical path and the contractor has been advised to hire more compaction rollers to speed up the work.

2) Refurbishment of Water Treatment Plant: Repair work of WTP building has just started. No equipment such as chlorinators, pumps, motors etc. have reached the site, although we are told they are on order. Delay in handing over of the plant by PHED was also cited as a reason.

3) Replacement of water storage tanks: out of 19 tanks, so far one tank (Zoo gate Tank) has been completed, but its water connections, finishing etc. may take another 1-2 months. The casting of walls of the tank at DC residence (Heritage Hotel) compound is under preparation. May take 3-4 months to complete, depending on interruptions due to rains. Besides we saw three more tanks, where work is stalled because PHED is not cooperating (!!!) in shifting connections to temporary service tanks and work is delayed by 2-3 months. Overall it is not at all a happy or confidence inspiring situation. Tomorrow (18-6-12) meetings are scheduled with minister UD, CS, PS UD, PS PHED who will help us understand the situation better. A tank wise status and revised plan will be submitted by SIPMIU.

18-6-2012

On 18-6-12 we had a meeting with the UD minister in the morning, where Mr. Muramoto apprised him of the present status of tr-1 and tr-2 and also voiced his concern regarding coordination with PHED. The minister took note and asked JS UD and PD to remind him to take up with the CS.

In the evening we had a meeting with Chief Secretary and the Development Commissioner cum Addl. CS. The Secretary PHED did not show up even though the meeting had been scheduled quite in advance. After briefing by Mr. Muramoto and once again highlighting the delay due to non-cooperation by PHED, the CS asked JS UD and DC to schedule another meeting with the PHED to resolve the matter. It seems to be a

sort of turf war between the two departments and work on replacement of tanks will not really proceed till this issue is resolved.

During the project review meetings, the issues of progress and framing of latest activity schedule showing latest timelines were taken up. There are issues of access and of limitation of space to many of the sites where tanks are located (approx 8 sites). DSMC has been asked to provide tank wise position. During review of tr-2 bidding, PD informed that the Water Distribution bid currently under TE will be finalised for award by Sept. They did not agree to prepone the floating of the water meter bid, despite our and ADBs assertions it continues to be scheduled for Dec 12.

IDC also made a presentation. They have started work on all the aspects and are in touch with local authorities. Accounting entries have started on Tally software, opening balance sheet has been prepared but needs to be verified and signed off by KMC. IDC has been asked to prepare an action plan and timelines based on the ADB covenants on reforms. Financial projections for both tranches were discussed. PD was asked to submit quarterly projections for each tranche.

The bulk water issue was raked up but Mr Goel pointed out that the issue has already been settled between UDM and the CM and that other sources of funding should be explored by them for this purpose. Therefore this subject was not taken up. Issue of t-3 was also not raised. In fact Mr. Muramoto was a little worried that at this rate there will be no t-3 for Kohima.
