

PHYSICAL VERIFICATION REPORT

(Conducted by Dy. Director, Planning on 14th October, 2011)

1. Name of Project : PMGSY road- Block Boundary Ghordi to Kotwalt, Ramnagar, Udhampur
2. Funding Agency : Government of India
3. Executing Agency : PMGSY Division, Ramnagar
4. Year of Sanction : 2007
5. Date of Start : November, 2007
6. Date of Completion : November, 2008 (12 Months)
7. Completion likely by : December, 2011

8. Need of the Project:

The PMGSY road of 15 kms length from Block Boundary Ghordi to village Kotwalt near Ramnagar town of district Udhampur was sanctioned under PMGSY Phase-V in 2007 to provide road connectivity to 2 habitations of 1000+ population viz. Prey and Kotwalt and one habitation of 500+ population viz. Sulan. These three villages located on a hill across a local nallah flowing through Ramnagar town did not have road connectivity despite being very close to Ramnagar town.

9. Financial Status

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sanctioned cost	550.86
Contract awarded	544.68
Expenditure incurred (up to 09/2011)	437.68
% Expenditure (against contract award)	80%

10. Physical Status of Work:

S. No.	Major Works/ Items	Progress achieved	Remarks
1	Earth Work	15 kms	Entire stretch of road
2	Cross Drains/ Scuppers	90% work completed	About 50 nos. cross drains/ scuppers completed
3	Land acquisition	217 kanals 16 marlas	100% land acquired
4	Disbursement of land/ structure compensation	Rs 8.93 lacs disbursed against award of Rs 43.10 lacs	People demanded for disbursement of compensation
5	Forest clearance	Obtained	No problem

Note:- The stage 1 of the project comprises only the above components under PMGSY – V, the stage 2 which includes construction of breast walls, laying of GSB, WBM and Pre-mix is yet to be sanctioned by GoI under PMGSY.

11. Field Observations:

About 9 kms stretch of the road under construction from Block Boundary Ghordi to Kotwalt, against a total length of 15 kms, was inspected. After the 9th km the locals, especially youngsters, had placed boulders in the centre of the road on a considerable stretch in order to prevent vehicles from plying on the road. The Engineers of PMGSY Division, Ramnagar informed that the locals often did the mischief when hitching rides were not offered to them by the drivers of vehicles plying on the road.

It was informed that the public transport service for the locals had started and continued for about 6 months prior to the current monsoon but had to be discontinued due to land slides during the rains. The people of villages Kotwalt, Prey and Sulan who did not have road connectivity until last year were very happy with the commencement of public transport service. But the

inconvenience caused to locals due to stoppage of transport service which they had hardly begun to avail of resulted in resentment against the Government.

The District Administration may consider re-start of public transport service (small vehicles) on the road as vehicles were found plying on it during the field visit.

The road was found to be rough at a number of locations even in the initial stretch of 9 km. A number of pits had formed due to erosion of water during rains. Moreover, boulders and mud which had slid along the slopes during recent rains had congested the corridor of 5 meters reported to have been cleared by the PMGSY Division, Ramnagar under Stage 1. Although, about 90% of cross-drains and scuppers had been constructed some cross-drains and scuppers are yet to be constructed. At a location near the take off point the width of the corridor was measured and found to be about 7 meters, which is more than the specified width.

The PMGSY Division Ramnagar which is already working on stage-1 of the road needs to complete the pending works within a months time and level the 5 meters corridor required for the stage 2 of the road soon.

The construction work of cross-drains, parapets, walling done at different locations on the initial 9 km stretch of the road was found to be satisfactory. The walling done at the 11th km of the road was also visible at some distance on top of the ridge from the slope below and was found to be satisfactory. Moreover, the Engineers of PMGSY Division also produced documents signed by the Technical Staff of GOI who had visited the site and allotted satisfactory grading to the work performed on the said road.

An area of 217 kanals and 16 maralas has been acquired for construction of the said road. However, compensation of only Rs 8.93 lacs has been paid against the land award of Rs 43.10 lacs. Further delay in payment of compensation would only add to the growing resentment among the locals who are already annoyed with the delay in completion of the road and stoppage of public transport service.

