

Minutes of Permanent Shelter Review Meeting

Date : 2nd December 2005
Time : 6 pm to 7 pm
Venue : Mini Conference Hall, Collectorate, Nagapattinam.
Chaired by : Mr. Ranvir Prasad, Additional Collector – Relief & Rehabilitation

Additional collector asked the NGOs to provide a report on the progress in the last two weeks, i.e., after the last meeting on 21st Nov' 2005.

- CASA is still constructing only 30 houses in Pushpovanam and no new houses have been started. In-situ plots for nearly 50 houses are scattered on a large area causing problem in transportation of construction materials. Non- cooperation from the community in demolishing another 50 in-situ damaged houses is being hurdle in proceeding with construction.
- Also, due to continuous water logging on the approach road transporting construction materials for new houses in Perumalpettai is also a problem. In Thooduvai, construction is going to be started in the coming week.
- Additional Collector (AC) suggested CASA to start construction in a new land to avoid further criticism from the community. AC would visit the area within a couple of days and ask the community to as to what are their expectations.
- Voluntariat is through with ground leveling work in all the sites and earth work is going to be started in the beginning of coming week.
- Sevai had a negotiation with the Panchayat members and community people; thereby temporary shelters have been removed and construction work has begun.
- SIFFS is progressing with construction work for 30 in-situ houses and another 30 in-situ houses work will be started in week's time. Land filling in most of the new sites is also under progress. At this point, AC requested all NGOs to realize the seriousness of permanent shelter construction, set up a timeframe and handle the work in a more professional manner.
- Land survey at Nambiar Nagar has been completed by World Vision. Village panchayat is being cooperative in removal of temporary shelters in the locality.

- AC stated that land issues in Vanavanmahadevi, Vellapallam and Villundamavadi will be sorted out on coming Tuesday.
- TMSSS which has acquired the maximum allocation for permanent shelter construction were asked to provide the progress status of each area.

It was stated that land survey in Maniantheevu is completed and materials for construction have been transported to the sites.

In Arcottuthurai, earth work for 20 in-situ houses has been started. In one of the new sites, water stagnation is creating problem to begin construction.

Due to land problem in Ariyanattitheru, AC asked TMSSS to use the 17 acres of land available in Palpannaicherry.

Materials is being transported to the new sites in Velankanni and work shall be started very soon.

In chavadikuppam and Anthapettai also water logging is a problem for proceeding with construction work.

Of the 71 houses allotted in Vellapallam to TMSSS, 55 houses have reached up to lintel level.

- As far as Kudumbam is concerned, they have completed land survey and also mobilized construction materials to the new sites. Work will be started in the coming week.
- Salvation Army had almost completed earth work and both the times it got collapsed due to the heavy rains. Arrangements have been made to start the work once again. At present, the organization has mobilized construction materials for completing 5 houses.

Mr. Ranvir once again stressed on the point that all the NGOs need to speed up the work by setting up a timeframe for completion of the houses. In case any of them feel they cannot proceed nor have insufficient funds – they may kindly withdraw so that the government can intervene and carry on construction.

- Help a child of India has come up to roof level work for 32 houses and is expecting to finish the entire construction of the 32 houses by December end.
- CEE stated that electricity supply for the construction site in Kodyampalayam is being provided from Cuddalore which is leading to low voltage problem. They requested the AC to have talks with the Cuddalore administration and get a separate transformer set up for the electricity supply. AC has accepted to take necessary measures for the same.

- EB problems were also reported for Vananmahadevi and Vellapallam. Special attention for sorting out these issues will be provided. AC also added that if there is any public infrastructure problem, it should be brought to the notice of the district administration. It will be settled immediately as sufficient funds for the public infrastructure has been allotted.
- The issues and problems faced by Peace Trust have been solved; hence they will also begin construction work in the coming week.
- Tata Relief Committee has completed basement level for 275 houses and within 10-15days lintel level construction will also be attained. The beneficiary list for 30 in-situ houses is still awaited.
- In pazhayar, Care India has finished earth work for 200 houses, foundation work for 60 houses and lintel level for 3 houses.
- GGF has started work for 80 houses and in Vanagiri land issue is yet to be settled.

The meeting was concluded with a kind request from the additional collector to the NGOs to take sincere efforts to complete permanent shelter construction in the district. he added that NGOs who do not have sufficient funds for completing the shelter work allotted to them need to withdraw before it is too late.