

## Minutes of Permanent Shelter Review Meeting

**Date** : 06th February' 2006  
**Time** : 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
**Venue** : Mini Conference Hall, Collectorate, Nagapattinam.  
**Chaired by** : Mr. Ranvir Prasad, Additional Collector, (R & R), Nagapattinam.

The Additional Collector started the meeting proceedings in the presence of the following persons regarding Permanent Shelter Construction in Nagapattinam District:

- Mr. Raman, Special Deputy Collector (LA)
- Mr. Radha, PO, DRDA
- Block Development Officers (BDOs) and Tahsildars from the various Blocks
- TWAD and TNEB Officials
- The Engineering Consultants
- The NCRC members
- The NGOs involved in Permanent Shelter Construction

### **Instruction for BDOs:**

In the first place, the Additional Collector instructed the BDOs:

- a) To monitor the work in each site and submit a weekly report with photographs on the status. A digital camera for the same will be provided to all BDOs.
- b) To liaise with Electricity Board, to provide EB connection for construction, street lights and also individual new houses before it is handed over. Hence, updates on how many houses are close to completion and the willingness of those NGOs who are ready to pay the initial EB charges has to be obtained.
- c) In case funds are requested by EB for any such activity, BDOs should immediately submit the requirement of the same to PO (DRDA) or Additional Collector [AC R & R].
- d) To liaise with NGOs to ensure availability of sufficient men and material at each construction site and monitor the same on a daily basis.
- e) To ensure clearing and leveling of construction sites in coordination with NGOs. The report about the site, where the NGOs were willing to do this work but are unable to do so now, and also the estimate for carrying out such work should be submitted.

- f) Prepare habitat plan for each site in consultation with NGOs and find out the works being undertaken by NGOs and those done by the Government departments.

For this purpose, the NGOs were given a form to fill about the community infrastructures being constructed by them in each habitation, the estimate cost, the probable date of completion and submit to the SDC (LA).

#### **Instructions for Engineering Consultants and Tahsildars:**

- Further on, AC told that the government engineers should accompany the BDOs during the NGOs' site visit and given a report based on the checklist on quality, progress of work, etc.
- He said that most of the NGOs are doing quality work but such assessment will ensure uninterrupted progress as local interferences has been faced in few cases earlier.
- AC told that the BDOs have to be an active link between the villagers and the NGOs to solve the issues raised by the villagers with regard to the design and construction of houses. Involving the respective Taluk Tahsildars in such monitoring proceedings is also necessary at least on a fortnightly basis.

#### **Progress Status from the NGOs:**

##### **CASA:**

- They have dismantled the temporary shelters and started the earth work in the new land in Pushpavanam. Simultaneously, work for the 33 in-situ houses is under progress.
- They told that construction work for 48 houses in Koolaiyar is going on and another 10 houses work has also been started. In Thooduvai also construction work is in full swing.
- Water logging problem persists in Perumalpettai but CASA said that they are coping up with it and have started land leveling work.

Here, the AC told that the seriousness for speeding up the work and completing the construction has to be felt by all the NGOs. He instructed the BDOs and Tahsildars to solve any problem faced by the NGOs and if it still seems difficult, it shall be forwarded to him. Issues regarding delay in construction in Kodyampalayam and Madavamedu were also raised but the respective NGOs were not present.

##### **Lutheran World Services:**

- Out of the 532 houses to be constructed, LWS has begun in-situ construction and also acquired land for construction of new houses.

##### **TMSSS:**

- The problems faced by the organization at Chavadikuppam and Nayakkarkuppam have been solved and construction work is going to be started.

##### **SIFFS:**

- In Chinnagudi, land assessment work has been completed and the villagers are willingness for in-situ construction has also been confirmed but the Natamayi is creating problems. AC immediately asked the BDO to look into the issue and solve it.

- In Satangudi, 20 new sites and 90 in-situ construction has been started. Apart from this, in few other areas people's willingness for in-situ or new site is awaited.

At this point, the AC told the Tashildar, Land Allocation (Tsunami Section) to do a rapid assessment of the land acquisition and allocation status. All pending issues have to be solved at any cost and no more problems should be reported.

**Mata Amritanandamayi Math:**

- The organization stated that land clearing and filling work is going on in Nagore for Keelapattinacherry beneficiaries.
- AC asked them to submit the final copy of the design and layout so that the drawbacks of the Samathanpettai habitation are avoided here.
- The math told that the extra land beyond the boundary required at Akkaraipettai for construction work is not yet made available.
- In response to this, the Nagai BDO stated that the dozer is engaged in Nagore and once that work is finished, the fencing at Akkarapettai will be removed and the extra land will be provided to the Math.

**REAL:**

- AC expressed his disappointment towards the NGO as it has not started in-situ construction in Chandrapadi despite the fulfillment of the necessary legal formalities.
- Similarly, in Sellur, construction work for only 200 out of the 900 houses required. The BDO was told to immediately find out what was the problem and solve it- shortage of labour, materials or something else.
- AC also requested the NGO to rework on its capacity to do construction and withdraw wherever not possible. Government will do the work or allot it to other NGOs who are capable and willing to do.

The issue relating to the request by Jamaat-e-islami Hind for approach road construction in Thethi was discussed. AC ordered the PWD department personnel to take immediate actions to do the work.

**District Implementation Unit:**

AC told that a district level Implementation unit is going to set up to:

- streamline the execution, monitoring and reporting of permanent shelter construction;
- ensure availability of necessary amenities in all the habitations
- incorporate the renewable energy schemes suggested by Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) in as many habitations as possible.

For this purpose, PO (DRDA) shall be the overall in-charge of coordination, supported by RDOs / Sub Collectors for local coordination. The PO will, hereafter be contacting the NGOs very often and so AC requested all of them to kindly cooperate.

**Elaboration on the decentralization plans by Mr. Radha, PO, DRDA:**

- The weekly reports along with the photos of progress of the construction work by every NGO will be uploaded on the internet. This will be based on the reports prepared by the respective BDOs and Engineering consultants' assessment.
- Power point presentations on the same will be prepared and uploaded every Friday or Saturday on the government's official website. This will be done with the aim to create a healthy competition among the NGOs so that work speeds up along with quality.

- The NGOs are requested to approach the BDOs/ Engineering consultants for any kind of assistance. They shall immediately forward the same to the PO or AC, who in turn will take the necessary actions in the interest of completing the construction work.
- PO stated that it is desirable to make each of the habitations in the district as a living model and so he requested the NGOs to instruct their site engineers and other in charges to cooperate with the government officials during the field visits and enquires.

Further discussions on the implementations of renewable energy schemes for the upcoming houses were carried out. The emphasis was on the kind of sanitation or toilet type being adopted by every NGO and how small alternations have to be made to incorporate the bio mass gasifiers.

**Insurance coverage for the new houses:**

The NGOs were informed about the order issued by the state disaster management and mitigation department. All the houses being constructed for the tsunami affected families have to be insured for a period of 10 years. The pattern of insurance coverage and other terms and conditions have been received from few insurance companies. A copy of the same, along with the letter from Mr. C.V. Sankar, Officer on Special Duty (R & R) was provided to all the NGOs and they were requested to do the needful.

Additional Collector ended the meeting with a brief note on the public infrastructure constructions that are being planned by the Government and the few exemptions that will be soon made available to the NGOs. The next meeting was announced for 13th February' 2006 at 4:00 pm.