

**Minutes of Public Hearing Panel in respect of proposed 30 nos. of Sand Mining Projects in the Akola District proposed by District Mining Officer, Collector Office, Akola Maharashtra dtd. 18/11/2021 at 12.00 Noon, at Niyojan Bhavan, Collector Office, Akola**

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The District Mining Officer, Mining Department, Collector Office Akola has submitted the application for conducting Environmental Public Hearing for obtaining Environmental Clearance in respect of 30 sand ghats in Akola District. The said Public Hearing has been conducted as per the provisions made in the notification dtd. 14/09/2006 issued by Ministry of Environment and Forest (Climate Change). Accordingly, the Public Hearing in respect of the sand mining projects has been conducted on 18/11/2021 at 12.00 Noon at Niyojan Bhavan, District Collector Office, Akola as per the provisions made in the office memorandum dtd. 09 June 2021 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. The Hon'ble Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has issued Office Order No. E-101 of 2021 vide letter no. BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-211103-FTS-0105, dtd. 03/11/2021 of constitution of Environmental Public Hearing Committee to conduct the said Public Hearing.

The following members of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee were present for the Public Hearing.

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| 1. Hon'ble Nima Arora, District Magistrate, Akola         | – Chairperson. |
| 2. Shri S.D. Patil, I/c. Regional Officer, MPCB, Amravati | – Member.      |
| 3. Shri Manish Holkar, Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Akola  | – Convenor.    |

The public notice for conducting the Environmental Public Hearing has been published in Daily "Lokmat" (Marathi) and Daily "Hitwada" (English) on 14/10/2021. Accordingly the Environmental Public Hearing has been conducted on 18/11/2021 at 12.00 Noon at Niyojan Bhavan, Collector Office, Akola.

The Public Hearing was started with due permission of Hon'ble Chairperson. The member of the Public Hearing Committee, Shri S.D. Patil, I/c. Regional Officer, Amravati welcomed the participants present in the Public Hearing. He further briefed about the requirement of conducting Environmental Public Hearing of the said project. He further stated that the District Mining Officer, Akola has submitted Environment Management Plan, Executive Summary (English & Marathi) in respect of 30 sand ghats in Akola District. The said documents were made available at following offices for the people residing in the project area / environmental groups in order to obtain suggestion / objections, if any, from the concerned.

1. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalptaru Point, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> floor, in front of cineplanet theatre, near Sion Circle (East), Mumbai-400022.
2. Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sahakar Surabhi, Near Vivekanand Colony, Bapatwadi, Amravati-444606.
3. Sub-Regional Office Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Hutatma Chowk, Near Neharu Park, Akola.
4. Collector Office, Akola.
5. Zilla Parishad, Akola.
6. District Industry Centre, Akola.
7. All the Sub-Divisional Officer (revenue), Dist. Akola.
8. All the Tahasil Offices, District, Akola.
9. All the Panchayat Samitee & concerned Gram Panchayat Offices, Dist. Akola.

With the permission of Chair Shri S.D. Patil, I/c. Regional Officer, Amravati and member of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee briefed about the procedure of Public Hearing and requested the Project Proponent to give the presentation regarding sand ghat projects.

The representative from Enviro Techno Consultant Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur (Environmental Consultant of the Project Proponent) had given the presentation regarding sand ghat projects.

Shri S.D. Patil, Regional Officer, Amravati and member of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee stated that the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has not received any objection/suggestions in respect of the sand ghats. He appealed the participants to raise their suggestions /objections.

Shri Amit Kalkar, Akola, suggested that the permission shall be given to the heavy vehicles to transport the sand from the sand ghats. In this respect, Shri Prashil Shukla representative from Enviro Techno Consultant Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur (Environmental Consultant of the Project Proponent) stated that the process of sand excavation and sand filling in the tractor trolley will be carried out by the workers by using Ghamelas and Phawdas. It is mandatory to excavate the sand and fill it into the tractor trolley manually. The bearing capacity of the road provided for the transportation of the sand from the sand ghat to the depot is less compare to the bearing capacity of the roads constructed for heavy vehicles. The roads are getting damaged due to the sand transportation by using heavy vehicles, therefore, the heavy vehicles are not permitted to transport the sand from the sand ghats.

Hon'ble Chairperson of the Public Hearing Committee brought to the notice that Shri Prashil Shukla representative from Enviro Techno Consultant Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur has already replied in this respect and accordingly sand transportation shall be carried out by using tractor trolley. She further stated that after publishing the tender notice the terms and conditions incorporated shall be read and understand properly. She stated that the CCTV cameras shall be provided at the sand ghats. She further



stated that the sand ghats will be auctioned soon and out of 30 sand ghats the Environment Clearance granted to those sand ghats will be made available for sand excavation.

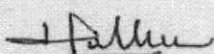
Shri Amit Kalkar, Akola, suggested that the timeline for transportation of sand from the sand ghats shall be increased. Because the speed mentioned on the passes issued for the transportation of the sand from the sand ghats is 25 Km/hr. However, if the vehicle get break down and required necessary repairing or the vehicle get punctured then at least half hour is required for its repairing. In this respect Hon'ble Chairperson stated that the proposal for granting additional half an hour for transportation of the sand from the sand ghats has already been submitted to the higher authorities for approval. It is expected that the proposal will be approved soon.

District Mining Officer, Akola stated that the sand ghats will be auctioned soon and out of 30 sand ghats the Environment Clearance granted to those sand ghats will be made available for sand excavation.

Shri Amit Kalkar, Akola, asked that in which account the security deposit is being deposited and when it will be returned back. In this respect Hon'ble Chairperson stated that the said security deposit will be deposited in the account of District Collector Office. If the Environment Clearance has not been granted to the concerned sand ghat then the security deposit will be returned to the concerned.

Shri Amit Kalkar, Akola, stated that it is observed that passes issued for transportation has not been checked. In this respect Hon'ble Chairperson stated that the squad shall be constituted for the checking of the passes.

With the permission of Hon'ble Chairperson the Public Hearing concluded with vote of thanks.



(Manish Holkar)

Convenor

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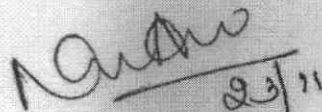
Sub-Regional Officer, I/c. Regional Officer,  
MPC Board Akola MPC Board Amravati



(S.D. Patil)

Member

&



(Neema Arora)

Chairperson

Public Hearing Committee

&

District Magistrate  
Collector Office, Akola.