

**Minutes of Public Hearing for Proposed Sand Ghats (Total 43) of  
Bhusawal, Raver, Yawal, Chopda, Amalner, Dharangaon, Erandol, Parola  
and Jalgaon Talukas of Jalgaon District conducted on 18/5/2020**

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The Environmental Pubic Hearing for below mentioned sand ghats (Total 43) of Bhusawal, Raver, Yawal, Chopda, Amalner, Dharangaon, Erandol, Parola and Jalgaon Talukas of Jalgaon District was conducted through video conferencing (Zoom App) on 18/5/2020 at 11.00 am from Collector Office, Jalgaon.

Name of proposed sand ghats	Taluka
Joglakheda, Bhankheda, Gombhi, Sunasgaon, Belvhay Part-1, Belvhay Part-2, Belvhay Part-3	Bhusawal
Wadgaon, Aandalwadi, Nimbhora (Bu), Kerhale (Bu), Dhurkheda, Patondi, Dondhe and Balwadi	Raver
Thorgavan and Pimpri	Yawal
Pimpri, Ghadvel Kolamba and Sutkar	Chopda
Dhavde, Rundhati Part-1, Rundhati Part-2, Savkheda, Hingonesim Pra. Ja. Part-1 and Hingonesim Pra. Ja. Part-2	Amalner
Bambhori Pra. Cha. Aavhani, Narne and Babhulgaon	Dharangaon
Takarkheda, Vajjnath and Utran	Erandol
Bahadpur, Mahalpur and Undirkhede	Parola
Bhokar and Palsod	Jalgaon

Hon'ble Member Secretary, MPCB, Mumbai has issued office order vide letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/ PH/B-200518-FTS-0031 dated 18/5/2020 for panel formation as given below for the public hearing.

- 1) District Collector, Jalgaon or his Representative - Chairman  
(Not below the rank of Additional District Magistrate)
- 2) Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board - Member
- 3) Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board - Convener

Following panel members were present for the environmental public hearing.

- 1) Mr. Ravindra Bharde, Additional District Magistrate, Jalgaon
- 2) Mr. Amar Durgule, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Nashik  
(Through Video Conferencing)
- 3) Mr. S. M. Kurmude, Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,  
Jalgaon



Convener of public hearing Mr. S. M. Kurmude, Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Jalgaon welcomed the Chairman of public hearing panel, Regional Officer, MPC Board, Nashik who was attending the hearing through video conferencing, Officers of Revenue Department and all citizens of Jalgaon District who were attending the public hearing through video conferencing. Then the public hearing was started with the permission of Hon'ble Chairman.

First of all, convener of public hearing explained that it is mandatory to obtain environmental clearance for certain type of projects according to the provisions of EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change dated 14/9/2006 and Amendment dated 1/12/2009 and environmental public hearing is mandatory before obtaining the environmental clearance.

Project Proponent Additional District Collector, Jalgaon has submitted proposal on 9/3/2020 along with requisite fee for conducting the environmental public hearing for proposed sand excavation activity at total 43 sand ghats of Jalgaon District.

Convener further explained that Mining Department, Central Government has published 'Sand Mining Frame Work, 2018' in March 2018. In which certain guidelines are given for sand excavation. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) in its order dated 19/9/2018 in the matter of OA No. 368/2015 issued directions to coordinate with Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and to make necessary changes in the policies as per Sustainable sand Mining Guidelines, 2016 and Sand Mining Frame Work, 2018 and 2020 and to conduct environmental public hearing.

Convener of public hearing further narrated that the main purpose of public hearing is to get acquainted with the citizens' views about the various aspects of project and the effects thereof. Also to make people aware about the pollution control arrangements required in the project and the concerned rules, and to consider the views expressed during the public hearing.

According to the application received to MPC Board for conducting public hearing the dates of 21/4/2020, 22/4/2020 and 23/4/2020 were fixed earlier with the approval of District Collector, Jalgaon. The notice for the public hearing was published in Marathi Daily 'Lokmat' and English Daily 'The Times of India' dated 19/3/2020. The documents containing the information of proposed sand ghats were made available at the respective grampanchayats and other Government offices as given below for the knowledge of the people.

