

# Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

## Performance Audit on implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin



लोकहितार्थ सत्यनिष्ठा Dedicated to Truth in Public Interest



Government of Tamil Nadu Report No. 6 of 2022

# Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

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#### **PREFACE**

This Report for the year ended March 2021 has been prepared for submission to the Governor of Tamil Nadu under Article 151 (2) of the Constitution of India, for being laid before the State Legislature.

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The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India contains the results of Performance Audit on implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin covering the period from April 2016 to March 2021.

The instances mentioned in the Report are those, which came to notice in the course of the performance audit conducted during December 2020 to October 2021. Matters relating to the periods outside the audit period have also been reported in places where they were found necessary.

The Audit has been conducted in conformity with the Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Audit wishes to acknowledge the cooperation received from Government, Director of Rural Development, District Collectors, Project Directors of DRDAs and Block level officers.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### The Purpose

Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G) is being implemented in the State from 01 April 2016. A Performance Audit of the implementation of PMAY-G was conducted covering the period from April 2016 to March 2021. The focus of Audit was to ascertain whether the Department followed transparent procedures for identification of beneficiaries, ensured timely release of funds, ensured efficient and economic implementation of the scheme, and put in place suitable internal control and monitoring mechanisms at appropriate levels. The Performance Audit disclosed the following:

#### Results in brief

During 2016-21, 5.09 lakh houses were sanctioned; of which, only 2.80 lakh were completed. Major issues noticed during audit included non-receipt of GoI grant, inadmissible expenditure under Administrative Fund, wrong inclusion of ineligible beneficiaries, non-inclusion of eligible beneficiaries, shortfall in coverage of SC/ST beneficiaries, fraudulent sanction of houses and poor monitoring.

 Due to non-fulfillment of stipulated conditions, Government of Tamil Nadu could not avail Government of India's assistance of ₹ 1,515.60 crore on time.

(Paragraph 2.2)

• From the earmarked Administrative Fund, the Director of Rural Development incurred an inadmissible expenditure of ₹ 2.18 crore on advertisements and other activities not connected with the scheme.

(Paragraph 2.4)

Failures in planning and oversight had resulted in non-achievement of the earmarked target of sanctioning 60 per cent of houses to SC/ST households. Poor planning had resulted in non-availability of sufficient SC/ST households in the final Permanent Wait List (PWL). Further, considerable number of SC/ST households were removed from the Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) data, without valid reasons.

(Paragraph 3.2.1)



• The process of preparation of the PWL from SECC data was flawed. Non-linking of a unique identifier to SECC data at the time of verification and failure to verify SECC data thoroughly by the *Gram Sabhas* led to erroneous data being carried forward to the PWL, which vitiated the beneficiary identification process.

(Paragraph 3.3)

SECC data, which forms the basis for identification of beneficiary, had significant number of households with one or more members named 'UNKNOWN'. This weakness of SECC data was misused and a substantial number of houses were sanctioned in a fraudulent manner. In the sampled blocks, by misusing 'UNKNOWN' in the name field of SECC data, a total of 3,354 houses were irregularly sanctioned to ineligible beneficiaries, involving an irregular expenditure of ₹ 50.28 crore. The number of houses sanctioned in a fraudulent manner may increase if this issue is examined for the entire State.

- 'UNKNOWN' beneficiaries in the PWL were selected and were replaced with a person from a different family, at the time of issuing sanction order for houses.
- Sanction orders were issued in the name of 'UNKNOWN' beneficiaries, and the bank account of persons from different families were linked for releasing assistance.
- Sanction orders were issued in the name of eligible beneficiaries; but payments were made to fraudulently linked bank accounts of ineligible persons.

(Paragraph 4.1)

As of 31 March 2021, out of the 5.09 lakh sanctioned houses, only 2.80 lakh houses (55 per cent) were completed. First instalment was not released to 0.89 lakh beneficiaries.

(Paragraphs 4.2.1 and 4.2.2)

Inspection records were manipulated rampantly. Audit found many discrepancies in geotagging and time-stamping of house photographs. Many houses were geotagged at Block Offices itself.

(Paragraph 5.3)

### CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION



Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin)

#### **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

#### **1.1 About the Scheme**.

Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) aims to provide a *pucca* house with basic amenities to all houseless households and households living in *kutcha* and dilapidated houses in rural areas by 2022. PMAY-G is being implemented in the State from 01/04/2016. The Scheme envisages construction of quality houses by the beneficiaries themselves using locally available material, designs and trained masons. Government of India (GoI) and Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) jointly fund the scheme at the ratio of 60:40 respectively. In addition to its 40 *per cent* share, GoTN provides ₹ 50,000 per house towards construction of Reinforced Cement Concrete (RCC) roof.

The following are the key features of PMAY-G:

- ♦ Identification and selection of beneficiaries are based on housing deprivation parameters¹ in Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC), 2011 data, and verified by the *Gram Sabhas*.
- ♦ All payments to the beneficiary is made through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.
- ♦ Workflow management and monitoring through an end-to-end e-Governance model using AwaasSoft² and AwaasApp³.
- Convergence with other Government Schemes for provision of basic amenities *viz.*, toilet, drinking water, electricity, etc.
- Grievance redressal mechanism at State/District/Block/Village Panchayat (VP) levels to dispose of grievances/complaints.

Abbreviations used in this report are listed in the Glossary at Page 90

A mobile application that captures georeferenced and time-stamped photographs of the houses during their constructions.



Deprivation parameters are households living in zero, one or two room houses with *kuccha* walls and *kuccha* roof, no adult member in household between age 16 and 59, female headed household with no adult male member between 16 and 59, households with differently abled member with no other able bodied adult member, SC/ST households, households with no literate adult above age 25 years and landless households deriving a major part of their income from manual labour.

Web based, transitional, electronic service delivery platform for PMAY-G scheme.

#### 1.2 Implementation of PMAY-G in Tamil Nadu

As per SECC 2011, the number of rural households in Tamil Nadu was 1.01 crore; out of which 47.05 lakh households (47 *per cent*) were with housing deprivation parameters. Under PMAY-G, the target set for Tamil Nadu was to construct 5.28 lakh *pucca* houses by 2022 in two phases, *viz.*, under Phase-I, 3.28 lakh houses to be built in three years from 2016-17 to 2018-19, and under Phase-II, two lakh houses to be built in three years from 2019-20 to 2021-22.

GoTN prepares Annual Action Plans (AAP) every year. As per the approved AAP, targets are fixed for Districts and Blocks. The Scheme is implemented by Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Institutions (RD&PRI) Department. The Director of Rural Development (DRD), Project Directors (PD) of District Rural Development Agencies (DRDA) and Block Development Officer (BDO) of Panchayat Unions (Blocks) implement the Scheme at State, District and Block level respectively. The organisation chart for implementation of PMAY-G is given in **Appendix 1.1**.

#### 1.3 Audit objectives

This Performance Audit was conducted to assess the implementation of the Scheme as per the guidelines laid down by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). The objectives for the Performance Audit were to derive an assurance whether:

- Funds were provided and released on time to the eligible beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) and Electronic Clearance System (ECS) as per Scheme guidelines and other financial rules as applicable;
- Transparent and adequate procedure was followed for identification and selection of beneficiaries under the Scheme;
- Implementation of the Scheme including convergence with other Schemes and Beneficiary Support Services were effective and efficient, and
- Internal control and monitoring were carried out effectively.

#### 1.4 Audit criteria

The main sources of audit criteria for the Performance Audit were:

- Framework for implementation of PMAY-G (PMAY-G Guidelines);
- ♦ Guidelines for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) for convergence;

- Standard Operating Procedures for DBT payments and Handbook on DBT issued by GoI;
- The Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tender Act, 1998 and Rules, 2000 and Government Orders, circulars, instructions and notifications issued from time to time by GoI and GoTN.

#### 1.5 Audit scope, methodology and sampling procedure

The Performance Audit covered the implementation of PMAY-G in Tamil Nadu, during April 2016 to March 2021.

An Entry Conference was held with the Additional Chief Secretary, RD&PRI Department, on 14 December 2020, wherein the audit objectives, scope and methodology were discussed. The field audit was conducted from December 2020 to October 2021, through test check of records at RD&PRI Department at Secretariat, Directorate of Rural Development, eight DRDAs and 18 Blocks.

Audit received the AwaasSoft data pertaining to the State of Tamil Nadu from the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) and analysed the data to ascertain compliance with PMAY-G guidelines. Further, the Audit Team conducted Joint Physical Verification (JPV) of 1,121 beneficiary houses, along with Block level officials, and a survey was conducted among 917 beneficiaries, using a structured questionnaire.

An Exit Conference was held with the Principal Secretary, RD&PRI department on 9 February 2022 to discuss the audit findings. The views expressed in the Exit Conference and the reply furnished by the Government on 21 March 2022 were taken into account while drafting this Report.

Audit sampled eight districts, 18 Blocks and 91 Village Panchayats (VP) for detailed examination of records, conducting JPV and beneficiary survey. The region-wise number of districts selected is given in **Table 1.1**, and the sampling procedure is given in **Appendix 1.2**.

Sl. No.	Region (Number of districts)	Number of houses sanctioned (percentage to total sanction)	Number of districts selected	Districts selected	
1	East (8)	1,56,043 (39 per cent)	3	Nagapattinam, Tiruchirappalli and Tiruvarur	
2	North (7)	1,64,886 (41 per cent)	3	Dharmapuri, Tiruvannamalai and Villupuram	
3	South (8)	41,943 (10 per cent)	1	Ramanathapuram	
4	West (8)	38,325 (10 per cent)	1	Erode	
	Total (31)	4,01,197 (100 per cent)	8		

Table 1.1: Selection of districts for field inspection

#### 1.6 Previous Audits

In 2014, Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) conducted a Performance Audit on implementation of the erstwhile Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), which was a rural housing programme under implementation during 1996-2016. The Audit report of C&AG pointed out issues such as non-assessment of housing shortage, lack of transparency in beneficiary selection, lack of convergence, weak mechanism for monitoring, etc.

While designing the framework for PMAY-G, GoI took into account the gaps in implementation of IAY. The present audit, however, disclosed that some of the issues that affected the efficiency of IAY continued to plague PMAY-G as well.

#### 1.7 Acknowledgement

Audit acknowledges the co-operation and assistance extended by the department and audited entities in conducting this Performance Audit.

#### 1.8 Audit findings

The audit findings are grouped under the following Chapters.

• Chapter II: Financial Management

♦ Chapter III : Planning

• Chapter IV : Implementation

♦ Chapter V: Monitoring, Internal Control and Grievance Redressal

# CHAPTER II FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

#### **CHAPTER II**

#### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

#### 2.1 Assistance under PMAY-G

The PMAY-G beneficiaries are eligible for an assistance of ₹ 1.20 lakh per house in plain areas and ₹ 1.30 lakh in hilly areas and difficult areas¹ for construction of a *pucca* house² with a minimum area of 269 square feet. GoI and GoTN share the assistance payable to the beneficiary at the ratio of 60:40. Every year, based on the approved Annual Action Plan (AAP), GoI releases its share of assistance to GoTN in two instalments, and GoTN releases GoI's share and its own share through budget, in two instalments, to the savings bank account, maintained by DRD, which is referred to as the State Nodal Account (SNA). SNA is registered in AwaasSoft and with Public Finance Management System (PFMS), and operated electronically through Fund Transfer Order (FTO).

The eligible assistance is released directly to the beneficiaries. The BDOs issue FTOs to release eligible assistance from SNA to the beneficiaries through four instalments i.e., the first instalment within 15 days of sanction, the second instalment on completion of plinth level, the third instalment on completion of roof cast level and the final instalment on completion of the house.

The unit cost of ₹ 1.20 lakh per house in plain areas and ₹ 1.30 lakh in hilly areas do not include RCC roofing. Therefore, with a view to provide RCC roof, GoTN provides an additional grant of ₹ 50,000 to all the PMAY-G beneficiaries from the year 2016-17. Further, in December 2020, GoTN sanctioned an one time additional grant to 2,57,925 incomplete houses at the rate up to ₹ 70,000 per beneficiary. Both the funds are kept in RCC Roofing cost account, outside SNA, and are released to the Blocks through DRDAs. These assistances are released by BDOs through Electronic Clearance System (ECS) of fund transfer to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries concerned.

Up to four *per cent* of the programme funds released to the States can be utilised for administering the scheme; of which 0.5 *per cent* can be retained at the State level and 3.5 *per cent* is distributed to the districts in proportion to their targets. Allocations for District and Block (including for VPs) levels are 2 *per cent* and 1.5 *per cent* respectively. As per the scheme guidelines, this

A house which is able to withstand normal wear and tear due to usage and natural forces including climatic conditions, with reasonable maintenance, for at least 30 years.



Difficult areas: Those areas where due to reasons of poor availability of materials, poor connectivity, etc., the cost of construction is higher and the classification is to be done by the State Governments.

fund could be utilised for setting up Project Management Unit (PMU) at State, District and Block level, including the expenditure on hiring of personnel, activities to sensitise and impart habitat and housing literacy to beneficiaries, construction of prototype houses, social audit, staff training, mason training etc. Administrative funds released along with programme funds were to be accounted for separately. With effect from September 2019, the Administrative fund has been maintained along with Programme fund in the SNA. It is to be utilised only within the permissible heads specified in the guidelines.

#### 2.2 Non- availing of eligible grant from GoI

According to the scheme guidelines and General Financial Rules of GoI, central assistance to the State for PMAY-G is released based on approved AAP, utilisation certificate, audit certificate and the progress achieved.

Audit found that GoTN did not receive the eligible GoI grants in full as shown in **Table 2.1**.

Year Target Share of assistance approved Funds actually received Short (Number of receipt of GoI GoTN Total Gol Total **GoTN** GoI share houses) (60 per cent) 40 per cent) (2) (9)=(3)-(6)2016-17 1,76,338 846.42 2,116.05 1,269.63 846.42 2,116.05 1,269.63 2017-18 937.54 625.03 937.54 625.03 0 1,30,214 1,562.57 1,562.57 2018-19 21,000 151.20 100.80 252.00 75.60 50.40 126.00 75.60 2019-20 2,00,000 1,440.00 960.00 2,400.00 1,440.00 2020-21 Nil **Total** 5,27,552 3,798.37 2,532.25 6, 330.62 2,282.77 1,521.85 3,804.62 1,515.60

Table 2.1: Details of release of grants by GoI and GoTN

(₹ in crore)

(Source: Data from Directorate of RD&PRI Department)

Out of ₹ 3,798.37 crore receivable, as of October 2021, a sum of ₹ 2,282.77 crore (60 per cent) was only received by the State. Similarly, Audit found that GoI did not release the second instalment for the year 2018-19 and the instalments due for 2019-20, as the proposal of GoTN was not in the prescribed format. A resubmission of proposal was rejected for the following reasons:

- As against mandatory utilisation of 75 per cent of available funds, GoTN spent only 70.89 per cent as on July 2021.
- During 2018-19, the achievements in terms of generation of FTOs for first instalment was only 94 *per cent* against 100 *per cent*. In terms of houses sanctioned in the previous year, only 73 *per cent* were completed as against the stipulated 80 *per cent*.
- GoTN did not furnish separate consolidated Audit Report for Housing and Administrative fund.

◆ Targets fixed and achievements for SC/ST were less than the envisaged target of 60 *per cent* as per guidelines.

As a result of this financial crunch, the FTOs for payments to beneficiaries could not be generated on time by the Department, and ₹ 45 crore were temporarily diverted (March 2021) from RCC roofing cost account.

Thus, delays in achieving physical targets, delays in submission of Audit Reports and deficiencies in planning and earmarking of 60 *per cent* target for SC/ST category had resulted in non-availing of GoI assistance of ₹1,515.60 crore.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that necessary steps were being taken to obtain GoI share. Audit, however, observed that the issues in availing assistance has already adversely impacted the scheme implementation as GoTN had to divert funds from roofing cost funds to issue FTOs.

#### 2.3 Deficiencies in maintaining State Nodal Account

All grants received from GoI and GoTN towards unit cost assistance to beneficiaries, and all payments under the Scheme, are routed through SNA. On a review of cash book and other connected records pertaining to SNA, Audit noticed the following deficiencies:

- (i) The cash book pertaining to the period till March 2019 was not produced to Audit. The Department could produce only a duplicate cash book where recent unauthenticated entries were noticed.
- (ii) SNA is being maintained for paying assistance to beneficiaries all over the State. This vital activity is carried out without sufficient human resources to account for all transactions made from the Nodal Bank. Each month, one consolidated entry each for receipts and payments was copied from the bank statement in the cash book instead of recording all transactions individually from AwaasSoft/ PFMS.
- (iii) The bank reconciliation was shown as 'NIL' every month as bank statement itself was recorded as cash book.
- (iv) Audit scrutiny of SNA bank statement revealed that the unidentified credits and debits appearing in the bank statements were not reconciled and cleared by DRD.

Audit viewed that improper maintenance of cash book and non-reconciliation of bank account are serious deficiencies which exposes the management of funds to various risks including misappropriation of funds.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that a separate Accounts Wing would be formed for PMAY-G from next financial year onwards. Audit observed that the Administrative Fund could have been utilised to establish an Accounts Wing with adequate IT backup, which would enable a higher assurance on prudent financial management.

#### 2.4 Improper utilisation of Administrative Fund

During 2016-21, as against the eligible grant of ₹ 253.22 crore, GoI and GoTN released only ₹ 152.18 crore (60 per cent) for the Administrative Fund maintained by DRD, which is to be utilised for administering the Scheme. Out of which, DRD released ₹ 101.41 crore to the districts. The districts, however, refunded an unspent balance of ₹ 61.64 crore.

Scrutiny of utilisation of Administrative Fund disclosed the following:

- The Administrative Fund is to be utilised for 13 identified activities such as engagement of contract staff, publicity, meetings, trainings, etc. As 40 *per cent* of Administrative funds have not been received as of October 2021 and even the received money was not utilised in full, these identified activities could not be undertaken in a planned manner.
- DRD has incurred ₹ 3.95 crore under administrative expenses. Out of this, Audit found that expenditure to the tune of ₹ 2.18 crore (55 per cent) was inadmissible because the payments were incurred for the following non-PMAY-G activities.
  - An amount of ₹ 1.95 crore was spent on advertisement at the fag end of the scheme implementation i.e., during the year 2021. Audit analysis found that the said advertisement did not qualify as an Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activity of the scheme as it did not have any reference to PMAY-G.
  - Expenses on stalls at tourist and industrial fair at Chennai (₹ 12.98 lakh), preparation of Citizen Charter of the Department (₹ 5.46 lakh) etc., which had nothing to do with PMAY-G, were booked under PMAY-G Administrative fund.
  - ♦ An amount of ₹ 0.52 crore was paid from PMAY-G Administrative fund account to "Excellent 2 Publicities, Chennai" as advertisement charges for publicising (in 12 dailies) award distributions in unrelated subjects.
  - DRDAs incurred ₹ 0.39 crore towards other schemes (₹ 0.31 crore) and related advertisement expenditure (₹ 0.04 crore), etc.

