

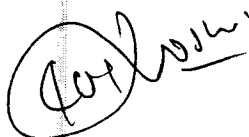
**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF PROPOSED
SIX NOS OF SAND BELT DREDGING AT TALUKA -KOPARGAON,
DISTRICT – AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA PROPOSED BY
DISTRICT COLLECTOR OFFICE, AHMEDNAGAR,
MAHARASHTRA**

The public hearing in respect of proposed six nos of Sand Belt Dredging at Kopargaon Taluka, Dist – Ahmednagar proposed by District Collector Office, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra was conducted on Thursday, the 05th November, 2020 at 03.00 p.m. at Tahsil Office, Kopargaon, Dist – Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.

As per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEFCC, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Office Order No. E – 57 of 2020 issued under letter no.BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B – 201023, FTS-0090, Dated 28-10-2020 as below :-

- 1) District Magistrate, Ahmednagar - **Chairman**
or his representative not below the
rank of an Additional District Magistrate
- 2) Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik - **Member**
(Representative of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)
- 3) Sub Regional Officer, - **Convener**
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Ahmednagar

Shri Sanjeev Redasani, I/c Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Ahmednagar and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed Hon'ble Chairman and Member of the Public Hearing Committee, Other Government Officials and public who were present in large number and informed that as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest &

 1

Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, GoI) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

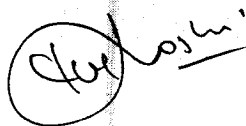
Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that Project Proponent - District Collector Office, Ahmednagar proposed six nos of Sand Belt dredging in Kopargaon Taluka, Dist-Ahmednagar. MPCB is in receipt of the application from Project Proponent - District Collector Office, Ahmednagar, to conduct the public consultation.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the directives issued by Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra as per letter 03-12-2019 directed to conduct prior public hearing for sand belt mining (minor mineral). As per the Notification of MoEFCC, GoI, 2006, the project falls under Category 2 (b), and prior consultation is mandatory for it.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation is to make aware, local people who can be participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of the project.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published in the local newspaper in Daily Sakal in Marathi on 30-09-2020 and in national newspaper in the Times of India in English on 01 October, 2020. The public were asked to send their suggestions or objections regarding the proposed sand belts mining.

As per the Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India (MoEFCC, GoI), the copies of detail information of Environment Management Plan (EMP) and Executive Summary of the proposed sand belts in English and in Marathi (local language) were made available at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, West-East Division Office, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440 001; District Magistrate Office- Ahmednagar; Additional District Magistrate Office- Ahmednagar; Zilla Parishad Office- Ahmednagar; District Industries Centre- Ahmednagar; Tahsildar-Taluka Office- Kopargaon, Dist- Ahmednagar; Grampanchayat office at Rahuri Khurd, Pimpri Valan, Chandakapur, Valan, Rampur, Satral Wangi Khurd, Naigaon -1 and 2, Matulthan -1, Matulthan -2; Matulthan-3; Punthamba; Rastapur; Kokamthan; Sanvastar, Sonari and Kolgaon Thadi, Jeur



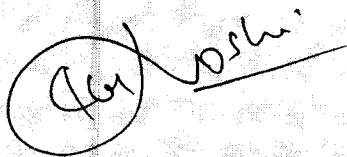
Kumbhari and Jeur Patoda, Sangavi Bhusar, Suregaon, Godhegadav, Dist – Ahmednagar; Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai; Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai; Regional Office, MPCB, Nashik; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar and at on the website of MPCB. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the expansion of above project. The Convener further informed that one objection is received by the MPCB Office.

Convener of the Public Hearing Meeting informed all that an opportunity is given to raise any suggestion or objection in writing as well as orally during public hearing. He requested Shri Sandeep Nichit, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings.

Shri Sandeep Nichit, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed Environment Consultant of the project to explain Environment Management Plan in local language Marathi.

Environment Consultant while giving the presentation informed all the Environment Management Plan and Environment Development Reserved Fund and proposed green belt development programmes by slide shows. It is informed that at Kopargaon Taluka, there are six sand belts i.e. at Kokamthan Samvatsar; Sonari Kolgaonthadi; Jeur Kumbhari-Jeur Patoda; Sangavi Bhusar; Suregaon (Godavari River) and Godhegaon (Kol Nadi). The total area is 07.29 hector and sand storage for mining is 17,027.0 brass. The cost is Rupees 6,72,56,650/-

After the presentation, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed there are 18 sand mining belts in the district and as per the directives of Govt. of Maharashtra dated 03-12-2019, it is mandatory to conduct public consultation while obtaining Environment Clearance. He appealed to raise the suggestions, objections regarding water, air, riverbed and if they feel some danger/hazard.



