

MINUTES OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING

4TH AUGUST 2007

MEETING ROOM, MANTRALAYA

1. The meeting was chaired by the Chief Secretary, Mr. Johny Joseph and commenced with the confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th June 2007 without any changes.
2. Mr. Narinder Nayar, CAG, then discussed the frequent episodes of flooding and the impact of global climate changes in the city. He proposed to form a group, which can interact with experts from other nations where extensive studies in developing effective disaster mitigation systems are already being done.

While the Chief Secretary agreed with Mr. Nayar with respect to the serious impacts of global warming, he also informed the committee that Mumbai has more concerns than just global climate change, like the city drainage that ultimately opens into the sea. He further mentioned that the MGCM and the GoM are following the suggestions of the Chitale Committee report, which is an expert committee, and accordingly upgrading the drainage systems in the city through the MSDP (Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project), BRIMSTOWAD (Brihan Mumbai Storm Water Drainage) Project and also the Mithi River Projects. He felt that after the completion of the said works, the city would be in a better state to handle the flood situation. He advised the MCGM to submit a brief note on its projects in this regard to the EC in its next meeting. Mr. Anand Mahindra also opined that the issue of global warming is a complex one and even the best of the experts have serious difference of opinion on this issue. It may not therefore, be useful to have any other expert group to study this aspect.

3. **Actions taken on the subjects raised in the previous meetings of the EC** - In view of the time constraint it was suggested that the members could go through the report submitted as a part of the tabled documents.
4. **Reviewing major Projects and Quick Wins highlighting the delays** - The Chief Secretary decided the subject would be taken up in the next meeting of the EC. **Observing the absence of updates to the milestones and dates in most projects, the Chief Secretary asked all agencies to submit their updates to the MTSU within the next fifteen days.**
5. **Mumbai Metro Rail Project** - Mr. Milind Mhaiskar, Jt. Metropolitan Commissioner of MMRDA gave a detailed presentation on the Mumbai Metro Rail Project and its progress so far. Explaining the technical and financial details of the project, he also pointed out two main issues hindering the progress of the project. These are -
 - i. Metro Car Depot at D.N. Nagar, Andheri - This is around 35 acres of reserved land. Once the government issues orders of change of reservation, MMRDA will be able to acquire it to set up their car depot at the Versova end of the Versova - Andheri - Ghatkopar corridor.
 - ii. Proposal for market land at Andheri - the MMRDA needs this land to relocate the private shop owners occupying the proposed corridor from Andheri East to J.P. Road in Andheri West.

The Chief Secretary asked Shri. Ramanand Tiwari, ACS (UDD-I) and Dr. J. M. Phatak, Municipal Commissioner, MCGM to resolve the issues.

6. Mr. Anand Mahindra said that, with the agenda to transform Mumbai into a world-class city, massive infrastructure development and construction activities are expected over the next ten years; consequently there will be a large labour population in the city. In this regard he raised concerns if any standards are laid down for housing, basic urban services and social needs of such labour. He added that while we are trying to beautify the city, we should ensure that neat and clean housing is provided to these labours near the work site and it should not look like a big slum.

Mr. Deshpande, Secretary, PWD informed the committee that care has been taken to provide good housing facilities to the labour in case of the Mumbai Metro Rail Project.

7. **Integrated Transportation Committee** - The need to have an integrated transport authority was then discussed in detail. Project Manager, MTSU explained that with introduction of new and varied forms of transportation, like the metro, waterways and the skywalks for pedestrians, into the system, the transport scenario would become increasingly complex. It is therefore necessary to integrate the different modes of transport ensuring maximum efficiency of the system. Since we have separate authorities dealing with each form of mass transport in the MMRDA, setting up of the Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (UMTA), also a requisite of the MPC Act, can facilitate integration of these transport facilities. Since setting up of UMTA is likely to take some time, as some legal framework will have to be put in place before that, in the interim, an informal technical body - the Integrated Transport Committee needs to be established preferably under MMRDA.

The Committee, after detailed deliberations, agreed to the suggestions. It was, however, decided that the committee need not be a part of MMRDA and should be convened by MTSU. Considering the necessity of a powerful legal authority, which can encompass even central government agencies like, Indian Railways, it was also decided to start working for the formation of such authority.

The Chief Secretary asked MTSU to prepare concept notes for the formation of this committee and for UMTA.

8. **Problem Solving Committee** - Project Manager, MTSU then explained the objective of forming a Problem Solving Committee, which shall be a forum to which the issues can be referred to, discussed and resolved for the benefit of the city. This administrative Committee to bring about interdepartmental co-ordination can be chaired by Addl. Chief Secretary (UDD-I), Mr. Ramanand Tiwari.

The suggestion was accepted by the EC and the Chief Secretary asked MTSU to prepare the concept note for the formation of this committee also.

