

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 reminders¹³.

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 crore¹⁴. Subsequently, the estimate of the CHC building was revised to ₹ 3.18 crore¹⁵ for which the Chief Engineer, Building Construction Department, Ranchi accorded (July

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

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

¹⁵ 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.

2007) the technical approval. DC selected (September 2007) the District Engineer *Zila Parishad* (DEZP) West Singhbhum as executing agency for departmental¹⁶ execution of work. Accordingly, CS cum CMO, Chaibasa assigned (September 2007) the work to DEZP without prescribing due date of completion of building.

However, the DEZP while issuing work order on 15 September 2007 to concerned Assistant Engineer/ Junior Engineer (AE/JE) fixed the completion date of work as 31 December 2010. The CS cum CMO released ₹ 1.45 crore between September 2007 and August 2008 to DEZP.

Again, DC received ₹ 1.33 crore¹⁷ more from the Department and book transferred¹⁸ (between March 2009 and March 2011) the same to DEZP. Out of ₹ 2.78 crore total available fund, the DEZP advanced ₹ 2.73 crore to JE/AE between September 2007 and March 2011 against which ₹ 1.92 crore was adjusted (March 2011) towards expenditure on work and ₹ 81.41 lakh remained as unadjusted¹⁹ as of June 2014.

We further observed that the Department did not release fund as per the approved estimate of ₹ 3.18 crore as of June 2014. Even the allotted funds were not utilised gainfully as there was no progress in work after March 2011, ₹ 81.41 lakh was lying unadjusted against JE/AE. The lackadaisical attitude of the Department and inefficiency of DEZP and their JE/AE to utilise the available fund resulted in the CHC building remaining incomplete as on June 2014.

CS-cum-CMO replied (January 2014) that despite being reminded several times, DEZP did not complete the work. On a query of audit, the DEZP replied (June 2014) that reasons for incomplete building was not on record and physical progress of work was being ascertained from JE/AE.

Thus, non-release of fund as per revised estimate by the Department, lack of proper supervision by the DC and CS-cum-CMO from the very beginning when work was assigned without fixing time schedule for completing the work and lack of performance by the DEZP resulted in CHC building remaining incomplete even after lapse of more than six years and rendered the expenditure of ₹ 1.92 crore unfruitful defeating the purpose of upgrading the proposed PHC to CHC for providing better health care.

The matter was referred to Government (June 2014); their reply had not been received (January 2015) despite reminders²⁰.

¹⁶ The work was to be executed by the departmental engineer through direct purchase of material and engagement of labourers.

¹⁷ February 2009: ₹ 68 lakh, October 2009: ₹ 30 lakh and March 2011: ₹ 35 lakh.

¹⁸ Book transfer means the allotment was made to the department and the fund was transferred to the executing agency directly through treasury.

¹⁹ JEs: ₹ 59.40 lakh, AE: ₹ 22.01 lakh.

²⁰ Reminders: Letter Nos. Report (Civil)/AR/2013-14/103 dated 8 August 2014, 212 dated 18 September 2014 and 302 dated 30 October 2014.