

# MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

## SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE, CHANDRAPUR

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"Your Service is our Duty"

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No. MPCB / SROC / 1264 / 2022

Date: 08/03/2022

To,  
The Joint Director (WPC),  
M. P. C. Board, Sion (E),  
Mumbai-22.

Sub:- Minutes Of The Public Hearing For Proposed Sand Ghats (Total 70) Of Gadchiroli District.

Ref:- 1) Board's Office Order No. E-06 of 2021 dated 21/01/2022 regarding Panel.  
2) Public Hearing conducted on 24/01/2022 at Collector Office, Gadchiroli.

Sir,

With reference to above cited subject matter, District Mining Officer, Gadchiroli had applied to the Board for conducting Environmental Public Hearing for their Proposed Project of Sand Ghats (Total 70) of Gadchiroli District.

The Public Hearing was conducted on 24/01/2022 at 12:00 PM at Collector Office, Gadchiroli, Tal. Dist. Gadchiroli. Submitting herewith the copies of proceedings of the Public Hearing as under;

- 1) Minutes of Public Hearing in English & Marathi (One original Copy & one photocopy).
- 2) Copies of written submissions received regarding project.
- 3) Copy of attendance sheet.
- 4) DVD of video shooting at the time of Public Hearing.
- 5) Office order for constitution of Public Hearing Panel.
- 6) Notices of Public Hearing published in English & Marathi Newspapers.
- 7) Executive Summary (English & Marathi).
- 8) EMP Report.

This is submitted for your perusal and onward submission.

Thanking you.

Yours Faithfully

(U. B. Bhadule)

I/c. Sub-Regional Officer, Chandrapur.

Copy submitted for information to:-

- 1) The District Collector, District Collector Office, Gadchiroli.
- 2) Regional Officer, M. P. C. Board, Chandrapur.
- 3) EIC, M. P. C. Board, Mumbai – for display on website of the Board.

Copy for information to:-

District Mining Officer, Collector Office, Gadchiroli.

**Minutes of Public Hearing on Environmental issues For the proposed sand ghats in Gadchiroli, WadsaDesaiganj, Armori, Aheri, Bhamragad, Sironcha, Mulchera, Dhanora, Chamorshi, Kurkhedatalukas of Gadchiroli district (total 70) held on 24/01/2022.**

As mentioned in the following table Gadchiroli, Wadsa Desaiganj, Armori, Aheri, Bhamragad, Sironcha, Mulchera, Dhanora, Chamorshi and Kurkhedatalukas in Gadchiroli district. Venue-Collector Office, Gadchiroli, Tal. Dist. Gadchiroli.

<b>Proposed sand ghat spot</b>
Ambeshivani (Gaighat), Rajgatamal, Khursa, Kurkheda (Savargaon), Kaneri, Sakhara, Porla, Nagari, Katli, Pardikupi, Pulkhal, Bodlimal, Lanjeda, Adpali-1, Adpali-2, Ambeshivani (Rammandir Ghat), Dibhanachak (Jepra) , Rajoli (Navargaon), JairampurRetighat, GanpurRai., Dotkuli, Wagholi, Mohurli Mo. Usegaon, Mohurli Mo. RetighatJibgaon, Amgaon M., Yela, Arsoda, Waghala, Saigaon, Shivani Buj-1, Deulgaon-1. Deulgaon-2, ShivaniBuj, Kitali, Dongarsavgi, Rampur Chak (Kasvi), Vankhi (Chamorshimal), Kurud (Bodegaon Ghat), Kurud (Old Wadsaghat), KondhalaMendha Ghat, KondhalaSindrai, Wadsa, Amgaon, Sawangi, Kurkhada, Nanhi, Avalmari, Vatra (Khurd), TimalgudamNala (Medaram), ChipurdubbaRai. No. 1 (Adimutapur), ChipurdubbaRai. No.2 (Adimutapur), Nagaram, Madyikuntha, Ardamal, Ankisamal-1, Akisamal-2, Chitarvela-1, Chitarvela-2. Mukadigata Rai-1 (GumalkondaRai), Mukadigata Rai-2 (GumalkondaRai), Tekdamotla-1, Tekdamotla-2, Reguthamal-1, Kotapali, Kotamal (Garkapetha), MedarammalNala, Yechli, Rela (Madveli),

The committee has been constituted as per Office Order No. BO / JD (WPC) / PH / B-220121-FTS-0186 dt.21/01/2022of Hon'ble Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai.