- 1) Collector Office, Jalgaon
- 2) District Industries Centre, Jalgaon
- 3) Jilha Parishad, Jalgaon
- 4) Municipal Corporation, Jalgaon and Municipal Councils, Bhusawal, Yawal, Raver, Amalner, Chopda, Dharangaon, Erandol and Parola
- 5) Tahsil Office, Jalgaon, Bhusawal, Yawal, Raver, Amalner, Chopda, Dharangaon, Erandol and Parola
- 6) Sub-Divisional Office, Jalgaon, Bhusawal, Faizpur, Amalner and Erandol
- 7) Grampanchayat offices –



- (a) Joglakheda, Bhankheda, Gombhi, Sunasgaon and Belvhay, Tal. Bhusawal
  - (b) Wadgaon, Aandalwadi, Nimbhora (Bu), Kerhale (Bu), Dhurkheda, Patondi, Dondhe and Balwadi, Tal. Raver
  - (c) Thorgavan and Pimpri, Tal. Yawal
  - (d) Pimpri, Ghadvel Kolamba and Sutkar, Tal. Chopda
  - (e) Dhavde, Rundhati Savkheda and Hingonesim Pra. Ja, Tal Amalner
  - (f) Bambhori Pra. Cha. Aavhani, Narne and Babhulgaon, Tal. Dharangaon
  - (g) Takarkheda, Vajjnath and Utran, Tal. Erandol
  - (h) Bahadpur, Mahalpur and Undirkhede, Tal. Parola
  - (i) Bhokar and Palsod, Tal. Jalgaon
- 8) Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Udyog Bhavan, First Floor, Tryambak Road, Near ITI, Satpur, Nashik-422007
  - 9) Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, Third Floor, Sion (E), Mumbai – 400022
  - 10) Environment Department, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Fifteenth Floor, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai
  - 11) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Bldg., Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001

However, the above Public Hearings were postponed as per directions of Hon'ble District Magistrate, Jalgaon due to present lockdown situation imposed by Government due to COVID-19 virus outbreak. The public notice about the postponement of public hearing was published Marathi Daily 'Lokmat' and English Daily 'The Times of India' dated on 18/4/2020.

Environment Department, Government of Maharashtra vide its letter number dated 4/5/2020 instructed to conduct public hearing of sand ghats through video-conferencing as lock-down is imposed by the Government due to ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. Accordingly, the Environmental Public Hearing for above mentioned 43 sand ghats of Jalgaon District is conducted on 18/5/2020 at 11.00 AM through video conferencing (Zoom App). The public notice for the public hearing was published in Marathi Daily 'Lokmat' and English Daily 'The Times of India' dated 8/5/2020.

Thereafter, District Mining Officer, Mr. Dipak Chavan gave a brief presentation on proposed sand ghats and measures proposed for pollution control during sand excavation.

After the presentation, convener informed that two representations were received through email from citizens regarding the public hearing of sand ghats. He then appealed participants to express their views, objections, instructions etc. through the video conferencing. The details of views expressed by participants and replies given by project proponent is as below.