Following have participated during the discussions and the Answers given by the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Public Hearing Committee :-

1) Shri Shashikant Ramdas Wabale, Sarpanch, Grampanchayat, Suregaon, Tal-Kopargaon, Dist – Ahmednagar :-

Shri Shashikant Wabale asked when the river bed is open, then only the survey can be carried. Here when the survey was carried? In the presentation, it is mentioned that the survey is carried. It is informed that in April and May, the survey is carried.

Here Shri Wabale raised the objection that when there was lock down, how the survey is carried? The answer was given that last year the survey was carried.

Shri Wabale further objected that if anybody comes for survey, the entry is to be taken at Talathi office, as it is mandatory. No entry is taken. Secondly, there should have been given Davandi/Announcement by mike by a person. Nothing is done. It means that the survey is bogus survey.

Shri Shashikant Wabale further objected that though the promise of green belt development is given, it is not given to villagers. Secondly, it is just mentioned that sand will be carried by tractor only, it is observed in the past that JCB is brought and sand is dredged than the permitted limits especially in night time.

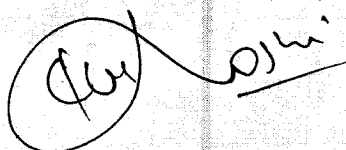
Shri Wabale further demanded that Contractor should give in writing that he will follow all the terms and conditions of the agreement.

2) Shri. Suhas Wabale, Resident of Suregaon, Tal – Kopargaon, Dist – Ahmednagar :-

He also objected that terms and conditions are not followed by the contractors. He has submitted his objections in writing also.

At this moment, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that as informed in the detail in the presentation, 10% of the highest bid amount is considered through which royalty is deducted and 25% of remaining amount will be transferred to Grampanchayat if the auction is more one crore. There are stages if auction amount is increased i.e. 25 lakh, 40 lakh etc.,

Here, Environment Consultant informed that as per Govt. G.R. 2019, it is mandatory to the agency/contractor to install and operate online system. All the dredging activities are to be noted. Hence, there will be vigil on illegal sand mining.



Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise their suggestions, objections if any.

Shri Shashikant Wabale informed that our Grampanchayat has already opposed the auction process. If at all the Government take further step of auction, then we villagers of Suregaon will go in the Court.

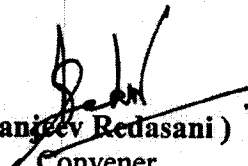
At this moment, the representative of Sangavi Bhusar village were present. It is informed by them that they have opposed the auction and also protected the sand stocks also. Here, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee also agreed that the villagers of Sangavi Bhusar have protected the sand stocks.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee appealed all to raise any suggestions, objections. There was no response.

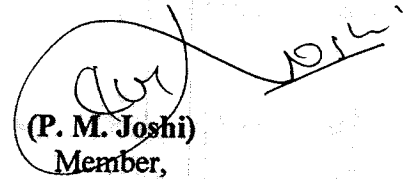
Chairman, Public Hearing Committee appealed all to raise any suggestions, objections. There was no response.

Chairman, Public Hearing Committee here said that Environment Consultant has given the answers to the objections raised by the participants. The minutes of meeting will be prepared and the report will be submitted to Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra. The State Environment Appraisal Committee-I (SEAC-I) will take further decision accordingly. He thanked all government officials, project officials and declared that the meeting is concluded.


The meeting ended extending thanks to Chair.


(Sanjeev Redasani)
Convener,

Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
I/c Sub Regional Officer,
MPCB, Ahmednagar


(P. M. Joshi)
Member,

Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Regional Officer,
MPCB, Nashik


(Sandeep Nichit,)
Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar,
Dist - Ahmednagar

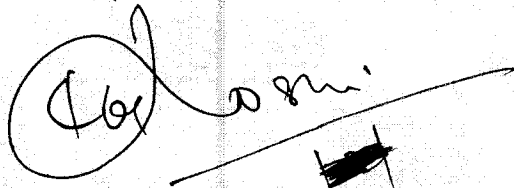
**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF PROPOSED TWO NOS
OF SAND BELT DREDGING AT TALUKA – RAHATA, DISTRICT –
AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT
DISTRICT COLLECTOR OFFICE, AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA**

The public hearing in respect of proposed two nos of Sand Belt Dredging at Rahata Taluka, Dist – Ahmednagar proposed by Project Proponent District Collector Office, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra was conducted on Thursday, the 05th November, 2020 at 11.00 a.m. at Tahsil Office, Rahata, Dist – Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.

