

Sub: Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL)

-- Minutes of the 1st coordination Committee meeting, constituted for formulation of guidelines for compensation to be paid to the project affected fishermen, held on 15.10.2015 in MMRDA office.

Following officers were present for the meeting.

- Meeting chaired by Mr. Sanjay Khandare,
Hon. Addl. Metropolitan Commissioner-II, MMRDA
- Members present in meeting Ms. Shaila A., Collector, Mumbai City
Mr. Rajendra Jadhav, Jt Commissioner, Fisheries dept
Dr. Vinay Deshmukh, Retd. Principal – Scientist, CMFRI, Mumbai.
Representative from office of the DCP Port, Mumbai.
Mr. P.D. Mamdapure, Engineer in Chief, ED
- Invitees present Dr. Vivek Kulkarni, CEO, BEIPL (Environment expert, JICA study team)
Dr. Ms. Nilambari, (Environment expert, JICA study team)
- MMRDA officials Mr Sanjay Yadav, Dy Metropolitan Commissioner (PC), MMRDA
Mr. S.S. Varaskar, Superintending Engineer, MMRDA
Mr. Y.E. Sakhalkar, Executive Engineer
Mr. M.H. Paranjape, Executive Engineer
Mr. G.G. Deshpande, DE-I, MMRDA.

The following is the gist of discussions:

Background:

At the outset, Engineer in-Chief, MMRDA & Member Secretary of Coordination Committee, welcomed all attendees present for the meeting & apprised them about the status of JICA preparatory survey & the urgency of formulation of guidelines for compensation to project affected Fishermen.

2. On query from the Chairman, the JICA Consultants informed that the mandate is to frame a compensation policy by MMRDA as implementation policy for compensation to be paid to project affected fishermen during & after construction of MTHL.
3. The subject matter was discussed along with a presentation by member Dr. Vinay Deshmukh, Retd. Principal – Scientist, CMFRI, Mumbai.


He explained the following points:

- About the creek eco-system

- traditional fishing methods (gill net, Bag net, Bakshi net etc),
 - explained that 4-5 fishing villages in Raigad, Mumbai & Thane would be affected
 - 'Sus" framework
 - Kind of fishing is location specific
 - Fishermen are not the ones who are 'Koli' but the ones who are actively involved in the fishing activity.
 - Various applicable Acts etc.
 - His previous experience and methodology adopted while working on similar assignment through CMFRI.
 - List of claimants and license holders in landing centers needs to be updated by the fisheries dept. Census data to be corroborated by the fisheries dept
 - "Artisanal" may have to be considered for compensation.
 - He expressed need of comprehensive survey to identify the number fishermen actually working in the influence area of MTHL activity zones, type of fishing, marine yield & cost analysis, nature of impact during construction period and after completion of the project etc. The chairman agreed with the views of Dr. Deshmukh with request to maintain the timeline in accordance to the JICA's time schedule.
4. Dr. Kulkarni from JICA Study Team mentioned that the required survey and formulation of the Compensation Policy for fishermen who are likely to be affected should be completed before end of Dec 2015. Mr. Jadhav, Jt. Commissioner, Fisheries Department, Mumbai mentioned that Dr. Deshmukh has lot of experience in such assignments and Fisheries department will cooperate in the formulation of the compensation policy and will be put forth to the Coordination Committee. Dr. Deshmukh and Dr. Nilambary will conduct site visits on 19 and 20th Oct 2015 to concerned villages likely to get affected along the alignment of the project, as well as the project alignment route in sea, as preliminary survey to get broad idea of the assignment. The Chairman agreed to the proposal and requested Dr. Deshmukh to submit the methodology to be adopted in case of MTHL on or before 21 Oct 2015 and also suggested to the JICA Study Team that they take-up the assignment of preliminary & detailed survey to enable formulate the required Compensation Policy for Fishermen.
5. To a point posed by Dr. Deshmukh, Dr Kulkarni clarified that since pile boring activity would be localized with encasements and use of modern techniques, the possibility of fisher folks getting adversely affected due to turbidity during construction is remote. He also mentioned that the RoW in sea would be properly demarcated so as to eliminate or minimize the chances of any damages to the fishing nets/boats etc.

6. It was agreed to share with the Committee members the mitigation measures proposed for the project.
7. On query, it was informed by the Jt. Commissioner; Fisheries that we need to involve and invite during subsequent meetings the Chairmen of th respective fishing societies of Mahul, Turbhe, Vashi etc.
8. Dr. Nilambari from the JICA study team submitted that the temporary jetties proposed to be constructed to facilitate construction of main bridge might obstruct the movement of boats from Mahul creek required to cross the bridge alignment. As such, the issue needs to be looked into by way of considering raising the height of jetty or provide them with alternative docking area.
9. The Committee discussed that the second meeting of this Coordination Committee would be scheduled immediately on obtaining the methodology and preliminary survey report.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



(P.D. Mamdapure)

Engineer in-Chief, MMRDA &
Member Secretary - Coordination Committee

Encl: Mitigation measures