

### **3.3 Failure of oversight/administrative control**

The Government has an obligation to improve the quality of life of the people for which it works, towards fulfillment of certain goals in the areas of health, education, development and upgradation of infrastructure, public service etc. However, Audit noticed instances where the funds released by the Government for creating public assets for the benefit of the community remained unutilised/ blocked and/or proved unfruitful/ unproductive due to indecisiveness, lack of administrative oversight and concerted action at various levels. A few such cases have been discussed below:

#### **HEALTH, MEDICAL EDUCATION AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

##### **3.3.1 Idle expenditure**

**Due to failure of Department to ensure suitability of site in compliance of Electricity rules, 1956 and subsequent non-shifting of 33 KV electric wires, staff quarters remained unoccupied resulting in idle expenditure of ₹ 1.71 crore.**

According to Indian Electricity Rules, 1956 Chapter VIII Clause 80 (1) where a extra-high voltage overhead line passes above or adjacent to any building or part of a building, it shall have on the basis of maximum sag a vertical clearance above the highest part of the building immediately under such line, of not less than 3.7 metres for high voltage line up to and including 33,000 volts and the horizontal clearance between the nearest conductor and any part of such building, on the basis of maximum deflection due to wind pressure, be not less than two metres.

Secretary, Health, Medical Education and Family Welfare Department (Department) accorded (December 2007) administrative approval for ₹ 3.18 crore for construction of hospital and staff quarters of Community Health Centre (CHC), Sarwan, Deoghar under National Rural Health Mission. The Department assigned (February 2008) the work to District Engineer (DE), *Zila Parishad*, Deoghar and Deputy Commissioner (DC), Deoghar issued (February 2008) work order to departmentally complete the work at a cost of ₹ 3.18 crore in eight months. Further, the Chief Engineer (CE), Rural Engineering Organisation, Chhotanagpur and Santhal Pargana, Ranchi technically sanctioned (February 2008) the estimate for ₹ 3.81 crore against which the Department accorded (February 2008) revised approval for ₹ 3.67 crore.

Audit scrutiny (March 2014) of records of Medical Officer (MO) In-charge, CHC, Sarwan, Deoghar revealed that after completion of construction of hospital and staff quarters, buildings were handed over (November 2012) to MO In-charge Sarwan but staff quarters constructed at a cost of ₹ 1.71 crore remained unoccupied (March 2014) as high tension (33 KV) electric wires passing over newly constructed staff quarters posed danger which was informed (December 2012) by MO, In-charge to DC.

On a reference by DC (February 2013), Executive Engineer (EE), Electric Supply Division, Deoghar intimated (February 2013) that 33 KV electric wires were installed there since last ten years and construction of buildings below those wires was illegal. The EE, however, submitted (February 2013) an estimate to MO, In-charge for ₹ 11.00 lakh for shifting of these wires. MO, In-charge again informed (April 2014) the DC that the 33 KV electric wires had not been shifted. We did not notice any initiative taken by the MO, In-charge for requesting the higher authority for sanctioning fund for shifting of 33 KV wires.

Thus, failure of the Department to ensure suitable site in compliance with provision of Indian Electricity Rules for construction of staff quarters, according technical approval to unsuitable site by CE, commencement of construction of staff quarters by the District Engineer, who was fully aware that 33 KV electric wires were passing close over the site and delayed taking up of matter by MO, In-charge only after completion of work resulted in staff quarters remaining unoccupied rendering the expenditure of ₹ 1.71 crore idle.

The matter was referred to Government (June 2014); their reply had not been received (January 2015) despite reminders<sup>13</sup>.

### 3.3.2 Unfruitful expenditure

**Delayed construction/ upgradation of proposed Primary Health Centre building into Community Health Centre building rendered the expenditure of ₹ 1.92 crore unfruitful.**

With a view to provide quality health care to the people of the State, the Government of Jharkhand had emphasized on construction/ upgradation of Community Health Centres (CHCs).

The Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department (Department), Government of Jharkhand (GoJ) initially allotted (October 2005) ₹ 0.20 crore to the Deputy Commissioner (DC), West Singhbhum for construction of Primary Health Centre (PHC) building, Tantnagar in West Singhbhum district. The Department decided to upgrade the proposed PHC into CHC building and again allotted (October 2006) ₹ 1.25 crore to DC. These funds were drawn by DC and kept in the District Reproductive and Child Health Society account operated by Civil Surgeon cum Chief Medical Officer (CS cum CMO), West Singhbhum.

We observed that on the basis of model drawing and design, the Department estimated (January 2007) the cost of building ₹ 1.40 crore<sup>14</sup>. Subsequently, the estimate of the CHC building was revised to ₹ 3.18 crore<sup>15</sup> for which the Chief Engineer, Building Construction Department, Ranchi accorded (July

<sup>13</sup> Reminders: Letter Nos. Report (Civil)/AR/2013-14/98 dated 5 August 2014, 199 dated 10 September 2014 and 290 dated 15 October 2014.

<sup>14</sup> ₹ 1.14 crore for the construction of main building and ₹ 0.26 crore for renovation of administrative and Outdoor Patient Department (OPD) building.

<sup>15</sup> Technical sanction for construction of CHC, Construction of residences for medical and para medical staff, Boundary wall, Community toilet and shelter for waiting, generator etc.