As per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEFCC, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Office Order No. E – 57 of 2020 issued under letter no.BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B – 201023, FTS-0090, Dated 28-10-2020 as below :-

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------|
| 1) District Magistrate, Ahmednagar
or his representative not below the
rank of an Additional District Magistrate | - | Chairman |
| 2) Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik
(Representative of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board) | - | Member |
| 3) Sub Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Ahmednagar | - | Convener |

Shri Sanjeev Redasani, I/c Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Ahmednagar and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed Hon'ble Chairman and Member of the Public Hearing Committee, Other Government Officials and public who were present in large number and informed that as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, GoI) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended



on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

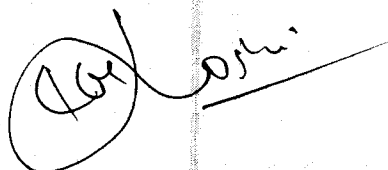
Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that Project Proponent District Collector Office, Ahmednagar proposed two nos of Sand Belt dredging in Rahata Taluka, Dist- Ahmednagar. MPCB is in receipt of the application from Project Proponent - District Collector Office, Ahmednagar, to conduct the public consultation.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the directives issued by Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra as per letter 03-12-2019 directed to conduct prior public hearing for sand belt mining (minor mineral). As per the Notification of MoEFCC, GoI, 2006, the project falls under Category 2 (b), and prior consultation is mandatory for it.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation is to make aware, local people who can be participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of the project.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published in the local newspaper in Daily Sakal in Marathi on 30-09-2020 and in national newspaper in the Times of India in English on 01 October, 2020. The public were asked to send their suggestions or objections regarding the proposed sand belts mining.

As per the Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India (MoEFCC, GoI), the copies of detail information of Environment Management Plan (EMP) and Executive Summary of the proposed sand belts in English and in Marathi (local language) were made available at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, West-East Division Office, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440 001; District Magistrate Office- Ahmednagar; Additional District Magistrate Office- Ahmednagar; Zilla Parishad Office- Ahmednagar; District Industries Centre- Ahmednagar; Tahsildar-Taluka Office- Rahata, Dist- Ahmednagar; Grampanchayat office at Rahuri Khurd, Pimpri Valan, Chandakapur, Valan, Rampur, Satral Wangi Khurd, Naigaon -1 and 2, Matulthan -1, Matulthan -2; Matulthan-3; Punthamba; Rastapur; Kokamthan; Sanvastar, Sonari and Kolgaon Thadi, Jeur Kumbhari and Jeur Patoda, Sangavi Bhusar, Suregaon, Godhegadav, Dist - Ahmednagar; Head Office of



MPCB at Mumbai; Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai; Regional Office, MPCB, Nashik; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar and at on the website of MPCB. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the expansion of above project. The Convener further informed that ~~01~~ objection is/are received by the MPCB Office.

Convener of the Public Hearing Meeting informed all that an opportunity is given to raise any suggestion or objection in writing as well as orally during public hearing. He requested Shri Sandeep Nichit, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings.

Shri Sandeep Nichit, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee Informed Environment Consultant of the project to explain Environment Management Plan in local language Marathi.

Environment Consultant while giving the presentation informed all the Environment Management Plan and Environment Development Reserved Fund and proposed green belt development programmes by slide shows. It is informed that at Rahata Taluka, there are two sand belts i.e.

At Puntamba and Rastapur (Godavari River), The total area is 03.70 hector and sand storage for mining is 8,401.0 brass. The cost is Rupees 3,31,83,950/-.

After the presentation, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed there are 18 sand mining belts in the district and as per the directives of Govt. of Maharashtra dated 03-12-2019, it is mandatory to conduct public consultation while obtaining Environment Clearance. He appealed to raise the suggestions, objections regarding water, air, riverbed and if they feel some hazard.

Following have participated during the discussions and the Answers given by the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Public Hearing Committee :-

1) Dr. Dhananjay Dhanavate, Sarpanch, Dhani Gaon, Dist – Ahmednagar :-

Dr, Dhanavate remarked that this public hearing if would have arranged at various villages/gaon, that would have better. But it is arranged at Taluka and due to Corona, many people from our villages were unable to attend this meeting.

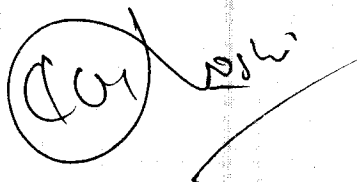
We totally oppose the auction of the sand, because previous the auction process was carried and it is experienced that contractors have dredged large number of sand than the permitted limits. The vehicles such as Dumper, Pockland are used. Moreover, sometimes 100 nos of dupers were used. The roads were totally damaged. The State High Way Kopargaon Road is damaged. The road which was newly repaired is totally damaged. It is expected that sand should not be dredged when there is rainy season. But boats were used when there was water in the river and large scale of sand is dredged illegally, When villagers demanded to dredge the sand from the dry river bed, the villagers and farmers were threatened and sand dredging was carried when there was water. Our Grampanchayat is capable to protect the sand stocks of our village. But the contractors do bring with them the hooligans, whose workrer is threatening to them.

