

MINUTES OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING

3RD FEBRUARY, 2007

MEETING ROOM, MANTRALAYA

The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra, chaired the meeting.

1. Approval of the minutes – Shri. S. Ubale, Secretary (Special Projects) welcomed the participants and introduced the minutes of the last EC meeting held on 6th Jan. 2007 for discussion by the members and invited comments on the same. The minutes were approved.
2. Review of the Actions taken on subjects discussed in the previous EC Meeting –
 - a. Clean Mumbai Campaign – The UDD - II of the Govt. of Maharashtra has passed the Bye Laws for implementing the Solid Waste Management rules in Mumbai. Shri. Rajeev, AMC (City), MCGM informed that designs for litter bins in consultation with the Police department are being worked on.
 - b. Modernisation of the Mumbai Airport – Shri. Mahesh Pathak, OSD, MIAL informed the committee that the PTS survey for 25,000 hutments has been completed. He said that MIAL has submitted a request to inform price, availability and location of tenements for rehabilitation has been submitted to the MMRDA. Possession of the Police land and land in Dahisar is being worked on simultaneously.

Shri. M. Mahiskar, Addl. Commissioner, MMRDA informed that currently only 5,000 tenements are available for rehabilitation of hutments from the airport land.
 - c. Beautification of the Bus Shelters and Project for Dedicated Bus Lanes – Shri Ubale stated that the issue of modernising the bus shelters contracted out to the Times of Indian (ToI) has been resolved. The ToI has agreed to beautify its bus shelters in line with the design approved for the city within its existing contract period. The period of contract would be accordingly extended as per agreement between the ToI and the BEST.

With regards to construction of new bus shelters on the PWD roads by MMRDA, the Chief Secretary gave his approval for implementing the project .
 - d. Developing Modern Zooloical parks in the city – Continuing from the previous meeting of the EC held in January the issue of a modern zoo at the Aarey colony was briefly discussed. Shri. Ubale stated that the cabinet note for the above is to come. Shri V.S. Palekar enquired about the possibility of integrating the Jijamata Udyan (Byculla) into the overall programme. The Committee however clarified that the two were separate issues and it was best to tackle them individually. The committee also expressed its views that plan for the modern zoo needs further elaboration to attain international standards. It was suggested to set up a small group of experts to look into the matter.

- e. Bus Rapid Transit System – Shri. A.K. Jain, Project manager, MTSU informed that a pilot BTRS project will be implemented along the WEH and EEH. Considering the similarities in road width and other requirements on these stretches, the Bogota model can be introduced here. He further added that a core group set up by the Principal Secretary (Home) would submit their feasibility report for WEH on the 6th of February since BEST has acquired the busses and would start operation pending commencement of the full fledged BRTS.

The Committee approved the initiative and gave the 'go-ahead' for implementation to the MMRDA, BEST and PWD.

- f. Indian Museum Ship (IMS) Vikrant – Lt. Col. Rajeev Gupta stated that as requested in the previous meeting, the Directorate General of Naval Projects (DGNP) awaited the funds of Rs. 20 Cr. from the MMRDA.

Shri. R. Tiwari clarified that the funds had been transferred to the MMRDA and would be accessible to the DGNP upon receipt of the Environmental Clearance from the GoI for implementation of project works.

- g. Developing the new airport at Navi Mumbai – Shri. Deepak Kapoor, Jt. MD, CIDCO informed that while all documents had been submitted, the GoI also requires a formal comments and approval of State Government for giving its approval to the project.
- h. Strategy for communicating with the media – Shri. Nayar informed that they are discussing the issues with various representatives of the media and a joint meeting would be held in the month of February to inform the Chief Secretary of the developments.
- i. Beautification and maintenance of pavements in the city – The Committee has asked the MCGM to beautify the pavements in the city and MMRDA to work on the ones in the rest of MMR. Shri. S. ubale informed that the CAG expressed their readiness to support any such development in the city.
- j. Rehabilitation of Pavement Dwellers – The committee was informed that a Project Management Unit has been set up in the MMRDA. Shri. M. Mahiskar gave an update on the status of relocation of hutments from the Tulsi pipe road P. Demello Road. Shri. R.A Rajeev, AMC (City) MCGM updated on the progress at the Senapati Bapat Marg.
- k. Dharavi Redevelopment – The Financial bids for the project have been received for the 5 sectors to be undertaken in the initial phase. The Chief Secretary advised to hold a meeting to discuss the issue in the following week.
- l. Plan for 100,000 low cost houses – The UDD – I has been requested to release the excess land with the Govt. to the MHADA for constructing the low cost dwellings.
- m. Handing over underbellies of flyovers to for beautification/ parking of fleet taxis – Shri. M. Mahiskar said that the contract for beautifying the underbellies of five flyovers handed over to the MMRDA has been finalized. The remaining

flyovers are with the MSRDC, who have hired a separate consultant for this purpose.

- n. Mumbai Development Fund – Shri. Sanjay Ubale informed the EC that the proposal for the Mumbai Development Fund shall hopefully be finalised by mid February.

Shri. R. Tiwari suggested that the revenue obtained from permitting higher FSI in certain pockets of the city, like green field areas where the metro rail shall be introduced, can be diverted to the MDF for further development of the city.

- o. Fleet Taxis scheme – Shri. Ubale acknowledged the slow progress of the Fleet Taxis in Mumbai. Though 400 licenses have been issued only about 60 taxis are actually on road. He also informed that a second company will be introducing another 400 taxis shortly. Shri. Satish Mathur, Jt. Commissioner of Police, Traffic stated that they can introduce such fleet taxis at the airport, hotels & shopping malls, etc. on prepaid basis; however this would be successful if only the fleet is sizable. The chair also stressed on the need for large corporate houses to run over 1000 taxis each. It was felt that such a move would greatly accelerate the progress of the fleet taxis resulting in better traveling options. Shri. Mahindra agreed to further discussions on the same along with the management of the existing fleet taxis.

