

MULTIPURPOSE DISASTER SHELTER PROJECT (MDSP)

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Consultant

FIELD VISIT REPORT

1. Period of Visit : 06 May – 07 May 2018
2. Location of Visit : Noakhali District.
3. Participant of visit : A.H.M. Mahbubur Rahman, TL, M&E Consultant,
Md. Matiur Rahman, Civil Engineer/ M&E Specialist, M&E Consultant,
Dr. Md. Barkat Ullah, Environment Specialist, M&E Consultant
4. Officials met during Visit :

LGED OFFICIALS

- Mr. Md. Ashraful Islam, Sub-Assistant Engineer, MDSP, LGED, Noakhali
- Mr. Md. Anwarul Islam, Surveyor, LGED, Kabirhat UZ, Noakhali

D&S CONSULTANTS

- Mr. Shailen Chandra Das, Field Resident Engineer, Noakhali,
- Mr. Md. Rezaul Karim, Field Supervisor, Noakhali,
- Mr. Md. Mohsin Alam, Field Supervisor, Noakhali,
- Mr. Mohammad Nurul Amin, Field Supervisor, Noakhali,
- Mr. Md. Shah Alam, Estimator cum Lab Technician, Noakhali.

CONTRACTORS' PERSONNEL- M/S Toma Construction & Co. Ltd

- Mr. Md. Mosharuf Hossain, Project Manager
- Mr. Md. Sadaruddin Ahmed, Deputy Project Manager,
- Mr. Engr. Shamsuzzaman, Assistant Project Manager,
- Mr. Engr. Moinul Islam, Area Engineer,
- Mr. Md. Mahtabuddin, Community Organiser,
- Mr. Md. Ziauddin Jewel, Community Organiser,
- Mr. Md. Alamgir Hossain, Community Organiser,
- Mr. Md. Khoeshed Alam, Site Engineer,
- Mr. Mohammad Sohel, Site Engineer,
- Mr. Md. Hafizur Rahman, Site Engineer,
- Mr. Md. Al-Mamun, Site Engineer,
- Mr. Mohammad Nadim, Site Manager,
- Mr. Md. Nurul Kabir, Site Engineer,
- Mr. Sadhan Roy, Site Engineer,
- Mr. Md. Rasel, Site Engineer.

SMC

- Mr. Md. Quamrul Islam, Vice-President, SMC, Purbo Char Amanullah GPS at Subarna Char UZ,
- Mr. Md. Azizul Hoque Bachhu, Vice-President, SMC, Dakhin Char Kazi Mokhlech GPS at Subarna Char UZ,
- Mr. Md. Abul Khair, Head Master, Heromi GPS at Subarna Char UZ,
- Mr. Md. Nur Mohammad, Head Master, Uttar H Mandartoli Non-Govt. (Regd.) PS at Noakhali Sadar UZ,
- Mr. Md. Abu Taher, Head Master, Dakhin Sullukia GPS at Noakhali Sadar UZ,
- Mr. Md. Hafizullah, President, SMC, Paschim Sullukia Ananda Bazar GPS at Noakhali Sadar UZ,

5. Activities of Visit : **Monitoring of the Implementation Activities of MDSP**

6. Sites visited: The following Shelter sites were visited: -

Package no. LGED/MDSP/NOA/14-15/NW-09:

- **NOAP-154:** Char Alauddin Red Crescent GPS, Suborno Char UZ.
- **NOAP-336:** Purbo Char Amanullah GPS, Suborno Char UZ.
- **NOAP-363:** Dakhin Char Kazi Mokhlech GPS, Suborno Char UZ.
- **NOAP-364:** Heromi GPS, Suborno Char UZ.
- **NOAP-235:** Uttar H Mandartoli Non-Govt. (Regd.) PS, Noakhali Sadar UZ.
- **NOAP-229:** Dakhin Sullukia GPS, Noakhali Sadar UZ.
- **NOAP-237:** Paschim Sullukia Ananda Bazar GPS, Noakhali Sadar UZ.
- **NOAP-375:** Jadobpur GPS, Kabirhat UZ.
- **NOAP-204:** 97 No. Darapnagar GPS, Kabirhat UZ.