Dr. Dhanawate further said that if the auction procedure is to be implemented, then the guidelines as specified by the Government should be strictly followed such as fixing of online camera, installing GPS system to vehicles, barcodes to vehicles and other. If all the directives will be strictly followed, then only Grampanchayat will take further decision. But the method which is adopted for auction of sand is not at all accepted by us. We oppose the same.

Dr. Dhanawate further objected that lakh of brass of sand is illegally dredged. Hence, it is requested to take positive steps. He further demanded that the next public hearing should be arranged in our village only.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee asked the participants if they have any doubts, they may raise it.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee here remarked the objections raised are totally correct. We have taken the note of it. The video shooting is also taken. He further said that public hearing procedure is to know the suggestions and objections of the people. The Government has to consider all the factors of the society. Though in 1957, the Act of secondary minerals have been passed, it has taken long years to formulate the policy and to implement. Now the sanction from Grampanchayat is



mandatory. There will be drone survey. It is mandatory to implement the GPS. Now, we have to think first about the Environment. But here also there are limitations to Government and Administration. So it is not possible to conduct this public hearing in each and every village. The Public Hearing is to be conducted under the supervision of District Magistrate only. I, as Additional District Magistrate is looking the meeting on behalf of Hon'ble District Magistrate only.

. Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee here informed that there is Committee i.e. Dakshata Committee at village level. Sarpanch is Chairman of the Dakshata Committee.

When Government has to implement, with revenue, interest of every citizen is important. As there is vast difference in demand and supply, certain things happens.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee here informed that project proponent has already informed in the presentation. =====यावेळी अध्यक्ष, पर्यावरणविषयक जाहिर जनसुनावणी समिती यांनी सांगितले की प्रकल्प प्रस्तावक यांनी याबाबत स्पष्टीकरण सादरीकरण करताना दिलेले आहे. १०% बरोबरच जी सर्वोच्च बोली असेल, त्यातील स्वामित्व /रॉयल्टीची रक्कम वजा करून उरलेल्या रकमेच्या २५% रक्कम ग्रामपंचायतीस एक कोटीचा लिलाव असेल तर मिळणार आहे. पुढे जसेजसे वाढत जाईल, त्याप्रमाणे रक्कम मिळेल. ते मात्र टप्पे ठरले आहेत, म्हणजे २५ लाख, ४० लाख वगैरे. =====

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee appealed Dr. Dhanaware that as you are Representative of the People, you are well aware of the limitations. The suggestions raised by you are noted. As Sarpanch is Chairman of the Dakashata Samiti, any objectional issues be raised.

Sarpanch Dr. Dhanawate informed that though the auction will be declared, we will keep strict vigil on it on behalf of the Grampanchayat.

Here Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee opined that as a Representative of the People, it is right. It is requested to keep watch on the sand dredging activities.

Here Environment Consultant informed that as per directives of the Government, it is mandatory to dredging company to keep their activities online. Hence total record of the dredging is kept. It will help to minimise the illegal activities of sand dredging.


Shri P.M. Joshi, Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik and Member of the Public Hearing Committee remarked that the objections raised are suitable and acceptable. He informed that as per the G.R. of Govt. of Maharashtra dated 3rd September, 2020, it is mandatory to follow the guidelines for sand auction and its implementation. The method is transparent. Shri Joshi further informed that as per Article 51 (g), it is duty of every citizen to protect the environment.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise any objections, suggestions. There was no response from the participants.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise any objections, suggestions. There was no response from the participants.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that the Environment Consultant has properly given the answers to the questions raised by the participants. The minutes of the meeting will be prepared and it will be submitted to Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra. The SEAC-I (State Environment Appraisal Committee) will take suitable decision. He thanked all for attending the meeting and declared that the public hearing meeting is concluded.

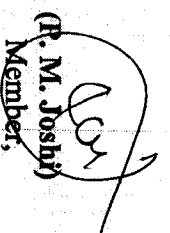
The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.


