

### **Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) project**

Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of Coordination Committee constituted for formulation of guidelines for the compensation to be paid to the project affected Fisher folks held on 28.12.2017 in MMRDA office

The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Coordination Committee constituted for formulation of guidelines for the compensation to be paid to the project affected Fisher folk was held on 28.12.2017 in MMRDA office under the chairmanship of Additional Metropolitan Commissioner (K).

Following officers were present for the meeting.

#### **Members of the Committee**

- Mr. Sanjay Khandare, Addl. Metropolitan Commissioner, MMRDA
- Capt. V H Ingle, Port Officer, Representative of Chief Executive Officer, MMB
- Mr. Chandrakanth Thorat, Resident Deputy collector, Representative of Collector Mumbai City
- Mr. Shridhar Bodhe, Deputy Collector, Representative of Collector Raigad
- Mr. Anant Kenjale, Sr PI, Representative of Deputy Commissioner of Police, Ports
- Mr. D B Kindre, Sr PI, Representative of Deputy Commissioner of Police, Panvel
- Dr. S N Gajbhiye, Sr. Scientist (Retd) - CSIR - National Institute of Oceanography

#### **MMRDA Officials**

- Mr. Yatin Sakhalkar, Superintending Engineer, MMRDA
- Mr. V. A. Jambhale, Executive Engineer, MMRDA
- Mr. G G Deshpande Dy. Engineer, MMRDA

#### **General Consultants MTHL project**

- Mr. V. D. Sharma, Dy Team Leader
- Mr. Vivek Kulkarni
- Mrs. Nimisha Ghorpade

The gist of discussions is as follows;

At the outset the Chairman, Coordination Committee welcomed all present and briefed about the agenda for the meeting. He mentioned that the various demands raised by Fisher folks through their representatives would be discussed in the meeting and the recommendations of the committee would be obtained in this regard. The issue of approval to the disbursement of funds for compensation to the concerned Collectors would also be discussed in the meeting. The chairman expressed displeasure about absence of officials of Fisheries Department.

Mr. Vivek Kulkarni apprised the committee members about the work carried out by MMRDA so far. He presented the status of the survey done till the date. He mentioned about the number of PAPs that were finalized by Department of Fisheries. About 3019 fishermen



from Navi Mumbai side had not submitted proof for their fishing activity and hence their eligibility is pending. MMRDA has decided to go to the fishermen villages to collect the ID proofs in this regard.

The Committee was also informed that, MMRDA and Fisheries department had jointly organized second phase of verification camps in various villages in Navi Mumbai from 11.12.2017 to 14.12.2017 for collecting documents of the fisher folks likely to be affected but who did not submit documents during survey done earlier. He further mentioned that the compilation of collected data is being done by GC-MTHL

The following issues were discussed by the members and decisions were taken as mentioned below.

**1. Revision in definition of family unit for compensation purpose:**

Mr. Kulkarni apprised that, the definition of family unit given in Para – Compensation Matrix at page 21 of approved Compensation Policy states as “One Unit is considered for the single or collective families per single Dol Net.”

The MLAs from Panvel and Uran and representatives of fishermen has raised demand to redefine family unit parameter as many adults/couples stay below one roof and do business separately for their livelihood.

MMRDA has consulted with various offices and proposes to redefine the family unit as follows;

- i) “Fisher folk” shall be defined by his fishing activity / nature of work and not by cast only.
- ii) The family is treated as unit in MMRDA’s compensation policy. The definition of a family shall be revised. If two brothers with their spouse live under one roof, they shall be treated as two families as their business, income and responsibilities are separate. We suggest that, a family shall consist of any person elder than 18 years single or Husband & wife with their children who are minors/dependants. If children are major and married, they shall be treated as separate family.

Mr. Bodhe pointed out that widows living separately also need to be considered as different family unit.

The Committee agreed to the revision of family unit definition and recommended for acceptance.