Further, in four sampled districts<sup>3</sup>, 11 procurements, costing over ₹ 10 lakh each, were made for a total value of ₹ 4.43 crore, in violation of the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Rules, 2000. The details of these are given in **Appendix 2.1**. Similarly, in nine instances, procurements for ₹ 1.98 crore were made in Nagapattinam district by splitting the quantity to avoid calling for open tender as given in **Appendix 2.2**.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that necessary instructions will be given to the District administration for the utilisation of the Administrative fund, and to

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Dharmapuri, Nagapattinam, Tiruvannamalai and Tiruvarur.

initiate a detailed enquiry to take corrective action. The reply did not address the issue of misuse of funds for releasing unconnected advertisements.

#### 2.5 Injudicious accumulation of RCC roofing cost fund

For providing RCC roofing cost to the beneficiaries for the years 2016-18, DRD released a sum of ₹ 1,532 crore for 3.06 lakh beneficiaries to the Blocks through Districts. GoTN did not release RCC roofing cost for the sanctioned beneficiaries for the years 2018-20 due to non-receipt of GoI grant for those years. The RCC roofing cost assistance is paid to beneficiaries through ECS mode without integrating with SNA/DBT.

Scrutiny of receipt and utilisation of GoTN's grant for roofing cost disclosed that:

- The annual average closing balances held by the 18 sampled Blocks during 2018-21 was ₹ 17.40 crore (**Appendix 2.3**), which averaged ₹ 0.97 crore per Block. Based on the above calculation, Audit estimated that the annual average balance held by all Blocks would be of the order of ₹ 376.36 crore (388 x ₹ 0.97 crore). Had DBT been implemented for RCC account on similar lines as SNA, the Department would have been in a better position to manage this fund.
- According to extant orders of GoTN, the roofing cost of ₹ 50,000 was to be released to the beneficiaries along with the fourth instalment. Even though 23,815 houses were completed in the sampled 18 Blocks, the balance amount of RCC roofing cost, after adjusting the cost of material issued, was not released to 18,892 beneficiaries as given in **Table 2.2**.

Table 2.2: Details of non-payment of RCC roofing cost balance

Name of the District	Number of sampled Blocks	Number of houses completed	Number of houses for which RCC roofing cost balance paid	Number of houses for which RCC roofing cost balance to be paid
Dharmapuri	2	3,336	772	2,564
Erode	2	1,100	1,100	0
Nagapattinam	3	4,942	345	4,597
Ramanathapuram	2	2,076	60	2,016
Tiruchirappalli	2	1,805	1,345	460
Tiruvannamalai	2	2,190	1,005	1,185
Tiruvarur	2	3,125	46	3,079
Villupuram	3	5,241	250	4,991
Total	18	23,815	4,923	18,892

(Source: Data collected from the sampled Blocks/Districts)

Audit found that the Block level officers did not release the eligible assistance to beneficiaries due to delays in reconciliation of amount due to be recovered from beneficiaries on account of supply of cement, steel etc. GoTN replied (March 2022) that the issue was being closely monitored to ensure the timely payment to the beneficiaries. Audit observed that non-release of roofing cost on time was one of the contributing factors for the delay in construction of houses, as pointed out in **Paragraph 4.2.2**.

#### 2.6 Excess release and misclassification of additional roofing grant

In December 2020, GoTN sanctioned a sum of ₹ 1,805.48 crore, as an additional roofing grant to 2,57,925 beneficiaries, whose houses were incomplete at different stages. The grant per beneficiary was dependent on the stage of construction, and the maximum amount eligible was ₹ 70,000 per house.

Even though the additional grant entitlement was  $\mathbf{T}$  10,000 to  $\mathbf{T}$  70,000 per house, depending on the stage of construction, GoTN sanctioned  $\mathbf{T}$  70,000 for all the incomplete houses, leading to excess release of  $\mathbf{T}$  294.46 crore as shown in **Table 2.3**.

**DRD Proceedings dated** Number of As per G.O @ Stage of ₹ 70,000 per construction incomplete 8 January 2021 houses house Eligible Amount **Excess** additional to be paid release assistance (₹in (₹ in crore) (₹) crore) Below 0 1,42,081 994.57 70,000 994.57 basement level Basement level 63,741 446.19 55,000 350.58 95.61 Lintel level 35,086 245.60 40,000 140.34 105.26 Roof cast level 17,017 119.12 15,000 25.53 93.59 Total 2,57,925 1,805.48 1,511.02 294.46

Table 2.3: Details of excess sanction of funds

(Source: Data from DRD and RD&PRI Department)

Audit found that the excess release was kept in banks outside the Government account without any immediate requirement. GoTN replied (March 2022) that additional fund was released with a view to help the beneficiaries who struggled to complete the house. While not questioning the policy of GoTN in releasing additional funds, over and above scheme entitlement, Audit stresses that the calculation was not based on actual requirement.

Further, Audit found that out of ₹ 1,805.48 crore received from GoTN, ₹ 649.56 crore was misclassified as RCC roofing cost and released to the Districts.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that the Finance Department will be requested to assign a separate head of account for RCC roofing grant and maintain a separate SNA for the same. Audit is of the view that an effective accounting system is a pre-requisite for proper fund management.

#### 2.7 Transfer of scheme funds to Village Panchayat Accounts

In Vanur Block, based on the request by the BDO (February 2018 to October 2020), the concerned banks transferred the first instalments of 477 beneficiaries to the tune of ₹ 1.24 crore to the Block/VP Scheme accounts. Later, based on the recommendation of the Overseer/Panchayat Secretary, the instalments were released to the beneficiaries on a case-to-case basis.

After release of ₹ 58.57 lakh to 225 beneficiaries, the balance amount of ₹ 64.95 lakh pertaining to 252 beneficiaries were kept in Block/VP accounts (September 2021).

GoTN replied (March 2022) that the District administration has already instructed the BDO not to violate the PMAY-G guidelines. Audit observed that diverting scheme funds to Panchayat account is fraught with risk of the scheme implementation escaping monitoring at all levels.

#### 2.8 Release of instalments to the beneficiaries

As per PMAY-G guidelines, the first instalment is to be released within 15 days of sanction. However, in 4,19,279 cases of payment of first instalment, delay was noticed in 3,25,427 cases as given in **Exhibit 2.1**.



(Source: AwaasSoft data provided by MoRD)

The first instalment amount totalling ₹ 232.60 crore was not paid to 89,362 beneficiaries. Excluding the 84,955 cases of non-release for houses sanctioned in the year 2019-20, first instalment for 4,407 houses sanctioned during the years 2016-17 to 2018-19 were not released so far resulting in denial of benefits to the beneficiaries for more than two years.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that the instalments would be released after receipt of GoI funds. Audit observed that non-release of instalments on time contributed to non-completion of houses, as pointed out in **Paragraph 4.2.1**.

#### 2.9 Other Points of interest

#### 2.9.1 Unauthorised recovery of Labour welfare fund

As per a G.O issued in September 2010, Labour Welfare Fund (LWF), building licence fees etc., should not be deducted from the beneficiaries of Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme as in the case of IAY, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission schemes etc., as the beneficiaries themselves are involved in the construction of houses. There was no provision made in the guidelines or instructions from DRD/DRDAs to the Blocks for deducting LWF from the payment made to the beneficiaries under PMAY-G.

It was however noticed that in four out of 18 sampled Blocks an amount of ₹ 32.73 lakh was deducted towards LWF from 1,925 beneficiaries of PMAY-G Scheme at the rate of ₹ 1,700 being one *per cent* of the total amount payable to each beneficiary as given in **Table 2.4**.

Table 2.4: Details of recovery of LWF from RCC Roofing Cost grant of beneficiaries

Name of the Block	Number of beneficiaries	Amount recovered (₹)	Amount remitted to LW Board (₹)
Bhavani	612	10,40,400	3,14,500
Harur	639	10,86,300	10,86,300
Karimangalam	233	3,96,100	0
Modakuruchi	441	7,49,700	7,49,700
Total	1,925	32,72,500	21,50,500

(Source: Data from sampled Blocks)

Since the houses were to be constructed by the beneficiaries themselves under the scheme, deduction of LWF from payment made to beneficiaries was unauthorised and not supported by any orders of the Government.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that instructions would be issued to BDOs to refund the recovered amount to the beneficiaries.

#### 2.9.2 Unauthorised requests to banks for Direct Beneficiary Transfer

In 11 out of 18 sampled Blocks, requests were made by the Blocks to temporarily stop payment of 1<sup>st</sup> instalment that had been credited into 2,350 number of beneficiaries' bank accounts. The beneficiaries were allowed to withdraw their money only after release requests proposed by Blocks. The details are given in **Table 2.5**.

Table 2.5: Details of requests of BDOs made to the banks to stop payment of instalments

Instalment	Stop payment requests	Release request made	Maximum days	Minimum days
I	2,350	201	1,400	4
II to IV	499	14	119	23

(Source: Data received from sampled Blocks)

The reasons for the stop payment requests and subsequent release requests were not on record. There was no justification for stopping these payments as the veracity of the claim was already established during house inspection by Overseers. GoTN replied (March 2022) that strict instructions were issued to avoid unauthorised request for stopping payment. Audit observed that such practices would only add to lack of transparency. Therefore the Department needs to strengthen the internal control mechanisms to ensure timely release to verified claimants.

#### 2.10 Conclusion

Delay in completion of targeted number of houses, non-achievement of targeted number of SC/ST beneficiaries and failure to release even the first instalment to beneficiaries had resulted in non-availing of central assistance of ₹ 1,515.60 crore as of March 2021. Non-provision of funds for RCC roof cost assistance placed financial burden on 18,892 out of 23,815 (79 per cent) completed houses in the sampled Blocks. Excess release of ₹ 294.46 crore towards additional cost assistance, diversion of ₹ 45 crore from Roof Cost account, deficiencies in book keeping and misuse of Administrative fund were other issues that marred the financial management. The Administrative fund, which could have been utilised to augment the manpower for project management, was instead spent on ineligible and inadmissible activities.

#### 2.11 Recommendations

- GoTN should adhere to the conditions stipulated for timely release of Central assistance.
- Administrative fund should be utilised only for the eligible activities including hiring of additional manpower for PMU, training, increasing visibility for the scheme, etc.
- SNA cash book should be maintained properly, all FTO entries should be recorded daily and the cash book balances should be reconciled periodically with the bank statements.

# CHAPTER III PLANNING

#### **CHAPTER III**

#### **PLANNING**

#### 3.1 Annual Action Plan

AAP for the State contains the District-wise plans highlighting the strategy to be adopted for saturating priority households, which includes mason training program, sources for construction material, facilitation of loan to the beneficiary, development and dissemination plan for house typologies, beneficiary sensitisation workshops and all the amenities that will flow to the beneficiary through convergence with different schemes.

The deficiencies in the AAP are discussed below:

#### 3.1.1 Non-fixing targets for bank loan linkage

The Scheme guidelines stipulate that beneficiaries requiring additional financial support are to be facilitated to avail loan up to ₹ 70,000 under differential rate of interest (DRI). The AAPs, however, did not contain any target or plan of action for extending financial help through banks. As a result, in none of the sampled Districts, the loan facility was provided to the beneficiaries, despite their financial constraints, to meet additional costs of construction. Audit found that additional financial assistance was essential as the cost of construction, at current Schedule of Rates, was ₹ 3.00 lakh, which exceeds the total grants of ₹ 2.05 lakh released by GoI and GoTN combined.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that this matter would be reviewed and action would be taken for extending the financial support to beneficiaries belonging to vulnerable category. Action to arrange loans through banks must be facilitated in order to complete the houses expeditiously, as shortage of funds was one of the reasons often cited by beneficiaries for non-completion of houses.

#### 3.1.2 Non-conduct of Mason Training Programme

Every year, the AAP fixes a State level target for training masons under PMAY-G guidelines. It was, however, seen that AAP did not fix any target and include plan for enrolling candidates, locating training providers, etc.

As a result, though the PMAY-G guidelines stresses the importance of mason training programme, during 2016-21, this component of PMAY-G was not implemented in the State. Even though 2.89 lakh candidates, including 1.41 lakh beneficiaries had registered for this training, DRD did not arrange for mason training due to improper planning.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that the mason training programme will be conducted in all Districts as per requirement. Audit is of the view that proper

training would speed up the construction process and efficient use of construction material.

#### 3.1.3 Lack of plan for convergence with other schemes

The PMAY-G guidelines envisage convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Swatch Bharat Mission (SBM), Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), etc. Convergence with other schemes necessitates planning at AAP stage and setting targets. The AAP, however, did not contain any target for convergence, except for MGNREGS. In the 18 sampled Blocks, the convergence activities were carried out only for three schemes as given in **Table 3.1**.

**Table 3.1: Convergence with other schemes** 

Sl. No.	Convergence Activity	Carried out in selected Blocks
1	90 days wages under MGNREGS to the beneficiaries	All 18
2	Toilets under SBM-G or MGNREGS	All 18
3	LPG connections under PMUY	All 18
4	Access to safe drinking water under NRDWP/Jal Jeevan Mission	6*
5	Electricity connection under with Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY)	Nil
6	Schemes implemented by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Sources (MNRES)	Nil
7	Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives for the welfare of beneficiaries**	2

<sup>\*</sup> In six Blocks partially covered

(Source: Data collected from sampled Blocks)

Audit observed that effective convergence, as envisaged in the guidelines, was not achieved in the State due to lack of planning and non-formation of State level and District level Committees, which should have monitored such activities, as discussed in **Paragraph 5.2**.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that necessary instructions have been given to all BDOs to carry out the convergence activities for all the completed houses and it is being monitored at the District and State level. However, this process would be effective only with top-down planning and target monitoring.

#### 3.2 Planning for identification of beneficiaries

Implementation of PMAY-G starts with preparation of Permanent Waiting List (PWL) based on Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) data. PWL

<sup>\*\* ₹ 5,000</sup> as CSR fund from Neyveli Lignite Corporation for 916 beneficiaries.

includes all the households which are classified as houseless or living in houses with *kutcha* wall and *kutcha* roof. The criteria for identification of beneficiary are described in **Appendix 3.1**. The process followed for preparation of PWL is given in **Exhibit 3.1**.

Exhibit 3.1: Process of preparation of PWL

**SECC Data** 

Lists of eligible households as per SECC (15.86 lakh in Tamil Nadu) were circulated to the VPs for verification by *Gram Sabha*.

Verification by the *Gram* Sabha The *Gram Sabhas* verified the households and rejected 4.78 lakh households as ineligible.

Appellete Committee at District Level A three-member Appellate Committee at District level resolved the complaints against deletion and ranking in the lists prepared by *Gram Sabhas*.

Preparation of PWL

After consideration by the Appellate Committee, PWLs of beneficiaries for each VP were prepared and uploaded in the website of PMAY-G (11.08 lakh).

Periodical review of the PWL by Gram Sabha Beneficiaries, who turned ineligible subsequent to their inclusion in PWL, due to permanent migration, death without successor etc., were remanded by the *Gram Sabhas* through periodical review of the PWL (4.80 lakh).

Preparation of Final PWL

Final PWL had 6.28 lakh households.

(Source: PMAY-G guidelines and AwaasSoft Data)

Based on annual targets set by MoRD for the State, and District-wise and social category-wise targets fixed by GoTN, village level targets for number of houses under PMAY-G are decided. Beneficiaries are selected from the PWL as per priority list for each social category and the Annual Select List (ASL) is prepared and their details are registered in AwaasSoft. During registration, the original records such as MGNREGS Job card, Smart/Family card, Aadhaar card (with consent), bank account details, land records are verified and captured in AwaasSoft.

#### 3.2.1 Non-achievement of earmarking of targets for SC/ST

According to PMAY-G guidelines, a target of 60 per cent of the sanctioned houses should be earmarked for SC/ST beneficiaries. If the State has exhausted the available SC/ST households under PWL, the State has to submit a certificate at the level of Chief Secretary stating that all SC/ST households in PWL have been allocated houses and currently there are no SC/ST households available in PWL. Thereafter, the balance target for SC/ST may be allocated to others categories.

As of March 2021, against the target to earmark 3.05 lakh houses for SC/ST beneficiaries (60 *per cent* of 5.09 lakh beneficiaries sanctioned), the achievement was only 2.31 lakh. Audit further observed that, against the target to cover 3.05 lakh SC/ST households, the actual number identified at the PWL stage was only 2.62 lakh. Therefore, the earmarked target could not be achieved as envisaged by the Scheme.

Analysing the reasons, Audit found that:

- A total of 24,779 SC/ST beneficiaries under 'Automatic Inclusion' criteria and having 1 to 5 Deprivation Score were rejected without valid reasons as discussed in **Paragraph 3.5**.
- A total of 70,171 households were rejected citing the reason as 'death without nominees'. On a check of SECC beneficiaries' data, it is noticed that either spouse or sons/daughters were available in respect of 63,221 of these households, out of which 24,935 were SC/ST beneficiaries.
- On an analysis of sanction to ineligible households as discussed in **Paragraph 4.1**, Audit noticed that sanction of houses to 326 SC/ST beneficiaries were replaced and payments were made to non-SC/ST households.

GoTN replied that many eligible SC/ST households did not possess house sites leading to short-achievement of targets in respect of SC/ST households. Audit observed that deficiencies in providing free house sites were due to inadequate coordination with Revenue Department.

The reply established that the planning for provision of land to landless beneficiaries was ineffective as discussed in **Paragraph 3.2.2**.

#### 3.2.2 Inconsistencies in the data on landless beneficiaries

PMAY-G guidelines stipulate that the State Government should ensure provision of land to landless beneficiaries once the PWL is finalised. MoRD periodically reviewed the provision of land to landless beneficiaries by the States and reiterated the scheme guidelines that the landless beneficiaries were the most deserving for PMAY-G houses. Audit compiled the details of landless households in Tamil Nadu from various sources as detailed in **Table 3.2**. It was seen that GoTN did not have the number of beneficiaries who had to be provided land.