During the visit a number of locals were found annoyed with the District Administration over the manner in which compensation was being paid to the land owners. Some residents of

village Prey, who didn't reveal their names, complained that some owners of land are deliberately not being paid land compensation as they had refused to pay bribe demanded by the government staff dealing with payment of compensation. Some residents of village Kanah complained that the total area of land belonging to Sh Nazir Ahmed, Sh Gulam Hussain and Sh Abdul Hamid that was acquired for the construction of the road was more but the area mentioned in the land award was much less.

The District Administration needs to inquire in to the complaints of the locals and address them to their satisfaction. The balance amount of the compensation needs to be paid without further delay as the land award has already been issued.

Some locals complained that prior to the commencement of the construction work of the road there was a kacha path with stairs of stones on which the locals walked from Ramnagar nallah to reach their villages Kotwalt, Prey and Sulan along the slopes of the ridge. Due to construction of the road the old path got damaged at a number of locations as a result of which some of the houses had become almost unapproachable during rains. They were requesting that some stretches of the old path may be restored so that hardships faced by the residents is minimized atleast to some extent until the road becomes motorable.

The PMGSY Division, Ramnagar may address to this problem of the locals to the extent possible within the norms prescribed under PMGSY or by obtaining assistance from the Block Development Officer.

The stage 1 of the road sanctioned in Nov 2007 was to be completed by Nov 2008 but was only 95% complete even after 5 years since start of the work. The AEE of the concerned PMGSY Division attributed the slow progress of the road to the delay on the part of Forest Department in conveying NOC and delay in acquisition of land by the District Administration.

About 2 km of road from the motorable road/bridge over the local nallah at Block Boundary Ghordi up to the take-off point of the said PMGSY road is also being developed under NABARD. This stretch also needs to be completed by the R&B Department at the earliest.

12. Problem Areas/ Suggestions:

S. No	Problem Areas	Suggestions
1	Completion of balance works of stage 1: Construction work of some scuppers and cross drains is still pending.	The Executive Engineer, PMGSY Division, Ramnagar needs to ensure that the balance works are completed within one month.
2	Clearing the 5 meters earth work corridor necessary for stage 2: Due to land slides during rains in monsoon the corridor required for stage 2 was found inadequate at a number of locations. Moreover, the levelling of the corridor was also required at many locations as many pits and boulders were observed on the road.	The Executive Engineer, PMGSY Division, Ramnagar needs to ensure that the corridor required for stage 2 is cleared by way of restoration of earth work and proper levelling of the road.
3	Delay in payment of compensation: Against land award of Rs 43.10 lacs for acquiring 217 kanals and 16 marlas, only an amount of Rs 8.93 lacs has been disbursed till date.	The Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur needs to ensure that the balance amount of the compensation is paid to the land owners whose land has been acquired for construction of the road without further delay.
4	Commencement of Stage 2: Stage 1 of the road is almost complete and it is time that the stage 2 of the road is commenced.	The Public Works (R&B) Department needs to ensure that the sanction of the stage 2 of the said road is obtained from GOI immediately so that laying of GSB, WBM and pre-mix is started.
5	Local complaints: (a) Locals informed that in Kanah village the area of land belonging to Sh Nazir Ahmad, Sh Gulam Hussain and Sh Abdul Hamid was indicated less	The Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur may inquire about the matter and take necessary action so that the complaints of the locals are addressed and resolved to their satisfaction.

S. No	Problem Areas	Suggestions
	<p>than the actual acquisition in the land award.</p> <p>(b) Residents of Prey complained that some land owners were not disbursed compensation because they did not bribe the government officials assigned with the task of releasing payments.</p>	

13. Conclusion:-

The stage 1 of the PMGSY road under construction in district Udhampur is almost complete and the construction work of stage 2 of the road needs to be taken up without further delay as the stage 1 has taken almost 5 years instead of 1 year for its completion. The delay in completion of the said road which has caused a lot of inconvenience to the beneficiaries has resulted in resentment against the Government.

Delay in disbursement of compensation to the land owners whose land has been acquired for construction of the said road would only add to the growing public resentment. The District administration needs to ensure that the compensation is disbursed to the land owners immediately.

Physical Verification Conducted by:	Madan Gopal Sharma, Deputy Director Planning, Monitoring Cell, Chief Minister's Secretariat.
Officers of Executing Agency who accompanied:	1. Kamal Kishore Gupta, AEE (Civil) 2. Ashok Kumar Gupta, AE (Civil) 3. Ashok Kumar Bhat, JE (Civil) PMGSY Division Ramnagar, Udhampur