

Minutes of Shelter Review Meeting

Date : 17th June 2006 (Saturday)
Time : 11:00 am to 1:20 p.m.
Venue : Main Conference Hall, Collectorate, Nagapattinam.
Chaired by : Mr. Tenkasi S Jawahar, IAS, District Collector
Mr. Vivekanandhan, CEO, SIFFS
Mr. Raman, Deputy Collector
Mr. Radha, P.O, DRDA

To assess the progress in shelter construction, a meeting was called on by the new District Collector with the coordination of NCRC. The NGOs, BDOs, government engineers and members of TWAD and TNEB attended the meeting. Mr. Vivekanandhan welcomed the gathering. The District Collector addressed the NGOs and asked to work together as a team so as to achieve the target of completing construction at the earliest. Followed by the address, there the participants introduced themselves.

Mr. Vivekanandhan gave a presentation on shelter updates in Nagapattinam; briefing the process of reconstruction from the start till date.

The presentation covered the following:

- The milestones in shelter construction
- No. of NGOs and the no. of sites where the construction is happening - 51 NGOs working in 109 sites.
- The total number of houses to be constructed -17, 677
- Issues on water and sanitation with NCRC assessment study as the background
- Overall concerns in construction that hamper the process

Followed by the presentation the District Collector reviewed the status of reconstruction in the district site by site. He asked the NGOs to focus on the following:

- No. of sites allotted
- Sites where work in progress
- Work not started
- Reasons for not starting

Following are the village wise/NGO wise updates:

Madavamedu: The District Collector asked to give the deadline for the completion of the work

Real Plan, Kottaimedu: The NGO reported that their partner NGO, CARE has taken up

the project and as the work is in progress they would finish the work by the end of August.

Ambedkar Nagar: There was a clarification on the total number of houses allotted. The NGO confirmed it to 122, as against 125 given by the government data. Of them 25 have been completed, 65 in progress, and 32 are yet to be started.

Here, the District Collector added few comments. He warned the NGOs against complacency. He stated that as per the government sources, works for 6000 houses have not yet been started and he urged those NGOs who haven't started to start the work in a week's time and those who have begun the work to speed up the process of if they could not, let the government know enabling it to allot to other interested parties.

SIFFS, Chinnamedu: SIFFS reported that works for 34 in-situ houses have been commenced. And that the work for 110 houses in the new location would be started on 20th June. The District Collector asked the engineer in charge of the area to report on the promised date. Also the TNSEB Superintendent was asked to clear the existing problems with electricity connection.

Kameswaram: Of the 160 allotted houses 35 are in progress, 85 have not been started. For the rest the land has to be acquired, which the Collector commissioned the engineer to do the needful at the earliest.

PCI, Kameswaram: The NGO reported that as the temporary shelter was removed last month, they have started the earth work for 10 houses. The Collector asked PCI to speed up the work.

CEE South, Kodiampalayam: The NGO reported about the confusion in the beneficiary list. The Deputy Collector was asked to visit the site on Thursday, 22nd June.

TMSSS, Kollitheevu: As the land was acquired 15 days back, the NGO reported to start the work in a week. The engineer in charge was asked to report the progress.

CASA, Koozhayar: The NGO reported about the bad condition of the approach road. The Collector promised to get the road ready by 20th June.

TMSSS, Mottandithoppu: Works for 60 out of 74 houses have been started. The Collector asked the Deputy Collector to check the correct figure of allotted houses.

Ulavar Nallur: 15 houses have been completed. For the rest of the houses, earth filling has been completed and the construction works would be started in a week.

Melapattinacherry: It was reported that works for 79 houses have been started in Melapattinacherry

CARE, Playar: The NGO reported disturbance from the owners of the land even after

been sold for construction. It said that around 15 owners are sitting on the property. The Collector promised to settle the issue in 15 days.

OXFAM, Pillaicolony: The NGO complained about the access road problem. The engineer of the area promised to mend the road in four days. The NGO also asked for land for two more houses which was not allotted. The district Collector denied it telling not to entertain the demands of the people outside the allotted scheme

SOS, Pudukkuppam: SOS has made progress in 106 houses; the other 44 houses would e started next week

CASA, Pushpavanam: All the 147 in-situ houses were reported to be in progress. Works for 120 out of 233 in the new site are also under progress.

TRC, Akkarapettai: 60 in-situ, out of the allotted 62 are in progress. Land has to be acquired for the two houses. In the new site, 333 out of 348 houses have been started.

Keelapattinacherry: Discontinuation of the internal roads was reported. The PO, DRDA informed that the internal as well as the approach roads would be taken care by the fund acquired from the World Bank. He asked the NGO to wait for a short while, until the project was sanctioned.

SIFFS, Sattangudi: The works for 296 out of 400 houses are in progress. 200 in-situ houses out of 500 are to be started. The Collector asked the Deputy Collector to verify the figures.

World Vision, Nambiyar Nagar: The NGO reported that the land has been acquired for 460 houses. Encroachment issues need to be sorted for the rest of the 62 houses.

TMSSS, Ariyanattutheru: For the 85 houses that are yet to be started, the NGO reported to begin the earth work at the earliest.