Table 3.2: Provision of lands to landless beneficiaries - targets and achievements

Source of landless households details	Landless beneficiaries in the State during implementation of the scheme from 2016-17	Land provided to Beneficiaries (Figures in bracket indicates percentage)
AAP 2018-19	77,485	10,328 (13)
AAP 2020-21	50,350	6,632 (13)
AAP 2021-22	50,350	7,049 (14)
Minutes of meeting of Empowered Committee for 2021-22 (in February 2021)	31,192	2,975 (10)

(Source: Annual Action Plan 2018-19 to 2021-22 and Minutes of Empowered Committee meeting in February 2021)

In February 2018, the number of landless households in PWL was given as 77,485 and 13 *per cent* of them were reportedly provided with land for construction of houses. It was, however, seen from the Empowered Committee minutes for 2021-22, that the total number of landless households was shown as 31,192, and 10 *per cent* of them were reportedly provided with land. Audit observed that both targets and achievements were methodically reduced with unexplained reduction of targets by 46,293 (77,485 - 31,192) and achievement by 7,353 (10,328 - 2,975). Unexplained reduction in numbers of landless households and the beneficiaries, who were provided land, makes the data unreliable.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that District level data is being collected and a task force would be constituted at State, District and Block levels, to issue *patta* for the landless households. The reply, however, did not explain the reasons for the wide variation in the data on landless households in PWL.

#### 3.3 Deficiencies in verification by *Gram Sabhas*

As per PMAY-G guidelines, *Gram Sabhas* are to verify the households available in the SECC data for inclusion in the PWL. Audit noticed that out of 15.86 lakh households in the SECC data, 2.03 lakh households (13 *per cent*) had one or more family member's names captured as 'UNKNOWN' or kept blank. Due to the failure of *Gram Sabhas* to verify the names of family members of SECC households, 1.23 lakh households were carried over to PWL with the name field. Analysis revealed that SECC data was not linked with any of the unique external beneficiary identifiers like MGNREGS Job card number, Aadhaar number or Family card/Smart card number. The only beneficiary identifier available in SECC data were the name of the family members and age. As *Gram Sabhas* did not capture any unique identifier during the verification process, the beneficiary identification process was incomplete, leading to fraudulent sanction of houses to

14,636 persons (2.88 *per cent* of total sanction of 5.09 lakh houses), as discussed in detail in **Paragraph 4.1.1, 4.1.2** and **4.1.4**.

In the absence of elected representatives at Panchayat level during preparation of PWL, Block officials, holding the post of special officers were organising *Gram Sabha* meetings. Therefore, Audit noted that capturing beneficiaries as 'UNKNOWN' without names, was a serious omission on the part of the officials charged with this responsibility.

GoTN accepted (March 2022) that the SECC data lacked linkage with an external identifier, making it difficult to verify its accuracy. GoTN also stated that Audit's recommendation would be implemented. A suitable timeframe may be fixed so as to ensure that ineligible beneficiaries do not get the scheme benefit.

#### 3.3.1 Non-dissemination of SECC/PWL data

The PMAY-G guidelines envisage wide dissemination of beneficiary selection process. Audit noticed that none of the 91 sampled VPs disseminated the details of SECC, PWL, ASL and sanctioned beneficiaries through print, electronic media or wall paintings. During JPV in Nagapattinam and Tiruvannamalai Districts, Audit found that the PMAY-G IDs/names of 188 original beneficiaries were misused to sanction houses to ineligible households and the original beneficiaries were unaware of such sanctions in their PMAY-G IDs/names. The financial impact in releasing instalments to 188 ineligible households was ₹ 1.98 crore.

It was noticed that non-utilisation of funds earmarked for IEC activities facilitated such improper sanctions as wide publicity was not given for the list of original beneficiaries. As a result, PMAY-G houses were constructed by non-beneficiaries and the original beneficiaries were not aware of sanction of PMAY-G houses to them as discussed in **Paragraph 4.1**.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that action would be taken to strengthen proper dissemination of beneficiary data. DRD, however, had not prepared any action plan as of March 2022.

#### 3.4 Inaccuracies in PWL

At the planning stage, various types of inaccuracies in the PWL adversely impacted the scheme implementation as discussed below:

#### 3.4.1 Inclusion of ineligible households in the PWL

(a) Households having a member of the family as a Government employee

As per the 'Automatic Exclusion' criteria given in the PMAY-G guidelines, households having a member as a Government employee<sup>1</sup> should be excluded

Such as Government job, Army, Advocate, Doctor, Police, Auditor, Retired pensioner, etc.

from the PWL. Some of them, however, were sanctioned houses under PMAY-G as shown in the **Table 3.3**.

Table 3.3: Households with occupation as Government service

Type of Employment	Number of include	households led in	Houses sanctioned				
	SECC	PWL	Number Sanction as percentage of SECC		Expenditure incurred (₹ in lakh)		
Government job	273	136	94	34.43	73.42		
Army	199	61	54	27.13	50.97		
Postal Department	245	93	39	15.92	33.68		
Railway	115	54	51	44.35	49.66		
Police	152	50	37	24.34	33.16		
Total	984	394	275	27.95	240.89		

(Source: Analysis of data provided by MoRD)

In the sampled Blocks, 275 households were ineligible, however, houses were sanctioned and an assistance of ₹ 2.41 crore was released for this irregular sanction. Reasons for sanctioning of houses were neither recorded nor explained to Audit.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that necessary instructions have been given to all PDs of DRDAs to strictly follow the scheme guidelines and to form a verification team to identify the ineligible persons. Remedial action based on the above reply was awaited (March 2022).

#### (b) Households owning pucca houses/permanently migrated

As per PMAY-G guidelines, households already owning *pucca* houses, having houses under other Government schemes, permanently migrated etc., should be excluded from the PWL. Some of them were, however, sanctioned houses under PMAY-G as shown in the **Table 3.4**.

Table 3.4: Households owning *pucca* houses under other schemes or migrated

Reason		of households luded in	Houses sanctioned		
	SECC	PWL	Number Sanction as percentage of SECC		Unit cost paid (₹ in lakh)
Already having house under CMSPGH <sup>2</sup>	384	166	139	36.20	111.49
Already having house under IAY	1,894	1,368	1,205	63.62	884.09
Already owning concrete house	1,313	792	590	44.94	489.51
Permanent migration	243	199	172 70.78		113.64
Total	3,834	2,525	2,106	54.93	1,598.73

(Source: Analysis of data provided by MoRD)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme.

During JPV, Audit noticed cases where PMAY-G houses were allotted to ineligible beneficiaries who were already having houses under Government Schemes. Audit found that 2,106 ineligible households, having pucca houses, were sanctioned PMAY-G houses and an irregular assistance of ₹ 15.99 crore was released to these ineligible persons.

Audit observed that inclusion of 2,381 ineligible households, *viz.*, Government servants (275), persons already having *pucca* houses of their own or under various schemes (2,106), were not verified by the *Gram Sabhas*/Appellate Committees before preparation of the PWL, resulting in ineligible assistance of ₹ 18.40 crore (₹ 2.41 crore + ₹ 15.99 crore).

GoTN replied (March 2022) that the District administration has initiated action to identify eligible and ineligible beneficiaries from the SECC database. Based on that, further instalment will not be paid to ineligible persons, the instalment already paid would be recovered, and Departmental action would be taken against the officials who were responsible for the lapse. The Government needs to fix a timeframe for the envisaged corrective actions.

#### 3.5 Non-inclusion of eligible beneficiaries

All the households coming under 'Automatic Inclusion' should be included in PWL. Out of 15.86 lakh households in SECC, 4.78 lakh households were rejected, 4.80 lakh households were subsequently remanded and only 6.28 lakh were in the PWL as of March 2021. Out of 4.78 lakh rejected households, it was noticed that 58,059 households include those under 'Automatic Inclusion'.

#### 3.5.1 Rejection of households which qualify for 'Automatic Inclusion'

According to PMAY-G guidelines, households without shelter, destitutes, persons living on alms, manual scavengers, primitive tribal groups and legally released bonded labourer, are eligible for 'Automatic Inclusion' as beneficiaries. It was seen that out of the 19,065 households which qualified for 'Automatic Inclusion', 5,526 households were rejected by the *Gram Sabha* and the rejection was approved by the Appellate Committee. Out of 5,526 rejected households, 4,871 households were rejected citing acceptable reasons and 655 households were rejected without recording any valid reasons. Of these 655 rejections without valid reasons, 531 (81 *per cent*) belonged to the SC/ST community (**Appendix 3.2**).

#### 3.5.2 Deletion of households with higher deprivation scores

According to PMAY-G guidelines, the 'Deprivation score's decides the priority to be accorded to the beneficiaries. In respect of rejections under

Deprivation scores: (i) Households with no adult member between age 16 to 59, (ii) Female headed households with no adult member between age 16 to 59, (iii) Households with no literate adult above 25 years, (iv) Households with any disabled member and no able-bodied adult member and (v) Landless households deriving the major part of their income from manual casual labour.

'Other household' category (excluding 'Automatic Inclusion' mentioned above), the reasons given for rejection were either kept blank or without acceptable reasons for 57,131 households with 'Deprivation Score' ranging from 1 to 5, out of which, 24,248 (42 *per cent*) were SC/ST households.

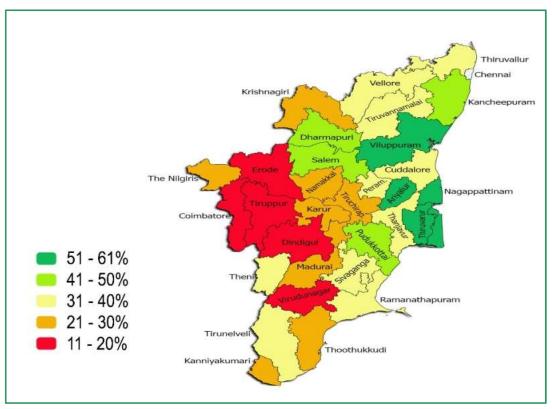
Further, it was also seen that 1,08,828 households with zero deprivation score were included in PWL, whereas households with 1 to 5 deprivation score cited above, were rejected without acceptable reasons. As the households had been included in SECC and incorrectly rejected, they were denied of housing benefits under PMAY-G.

GoTN accepted the Audit findings and stated (March 2022) that suitable action would be initiated against the officials responsible for the deficiencies pointed out by Audit, and the possibility of sanctioning houses for those beneficiaries under PMAY-G or under State Schemes will be considered after ascertaining the present condition of them. Remedial action based on the above reply was awaited (March 2022).

#### 3.6 Disparity among Districts in preparation of PWL

The beneficiaries included in PWL with reference to the numbers in SECC data, after rejection and remanding, was analysed for all Districts and is illustrated in **Exhibit 3.2** the details of which are given in **Appendix 3.3**.

Exhibit 3.2: District-wise analysis of preparation of PWL from SECC households after rejection/remanding



(Source: Analysis of AwaasSoft data)

It is noticed that the carry forward of beneficiaries from SECC to PWL varied widely among Districts and ranged from 11 *per cent* to 61 *per cent*, with a State average of 40 *per cent*. Analysis of carry over list of SECC to PWL in sampled Districts is given in **Table 3.5**.

Table 3.5: Details of beneficiaries carried forwarded from SECC to PWL

District		Erode	Ramanatha- puram	Tiruvarur	Nagapattinam
Overall PWI	Overall PWL to SECC per cent		36 per cent	51 per cent	61 per cent
	SECC	7	32	72	76
Government	PWL	2	7	41	41
Servant (Paragraph 3.4.1 (a))	PWL to SECC (in per cent)	(29)	(22)	(57)	(54)
	Sanctioned	1	7	20	21
	SECC	0	0	2	70
Own House	PWL	0	0	1	66
(Paragraph 3.1.4 (b))	PWL to SECC (in <i>per cent</i> )	NA	NA	(50)	(94)
	Sanctioned	0	0	1	4

(Source: Analysis of AwaasSoft)

It was observed that ineligible households were carried forward from SECC to PWL in all the Districts. In Nagapattinam District, 41 out of 76 Government servants in SECC were taken to PWL and 21 were sanctioned houses. In Nagapattinam and Ramanathapuram Districts, it was found that list of beneficiaries included in PWL was not disseminated as mandated by PMAY-G Guidelines.

It can thus be inferred that due to ineffective verification process by *Gram Sabhas* and by the BDOs, who were Special Officers at that time of sanction, and absence of a uniform standard, certain Districts had a higher rate of carryover from SECC to PWL which led to the inclusion of ineligible households. This ultimately resulted in suspected fraudulent sanction of houses as discussed in **Paragraph 4.1**.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that disciplinary action will be initiated against the officials concerned by the District administration and the Housing Section at District level will be strengthened to prevent lapses in implementation. Further action taken on the basis of Department's reply awaited (March 2022).

#### 3.7 Conclusion

Deficient planning resulted in non-linking of loan assistance for needy beneficiaries, non-conduct of mason training programme despite requirement for such activity and poor convergence with other schemes. Further, the State was unable to sanction 60 *per cent* of the houses to SC/ST beneficiaries due to deficient planning in arriving at the number of persons requiring house sites.

Manpower allocation was also skewed, resulting in sub-optimal implementation and monitoring of the scheme.

Verification process at the level of *Gram Sabha* failed to ensure transparency in implementing the scheme. None of the sampled village panchayats disseminated the list of beneficiaries as required by the scheme.

#### 3.8 Recommendations

- Bank loan may be facilitated for those desirous beneficiaries as the cost of construction of PMAY-G house is significantly higher than various grants provided by Government.
- Convergence with other Government schemes may be ensured to minimise financial burden on the beneficiaries.
- An accurate database of landless households may be prepared to ensure beneficiaries do not get rejected due to non-availability of house sites.
- The Department may, in future schemes, ensure availability of unique identifiers while preparing beneficiary database.
- ♦ Availability of sufficient manpower in PMUs, commensurate with the targets fixed should be ensured, so as to implement and monitor the Scheme.

# CHAPTER IV IMPLEMENTATION

#### **CHAPTER IV**

#### **Implementation**

#### 4.1 Sanction of houses

PMAY-G guidelines provides for an objective and verifiable process for selection of beneficiaries. A sanction order is individually generated in AwaasSoft for each beneficiary with a distinct PMAY-G ID after registration of the beneficiary details *viz.*, MGNREGS Job card number, name of the nominee, Aadhaar number (optional) and validation of the bank account. The sanction order with the PMAY-G ID is issued in the name of the beneficiary or any of his/her family members in the SECC list. In cases where the name of the beneficiary or of the family member in PWL is either 'UNKNOWN' or blank, then the sanction order is issued to the name available in the registered MGNREGS Job card. A module called "Replace UNKNOWN beneficiary name (as per SECC) with name from MGNREGA" is provided in AwaasSoft for this purpose.

Audit found the following irregularities relating to sanction of houses.

#### Suspected fraudulent sanction to ineligible households

#### 4.1.1 Sanction of houses to ineligible persons

Audit verified the sanction of houses where the beneficiary's name in the sanction order differed from that in the SECC list data. It was found that, in 981 such cases (in 8 out of 18 sampled Blocks), an 'UNKNOWN' entry in the family member list was selected for sanction even though the original beneficiaries and other family members having proper names were available in SECC list.

The 'UNKNOWN' name in the SECC data was replaced with an ineligible person's name. This was done by misusing the "Replace "UNKNOWN" beneficiary name (as per SECC) with name from MGNREGA" module in AwaasSoft. The module allows for replacing the 'UNKNOWN' with a name from the MGNREGS Job card. However, Audit noticed that any MGNREGS card could be linked to the PMAY-G ID and the household names in both the records need not match. Audit found that 'UNKNOWN' in the name field of eligible beneficiary or his family member was replaced with a different person from another household, and sanction order for PMAY-G house was issued in the name of ineligible person.

This fact was confirmed during JPV in 160 out of the 981 cases by Audit with Block officials, which disclosed that all these sanctions benefitted ineligible beneficiaries. An illustrative case study of falsification of records to facilitate sanction of houses to ineligible persons during JPV is shown below:

#### **Case Study**

Shri Ammasi Velayutham lives in a hut shown in **Exhibit 4.1** in Korkai Village Panchayat of Mayiladuthurai Block in Nagapattinam District (Now Mayiladuthurai District). His Family Card Number was xxxx xxxx 0031. He lives with his wife Smt. Thangachiammal.

He is a PMAY-G beneficiary and was shortlisted in the PWL with PMAY-G ID as TN 1514619. He belongs to SC community. The family member details for the

Exhibit 4.1: Hut of Shri Ammasi Velayutham



second member of the household *viz.*, Name, Father's Name, Mother's Name and Relationship, were captured as 'UNKNOWN'.

He is registered under MGNREGS and his Job card number is TN-14-007-020-020/118A

The PMAY-G house can be allotted to any member of his family. If the name of such allottee captured in SECC is

'UNKNOWN', then it can be replaced with a proper name of that family member from the respective MGNREGS Job card using a module in AwaasSoft. However, any Job card can be linked to the PMAY-G ID due to lack of validation control in the AwaasSoft.

Exhibit-4.2: House sanctioned and constructed by Shri Senthil



This glitch was misused by the Block officials during registration and sanction of house. Instead of selecting Shri Ammasi Velayutham, his wife Smt. or Thangachiammal, the 'UNKNOWN' family member, the Block officials selected Shri Senthil who is from a different household with the MGNREGS Job

card Number TN-14-007-020-020/239A belonging to Backward community. A sum of ₹ 1.20 lakh was paid to Shri Senthil in four instalments (Exhibit 4.2).

Shri Senthil is not related to SECC beneficiary Shri Ammasi Velayutham. The family card of Shri Senthil is xxxx xxxx 2579. Thus, the Block authorities, instead of selecting the genuine beneficiary, allotted the house to ineligible person in a suspectedly fraudulent manner.

Since there was no proper dissemination of the beneficiary list, the genuine beneficiary, Shri Ammasi Velayutham, did not know the fact that a PMAY-G house was sanctioned to him.

(Source: JPV)

Further details on the above illustrative case are given in **Appendix 4.1**.

On visiting the original beneficiaries, it was noticed that they were unaware of the fact that their PMAY-G IDs were misused for sanction to ineligible persons. The irregular expenditure incurred due to sanction of houses to the ineligible persons was ₹ 1.86 crore.

Further, on analysis of PMAY-G data for the entire State, it was observed that in 5,949¹ more cases in 125 non-sampled Blocks, the 'UNKNOWN' in the name field of eligible beneficiaries were replaced in a similar manner. Out of 5,949 cases, Audit verified 595 cases (10 per cent) and found that 566 of the replaced names were not part of the eligible households, and thus were ineligible². The estimated loss to government exchequer due to the 1,547 suspected fraudulent sanctions (981 + 566) was ₹ 27.52 crore, as given in **Appendix 4.2**. The number of houses sanctioned to ineligible households may increase if this issue is examined for the entire State. The Department should also ascertain the loss to Government and fix responsibility for these irregularities.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that the concerned PDs of DRDAs would be instructed to verify the eligibility and action will be initiated on the officials who are responsible for falsification of records. The reply corroborates the lack of proper implementation and monitoring by the Department.

# 4.1.2 Sanction in the name of 'UNKNOWN' and payments made to ineligible persons

In seven<sup>3</sup> out of eight sampled Districts, Audit found that in 693 out of 967 cases, where the sanction orders were made under the name 'UNKNOWN', the payments made were irregular, as the recipients did not have any relation with the family linked to PMAY-G IDs.