(Sandeep Redasani)
Convener,

Environment Public Hearing Committee

And

I/c Sub Regional Officer,
MPCB, Ahmednagar


(R. M. Joshi)
Member,

Environment Public Hearing Committee

And

Regional Officer,
MPCB, Nashik


(Sandeep Nichit,)
Chairman,

Environment Public Hearing Committee

And

Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar,
Dist - Ahmednagar

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF PROPOSED FIVE NOS
OF SAND BELT DREDGING AT TALUKA – RAHURI, DISTRICT –
AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA, PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT
DISTRICT COLLECTOR OFFICE - AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA**

The public hearing in respect of proposed five nos of Sand Belt at Rahuri Taluka, Dist – Ahmednagar proposed by Project Proponent District Collector Office - Ahmednagar, Maharashtra was conducted on Tuesday, the 03rd November, 2020 at 11.00 a.m. at Tahsil Office, Rahuri, Dist – Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.

As per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEFCC, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Office Order No. E – 57 of 2020 issued under letter no.BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B – 201023, FTS-0090, Dated 28-10-2020 as below :-

- 1) District Magistrate, Ahmednagar - **Chairman**
or his representative not below the
rank of an Additional District Magistrate
- 2) Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik - **Member**
(Representative of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)
- 3) Sub Regional Officer, - **Convener**
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Ahmednagar

Shri Sandeep Nichit, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and asked to take the shooting of the Caller who was calling (Pukar) at the outside the office to public informing them about the public hearing meeting.

Shri Sanjeev Redasani, I/c Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Ahmednagar and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed Hon'ble Chairman and Member of the Public Hearing Committee, Other Government Officials and public who were present in large number and informed that as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, GoI) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended

on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

Shri Sanjeev Redasani, Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Ahmednagar and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that Project Proponent District Collectorate Office, Ahmednagar proposed five nos of Sand Belt in Rahuri Taluka, Dist-Ahmednagar. MPCB is in receipt of the application from Project Proponent - District Collectorate Office, Ahmednagar to conduct the public consultation.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the directives issued by Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra as per letter 03-12-2019 directed to conduct prior public hearing for sand belt mining (minor mineral). As per the Notification of MoEFCC, GoI, 2006, the project falls under Category 2 (b), and prior consultation is mandatory for it.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation is to make aware, local people who can be participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of the unit.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published in the local newspaper in Daily Sakal in Marathi on 30-09-2020 and in national newspaper in the Times of India in English on 01 October, 2020. The public were asked to send their suggestions or objections regarding the proposed sand belts mining.

As per the Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India (MoEFCC, GoI), the copies of detail information of Environment Management Plan (EMP) and Executive Summary of the proposed sand belts in English and in Marathi (local language) were made available at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, West-East Division Office, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440 001; District Magistrate Office- Ahmednagar; Additional District Magistrate Office- Ahmednagar; Zilla Parishad Office- Ahmednagar; District Industries Centre- Ahmednagar; Tahsildar-Taluka Office- Rahuri, Dist- Ahmednagar; Grampanchayat office at Rahuri Khurd, Pimpri Valan, Chandakapur, Valan, Rampur, Satral Wangi Khurd, Naigaon -1 and 2, Matulthan -1, Matulthan -2; Matulthan-3; Punthamba; Rastapur; Kokamthan; Sanvastar, Sonari and Kolgaon Thadi, Jeur Kumbhari and Jeur Patoda, Sangavi Bhusar, Suregaon, Godhegadav, Dist - Ahmednagar; Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai; Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai; Regional Office, MPCB, Nashik; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar and at on the website of MPCB. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding



the expansion of above project. The Member, Convener further informed that 01 objections is/are received by the MPCB Office.

He informed all that an opportunity is given to raise any suggestion or objection in writing as well as orally during public hearing. He requested Shri Sandeep Nichit, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings.

Shri Sandeep Nichit, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed Environment Consultant of the project to explain Environment Management Plan in local language Marathi

Environment Consultant and District Mining Officer, while giving the presentation informed all the Environment Management Plan and Environment Development Reserved Fund and proposed green belt development programmes by slide shows. It is informed that at Rahuri Taluka, there are five sand belts i.e. at Rahuri Khurd, Pimpri Valan-Chandakapur, Valan, Rampur and Satral. The total area is 8.71 hectore and sand storage for mining is 17,789.0 brass. The approximate cost is Rupees 7,02,66,550/-.

At this moment, Shri Shaikh, Tahsilar and Sub Divisional Officer Shri Anil Pawar were present.

After the presentation, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed there are 18 sand mining belts in the district and as per the directives of Govt. of Maharashtra dated 03-12-2019, it is mandatory to conduct public consultation while obtaining Environment Clearance. He appealed to raise the suggestions, objections regarding water, air, riverbed and if they feel some hazard.

