

Asan, Anil, AE 9

**Minutes of 100<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee of Kerala State Transport Project**

**Date & Time** : 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 at 03:00 PM

**Place** : Committee Room of the Chief Secretary

**Present:**

1. **Sri. Paul Antony IAS**  
Chief Secretary
2. **Sri. Manoj Joshi IAS**  
Principal Secretary, Finance Department.
3. **Sri. Tom Jose IAS**  
Additional Chief Secretary, Water Resources Department
4. **Sri. G Kamala Vardhana Rao IAS**  
Principal Secretary, Public Works Department
5. **Sri. B.G. Hareendranath**  
Secretary, Law Department
6. **Sri. Patil Ajit Bhagwatrao IAS**  
Project Director, KSTP
7. **Smt. Darlene Carmelita D'Cruz**  
Chief Engineer, KSTP
8. **Sri M.N. Jeevaraj**  
Chief Engineer, Roads & Bridges

**Item No. 01** : Confirmation of 99<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Minutes

**Decision** : Confirmed.

**Item No. 02** : Action taken report on the decision of the 99<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee

**Decision** : Approved

**Item No. 03:** **Appointment of Director Campaign and Public Relations in the Technical Support Group of Kerala Road Safety Authority upto April 2019.**

**Decision :** The Committee approved the appointment of Sri. K. Rajagopalan as Director, Campaign & Public Relations in the Technical Support Group of the Kerala Road Safety Authority up to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019 for a consolidated remuneration of Rs.50,000/-per month.

**Item No. 04 :** **Selection of Community Liaison Officer in PMT for implementation of Safe Corridor Demonstration Project- Approval for appointment.**

**Decision :** The Committee approved the appointment of Sri. T.V. Satheesh as Community Liaison Officer in the PMT for a period of 15 months from date of joining with remuneration as per rule 100 of Kerala Service Rules.

**Item No. 05 :** **Extension of contract period of Electrical consultant Sri. V. Vasanthan.**

**Decision :** The Committee approved the extension of service of Sri .V. Vasanthan from 01.03.2018 to 31.8.2018 with a monthly remuneration of Rs.35, 000/- including TA and DA

**Item No. 06 :** **KSTP/PMT/UG-IV- Upgradation of road from Chengannur to Ettumannur Request for the approval of the proposed overlay Improvement works in Thiruvalla Town area.**

**Decision:** The Committee discussed in detail and decided that the work shall be executed through Public Works Department (Roads & Bridges) with the same standards of construction adopted in KSTP roads from Chenganoor to Ettumanoor.

**Item No. 07 :** **Detailed review of the Project**

The Chief Secretary gave directions that review of the project must be part of the agenda of every Steering Committee.

**Component A1: Upgradation of Roads with Item Rate Contracts.**

The Project Director submitted that out of the total 9 packages, 2 packages had been completed ie Package 6 and Package 7. The remaining 5 ongoing packages were reviewed in detail.

## **1. Package-I Kasargod-Kanhangad road**

The Chief Engineer informed that most of the work in the package was completed except the Kanhangad Town portion. In the case of Kanhangad town there was public agitation regarding the overlay work in the town instead of upgradation of full road. However, the issue has now been sorted out due to the intervention of the District Collector, Kasaragod. Chief Secretary noted that the progress of the work was very slow with no improvement in pace during the past few months. Even after 4 extensions, the overall performance of the Contractor remained unsatisfactory. The Chief Engineer reported that the two major reasons for slow progress were lack of financial management by the Contractor and the shortage of aggregates due to the closure of the quarries in that area (including the quarry of the Contractor) due to the Supreme Court Orders.

The Project Director informed that all necessary steps had been taken to ensure time bound payment to the Contractor and that the quarry of the Contractor was now functional. He further added that KSTP has already imposed value based Liquidated Damages on this contractor due to this delay in completing the work except Kanhangad Town and will impose further liquidated damages if necessary if the contractor fails to complete the work in time. It was assessed that although the original extension of completion time was till 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 the actual completion would be expected by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018. The Chief Engineer was directed to take detailed work plan from the Contractor and ensure strict compliance.