In these cases, the details of other members of the family corresponding to the PMAY-G ID was available and there was no requirement to issue sanction to 'UNKNOWN'. Further, it is pertinent to mention that in all the above cases,

Among the sanctioned beneficiaries with 'UNKNOWN' as family member in the State, there were 10,771 cases where at least one family member had proper name. Audit selected 5,949 cases with at least two family members with proper names excluding the already pointed out 981 cases in the selected Blocks.

Out of 595, 29 cases were found to be eligible and 566 were ineligible i.e., in 482 cases names were changed by linking Job cards of different households and in 84 cases, Job cards were neither matching nor available in the respective VPs and the names in the sanctions were in the name of linked bank account holders who were unrelated similar to cases discussed in **Paragraph 3.1.3**.

Except in Tiruchirappalli District, wherein all 18 'UNKNOWN' sanctions issued to family members, were found correct.

even if it is absolutely required to issue the sanction order to a particular beneficiary/family member given as 'UNKNOWN', the department had the opportunity to replace the name 'UNKNOWN' with a proper name using the module available in the AwaasSoft. The BDOs, however, failed to correct it, which resulted in sanction of PMAY-G houses to ineligible persons.

This fact was confirmed by Audit during JPV with Block officials in 30 cases selected out of the above 693 cases (20 cases in Villupuram, five cases in Dharmapuri, three cases in Tiruvarur, two cases in Erode Districts)<sup>4</sup>.

An illustrative case of falsification of records to facilitate sanction of houses to ineligible persons is given in **Appendix 4.3**.

In addition, analysis of sanction data across the State revealed that 1,229 similar cases had sanction in the name of 'UNKNOWN'. Audit verified 123 (10 *per cent*) of the above cases and 114 were found ineligible. Similar exercise for the entire State may bring out more such cases.

The loss to Government exchequer due to 807 (693+114) suspected fraudulent sanctions was ₹ 14.11 crore as given in **Appendix 4.4**.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that the concerned PDs of DRDAs will be instructed to verify these cases and if falsification found out, the amount released will be recovered from the individual and punitive action will be taken against the officials concerned. The reply confirms the lapses in implementation pointed out by Audit.

# 4.1.3 Sanction in the name of beneficiary but payment made to ineligible person

According to the PMAY-G guidelines, bank account details are supposed to be verified during the registration and the names in the PWL should match with the name of the bank account holder. Thereafter, the bank accounts will be registered in the AwaasSoft and changes could be made only with specific requests, which should be limited to exceptional circumstances like incorrect bank account number, loan account, small savings account where funds cannot be withdrawn over ₹10,000, death of beneficiary, etc. After issue of Fund Transfer Order, change of bank account could be made only at the State level.

On analysis of the sanction of houses under PMAY-G, Audit observed the following:

(i) Jawadhu Hills Block of Tiruvannamalai District: Audit noticed that the District Administration had conducted physical verification in all 11 VPs of the Block, based on the complaints received regarding ineligible beneficiaries obtaining houses under PMAY-G. It was found that 352 ineligible households, not in the SECC list, were sanctioned houses and charges were framed against the concerned nine Block officials and

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In 30 cases of sanction to ineligible households, a sum of ₹ 0.40 crore was paid.

seven Panchayat Clerks. The Block/VP officials were suspended (November 2019) and further payments were stopped for the above 352 ineligible persons.

As these 352 houses were pending completion and adversely affecting achievement of target, the BDO, Jawadhu Hills requested for release of subsequent instalments after inspection of houses. The District Collector, Tiruvannamalai, based on further verification report, observed that 350 of the 352 persons were houseless, and but for non-inclusion of their name in the SECC, they were fully eligible for houses under Central and State Government Housing Schemes. He concluded that there was no misappropriation as instalments were released based on the actual stages of house construction.

The suspension orders of seven Panchayat Clerks were later revoked (November 2020) and the enquiry against nine Block officials were yet to be finalised (October 2021).

Audit observed that justification given by the Collector is not acceptable due to the following reasons:

- The original beneficiaries who were selected from SECC have lost their opportunity to get PMAY houses as their PMAY-G IDs were misused for getting allotment of PMAY-G houses to ineligible persons.
- ♦ District Administration has no authority to sanction PMAY-G houses to households outside SECC.

During JPV with Block officials, it was seen that funds were released to bank accounts of 28 such ineligible households in four VPs of Jawadhu Hills. Audit analysis of the entire sanctions in Jawadhu hills Block found that there were 49 similar cases of irregular sanction apart from the 352 cases already found.

(ii) Kilpennathur and Chengam Blocks of Tiruvannamalai District: After scrutiny of complaint files at DRDA, Tiruvannamalai, Audit undertook JPVs at Avoor VP and Quilam VP and found that ineligible persons were allowed to construct houses in the name of original beneficiaries and payments were made to the bank accounts of those ineligible persons, as given in Table 4.1.

VP Ineligible Block No. of **Payment** households households made where JPV which received (₹ lakh) was done payments Avoor Kilpennathur 10 2 2.80 **Quilam** Chengam 11 11 12.78

Table 4.1: Details of JPV conducted in Avoor and Ouilam VPs

(Source: Records of sampled District and Blocks)

As per records produced, only facts were verified at the field level by the department and no further action was taken.

(iii) Mannargudi Block of Tiruvarur District: It was observed that in Mannargudi Block of Tiruvarur District, the Assistant Project Officer/DRDA, in two separate field inspection reports, stated that at the time of document verification, the bank details of ineligible persons were registered during 2016-20 and geotags of unrelated persons were uploaded in AwaasSoft to facilitate payment of instalments to the ineligible persons. PMAY-G ID and the names of 190 original beneficiaries were misused to allot houses to ineligible persons. This fact was confirmed by Audit through JPV in the selected VPs in Mannargudi Block of Tiruvarur District. Audit found that in 15 cases, payments were made to ineligible persons. In three more cases, both the houses and the original beneficiaries were not traceable and as such, the possibility of payments without a house being constructed, might not be ruled out. An illustrative case of falsification of records to facilitate sanction of houses to ineligible persons during JPV is given in Exhibit 4.3:

Exhibit 4.3: PMAY-G ID TN 1268176, Thalayamangalam VP, Mannargudi Block, Tiruvarur District





House of original beneficiary Smt. Veerapan Andal (left) and the PMAY-G house sanctioned to the substituted beneficiary Shri Jambunathan Thangavel, who constructed the house

(Source: Joint Physical verification)

(iv) Modakurichi and Bhavani Blocks of Erode District: In these two Blocks, based on request from the BDOs and the PD, DRDA Erode, DRD changed the bank accounts of 35 beneficiaries on the ground that the bank accounts originally captured were not savings bank accounts. Further scrutiny proved that the BDOs had given wrong reasons for change of bank accounts and selected 35 ineligible alternate households with names similar to that of original beneficiaries and irregularly replaced the original beneficiaries. The BDO, then, requested the PD/DRDA, Erode for change of Bank account numbers of 35 existing beneficiaries but suppressed the fact that the requested bank account numbers belonged to the newly identified persons *in lieu* of existing beneficiaries. The bank account numbers were subsequently changed, and the funds were transferred to the new accounts. This fact was confirmed by Audit during the JPV of the sampled VPs in Modakurichi Block.

An illustrative case of falsification of records to facilitate sanction of houses to ineligible persons is given in **Appendix 4.5**.

Further, during JPV of sampled VPs in Bhavani Block, Audit found additional 21 cases of similar ineligible sanctions. Therefore, due to suspected fraudulent payments to the bank accounts of 660 ineligible households, the probable loss to the Government is assessed as ₹ 11.34 crore, as given in **Table 4.2**.

Table 4.2: Payments of instalments to the bank accounts of ineligible households

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	District	Block	Number of ineligible households	Amount paid	Committed liability to Government	Total loss
1	Erode	Bhavani	21	39.17	0.00	39.17
2	Erode	Modakurichi	35	59.88	0.00	59.88
3	Tiruvannamalai	Chengam	11	12.78	6.17	18.95
4	Tiruvannamalai	Jawadhu Hills	401	337.07	349.78	686.85
5	Tiruvannamalai	Kilpennathur	2	2.80	1.00	3.80
6	Tiruvarur	Mannargudi	190	181.26	144.37	325.63
	Tot	al	660	632.96	501.32	1,134.28

(Source: Records of sampled Blocks and AwaasSoft data provided by MoRD)

In all the above cases mentioned in **Paragraphs 4.1.1, 4.1.2** and **4.1.3**, the suspected fraudulent sanctions would not have been possible, without collusion among the Block officials and the respective BDOs, who were responsible for sanctions and release of funds to 3,014 ineligible households.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that six officials of the Jawadhu Hills Block were placed under suspension for lapses on their part and in other Blocks, action would be taken to verify all the doubtful cases and fix accountability. The reply confirms the audit findings that there was collusion among the Block officials in suspected fraudulent sanctions. The Department needs to put in place an effective mechanism to ensure that such actions do not recur, which includes a strong deterrent action.

#### 4.1.4 Discrepancies in SECC data not rectified even during sanction

The PMAY-G guidelines and orders issued by GoTN mandates the *Gram Sabhas* to rectify defects in SECC data. Audit, however, found that the *Gram Sabhas* did not rectify the discrepancies in the SECC data (**Appendix 4.6**), leading to capturing of wrong data in AwaasSoft.

- Values in the Names fields were captured as 'UNKNOWN' or blank.
- Abnormal age groups minors and elders over 100 years and junk values were captured in the SECC data.

Due to this, the defects in the SECC data were carried over to the PWL and subsequently a significant number of ineligible/ambiguous households were sanctioned houses.

For instance, 2,486 SECC households had the names of their entire family members as 'UNKNOWN' in SECC data. Out of this, 1,268 entries were carried forward to the PWL and 1,000 were finally sanctioned houses. The only criterion available for verification was the names of the beneficiaries, which were however, not available and *Gram Sabhas* included the 'UNKNOWN' as beneficiaries. An amount of ₹ 8.65 crore was paid to these 1,000 sanctioned houses. In the absence of any unique identifier, the authenticity of the beneficiaries who were sanctioned the houses, was doubtful.

Thus, audit in sampled blocks disclosed that by misusing 'UNKNOWN' in the name field of SECC data, a total of 3,354 houses<sup>5</sup> were irregularly sanctioned to ineligible persons, involving an irregular expenditure of ₹ 50.28 crore.

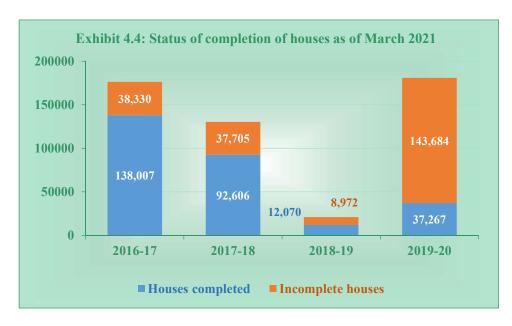
GoTN replied (March 2022) that field level survey has been initiated to collect the details of ineligible persons, who were sanctioned houses by using the 'UNKNOWN' family members and necessary disciplinary action would be taken against the officials concerned. Remedial action based on the above reply was awaited (March 2022). A detailed examination of the highlighted issues at State level by DRD could reveal the loss at State level, so as to initiate disciplinary and remedial action, as indicated in Government's reply.

#### 4.2 Construction of houses

#### **4.2.1** Non-completion of houses

According to PMAY-G guidelines and the sanction orders issued to the beneficiaries, the sanctioned houses should be completed within 12 months from the date of sanction. As of March 2021, 55.03 *per cent* of sanctioned houses were completed, as given in **Exhibit 4.4**.

Through replacement of 1,547 'UNKNOWN' with an ineligible person at the time of sanction (**Paragraph 4.1.1**) + Through sanction to 807 'UNKNOWN' itself and changing bank account (**Paragraph 4.1.2**) + 1,000 cases where all family members were 'UNKNOWN' for the entire State through data analysis (**Paragraph 4.1.4**).



(Source: AwaasSoft data provided by MoRD)

On a review of 2.29 lakh (44.97 per cent) incomplete houses, Audit observed that first instalment was not released to 0.89 lakh houses (39 per cent) and the reasons were not available in the records. Further, it was also found that in the following cases despite release of instalments, houses were still incomplete as of March 2021.

- Out of the houses pending completion, 1.13 lakh houses were pending for more than one year i.e., beyond the prescribed period.
- Audit further noticed that the incomplete houses included 755 out of 3,014 houses, which were allotted in suspected fraudulent manner, as discussed in **Paragraphs 4.1.1** to **4.1.3**.

District-wise analysis (Appendix 4.7) revealed that the maximum number of incomplete houses in the State were in Cuddalore District (73 per cent) followed by Ariyalur District (67 per cent). On the other hand, Erode District (99 per cent) followed by Tiruppur District (94 per cent) were at the top in terms of percentage of completed houses and the District-wise analysis is given in the **Exhibit 4.5**.

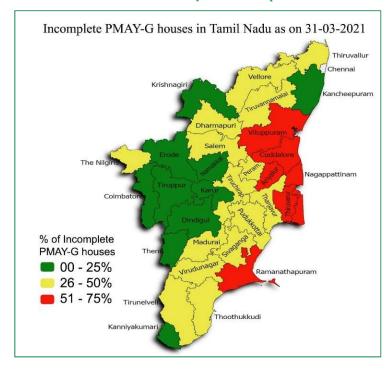


Exhibit 4.5: District-wise analysis of incomplete houses

(Source: AwaasSoft data from MoRD)

One of the reasons for the completion rates being skewed was because of inadequate administrative manpower in the Blocks. The Blocks were implementing the scheme with the existing manpower (except DEOs who were appointed on contract basis), which was approximately even across all Blocks of the State. Even though Administrative Fund was allocated to all Districts/Blocks in proportionate to the number of houses sanctioned, it was not utilised for meeting manpower requirements in implementation of the Scheme.

Due to higher allocation of houses, Audit noticed more workload (7 to 8 times) in some sampled Blocks/Districts than that of other Blocks/Districts, which affected efficient implementation of the scheme as discussed in **Paragraph 5.6**.

GoTN stated (March 2022) that several issues such as delayed release of GoI assistance and consequent delay in release of State share, delays on the part of beneficiaries, shortage of manpower, etc., contributed to the delay. GoTN also stated that in order to strengthen the scheme implementation at field level, additional manpower would be provided at District level. The Department must endeavour to submit Utilisation Certificates in time in order to secure timely release and use of grant for provision of manpower.

#### 4.2.2 Delay in construction of houses

Out of 5,08,641 houses sanctioned during 2016-21, only 2,79,950 houses were completed as of March 2021.

The year-wise and age-wise completion of houses is given in **Table 4.3**.

Sanctioned Number of Completed **Delayed completion** within 1 year vear houses completed 1-2 years 2-3 years Above 3 Total years 2016-17 1,38,007 55,260 57,062 18,517 7,168 82,747 2017-18 92,606 61,685 23,889 6,862 170 30,921 2018-19 12,070 8,695 3,134 241 0 3,375 2019-20 29,951 0 0 37,267 7,316 7,316 2020-21 Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Total 2,79,950 1,55,591 25,620 7,338 1.24.359 91,401 (55.57)(32.64)(Percentage) (9.15)(2.62)(44.43)

Table 4.3: Age analysis of completed houses

(Source: AwaasSoft data from MoRD)

It was seen that 1,24,359 houses (44.43 *per cent*) were completed beyond the stipulated time limit of one year.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that the delay was due to Covid-19 lockdown and non-availability of material and labour etc. Audit observed that the reply, attributing it to Covid-19, was untenable as the pandemic broke out only in March 2020, but the houses sanctioned much earlier were still incomplete.

### 4.2.3 Non-commencement of construction of houses even after release of instalments

The PMAY-G guidelines envisages release of first instalment of assistance within 15 days of sanction to facilitate completion of construction within 12 months of sanction. Scrutiny of records in the sampled eight Districts revealed that as of March 2021, 21,511 beneficiaries did not start the construction of houses even after receipt of first and second instalments as given in **Appendix 4.8**. Audit found that as of March 2021, an amount of ₹ 66.73 crore was paid to these beneficiaries. Out of this, 9,845 beneficiaries (46 per cent) did not start the construction of their houses even after four years of sanction.

During JPV, it was observed that in 37 out of 917 cases, construction of houses was not started despite a sum of ₹ 12.56 lakh being paid in instalments. The major reason stated by the beneficiaries was insufficiency of funds.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that construction of these 21,511 houses did not start due to non-cooperation of the beneficiaries and non-availability of materials due to Covid-19. Audit observed that it was incorrect to attribute Covid-19 as a reason for non-commencement of these houses sanctioned before the pandemic. Further, neither the scheme guidelines nor the orders issued by GoTN for implementing the scheme had any provision to check the misuse of funds by the beneficiaries.

#### 4.2.4 Departmental issue of material to beneficiaries

The PMAY-G guidelines provides for departmental supply of cement, steel, etc., at defined rates and the cost of materials supplied were to be deducted from the grants to be released to the beneficiaries. In 16 out of 18 sampled Blocks, cement, steel and doors/windows were purchased in a centralised manner by DRDA and supplied to the Blocks. However, in two sampled blocks *viz.*, Karimangalam and Harur, materials were not issued resulting in higher financial burden to the beneficiaries due to higher material cost of procurement in the open market.

**Supply of cement:** The cost of Amma cement<sup>6</sup> ranged from ₹ 190 to ₹ 216 per bag and that of TANCEM cement from ₹ 266 to ₹ 285 per bag. Out of sampled 18 Blocks, Amma cement was issued in three Blocks, TANCEM cement in five Blocks and both in 10 Blocks.

As per DRD's instructions (October 2019), priority should be given to PMAY-G beneficiaries for supply of Amma cement. Amma cement was cheaper by ₹ 69-76 per bag. Audit assessed that due to non-issue of Amma cement, the additional financial burden to each beneficiary was to the tune of ₹ 7,200 to ₹ 8,000. The Department replied that due to short supply of Amma cement and non-availability of godowns in the Blocks, the required quantity of Amma cement could not be issued to the beneficiaries. The reply is not acceptable, as the estimate for the scheme is based on SOR 2015-16 at a unit cost of ₹ 1.70 lakh and any increase in cement cost would make the house construction unviable.

