



Incomplete building of auditorium at JLN Medical College, Ajmer

GoR stated (July 2017) that A&F sanction of ₹ 3.75 crore was issued for construction work of 1,263 square meter area on the basis of preliminary estimates but detailed drawings were approved by P&C for 2,760 square meter area and accordingly work was started. The cost of construction increased due to increased area of construction and non-inclusion of the essential furnishing work¹² in the original estimate. Revised A&F sanction of ₹ 13.50 crore for completion of the auditorium was awaited. It was also stated that the proposal of ₹ 6.75 crore for revised A&F sanction was erroneously submitted by the PWD in February 2017.

However, the fact remains that even after six years **after** sanction for construction of auditorium, neither has the auditorium been completed nor has the incomplete structure been modified for any other purpose thereby rendering expenditure of ₹ 2.35 crore unfruitful. Moreover, the requirement for an auditorium had ceased as per the new norms of MCI.

Medical and Health Department

3.6 Unfruitful expenditure

Lack of planning at the Department level and coordination with the district units resulted in unfruitful expenditure of ₹ 3.33 crores on construction of *dharmshalas* at District Hospitals and Community Health Centres.

Government of Rajasthan (GoR) accorded sanctions for construction of *dharmshalas* at District Hospitals (May 2013) and Community Health Centres (August 2013) to provide accommodation to the relatives and attendants of the patients and directed to submit a plan for their operation to the Finance Department before commencement of the construction work. Consequently, Director (Public Health), Medical and Health Services issued (December 2014) instructions for operation of *dharamshalas* through Medical Relief Societies (MRS) and Non Government Organisations (NGOs).

¹² Acoustic system, wall panelling, false ceiling, furnishing, sound system and stage light.

Scrutiny of records of Principal Medical Officer (PMO), Tonk (December 2016) and Banswara (February 2017) revealed that *dharamshalas*, which already existed, were operational at both District Hospitals (DHs). In Banswara, the relatives and attendants of the patients were staying in the already existing “*wagad dharmasala*”. In Tonk, though a *dharamshala* existed there from 2006 onwards, only seven rooms out of total 24 rooms were occupied and that too only for two days. Thus, the existing *dharamshalas* at both the DHs were sufficient to cater the demand of the persons staying with the patients. It was, however, observed that without assessing the requirement, new *dharamshalas* were constructed in Tonk and Banswara at a cost of ₹ 0.71 crore and ₹ 0.95 crore respectively and handed over in December 2014 to PMOs for operations.

It was further observed that four *dharmashalas* were also constructed at Community Health Centres¹³ (CHCs) in Rajsamand, Barmer and Chittorgarh Districts at cost of ₹ 1.67 crore and handed over to respective CHCs during August 2014 to May 2015. It was noticed that the plan for their operation was not prepared since their handing over, which was contrary to the direction of GoR to submit a plan for their operation before commencement of the construction works. It was, however, observed that these *dharamshalas* were not operational since their handing over to the medical authorities.

PMO, Tonk intimated (December 2016) that he did not submit proposal for construction of new *dharmasala* and PMO, Banswara proposed (January 2017) to use newly constructed *dharamshala* for office purpose. Medical Officers of CHCs stated that no instructions were received to operationalise these *dharamshalas*. However, the fact remained that all these six *dharamshalas* were not being used after their construction.

Thus, two *dharamshalas* were constructed at DHs without assessment of their requirement and four *dharamshalas* were constructed at CHCs without preparation of plan for their operation. This resulted in none of these *dharamshalas* being utilised and rendered expenditure of ₹ 3.33 crore unfruitful. This also pointed to the lack of planning at the Departmental level in assessment of their requirement of *dharamshalas* and coordination with the district units for operation of *dharamshalas* constructed at CHCs.

GoR stated (September 2017) that all PMOs and Community Medical Officers have been directed to alternatively utilise *dharamshalas* for malnutrition treatment, training, residential accommodation and for office premises.

The fact remains that the *dharmshalas* were constructed without adequate planning and coordination with the district units for their operation, which rendered expenditure of ₹ 3.33 crore unfruitful so far.

¹³ District-Rajsamand: CHC Delwara (₹ 0.45 crore) and CHC Khamnor (₹ 0.44 crore), District-Barmer: CHC Sivana (₹ 0.29 crore) and District-Chittorgarh: CHC Gangrar (₹ 0.49 crore).