

MINUTES OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING

10TH NOVEMBER 2006

COMMITTEE ROOM, MANTRALA'

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

1. Approval of the minutes – Shri. Sanjay Ubale, Secretary (Special Projects) welcomed the participants and introduced the minutes of the last EC meeting held on 2nd Sept. 2006 for discussion by the members and invited comments on the same, after which the minutes were confirmed. The Chief Secretary also suggested that henceforth the Empowered Committee Meetings would be held on the first Saturdays of every month.




2. Review of the Actions taken on issues discussed in the EC Meeting on 2nd Sept.2006 -
 - i. Documentary film on Mumbai – The final version of movie has been approved by the Committee with just a suggestion to improve on the tone of the voice.
 - ii. Modernization of the Mumbai Airport – The Chief Secretary informed the House that the state Government has agreed to support the rehabilitation of 80,000 slums from the airport area. By March 2007, 25% (i.e. 20,000 slums) are expected to be relocated by the MMRDA. There are 14000 tenements available with the MMRDA and 6,000 more tenements will be available on the Air Port Authority land at Dahisar.
130 legal buildings would need to be demolished to make land available for the second runway. It was agreed that the Managing Director of MIAL may be requested to make presentation in the next meeting regarding development of the Air Port in view of the decision to clear the slums.
 - iii. Development of new airport in Navi Mumbai - The GoI clearance for the project have been received only in principal. As Shri. Ramanand Tiwari, Pr. Secretary, UDD-I informed the House, a formal approval of the GoI is still awaited. It was discussed whether the CIDCO can initiate the process of expression of interest, pending formal approval of the GoI.
The CAG expressed their concern for the timely completion of the new airport. The Chief Secretary also informed about considering the possibility of redevelopment of the airfield in Kalyan in the near future.
 - iv. Strategy for communication with the media – Mr. Narinder Nayar informed that the CAG had identified a communication agency and is holding a meeting with them. Meeting of this agency with the Chief Secretary, the Principal

Secretaries of the GoM and the Municipal Commissioner, MCGM may be organised. Dissemination of presentations on the ongoing and proposed projects under the Mumbai Transformation Project can be made to the media through this agency.



- v. **Bus Shelter:** - It was decided that pending formal approval of the Government to waive the property tax (*under Section 144 E of the MMC Act, 1888*) on new Bus Shelter, MMRDA should go in inviting bids for the construction of bus shelters. Dr. T. Chandrashekhar, Commissioner, MMRDA informed that these bids will be on the basis of the advertisement rights given to the parties to construct and maintain the bus shelter. As regards the city area, it was decided that the BEST should also initiate similar action following the designs similar to that of MMRDA. MMRDA shall float the tender notice inviting bids for the 85 bus shelters along the Eastern and the western expressways. Mr. Ubale requested for holding back the issuance of any tender notice for one more month so as to harmonise the bus shelter designs all over the city (as in New Delhi, by JCDecoux). It was decided that the General Manager, BEST and Commissioner, MMRDA will hold a meeting to finalize the issue along with the Secretary, Special Projects.
- vi. Beautification and maintenance of pavements in the city - No suggestions have been received on the guidelines circulated during the previous EC meeting. The need for a vigilance system to ensure that the beautified footpaths remain encroachment free was realised by all. It was suggested to get any fresh encroachments, on the major footpaths along the Tulsipipe road, Sanapati Bapat Marg, J.P. road (metro corridor) and JVLR, cleared by the MCGM and MMRDA with help of the Police Department, following which private security could be deployed to keep a vigil. Rehabilitation of Pavement Dwellers – The State Government issued the GR. It was mentioned by Shri A.K. Jain, Project Manager, MTSU, as compliance point, that before the next Empowered Committee meeting, a project management unit in the MMRDA should be set up to complete the planning process.
- vii. Action plan for the Empowered Committee – The vision Mumbai website and the online reporting system are ready. The same shall be launched at the hands of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 20th November 2006.
- viii. Mumbai Trans-harbour Sea Link – the project has received the formal approval to the State Support Agreement.
- ix. Dharavi Redevelopment – The project has been approved by the State Government. A special plan for redevelopment of five pockets in an area of 178 hectares is at the last stage of approval with the UDD. The expression of interest


for the same will be issued by the 30th November 2006 for each of the 5 sectors to be undertaken.