## **2. Package- II- Pilathara-Pappinissery Road**

The appraisal of this package was similar to that of Package I as the Contractor is the same for both packages and the problems are similar. In this package the Ramapuram Bridge was an addition to the original scope of work and hence had caused delay in execution. The other major cause for delay was the Thavam ROB in which only one deck slab was pending. All road works, Culverts and Bridges have been completed.

The Project Director informed that the action taken in this package was the same as that of Package-I. It was expected that the work shall be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018. The Chief Engineer was directed to take detailed work plan from the Contractor and ensure strict compliance.

### **3. Package-III A Thalassery-Kalarode road**

The Chief Engineer informed that this was a part of the terminated contract of package-III-Thalassery-Valavupara road. The progress of the work was moderate due to lower levels of financial engagement by the Contractor and the shortage of aggregate in the area. The issue of the Eranholi bridge redesign has been sorted out. However, the LA needs to expedite to ensure that the Package is functionally complete in the next working season itself. Chief Secretary gave directions to pursue the LA process with a sense of urgency. The original date of completion of the project is 26.6.2018. However, as per the current progress, it is anticipated to be completed by 31.3.2019.

### **4. Package-III B Kalarode-Valavupara road**

The Chief Engineer informed that this was a part of the terminated contract of Package-III-Thalassery-Valavupara road. The progress of the work was satisfactory. The Project Director briefed about the Koottupuzha bridge which is a critical issue now in this package. The Chief Secretary directed Project Director (KSTP), Principal Secretary, PWD to look in to this matter personally and ensure that the joint inspection necessary to resolve the issue takes place at the earliest. Although the original date of completion is 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018, it is anticipated to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

### **5. Package-IV Chengannoor-Ettumanoor road**

The Project Director reported that the work has been completed recently.

### **6. Package-IV A Thiruvallabypass road**

The Chief Engineer informed that the above package was terminated by KSTP and process was started to re-tender the work. The Project Director informed that World Bank is insisting on completion of land acquisition before the re-tender. The difficulty in ensuring this requirement has been explained to the Team Leader, World Bank and the issue is expected to be sorted out in the next Mission in April 2018. At the same time, the District Collector Pathanamthitta has been requested to expedite the LA process. Chief Secretary directed to get the package restarted at the earliest.

### **7. Package-V Ettumanoor-Muvattupuzha road**

The Project Director reported that the work has been completed recently.

### Component A2 : Punalur Ponkunnam : EPC Component

The Project Director reported the discussion with the Department of Economic Affairs and the World Bank officials on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018. The Chief Secretary directed Principal Secretary PWD and KSTP officials to expedite the approval of the Govt of Kerala so that the proposal for restructuring can be sent to the Department of Economic Affairs at the earliest.

### Component B : Road Safety

The Chief Secretary noted the progress in the civil works of the Safe Corridor Project and gave directions to closely monitor the progress of the creation of the treatment plan by NATPAC and ensure that there is no delay in the deliverables. He also expressed displeasure at the pace of progress in the procurement of goods and services under the SCDP and Challenge fund and directed Project Director to submit a detailed program for the procurement.

### Component C: Institutional Strengthening

The Chief Secretary gave direction to ensure that the procurement of the various Consultancy services viz Centre of Excellence, Project Management Consultant etc are completed in a time bound manner.

As an overall assessment, the Chief Secretary expressed his displeasure at the pace of implementation and directed the KSTP Officials to work in Mission mode with a sense of urgency, evolving clear timelines and accountability to ensure that the rating of the project improves in the upcoming World Bank Missions.

Meeting concluded at 5.00 P.M

  
Paul Antony  
Chief Secretary

The next meeting shall be on 30/4/18, 3pm