

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

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi

Dated the 13th Oct, 2022

EC - MINUTES

Sub: Minutes of the Empowered Committee to discuss the project proposals for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-III (PMGSY-III) submitted by the State Government of Tamil Nadu for the year 2022 -23 (Batch -I)-reg.

A copy of the Minutes of the Empowered Committee (EC) Meeting held on 11th October, 2022 through VC to discuss the project proposals of Long Span Bridges (LSBs) submitted by the State Govt. of Tamil Nadu for Batch -I of 2022 -23 under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana -III (PMGSY -III) is forwarded herewith for information and necessary action.

2. The State Government is requested to furnish compliance on the observations of EC on priority.



(Lalit Kumar)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Tel: 011-23382406

Distribution:-

1. The Addl. Chief Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, Govt. fort St. George, Chennai - 600009.
2. The Director / Managing Director Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, TNRHIDC, Pangai Building Saidapet, Chennai - 600009.
3. The Deputy Adviser (RD), NITI Aayog, NITI Aayog Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi.
4. The Director, Central Roads Research Institute, Mathura Road, New Delhi.
5. The Chief Engineer, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Parivahan Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. All Directors, NRIDA, 15 NBCC Tower, 5th Floor, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110001.

Copy for information to:-

- Sr.PPS to Secretary (RD)/ PPS to AS & FA (RD)/ PPS to AS (RD).

MINUTES OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11th OCTOBER 2022 AT 02.30 PM TO CONSIDER THE PROJECT PROPOSALS OF BRIDGES SUBMITTED BY GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU UNDER PMGSY-III, BATCH-I OF 2022-23

A Meeting of the Empowered Committee was held through Video Conference **on 11th October 2022 at 02.30 PM** under the Chairmanship of Secretary (RD) to consider the project proposals of long span bridges (LSBs) submitted by the State of Tamil Nadu under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-III (PMGSY-III) (Batch-I) of 2022-23. The following officials were present in the meeting: -

Government of India representatives	
Shri Nagendra Nath Sinha	Secretary, Department of Rural Development
Dr. Ashish Kumar Goel	Additional Secretary (RD) & DG, NRIDA
Dr. I.K. Pateriya	Director (P.III), NRIDA
Shri Pradeep Agrawal	Director (P.I), NRIDA
Shri Lalit Kumar	Deputy Secretary (RC), MoRD
Shri Ashish Srivastava	Joint Director (Tech.), NRIDA
State Govt. Representatives	
Smt. P. Amudha	Principal Secretary, RD&PR, GoTN
Dr. Darez Ahamed	Commissioner, RD&PR, GoTN
Shri A. Kuttalingam	Chief Engineer, RD&PR
Smt. K. Sumathi	Addl. Director, RD&PR
Ms.M. Kavitha	Superintending Engineer, RD&PR

2. Details of Proposal

The details of the project proposal of Long Span Bridges submitted by the State of Tamil Nadu under PMGSY-III, Batch-I of 2022-23 are as under:

As per Pre EC dated 22.06.2022					As per OMMAS as on 07.10.2022			
Item	Nos	Length (in m)	Cost (Rs in Crores)	Avg. Cost/m (Lakhs)	Nos	Length (in m)	Cost (Rs in Crores)	Avg. Cost/m (Lakhs)
LSBs	55	3831.75	225.48	5.88	55	3831.75	255.12	6.66
Total	55	3831.75	225.48	5.88	55	3831.75	255.12	6.66
*MoRD Share: Rs. 141.51 Crores					State Share: Rs. 113.61 Crores			

- I. All 55 LSBs are uploaded and verified on Geo-Sadak.
- II. All proposals have been scrutinized by STAs on OMMAS. PTA has scrutinized 6 (10.91%) proposals on OMMAS.
- II. The Average cost (Lakh/m) has increased by 13.26% from Rs. 5.88 lakh/m at the time of Pre-EC to Rs. 6.66 lakh/km now. The State representative attributed the increase to (i) increase of 6% in GST rates with effect from 18th July, 2022 and (ii) change of SOR w.e.f. 19th July, 2022 and

increase in labour and material cost by 7.26% over the previous year SoR of 2021-22.

IV. The Committee observed that the average cost is abnormally high in Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam and Tuticorin districts. The State representative attributed the higher cost, among others to lead distance and poor soil condition. As per the State Government, these districts are in delta area with no quarry source. It was further added that there is black cotton soil in these districts, due to which pile foundation has been proposed in some bridge works, leading to escalation in average cost. **The State was asked to explore the alternate approaches to bridge construction, which lowered the requirement of carriage of material for RCC based structures, like Steel bridge, etc. to lower the average construction cost. NRIDA shall analyze different cost components of the proposed bridges and give its recommendation. If required, bridge experts should be consulted.**

IV. The Committee was informed that out of 55 Bridges proposed in the current batch, 1 LSB (TN29142) is not on road sanctioned/proposed under PMGSY-III. The State representative clarified that the bridge is on a road namely MRL05-Denkanikotta-Sasthramutlu road (via) Kamagiri, Bolagollai, Booppanur, Sukkalbedu and Kannigapuram sanctioned under PMGSY-III in 2021-22 in Kelamanglam block of Krishnagiri district. However, alignment of the road is being changed slightly for a small stretch and the proposed bridge work falls on that stretch.