#### Supply of other materials:

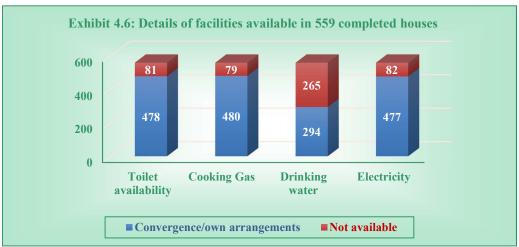
- In Thottiyam and Modakuruchi Blocks, Steel doors and windows costing ₹ 7.78 lakh were lying idle for more than three years without being issued to the beneficiaries.
- In Vanur Block, 57.976 MT of steel costing ₹ 31.02 lakh was diverted to other schemes.
- In Mayiladuthurai and Kilvelur Blocks, even as convergence with Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was envisaged for PMAY-G beneficiaries for provision of gas connection, 1,546 *chullah* stoves costing ₹ 7.73 lakh were supplied to beneficiaries without obtaining sanction from DRDA by recovery from the beneficiaries' RCC amounts.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that corrective action was being taken based on the Audit observations. Audit reiterates that the low cost housing is not possible without the issue of construction material which will considerably reduce the burden of the beneficiaries.

Amma Cement Supply Scheme, a low-cost initiative by GoTN, to procure and issue cement at subsidised rates through Tamil Nadu Cements Corporation Limited.

#### **4.2.5 Joint Physical Verification - Provision of facilities**

In the test checked VPs, out of 559 completed houses, JPV revealed the following, as given in **Exhibit 4.6**.



(Source: Data collected and compiled from Joint Physical Verification)

- Toilets were available in 85 per cent of households (478) through convergence with SBM or MGNREGS. Fifteen per cent households (81) did not have toilets.
- LPG connections were available in 86 per cent of the households (480). However, only 15 per cent of the households (84) got LPG connection through convergence with PMUY.
- Drinking water connections were available in 53 per cent households (294), but none of the connections were provided through convergence with NRDWP/JJM.
- Electricity connections were available in 85 per cent of households (477). In all these cases, the households obtained electricity connections on their own, without any convergence with DDUGJY.

Audit observed that lack of convergence with other schemes resulted in non-availability of basic facilities in significant number of houses constructed under PMAY-G.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that all the Districts are instructed to give basic facilities for the constructed houses by converging with other schemes.

#### 4.3 Conclusion

Audit in sampled blocks disclosed that by misusing 'UNKNOWN' in the name field of SECC data, a total of 3,354 houses<sup>7</sup> were irregularly sanctioned

Through replacement of 1,547 'UNKNOWN' with an ineligible person at the time of sanction (**Paragraph 4.1.1**) + Through sanction to 807 'UNKNOWN' itself and changing bank account (**Paragraph 4.1.2**) + 1,000 cases where all family members were 'UNKNOWN' for the entire State through data analysis (**Paragraph.4.1.4**).

to ineligible beneficiaries, involving an irregular expenditure of ₹ 50.28 crore. 1.13 lakh out of the 5.09 lakh houses sanctioned were incomplete beyond the stipulated time of one year. Lapses in supply of cement, steel etc., at departmental rates placed additional burden on beneficiaries.

#### 4.4 Recommendations

- GoTN should look into the issue of suspected fraudulent sanctions and payments, by misusing 'UNKNOWN' in the name field of SECC data, and order a detailed examination of the highlighted issues at State level, so as to initiate disciplinary action and remedial action.
- Beneficiaries' data should be captured without any error. Linking bank accounts, Job cards etc., should be done with due care. All three levels of officials involved *viz*. Data entry, verification, and authorisation, should be made accountable for any errors.
- Clear segregation of duties should be ensured among field staff in order to ensure accountability. Responsibility for identification of beneficiaries, inspection of stages of construction and verification of inspection records shall be done only by designated officials.
- GoTN should ensure timely issue of cement, steel, etc., at departmental rates so as to facilitate timely completion of houses by the beneficiaries.

# **CHAPTER V**

# MONITORING, INTERNAL CONTROL AND GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

#### **CHAPTER V**

# MONITORING, INTERNAL CONTROL AND GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

## 5.1 Deficiencies in functioning of Programme Management Unit

The scheme guidelines envisage setting up of a dedicated State Programme Management Unit (PMU) to undertake the tasks of implementation, monitoring and supervision of the scheme. The State PMU is to be headed by the State Nodal Officer and supported by personnel on deputation and hired contract personnel. Similar arrangements are to be followed for the District and Block level PMU.

The Department stated that the State, District and Block level PMUs were constituted. Audit, however, found that the State PMU was functioning with skeletal personnel with vacancy in key posts such as Expert in Financial matters and Social Mobilisation. The State Coordinator, Additional Director of Rural Development (Housing) also looks after other State Housing Schemes and the Training Coordinator was stated to be in State Institute of Rural Development. Further, Audit noticed in sampled Districts/Blocks that District and Block level PMUs were not constituted and the regular staff, with few contract employees, were discharging the functions of PMUs.

Inefficiencies in the functioning of the State PMU contributed to the following issues:

- Non-receipt of GoI grant: As the Utilisation Certificate, Audited Annual accounts, Expenditure Statements were incorrectly prepared and submitted belatedly, there were delays in release of GoI grants for the year 2018-19 (I instalment) and non-release of grants for the years 2018-19 (II instalment) and 2019-20. Forty *per cent* of the GoI funds for total sanctions were not received till March 2021.
- Increase in unit cost: State PMU, if functional, could have proposed to MoRD for increased unit cost as allowed in the scheme. Audit observed that there are many places in the State which have been classified as difficult areas by Public Works Department in Tamil Nadu. Even though proposal for increasing the unit cost was received from the District Collector, Tiruchirappalli, no action was taken to address the issue with MoRD and the same unit cost of ₹ 1.20 lakh was provided throughout the State. This shows that the State PMU did not discharge one of its statutory functions properly.

♦ Management of State Nodal Account (SNA): The SNA is maintained at the DRD for payment of programme funds to the beneficiaries across the State for payments from Administrative fund to all the Districts and Blocks in the State for which sufficient support staff are required. Due to insufficient support personnel, the cash book for SNA was recorded with one entry each for receipts and payments monthly. As a result, there were unexplained credits/debits appearing in the Bank statement and cashbook providing scope for possible misappropriation.

Issues relating to selection of beneficiaries, provision of beneficiary support services and overall implementation of the Scheme are discussed in the earlier Chapters of this Report.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that a detailed proposal is under preparation to set up and strengthen the State PMU and District PMUs at Directorate and District levels respectively.

#### **5.2** Non-constitution of Committees

As per the scheme guidelines, the State shall constitute Committees at State and District levels for direction and oversight. The Committees shall comprise of officials implementing different components of the AAP and public representatives. The State level Committee shall be chaired by the Chief Secretary and the composition of the Committee to be decided by the State Government. The Committee shall meet at least twice a year.

Similarly, the District level Committees shall be chaired by the respective District Collectors and composition of the Committees at the District level may be decided by the State Government. The Committees shall meet every quarter in a year.

Audit observed from the records at DRD and sampled Districts that the State and District levels Committees were not constituted.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that the above committees would be constituted.

#### 5.3 Major irregularities in monitoring

Monitoring of physical progress in stage-wise construction on ground was done through georeferenced date and time-stamped photographs captured by Overseers in Blocks using "AwaasAap" and uploaded on "AwaasSoft" portal. Release of instalments was linked to inspection done at various levels of constructions uploaded on "AwaasSoft" portal.

PMAY-G data for Tamil Nadu obtained from MoRD and inspection data uploaded in the "AwaasSoft" portal were analysed by Audit and different types of major irregularities were noticed, as given in **Table 5.1**.

Table 5.1: Irregularities due to lack of monitoring

Sl. No.	Major irregularity noticed	Number of photos/houses involved
1	Falsification of records by misrepresentation of stage-wise photos to enable release of instalments	378 in sampled Blocks.
2	Discrepancies in geotagging of stage-wise	photos
	(a) Stage-wise house photos captured in many places	21,492 houses out of 5.09 lakh houses sanctioned (4.23 per cent).
	(b) Photos of multiple houses (more than 1000) captured at a single place (Block office)	57,837 house photos out of 5.09 lakh houses sanctioned (11.37 per cent).
3	Discrepancies in time-stamping	7,90,505 photos out of 21.30 lakh stage-wise photos captured in the State (37 per cent).

(Source: Audit analysis of AwaasSoft data)

The deficiencies in monitoring that facilitated falsification of records relied upon for release of assistance in instalments are discussed in the succeeding **Paragraphs**.

#### 5.3.1 Non-monitoring of the stages of construction

Stage-wise payments of instalments were to be in consonance with the stage-wise photos uploaded in the AwaasSoft. Test-check of AwaasSoft photos uploaded in sampled Blocks revealed that there were 378 cases of falsification of records by misrepresentation of stage-wise photos to enable release of instalments. This included 163 cases at Kilvelur Block identified by the DRDA, Nagapattinam as detailed in **Appendix 5.1**.

The falsification of records, *inter alia*, involved the following types of misrepresentations:

- (i) Incomplete houses uploaded in the AwaasSoft portal but shown as completed and full payments were made.
- (ii) Same photo of a house construction was uploaded for different beneficiaries.
- (iii) Photos of different houses were uploaded for different stages of a house construction.
- (iv) Same photo was uploaded for all levels of construction.

During JPV conducted, in 103¹ out of 917 cases, misrepresentations of stage of constructions were noticed. Out of the above, 21 houses were stated to be completed. It was, however, noticed that houses were not constructed; but payment of ₹ 25.20 lakh was released based on the wrong images uploaded in AwaasSoft. The status of these houses was shown as 'Completed' in AwaasSoft. Illustrative cases identified during JPV are given in **Exhibit 5.1**.

Exhibit 5.1: Shri Kathirvel Kallanai (TN2410331), T.V.Nallur Block, Viluppuram District







Actual position geotagged at the site at the time of JPV

(Source: Joint Physical verification)

In all the above cases, Audit found the misrepresentation of stages to facilitate irregular payment of instalments, due to the failure of the Block officials in discharging their functions, i.e. taking incorrect geotagged stage photos; not verifying the photos before release of instalments; and payments made in a suspected fraudulent manner to facilitate certain beneficiaries.

#### 5.3.2 Discrepancies in geotagging of stage-wise photos

The houses constructed were geotagged with appropriate colour coding representing various stages of construction, as detailed in **Appendix 5.2**. For a given PMAY-G house in a VP, it is possible to have a maximum of two unique locations *viz.*, one for the old house and another for the proposed house followed by subsequent stages of construction at the same place. As of March 2021, all 5,08,641 sanctioned PMAY-G houses were geotagged. Audit noticed three types of discrepancies while analysing the data pertaining to PMAY-G, which are discussed in detail below:

#### (i) Houses having more than two coordinates

Audit checked the PMAY-G data to find if any house has been geotagged at more than two locations. The details are shown in **Table 5.2**.

Not started paid instalments - IV (21), III (8), II (9) and I (11); foundation level paid instalments- IV (7), III (2) and II (10); Plinth level paid instalments- IV (20) and III (15).

PMAY-G Number of Remarks distinct locations houses 4,00,288 Possible case of the house being built at the same place after demolition of the existing house 2 Possible case of the house being constructed at a different 86,861 location from the existing house. 3 18,140 4 3,196 In 21,492 cases, three or more locations are shown for various stages of construction, which is not possible. 5 155 6 1 5,08,641 Total

Table 5.2: Single house having more than two co-ordinates

(Source: AwaasSoft data provided by MoRD)

It was found that in 21,492 cases, the houses were geotagged at more than two locations, which was not possible. Audit found that a total of ₹ 247.78 crore was released in respect of these 21,492 cases without verifying the correctness of geotagged data as required by the scheme guidelines.

#### (ii) Unique coordinates having more than one house

Typically, the latitude and longitude of a location shall denote only one PMAY-G house. Pictures of two or more houses should not be at the same coordinates. Audit test-checked the PMAY-G data and noticed that in many cases, two or more houses were located at the same coordinates. On further verification, it was seen that at least 57,837 pictures of different houses were geotagged at 19 Block offices (**Appendix 5.3**) which points to the fact that the officials, instead of physically inspecting the house and capturing photographs, had done geotagging<sup>2</sup> sitting in the Block offices. This defeated an important internal control mechanism set for the scheme.

The details of the geotagged locations in the Maps are given in **Appendix 5.4**.

## (iii) Geotagging at far-away places unrelated to the actual house locations

Audit found cases of geotagging of houses done at distant places both within and outside the State as discussed below:

- In 110 cases, the photos were geotagged at distant places within the State, far away from the house locations, at Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvarur and Thanjavur Districts e.g., at Udagamandalam (7), nearby Egmore Railway Station (98) and DRD office, Saidapet (5).
- In 35 cases, the locations were geotagged outside the State e.g., Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, New Delhi, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, etc., with distance ranging from 962 to 2,429 kilometre as given in **Appendix 5.5**.

By taking photographs from stock pictures of various stages of houses already available.

Illustrative cases of geotagging at distant places are given below:

Exhibit 5.2 The location geotagged with house photos is a place in Udhagamandalam





Smt. Muniammal (TN1194827), Perungalathur VP, Cheyyar Block, Tiruvannamalai District

The location showing a place in Udhagamandalam

(Source: Audit analysis of AwaasSoft data)

Exhibit 5.3: The location geotagged with house photos nearby Egmore Railway Station





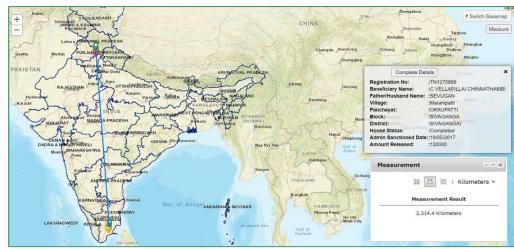
Smt. Krishnavani Mohan (TN1206200), Kilvelliyur VP, Thellar Block, Tiruvannamalai District

The location is nearby Egmore Railway Station

(Source: Audit analysis of AwaasSoft data)

Similar illustrative cases are given in **Appendix 5.6**.

Exhibit 5.4: House constructed in Sivagangai District geotagged at Chandigarh



(Shri C V Chinnathambi (TN1275886), Okkupatti Panchayat, Sivagangai District) (Source: Audit analysis of AwaasSoft data)

Similar illustrative cases are given in **Appendix 5.7**.

Incorrect geotagging done at unrelated places by the respective Overseers were included in the AwaasSoft due to non-verification. The scheme guidelines provide for verification of 10 *per cent* of the houses by Engineers at the Block level and two *per cent* by Executive Engineers at District level.

The deficiencies in monitoring resulted in not only defeating the very purpose of e-Governance through geotagging and time-stamping, but also misusing them for suspected fraudulent sanction of houses and release of instalments to ineligible persons. This major internal control failure was continued unabatedly during the implementation of the scheme.

#### 5.3.3 Discrepancies in time-stamping<sup>3</sup> of photos

All pictures taken at the time of inspection should be time-stamped. The Overseer inspects the house and uploads the inspection details in AwaasSoft. However, audit found the following discrepancies while verifying the records relating to inspection.

There were 21,29,709 photos captured, geotagged and time-stamped for the 5,08,641 houses, sanctioned during 2016-21. Audit verified the date/time of capture and geotagging of these photographs and found that 7,90,505 photos (37 *per cent*) were time-stamped in the AwaasSoft at night (7 pm to 6 am). Audit further verified the photographs uploaded for the 917 households selected for JPV and found that in 720 cases where photos were time-stamped in AwaasSoft at night, but the photos were actually taken during daytime as illustrated below.

Exhibit 5.5: Smt. Vijaya (TN1180342), Perungalathur, VP, Cheyyar Block Tiruvannamalai District Roof cast inspected on 22/10/2020 at 01:38:00 hrs



Exhibit 5.6: Subramaniyan Ramalingam (TN2074880), Athanakurichi VP, Mudukulathur Block, Ramanathapuram District Completed inspected on 01/03/2018 01:44:00 hrs



(Source: Audit analysis of AwaasSoft data)

Audit noted from the above discrepancies that in many cases, instead of capturing the data at the time of inspection, the officials might have captured the picture from stock pictures of houses. It is understood from the illustrative cases shown below.

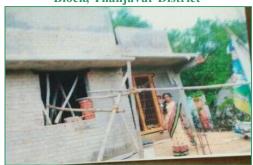
Time-stamping is the process of securely keeping track of the creation and modification time of a document.



Exhibit 5.7: Smt. Ananthi, (TN1037886), Anathandavapuram VP, Mayiladuthurai Block, Nagapattinam District



Exhibit 5.8: Smt. Uthirapathi Alliyammal, (TN1768596) Injikollai VP, Thiruvidaimarudur Block, Thanjavur District



(Source: Audit analysis of AwaasSoft data)

Interestingly, it was seen that even in such cases, payments were made to the beneficiaries, posing serious question on the monitoring mechanisms in place in the State. Due to falsification of inspection records, an important verification and monitoring mechanism, built inside the scheme, has been rendered useless. This failure could result in:

- facilitating the beneficiaries to receive instalments without showing any progress,
- fictitiously claiming instalments by not constructing houses,
- transfer of houses to non-PMAY-G persons.

It was also seen that 57,837 house photos were geotagged at 19 Block offices<sup>4</sup>, as given in **Appendix 5.3**.

Audit also observed that incorrect geotagging by the Overseers were not checked by Dy. BDO/BDO/Engineer, etc., who were supposed to examine them before generating FTOs.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that all the Districts were instructed to verify the geotagging of stage wise photos and submit a report to DRD. Based on the report, GoTN stated that corrective action would be taken and the Department would ensure that no such irregularities will happen in future. Further, GoTN stated that the incorrect geotagging will be verified by the concerned officials and responsibility will be fixed to the concerned for making irregular payments.

Only Block offices where more than 1,000 house photos geotagged were given.

#### 5.4 Adequacy of Internal controls

#### 5.4.1 Non-conducting inspections as prescribed

The Scheme guidelines stipulate for 10 per cent inspections of the houses during construction at the Block level and two per cent at District level. However, no records were made available for such inspections by the Blocks and Districts and no reply has been received so far (March 2022) from the Blocks and Districts in this regard.

Audit findings discussed in earlier Chapters clearly prove that such inspections were not conducted as required. Audit opines that many of the discrepancies noticed like incorrect geotags, discrepancies in pictures uploaded etc. could have been rectified, if the inspection process was carried out as envisaged by the Scheme.

#### 5.4.2 Social Audit

Social Audit is to be conducted in every VP at least once in a year, involving a mandatory review of all aspects. Further, Social Audit Units set up by the State Government under MGNREGS, are to be roped in to facilitate conduct of Social Audit of PMAY-G. Resource persons identified by the Social Audit Units at different levels may be involved with the *Gram Sabha* in conducting Social Audit.