- x. Plan for 100,000 low cost houses With regard to utilization of the salt pan land for this purpose, Pr. Secretary, UDD - I mentioned that the availability of the same may be very uncertain. The Government would consider in providing ULC land to Housing Department for this purpose.
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- xi. Middle Vaiterna, BRIMSTOWAD, MSDP and Gateway Beautification – the original plan submitted for the Beautification of Gateway of India to the Heritage Committee for their suggestions has been approved with modifications. It was agreed to show the revised plan to the members in a meeting to be called on 13th November 2006, in the chamber of the Chief Secretary.
- xii. Handing over under bellies of Flyovers for beautification/ parking of fleet taxis – It was discussed that all flyovers with the MSRDC should be handed over to the MMRDA. In this regard, PWD should give necessary concurrence to the MSRDC. Tender notices for four flyovers handed to the MMRDA, will be issued on 11.11.2006.
- The members demanded that henceforth, all flyovers to be constructed should be of world class standard, both in terms of design and stability. Shri. Ramanath Jha, MD, MSRDC informed that a plan to give face lift to existing flyovers is currently under preparation. In response to the question the Pedder Road flyover, it was mentioned by him that this flyover will be constructed by the MSRDC.
- xiii. Handing over Waterfronts in Mumbai to the MCGM for maintenance – A list of the waterfronts to be handed over to the MCGM needs to be provided to the Mumbai Port Trust for their response.
- xiv. Mumbai Development Fund: - Shri Sanjay Ubale, Secretary informed that two rounds of meeting on the subject have been held with the Pr. Secretary, Finance.
- xv. Strategic (Business) Plan for the MMR – A note answering the queries raised during the presentation, by M/s LEA Assoc. on the Business Plan, held on 2nd Sept. 2006 was circulated to all the members for their review.
- xvi. Fleet Taxi Scheme –The Fleet Taxi Scheme has been launched by the Chief Minister. However, only 30 have been registered so far. The taxi union had dissuaded the other drivers from registering the taxis and thereby hindered the progress of the project. The Principal Secretary Home department (Transport) is currently resolving these issues. He assured 500 taxis on the street by December 2006 and this number to increase to 1000 by February 2007. The Chief Secretary shall be holding a meeting with the Transport Commissioner, Mr. Shinde in the following week.

3. Other Issues -

- i. Wadala Bus/Truck Terminus: - Shri. Sanjay Ubale introduced the subject and requested the Empowered Committee to approve the proposal to waive the property tax on Bus/Truck Terminus under *section 144(3) of the MMC Act*. Shri Ramanand Tiwari intervened, saying that the Empowered Committee does not enjoy the power to grant of waiver. There is a separate high power committee for this purpose under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary. The Chief Secretary mentioned that the waiving of tax shall be granted by declaring the Truck Terminus as special development project.

4. Presentations –

- i. Reducing the Drop Out Rates of Children from Municipal Schools – The Michael and Susan Dell Foundation along with Naandi, on behalf of the Mahindra Education Trust, presented an education project – “Ensuring Children Learn” for the Municipal Schools in Mumbai. The proposal seeks to provide this facility to 100 BMC schools which would benefit 50,000 children at a minimal cost of Rs. 1,500/- per child per year. The Chief Secretary asked them to discuss the details of the project with the AMC (Education).
- ii. Bandra Worli Sea Link (BWSL) – Shri. Ramanath Jha, MD, MSRDC, made detailed presentation on the steps taken by the MSRDC to expedite the construction of Bandra-Worli Bridge. He announced that judicial matter in this regard has been settled and that 67% of the construction work will be completed by May 2007 and the bridge will be commissioned by April 2008. To ensure timely completion of this project the concerned contractor has strengthened his team of experts, brought a number of machines and hired a hi-tech crane and is working on 24 hrs basis in two shifts of 12 hrs. He also mentioned that the work of Worli Nariman Point Bridge (Western Freeway Project) will be started in 2007. The members highly appreciated the work being done by the MSRDC. The Chief Secretary described that this project has flagship project in Mumbai Transformation process. He also suggested that the CAG members and every body else, visit the BWSL site since it was an engineering marvel in the making. Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Shri Satish Mathur referred to the need to discuss the streamlining of the dispersal system, for the traffic coming in from the Bandra-Worli Bridge to Anne Besant road near the Sewerage station. He further mentioned that Bandra Worli, Worli –Nariman Point and MTHL are part of the Outer Ring Road Projects and that the dispersal system planned by MMRDA will provide excellent network. Until the completion of the projects, traffic planning would be necessary.
- iii. BRIMSTOWAD – Shri. Srikant Singh, Addl. Municipal Commissioner (W.S.) MCGM, made a detailed presentation mentioning the works planned for 2006-07

