

Minutes of the meeting of State Committee on MPLADS held on 10/8/2013

A meeting of the State Committee on MPLADS was held on 10/8/2013 under the Chairmanship of Sh. D.P.Reddy IAS, Principal Secretary Finance, Govt. of Punjab. **List of participants is at Annexure-A.**

At the outset, Principal Secretary Finance apprised that the position of our state in India regarding MPLAD Scheme is very good and its ranks at No.5 among major states. For further improvement in the scheme, he desired that DCs should review the utilization of funds with executing agencies every month and Divisional Commissioner once a quarter. He asked DCs to be proactive and maintain continuous liaison with the State Nodal Department. A brief presentation about the overall current status of the scheme was made by Sh. M.L.Sharma Economic Adviser, Punjab. He highlighted that Punjab can spend Rs.183.20 crore during the current year as Rs. 82.70 crore are lying unspent with the District Authorities and Rs.100.50 crore are due for further release. He stressed that this amount can be availed/spent only with the continuous and strict monitoring of the scheme both at District & Division level as the executing agencies keep the works pending for long time which they have to complete within a year. He also brought to the notice of chair that pending works of previous MPs have to be completed immediately otherwise as per GoI's direction money has to be refunded and state has to spend from its own funds. After the presentation, Sh. Jaspal Singh Secretary Planning conducted the proceedings and the review was done constituency/MP wise.

1. Follow up action on the minutes of the meeting held on 7-9-2010.

- a) Secretary Planning apprised the house that most of the DC's are holding the review meetings regularly but Agenda/Minutes of the meetings are not being sent regularly. Chairman directed all Deputy Commissioners to review the scheme with executing agencies every month and agenda/proceedings be sent regularly to Economic Adviser, Punjab and MOSPI, GoI, New Delhi. DCs were also directed to invite the Hon'ble MPs in the meetings.
- b) Secretary Planning informed the house that Divisional Commissioners should also review the scheme at least once a quarter. Chairman directed Divisional Commissioners to hold the review meetings at least quarterly and send minutes to

Economic Adviser, Punjab and MOSPI, GoI, New Delhi. Notice of such meetings may also be sent to Hon'ble MPs.

- c) Deputy Commissioners were directed to review all disputed works of EX MP's both LS & RS immediately and take necessary action.
- d) Sh. Mohinder Singh Kaypee Hon'ble MP pointed out that SDO/JE has not been associated in Jalandhar District. DC was directed to do the needful to the satisfaction of MP.

2. Fund Release by GoI

Lok Sabha: Secretary Planning apprised the house that all Lok Sabha Constituencies except Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Gurdaspur, Bathinda and Amritsar have received 2nd installment of 2012-13 and 1st installment of 2013-14. Punjab's position on this account is very satisfactory. He further told that installments of Sh. Manish Tiwari and Sh. Partap Singh Bajwa will be got released very soon as the necessary documents have already been sent/being sent to MOSPI. Deputy Commissioners of Jalandhar, Bathinda and Amritsar were directed to sanction and utilize more to bring down the unsanctioned/unspent amount within prescribed limit.

Rajya Sabha: 8 installments of Sh. Ashwani Kumar and 2 each of Sh. Balwinder Singh Bhunder and Sh. Naresth Gujral are pending. In case of Sh. Ashwani Kumar requisite recommendations are not being received. Chairman directed DC Gurdaspur to request the Hon'ble MP at personal level for more recommendations. Department of Planning will also write to the Hon'ble MP at appropriate level. Additional Deputy Commissioner Mansa assured the house that documents of next installment will be sent to MOSPI very soon. Chairman directed DC Jalandhar to sanction & utilize more to get the pending installments of Sh. Naresh Gujral.

3. Utilisation of funds

15th Lok Sabha MPs: Secretary Planning apprised that an amount of Rs.54.26 crore is still lying unspent with the Nodal districts and it is above Rs.250 lakh in respect of most of the MPs. For next release it should be below Rs.250 lakh. Chairman reviewed the position district-wise and DCs assured that they will review the position with executing agencies and reduce the unspent balance below Rs.250 lacs immediately and sent the relevant papers to GoI for release of next installments.

Sitting Rajya Sabha MP's : Secretary Planning apprised the house that an amount of Rs.28.44 crore is still lying unspent with Nodal Districts. He apprised the house that 8 installments are pending for want of recommendations from Hon'ble MP Sh. Ashwani Kumar. DCs of Gurdaspur , Jalandhar and Mansa were directed to get the next installments released by fulfilling the required conditions. DCs assured that they will do the needful immediately.

14th Lok Sabha MPs: Secretary Planning apprised that an amount of Rs.71.53 lacs is still lying unutilized and 201 works are still incomplete. DCs of Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Ferozepur, Tarn Taran & Sangrur were directed to either complete the works within 15 days and submit UCs or deposit back the money into MPLADS accounts. DCs were also asked to initiate disciplinary action against executing agencies responsible for delay in completion of works as per GoI's direction all works of 14th LS were to be completed by 30/9/2010.

