

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

(ALSO UPDATED AND AVAILABLE ON MONITORING PORTAL UNDER PROJECT MANAGEMENT /PROJECT REPORTS/PROJECT STATUS REPORT)

PROJECT SUMMARY

REPORT DATE	PROJECT NAME	PREPARED BY
Oct 05, 2019	Housing Reconstruction Awaran	Project Manager/Field Manager

STATUS SUMMARY

The construction work that had picked up from mid-August to mid-September, is again very slow. Most of the remaining beneficiaries who got their 1st installments a long time ago haven't even started construction yet. It can be safely assumed that they have consumed the money elsewhere and HRA needs to start taking action against such cases.

The verification of the remaining beneficiaries to reach the 8,000 count is now complete and the list of 2,120 verified beneficiaries with the data gathered is being re-checked and consolidated. The detailed report will be presented to SFD by October 15, 2019.

HRA has disbursed 2nd installment to a total of 2,908 beneficiaries. Some discrepancies were found and HRA has already been asked for clarification. However, there is no response as yet from HRA.

CHEQUE DISTRIBUTION STATUS – LEVEL 01

UNION COUNCIL	SFD APPROVED BENEFICIARIES	LEVEL-01 CHEQUES DISTRIBUTED AUG 26, 2019	PERCENTAGE OF CHEQUES DISTRIBUTED AUG 26, 219
AWARAN	1,231	1226	99%
TEERTAJ	941	932	99%
NOKJO	1,409	1409	100%
PARWAR	740	740	100%
GAJJAR	562	560	99%
GISHKORE	584	571	98%
DANDAR	414	405	98%
Total	5,881	5,843	

LEVEL-01 CHEQUES ENCASHED & LEVEL-02 PAYMENT DISBURSED (BANK RECONCILIATION)

UNION COUNCIL	LEVEL-01 CHEQUES ENCASHED BY AUG 05, 2019	LEVEL-01 ENCASHED CHEQUES PERCENTAGE	LEVEL-02 PAYMENT DISBURSED SEP 23, 2019	LEVEL-02 PAYMENT DISBURSED PERCENTAGE
AWARAN	1,177	95.61%	490	39.81%
TEERTAJ	873	92.77%	461	48.99%
NOKJO	1,367	97.02%	766	54.36%
PARWAR	720	97.30%	480	64.86%
GAJJAR	541	96.26%	387	68.86%
GISHKORE	537	91.95%	220	37.67%
DANDAR	333	80.43%	103	24.94%
TOTAL	5,553		2,908	

LEVEL-01 & LEVEL-02 ACHIEVED

UNION COUNCIL	DOORBAND LEVEL-1 ACHIEVED SEP 30, 2019	% OF DOORBAND LEVEL-1 ACHIEVED SEP 30, 2019	ROOFBAND LEVEL-2 ACHIEVED SEP 30, 2019	% OF DOORBAND LEVEL-2 ACHIEVED SEP 30, 2019
AWARAN	667	56.67%	234	47.76%
TEERTAJ	673	77.09%	73	15.84%
NOKJO	938	68.62%	146	19.06%
PARWAR	634	88.06%	128	26.67%
GAJJAR	463	85.58%	142	36.69%
GISHKORE	323	60.15%	40	18.18%
DANDAR	177	53.15%	9	08.74%
TOTAL	3,865		771	

ISSUES AT HAND

ISSUE: PACE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK IS VERY SLOW

It has been reconciled from Bank Statement and field reports by the surveyors that till Aug 7, 2019 out of 5,553 beneficiaries who have encashed their cheques, only 3,865 beneficiaries have reached the Level-1 status as of September 30, 2019. It appears that approximately 1,600 beneficiaries are willful defaulters and are not building their houses even though that they have encashed their cheques 3-4 months back. It may be safely assumed that they have spent the money elsewhere.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

These beneficiaries have been identified and their list sent to HRA for taking action against these willful defaulters. This will ensure that the remaining 2,000 newly verified beneficiaries whose verification drive has just been completed do not delay the start of construction.

ISSUE: CONSTRUCTION NOT PER THE APPROVED DESIGN

HRA is not providing any active guidance to the beneficiaries for seismic-proof construction of their houses. This has raised serious safety concerns for the inhabitants who will be living in the newly-built houses. Still a significant number of beneficiaries (approximately 20%) have not followed basic engineering principles in constructing their houses because of lack of knowledge and support from HRA.

ACTION TAKEN

HRA was asked to engage their engineers for supervision of beneficiaries' construction work and it has been reported that HRA engineers have now started to engage in the supervision of construction activity. However, more active involvement on part of HRA is required to ensure 100% house construction as per approved seismic-proof design. The seismic-proof construction is required to be approved by HRA engineers as per agreed procedure before making payments for the next level to beneficiaries.

ISSUE: VERIFICATION OF REMAINING 2,010 BENEFICIARIES

Surveyors were asked to start second phase of verification of 8,000 beneficiaries from end of November 2018 last year till March 31, 2019. Around 635 more beneficiaries were verified during this time bringing the total number to 6,533.

STATUS: **CLOSED**

After 4 months of extensive verification and audit drive, the 8,000 verified count has been achieved. The report will be shared with SFD by October 15, 2019.