- as a part of the BRIMSTOWAD project. He informed that four pumping stations would be installed before the next monsoon ensuring considerable relief for the city. Rs. 153 Cr. would spent by the March 2007. Shri. Johny Joseph, Municipal Commissioner MCGM, informed that there are no more obstacles in receiving the funding from Gol and all the necessary formalities have been completed. Of the Rs.1800 Cr. allotted to the project, Rs.1200 Cr. shall be utilised for civil works and Rs.600 Cr. for the rehabilitation work for the 26,600 project affected families.
- iv. Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) - Shri G.S. Gill, Pr. Secretary Home (Transport) made a comprehensive presentation highlighting the BRTS in different countries and its possible adaptation in Mumbai. He stated the first step to implement the concept in Mumbai will be to introduce High Quality buses on Thane - Dadar route and efforts will be made to see that the efficiency of these buses increases by plying them on dedicated lanes. The CAG members suggested that Pr. Secretary should consider the possibility of constructing elevated road for high capacity buses.

The meeting of the Empowered Committee lasted for 2.30 hours and in view of the limitation of time, the subjects of the strategy of Development Plan for MbPT, the Work Plan of the GoM for the next three years and discussion on Clean Mumbai Campaign were deferred to the next meeting. The Chief Secretary announced that the next meeting of the Empowered Committee will be held on 2nd December 2006 (Saturday) at 11.00 a.m. at the fifth floor Committee Room in Mantralaya.

The meeting ended with vote of thank to the Chair.

List of Participants –

1. Dr. D.K. Sankaran, Chief Secretary, GoM
2. Shri. R. Tiwari, Prin. Sec. UDD-I
3. Shri. J.M. Phatak, Prin. Sec. UDD-II
4. Shri A.P. Bhangale, Pr. Secy. L&JD
5. Shri. Subodh Kumar, Principal Secretary (Finance)
6. Shri Ramanath Jha MD, MSRDC
7. Shri V.K. Kanade, Secy. Expenditure
8. Shri. V.K. Jairath, Secretary Industries
9. Shri. S.S. Kshatriya, Secretary Housing
10. Shri. Johny Joseph, Municipal Commissioner, MCGM
11. Shri. G.S. Gill, Prin. Sec. Home (Transport)
12. Shri. Milind Mahiskar, Jt. Commissioner MMRDA
13. Shri. D.B. Deshpande, Secretary, PWD
14. Shri. P.C. Sehgal, MD MRVC.
15. Dr. T. Chandrashekhar, Metropolitan Commissioner, MMRDA
16. Shri Arup Patnaik Jt. Commissioner of Police
17. Shri. Shrikant Singh, AMC (WS), MCGM
18. Shri. A.K. Jain, Project Manager, MTSU

19. Shri S. Mathur, Jt. C. P. (T)
20. Shri. Narindar Nayar, CAG Member
21. Shri. Anand Mahindra, M&M Ltd., CAG Member
22. Shri. Jamshyd Godrej, CAG Member
23. Shri. V.S. Palekar, CAG member
24. Shri Ranjit Pandit, McKinsey
25. Dr. Ron Alan, Team Leader, LEA Assts.
26. Shri. Shirish Sankhe, Mckinsey
27. Shri. Vijay Mahajan, Bombay First
28. Shri. Vishnu Kumar, MRVC
29. Shri. Baru Mohanty, Director, M & S Dell Foundation
30. Ms. Sheetal Mehta, Executive Director, K.C. Mahindra Education Trust
31. Shri. Manoj Kumar, CEO, Naandi
32. Cdr. Satyajit Roy, Consultant, MTSU
33. Shri.Gautam Kirtane, MTSU
34. Ms. Poornima Gupta, MTSU