

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
PLANNING AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENT


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CIRCULAR

Sub: PRD – Revised Estimate 2019-20 – Meeting to review the progress of Expenditure upto 20th February 2020 - Minutes of the meeting held on 25.02.2020 - Communication of - Reg.

Minutes of the meeting held on 25.02.2020 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister along with Hon'ble Ministers in the Conference Hall of Chief Secretariat in connection with the review on the expenditure upto 20th February 2020 in the Revised Estimate 2019-20 is sent herewith for information and necessary action.


(G. Santhamurthy)
Director(Plg.)

Encl: As stated.

To

1. All Secretaries to Government
2. All Heads of Departments
3. Director of Accounts & Treasuries
4. Under Secretary(I & II), Finance Department
5. Budget Officer, Finance Department
6. Deputy Director, Ways & Means, Finance Department

Copy to:

1. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister
2. OSD to Hon'ble Chief Minister
3. P.S. to all Hon'ble Ministers
4. P.S. to Chief Secretary
5. P.S. to Development Commissioner
6. P.S. to Secretary(Plg.)
7. P.S. to Director(Plg.)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25.02.2020 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER IN THE CONFERENCE HALL OF CHIEF SECRETARIAT TO REVIEW THE PROGRESS OF EXPENDITURE UPTO 20TH FEBRUARY 2020 IN THE REVISED ESTIMATE 2019-20.

A meeting to review the progress of expenditure on the Revised Estimate 2019-20 including CSS, Negotiated Loan and SCSP for the period ending 20th February 2020 was held on 25.02.2020 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Conference Hall of the Chief Secretariat with Hon'ble Public Works Minister, Hon'ble Health Minister, Hon'ble Welfare Minister and Hon'ble Transport Minister. Chief Secretary, Secretary(Finance), all Secretaries to Govt. and all Heads of Department attended the meeting. A list of HoDs who attended the meeting is annexed.

2. Hon'ble Chief Minister welcomed all the participants and shared that the overall financial performance as on January 2020 has already been discussed with Finance Secretary and Chief Secretary. Upto January 2020, 75% of outlay was utilized which was low and unsatisfactory. On perusal of the expenditure details as on 20.02.2020, it reveals that the financial achievements work out to 81.80%. The remaining period available in the current financial year is hardly a month and with this crucial period, the departments have to achieve 100% in expenditure booking. It is an usual practice that most of the departments rush in the eleventh hour to utilize the substantial outlay, which is not acceptable and in future the departments have to change its attitude to utilize the allocated amount in phased manner.

3. While acknowledging the observations of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Chief Secretary stated that some of the departments are found very poor in financial performance and added that there is no major hurdle/bottleneck in booking expenditure is explored by any departments. Chief Secretary pointed that under MLA-LAD programme, major chunk of outlay are yet to be utilized and advised LAD officials to interface with MLAs concerned to take of the identified developmental works in time.

4. Subsequently, Secretary(Plg.) briefed that as on date, the overall expenditure incurred is Rs.6973.86 crore as against the total receipts of Rs.6996.00 crore which works out to 99.68%. The statement of Revenue Receipts as on 21.02.2020 both under Tax and Non-Tax shows the shortfall of Rs.649.76 crore with reference to the proportionate period. The major shortfall is due to less receipts from Commercial Taxes, State Excise, Stamps & Registration and Power consumption charges from Govt. Institutions. Then, the detailed analytical presentation showing the department-wise expenditure which incurred less than 70% have been focussed under 5 variants viz., (i) overall performance of expenditure, (ii) performance in Capital Head, (iii) CSS, (iv) NL and (v) SCSP through Power Point Presentation.

5. Regarding Negotiated Loan component, as on date, Rs.67.00 crore has been incurred as against the Revised Estimate of Rs.130.00 crore. Various proposals amounting to Rs.60.00 crore from PWD have been submitted to NABARD. Expenditure sanction for Rs.16.00 crore is in process in Electricity Department. Health, Education, Tourism and TCP shows less expenditure and their attention for speedy action is required to achieve the target. Hon'ble Chief Minister advised that the officials concerned have to follow-up the process with lending agencies to quicken the sanction/release.