Following have participated during the discussions and the Answers given by the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Public Hearing Committee :-

1) Shri Pramod Tukaram Borawake, Resident-Aarad, Tal -Rahuri, Dist - Ahmednagar:-

It is informed in the presentation that tractors will be used while carrying the sand. But whether sand is just carried by tractors only? The heavy vehicles are used for carrying

the sand. The villages through which the heavy vehicles go are the most sufferers. At this moment, District Mining Officer, Project Proponent informed that the tractors will be used while carrying the sand from the river bed

At other places, the transportation will be carried as per the rules of R.T.O. Here all the participants have pleaded that due to this heavy vehicle transportation, the village roads have totally broken. The villagers are sufferers. Hence, they should get the compensation.

The Project Proponent informed that as per Sand Dredging & Auction Notification, 10% to 25% fund is allotted to the respective village/s. Shri Borawake here objected that the village/s should be given 10% from in which the sand dredging is carried, as the roads totally damages due to heavy vehicle transportation.

Here, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed that while giving presentation, it is informed by the Project Proponent that the 10% of highest bid through which royalty is deducted and 25% of remaining amount if the auction is of Rupees One crore. The amount will get more as per the stages i.e. 25 lakh, 40 lakh etc.,

The Environment Consultant further informed that as per the directives of 2019, it is mandatory to the agency to make online system in operation. The sand dredging should be noted. Due to this, illegal activities will be controlled.

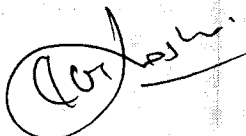
Chairman, Public Hearing Committee here appealed the participants to raise any suggestions, objections if any.

2) Shri Dhananjay Ingale, Sangamner, Dist-Ahmednagar:-

There are few villages, who have not submitted the resolutions of their Grampanchayats for giving permission to auction the sand. If they revert their decisions, whether it will be considered.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that those who have opposed previously and now ready for sand auction, Sub Divisional Officer of the region is informed to do the needful. There are 32 villages.

Shri Borawake, the participants asked whether there is any restrictions for timings of transportation as for mining, the timing allowed is from 06.00 am to 06.00 p.m.



Conver, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise any objections, suggestions. There was no response from the participants.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise any objections, suggestions. There was no response from the participants.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that the Environment Consultant has properly given the answers to the questions raised by the participants. The minutes of the meeting will be prepared and it will be submitted to Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra. The SEAC-I (State Environment Appraisal Committee) will take suitable decision. He thanked all for attending the meeting and declared that the public hearing meeting is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

(Sanjeev Redasani)
Conver,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
I/c Sub Regional Officer, MPCB,
Ahmednagar

(P. M. Joshi)
Member,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Regional Officer,
MPCB, Nashik

(Sandeep Niche,
Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
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Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar,
Dist - Ahmednagar

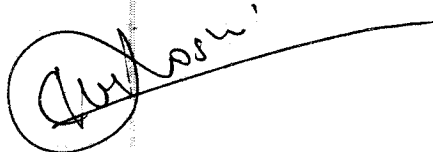
**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF PROPOSED FIVE NOS
OF SAND BELT DREDGING AT TALUKA – SHRIRAMPUR, DISTRICT –
AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA PROPOSED BY DISTRICT COLLECTOR
OFFICE, AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA**

The public hearing in respect of proposed five nos of Sand Belt Dredging at Shrirampur Taluka, Dist – Ahmednagar proposed by District Collector Office, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra was conducted on Tuesday, the 03rd November, 2020 at 03.00 p.m. at Tahsil Office, Shrirampur, Dist – Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.

As per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEFCC, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Office Order No. E – 57 of 2020 issued under letter no.BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B – 201023, FTS-0090, Dated 28-10-2020 as below :-

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------|
| 1) District Magistrate, Ahmednagar
or his representative not below the
rank of an Additional District Magistrate | - | Chairman |
| 2) Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik
(Representative of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board) | - | Member |
| 3) Sub Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Ahmednagar | - | Convener |

Mr. Sanjeev Redasani, I/c. Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Ahmednagar and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed Hon'ble Chairman and Member of the Public Hearing Committee, Other Government Officials and public who were present in large number and informed that as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, GoI) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended



on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that Project Proponent District Collector Office, Ahmednagar proposed five nos of Sand Belt dredging in Shrirampur Taluka, Dist-Ahmednagar. MPCB is in receipt of the application from Project Proponent - District Collector Office, Ahmednagar, to conduct the public consultation.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the directives issued by Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra as per letter 03-12-2019 directed to conduct prior public hearing for sand belt mining (minor mineral). As per the Notification of MoEFCC, GoI, 2006, the project falls under Category 2 (b), and prior consultation is mandatory for it.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation is to make aware, local people who can be participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of the project.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published in the local newspaper in Daily Sakal in Marathi on 30-09-2020 and in national newspaper in the Times of India in English on 01 October, 2020. The public were asked to send their suggestions or objections regarding the proposed sand belts mining.

