

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE STATE LEVEL EMPOWERED COMMITTEE (SLEC)
MEETING HELD ON 29TH AUGUST 2011 IN THE SECOND FLOOR
CONFERENCE HALL OF THE SECRETARIAT**

Chief Secretary chaired the 5th meeting of the State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) on Orissa State Roads Project (OSRP) which was held on 29th August 2011 at 4.00 PM in the 2nd floor conference hall of Secretariate. List of members who attended the meeting is annexed.

At the outset, EIC-cum-Secretary appraised the Committee on the outcome of discussion made with the World Bank team during the DEA portfolio review meeting held at Chandigarh on 22-23 July, 2011. He informed that World Bank Operation Advisor has now sought a comprehensive status report along with a credible action plan from Govt of Orissa for lifting suspension of loan disbursement. Chief Engineer (World Bank Project) presented detail status report before the Committee for review before submission to Bank.

The Committee reviewed the pre-construction activities and handing over of encumbrance free land for different milestones as per requirement of Bank. Similarly, progress of Civil Works was reviewed by the Committee road package wise and it was noted that 20% of contract value as per stipulation of Bank has already been achieved for Bhawanipatna-Khariar road while 17.5% achievement has been made Bhadrak-Chandbali road. However only 11.7% progress has been reported for the third package namely Berahmpur-Tapatapani road for which contractor has already give termination notice. The Committee in their last meeting had suggested for closure of the contract for Berahmpur-Taptapani package after examining the contract liabilities. In the meeting held on 29th August, the Committee accepted in principle, the closure of the contract for Berahmpur-Taptapani package and opined to call the tender for the balance work after the legal and contractual aspects are examined by the State Govt. The Chief Engineer (World Bank Project) was advised to take necessary clearance from World Bank so as to initiate the bidding process for the balance work soon. It was opined to execute supplementary agreement to ensure that the agency would not claim any monetary compensation in future on closure of the contract.

On the issue relating to legal/contractual aspects of JV partners, it was informed by the Chief Engineer that detail contract documents and associated clarifications furnished by the contractors are being examined by the Law Department. Therefore, another three to four weeks time may be required to furnish the legal opinion/views of Govt. of Orissa on the JV issue. The Committee opined that due diligence need to be carried out before finalization of views of the legal department so that appropriate legal/contractual remedies can be taken up to resolve the matter.

The compliances relating to quality, environmental mitigation and safety aspects were presented by the Chief Engineer(World Bank Project) before the Committee including status of third party review of quality and safety by NIT, Rourkela.

The staffing of various cells as required by Bank was also deliberated in the meeting on the basis of compliance report presented by the Chief Engineer. Besides above, the detail procurement status and time line for procurement of Consultants for (a) Construction supervision of balance civil work packages of Phase-1 roads and (b) road sector institutional development was also reviewed by the Committee.

While reviewing the status of Phase-II roads, the Committee opined that Chief Engineer (World Bank Project) should coordinate with concerned departments so as to expedite the pre-construction activities for Jagatpur-Chandbali road and than initiate bidding process for this road as early as possible in consultation with World Bank. The Committee also suggested to examine alternate roads which can be taken up under maintenance type of improvement in case there is a saving of cost on the negotiated loan amount.

After detail deliberation, the Committee took a view that all the issues referred by the Bank has now been comprehensively addressed in the status report along with detail time line for completion of the critical activities, except the issue relating to legal/contractual aspects of JV partners. The Committee opined that detail status report along with all the documentary evidences may be sent to World Bank for their review. The legal views of Government on the JV issue shall be sent separately.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


CHIEF SECRETARY

List of Members who attended SLEC meeting 29th August 2011

1. Sri Bijay Kumar Patanaik, IAS, Chief Secretary
2. Sri J. K. Mohapatra, IAS, Principal Secretary to Govt. Finance Department
3. Sri D.Dash, Principal Secretary to Govt. Law Department
4. Sri R.K. Shirma, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt. Revenue Department
5. Er. S. K. Ray, EIC-cum-Secretary to the Govt, Works Department
6. Sri B. P. Singh , Joint Secretary to Govt. Forest & Environment Department
7. Er. B. K Behera, Chief Engineer, (DPI&Roads)
8. Er. N. K. Pradhan, Chief Engineer, World Bank Project