- |   |   |          |
|---|---|----------|
| 1. Shri. Sanjay Meena, I.A.S<br>District Majistrate, Gadchiroli                             | - | Chairman |
| 2. Shri. A. M. Kare<br>Regional Officer,<br>MPC Board, Chandrapur                           | - | Member   |
| 3. Shri. Umashankar B. Bhadule<br>Sub-regional Officer (In-charge)<br>MPC Board, Chandrapur | - | Convenor |



Sub-Regional Officer in charge, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chandrapur and Coordinator, Public Public Hearing Committee on Environment issues welcomed the dignitaries and citizens present. Also, with the permission of the chairman of the committee, the process of public hearing on environment was started.

First of all, the Coordinator, Public Hearing Committee on Environment, informed that the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi. 14/09/2006 and amended dated 01/12/2009. As per the notification, it is mandatory for certain projects to get environmental consent and before that it is mandatory to hold public hearing on environment issues.

District Mining Officer, Gadchiroli as a project proponent apply for conducting public hearing dt. 15-12-2021 after paying application fees, for Environmental public hearing for 70 sand ghats of Gadchiroli District.

The Convenor mentioned that, the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate change of the Central Government has published Sand Mining Frame Work, 2018 in March, 2018. In it, some guidelines have been given by studying some of the prominent states in the country regarding the issues required in sand / sand extraction. Also Hon. National Green Tribunal (NGT) O.no. 368/2015 dated 19/09/2018 ordered, in coordination with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi, to make suitable changes in Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016 and Sand mining framework, 2018 for conducting Public Hearing.

Convenor of the public hearing mentioned that the main objective of Environmental public hearing is to make the general public in the project area aware of the project and its consequences and the issues about it, mitigation measures which will be proposed to nullify the impacts on environment, related rules and regulations. In connection with the application for holding a public hearing, with permission of Hon. Collector Gadchiroli date of public hearing on environmental issues regarding sand spots in Gadchiroli district was fixed on Dt. 24/01/2022. As per the rules, 30 days in advance, the advertisement was published in Marathi daily 'Lokmat' and English daily 'Times of India' on 24/12/2021. Also copies of the draft Environmental Management Report with prominent features related to the sand spots and information about the project as per the notification mentioned in the Marathi and English advertisements, for study to aspiring citizens making available.

After that, Shri. Nikhil Ganesh Oak presented the PPT Presentation regarding 70 sand ghats in Gadchiroli district with regarding measures to be taken for controlling pollution while excavating sand from Riverbed.

After the presentation, the convenor appealed to the citizens present for the public hearing to submit their views, comments, objections and suggestions regarding



the 70 sand ghats. The views expressed by the attendees and their feedback are as under:

**Following are the questions, criticisms, comments, objections, suggestions and answers / assurances given by the project holder during the public hearing by online mode and in person:**

**Online:-**

**1. Shri.Sandip Meshram, Eco-Balance, Chandrapur**

Sr. No.	Objections/ Suggestions/ Questions	Answers / Promises Given by the project proponent
1	<p>The public hearing has been organized for 70 sand ghats but the presentation has been given for only 68 sand ghats. According to which sand policy of Maharashtra government, public hearing has been organized. Also, why the names of the sand ghats which were omitted in the previous public hearing were taken. If 70 sand ghats are proposed, then presentation should be also done for the same. Increasing or decreasing the number at last minute cannot be done as per Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 2006 and 2009. If so, the public hearing is declared illegal. M.P.C. Board should answer how they allowed this matter or without their knowledge the number of sand ghats was reduced and by which rules it is allowed. The state government has canceled the 2019 policy. The government has not announced a new policy, but the old policy has been canceled.</p>	<p>The District Mining Officer said that the public hearing is about 70 sand ghats. At present the old sand policy of the government is being implemented. The new sand policy will come into effect once the GR is received.</p> <p>You should be contacted to this office regarding the final report of sand ghats for the year 2020. Contact this office for Annexure 1 to 7 of DSR and it will be posted on the website soon. The district survey report was posted on the district website for a period of one month but no objection was received during that period.</p> <p>Also 2 sand spots out of 70 having area &lt;1 Ha due to that reason remaining 68 ghats are proposed for EC.</p> <p>Convener of Environmental Public hearing Committee said that, The public hearing has been conducted as per the notification 14/09/2006 and amended dt.01/12/2009 of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi.</p>
	<p>Based on which baseline data EMP had been prepared? Information about the CSR is also not available. Where do you get this information regarding Water pollution and Air</p>	<p>Environmental consultant said that, data required for B2 Category projects had been collected and after analysis EMP are prepared also same will be uploaded on PARIVESH portal.</p>