On the query of the Committee that there did not seem any river in the picture on which the bridge is proposed, the State representative clarified that the bridge is proposed on a big stream (which was not a perennial river), situated on a inclined terrain and carried rain water to river Cauvery. The Committee directed that an NQM be deputed to the State for joint site inspection of the proposed bridge site along with the State officials to find out if a Long Span High level Bridge was required on the site or otherwise.

3. Progress of PMGSY Works

The progress of the various interventions of PMGSY in the State of Tamil Nadu is given below:-

TYPE OF WORK-ROADS

S.No	SCHEME	SANCTIONED		COMPLETED		BALANCE		UNAWARDED	
		Nos.	LENGTH (Km)	Nos.	LENGTH (Km)	No. of Roads	Length (km)	No. of Roads	Length (km)
1	PMGSY I	7,678	16,320	7,678	16,168	0	0	0	0
2	PMGSY II	860	2,940	860	2,936	0	0	0	0
3	PMGSY III	1,155	4,452	775	2,954	380	1,477	275	1,254
	Total:	9,693	23,711	9,313	22,058	380	1,477	275	1,254

TYPE OF WORK-LSBs

S.No	SCHEME	SANCTION (Nos.)	COMPLETED (Nos.)	Balance (Nos.)	Unawarded (Nos.)
1	PMGSY I	97	97	0	0
2	PMGSY II	34	34	0	0
3	PMGSY III	0	0	0	0
	Total:	131	131	0	0

The State was sanctioned 275 roads of 1,254 Km on 25th March, 2022, which is still un-awarded despite a lapse of more than 6 months, which is a matter of concern. The State was advised to expedite the tendering process for the unawarded works under PMGSY-III on priority.

4. Physical Progress 2022-23

The State has made an achievement of 495 Km, against target for construction of 1,000 Km during FY 2022-23.

5. Maintenance of roads under DLP

During 2021-22, against the liability of Rs.41.47 crore, expenditure of Rs. 22.67 crore has been done. For the current financial year 2022-23, against the maintenance liability is Rs. 52.68 crore, the State has so far credited only Rs. 5.34 crore and an expenditure of Rs. 10.55 crore has been incurred till 06.10.2022. The State was asked to release more funds for maintenance of roads under DLP.

6. PMGSY-III Awarded road works-tendering analysis

Out of total 880 awarded works under PMGSY-III, 2 works have been awarded at -30% below than the sanctioned cost, 2 works at 24-30% below the sanctioned cost, 4 works at 18-24% below sanctioned cost, 12 works at 12-18% below sanctioned cost, 44 works at 6-12% below sanctioned cost, 752 works at 0-6% below the sanctioned cost, 47 works are awarded at 0-6% above the sanctioned cost and 17 works at 6-12% above the sanctioned cost. **The State was asked to ensure additional visits of State Quality Monitors on the low quoted PMGSY works so that these works are completed with good quality, in terms of advisory dated 3rd March, 2022 issued by NRIDA.**

7. e-Marg

Out of total 2,255 packages pushed to e-MARG, 17 (1 %) packages are pending for locking, 23 (1%) packages are pending for manual entry expenditure (MEE). Out of total 1,109 roads eligible for routine inspection in the month of September 2022, 25 roads (2%) missed routine inspection. 201 packages are pending for payment for >3 months. 24 (12%) packages are pending for payment for first payment for > 3 months. Payment of Rs. 12.43 crore has been

done using e-MARG in FY 2022-23. Total expenditure of Rs. 10.40 (84%) crore has been done on bills having liability of FY 2022-23.

8. Quality

(a) Out of SQM inspection target of 3,068 during 2022-23, only 864 inspections have been conducted so far. The State needs to expedite the pace of inspection to achieve the target.

(b) 1 ATR (completed work) is pending at State Level. State should expedite.

(c) Unsatisfactory % based on NQM inspections (October 2019-September 2022)

- Completed Works - 0.95 % - 316 Completed works inspected
- Ongoing Works -0.78% - 640 Ongoing works inspected
- Maintenance works - 5.82% - 189 Maintenance Works Inspected

9. Financial Issues

- i. Non-Submission of Audited Balance Sheet of all the three funds for FY 2021-22.
- ii. Non-Submission of Audited Balance Sheet of Maintenance Fund for FY 2020-21.
- iii. Interest amount of Rs. 29.90 crore is pending to recover from bank.
- iv. 8 works pending for financial closure for more than 180 days as on 09-10-2022.

The State was asked to look into these financial issues and take appropriate action.

10. Recommendations of Empowered Committee

Subject to the above observations and concurrent action/compliance by the State government as stipulated in the foregoing paras, the Empowered Committee recommended the above proposals as at para-2 above.

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