9. **Bus Shelters** - Mr. Deshpande, MMRDA gave a picture presentation of the sample bus queue shelters constructed at the Kherwadi junction on the Western Express Highway. He also presented the model proposed by J.C. Decoux, for the sample shelters to be constructed at Kala Nagar on the Eastern Express Highway. The design proposed by J.C. Decoux was similar to the one being implemented in Delhi and was approved by the committee. The committee however suggested that

the seating arrangement at all the bus shelters should be minimal to prevent the misuse of the space.

10. **Protection & up-gradation of the footpaths on P. D'Mello Road & Senapati Bapat Marg** – A picture presentation of the P. D'Mello Road and Senapati Bapat Marg was made to the EC. The subject has been raised in earlier meetings and it had been suggested that corporate houses, for the purpose of protecting, upgrading and maintaining these footpaths, should take up the said roads. Mr. Sanjay Ubale, Secretary (Special Projects) informed the committee that discussions with some Architects had also been held for upgrading and beautifying these footpaths.

Agreeing with the previous discussion of handing over these roads to corporate houses, the Committee requested the Tata group to take up the P. D'Mello Road and the Godrej group to take up the Senapati Bapat Marg.

11. **Aarey Milk Colony Land** – Mr. Ubale and Mrs. Medha Gadgil, Secretary (ADF) informed the committee that there was over 1400 acres of surplus land at the Aarey Milk colony, however, the haphazard allotment of plots prevents any constructive utilization of the surplus land; it also encourages proliferation of slums in the area. They suggested that a master plan for the whole area be prepared to amalgamate the scattered areas and earmark the surplus land for useful public purposes.

The committee accepted the suggestion and the Chief Secretary advised Secretary (ADF) and her department to get the said plan prepared.

12. **Haji Ali Sea face Beautification** – the Chief Secretary requested MCGM to present the Haji Ali Sea Face beautification plan in the next meeting of the EC.
13. The Empowered Committee thanked the Prime Minister's Office and Mr. Ashish Kumar Singh, PS to MOS in PMO for getting across the 100% grant for the BRIMSTOWAD project.
14. Mr. Nayar then informed the committee that the GoI is proposing seven new IIMs in the country. He suggested that Mumbai should also try to get one IIM in the city. The suggestion was accepted and it was decided that the Honorable Chief Minister be requested to formally write to the HRD Ministry, GoI in this regard. Jt. M.D. CIDCO, Mr. Deepak Kapoor informed that CIDCO could provide land at concessional rates for this purpose.
15. **IMS Vikrant** – Brig. N.K. Panwar, HQ, DGNP, Navy raised the issue of funds transfer from the GoM to the DGNP for project implementation. The Chief Secretary suggested a separate meeting at the level of ACS (UDD-I) to discuss the subject in detail.

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

List of participants -

1. **Shri Anand Jain**
2. **Shri. Anand Mahendra**
3. **Shri. Jamshyd Godrej**
4. **Shri. Narinder Nayar**
5. **Shri. Noel Tata**
6. **Shri A.J. Rohee**, Jt. Secretary, Law & Judiciary Dept
7. **Shri. R. Tiwari**, ACS, UD
8. **Dr. J.M. Phatak**, M.C., MCGM
9. **Shri D.N. Jadhav**, Commissioner of Police, Mumbai
10. **Shri P.C. Sehgal**, M.D., M.R.V.C.
11. **Shri. S.S. Kshatriya**, Pr. Secy. Housing
12. **Shri. Subodh Kumar**, Pr. Secy., Finance Dept.
13. **Shri. T.C. Benjamin**, Pr. Secy. U.D.2
14. **Shri. Ashish Kumar Singh**, S. to MoS (PMO)
15. **Smt. Medha Gadgil**, Secy. ADF
16. **Dr T.C. Shekhar**, Secy. Transport
17. **Shri. D.B. Deshpande**, Secy. PWD
18. **Shri. V.R. Kamble**, Jt. C.P. Traffic
19. **Brig. N.K. Panwar**, HQ DGNP, Navy
20. **Shri. Manu Kumar Srivastwa**, AMC (P), MCGM
21. **Shri. Milind Mhaikkar**, JMC/PD, MMRDA
22. **Shri. Deepak Kapoor**, JMD, CIDCO
23. **Shri. K.P. Maheshwari**, Director Mumbai Metro One Pvt. Ltd
24. **Shri. Arvind Vinze**, Mumbai Metro
25. **Shri. S.S. Varashan**, E.E., MMRDA
26. **Shri. P.K. Murthy**, CTC, MMRDA
27. **Cdr. Sanjeev Handa**, SO (Vikrant)
28. **Dr. V.G. Patil**, Officer-In-Charge (Vikrant)
29. **Shri. P. Sahai**, CME, MRVC
30. **Smt.B.C. Balkrishan**, MTSU
31. **Shri. P.K. Sinha**, E.E., Mb.P.T.
32. **Shri. G.M. Yerandekar**, Dy.C.E. Mb.P.T.
33. **Shri. A.D. Nagarkar**, Dy. Ch.E (Tr)
34. **Shri. S.G. Gokhale**, AE Tr City, MCGM