EX RS MPs: Secretary Planning apprised that an amount of Rs.10.55 lacs is still unutilized and 13 works are under dispute in Ludhiana, Patiala and Fatehgarh Sahib.

Chairman directed the concerned DCs to review the present status of 13 disputed works and take necessary action.

4. **Online MPRs:** Districts Bathinda, Faridkot and Gurdaspur have uploaded MPR's online on the eve of meeting which they were not doing on regular basis. Chairman expressed his displeasure on this and directed all DC's to update MPRs online on regular basis and send the hard copies to GoI as well as Economic Adviser, Punjab.

5. **Computerisation:**

In the State, overall 99.74% the sanctioned works under MPLADS have been uploaded on the website of Government of India www.mplads.nic.in.

Districts Amritsar, Faridkot, Sangrur, Muktsar, Tarn Taran, Bathinda, Jalandhar, Mansa, Gurdaspur, Ferozepur, Ludhiana & Patiala have not updated the status of complete works on the website as a result of which complete works as per website are much lower than actual. In case of certain districts either the less works are uploaded or cancelled works have not been deleted. The Deputy Commissioners were requested to ensure that all works

are uploaded immediately after sanction and details of uploaded works must be correct and upto date. Uploaded works in no case should be more than sanctioned works.

6. Enforcement of Provisions for development of SC/ST areas.

As per MPLADS guidelines MPs are to recommend every year works costing at least 15 % of MPLADS funds for areas inhabited by SC population and 7.5 % of the areas inhabited by ST Population. As there is no ST population in the State, 22.50% of the funds are to be sanctioned for SC areas. Position on this count was not satisfactory in case of Bathinda, Faridkot, Gurdaspur, Ludhiana, Patiala, Tarn Taran, Mansa and Sangrur Nodal districts. DCs were given clarification about SC areas. Chairman directed all DCs to comply GoI guidelines regarding development of SC/ST areas.

7. Setting up of Facilitation Center:

Out of 14 Nodal districts, facilitation center has been established in Fatehgarh Sahib and 5 MP's has given consent to set up facilitation center. To establish facilitation centers, DC's were directed to personally interact with Hon'ble MPs and apprise them about the usefulness of these Centers.

8. CAG Performance Audit Report No.31 of 2010-11

DC Faridkot apprised the house that a team from MOSPI GoI had visited Faridkot and was satisfied with the reply of District Authority.

DC Nawanshehar apprised that reply with full justification has already been sent to MOSPI GoI. Final Decision of GoI is awaited in both the cases and DCs were directed to take action as per the decision of MOSPI, GoI.

9. Issues and Suggestions:

A) Sh. Mohinder Singh Kaypee MP Jalandhar raised the following issues:

- 1) SDO/JE level officer has not been attached in his District
- 2) Monthly review meetings are not hold regularly and invitation is not sent to him.
- 3) No Divisional level meeting has been held in the recent past.
- 4) Sign Boards have not been installed as per the MPLADS guidelines.

5) Most of the funds under the scheme have been released for Municipal Corporation/Urban area. The works have already been allotted to contractors but contractors are on agitation and not doing the work.

6) He also sought clarification regarding sanction of funds for unauthorized colonies and religious societies doing public service.

Decision: ADC Jalandhar apprised the house that Sh. Sodhi Ram SDO has already been deputed. Regarding Sr. No. 2 & 3 Chairman directed Divisional Commissioner and DC to hold meetings as per guidelines and invite MP in the meetings. All DCs were directed to adhere MPLADS guidelines regarding sign boards. Chairman asked Economic Adviser to visit Jalandhar and hold a meeting with district Authorities to sort out the issues raised by Hon'ble MP. Chairman requested Divisional Commissioner to solve the issues with his intervention.

B) Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma Economic Adviser apprised the house that MP can recommend works giving their priority upto 5.00 crore as per their entitlement in the beginning of the financial year and District Authority can sanction works upto entitlement of Hon'ble MPs without waiting for further installments as funds under MPLADS are non-lapsable. He referred to para 4.3 of MPLADS guidelines in this context.

Decision: Hon'ble MP Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal appreciated it and Chairman directed DCs to sanction the works as per MPs entitlement and not as per available funds.

C) Divisional Commissioner, Jalandhar enquired whether contingency funds for Computer/Data Entry Operator can be used for facilitation of monitoring at Division level.

Decision: Chairman directed DC Jalandhar to do the needful as per guidelines.

At the end, Principal Secretary Finance expressed his satisfaction on the overall performance of the scheme in Punjab and especially on status of release of installments from GoI. He complimented the role of State Nodal Department under the guidance of Secretary Planning.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.