REAL, Seruthur: Of the 150 allotted houses, works for 131 have been started. As the there was not enough space to keep the materials the rest of the space was used. The NGO promised to the works in a week. Internal as well as approach road problems were reported. The engineer promised to visit the site this evening.

SEVAI, Cooks Road: The NGO reported that 10 out of the 16 in-situ houses have been completed of which 5 have been already handed over.

TMSSS, Vedanayagamchetti Street: TMSSS reported to have started the works for all the allotted houses here.

World Vision, Nambiyar Nagar: The NGO reported that the work for 77 houses has been started except for the rest of the five houses.

PDA, Seruthur: PDA reported have been started work for 334 houses and the land has been acquired for all the houses allotted.

IID, Ambedkar Nagar South: Work for 20 houses out of 48 would be commenced in a week's time

MAM, Akaraipettai: 63 houses have been completed. Work for 23 houses has to be started. The septic tank problem in Samanthanpettai was discussed and that they were asked to come up with solutions

World Vision: The NGO reported that it has started all the works both in Akkarapettai and Thideerkuppam

Lutheran, Thirumullaivasal: The NGO reported that for 77 houses, the temporary shelters have to be removed in Ambedkar Nagar which PCI promised to do it. For 51 houses, the approach road has to be made ready. The NGO also asked the government plan on drainage facility. It was asked to wait till the approval was given by the World Bank.

CASA, Thoduvai: Works for 200 houses were reported to be in progress. The Deputy Collector was assigned to visit the site on Tuesday, the 20th June

TMSSS, Velankanni: Works for 150 houses out of the 290 allotted have been started. The Collector promised to acquire land for the rest of the houses after negotiation with the owners. In the next meeting the decision on the land negotiation would be conveyed. TMSSS also asked for electricity connection in Seruthur. The EB in charge promised to supply it on Friday, the 23rd June

HOPE, Vanagiri: 85 in-situ houses have been completed. The rest of the houses would be completed by the end of September. As the NGO faced problems with labourers, the Collector offered to intervene and solve the problem

Word & Deed, Vanagiri: Out of the 300 houses, 23 are in progress. For the 75 houses there is problem in acquiring the land as there is a temporary shelter. The Collector promised to sort out the problem. The NGO also reported problem with lack of water availability. The Collector asked the NGOs to wait for a while until a suitable solution is reached.

DPG, Vananmadevi: DPG asked to give the beneficiary list as it is planning to hand over the house by end of August. It also complained about the approach road, which was promised to be solved in 10 days. The NGO also asked for land for 31 in-situ houses out of the total 200, which has not been acquired. When asked for land for constructing a Community Hall, the Collector asked to concentrate on permanent houses first.

TMSSS, Vellapallam: Work for 55 houses out of 133 has been started. Earth work for the rest of the houses has been completed.

PDA, Vellapallam: 76 houses for which the land has been acquired were reported to be completed by July. PDA was asked to go for in-situ houses for the rest of allotted 124 houses as there was no land available

Peace Trust: 25 houses out of 50 would be completed by end of July. The Collector asked the NGO to drop the plan of handing over the houses before constructing all the houses

PDA, Vizhunthamavadi: Land for 17 houses out of 30 have been acquired of which 8 are in progress. However, the NGO was asked to go for in-situ houses for the rest. The Deputy Collector was asked to visit the place and finalise it

Kudumbam, Vettakkaranirippu: It reported that 55 out of 75 houses are in progress and the rest would be started in July

BUILD, Chandrapadi: It reported that the entire village is in the list of beneficiary, while the NGO is given 75houses for construction. The BDO was asked to help the NGO with list of beneficiaries. Electricity connection would be supplies by 25th June.

RCI, Nagore: The NGO reported the overflow of drainage water over the roads. The BDO was summoned to look in to the problem

SIFFS, Chandrapadi: It informed about the charge in the old electricity line, instead of the new. The EB in charge promised to supply it by Wednesday, the 21st June

Meanwhile, TMSSS expressed that the allotted land for TMSSS are in the low lying area. The Collector informed of the proposal, on earth filing, has been sent to Chennai and asked TMSSS to wait till receiving response.

EFICOR, GGF, CST, SEVA BHARATHI, TVS, CSI, YMCA did not attend the meeting. The Collector asked them to communicate to them to attend the meetings regularly.

After the review of the construction works in Nagapattinam, the Collector asked the NGOs to put their best effort to accelerate the construction process. He reminded all of the promises made during the meeting and insisted that those should be kept. All the action points would be reviewed during the next meeting. He also suggested conducting meetings at regional levels to have effective review of works. He also asked the NGOs to title the letters in block letters whenever they approach the government departments for getting tsunami related services like the electricity, water etc.

A few other decisions taken

- Asked the deputy collector Raman to note down the NGOs who have not attended the meeting and communicate to them

- Asked the deputy collector to cross check the no.s in shelter progress update of the government and the NGOs as there is a mismatch
- Suspend the government engineer (supervisor) who failed to attend the meeting
- Visit the sites where issues exist
- Asked the engineers to visit the sites/assess the situation and solve the issues at the earliest
- Assured to take follow-up actions that has to be done by the government