From the second list of 1,250 substituted beneficiaries provided by HRA in mid of May 2019, a total of 898 beneficiaries could be verified. From the 3rd list of 130 Next of Kin (NoK), only 97 could be verified. This left the gap of 472 more beneficiaries to be verified. Most of the beneficiaries in the second list of 1,250 were claimed to be internally displaced persons (IDPs) were very hard to locate as their locations(villages) were not provided by HRA. From the geo-location data received from the field, it was observed that more than 50% of the beneficiaries in the second list were not in camps and not IDPs as claimed by HRA. This resulted in a lot of time being wasted to search the beneficiaries in order to verify them. However, Cyberstate surveyors completed verification of second list in around 45 days and this activity brought the total count of verified beneficiaries to 7,528.

Moreover, 18 beneficiaries were declared "rejected" as their names were already in the list of 16,000 beneficiaries of first phase.

In the meantime, it was reported by surveyors that beneficiaries who could not be verified from the original list of 8,000 were contacting them for their verification.

Out of the 60 beneficiaries from original list who were marked as “dubious”, 51 have been cleared as verified after their data was verified in second verification and 93 more beneficiaries were verified at the end of second phase from original list of 8,000. This brought the total number of verified beneficiaries to 7,672.

The 4th list of 741 received from HRA was initially screened and found to have dubious beneficiaries. This list also contained beneficiaries that were already in the initial 8,000 list. It was decided to complete an audit of each beneficiary from this list of 741 before the start of verification. Around 328 substituted beneficiaries were verified that brought the number to 8,000 before closing the list.

ISSUE: GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS	ACTION TAKEN
There has been complete silence on HRA side since May 22, 2019 when updated BoQ and tender documents were emailed to HRA. A copy same was also sent to SFD for record on June 17, 2019. However, a reminder has been sent to HRA requesting the updated status of tender of Government buildings on October 3, 2019	HRA has been asked to update the status on Oct 03, 2019 and the reply is still awaited.
ISSUE: 1st INSTALLMENT DISBURSEMENT HASN'T BEEN COMPLETED AS YET	ACTION TAKEN
As per the last bank statement that was received on August 7, 2019 from HRA, only 5,553 out of 5,880 beneficiaries have encashed their cheques. Moreover, HRA still haven't provided any update on the cheque distribution status of 327 beneficiaries who have not received the cheques of 1 st Instalment so far.	HRA has been requested to provide update in this regard on Oct 5, 2019.
ISSUE: CHEQUES RECONCILIATION OF FIRST INSTALLMENT	ACTION TAKEN
Two (02) cheques of Rs. 88,000 (Cheque # 13818916 and 13817686) do not reconcile with the cheque list provided by HRA.	HRA has been asked on Oct 3, 2019 to provide the latest bank statement.
Two (02) cheques of Rs. 88,000 (Cheque # 39500516 and 39500892) each were paid to beneficiaries from the list of 16,000 for which HRA notified “It is not SFD account cheque as it is clear from the cheque number that it is from HRA phase one account, mistakenly incorporated by the Bank”. However, we are still waiting for the bank statement with the reversal of these transactions.	Also, HRA response on the cheque reconciliation response on August 30, 2019 was "These Whys and whichs will be discussed In SFDs upcoming meeting, Now I have lot of things to do. "
HRA to confirm the beneficiaries for the 2 cheques (Cheque # 1382144 and 1382496) of Rs. 88,000 after getting information from the bank.	

ISSUE: 2 ND INSTALLMENT PAYMENT WAS MADE BY HRA BY THEIR OWN ACCORD	ACTION TAKEN
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In the 3rd round of 2nd Instalment disbursed on September 23, 2019, a total of 2,021 beneficiaries received Rs. 66,000 each.

HRA was asked on Sep 27, 2019 to clarify why the 311 beneficiaries were not paid and their response is still awaited.

Also, among the list of 2,232 beneficiaries that was shared with HRA on July 18, 2019, who have achieved Level-1, 311 beneficiaries were not paid the 2nd instalment for unknown reasons.

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Due to the slow progress of construction activities of the beneficiaries who haven't started work as yet, it is advised that HRA must give a final deadline for Level-1. If the beneficiaries don't achieve the Level-1 by the given deadline then the names of defaulter beneficiaries should be removed altogether, and legal action be taken against them.

As a way-out, it is strongly suggested that pre-fabricated houses be provided to those beneficiaries who haven't started construction due to the unavailability of labor, material and water. The same can also be provided to the new verified beneficiaries to avoid delays on excuses of unavailability of water, material and labor. This strategy will eliminate the persistent delay due to issues such as inclement hot and cold weather, long holidays, man and material shortages that were faced by beneficiaries during construction.

2. HRA needs to provide an update on the status of the tender for Government Buildings on urgent basis as this matter has been pending for more than 4 months.
3. The 1st installment disbursement status for already approved 5,880 beneficiaries must be dealt on urgent basis. Similarly, the payments that do not reconcile must be sorted out by HRA on urgent basis. It is strongly recommended that HRA be directed to update its MIS on urgent basis to avoid irregularities in payments in the future disbursements.