- p. Wadala Truck Terminus – The progress of the project was observed to be extremely slow. Mr. Mahiskar informed the committee that the consultants have been appointed and the plans shall be ready by the end of February 2007.

- 3. Inauguration of the refurbished Marine Drive – The delay in completion of the phase I was noted with concern by the committee. The MMRDA was asked to expedite the completion of work and ensure the inauguration on 10th of March, 2007. Shri. R.A. Rajeev also pointed out that the eastern footpath of Marine Drive needs to have a handicapped friendly design, a feature that has been currently missed out.

- 4. Benchmarking of Infrastructure Projects – The CAG members enquired about the existing best practices which were being benchmarked for various infrastructure projects in Mumbai. It was felt that construction technologies needed a globally successful benchmark and the same is to be discussed jointly by the MMRDA, MSRDC, MCGM and PWD with the EC.

The CAG members also requested a meeting to discuss proposed flyovers with regards to design and duration of construction. The footprints of existing flyovers were found to be too large compared to other cities in India and Asia. The meeting will also address issues involving the constraints of contractors in timely completion and the overall efficiency of various infrastructure projects.

- 5. Shri. Sanjay Ubale also suggested, as requested by the Mayor of Mumbai, that a Committee on Water Supply be set up on the lines of the BEST Committee.

6. Expert Panel for Empowered Committee – Members of the CAG felt that there was a need for empanelling experts from various fields of Urban management, Environment management, Urban planning, architecture etc. to evaluate various developmental projects being introduced to the city. The same was agreed upon by the chair. It was suggested that a comprehensive list of such experts be presented in the next meeting of the EC.
7. Missing Link APLR – Shri. A.K. Jain raised the issue of a missing section of 700m on the APLR stretch which is a crucial part for the connectivity of the eastern expressway and the proposed MTHL. Shri. R. Tiwari stated that since the said road is a DP road, the solution was to acquire land under the MR&TP. The Chief Secretary directed the UDD to look into the matter.
8. Other Issues –
 - a. MTHL – It was discussed that the issue of cost of CIDCO's land below the MTHL is to be reviewed.
 - b. Mumbai Metro – it was suggested that there is a need to forge integration among the different metro projects being undertaken in the city.
 - c. MRVC – Dr. P.C. Sehgal, MD, MRVC informed that the Central Railway would soon start 24 bogies trains and will open the second entry to the CST. The design of the new station building at Carnac Bunder shall be of world class standards.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair. The next meeting of the Empowered Committee shall be convened on 3rd March 2007.

List of Participants –

1. Dr. D.K. Sankaran, Chief Secretary, GoM
2. Shri. R. Tiwari, Principal Secretary UDD-I
3. Shri. S. Ubale, Secretary, Special Projects (GAD)
4. Shri A.P. Bhangale, Principal Secretary L&JD
5. Shri. Subodh Kumar, Principal Secretary (Finance)
6. Shri. V.K. Agarwal, Principal Secretary (Planning)
7. Shri. V.K. Jairath, Secretary Industries
8. Shri. D.B. Deshpande, Secretary, PWD
9. Shri. P.C. Sehgal, MD MRVC.
10. Shri. Deepak Kapoor, Jt. MD, CIDCO
11. Shri S. Mathur, Jt. Commissioner Police (Traffic)
12. Mr. William Cobbett, Cities Alliance
13. Shri. K. Rajeevan, Cities Alliance
14. Shri. A.K. Jain, Project Manager, MTSU
15. Shri. R.A. Rajeev, AMC (City), MCGM
16. Shri. Milind Mhaskar, Jt. Commissioner, MMRDA
17. Shri. M.V. Herwadkar, AGM (Civil) BEST

18. Ms. Uma Adusumilli, Chief Planner (City), MMRDA
19. Shri. S.C. Deshpande, JPD (TP), MMRDA
20. Shri. Shailesh S. Mehta, Exec. Engg. (Traffic Police), MCGM
21. Shri. N.C. Naik, Asst. Transport Commissioner, Office of Transport Commissioner
22. Shri. S.M. Sasane, Dy. RTO, Office of Transport Commissioner
23. Shri. Narindar Nayar, CAG Member
24. Shri. V.S. Palekar, CAG Member
25. Shri Ranjit Pandit, McKinsey
26. Shri. Anand Mahindra, CAG Member
27. Shri. Vijay Mahajan, Bombay First
28. Shri. Prabhat Sahai, MRVC
29. Shri. P.K. Jain, MIAL
30. Shri. M.D. Pathak, OSD, MIAL
31. Shri. Sumit Dhawan, MIAL
32. Shri. U.M. Suryavanshi, Chief Engg., Mb.PT
33. Shri. S.M. Patil, Mb.PT
34. Lt. Col. Rajiv Gupta, DGNP
35. Cdr. Vijay Chaudhry, HQMNA
36. Shri. N.C. Naik, Asst. Commissioner, Transport Commissioner's office
37. Shri.R. M Belsare, ARTO (Mumbai)
38. Shri. Prabhat Sahai, CME, MRVC
39. Shri. R.P. Bhave, MRVC
40. Shri. S.V. Arlikar, Exec. Engg. MMRDA
41. Shri. S.I. Dhumale, Exec. Engg. MMRDA
42. Shri. D.R. Hardare, Chief Engg. MHADA
43. Shri. P.D. Vadhawkar CTM, BEST