6. Out of the 22 departments implementing SCSP component, 16 departments are considerably less in achieving the expected target. Hon'ble Chief Minister indicated the expenditure status of AD Welfare department which actually incurred expenditure of 64% only as on date. Secretary(Welfare) replied that as per the instruction of DAT, the bills on hand for Rs.23.16 crore have to be presented on or after 1st March 2020 for accounting purpose. If it is materialized, the achievement will be 81%. Besides, Rs.12.68 crore expenditure sanction is under process and the bills for the sanctioned amount of Rs.7.07 crore will be presented soon to DAT. In total around Rs.143.00 crore will be utilized by AD Welfare dept. within this financial year.

7. Chief Engineer stated that out of Rs.19.00 crore of SCSP fund earmarked for Building programme, Rs.8.00 crore pertains to Demand No.16 (PWD) and the remaining fund of Rs.11.00 crore was assigned to various departments (Demand No.32). The financial performance under Capital Head which is implemented by PWD is very low and Hon'ble Chief Minister advised Chief Engineer to convene a meeting immediately to interact with line departments for getting expenditure sanction so as to make the expenditure good.

8. Then, the department-wise performance depicted in ascending order was taken up for detailed review and the major points emerged during the course of review are as follows:-

Food & Drugs Testing

- Secretary(Health) briefed that the expenditure sanction for Rs.49.50 lakhs has been obtained to take up the execution and renovation work to be executed by PWD. Only after completion of the civil works, the procurement of high end Health equipments/machineries will be purchased.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister suggested that the process of procurement of equipments and machineries may be initiated simultaneously so as to avoid further delay in expenditure booking.

Welfare of Backward Classes & Minorities

- Director(WBC&M) stated that expenditure sanction for Rs.2.00 crore towards education loan and Rs.1.00 crore proposal for caste survey work were already sent to Finance Department.

Local Administration

- For MLA-LAD fund, a comprehensive proposal submitted to Hon'ble LG and the file was resubmitted twice after attending the queries.

Town & Country Planning

- Block sanction sent to Finance Department and 100% expenditure will be booked after getting the concurrence.

Information & Publicity

- Expenditure sanction for Rs.85.00 lakhs was already obtained and for the remaining fund, the proposals are getting ready. The bills which are pending since 2017 will be cleared in this Financial year.

Rural Development

- Secretary(RD) informed that Rs.18.31 crore released from GoI has been utilized fully and another Rs.11.00 crore is expected which will be booked on receipt.

ISM

- The unspent amount under CSS programme meant for release of GIA and the proposal was already sent to FD.

Fisheries

- Director(Fisheries) stated that as on date 72.56% of overall outlay was utilized.
- Under CSS, bills to a tune of Rs.1.14 crore for lean period assistance/pension to fishermen and fishermen families were already submitted to DAT.

Art & Culture

- Out of Rs.22.22 crore earmarked under R.E. 2019-20, Rs.15.36 crore has been utilized. The remaining outlay will be exhausted towards GIA to PILK, purchase of books, land acquisition at Karaikal, etc.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister observed that for the last 5 years "Kalaimaamani Award" was not awarded and advised to initiate necessary action to grant the award by March 2020 itself. Additional fund, if any, required for Awards will be provided.

Survey & Land Records

- Hon'ble Chief Minister pointed out that award of free pattas to the eligible residents are not done for a long period and action need to be taken immediately. The eligible residents who are living in Government land may be issued free pattas based on the norms.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister added that the applications given for patta transfer, name transfer, etc were not taken up and it seems that the necessary action could not be taken by the department due to the shortage of Survey Officials. To comply the patta related works, it was already suggested to engage retired willing Survey Officials and it was reiterated again to sort out the demands immediately.

Labour

- Secretary(Labour) stated that under CSS programme, the proposals received to a tune of Rs.4.30 crore was sent to Finance Department to concur the expenditure sanction for Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) scheme.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister informed that the existing 9 Govt. ITIs may be upgraded into Model ITIs and insisted to complete the task within this financial year.

Hindu Religious Institutions

- 2 proposals worth of Rs.84.00 lakhs and Rs.37.00 lakhs sent to Government for issue of expenditure sanction and the entire amount will be booked without any shortfall.

