

Public Health Department

2.11 Idle expenditure on establishment of Trauma Care Centre

Trauma Care Centre at Vaijapur, District Aurangabad was not operational since last six years for want of electric supply resulting in idle expenditure of ₹ 1.66 crore.

Accidental trauma is a leading cause of mortality in India. If basic life support, first aid and replacement of fluids⁵⁵ can be arranged within the first hour of the injury (the golden hour), lives of many of the victims can be saved. In view of the above, the Public Health Department (PHD), Government of Maharashtra (GoM) decided (March 2007) to establish a Level III⁵⁶ Trauma Care Centre (TCC) having 10 beds⁵⁷ in the premises of Sub-District Hospital (SDH), Vaijapur, District Aurangabad, near National Highway-8.

The administrative approval was accorded (August 2010) and the technical sanction to the work was granted (May 2011) by Public Works Circle, Aurangabad for construction of the TCC. The Public Works Department (PWD) issued (August 2011) work order, completed the work after incurring an expenditure of ₹ 1.66 crore and handed over (August 2013) the TCC to SDH, Vaijapur (SDH).

During scrutiny of records of SDH, Vaijapur audit observed (August 2017) that after taking over possession of TCC, the SDH requested (May 2014) Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd. (MSEDCL) to submit the estimate for work of Express Feeder Line (EFL) considering the need of uninterrupted electric power supply to operate the lift and blood bank of the TCC. The SDH submitted (May 2014) an estimate of ₹ 75 lakh to the District Hospital, Aurangabad. But, the District Hospital, Aurangabad requested (September 2014) Directorate of Health Services, Mumbai (DHS) for the fund of ₹ 32 lakh only. The SDH again requested (June 2015) the District Hospital, Aurangabad for the fund of ₹ 77.22 lakh and the District Hospital, Aurangabad asked (June 2015) the SDH to submit the detailed estimate for the same which has not been submitted till date. This indicates lack of clarity between the District Hospital, Aurangabad and SDH with regard to the estimated expenditure on EFL.

Meanwhile, the MSEDCL refused (June 2015) to provide EFL/HT connection as the SDH and TCC are situated in the same premises and more than one HT connection cannot be provided for a single premises. The SDH was asked to apply for load enhancement and the application for load enhancement was accordingly made (August 2015) by the SDH. The MSEDCL accorded (December 2016) technical sanction for the above load enhancement for ₹ 2.64 lakh. But, the work could not be done as the said amount is yet to be paid by SDH.

⁵⁵ Fluid replacement or fluid resuscitation is the medical practice of replenishing bodily fluid lost through sweating, bleeding, fluid shifts or other pathologic processes.

⁵⁶ Level III TCC would provide initial evaluation and stabilise accident victims.

⁵⁷ Five Intensive Care Units and Five General Trauma Beds.

The DHS, Mumbai had appointed a total staff of eight consisting of Doctors, Nurses *etc.*, against the sanctioned strength of 15 for the TCC between August 2007 and December 2008. But, due to non-functioning of TCC, these persons were diverted to SDH.

During the period from 2013 to 2019, SDH Vaijapur had received 521 accidental cases and 114 head injury cases, which could not receive the benefit of TCC facility.

From the above it is clear that no efforts were made by either the SDH or the District Hospital, Aurangabad to deposit the fund of ₹ 2.64 lakh as demanded by the MSEDCL for load enhancement. Instead, the matter is being constantly pursued with the MSEDCL for providing EFL which had already been refused.

On this being pointed out, the SDH stated (May 2019) that for want of EFL, distribution point and the electric meter TCC is not functioning. The District Hospital, Aurangabad attributed (May 2019) this to non-submission of the detailed estimates for installation of EFL, distribution point and the electric meter by the SDH.

Thus, due to lack of clarity and coordination among the various Government departments and agencies desired electric supply was not provided to the TCC. This has resulted in idle expenditure of ₹ 1.16 crore on construction of TCC, besides depriving beneficiaries of intended benefits since last six years.

The matter was referred to the Government in June 2019; their reply was awaited as of June 2020.

Higher and Technical Education Department

2.12 Irregular release of excess amount of grant-in-aid to the non-government technical institutes

Non-adjustment of excess grant released during previous years by Higher and Technical Education Office, Amravati resulted in irregular release of excess grant-in-aid of ₹ 1.34 crore in violation of the prescribed Rules.

The Government of Maharashtra (GoM) issued (May 1978) directions approving the Rules for assessment and payment of grant-in-aid to Non-Government Engineering, Technical and Technological Colleges and Polytechnics in the State. These Rules stipulate payment of the maintenance grants to the grantee institutions at the rate of 90 *per cent* of the total admissible expenditure or the deficit (admissible expenditure minus receipts) whichever is less, on the budget estimates of the institutions for the year,