As per the Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India (MoEFCC, GoI), the copies of detail information of Environment Management Plan (EMP) and Executive Summary of the proposed sand belts in English and in Marathi (local language) were made available at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, West-East Division Office, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440 001; District Magistrate Office- Ahmednagar; Additional District Magistrate Office- Ahmednagar; Zilla Parishad Office- Ahmednagar; District Industries Centre- Ahmednagar; Tahsildar-Taluka Office- Shrirampur, Dist- Ahmednagar; Grampanchayat office at Rahuri Khurd, Pimpri Valan, Chandakapur, Valan, Rampur, Satral Wangi Khurd, Naigaon -1 and 2, Matulthan -1, Matulthan -2; Matulthan-3; Punthamba; Rastapur; Kokamthan; Sanvastar, Sonari and Kolgaon Thadi, Jeur Kumbhari and Jeur Patoda, Sangavi Bhusar, Suregaon, Godhegadav, Dist - Ahmednagar; Head

Office of MPCB at Mumbai; Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai; Regional Office, MPCB, Nashik; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar and at on the website of MPCB. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the expansion of above project. The Convener further informed that ~~no~~ objection is/are received by the MPCB Office.


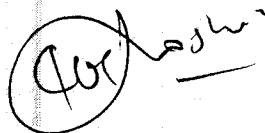
Convener of the Public Hearing Meeting informed all that an opportunity is given to raise any suggestion or objection in writing as well as orally during public hearing. He requested Shri Sandeep Nichit, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings.

Shri Sandeep Nichit, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee Informed Environment Consultant of the project to explain Environment Management Plan in local language Marathi.

Environment Consultant while giving the presentation informed all the Environment Management Plan and Environment Development Reserved Fund and proposed green belt development programmes by slide shows. It is informed that at Shrirampur Taluka, there are five sand belts i.e. at Wangi Khurd (Pravara River), Naigaon -1 & 2 (Godavari River), Matulthan No.1, 2 & 3 (Godavari River). The total area is 11.95 hector and sand storage for mining is 26,650.0 brass. The cost is Rupees 10,52,67,500/-.

At this moment, Sub Divisional Officer Shri Anil Pawar and Shri Sayyed, District Mining Officer were present.

After the presentation, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed there are 18 sand mining belts in the district and as per the directives of Govt. of Maharashtra dated 03-12-2019, it is mandatory to conduct public consultation while obtaining Environment Clearance. He appealed to raise the suggestions, objections regarding water, air and riverbed and if they feel some hazard.



Following have participated during the discussions and the Answers given by the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Public Hearing Committee :-

1) Shri Rajaram Narayan Rashinkar, Resident of Naigaon, Tal – Shrirampur, Dist – Ahmednagar:-

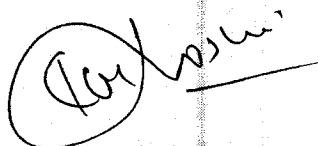
This public hearing could have conducted at every village. He informed that from here, my village is 18 k.m. away. Our gaon/village falls under the area of Godavari river bed. The area of village/gaon is shown wrong.

Shri Rashinkar informed that in January, 2020, our Grampanchayat has passed the resolution and allowed the auction of the sand. Nine months have passed. In the days of Corona Epidemic, when no one was going out, illegal sand dredging was carried and large quantity of sand was lifted. The local farmers are living under tremendous pressure. Because neither government machinery or police has protected us. Now in the public hearing, it is informed that certain quantity of sand will be removed, project proponent will plant the trees and will implement the environment management plan. He said that he is working in the field of environment since last 30 years and from Nashik to Paithan, we met people for environment prosperity and people also co-operated to us. Hence, we were able to preserve our sand. Sand may be a material for construction for others, but it should be noted that many aquatic animals lay their eggs in the sand. There are crabs. There is moss/algae. The bio-diversity should be preserved. Due to auction of sand, there will be attack on bio-diversity.

He further objected that though the agreement is made as per the Government policy, the Contractor illegally dredges the sand. Even the complaints are not also registered. The dumper and JCB machines also come with tractor. Hence, if the agreement rules are not followed, then we will act against it, it should be informed to the public. A road of 18 k.m. is in our village. There are internal roads also. All the roads became totally bad due to this heavy vehicle transportation.

He further said that you will tell us to form a Committee of the villagers. But if the Government promises to protect us, then only we will be able to protect the sand. Hence, it should be seriously considered and your guidance is required.