Social Audit was not conducted in all the VPs of the State. No other alternate system was available e.g., roping in of MGNREGS Social Audit teams or employing community/participatory monitoring by Self Help Groups under National Rural Livelihoods Mission/NGOs etc., as envisaged in the guidelines. This resulted in lack of transparency in selection of beneficiaries and payments made to them while implementing the Scheme.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that five village panchayats have been selected on pilot basis for conducting of Social Audit. Further, the department will also initiate steps for concurrent audit from the next financial year.

#### **5.4.3** Other Internal Control deficiencies

(i) In all Blocks of the State, right from the implementation of the Scheme, Data Entry Operators (DEOs) were employed for data entry work purely on temporary basis through outsourcing and they were posted in the same Block for many years. Cases of suspected fraudulent payments, especially in Nagapattinam District, were made to ineligible beneficiaries by misusing the "Replace "UNKNOWN" beneficiary name (as per SECC) with name from MGNREGA" module in AwaasSoft by entering the MGNREGS Job cards/Bank accounts details of ineligible households. Audit observed that without the involvement of DEOs, the suspected fraudulent activities, discussed in detail in Paragraph 4.1, would not have happened. Employment of temporary staff in the key posts without changing/rotating them among Blocks resulted in such suspected fraudulent activities.

(ii) Even though the Blocks are being audited by Local Fund Audit, their work is confined only to the available physical cash/stock records. As the programme fund is operated electronically through AwaasSoft, the selection and payments made to the beneficiaries were not audited by Local Fund Audit, resulting in deficiency in internal control system.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that necessary steps will be taken for transfer of DEOs within the District, and those with serious allegations will be terminated.

#### 5.5 Grievance/Complaint redressal

As per Scheme guidelines, a grievance redressal mechanism should be set up at different levels of administration *viz.*, VP, Block, District and the State. The official who is designated at each level would be responsible for disposing of the grievance/complaint within a period of 15 days from the date of receipt of the grievance/complaint.

#### 5.5.1 Inadequate Grievances Redressal Mechanism

It was observed that there was no system of maintaining separate complaint records by the offices at the sampled Districts and Blocks. Therefore, complaints and redressal were available only in the general files of PMAY-G for the years 2016-17 to 2020-21. The following further observations are made on these issues:

- (a) Officials of State Government need to be designated at each level (*viz.*, VP and Block) to ensure disposal of grievances to the satisfaction of the complainant. The details of the designated grievance redressal official (including name, telephone number and address) at each level for addressing the grievance and the procedure to file the grievance should be clearly displayed in each VP. The procedure displayed should also indicate the escalation process if the complainant is not satisfied with the disposal of his/her grievance. No such displays were made in the sample checked Blocks/VPs.
- (b) No record was available in the sampled offices to indicate that awareness was generated about lodging of complaints on the CPGRAMS portal.
- (c) No system of utilising the services of Ombudsman under MGNREGS to dispose of grievances and reported incidences of irregularities under PMAY-G is available in Tamil Nadu.
- (d) Complaints are not numbered with date (except at Secretariat) and all complaints from the public were scattered among the year-wise PMAY-G general files.

Audit compiled the complaints records of PMAY-G made available in the sampled offices as given in **Appendix 5.8**. The details are given in **Table 5.3**.

Table 5.3: Statement showing the details of complaints received and action taken

Total number of	Final Action taken			Interim A	Interim Action taken		Action not taken	
complaints received	Within 15 days	Delayed cases	Average number of days	Number of cases	Average number of days	Number of cases	Average number of days	
610	15	42	124 (1 to 871)	225	28 (1 to 874)	328	639 (2 to 1,673)	

(Source: Data furnished by DRD, sampled DRDAs and Blocks)

Audit noticed that at all levels, there was no proper system to record the PMAY-G complaints and watch their disposal.

GoTN replied (March 2022) that action was being taken to strengthen the grievance redressal mechanism.

#### 5.6 Shortage of Manpower

The number of houses sanctioned in districts ranged from 1,066 houses (Theni District) to 84,669 houses (Villupuram District). The Blocks are the implementing units for PMAY-G and having standard set of manpower. Audit analysed house sanction per Block, to compare the work load for each Block and noticed more workload (7 to 8 times) in some sampled Blocks/Districts compared to that of other Blocks/Districts. This affected efficient implementation of the scheme. Audit analysed workload of persons-inposition by comparing two Districts *viz.*, Nagapattinam and Erode as given **Table 5.4.** 

Table 5.4: Comparison of workload between the Blocks of Nagapattinam and Erode Districts

Elouc Districts								
Households details	Nagapattinam District		Erode District		Ratio of workload in Nagapattinam District to Erode District			
	District	Per Block	District	Per Block	District ratio	Block ratio		
SECC households	1,01,079	9,189	33,368	2,383	3.03:1	3.36:1		
PWL households	61,430	5,585	5,113	365	12.01:1	15.29:1		
Sanctioned houses	42,800	3,891	5,051	361	8.47:1	10.78:1		
Completed houses	19,336	1,758	5,006	358	3.86:1	4.92:1		

(Source: AwaasSoft data from MoRD)

The above table indicates that the work load differed enormously between Districts, but the number of administrative staff remained almost the same. It is also worthwhile to note that the Administrative Fund under the scheme was linked to the number of houses sanctioned (3.5 per cent of unit cost). However, Administrative Funds were under-utilised by the Districts/Blocks by making refunds of ₹ 61.64 crore (47 per cent) to DRD besides incurring irregular expenditure for activities not related to PMAY-G as discussed in Paragraph 2.4. Thus, even though hiring of human resources was allowed under the Scheme guidelines, the imbalance in the workload was not addressed.

GoTN stated (March 2022) that in order to strengthen the Scheme implementation at field level, more hands would be hired at District level.

#### 5.7 Conclusion

The stipulated Committees for monitoring at State and District level were not formed. Lack of training and monitoring of field level officials and placing contract workers at key positions had resulted in rampant manipulation of geotagging and time-stamping of stage photos, which were important tools for monitoring. The State and District PMUs, tasked with implementation of the Scheme were unable to identify or rectify such issues. The envisaged Social Audit of the scheme was not conducted and the grievance redressal mechanism was inadequate.

#### 5.8 Recommendations

- State/District level Committees may be constituted for direction and oversight and for effective convergence activities. State PMU may be strengthened with sufficient human resources.
- Proper training on e-Governance may be imparted to Block officials for inspecting and monitoring various aspects related to geotagging and time-stamping of photos.
- All works done by the contract data entry operators should be monitored by the regular staff. Besides making them accountable for the work done by them, they may also be subjected to periodic transfers and redeployment.

- Government should ensure periodic social audit so that discrepancies in beneficiary selection are reduced.
- The system of grievance redressal needs to be strengthened so as to monitor/watch the expeditious disposal of complaints within the time limit prescribed in the PMAY-G guidelines.

Dhuhud !!

(R. AMBALAVANAN)

Chennai The 30 June 2022 Principal Accountant General (Audit-I), Tamil Nadu

Countersigned

(GIRISH CHANDRA MURMU)

Comptroller and Auditor General of India

New Delhi The 01 July 2022

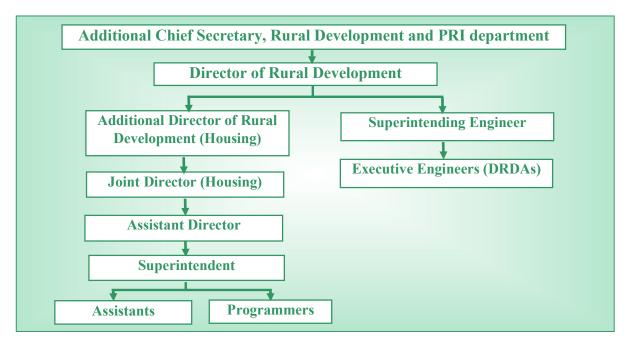
## **APPENDICES**

#### **Appendix 1.1**

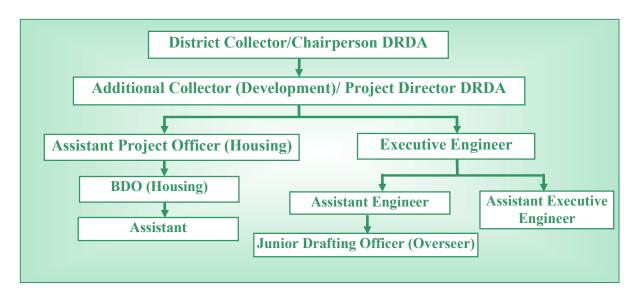
#### (Reference: Paragraph 1.2; Page 2)

#### Organisation Chart for Implementation of PMAY-G

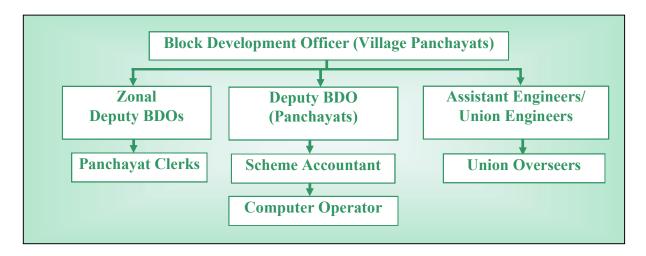
#### 1 State Level



#### 2 District Level



#### 3 Block Level



#### Appendix 1.2

#### (Paragraph 1.5; Page 3)

#### **Sampling Procedure**

The State was divided into four geographical regions for selection of. Weightage was given in selection of districts in a region in accordance with houses sanctioned in that region. Accordingly, the following districts *viz.*, Nagapattinam, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruvarur, Dharmapuri, Tiruvannamalai, Villupuram, Ramanathapuram and Erode were selected through PPSWOR<sup>1</sup> sampling

- From each sampled district, 10 *per cent* of blocks, subject to a minimum of two and a maximum of three blocks were selected through PPSWOR sampling. Thus, a total of 18 blocks were selected.
- In each sampled block, 10 *per cent* of VPs (having 10 or more houses sanctioned), subject to a minimum of three to a maximum of five were selected using Simple Random Sampling (SRS). In cases of VPs having less than 10 houses sanctioned, one additional VP was selected. In total, 91 VPs were thus selected.
- In the selected VPs, 10 to 13 PMAY-G houses were selected using SRS for beneficiary survey and JPV.
- ♦ Beneficiary survey was conducted among 917 PMAY-G sampled beneficiaries and Joint Physical Verification (JPV) of 1,121 beneficiary households² were conducted with the Department officials.

Probability proportional to size without replacement.

Additional 204 beneficiaries were due to verification of original beneficiaries.

## Appendix 1.2 contd... (Paragraph 1.5; Page 3)

#### Statement showing the details of sampled blocks

Sl.No.	Name of the district	Name of the Block	Number of Village Panchayats selected	Number of houses verified during JPV
1	Dharmapuri	Kariamangalam	3	30
_ '	Diiaimapun	Harur	5	48
2	Erode	Bhavani	4	37
2	Erode	Modakuruchi	4	37
		Keelaiyur	3	39
3	Nagapattinam	Kilvelur	8	87
		Mayiladuthurai	6	61
4	D 41	R S Mangalam	5	47
4	Ramanathapuram	Kadaladi	6	59
5	T' 1' 11'	Lalgudi	6	56
5	Tiruchirapalli	Thottiyam	4	35
	Tiruvannamalai	Tiruvannamalai	6	63
6	i iruvannamaiai	Jawadhu Hills	4	48
7	Tr.	Mannargudi	6	60
7	Tiruvarur	Needamangalam	5	51
		Vikravandi	5	50
8	Villupuram	Vanur	6	59
		T.V. Nallur	5	50
	Total		91	917

Appendix 2.1

(Reference: Paragraph 2.4; Page 8)

#### **Tender violation in DRDAs**

Sl. No.	District	Description of Procurement made	Payments made in ₹	Method of procurement
1	Nagapattinam	Panasonic video KX-VC2000 conferencing equipment	11,34,080	Lowest of 3 Quotations received
2	Nagapattinam	Panasonic KX-VC1000 video conferencing equipment	13,23,960	Lowest of 3 quotations received
3	Dharmapuri	Desktop, Laptop, Printers	17,88,600	Lowest of 3 quotations received
4	Dharmapuri	Computer, Laptop, Projector	11,73,700	Lowest of 3 quotations received
5	Dharmapuri	Computer, Printer, Scanner, Projector, Split AC, UPS etc.	12,56,876	Lowest of 5 quotations received
6	Tiruvannamalai	Expenditure incurred towards purchase of furniture	11,56,754	Lowest of 3 quotations received
7	Tiruvannamalai	Expenditure incurred towards purchase of Wireless Microphone	18,01,259	Lowest of 3 quotations received
8	Tiruvarur	Flex Board installation (430 x 3)	32,19,453	Lowest of 3 quotations received
9	Tiruvarur	Flex Board Installation (860)	40,59,200	Lowest of 3 quotations received
10	Tiruvarur	Flex Board Installation	34,14,200	Lowest of 5 quotations received
11	Tiruvarur	Establishing Board for making Awareness About PMAY-G Scheme	2,39,27,568	Lowest of 3 quotations received
		Total	4,42,55,650	

(Source: Records furnished by sampled district DRDAs)

# Appendix 2.2 (Reference: Paragraph 2.4; Page 8) Splitting up the purchase to avoid tender system

Sl. No.	Date of Payment	Vr. no.	Amount (₹)	Items	Work / order awarded	Date
1	07/12/2017	1	6,51,378	Flex Board - 261 Nos.	Saravana Engineering Works	04/12/2017
2	21/12/2017	3	3,59,381	Flex Board - 144 Nos.	Saravana Engineering Works	15/12/2017
	Total		10,10,759			
3	25/01/2018	19	3,59,381	Flex Board - 144 Nos.	Saravana Engineering Works	17/01/2018
4	25/01/2018	20	6,51,378	Flex Board - 261 Nos.	Saravana Engineering Works	18/01/2018
	Total		10,10,759			_
5	30/05/2018	5	5,96,750	Flex Board - 155 Nos.	SF Associates	22/05/2018
6	30/05/2018	6	5,96,750	Flex Board - 155 Nos.	SF Associates	29/05/2018
	Total		11,93,500			
7	26/02/2019	30	6,77,840	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
8	26/02/2019	31	7,69,440	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
9	26/02/2019	32	9,89,280	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
10	26/02/2019	33	9,34,320	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
11	26/02/2019	34	9,89,280	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
12	26/02/2019	35	6,96,160	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
13	26/02/2019	36	5,31,280	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
14	26/02/2019	37	4,39,680	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
15	26/02/2019	38	4,94,640	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
16	26/02/2019	39	7,14,480	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
17	26/02/2019	40	6,59,420	Flex Board	Sri Ravi Enterprises	26/02/2019
	Total		78,95,820			
18	01/03/2019	41	8,96,196	Ceramic tiles	Saravana Engineering Works	26/02/2019
19	01/03/2019	42	6,64,429	Ceramic tiles	Saravana Engineering Works	26/02/2019
20	01/03/2019	43	7,94,954	Ceramic tiles	Saravana Engineering Works	26/02/2019
	Total		23,55,579			

Sl. No.	Date of Payment	Vr. no.	Amount	Items	Work / order awarded	Date
21	04/03/2019	48	8,43,750	Printing of 6,250 handbook	Karur Computers & Printers	Mar-19
22	04/03/2019	49	7,42,500	Printing of 5,000 handbook	Karur Computers & Printers	04/03/2019
	Total		15,86,250			
23	05/09/2020	74	5,38,626	Interior work	Shri Kandas Plywood	27/07/2020
24	12/09/2020	75	3,95,536	Interior work	Shri Kandas Plywood	27/07/2020
25	12/09/2020	76	2,50,352	Interior work	Shri Kandas Plywood	27/07/2020
	Total		11,84,514			'
26	10/01/2018	8	3,22,500	Computers and Accessories	Sri Venkateswara Computers	28/12/2017
27	10/01/2018	9	4,48,475	Computers and Accessories	Sri Venkateswara Computers	28/12/2017
28	10/01/2018	10	2,55,450	Computers and Accessories	Sri Venkateswara Computers	28/12/2017
	Total		10,26,425			
29	12/01/2018	12	95,338	Computers and Accessories	Image copies services	04/01/2018
30	17/01/2018	13	3,90,528	Computers and Accessories	Image copies services	05/01/2018
31	18/01/2018	14	3,90,528	Computers and Accessories	Image copies services	08/01/2018
32	18/01/2018	15	4,94,504	Computers and Accessories	Image copies services	09/01/2018
33	19/01/2018	16	4,94,504	Computers and Accessories	Image copies services	10/01/2018
34	22/01/2018	17	4,94,504	Computers and Accessories	Image copies services	11/01/2018
35	23/01/2018	18	1,95,264	Computers and Accessories	Image copies services	12/01/2018
	Total		25,55,170			
	Grand To	otal	1,98,18,776			

(Source: Records furnished by Blocks)

#### Appendix 2.3

(Reference: Paragraph 2.5 Page 9)

#### RCC roof cost - Average balance in the account

(In ₹)

Sl. No.	Sampled Blocks	CB as on 31/03/2018	CB as on 31/03/2019	CB as on 31/03/2020	CB as on 31/03/2021	Average CB
1	Bhavani	27,71,570	21,37,041	29,07,475	3,93,056	20,52,286
2	Harur	-	3,26,86,412	4,33,16,002	6,17,80,794	3,44,45,802
3	Jawadu Hills	5,34,503	5,43,880	2,55,37,648	3,15,70,513	1,45,46,636
4	Kadaladi	56,71,829	2,17,19,026	1,79,48,347	46,07,981	1,24,86,796
5	Karimangalam	45,47,700	2,15,43,455	2,29,61,161	2,12,17,535	1,75,67,463
6	Keelaiyur	17,69,123	11,47,501	1,41,73,829	3,99,61,792	1,42,63,061
7	Kilvelur	40,52,520	81,18,768	25,97,770	1,20,89,034	67,14,523
8	Lalgudi	1,33,243	66,94,994	9,68,720	36,51,807	28,62,191
9	Mannargudi	59,15,227	55,33,686	33,16,408	27,13,124	43,69,611
10	Mayiladuthurai	25,55,097	1,06,33,940	1,41,31,839	4,39,13,165	1,78,08,510
11	Modakurichi	69,22,473	80,02,822	49,14,493	8,69,488	51,77,319
12	Needamangalam	56,90,008	29,69,340	18,43,590	42,81,958	36,96,224
13	RS Mangalam	1,24,40,394	1,22,14,001	48,65,761	24,83,326	80,00,871
14	Thottiyam	10,56,400	96,86,449	59,26,674	2,38,71,664	1,01,35,297
15	TV Nallur	-	-	20,60,121	38,11,541	29,35,831
16	Tiruvannamalai	1,26,36,900	1,36,99,349	2,12,28,562	1,77,60,965	1,63,31,444
17	Vanur	_		11,65,056	13,20,132	6,21,297
18	Vikravandi	_		20,60,121	38,11,541	14,67,916
	Block total (in ₹)	6,66,96,987	15,73,30,664	19,19,23,577	28,01,09,416	17,40,15,161
Blo	ck total (₹ in crore)	6.67	15.73	19.19	28.01	17.40
	Average	CB in the RC	C Account in th	ne sampled Bloo	cks (₹ in crore)	0.97

