

FOURTEENTH KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**COMMITTEE
ON
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
(2019-2021)**

FORTY EIGHTH REPORT
(Presented on 26th June, 2019)



**SECRETARIAT OF THE KERALA LEGISLATURE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

2019

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On

**Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in
the 8th Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2016-2019)**

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**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
(2019-2021)**

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INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Committee on Public Accounts, having been authorised by the Committee to present this Report, on their behalf present the Forty Eighth Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the 8th Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2016-2019)

The Committee considered and finalised this Report at the meeting held on 24th June 2019.

Thiruvananthapuram,
24th June, 2019.

V. D. SATHEESAN,
Chairman,
Committee on Public Accounts.

REPORT

This Report deals with the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 8th Report of the committee on Public Accounts (2016-2019).

The 8th Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2016-2019) was presented to the House on 22nd August 2017. The Report contained 7 recommendations relating to Revenue (Disaster Management) Department. Government were addressed on 15th September 2017 to furnish the statement of Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the report and the final copies were received on 3rd July 2018.

The Committee considered the Action Taken statements at its meeting held on 21-11-2018 and approved the same in the light of the replies furnished by Government. The recommendations of the Committee and replies furnished by Government are included in this Report.

REVENUE (DISASTER MANAGEMENT) DEPARTMENT

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 1, Para No. 12)

The Committee observes that the Department had failed to follow the objective norms for the beneficiary selection of 'Coastal Housing and Rehabilitation Project'. The Committee recommends that, Government should prepare a comprehensive list of houseless people in every village of Kerala with Objective Criteria. The Committee also recommends that, beneficiaries should be selected from the list in the forum of Gramasabha to avoid duplication in future and to initiate revenue recovery proceedings against beneficiaries in case of duplication.

Action Taken

Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme in the state has been carried out through various Departments. Government constituted a District Level Monitoring Committee appointing District Collector as Convener and District Panchayat President as Chairman. President of Grama Panchayat and Block Panchayat were

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also members of this committee. The list of beneficiaries has been prepared and selected by this committee. So there is no chance of duplication in the list. There is no major deviation from the Guidelines and implementation of CHRP was done by adhering to the norms prescribed by the Government of India. The District Level Monitoring Committee had prepared a comprehensive list of Tsunami effected people who had become houseless in the Tsunami attack. Distribution of Tsunami houses that were constructed under Coastal Housing and Rehabilitation Programme has been carried out in the State according to this beneficiary list.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 2, Para No. 13)

The Committee analyses that TRP housing mission in Kerala had failed in its disaster management objectives laid down by Government of India in terms of resistance, structure and in focusing the area which is truly vulnerable. Hence the Committee directs that Government should ensure construction of disaster resistant houses in the Coastal areas of the state in its future housing initiatives.

Action Taken

Utmost care had been taken to resist natural calamities in the constructions made in tsunami sites. Sophisticated technologies and designs will be adopted to construct buildings to overcome natural disaster in future constructions through approved Government agencies. Recommendation of the Committee is noted for future reference.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 3, Para No. 14)

On agreeing with the explanation of Government regarding non realisation of interest on advance amount sanctioned to agencies like M/s Habitat group of Technology and KSHB, the Committee recommends that no further action need be persuaded against the said implementing agencies as they are selected on no loss no profit basis.

Action Taken

As per recommendation of the Committee no further action will be persuaded against M/S Habitat Group of Technology and KSHB for realisation of interest on advance amount sanctioned to them.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 4, Para No. 15)

The Committee understands that the proposal was to construct 12367 houses under Tsunami rehabilitation Programme, out of which construction of 11014 houses were nearing completion and construction of 970 houses were in progress and construction of 293 houses were entangled in stay proceedings. The Committee recommends that the Government should take serious effort to lift the stay proceedings imposed by the court so as to complete the construction of houses at the earliest.

Action Taken

There are no stay proceedings against the construction of tsunami houses except in Thrissur district. In Thrissur district sanction was given to construct 1167 houses under Tsunami Rehabilitation Project; out of which 876 houses were completed and 870 houses were handed over to beneficiaries. Construction of 291 houses were stalled due to cases pending before the High Court and due to objection of local people. This has been timely brought to the notice of the Hon'ble High Court and necessary steps has been taken to vacate the stay proceedings.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 5, Para No. 16)

The Committee expresses its dissatisfaction over the argument that cost escalation factor and different mode of construction were attributed to different rates to the beneficiaries under same scheme and directs the department to submit a detailed report in this regard at the earliest.

Action Taken

Time lag has been occurred for construction works due to preparation of beneficiary list in Panchayath level along with prescribed formal Resolution, and also due to the hesitation of beneficiary to move to new places. Also separate list was prepared for those beneficiaries, who prefer to construct house in their own land under In-situ project. Construction cost differs on the conditions of earth and soil in different places. Construction costs differs due to different types of construction methods adopted by beneficiaries in the same project.

Recommendation

(Sl.No. 6, Para No. 17)

The committee recommends that Government should ensure that funds sanctioned by Government of India for the relief/rehabilitation measures in connection with natural calamities reach the affected people.

Action Taken

List of beneficiaries are prepared on recommendation of Panchayat/Village level Committee based on the rules and guidelines of Government. Government has taken all the effects to ensure that the funds reached into affected people.

Recommendation

(Sl. No. 7, Para No. 18)

The committee directs that the Government should submit a detailed report regarding the beneficiaries who stay back in their original land in the vulnerable areas.

Action Taken

The Government took all efforts to rehabilitate the Tsunami affected people in the state. Most of the Tsunami affected families belongs to Fishermen community. In some districts they showed hesitation to move from seashore to the new places. But most of the beneficiaries are living in the Tsunami houses provided by Government. 106 families in Karunagapally Taluk in Kollam District, 35 families of Malappuram District and 87 families in Thrissur District stay back in their original places quitting the Tsunami houses provided by Government.

Thiruvananthapuram,
24th June, 2019.

V. D. SATHEESAN,
Chairman,
Committee on Public Accounts.

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