Sr. No.	Name of Participant and views expressed	Response of project proponent
1	<b>Mr. Amar Durgule, Regional Officer, MPC Board, Nashik</b> – What will be the timings and method used for sand excavation	<b>Mr. Dipak Chavan, District Mining Officer</b> – The sand excavation will be carried out between 6.00 am to 6.00 pm and by manual method.
2	<b>Mr. Chandrakant Chaudhary, Bhusawal</b> – Written representation regarding the sand excavation is sent on email. The public hearing should not be conducted through video conferencing as it is ongoing now and should be conducted in person. Because villagers are far away from the technology. There are many drawbacks in this public hearing. Soil at the banks of rivers is also being excavated illegally along with sand in Sunasgaon and Gombhi Villages. Fishing activity and agriculture is facing challenges due to sand excavation. There is increase in nitrate and phosphate content in river water. There is no control on sand excavation. Endemic diseases are spread in the region.	<b>Mr. S. M. Kurmude, SRO, MPCB</b> – The public hearing is being conducted as per the instructions of Scientist, Environment Department, GoM and Secretary, State Expert Appraisal Committee-1 vide his letter number SEAC/2019/प्र.क्र.1/तां.क.3 dated 4/5/2020  <b>Mr. Dipak Chavan, District Mining Officer</b> – It will be mandatory for the contractor to implement the measures for pollution control and other rules at the time of sand excavation and transportation.
3	<b>Mr. Sagar More, Patonde, Tal. Amalner</b> – Illegal sand mining is practiced all over and measures like provision of CCTV cameras should be implemented to prohibit the same. Similarly toll free number should be started to register the complaints in this regard. Sand transportation will be carried out within district or out of district? There will noise pollution during the sand excavation. Accidents happen often during sand transportation. Necessary measures should be implemented to avoid the same.	<b>Mr. Dipak Chavan, District Mining Officer</b> – As per the provisions of Amended Sand Excavation Policy dated 3-9-2019 of Revenue and Forest Department the concerned SDO and Tahsildar will be communicated to initiate action against the illegal sand excavation. It will be mandatory for contractors to take precautions for noise pollution control, regular servicing of vehicles etc. The process of sand ghats auction will be carried out as per the Government's rules and regulations. The issue of provision of CCTV cameras and toll free number to register complaints is noted.
4	<b>Mr. Digambar Chaudhary (Sarpanch, Nimbhora, Tal. Raver)</b> – Village roads are damaged because of heavy sand transportation. Fifty percent fund received from sand auction should be given to grampanchayats for developmental works.	<b>Mr. Dipak Chavan, District Mining Officer</b> – The process of sand ghats auction will be carried out as per the Government's rules and regulations.


5	<b>Mr. Sadashiv Patil (Sarpanch, Awhani, Tal. Dharangaon)</b> – What will be the timings for sand excavation?	<b>Mr. Dipak Chavan, District Mining Officer</b> – The sand excavation will be carried out in daytime between 6.00 am to 6.00 pm.
6	<b>Mr. Rajendra Waghode (Sarpanch, Wadgaon, Tal. Raver)</b> – There is no approach road in the village. Funds from sand excavation should be utilized for construction of road. Sand tractors causes disturbance to the traffic. When the auction of sand ghats will be carried out and what will be the rates?	<b>Mr. Dipak Chavan, District Mining Officer</b> – Contractors will be given permission on condition to carry out sand excavation without disturbing the usual traffic. As per the Government's rule rate of sand is fixed as Rs. 4071.00 per brass. The auction of sand ghats will be carried out after the completion of official procedure as per rules.
7	<b>Mr. Yuvraj Kulkarni</b> – Local villagers should have the right to sale the sand and grampanchayats should get the development fund.	<b>Mr. Dipak Chavan, District Mining Officer</b> – As per the provisions of Amended Sand Excavation Policy dated 3-9-2019 of Revenue and Forest Department fund for developmental works will be provided to Grampanchayat.
8	<b>Mr. Chandrakant Dilip Pawar (Amalner)</b> – Contractors do not follow rules. The sand excavation and transportation should be according to the rules.	<b>Mr. Dipak Chavan, District Mining Officer</b> – Contractors will be instructed from time to time to carry out sand excavation and transportation according to the rules.

Mr. S. M. Kurmude, Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB and Mr. Dipak Chavan, District Mining Officer appealed to all participants to express their views, if any. Thereafter no one comes forward to express their views.

Mr. S. M. Kurmude informed that the all the issues raised by the participants are noted. Then with the permission of Hon'ble Chairman he declared that the public hearing is concluded.

  
**(S. M. Kurmude)**  
 Convener &  
 Sub-Regional Officer,  
 MPC Board, Jalgaon

  
**(Amar Durgule)**  
 Member &  
 Regional Office,  
 MPC Board, Nashik

  
**(Ravindra Bharde)**  
 Chairman &  
 Additional District Magistrate,  
 Jalgaon