7. Findings and Observations of the M&E Consultants:

A. General:

The M&E Consultants undertake the field visits as part of its obligation to perform the following:

- a) Overall monitoring and evaluation of project implementation activities;
- b) Carry out independent monitoring of project progress, inputs, outputs and outcomes and impact of project interventions at different point time;
- c) Supervise compliance of social and environmental safeguards;
- d) Propose recommendations for appropriate corrective actions, if any.

B. Physical works:

The M&E Consultants visited the following shelter sites:

Construction of New Shelters including Shelter Connecting Road

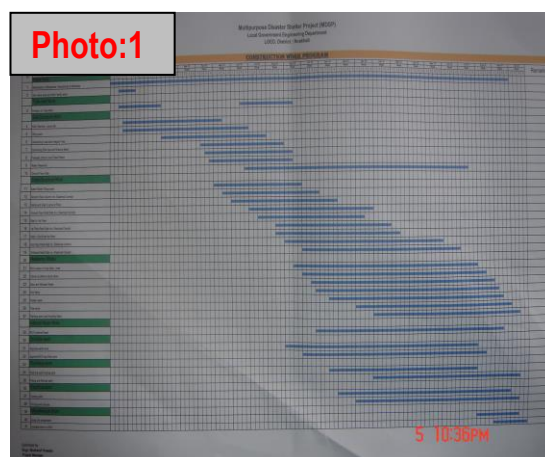
The M&E team visited 9 nos. under construction new shelter sites of MDSP in Suborno Char, Noakhali Sadar and Kahirhat Upazilas of Noakhali district.

- The reported physical progress of the construction of the 9 new shelter works are as follows: **NOAP-154: 23%; NOAP-336: 22%; NOAP-363: 25%; NOAP-364: 22%, NOAP-235: 20%, NOAP-229: 23%, NOAP-237: 23%, NOAP-375: 7%, and NOAP-204: 22%.**

- **Site selection:** Selection of all sites for construction of new shelters has been very good as these are indeed located in cyclone vulnerable remote places of the district.

- **Staff Mobilization by the Contractor:** M/S. Toma Construction & Co. Ltd. has made fairly good mobilization of field personnel. Project Manager, Deputy Project Manager, Assistant Project Manager, Area Engineer, Community Organizers, Site Engineers and other support staffs.

- **Construction Schedule:** A general construction Schedule of the package has been made (**Photo:1**). It should be made site specific. This is an essential instrument to program and monitor the construction activities. The schedule has been prepared for all 35 new shelter sites in a diagram that shows only the proposed start and completion dates of the various work elements. Actual dates of implementation of the various work elements have not been reflected anywhere. Construction schedule showing the dates of actual implementation of the various work elements against targets should be prepared for each individual structure site. Monitoring of the actual implementation of the various work elements against targets should be done. If necessary, the schedules may periodically be updated and followed up.



- **Site Plan:** Individual site plans of each shelter site showing the demarcated storage yard of construction materials, labour sheds, tube wells and toilets for construction labours, re-bar fabrication yard, waste disposal areas etc. have not been made for any working site as yet. A Site Plan is an essential instrument for efficient performance of construction works particularly in respect of ensuring management of environmental as well as social safeguard issues prior to and during construction activities. This should be prepared for each individual shelter site.
- As of end of April 2018, overall physical progress of the package is **17.30%** against cumulative target of **16.67%**. It shows that the current progress of the package is slightly ahead of target.
- The quality of construction materials such as MS Rod, stone chips, coarse sand etc. procured at sites appears good. Laboratory tests of MS rod, coarse sand, cement etc. have been done. Test reports have been made available during our visit.

