

District Convergence Planning Committee Meeting

26 June 2018, Zilla Parishad, Pune

Draft Minutes and Action Points

The first meeting of the District Convergence and Planning Committee (DCPC) formed through an MoU establishing a partnership between the Pune Zilla Parishad and the 3D Programme for Girls and Women was held in the Mahatma Gandhi Auditorium of the Pune Zilla Parishad. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Suraj Mandhare (IAS), Hon. CEO, Zilla Parishad, Pune. The focus of the meeting was to initiate the DCPC as a platform to discuss and pursue convergent planning and action for improving outcomes for girls and women in rural areas of Pune district.

Members participating in the meeting included the following:

- Mr. Suraj Mandhare (IAS), Hon. CEO, ZP, Pune (Chair – DCPC)
- Mr. Vijay Deshmukh, Deputy Collector, Pune
- Mr. Prabhakar Gavade, Project Director, DRDA, Pune
- Ms. Sapana Kurkund, Assistant Programme Officer, DRDA, Pune
- Mr. Deepak Chate, Deputy CEO, ICDS, Pune
- Ms. Ratnaprabha Potdar, Supervisor, ICDS, Pune
- Mr. Z. B. Jadhav, District Programme Officer, WCD, Pune
- Dr. Ganpat More, Education Officer (Secondary), Pune
- Dr. Dilip Mane, District Health Officer, Pune
- Mr. S.H. Chavan, Education Officer (Primary), Pune
- Mr. Sandeep Kohinkar, Deputy CEO, Village Panchayat, Pune
- Ms. Vandana Kavate, ADCO, MAVIM, Pune
- Mr. Venkat Deshmukh, MAVIM, Pune
- Dr. Geeta Rao Gupta, Executive Director, 3D Program for Girls and Women
- Ms. Sia Nowrojee, Program Director, 3D Program for Girls and Women
- Dr. Ravi Verma, Regional Director, International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), Asia
- Ms. Shweta Bankar, Technical Specialist, ICRW, Asia
- Ms. Madhu Deshmukh, Senior Consultant, ICRW, Asia and 3D Program for Girls and Women
- Mr. Rakesh Ganguli, Senior Consultant, ICRW, Asia and 3D Program for Girls and Women

The meeting began with the Hon. CEO, ZP welcoming the members and inviting Dr. Geeta Rao Gupta, Executive Director, 3D Program to give an overview of the programme.

Highlights from her introductory remarks are as follows:

- The goal of the 3D Program is to converge government programmes to improve outcomes for girls and women.
- The 3D team has learned from the district administration and other stakeholders in Maharashtra about the challenges to convergence in Pune.

- A key objective of the 3D Program is to create and strengthen mechanisms for convergence planning and action for girls and women in Pune district.
- Lessons learnt from the initiatives in Pune are to be shared globally.
- The DCPC is a platform to develop a shared vision for convergence planning and action for improved outcomes on priority issues to improve the status of girls and women in rural Pune.
- The 3D Program has entered into a MoU with the ZP, Pune to facilitate convergent action and planning working closely with the various departments of the ZP, Pune.
- Two Talukas – Purandar and Khed are proposed as sites for in-depth analysis of data gathering and use, planning, implementation and monitoring for developing recommendations for convergence at the district, block and village levels.
- Schemes, such as Umed and RKSK, will be explored as ways to anchor the convergent process at the village, taluka and district levels.
- The 3D Program can provide capacity building support to the government functionaries at the district and block level, particularly in the two Talukas identified for in-depth analysis.
- The 3D Program will facilitate a data convergence framework and draw on past experiences with convergence efforts to identify recommendations, with support from the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune.
- The 3D Program requests the CEO, ZP to host three more DCPC meetings over the next one year to monitor progress.

In conclusion, Dr. Rao Gupta presented to the Hon. CEO, ZP a report entitled “Empowerment of Girls and Women: A Landscape Analysis of Pune” produced by the 3D Program based on research, consultation and analysis conducted in the past year.

Hon. CEO, ZP, Pune then addressed the members and urged all HoDs to proactively support convergence processes initiated under this partnership. He not only emphasized the need for convergent planning and action but also cited several illustrations of how working in silos was counterproductive for the district administration as well as citizens. Hon. CEO gave illustrations of departments working at cross-purposes/in conflict in the absence of convergence.

Highlights from the remarks made by the Hon. CEO, ZP are as follows:

- He laid out three expectations for the 3D Team:
 - a. technical support and sharing of knowledge on convergence for girls and women
 - b. developing a framework or roadmap for convergence at the ZP level
 - c. following up on convergent planning and action to keep moving the process forward
- He urged all HoDs to contribute to the 3D convergence process in all ways possible.
- He suggested a common framework where all outcomes, indicators and expectations for convergence are listed which could be developed and shared across departments.
- He assured participants that this framework would be discussed in the HoD meeting and asked the HoD – WCD to follow up.
- He observed that the safety and security of women thematic might need engagement with multiple stakeholders and departments such as police, labour commissioner, judiciary, etc.

- CSR resources could be used to fill gaps in convergent programming.
- He endorsed the selection of Purandar and Khed as blocks for further analysis to develop a model for convergence.
- He assigned the DRDA to be the nodal coordinating department for convergence initiatives under the ZP-3D Program and directed the PD - DRDA and APO – DRDA to work closely with the 3D team.
- He referred to conflicting interests between departments and cited examples of the Tribal vs. Forest department and the Industry vs. Environment department to illustrate the value of convergence and the cost of working in silos.
- He also referred to several schemes that are working in isolation which could actually be complementary.
- As a platform for communication and information sharing, as well to maintain momentum, he requested the 3D team to establish a Whatsapp group.

Dr. Ravi Verma, Regional Director, ICRW, Asia, thanked the CEO, ZP for his insights and observed that sustainable convergent action required normative changes, such as in attitudes and beliefs of government officials and functionaries. Studying changes in attitudes would be useful to research.

Mr. Vijay Deshmukh, Deputy Collector, Pune emphasised the need for data mapping across departments as the first step to convergence planning. He proposed developing a format for tracking data for individual schemes across common indicators. He urged the 3D Program to taking a step-by-step approach and monitor each milestone towards convergent planning.

Key Action Points

Action points from the meeting are as follows:

- Create a Whatsapp group for all HoDs and relevant members to share information, ideas and knowledge (3D Program)
- Add a brief description of the 3D Program to launch the Whatsapp group(3D Program)
- Develop a Monthly Action Plan by HoDs and following it through in the monthly meeting of the HODs (3D Program with CEO, ZP)
- Issue letters to the block administrative units in Purandar and Khed to proactively support the convergence efforts. (DRD)
- Document the current ways of planning, programming, gathering and sharing data, and monitoring as a baseline to assess the changes that occur with convergence (3D Program).
- Develop and fill a data mapping template to collate data on select schemes for girls and women from various departments (3D Program and HoD of ZP departments).

Dr. Geeta Rao Gupta delivered the vote of thanks.


**Chief Executive Officer
Zilla Parishad Pune.**