

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING OF 37 SAND MINING IN
WARDHA DISTRICT DATED 10/06/2020.**

As per Ministry of Environment and Forest, Govt. of India Notification dated 14.09.2006 amended notification dated 1.12.2009. District Mining Office, Collector Office, Wardha have requested Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to conduct Environmental Public Hearing for 37 Sand Ghats in Wardha District at Ashti Taluka, Chincholi (0.42 Ha.), Ismilepur (0.35 Ha.), Nawabpur (0.45 Ha.), Arvi Taluka, Saifal (3.5 Ha.), Saikheda (2.70 Ha.), Dhighti-Wadgaon-2 (1.80 Ha.), Deoli Taluka, Aпти-1 (1.06 Ha.), Tambha-1 (1.22 Ha.), Hiwra(Ka.)-1 (1.50 Ha.), Takali(Ch.)-1 (1.22 Ha.), Sonegaon (Bai) (1.20 Ha.), Takali(D) (0.99 Ha.), Borgaon(A) (0.18 Ha.), Hinganghat Taluka, Junona+Borgaon(D) (4.90 Ha.), Chikmoh (4.20 Ha.), Tembha+Pardi (N) (4.80 Ha.), Ghatsaoli+Chincholi (4.90 Ha.), Khardi+Bhardi (2.80 Ha.), Kajalsara (1.36 Ha.), Ganeshpur+Borkhedi (1.80 Ha.), Bhagwa-2 (0.62 Ha.), Bhagwa-1 (0.70 Ha.), Yeli (2.45 Ha.), Shekapur (Bai) (1.60 Ha.), Kuran (Rith) (1.16 Ha.), Nandra (Rith) (3.15 Ha.), Samudrapur Taluka, Khuni+Vandali+Sewa-2 (2.87 Ha.), Mandgaon-1 (2.50 Ha.), Mandgaon-2 (3.0 Ha.), Mangaon (1.80 Ha.), Barbadi (1.50 Ha.), Waksur (2.10 Ha.), Khuni (1.95 Ha.), Umara+Aurangpur(Rith) (2.65 Ha.), Aurangpur (Rith)+Umara (2.50 Ha.), Chakur (1.50 Ha.), Pardi (2.25 Ha.)

Environmental Public Hearing in respect of 37 Sand Ghats in Wardha District under the Chairmanship of Shri Vivek Bhimanwar, District Collector, Wardha, Shri. Ashok Kare, Regional Officer, M.P.C.Board, Nagpur member and Shri. Anand Katole, Sub-Regional Officer-II, M.P.C.Board, Nagpur, convener of the public hearing panel conducted on 10/06/2020 through online zoom app. The Public Hearing started at 12.00 hrs. through Zoom app with the permission of the Chairman of the Public Hearing Panel. Attendance of the People present during the Public Hearing is attached as **Annexure-I**.

BACKGROUND :

District Collector, Wardha intends to auction sand ghats and appointed District Mining Officer, Wardha as project proponent. Total 37 sand ghats are identified by Taluka level Technical Committee chaired by Tahsildar and Dy. Engineer Irrigation, Junior Geologist, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Junior Geologist G.S.D.A, representative of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board for sand mining through manual method.

PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE :

With the permission of Chairman of Public Hearing the Sub-Regional Officer-II, MPCB, Nagpur has started Public Hearing by welcoming the Chairman and Member of the public hearing panel, local citizens from the village and others present through online zoom app mode.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Panel stated that, this Public Hearing is for recording the views/objects/suggestions of the participants. All the suggestions/comments will be communicated to the Environment Department. He also clarified that this panel is not here to take decision for accordance of any approval to the project. He then appealed the participants to express their views/comments/suggestions.

Sub-Regional Officer-II, MPCB, Nagpur explained the purpose of conducting this public hearing that as per MoEF, GOI Notification dated 14th September, 2006 and amended Notification dated 1st December, 2009. The notices for the public hearing was published in two local widely circulated news papers i.e. the 'Hitavada' (English) and 'Navrashtra (Marathi) on 09/05/2020., Copies of the same are enclosed as **Annexure-II**. Copies of the executive summary both in English and in Marathi and other information/documents were made available to the public by making these documents available in various Govt. offices as well as local Gram Panchayat as per MoEF GOI Notification. Suggestions, comments and objections of the public were called in writing till before the date of Public Hearing from the publication of the notice. The public hearing panel was constituted vide MPC Board Office Order No. E-20/2020 vide letter No. BO/JD/(WPC)/PH/B-458 dtd. 26/05/2020. Copy of the same is enclosed as **Annexure-III**. MPCB Office has received 3 written representations from Shri.Sudhir Paliwal, Shri.Prasad Khale and Smt.Chandrakala Dhanke. (Copy enclosed)