(Source: Records furnished by sampled Blocks)

#### Appendix 3.1

(Reference: Paragraph 3.2; Page 17)

#### **Criteria for Automatic Inclusion**

- 1 Households without shelter
- 2 Destitute / living on alms
- 3 Manual scavengers
- 4 Primitive Tribal Groups
- 5 Legally released bonded labourer

#### **Exclusion Process**

- **Step 1:** Exclusion of pucca houses- All households living in houses with pucca roof and/or pucca wall and households living in houses with more than 2 rooms are filtered out.
- **Step 2:** Automatic Exclusion- From the remaining set of households, all households fulfilling any one of the 13 parameters listed below are automatically excluded:-
  - 1 Motorised two/three/four wheeler/ fishing boat
  - 2 Mechanised three/ four wheeler agricultural equipment
  - 3 Kisan Credit Card with credit limit of ₹ 50,000 or above
  - 4 Household with any member as a Government employee
  - 5 Households with non-agricultural enterprises registered with the Government
  - 6 Any member of the family earning more than ₹ 10,000 per month
  - 7 Paying income tax
  - 8 Paying professional tax
  - 9 Own a refrigerator
  - 10 Own landline phone
  - Own 2.5 acres or more of irrigated land with at least one irrigation equipment
  - Five acres or more of irrigated land for two or more crop seasons
  - Owning at least 7.5 acres of land or more with at least one irrigation equipment

**Appendix 3.2** 

(Reference: Paragraph 3.5.1; Page 22)

#### (A) Rejection of households from SECC

Automatic Inclusion	Other	SC/ST	Total	SC/ST (in <i>per cent</i> )
AI (I1)	581	227	808	28
AI (I2)	157	74	231	32
AI (I3)	2	2	4	50
AI (I4)	36	4,423	4,459	99
AI (I5)	21	3	24	13
Total AI	797	4,729	5,526	86
Other HH	2,89,746	1,82,895	4,72,641	39
Total	2,90,543	1,87,624	4,78,167	39

#### (B) Rejection of households from SECC - blanks/ without valid reasons

AI and Other HH	Other	SC	ST	SC/ST	Total	SC/ST (in <i>per cent)</i>
AI (I1)	113	23	9	32	145	22
AI (I2)	11	1		1	12	8
AI (I4)			496	496	496	100
AI (I5)		1	1	2	2	100
AI Total	124	25	506	531	655	81
Other HH	32,883	22,713	1,535	24,248	57,131	42
_ Total _	33,007	22,738	2,041	24,779	57,786	43

(Source: AwaasSoft data analysis by Audit)

Appendix 3.3
(Reference: Paragraph 3.6; Page 23)
District wise analysis of PWL against SECC data

SI.	District	SECC	PWL		PMAY-G House	es
No.				Sanctioned	Completed	Incomplete
1	Ariyalur	52,996	30,382	19,918	6,625	13,293
2	Coimbatore	15,756	2,355	2,263	2,091	172
3	Cuddalore	1,27,632	48,700	34,317	9,205	25,112
4	Dharmapuri	47,355	19,680	17,619	10,038	7,581
5	Dindigul	31,753	3,643	3,240	2,858	382
6	Erode	33,368	5,113	5,051	5,006	45
7	Kancheepuram	70,302	33,174	26,553	21,254	5,299
8	Kanniyakumari	13,353	3,086	1,537	1,342	195
9	Karur	13,442	3,057	3,057	2,373	684
10	Krishnagiri	45,306	11,833	9,243	7,463	1,780
11	Madurai	25,465	6,885	6,148	4,231	1,917
12	Nagapattinam	1,01,079	61,430	42,800	19,336	23,464
13	Namakkal	24,076	5,849	5,469	4,489	980
14	Perambalur	21,356	7,748	7,442	4,464	2,978
15	Pudukkottai	51,977	25,430	18,312	9,949	8,363
16	Ramanathapuram	43,311	15,636	15,494	7,168	8,326
17	Salem	62,315	25,754	23,139	12,246	10,893
18	Sivaganga	23,125	8,061	7,137	5,104	2,033
19	Thanjavur	1,06,097	39,625	33,035	17,782	15,253
20	The Nilgiris	5,282	1,439	1,374	823	551
21	Theni	4,386	1,641	1,066	894	172
22	Thiruvallur	52,767	16,498	14,137	10,199	3,938
23	Thiruvarur	92,126	47,159	31,423	14,756	16,667
24	Thoothukkudi	32,422	7,241	4,572	3,282	1,290
25	Tiruchirappalli	52,683	15,892	15,111	9,731	5,380
26	Tirunelveli	36,391	14,485	11,300	8,439	2,861
27	Tiruppur	17,436	3,229	3,030	2,861	169
28	Tiruvannamalai	87,119	31,468	28,839	18,531	10,308
29	Vellore	94,046	33,917	27,029	18,873	8,156
30	Viluppuram	1,67,813	92,339	84,669	35,545	49,124
31	Virudhunagar	33,762	5,626	4,317	2,992	1,325
32	Blank/Junk	145				
	Total	15,86,297	6,28,375	5,08,641	2,79,950	2,28,691
	Total (in lakh)	15.86	6.28	5.09	2.80	2.29

(Source: AwaasSoft data analysis by Audit)

#### Appendix 4.1

(Reference: Paragraph 4.1.1; Page 29)

#### Replacement of original beneficiary with ineligible person-illustrative case

Household headed by V AMMASI VELAYUTHAM (PMAY-G ID 1514619). Other member is shown as 'UNKNOWN'



Sanction order shows that the house has been allotted to Senthil under the same PMAY-G ID. Member id which is equivalent with AHL number in PWL is shown as 002. As per PWL details given in figure 1, the details are unknown against member ID 002.



The linked MGNREGS Job card shows that Senthil is not related to original beneficiary as the family member details in Job card does not match with that of PWL. Also, the original beneficiary belongs to SC category while Senthil does not.

	MAHATMA GAN	DHI NATIO	Job card	IPLOYMEN	NT GUARANTEE ACT
Job care			07-020-020/239-/		Family Id: 239
	of Head of Household: of Father/Husband:	SELVA	ARASU AVEL		
Categor Date of	ry: Registration:	OTH 5/30/200	17		
Address	s:	238			
Villages	s:	Korka	ıi		
Pancha	yat:	KORE	CAI		
Block:		MAYI	LADUTHUR	AI	
District	•	NAGA	PATTINAM	(தமிழ்	நாடு)
Whethe	er BPL Family:	NO	Family I	d:	239-A
Epic No		the Applie	ants of the ho	usebold n	villing to work
S.No	Name of Applicant	ше Аррис	Gender	Age	Bank/Postoffice
1	SELVARASU		Male	55	
2	SENTHIL		Male	32	State Bank of India
3	ANITHA		Female	45	State Bank of India

In the above case, it was found during JPV that name of original beneficiary *viz.*, Ammasi velayutham (PMAY-G ID TN 1514619 was found replaced with the name 'Senthil', who constructed a house, while the original beneficiary Ammasi velayutham continued to live in his dilapidated hut.

Appendix 4.2

(Reference: Paragraph 4.1.1; Page 29)

#### Loss due to sanction of PMAY-G houses to ineligible households

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	District	Block	Number of ineligible households	Instalment amount paid#	Committed liability to Government	Total loss
1	Erode	Bhavani	40	74.20	0.00	74.20
2	Erode	Modakurichi	14	23.80	0.00	23.80
3	Nagapattinam	Kilvelur	590	650.46	393.88	1,044.34
4	Nagapattinam	Keelaiyur	41	38.18	32.74	70.92
5	Nagapattinam	Mayiladuthurai	124	114.51	102.98	217.49
6	Tiruvannamalai	Tiruvannamalai	159	192.98	97.76	290.74
7	Tiruvannamalai	Jawadhu Hills	4	5.18	2.00	7.18
8	Tiruvarur	Mannargudi	9	3.94	11.36	15.30
	Total	Sampled Blocks	981	1,103.25	640.72	1,743.97
9	27 non-sampled Districts	125 non-sampled Blocks	566*	620.45	387.18	1,007.63
	Grand Total		1,547	1,723.70	1,027.90	2,751.60

<sup>#</sup> MGNREGS wages included

<sup>\*</sup> Out of 595 cases verified i.e. 10 *per cent* of 5,949 cases of similar sanctions from non-sampled (Source: Records of sampled Blocks and AwaasSoft data provided by MoRD)

#### Appendix 4.3

(Reference: Paragraph 4.1.2; Page 30)

#### Sanctions to 'UNKNOWN' and payments made to ineligible person-illustrative case

Sanction data (AwaasSoft - H1 data) with linked bank account at the time of registration

Registration No.	Name of the Beneficiary	Father/ Husband Name	Mother Name	Category	Account No.
TN1825895	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	PONNIYAMMAL	SC	XXXXX8479

Registration data showing the name of the allottee beneficiary "SANGUNTHALA" and name of the bank account holder "Nagammal"

Reg.No.	Beneficiary Name	Allottee_Ben_Name	App_Name_ Bank PO	Beneficiary_Name_ PFMS
TN1825896	UNKNOWN	SANGUNTHALA	Nagammal	NAGAMMAL .D.

SECC family member details corresponding to PMAY-G ID. Allotee name "SANGUNTHALA" available



#### FTO payment details

REG_NO	APPLICANT_NAME	AC_CR	AMOUNT
TN1825895	Nagammal	***********	26715
TN1825895	Nagammal	***********	26029
TN1825895	Nagammal	************8479	40575
TN1825895	Nagammal	************8479	26681

Appendix 4.4

(Reference: Paragraph 4.1.2; Page 30)

#### Sanctions in the name of 'UNKNOWN' and payments to ineligible persons

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	District	Number of ineligible cases	Amount paid <sup>3</sup>	Committed liability	Total loss
1	Dharmapuri	298	261.56	254.89	516.45
2	Erode	11	19.46	0.00	19.46
3	Nagapattinam	8	5.03	8.57	13.60
4	Ramanathapuram	56	31.29	65.18	96.47
5	Tiruvannamalai	2	2.4	1.00	3.40
6	Tiruvarur	25	22.63	21.10	43.73
7	Villupuram	293	278.45	239.48	517.93
	Total	693	620.82	590.22	1,211.04
8	Other non-sampled Districts/ Blocks	114 <sup>4</sup>	113.70	86.24	199.94
	Grand Total	807	734.52	676.46	1,410.98

(Source: Records of sampled Blocks and AwaasSoft data provided by MoRD)

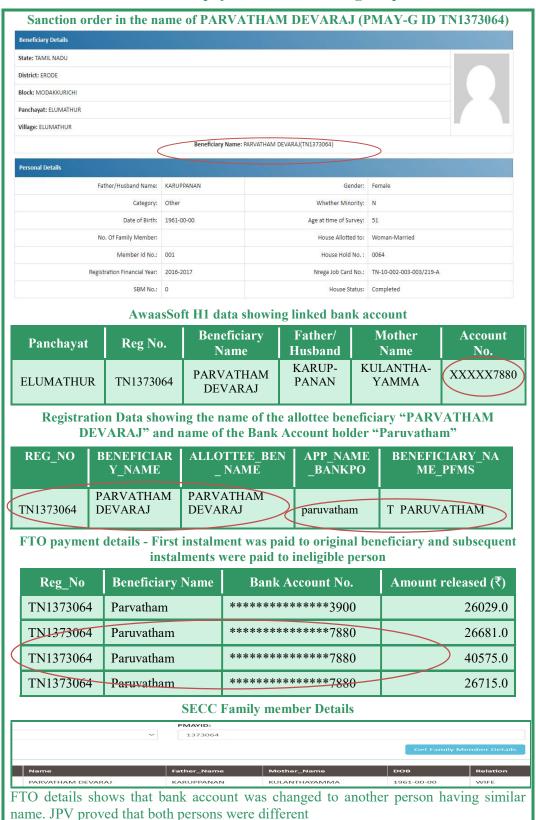
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> MGNREGS wages included.

Analysis of sanction data across the State revealed out of 1,229 unknown sanction cases in the State, Audit verified 123 (10 *per cent*) of the above cases and 114 were found ineligible.

#### Appendix 4.5

#### (Reference: Paragraph 4.1.3 (iv); Page 32)

#### Sanction and payment made to ineligible person



Appendix 4.6

(Reference: Paragraph 4.1.4; Page 33)

#### Junk values in SECC data

District Name	AHL TIN kept blank (No. of Beneficiaries)	Father Name (Blank, Unknown and without Meaning) <sup>*</sup> (No. of Beneficiaries)	and without Meaning)** (No. of Beneficiaries)	Relation captured in SECC Family details (Types of Relation) <sup>#</sup>	Differently spelt/blank/ meaningless Occupation <sup>##</sup> (No. of Beneficiaries)	Blank and meaningless reasons for Rejection <sup>@</sup> (No. of Beneficiaries rejected)	Blank,misspelt and meaningless Appellate Committee reasons <sup>@@</sup> No. of Beneficiaries rejected)
Ariyalur	15	5,044	5,941	55	4,766	37	1
Coimbatore	2	1,911	2,185	79	299	-	-
Cuddalore	15	17,214	19,885	45	15,291	8,907	25
Dharmapuri	15	4,755	5,565	77	592	-	355
Dindigul	12	4,600	5,166	76	3,706	250	-
Erode	4	4,411	4,991	45	4,083	3,644	50
Kancheepuram	33	13,045	14,038	34	12,757	2,871	-
Kanniyakumari	2	4,728	4,865	20	297	-	-
Karur	3	1,634	1,960	12	1,404	868	690
Krishnagiri	17	4,775	5,548	33	626	-	2
Madurai	73	3,124	3,455	18	262	-	2
Nagapattinam	19	10,861	12,375	58	10,289	298	662
Namakkal	27	2,986	3,343	33	2,670	1,924	-
Perambalur	5	2,375	2,678	38	2,022	4,727	-
Pudukkottai	298	5,910	6,880	105	576	-	17
Ramanathapuram	31	4,178	4,854	67	385	-	-
Salem	11	7,063	8,028	85	6,138	2,449	3
Sivaganga	5	2,763	3,254	51	216	-	2
Thanjavur	21	13,580	14,898	60	1,110	-	2
The Nilgiris	Nil	623	719	40	580	32	133
Theni	Nil	411	458	39	70	-	-
Thiruvallur	32	10,549	11,390	6	9,986	2,332	5
Thiruvarur	36	7,946	9,299	49	7,385	8,052	8
Thoothukkudi	1	3,921	4,180	47	597	-	-
Tiruchirappalli	10	6,969	8,128	32	6,163	90	-
Tirunelveli	37	4,186	4,577	44	748	11	1
Tiruppur	1	2,314	2,621	2	436	-	1
Tiruvannamalai	48	10,540	12,385	27	9,087	3,939	3
Vellore	161	10,883	12,418	14	10,353	294	305
Viluppuram	69	19,479	23,235	22	17,045	1,122	205
Virudhunagar	9	4,861	5,103	29	455	-	-
Grand Total	1,012	1,97,639	2,24,422	1,342	1,30,394	41,847	2,472

@@ Appellate Committee reasons such as W, R, LD etc., have been given

(Source: Data analysis of MoRD data by Audit)

<sup>\*\*</sup> Mother name given as "YYY", "XXX", "Nil", "bvgf" etc.

<sup>#</sup> Relation such as "Wife in law", "neighbour" etc., have been captured

<sup>##</sup> Occupation such as [-], 5th Std, "V"

Appendix 4.7
(Reference: Paragraph 4.2.1; Page 35)
District wise houses completed and incomplete

Sl. No.	District	Sanctioned	Completed	Percentage	Incomplete	Percentage
1	Ariyalur	19,918	6,625	33.26	13,293	66.74
2	Coimbatore	2,263	2,091	92.40	172	7.60
3	Cuddalore	34,317	9,205	26.82	25,112	73.18
4	Dharmapuri	17,619	10,038	56.97	7,581	43.03
5	Dindigul	3,240	2,858	88.21	382	11.79
6	Erode	5,051	5,006	99.11	45	0.89
7	Kanchipuram	26,553	21,254	80.04	5,299	19.96
8	Kanniyakumari	1,537	1,342	87.31	195	12.69
9	Karur	3,057	2,373	77.63	684	22.37
10	Krishnagiri	9,243	7,463	80.74	1,780	19.26
11	Madurai	6,148	4,231	68.82	1,917	31.18
12	Nagapattinam	42,800	19,336	45.18	23,464	54.82
13	Namakkal	5,469	4,489	82.08	980	17.92
14	Perambalur	7,442	4,464	59.98	2,978	40.02
15	Pudukkottai	18,312	9,949	54.33	8,363	45.67
16	Ramanathapuram	15,494	7,168	46.26	8,326	53.74
17	Salem	23,139	12,246	52.92	10,893	47.08
18	Sivagangai	7,137	5,104	71.51	2,033	28.49
19	Thanjavur	33,035	17,782	53.83	15,253	46.17
20	The Nilgiris	1,374	823	59.90	551	40.10
21	Theni	1,066	894	83.86	172	16.14
22	Thoothukkudi	4,572	3,282	71.78	1,290	28.22
23	Tiruchirappalli	15,111	9,731	64.40	5,380	35.60
24	Tirunelveli	11,300	8,439	74.68	2,861	25.32
25	Tiruppur	3,030	2,861	94.42	169	5.58
26	Tiruvallur	14,137	10,199	72.14	3,938	27.86
27	Tiruvannamalai	28,839	18,531	64.26	10,308	35.74
28	Tiruvarur	31,423	14,756	46.96	16,667	53.04
29	Vellore	27,029	18,873	69.83	8,156	30.17
30	Villupuram	84,669	35,545	41.98	49,124	58.02
31	Virudhunagar	4,317	2,992	69.31	1,325	30.69
	Total	5,08,641	2,79,950	55.04	2,28,691	44.96

(Source: Data analysis of MoRD data by Audit)

Appendix 4.8

(Reference: Paragraph 4.2.3; Page 37)

## Statement showing the details of not started houses even after receipt of first/second instalments

Name of the District	Year of sanction			
Name of the District	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Dharmapuri	344	191	93	109
Tiruvarur	3,102	1,963	761	215
Ramanathapuram	655	224	83	60
Nagapattinam	2,478	3,418	1,147	1,261
Tiruvannamalai	82	20	2	0
Tiruchirapalli	282	223	39	35
Villupuram	2,902	1,676	99	47
Total	9,845	7,715	2,224	1,727
Total number of beneficiaries	21,511			