Shri Rashinkar further again objected that the area of my village is mentioned wrong. He informed that area of Godavari River is 5.0 k.m. towards north-south and then again south-north 2.0 k.m. It should be corrected accordingly.



2) Shri Kailas Bhagwat Borde, Resident – Matusa, Tal – Shirampur, Dist – Ahmednagar :-

Shri Borde said that just now Shri Rashinkar has nicely pleaded our side. Hence, I personally thank him.

Shri Borde said that the “sand is our national wealth.” The creation of sand is continuous natural process. It is Government’s policy to use it for construction and other development project. But the terms and conditions laid down for auction is not at all followed by the contractors. They are illegally dredging the large quantity of sand than the permitted quantity. Hence, the environment suffers. So, when there is auction of sand, there is opposition. If the permission for sand dredging is given upto 3.0 feet, it is dredged upto the rocks. The receipt of loading of sand should be made available. The sand is filled in the vehicle more than the capacity of the vehicle. Due to tractors, JCB and Trucks, the roads of the villages become totally in dilapidated conditions.

He further observed that due to sand auction, though the Government gets revenue, the village roads completely changes towards bad condition. Normally, there is one big road in the village and if it is broken due to sand transporting vehicles, the villagers suffer lot. Then after demands several times, the road might be repaired, but that is also loss of government revenue only. At one side, giving permission to auction sand for getting revenue and another side the dilapidated roads have to be repaired again. It is requested to construct separate raw road for transportation of sand vehicles.

He further objected that promises are made for green belt development, but nothing is done. As per the policy of the Government, if the proposal for auction of sand is opposed/rejected, the Grampanchayat should protect the sand stocks. There are other factors of the society, which are involved here. Hence, poor citizen cannot protect the sand stocks.

It is requested that the terms and conditions as stipulated by the Government in the agreement with the contractors for auction of sand should be followed strictly.

3) Shri Satish Suryabhan Borde, Resident- Matusa, Tal-Shrirampur, Dist – Ahmednagar :-

The terms and conditions for the auction of sand is shown in the presentation. It read also. The Rules are for public interest and protection of environment. We are not objecting for the Rules. But we have experienced that almost all the time, illegal sand dredging is carried. In our area, if we observed the illegal sand dredging, we will oppose it. We have protected the sand stocks.

We have observed that the pits are filled with bulldozer. At other side, large quantity of sand is dredged. We have opposed, and the police have been sent at our house. But our opposition will continue.



4) Shri. Dilipbhai Jagtap, Sarpanch, Wangi Khurd Grampanchayat, Dist - Ahmednagar:-

Shri Jagtap informed that Gut no.3 and 4 opposed the auction. Now as informed that some funds will be given back to Grampanchayat, it is requested that we should get the returns.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that participants from Naigaon, Matulthan and Wangi have raised very good suggestions. It has been noted and will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee also informed that public hearing is part of the system of democracy. It is to protect the public interest only. It is necessary to maintain the ratio of demand and supply of the sand. Though the Secondary Minerals Act came into existence in 1957, the year 2013 came for implementing the Act in a proper manner. The objections raised during the meeting shows that nobody wants illegal dredging of sand. The objections cannot be denied.

As per the recent directives, vigil on the sand dredging activities by drone, installing of GPS system to the vehicles and fixing the barcodes to the vehicles are compulsory. It is also directed to constitute Gram Dakshata Committee (Village Vigilance Committee). Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed that though the price is declared as Rupees 3,950/- per brass, it is not at all final.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee here remarked that a very good discussions is carried. Here. The directives of green belt development is already covered in Terms and Conditions.

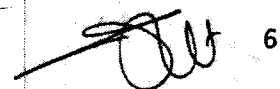
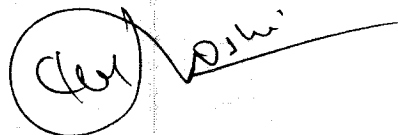
While discussing the objections and suggestions raised during the meeting, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee promised to direct that the Terms and Conditions of the sand auction will be put on the flex board at each Grampanchayat.

It is informed in the meeting that as per Sand Dredging & Auction Notification, 10% to 25% fund is allotted to the respective village/s.


Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise any objections, suggestions. There was no response from the participants.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise any objections, suggestions. There was no response from the participants.

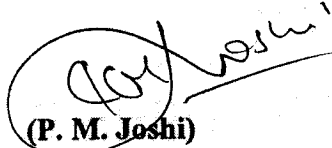
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participants. The minutes of the meeting will be prepared and it will be submitted to Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra. The SEAC-I (State Environment Appraisal Committee) will take suitable decision. He thanked all for attending the meeting and declared that the public hearing meeting is concluded. The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.


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