Thereafter, Sub-Regional Officer-II, Nagpur and Convener requested the project proponent to give their detail presentation about the project and the Environmental mitigations related to sand mining activity. Accordingly, representative of the project proponent gave detailed power point presentation of the project in local language as under:

He has given information regarding project undertake by 37 Sand Ghats in Wardha District. He further explained regarding project location, project area, sand availability and its benefits to manage the flow of river and flood control.

PROCEEDINGS :-

1. Prof. Arvind Soni.

- As per Govt. Guidelines GPS system should install on the truck, public vehicle engaged in the transporting of sand. If installed, how it is stored. What action authority has taken against the illegal sand mining activity.
- Whether every sand ghats has been fitted with CCTV Cameras.
- The common man is afraid to report the complaint in respect of illegal sand mining, hence suggested to give toll free number to launch complaint against illegal sand mining so that, complaint can be filed without any fear.

2. Shri. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist.

- He extend support to sand mining activity. He also suggested that timely extraction of sand from river would help in free flowing of River flow.

3. Shri. Gajanana Tele, Ghatsawali.

- He raised the question why Ghatsawali Ghat has not yet auctioned. Also support to need for toll free number for launch the complaint against illegal sand mining.

4. Shri. Ashish Gosavi.

- There is a nuisance due to continuous 24 hrs. transportation of sand carrying trucks. Local villager are affected due to heavy transportation.

5. Shri. Jagu Wankhede.

- Due to sand transportation the paved road passing through Grampanchayat Borgaon-Datal is likely to be damaged, hence suggested to provide alternative unpaved road bypassing village to avoid deterioration of village road.

6. Shri. Munna Siddhiki, Pulgaon.

- Compared to other Districts, the price of sand in Wardha District is Rs.4000/- per brass and it is high and unaffordable.

7. Shri. Kishor Dighe.

- Condition of road is deteriorated due to sand transportation. The roads are not being renovated or repaired by the administration or the concern Ghat Owner. Therefore, while auctioning the ghat it is necessary to incorporate terms and conditions renovation or repair of roads in the respective affected village.


PROJECT PROPONENT :

The authority of the project proponent has given reply on the questions and opinion raised during public hearing.

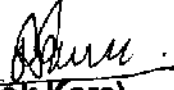
- As per Govt. directives trucks/vehicle transporting sand are equipped with GPS system. Also all the related information is available to the concern Tahsil Office Department. Similarly, sand vehicle owner who do not follow the rules are being prosecuted from time to time as per the rules.
- Action will be taken for installation of CCTV Cameras of each ghat after auction.
- The toll free number will be initiated after detail consideration. Ghatsawali sand ghat will be put up for auction after obtaining Environmental Clearance.
- Action to be initiated time to time on illegal sand mining complaint and illegal transportation of sand as per rule.
- Govt. of Maharashtra, Revenue of Forest Department issued resolution on 03.09.2019 is stated that, amount should be increase at the rate of 6% per MT/Brass or as per status as per the higher bid received in a last year/previous auction in the District and the total sand reserve sanctioned in the auction. After multiplying the amount per MT and the estimated sand reservoir in the respective sand duals, the amount is determined as the sand value of such sand group.
- The guidelines will be issued to the sand ghat holder after the sand ghat auction regarding the maintenance of road in the adjoining villages.

The status of objection received against 37 proposed sand ghats during the notice period is enclosed as **Annexure-IV**.

District Collector, Wardha and Chairman of Public Hearing Panel has informed to public that all views and comments are noted and recorded. This proceeding will be submitted to the Environment Ministry for further consideration. Finally, Chairperson of the Public Hearing Panel has summarized the proceeding of public hearing in detail and **Shri.Anand Katole, SRO, MPCB** thanks all the officials, public and local villagers present in the public hearing. The public hearing is concluded with the vote of thanks to the chair.



(Anand Katole)
Sub-Regional Officer-II,
MPC Board, Nagpur &
Convener of the Public
Hearing Panel



(Ashok Kare)
Regional Officer,
MPC Board, Nagpur &
Member of the Public
Hearing Panel



(Vivek Bhimanwar IAS)
District Collector, Wardha &
Chairman of the Public Hearing
Panel