

Health, Medical and Family Welfare Department

2.6 Non-completion of Maternity and Child Health block

The construction of Maternity and Child Health block at Government General Hospital, Kakinada was stalled after incurring an expenditure of ₹12.99 crore due to non-release of timely funds by Government of Andhra Pradesh received under National Health Mission from Government of India (GoI). Also, the intended purpose of providing maternity and child health care with requisite facility could not be achieved even after a lapse of seven years from the date of provisioning of funds by GoI and the expenditure made became wasteful.

Government of Andhra Pradesh (GOAP) accorded administrative sanction²⁴⁰ (July 2014) for construction of a new Maternity & Child Health (MCH) Block in Government General Hospital (GGH), Kakinada at a cost of ₹20.00 crore (Civil work: ₹14.60 crore and Equipment: ₹5.40 crore) under National Health Mission (NHM) grants for the year 2013-14. The Chief Engineer, APMSIDC²⁴¹ (the executing agency) accorded (August 2015) technical sanction for construction of MCH building with Ground and First floor (G+1) accommodating 117 beds.

The work was awarded (March 2016) by APMSIDC to a contractor²⁴² for ₹11.49 crore with stipulation to complete the work in 18 months by September 2017. The work could not be commenced immediately by the Contractor, as there was delay in handing over²⁴³ of site by GGH. The site was handed over to the Contractor in January 2017. Subsequently the Superintendent, GGH, mooted a proposal (September 2017) to shift the general medicine and general surgery departments in the GGH building to the proposed new MCH building as the existing GGH building is very old and obsolete. Accordingly, the Superintendent requested (September 2017) Director of Medical Education (DME) to accord permission for construction of three additional floors in the new MCH block. As per the proposal (September 2017) of the Superintendent, the DME requested (January & March 2018) GoAP for additional funds of ₹40 crore for construction of three additional floors.

Accordingly, the designs of the building which were originally planned for G+1 floor was revised²⁴⁴ (March 2017) to accommodate up to G+4 floors. The work was executed (as of July 2018²⁴⁵) by the contractor as per revised design for a value of ₹12.99 crore²⁴⁶. However, there was no progress of work after July 2018. Further, as per the request made by DME, GoAP had accorded administrative sanction²⁴⁷ (February 2019) for ₹6.30 crore to complete

²⁴⁰ GO Ms No.114, H.M.& FW dept., dated 21/7/2014

²⁴¹ Andhra Pradesh Medical Services Infrastructure Development Corporation

²⁴² M/s Surya Rama Constructions

²⁴³ delay was due to unauthorised encroachments/occupants of GGH land, cleared by District authorities

²⁴⁴ strength and width of the pillars and width of the base/foundation was increased

²⁴⁵ extension of time was granted (January 2018) up to July 2018

²⁴⁶ ₹8.05 crore (₹7.20 crore to contractor and ₹0.85 crore to APMSIDC towards Engineering Supervision charges) and balance amount payable to contractor is ₹4.94 crore for the work done

²⁴⁷ G.O. Rt. No. 91, H.M&FW Dept., dated 08/2/2019

the incomplete G+1 floor of MCH building in full shape. However, the funds were not released by GoAP as of January 2022.

Thus, despite release of funds by GoI, even the originally planned G+1 floor²⁴⁸ could not be completed due to non-release of funds by GoAP to the implementing agency. As a result, the construction of Maternity and Child Health block at Government General Hospital, Kakinada was stalled after incurring an expenditure of ₹8.05 crore and an additional committed liability of ₹4.94 crore. Further, the intended purpose of providing maternity and child health care with requisite facility could not be achieved even after a lapse of seven years from the date of provisioning of funds by GoI and the expenditure of ₹12.99 crore became wasteful.

Government accepted the Audit observation and replied that soon after receipt of funds the balance work will be completed.

²⁴⁸ completed ground floor and first floor slabs and panel walls in ground floor of the building.