- MS rods should be stored on raised platform to avoid mud and water (**Photo: 2**).
- Site offices and labor sheds have been constructed in all sites with few exceptions.
- Steel shutter materials have been used in all RCC works.
- As per MDSP requirement, the shelters have been designed as three storey buildings with provision of livestock accommodation on the 1st floor with ramp provision. The design provides construction of several numbers of cast in situ piles with variable lengths with pile diameter of 500 mm each.



Structure Wise Progress

The physical work of the package is still limited to foundation work only. Foundation work up to grade beam level mainly include i) Casting of required nos. of cast-in-situ piles; ii) Pile Cap casting including bracing beams; iii) Pedestal Column casting up to grade beams and iv) Grade beam casting.

Ongoing works of the above nine shelter sites have been described below:

- **NOAP-154:** All 75 nos. cast-in situ piles of lengths of 20.50 m and diameter of 500 mm have been cast. 16 nos. of pile caps out of total 31 nos. including bracing beams have been cast. Rebar & shutter placement for the remaining pile caps casting is in progress.

Excavated earth has been stacked irregularly and haphazardly right on the bank of the excavated pit. Backfilling by excavated earth in rain fed trench was being done (**Photo: 3**). Water should be pumped out before backfilling.



Advised to remove excavated earth and keep in waste disposal area. Debris of broken pile head has been kept in safe distance (**Photo: 4**).



- **NOAP-336:** All 75 nos. cast-in situ piles of lengths of 13.00 m and diameter of 500 mm have been cast. Breaking of pile heads is in progress. Pile Load Test has been done and is waiting for Integrity Test.

Broken concrete of the pile caps have been kept haphazardly (**Photo: 5**). The concrete debris should be removed from site and kept in waste disposal area located away from construction site.



- **NOAP-363:** All 75 nos. cast-in situ piles of lengths of 21.00 m and diameter of 500 mm have been cast. Pedestal Columns casting up to grade beams have been completed on 05 April 2018 and work of grade beams will be started soon as reported by the Contractor's Site Engineer.

The physical progress is ahead of target. MS rod has been stored on the road risking accident (**Photo:6**).



- **NOAP-364:** All 75 nos. cast-in situ piles of lengths of 17.50 m and diameter of 500 mm have been cast. Breaking of pile heads has been done. Pile Load Test has been done and is waiting for Integrity Test. No physical work was going on at site.
- **NOAP-235:** All 75 nos. cast-in situ piles of lengths of 22.00 m and diameter of 500 mm have been cast. Breaking of pile heads and earth excavation up to pile caps base are underway, (**Photo :7**). Arrangement for Pile Load Test is in progress but load arrangement has collapsed (**Photo:8**). The Contractor has assured to redo proper Pile Load Test arrangement.



- **NOAP-229:** All 75 nos. cast-in situ piles of lengths of 14.00 m and diameter of 500 mm have been cast. 16 nos. of pile caps out of total 31 nos. including bracing beams have been cast (**Photo:9**). Rebar & shutter placement for the remaining pile caps casting is in progress.



Advised to immediately remove the spoil earth to waste disposal area (**Photo:10**).

Site office has not been constructed as yet, labour shed has been constructed. Overall site management appears poor.



- **NOAP-237:** All 75 nos. cast-in situ piles of lengths of 13.00 m and diameter of 500 mm have been cast. Pile Load Test & Pile Integrity Test have been done. Pile caps casting is underway.

Excavated earth has been stored right on the bank of excavation creating obstacles to proper working environment. Earth should be shifted to safe distance.

- **NOAP-375:** 25 nos. cast in situ piles out of 75 nos. have been cast so far. Each pile has a length of 22.50 m and diameter of 500 mm. Casting of situ piles is in progress at site. Progress of work is lagging behind the construction schedule.
- **NOAP-204:** All 75 nos. cast-in situ piles of lengths of 16.00 m and diameter of 500 mm have been cast. Rebar & shutter placement for pile caps casting is underway (**Photo:11**). Road had been blocked by construction materials (**Photo:12**), Roadway should be kept clean.



