

CHAPTER IV

EXECUTION AND PROCUREMENT

4.1 Blocking of funds due to incomplete works

Blocking of funds of Rs 89.93 crore due to 10327 incomplete works.

In 14 ZPs³¹, 10327 works taken up under various schemes during periods between 1975-76 and 2003-04 were incomplete (March 2004). The expenditure incurred on these incomplete works was Rs 89.93 crore (Annexure- V).

4.2 Idle investments

Idle investment of Rs 11.32 lakh in Diesel and electric pumps

4.2.1. Electric pumps are being distributed to SC/ST beneficiaries under various schemes with full subsidy under special component plan, other tribal sub plan and tribal sub plan, for overall upliftment of backward communities. Under scheme a total subsidy of Rs. 50,000 is given to the beneficiary, which includes items such as construction of wells, electric or diesel pump/agriculture implements and fertilizers.

There is no practice in Zilla Parishad to ascertain the availability of electricity connection before selection of beneficiaries & purchase of pumps.

Scrutiny of records of ZP, Aurangabad and 2PSs¹³² there under revealed that 133 pumps (electric/diesel) purchased at a cost of Rs.11.32 lakh between 2000-01 and 2002-03 were lying undistributed to the beneficiaries due to non supply of electric connections. This resulted in idle investment of Rs.11.32 lakh as the Zilla Parishad do not ascertain the availability of electric

³¹ Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Hingoli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Nasik, Nandurbar, Pune, Thane and Washim

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³² Silod and Gangapur

connection before selection of beneficiaries and purchase of pumps.

The ZPs and PSs replied that the pumps would be distributed to beneficiaries as and when the electric connection is obtained.

Idle investment of Rs.14.55 lakh on construction of shopping complex

4.2.2 As per the scheme of construction of gram sachivalaya and shopping complex in all revenue circles, 50 per cent of the shopping blocks so constructed were to be allotted to persons falling under Below Poverty Line (BPL) category and the remaining 50 per cent were to be sold by way of auction.

In ZP, Washim 10 shopping blocks constructed at Injori, Taluka- Marona, at a cost of Rs.1.45 lakh each were not disposed off as required until January 2004. This resulted in idle investment of Rs.14.55 lakh.

The ZP replied that persons of BPL category were not in a position to purchase the shopping blocks. Further it was stated that the financial assistance up to Rs.10 lakh was being provided in SGS Yojana to BPL persons hence they did not come forward to purchase the shops.

The reply is not tenable, as under the SGSY scheme financial assistance up to Rs. 1.20 lakh only and not Rs. 10 lakh as mentioned in ZPs reply is available to the Self-Help-Groups.

Avoidable Expenditure

Expenditure of Rs 6.38 crore incurred on PHCs was avoidable.

4.3 Government had prescribed norms that there should be one Primary Health Centre (PHC) for a population of 30,000 and 20,000 in general area and tribal/hilly area respectively, based on

1991 census. The norms prohibit continuation of PHCs at places where Rural Hospital (RH)/Civil Hospital (CH) is established, to avoid duplication of services. In such circumstances the PHC should be shifted to needy places.

It was, however noticed from the records of four ZPs³³ that PHCs at seven places³⁴ continued to function even though RHs were established in those areas. Thus avoidable expenditure of Rs 6.38 crore was incurred on the pay and allowances of staff and contingency on these PHCs during the period between November 1999 and March 2004.

While admitting that the expenditure was avoidable, the ZPs Jalgaon and Pune stated that proposals for the shifting of the PHCs would be submitted to the Government.

4.4 Irregular splitting of works

As per Government of Maharashtra Public Works Department Resolution (May 1999), works up to Rs 5 lakh can be awarded to Registered Labour Cooperative Societies.

Scrutiny of records of ZP, Pune revealed that two works of construction of road between Velhe –Kadave and Panshet Bhulwadi Gondekhed Road at a cost of Rs 20 lakh and Rs 25 lakh respectively were taken up. The work estimated at Rs.20 lakh was awarded to four societies viz.Majoor Sansthan, Shivaji majoor Sansthan, Majoor Sah Sansthan, and Majoor Sah Sansthan Hadapsar Pune by splitting it into four works of below Rs.5 lakh each.

Two works with estimated cost of Rs.45 lakh were irregularly split in violation of codal provision

³³ Amravati, Gadchiroli, Jalgaon and Pune

³⁴ Amouri, Churni, Gadchiroli, Indapur, Purandhar, Velhe and Varangaon

The other work at an estimated cost of Rs.25 lakh was awarded to five societies namely Shivaji Maharaj Sah Sansthan, Shivaji Maharaj Sah Sansthan Ltd Vakharwadi, Hanuman M.S.Ltd Velhe, Vardhini M.S Ltd Wakharwadi and Koreshwara M.S Ltd Baramati by splitting it into five works of below Rs. 5 lakh each.

The ZP stated that the splitting of the tender cost was done with the intention of getting the work done speedily with the approval of higher authority as there was no time for calling for tenders. The action of the department in splitting the works was irregular.

4.5 Non-distribution/fixing of Khodas (Insemination crate cum Travis)

Non fixing/distribution of Khodas resulted in blockage of Rs.26.45 lakh

As per guidelines of the XIth FC, Government of India and the State Government had released funds to purchase Khodas, ie. Insemination crate cum Travis for distribution to GPs through BDOs.

Scrutiny of records in ZP, Dhule revealed that out of 532 Khodas purchased during 2002-03 and 2003-04 at a cost of Rs 26.45 lakh 439 had been distributed but not fixed and the remaining 93 had not been distributed.

The ZP stated that 379 khodas were under the custody of Sarpanch /Gram sevaks and fixed at the respective villages and the remaining 93 khodas would be delivered to the respective GPs. The reply of the ZP that 379 khodas were fixed was not supported by documentary evidence.

4.6 Loss of water charges due to non-transfer of Tanks to Societies

Government had issued order in July 2000 to transfer all the Kolhapur Type (KT) weirs, Percolation Tanks (PT) to Registered Societies of beneficiary farmers for their management and maintenance. The societies were required to pay to Government

royalty at the rate of Rs.1,000 per tank per annum for KT weirs and Rs.10,000 per tank per annum for PTs and 20 per cent of the water charges collected during the earlier years from farmers..

In ZP, Jalgaon, 111 tanks had been completed upto March 2004 at a total cost of Rs. 9.05 crore but none of them were handed over to Societies as detailed below:-

(Amount in crore of rupees)

Nature of Scheme	Number	Cost of completion (Rs.)
Percolation Tanks	73	5.23
Kolhapur Type Weirs	38	3.82
Total	111	9.05

Apart from non-recovery of royalty and water charges from the societies, the burden of maintenance of these tanks remained with the ZP. The estimated loss on account of royalty worked out to Rs.30.70 lakh for a period 3 to 5 years.

The ZP stated that the PTs & KTs would be handed over to the societies and the charges recovered.