

VISIT REPORT OF TMA DIPLO



BY

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INTRODUCTION:

I visited TMA Diplo on 11-13 August 2006 to monitor the implementation status of SDSSP schemes, assess ground situation the TMA is faced with, and assist impediments that they might be facing in the implementation of the schemes. I also aimed to gauge the capacity of TMA to carryout development projects in the Taluka. During the visit I had opportunity to meet TMO Diplo, Mr. Anwar Charan, TO (Finance), Mr. Sumji, and TO (Infra), Mr. Muhammad Ayub.

INTRODUCTION OF TMA DIPLO:

Taluka Diplo is one of the oldest towns of Sindh. It is situated in the south and borders Runn of Katch. Deepo Menghwar first established this town. After the partition, Diplo was made Taluka headquarter of district Tharparkar. It has a Taluka hospital, one-degree college, one government high school for boys, one government high school for girls, one vocational school, ten government primary schools for boys and eight government primary school for girls.

Diplo is 40 kilometers ways from Mithi (district headquarter) and 107 kilometers from Badin and is connected with these towns by metalled roads.

After partition this town was sanitary committee till 1959. Afterwards, it was made union council. In 1974 it was up-graded as Town Committee. In 2001 with the introduction of new local government system Taluka Council/Taluka Municipal Administration Diplo was established. Taluka Council Diplo is consisted of following union council:

Union Council Diplo
Union Council Sobhiar
Union Council Jhirmirio
Union Council Dabhro
Union Council Bolhari
Union Council Khetlari
Union Council Kaloi
Union Council Bhitaro

SDSSP funds for FY 2004- 05 and FY 2005-06 amounting to Rs. 2,107,011 (50%) and Rs. 2,131,408 (50%) respectively were released to TMA Diplo on 12th June 2006.

SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR, 2004 / 05

S. #	Schemes	UC	Nature	Cost	Duration
1	Construction of Storage Tanks: 11 units at various village in Taluka Diplo	UC Kaloi and Bhitaro	Water Supply	3,300,000	4 Month
2	Construction of open surface drains & bricks paving roads in Diplo Town.	Diplo	Drainage	1,000,000	4 Month
	Total of year 2004 / 05			4,300,000	

SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR, 2005 / 06

S. #	Schemes	UC	Nature	Cost	Duration
1	Rural Water Supply scheme	Diplo	Water Supply	2,530,000	4 Month
2	Rural Drainage scheme	Kethari	Drainage	1,810,000	4 Month.
	Total of year 2005 /06			4,340,000	
	Grand Total			8,640,000	

SDSSP schemes are yet to be implemented for want of Technical Sanction (TS) from Director General, Public Health Engineering. Once the TS are obtained, the TMA officials mentioned, schemes would be implemented. I showed my reservation on the inclusion of brick paving roads as a scheme for FY 04-05 as it was out of scope of SDSSP. It may be mentioned that TMA officials were of the view that TMA had enough capacity to plan and execute projects on its own and the requirement of TS caused unnecessary delays in their implementation.



From left to right: TO (Infra), DPD-SDSSP, TMO, TO (F)

POPULATION TO GET BENEFIT FROM SDSSP SCHEME:

Year 2004 / 05

S. #	Schemes	Population
1	Construction of Storage Tanks: 11 units at various village in Taluka Diplo	6500
2	Construction of open surface drains & bricks paving roads in Diplo Town.	2000

Year 2005 / 06

S. #	Schemes	Population
1	Rural Water Supply scheme	5000
2	Rural Drainage scheme	2000

CAPACITY OF TMA DIPLO:

The TMA office is staffed with TMO, TO (Infrastructure) and TO (Finance) besides some support staff. I was pleased and satisfied with the competence of these three officers and was impressed that they worked as a team. However, following positions are lying vacant in the TMA office: TO (Planning) in BS – 17, TO (regulation) in BS – 16, Chief Officer in BS – 16 and Accountant in BS – 11. Further, the TMA does not have a computer operator due to which computers in the office are not utilized. The TMO informed that even Annual Sector Plan for SDSSP was got composed from the market. I informed them that SDSSP has got funds for the capacity building of local governments, which TMA Diplo may also access on need basis. Subsequently, TMA officers requested for one computer operator under TA of SDSSP. I briefed them on procedure to access TA funds and the selection procedure for computer operators.

F & G SPECIALIST:

F & G Specialist Tharparkar, Mr. Saghir Mallah, I was informed by TMA officers, has visited TMA Diplo only once. In the opinion of TO (Finance) Mr. Mallah is a raw hand and knows very little about finance and governance and therefore of no assistance to him.