	Pollution controlling funds?	Funding for CSR is provided as per the Sand Policy 2019. Funds are being disbursed as per rules after successful auction and excavation of Sand Ghat.
	According to the project promoters, 14.0 lakh liters of water has been pumped. What about the permission of Central Ground Water Ground Board.	This amount of water is not required for any sand spot and the water that will be sprayed on the roads is procured from approved contractor on purchase basis. The chairman of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee said that his objections were addressed by email also if he contacted to the DMO office.

**2. Shri. Sanjay, Chandrapur:-**

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Objections/ Suggestions/ Questions</b>	<b>Answers / Promises Given by the project proponent</b>
1	What is the area of sand ghats? How to mark the area of sand ghats. What is the reason for Small area and high sand extraction?	The District Mining Officer said that the area of sand ghats has been mentioned in the presentation. Mining will be done in the designated area only. The sand ghat area will be marked on field. Presentation also provides statistics on how much sand will be extracted from each sand spot. Care will be taken to ensure that sand is excavated within the demarcated area. Also, if sand is excavated outside the demarcation area, appropriate action will be taken as per rules.
	The riverbed in Sironcha taluka is 2-3 km long. So, what is the reason behind to propose small area sand ghats?	The District Mining Officer said that due to the large area of sand ghats in Sironcha taluka of Gadchiroli district, the number of brass and the offset price of these sand ghats have been increasing and due to that reason sand ghats in Sironcha tehsil have not been auctioned for last 3-4 years and there is scope for illegal excavation in the area, and also due to not-going in the auction of sand ghats, the Government revenue is greatly reduced. After consideration of this point Sand spots in Sironcha Tehsil is not proposed in Bigger size.
	It is observed that Consultant /	The District Mining Officer said that all

Mining department intentionally done wrong survey.	the sand ghats have been surveyed in a scientific manner by the taluka level technical sub-committee / Environmental consultant.
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### 3. General Public:

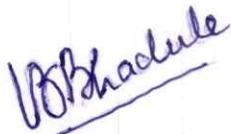
Sr. No	Objections/ Suggestions/ Questions	Answers / Promises Given by the project proponent
1	The sanctuary is located in Mulchera taluka and 01 sand ghats is proposed in this taluka. How will sand be extracted and transported from these sand ghats?	The chairman of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee said that correspondence has been sent to the forest department through this office and no objections have been received regarding any sanctuary by forest department.

### 4. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Hyderabad:

Sr. No	Objections/ Suggestions/ Questions	Answers / Promises Given by the project proponent
1	I support this project. About 20% of sand is carried away by rainwater. I ask permission to suggest some matters to the District Mining Officer. I request Project proponent to prepare health report of peripheral citizens, crop planting report, and ground water availability report. The plantation report submitted by Project Proponent is quite accurate. But the project promoter should plant fruit trees, flowers and medicinal plants while planting trees. Also trees should be planted near sand transport roads.	The chairman of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee said that his points have been noted. Also, we will vigil about what you have suggested.



The Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee on Environment Public hearing the citizens present to ask any further questions / objections / suggestions. However, no questions / suggestions / objections were raised after that. Concluding the meeting, the Chairman, Public Hearing Committee on Environment reviewed the issues present in the public hearing and thanked the attendees and announced the end of the public hearing.



(Umashankar B. Bhadule)  
Convenor, Public Hearing  
I/c. Sub-Regional Officer,  
M.P.C. Board,  
Chandrapur



(A. M. Kare)  
Member, Public Public  
Hearing and Regional  
Officer,  
M.P.C. Board,  
Chandrapur



(Sanjay Meena, IAS)  
Chairman, Public  
Hearing and District  
Magistrate, Gadchiroli