

CHAPTER-VI

IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHEMES

6.1. *Diversion of specific grant and loan*

6.1.1. Under Rule 14 A of Bihar Municipal Accounts Rules, 1928, any grant made by the Government for specific purpose shall not be spent for any other purpose. Further under section 89, unspent balance amount of Government Loan for specific purpose shall not be appropriated even temporarily for any other object. However, in contravention of the above instructions of the Government, out of grant and loans of Rs 5.21 crore received during 2004-06 on account of Valmiki Ambedkar Malin Basti Awas Yojna (VAMBAY), P.C.C. road construction and Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (I.D.S.M.T), Rs 92.60 lakh was diverted towards payment of pay and allowances, purchase of bitumen and cement etc. for schemes other than the aforesaid schemes without previous sanction of Government as detailed below :

<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Grants & Loans sanctioned (Rs in lakh)</i>	<i>Amount diverted (Rs in lakh)</i>
(i) From VAMBAY -	438.40	82.38
(ii) From Road Construction -	52.46	7.32
(iii) From I.D.S.M.T	30.00	2.90
Total-	520.86	92.60

Out of above, Rs 58.89 lakh were adjusted during Oct. 2005, January 2006 and March 2006 and Rs 33.71 lakh remained unadjusted as of 31 March 2006.

Due to the diversion of above funds, physical targets of the schemes concerned could not be achieved.

6.1.2. Similarly out of Rs 7.92 crore received for construction of Modern Bus Stand, Road, Drain, installation of High Mast Light and Water supply (Chapakal) during 2001-2005, Rs 48.12 lakh was diverted towards salary and other purposes without sanction of the Government which was irregular in addition to hampering implementation of the above projects (Appendix- 13).

6.2. *Construction of Community Hall under Integrated Development of Small and Medium Town (IDSMT).*

State Government released Rs 2.20 crore (26 September 2003) under IDSMT (centrally sponsored) schemes for 2003-04. The schemes, inter-alia, comprised construction of three Community Halls, estimated cost of each was Rs 9,98,500. Technical sanction was accorded by Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Building Division, Hazaribagh in November 2003.

The Storekeeper of the Hazaribagh Municipality was deputed by the Special Officer, Hazaribagh Municipality for departmental execution of Community Halls at three places viz Hurhuru talab, Matwari and Kankar. Rs 21 lakh was advanced to him by the Special Officer against the above estimated cost without acquisition of land and selection of site. The Special Officer requested (November 2004) the concerned authorities at Hazaribagh to make available the required land for construction of Community Halls at three places but it could not be finalized. Then, the Special Officer cancelled the work order and ordered (March 2005) the Storekeeper to refund the amount of advance immediately. But the advance was not refunded by him till September 2006. Steps were not taken by the competent authority to pursue the matter. Even after lapse of more than 24 months (upto April 2007) from the date of cancellation of the work order, neither any FIR was lodged nor any disciplinary action was taken against him. Possibility of misappropriation or loss of Government money in this case can not be ruled out. The Municipality had also lost revenue of Rs 2.52 lakh, by earning interest at the rate of four per cent even if the amount was kept in Savings Bank Accounts.

Blocking of Government Fund

6.3. Construction/Renovation of Bus/Taxi Stands

The Jharkhand Government sanctioned and released (March 2002) Rs 2.50 crore to Deoghar Municipality and Rs 75.44 lakh to Daltonganj (Medininagar) Municipality as grants and loans (50 per cent each) for modernisation/ renovation of Bus/ Taxi stands. The Municipalities had to start the work after appointment of a qualified architect for preparation of plan to be vetted by the competent technical officer. Administrative approval in both the cases was to be accorded later on by the Urban Development Department.

Scrutiny of the records of aforesaid Municipal Bodies revealed that

(i) For Bus Stand at Deoghar, selection of site and consultant was not decided (October 2006).

(ii) For Bus stand at Medininagar, the proposed sites were cancelled (Jan. 04) due to faulty selection of sites without any prior survey/ assessment. Meanwhile, the Municipality again received (Feb. 2006) Rs. 25.06 lakh from the State Govt. for the same work. Fresh site was selected and revised estimate was prepared for construction of Bus stand thereon. Architect was appointed for preparation of design/plan. The contractor agreed to execute the work in Rs. 84.58 lakh i.e. 15 per cent below the estimated amount of Rs. 99.51 lakh. Work order was issued (10 March 2006) to the contractor indicating for completion of work within 180 days i.e. upto 10 Sept. 2006. But upto 31 August 2006, the work for Rs. 24.81 lakh only was completed.

Thus, Rs. 3.25 crore remained blocked for over four years and prevented the beneficiaries from availing the facilities.

6.4. Execution of Schemes in contravention of Government Guidelines

State Government issued (24 June 2005) direction to execute all the schemes, having estimated cost below Rs five lakh, departmentally. But in contravention of the above

directives, Ranchi Municipal Corporation (RMC) got executed seven such schemes worth Rs 21.18 lakh, through contractors (Appendix -14).