**2. Relaxation in type of Identity Proof submitted by fishermen:**

The MLAs from Panvel and Uran and representatives of Fisher folks have raised concern that many of the traditional Fisher folk do not have identity cards as required by Fisheries department. The Fisher folks conducting sole fishing activity may not be



enlisted in any Fishing Cooperative Society, but the livelihood of such Fisher folks depend on fishing activity and shall be eligible for compensation.

Hence, it was proposed that the certification as fishermen issued either by Fisheries department, documents of fishing boat, membership of fishermen cooperative society, certificate issued either by Block Development Officer or Tahsildar will also be considered valid proof of identity for the purpose of compensation only in case of MTHL project.

The Committee agreed to the relaxation of proof of identity for compensation and recommended for acceptance.

**3. Updating rate of compensation considering rise in price index:**

The rates adopted in the Fishermen Compensation Policy by the Committee are based on the compensation rate per family unit mentioned in the NGT's order dated 27.02.2015 in appeal 19/2007 of Paramparik Machchimar Vs JNPT- CIDCO-ONGC.

MLAs from Panvel & Uran and representatives of Fishermen on Navi Mumbai side have raised demand to escalate the compensation rates to the date of disbursement to the Fisher folks likely to be affected by the project.

The General Consultant, MTHL has worked out escalated rates of compensation on the basis of Labour Index published by RBI during this period.

The Committee agreed to update the rate of compensation per family unit to date of disbursement and recommended for acceptance. Proposal regarding the updating the rate of compensation based on the labour index shall be taken into consideration by MTHL GC and it is to be submitted to MMRDA with letter. The indices giving maximum benefit shall be adopted.

**4. Approval of Committee for disbursement of compensation cost:**

It was apprised that, Fisheries department has approved first list of eligible fishermen for getting compensation from Mahul, Trombay and Gavan villages. MMRDA will deposit the necessary funds to the concerned Collectors and the compensation would be disbursed to the beneficiaries through concerned Collector office. The Committee expressed that the payment of compensation shall be strictly through the Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) and the account details of the beneficiaries shall be thoroughly verified before disbursement of the compensation.

SE MMRDA requested approval of Committee to disburse the amount of compensation worked out based on updated rate of compensation.

The process of disbursement of compensation was also discussed during the meeting. During the discussion it was mentioned that due to lack of manpower and non-availability



of mechanism for disburse the compensation with the Collector Mumbai, the process of disbursement will be carried out by the Fisheries Department (Assistant Commissioner of Fisheries) assisted by representative of Collector and MMRDA (if required).

**5. Sharing information with Fishermen Societies:**

It was decided that the letters to be sent to the Fisheries Societies along with the list of eligible Fisher folks for notifying the Fisher folks who are eligible for compensation (i.e. to identify active and non-active members).

**6. Survey of Fisher folks under C1 category:**

During various site visits, it was observed that large numbers of fixed fishing nets are laid along the alignment of MTHL project. However, no one has come forward to claim the ownership of these fishing nets. It has also been observed that, the most critical impact will be on the Fisher folks falling in C1 Category. Their locations of fishing are perpetual and controlled under community traditions. These fishing nets will be displaced permanently due to the bridge structure.

Committee expressed that MMRDA and Consultant shall conduct joint survey along with Fisheries Department for identifying the Fisher folks from C1 category as soon as possible. MMRDA shall also give wide publicity in local newspaper before conducting such survey.

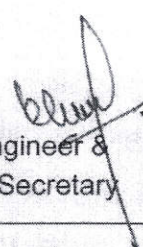
On the suggestion of Dr. Gajbhiye, Sr. Scientist (Retd) - CSIR - National Institute of Oceanography, the Committee also accepted obtaining the list of Fisher folks from the updated census that may be available with the Fisheries Department.

**7. Compensation to all categories of Fisher Folk to be considered under C1 category:**

MMRDA informed the Committee that the representatives of Fisher folks from Navi Mumbai side have requested to adopt rate of compensation of C1 category to all categories of Fisher folk.

Committee rejected the demand (since the policy is already framed on certain principles of proportioning of damages / loss of livelihood) and instructed MMRDA to evaluate compensation amount in accordance with the provisions in the policy.

**8. Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.**

  
Chief Engineer &  
Member Secretary