Shelter Connecting Roads

There is provision of shelter connecting road (SCR) of various lengths as mentioned below:

NOAP-154:	SCR = 624 m
NOAP-336:	SCR = 295 m
NOAP-363:	SCR = 730 m
NOAP-364:	SCR = 495 m
NOAP-235:	SCR = 1200 m
NOAP-375:	SCR = 770 m

Construction works of the connecting roads have not been started as yet. Beneficiary and SMC of **NOAP 154** strongly demanded construction of the SCR immediately to facilitate improved communication during the ensuing monsoon (**Photo:13**). The matter may please be considered.



C. Compliance of Environmental Safety Measures.

The BoQ provides as many as 13 items related to environmental safety measures as identified during environmental assessment of subprojects. The contractor has engaged Community Organizers to monitor the implementation of EMPs. Three Community Organizers were met in the field.

Our observations on the compliance of the environmental safety measures are as follows:

- **First Aid Box:** First aid boxes with standard contents have been procured for all sites.
- **Protecting Fencing:** Protective fencing has been erected partially in all construction sites except **NOAP-363** to keep the students and public away to avoid the danger of accident. The fencing has been made by corrugated iron sheets. The fencing should be continuous (**Photo:14**).
- **Grass Turfs:** It is not required at the moment.
- **Vegetation and Tree Plantation:** Vegetation and tree plantation will be done in due time.
- **Water Filter:** Required nos. of water filters have been procured.
- **Safety Gear Package:** Safety gear package such as helmets, hand gloves, rubber shoes, light reflecting dresses etc. have been procured. Labors are using it (**Photo:15**).
- **Temporary Sanitary Latrine:** Temporary sanitary latrines have been constructed for labors in all sites.



- **Temporary Camp Site Waste Disposal Facility:** Demarcated area for waste disposal particularly for disposal of construction debris like earth, concrete etc. was not observed. The contractor should arrange a separate demarcated area away from construction site to temporarily dispose construction debris in order to create a safe environment for smooth construction works.
- **Dust Suppression Measures:** In some sites (NOAP363, NOAP364, NOAP375 and NOAP204), sand was kept covered in order to stop dust pollution while in some other sites, these were kept exposed (NOAP154, NOAP336, NOAP235, NOAP229). NOAP237 and NOAP204). This should always be kept covered to protect from air pollution (**Photo:16**).
- **Environmental and Social/Safeguard Personnel:** Environmental and Social/Safeguard personnel designated as Community Coordinator have been engaged. They have just recently been trained by the D&S Consultant.
- **Health/Safety Warning Sign:** Health/safety warning sign was partially found in NOAP363, NOAP364 and NOAP237. No health/safety warning sign was found in NOAP154, NOAP336, NOAP235, NOAP229 and NOAP375.
- **Tube Well:** Tube wells have been installed at all sites to have safe drinking water for the labors and site staff. The colour of head of tube well is red in almost all tube wells. Red color indicates arsenic presence and therefore should be colored green (**Photo: 17**).
- **Construction of Temporary Shed for Uninterrupted Schooling:** There is provision to construct temporary shed for class accommodation where existing school building has been demolished. In NOAP204, one thatched temporary shed for schooling has been constructed but the quality of this shed is very poor (**Photo: 18**).



D. Opinion of SMC

The Head Master/Head Mistress are important members of the SMC. During visits, some of them informed that due to construction of the new shelter buildings in the school premises, the prolonged need of improvement of the dilapidated school buildings will be met. This along with supply of school logistics will greatly create a good environment for an improved schooling activities. They verily hope that after completion of the shelter cum school, the nos. of student enrolment is likely to increase.

They however mentioned that due to dismantling of the existing school buildings, some temporary school sheds have been made as alternative accommodation for classes but the quality of the temporary needs to be improved.

F. Conclusion.

We would recommend to PMU, D&S consultants and related stakeholders to please consider our observations given above and take necessary measures as deemed appropriate.

Finally, we express our deep appreciation and thanks to the field personnel of LGED, the DS Consultants, SMC members, Teachers and the Contractors for their kind cooperation extended to us during the field visit.

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MDSP, LGED