Agriculture

- Director(Agri) submitted that proposal for Rs.9.82 crore towards GIA Salaries and others was sent to Govt. Rs.9.07 crore is meant for subsidy for Paddy/Crop insurance and the remaining Rs.3.64 crore is meant for Salaries and thus the entire amount will be booked.
- Under CSS programme, proposal for Rs.4.22 crore was already sent to Govt. and another proposal of Rs.2.21 crore is to be submitted.

Higher & Technical Education

- Director(H&TE) stated that Rs.2.04 crore was recently released by GoI for implementation of RUSA. As 60:40 being the pattern of assistance for the scheme, around Rs.40.00 crore is additionally needed towards the State Share for the release made by GoI so far.
- Hon'ble Welfare Minister desires to know the specific programme to be implemented in Higher & Technical Education under SCSP Component. The required information has to be submitted immediately.

Public Works

- Chief Engineer(PWD) stated that adequate bills are ready and the remaining fund available in various sectors will be booked without any shortfall within the current financial year.

Transport

- Secretary(Transport) informed that sanction order was already issued for the balance fund in Capital Head and it will be booked by PWD.
- The remaining fund under Revenue Head is meant for grant of GIA to PRTC for which necessary proposal was moved earlier and the fund will be utilized.

Health

- Hon'ble Health Minister shared that 60:40 being the pattern of assistance for the NHM programme, an amount of Rs.22.00 crore is additionally required to spare state share of 40% which includes backlog provision. Delaying in allocation of state share will affect the further release from GoI. Therefore, Hon'ble Health Minister requested that necessary fund may be identified from the accrued savings/surrender, if any, reported by other departments so as to allocate the state share.

Electricity

- While submission, Superintending Engineer(Electricity) pointed out that the shortage in Revenue Receipts for the corresponding period stands Rs.123.83 crore of which Rs.108.00 crore is yet to be received from various Govt. Institutions.
- Rs.170.00 crore is essentially required immediately to settle the purchased power for the month of January 2020. As the gestation period is going to be elapsed soon, this needs to be treated as top priority else the power supply will affect.

9. While concluding, Hon'ble Chief Minister stated that the presentation of Budget 2020-21 shall be placed in the Middle of April 2020. Accordingly all Departments need to be worked out and get ready to comply the requirements well in advance. As GoI abolished Planning Commission earlier, the continuance of State Planning Board in the U.T. of Puducherry is no longer required. Therefore, the departments are advised to arrive the size of the Annual Budget based on the requirements and the proposal may be sent to Budget Section of Finance Department by 2nd week of March 2020 after the consent of the Administrative Secretary and Hon'ble Minister concerned. The overall size of the Annual Budget 2020-21 will be communicated to MHA for getting approval after the consent of Cabinet.

10. With these, the meeting came to an end.

Annexure

List of participants who attended the expenditure review meeting held on 20.02.2020 in the Conference Hall, Chief Secretariat under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister

1. Director, Accounts & Treasuries
2. Director, Adi-Dravidar Welfare
3. Director, Agriculture
4. Director, Animal Husbandry
5. Director, Civil Supplies
6. Deputy Commissioner, Commercial Taxes
7. Registrar, Co-operatives
8. Director, School Education
9. Director, Higher & Technical Education
10. Supdt. Engineer-I, Electricity
11. Divisional Fire Officer, Fire Services
12. Director, Fisheries
13. Deputy Conservator, Forestry
14. Director, Health & Family Welfare Services
15. Commissioner, HRI
16. Director, Indian System of Medicine
17. Director, Industries
18. Director, Information & Publicity
19. Director, Information Technology
20. Deputy Superintendent of Jail
21. Commissioner, Labour
22. Secretary, Legislative Assembly
23. Director, Local Administration
24. Assistant Engineer, Port
25. Director, Planning & Research Department
26. Chief Engineer, Public Works Department
27. Project Director, Rural Development
28. Director, Science, Technology & Environment
29. Director, Social Welfare
30. Director, Statistics
31. Director, Stationery & Printing
32. Director, Survey & Land Records
33. Director, Tourism
34. Chief Town Planner, Town & Country Planning
35. Commissioner, Transport
36. Director, Welfare of Backward Classes & Minorities
37. Director, Women & Child Development
38. Under Secretary (Finance - I & II)
39. Budget Office
40. Dy. Director(Ways & Means)