(Source: Records furnished by DRDAs of sampled districts)

# Appendix 5.1 (Reference: Paragraph 5.3.1; Page 43) Misrepresentation of photos

Sl. No.	District	Block	Number of cases identified
1	Erode	Bhavani	27
2	Erode	Modakuruchi	14
3	Nagapattinam	Kilvelur	163
4	Nagapattinam	Keelaiyur	20
5	Nagapattinam	Mayiladuthurai	51
6	Ramanathapuram	R S Mangalam	11
7	Tiruchirapalli	Lalgudi	1
8	Tiruvannamalai	Tiruvannamalai	51
9	Tiruvannamalai	Jawadhu Hills	5
10	Tiruvarur	Mannargudi	10
11	Tiruvarur	Needamangalam	13
12	Villupuram	Vanur	6
13	Villupuram	Vikravandi	2
14	Villupuram	T.V. Nallur	4
	Total	378	

(Source: Records of sampled Blocks and records/photos in the AwaasSoft data portal)

### (i) Incomplete houses uploaded in the Awaassoft portal but shown as completed and full payments were made



Name: Jeyalakshmi Singaravelu (TN1076691), Kodangudi, completed - 30/04/2018 and four instalments paid



Name: Ganesan (TN1943802), Mannampandal, existing site (Old House), a *pucca* house shown as old house



Name: M. Lakshmi (TN1041878), Kodangudi, shown as completed - 30/04/2018



Name: Arulprasath Amalakanthan (TN2138210), Kaduvangudi, completed



Name: Kathirvel Ethiraj (TN1029168), Anathandavapuram, shown as completed -19/12/2020



Name: Narayanasami Mahalingam (TN1996191), Kulichar, shown as completed - 25/08/2018

#### District: Tiruvannamalai Block: Tiruvannamalai



Name: Susei Periyanauyakam (TN1413866), Alaganandal, house yet to be roof casted shown as completed - 24/06/2020



Name: Sumathi (TN1397263), Adiannamalai, house yet to be roof casted shown as completed (Completed and Roof cast on same day)



Name: Mannammal Lakshmanan (TN2480113), Aradapattu, shown as completed 26/04/2018



Name: Thavamani Somanathan (TN2170389), Periyakallapadi, shown as completed 05/09/2018

#### (ii) Illustrative cases: Same photo shown in different houses

District: Nagapattinam, Block: Kilvelur, VP: Athamangalam



Name: Rajagopal Santhanam (TN1614985), roof cast - 19/11/2019



Name: Boopathi Panneer (TN1666239), roof cast - 16/06/2019





Name: Ponnusami Lakshmi (TN1578495), completed - 25/02/2020

Name: Kunji Chinivasan (TN1666238), completed - 29/01/2020





Name: Kumar (TN1391459), existing old house

Name: Chitra (TN2029753), existing old house

District: Nagapattinam, Block: Keelaiyur, VP: Palakurichi





Name: Narayana swami (TN1029180), Palakurchi, completed- 07/03/2019

Name: Kuppammal (TN1100041), Prathamaramapuram, completed-13/03/2019



Name: Gnanaprakashamarulappa (TN108328), Karunkanni completed-10/06/2019



Name: Marimuthu Banumathi (TN1076725), Thirupoondi (W), completed-12/09/2019

#### (iii) Different house photos shown for different stages of a house

District: Tiruvannamalai, Block: Tiruvannamalai, VP: Palayanur, Name: Perumal (TN1062510)



**Completed stage** 



Roof cast stage

#### (iv) Same photos shown from plinth level to completed

District: Tiruvannamalai, Block: Tiruvannamalai, VP: Isukalikatteri, Name: Poondiyappan Kuzhanthai (TN2516787) photos of all levels taken on the same day (18/06/2020)



Plinth stage



Roof cast stage



Completed stage

(Source: Records of sampled Blocks and records/photos in the AwaasSoft data portal)

## Appendix 5.2 (Reference: Paragraph 5.3.2; Page 44)

#### Colour coding in the georeferenced location Map of the PMAY-G house



(Source: Maps of geotagged coordinates of stage-wise photos uploaded in the AwaasSoft portal)

#### **Colour coding**

- 1. **Red** Both Existing house and Proposed site
- 2. **Blue** House sanctioned
- 3. Yellow Plinth and Roof cast level
- 4. **Green** Completed (flagged in the map)

#### Methodology adopted by Audit for verification:

To verify whether the photos were captured at the beneficiaries' old house and construction site, the decimal coordinates of latitude and longitude were restricted to three decimal places after rounding off. The accuracy of the location would be  $\pm$  55 metres (difference in one degree is roughly 110 km therefore difference at third decimal will be 110 m the accuracy is  $\pm$  0.0005 decimal degree). Using the above details, data available in the AwaasSoft in the form of Maps were verified and commented.

Appendix 5.3
(Reference: Paragraphs 5.3.2 (ii) and 5.3.3 Pagse 45 and 48)
Many house photos geotagged at single location

Sl. No.	Latitude and Longitude	Location	District	Number of photos	
1	LAT-10.767 & LON-79.742	Block Office Kilvelur	Nagapattinam	7,619	
2	LAT-10.783 & LON-79.841	Block Office Nagapattinam	Nagapattinam	6,067	
3	LAT-10.618 & LON-79.256	Block Office Papanasam	Thanjavur	4,772	
4	LAT-10.993 & LON-79.455	Block Office Thiruvidaimaruthur	Thanjavur	4,694	
5	LAT-11.087 & LON-79.449	Block Office Thirupanandal	Thanjavur	4,305	
6	LAT-10.421 & LON-79.319	Block Office Pattukottai	Thanjavur	4,100	
7	LAT-12.409 & LON-79.550	Block Office Thellar	Tiruvannamalai	3,672	
8	LAT-10.955 & LON-79.398	Block Office Kumbakonam	Thanjavur	2,726	
9	LAT-10.669 & LON-79.446	Block Office Mannargudi	Tiruvarur	2,666	
10	LAT-10.282 & LON-79.216	Block Office Madukkur	Thanjavur	2,573	
11	LAT-10.074 & LON-79.045	Block Office Avudaiyar Koil	Pudukkottai	2,019	
12	LAT-12.786 & LON-79.594	Block Office Vembakkam	Tiruvannamalai	1,941	
13	LAT-11.631 & LON-78.868	Block Office Chinnasalem	Villupuram	1,892	
14	LAT-98.490 & LON-786.633	Block Office Kalaiyarkoil	Sivagangai	1,661	
15	LAT-11.803 & LON-78.712	Block Office Kalrayan hills	Villupuram	2,630	
16	LAT-10.377 & LON-79.854	Block Office Vedaranyam	Nagapattinam	1,195	
17	LAT-98.280 & LON-782.254	Block Office Thirupuvanam	Sivagangai	1,126	
18	LAT-10.505 & LON-79.160	Block Office Orathanadu	Thanjavur	1,105	
19	LAT-11.802 & LON-78.712	Block Office Kalrayan Hills	Villupuram	1,074	
	Total				

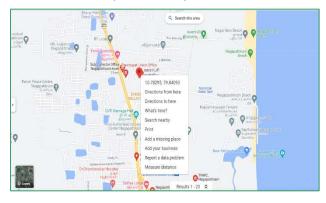
(Source: Data analysis by Audit of AwaasSoft data provided by MoRD)

#### Appendix 5.4

(Reference: Paragraph 5.3.2 (ii); Page 45)

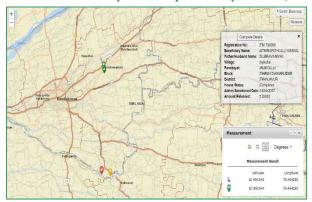
#### Illustrative cases: Geotagging of many houses at one location

District: Nagapattinam Block: Nagapattinam Panchayat: Vadavur Beneficiary: Mariyammal Ramesh (TN1782099)



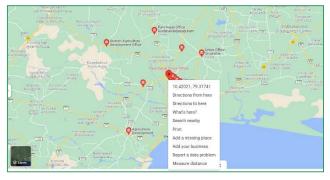


2 District: Thanjavur Block: Thiruvidaimarudur Panchayat: Injikollai Beneficiary: Uthirapathi Alliyammal (TN1768596)





3 District: Thanjavur Block: Pattukkottai Panchayat: Eripurakkarai Beneficiary: Sinabalu (TN1055450)



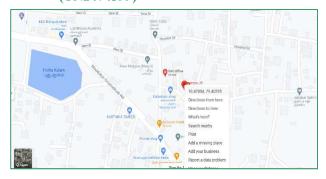


4 District: Thanjavur Block: Kumbakonam VP: Marudanallur Name: Balamurugan Vellaisamy (TN1848076)





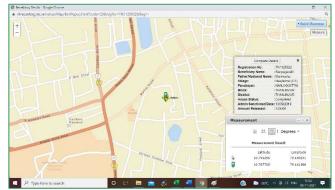
5 District: Thanjavur Block: Madukkur VP: Madukkur (NORTH) Name: 'UNKNOWN' (TN2474599)





6 District: Thanjavur Block: Madukkur VP: Madukkur (North) Name: Senpakavalli (TN1126022)





7 District: Thanjavur Block: Thiruvidaimaruthur VP:Sathanur Name: Vasantha Kanniyan (TN1077718)





### 8 District: Thanjavur Block: Thiruvonam VP: Solagankudikadu Beneficiary Ayikannu (TN1214003)



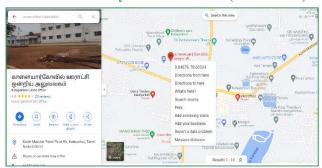


9 District: Sivagangai Block: Thiruppuvanam Panchayat: T. Puliyangulam Village: Vallarendal Beneficiary: G.Mariyammal (TN2154323)





District: Sivagangai Block: Kalaiyarkovil Panchayat: Muthurvaniyangudi Village: Vanniankudi Beneficiary: Vadive Subban (TN2554786)



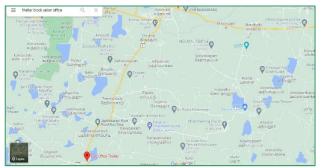


District: Pudukkottai, Block Avudayarkoil, VP:Puthambur, Beneficiary: Katturaja (TN2147111)





District: Tiruvannamalai Block: Thellar Panchayat: Kadambai Village: Kadambai Beneficiary: Perumal Chinnasami (TN1801169)





District: Tiruvarur Block: Mannargudi Panchayat: Serankulam Village: Serankulam Beneficiary: S.Govindharaj(TN1660710)





District: Tiruvannamalai Block: Vembakkam Panchayat: Arasanipalai Village: Arasanipalai Beneficiary: Balaraman (TN23811998)



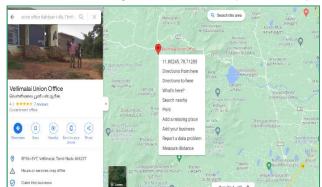


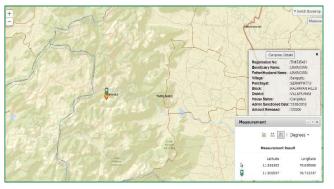
District: Villupuram Block: Chinnasalem Panchayat: Rayappanur Village: Rayappanur Beneficiary: Periyammal Periyasamy(TN1330806)





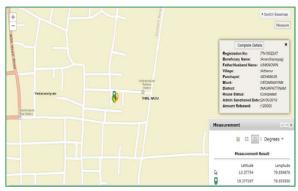
District: Villupuram Block: Kalrayan Hills Panchayat: Serapattu Village: Serapattu Beneficiary: 'UNKNOWN' (TN1535431)





17 District: Nagapattinam Block: Vedaranyam Panchayat: Adhanur Village: Adhanur Beneficiary: Anandhanayagi (TN1002247)





(Source: Data analysis of maps uploaded in AwaasSoft portal compared with data provided by MoRD)

**Appendix 5.5** 

#### (Reference: Paragraph 5.3.2 (iii); Page 45) Geotagging at far-away places - outside the State

Sl. No.	ID	District	Geotagged at	Distance KM
1	TN1141564	Cuddalore	In Bay of Bengal	961.88
2	TN1335793	Cuddalore	Near Shahjahanpur, UP	1,803.42
3	TN1540252	Cuddalore	Near Shahjahanpur, UP	1,804.18
4	TN1696460	Cuddalore	Near Shahjahanpur, UP	1,804.07
5	TN1804446	Cuddalore	Near Shahjahanpur, UP	1,804.07
6	TN1825022	Cuddalore	Near Shahjahanpur, UP	1,803.96
7	TN1913125	Cuddalore	Near Sirsa, Haryana	1,804.96
8	TN2455645	Dharmapuri	Saharanpur, UP	1,961.87
9	TN1029462	Kancheepuram	Kolkata, West Bengal	1,478.34
10	TN1272870	Kancheepuram	New Delhi	1,800.00
11	TN2396165	Kanyakumari	In Assam	2,428.58
12	TN2077213	Nagapattinam	Near Jaipur, Rajasthan	1,850.00
13	TN2227327	Ramanathapuram	Deoband, UP	2,204.98
14	TN1275886	Sivagangai	Chandigarh	2,290.86
15	TN1181124	Thanjavur	Near Rampur, Jharkhand	1,693.00
16	TN1884722	Thanjavur	Near Rampur, Jharkhand	1,690.00
17	TN1347345	Tiruchirapalli	Siliguri, West Bengal	2,045.77
18	TN1347496	Tiruchirapalli	Siliguri, West Bengal	2,045.71
19	TN1794038	Tiruchirapalli	Siliguri, West Bengal	2,045.42
20	TN1874427	Tiruchirapalli	Siliguri, West Bengal	2,045.71
21	TN1977017	Tiruchirapalli	Near Khandala, Maharastra	1,014.15
22	TN2009159	Tiruchirapalli	Lucknow, UP	1,768.22
23	TN2182833	Tiruchirapalli	In Chhattisgarh	1,343.50
24	TN2271198	Tiruchirapalli	Siliguri, West Bengal	2,044.01
25	TN1072254	Villupuram	Near Sirsa, Haryana	2,005.13
26	TN1409811	Villupuram	Near Dehradun Uttarakhand	2,038.00
27	TN1437656	Villupuram	Near Dehradun, Uttarakhand	2,018.86
28	TN1477703	Villupuram	Hazaribagh, Jharkhand	1,521.94
29	TN1543039	Villupuram	Malerkotla, Punjab	2,081.75
30	TN1690152	Villupuram	Near Ludhiana, Punjab	2,120.54
31	TN1730728	Villupuram	Near Rajkot, Gujart	1,445.58
32	TN1748469	Villupuram	Malerkotla, Punjab	2,081.81
33	TN2082520	Villupuram	New Delhi	1,862.20
34	TN2097247	Villupuram	Malerkotla, Punjab	2,081.11
35	TN2556813	Villupuram	Near Dehradun, Uttarakhand	2,010.83

(Source: Data analysis of inspection data provided by MoRD)

#### **Appendix 5.6**

(Reference: Paragraph 5.3.2 (iii); Page 46)

Geotagging at far-away places unrelated to house location - within the State

District: Thanjavur Block: Sethubavachatram Panchayat: Sarabendrarajapattinam Village: Sarabendrarajanpattinam Beneficiary: Kalaiselvam (TN2513110)





District: Tiruvarur Block: Mannargudi Panchayat: Ramapuram Village: Kailasanatharkoil Beneficiary: Velu Kalimuthu (TN1561356)





District: Tiruvannamalai Block: Vembakkam Panchayat: Vadakalpakkam Village: Kuranganilmuttam Beneficiary: Govindammal Selvan(TN1241462)





(Source: Data analysis of inspection data provided by MoRD compared with maps uploaded in the AwaasSoft portal)

#### **Appendix 5.7**

(Reference: Paragraph 5.3.2 (iii); Page 46)

#### Illustrative cases - Geotagging at far-away places - outside the State

District: Kanniyakumari Block: Munchirai VP: Painkulam Name: Kanakaraj (TN2396165)



District: Villupuram Block: Kanai VP: Theli Name: Pichaimuthu Thonthali (TN1748469)



(Source: Data analysis of inspection data provided by MoRD compared with maps uploaded in the AwaasSoft portal)

Appendix 5.8
(Reference: Paragraph 5.5.1; Page 51)
Details of complaint received in sample selected Audited entity

Sl. No.	Name of the Audited entity (Secretariat/DRD/DRDA/Block)	District	Number of complaints received
1	Secretariat	Chennai	29
2	DRD Chennai	Chennai	69
3	DRDA Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	30
4	Harur	Dharmapuri	6
5	Modakuruchi	Erode	5
6	Keelaiyur	Nagapattinam	45
7	Kilvelur	Nagapattinam	39
8	Mayiladuthurai	Nagapattinam	4
9	DRDA Ramanathapuram	Ramanathapuram	60
10	RS Mangalam	Ramanathapuram	42
11	Kadaladi	Ramanathapuram	9
12	Thottiyam	Tiruchirappalli	4
13	DRDA Tiruvannamalai	Tiruvannamalai	36
14	Tiruvannamalai Block	Tiruvannamalai	7
15	Jawadhu Hills Block	Tiruvannamalai	8
16	DRDA Tiruvarur	Tiruvarur	58
17	Mannargudi	Tiruvarur	14
18	Needamangalam	Tiruvarur	2
19	DRDA Villupuram	Villupuram	105
20	Vikkravandi	Villupuram	7
21	T V Nallur	Villupuram	19
22	Vanur	Villupuram	12
	Total		610

(Source: Records furnished by sampled units)

#### **Glossary of abbreviations**

Abbreviations	Full Form
AAP	Annual Action Plan
ASL	Annual Select List
BDO's	Block Development Officers
CMSPGH	Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DBT	Direct Benefit Transfer
DDUGJY	Deen Dayal Upadhayay Gram Jyoti Yojana
DEO	Data Entry Operators
DRD	Director of Rural Development
DRDA	District Rural Development Agencies
DRI	Differential Rate of Interest
ECS	Electronic Clearance System
FTO	Fund Transfer Order
GoI	Government of India
GoTN	Government of Tamil Nadu
IAY	Indira AwaasYojana
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
JPV	Joint Physical Verification
LWF	Labour Welfare Fund
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MNRES	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Sources
MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development
NRDWP	National Rural Drinking Water Programme

Abbreviations	Full Form
PD	Project Director
PFMS	Public Financial Management System
PMAY-G	Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Gramin
PMU	Programme Management Unit
PMUY	Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana
PPSWOR	Probability Proportional to Size without replacement
PwD	Persons with Disabilities
PWL	Permanent Wait List
RCC	Reinforced Cement Concrete
SBM-G	Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin
SECC	Socio Economic and Caste Census
SNA	State Nodal Account
TANCEM	Tamil Nadu Cements Corporation Limited
VP	Village Panchayat

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