PROCCEDINGS OF THE 9th MEETING OF THE I.S.A.P. REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17th March 2015

Engineer-in-Chief-cum-Secretary, Works Department chaired the 9th meeting of the Institutional Strengthening Action Plan (I.S.A.P.) Review Committee which was held on 17th March, 2015 at 16:00 Hours in the Conference Hall of Works Department. The list of Members, Officials and Professionals from consulting agency present in the meeting has been provided in Annexure-1.

At the outset, the E.I.C.-cum-Secretary & Chairman, ISAP Review Committee welcomed all members and requested SE, ISAP to brief the objectives of the review meeting.

The SE, ISAP Cell informed that the RSID Consultants have submitted the deliverable "Draft Report on Medium-to-Long Term Strengthening of the Institutional Framework/ Structures of Odisha's Road Sector" after incorporating observations of Bank and OWD. Similarly, "Report on Management of Out-Sourced Road Toll Collection and Maintenance / Operations" (Updated February Version) along with Compliance Matrix of ISAP Cell's observations has also been shared with Bank for their Review / clearance. As informed, these two reports have been satisfactorily accepted by Bank with certain way forward suggestions for OWD/GOO to initiate. He also informed the Committee Members about the current status of RSID activities with respect to Contract completion timeline. SE, ISAP further requested the Consultant's key personnel present, to explain these two reports.

(A) Deliberations and Discussions on "Draft Report on Medium-to-Long Term strengthening of the Institutional Framework/ Structures of Odisha's Road Sector"

Dr. C.P. Bohra, Dy. Team leader presented before the Committee "Draft Report on Medium-to-Long Term Strengthening of the Institutional Framework/ Structures of Odisha's Road Sector". Dr. Bohra outlined the objective of the assignment as per ToR & define institutional development as creation or reinforcement of a network of organizations to effectively generate, allocate & use of human, material & financial resources to attain specific objectives on a sustainable basis. It is the development of a cooperative framework around which road sector stakeholders shall operate with defined potential roles and responsibilities with an objective to improve governance, efficiency and economy.

After discussing the responsibility framework of various stakeholders, he presented the existing road sector challenges, institutional implications of these challenges and possible options to address the same. While discussing the options, additional responsibilities such as centralized policy & planning unit at OWD, Separate HRD, IT, Social & Environment Units in all existing road sector organisations and possibilities of creation of new entities like Odisha Road Development Corporation (ORDC) / Odisha Roads & Bridge Development Corporation (ORBDC), Odisha Road Policy Monitoring Committee, Revitalization & strengthening of Road Safety Council, dedicated funding for Road safety, establishment of Engineering Training Institute, operationalization of Driver Training Institutes, etc. were highlighted. In response, members of ISAP Review Committee also discussed the similar initiatives of GOO, which are at various stages of implementation. Members suggested other road agencies to use the utilities of forthcoming training institute of Rural Works in collaborations with IIT, Bhubaneswar. The Consultant expressed the need for holding a high level meeting/ workshop to undertake decisions on creation of new entities like ORBDC, etc.

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(B) Deliberations and Discussions on "Report on Management of Out-Sourced Road Toll Collection and Maintenance / Operations"

Mr. Amitav Basu, Consultant ICT gave the presentation on the *Final Toll Report*. He opined that the Odisha Toll Act 2010, is in line with National level Toll Act adopted by NHAI. Also he suggested incorporation of legal inputs for its enhancement to mitigate overloading issue. Apart from that, he presented salient features, i.e., pros-and cons of each types of tolling contracts like MCA for O&M. After providing a review of present tolling scenario in Odisha vis-à-vis other States, a detailed deliberation was held on the suggested overloading charges and ways to manage them, which is emerging as a serious concern for road agencies. In addition, recommendations on formation of a high powered committee to decide on toll-able and non-tollable roads with criteria, changes (inclusion of maintenance functions) in present toll agreement (contractor) of OB&CC Ltd, performance based contracting, Model OMT contract, phased improvements in toll collection techniques and provision of audit in toll contracts were discussed.

Chairman's specific observations and suggestions on:

i. Draft Report on Medium-to-Longer Term strengthening of the Institutional Framework/ Structures of Odisha's Road Sector

The Chairman Review committee desired that for various follow-up actions proposed by the Consultant to meet the road sector challenges on a sustained basis, a department-wise (or Stakeholder wise) list may be prepared and submitted before finalizing the Final Report. The Consultant submitted the information in the required format for easy follow-up at Annexure-II.

ii. "Report on Management of Out-Sourced Road Toll Collection and Maintenance / Operations"

The Chairman suggested the Consultant to provide views on option of "parking of overloaded vehicles" on charge basis to reduce/eliminate overloading of vehicles instead of off-loading of overloaded materials. The Consultant agreed to provide a separate note on this issue.

The review committee unanimously approved the deliverables "Draft Report on Medium-to-Long Term Strengthening of the Institutional Framework/ Structures of Odisha's Road Sector" and "Report on Management of Out-Sourced Road Toll Collection and Maintenance / Operations", based on the discussions and presentations on these two reports and the Committee advised Chief Engineer, D.P.I. & Roads, Odisha to release payment as per contract provision.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Engineer-in-Chief cum Secretary, Works Department