

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING OF 33 SAND GHATS IN
GONDIA DISTRICT DATED 09.12.2022.TIME 2.00 PM**

Environmental Public Hearing for Proposed 33 Sand Ghats , Kinhi (4.50 Ha), Mahalgaon – 1 (4 Ha), Mahalgaon – 2 (3 Ha), Murdala (saytola) (3.30 Ha), Murdala (Parvatighat) (3.85 Ha), Dongurli (4.50 Ha), Deori (2.24 Ha), Tedva (1.17 Ha), Banathar (2.24 Ha), Satona (Gavghat) (1.04 Ha), Birsola (3.50 Ha), Jirutola (1.28 Ha), Pujaritola (Kasa) (4.50 Ha), Arjuni (1.12 Ha), Bondrani (3 Ha), Savra (4 Ha), Chandori Buj (2.70 Ha), Biroli (4.50 Ha), Mandvi (4.55 Ha), Kavlewada (1.28 Ha), Ghatkuroda – 1 (4.50 Ha), Ghatkuroda – 2 (4.50 Ha), GhatTemni (Dogaghat) (1.05 Ha), Manekasa (1.20 Ha), Savangi – 1 (1.08 Ha), Savangi – 2 (1.14 Ha), Padsgaon (Raka) (1.10 Ha), Soudal (1.44 Ha), Pipari (1.20 Ha), Kodamedi (1.01 Ha), Ghatbori Teli (1.12 Ha), Singhamrhan (1.05 Ha), Vadegaon (Bandhya) (1.04 Ha) was held on 09 December 2022 at 2.00 PM at Collector Office, Planning Building Gondia.

The said enviromantal public hearing was conducted Under the Chairperson of Smt. Nayana Gunde, District Magistrate, Gondia. Shri. Ashok Kare, Regional Officer M.P.C. Board, Nagpur, member of Public Hearing panel and Additional District Collector Shri. Rajesh Khawale were present for public hearing. Smt. Hema Deshpande, Sub-Regional Officer, M.P.C. Board, Bhandara was convener of the said Public Hearing. About 56 people were participated public hearing. (Annexure-I)

District Mining officer, collector Office, Gondia vide letter dtd.27/10/2022 has submitted proposal for carrying out public hearing of 33 Sand Ghats in Gondia district, which requires Environmental Clearance from the Environment and climate change department, Govt. of Maharashtra. The Head office of the M. P. C. Board, had accorded approval to conduct public hearing procedure. Following guidelines stipulated under EIA Notification dtd. 14 Sep 2006, amended dtd.01.12.2009 venue, date and time was finalized after consultation with the District Magistrate, Gondia. The M.P.C. Board office vide letter dtd 23/11/2022 issued office order No. E-92/2022 to conduct public hearing at collector office Planning Building, Gondia on dtd. 09 December 2022 at 2.00 PM under the chairperson of District Magistrate, Gondia. (Annexure-II)

Advertisement of the said public Hearing was published in English daily "The Hitvada" & Marathi daily "Navrashtra" dtd. 08 November 2022 with thirty days period to receive objections of the concerns. (Annexure-III)

Draft Executive summary in English and Marathi with soft copy were placed at following offices for information and study by the people.

1. District Collector office, Gondia.
2. Joint Director (WPC), M.P.C. Board, Kalptaru Point, 3rd Floor, Sion- Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opp. Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai-22.
3. Regional Office, M.P.C. Board, 5th Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur.
4. Department of Environment, New Administrative Building, 15th Floor Madam Kama Marg, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32.
5. District Mining Office, Gondia.
6. Regional Office (Western Central Zone), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur -440001.
7. Zilla Parishad, Gondia.
8. Sub-Divisional Offices of above mentioned Talukas.
9. Tahsil Offices of above mentioned Talukas.
10. Related Grampanchayat Offices.
11. Website of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board: www.mpcb.gov.in

No objections, memorandums were received before & during Public Hearing.

Public Hearing proceedings started at 2.00 PM after due permission of the chairperson. Convener & Sub-Regional Officer, M.P.C. Board Bhandara Smt. Hema Deshpande taken permission from Hon'ble chairperson Smt. Nayana Gunde, District Magistrate, Gondia. Shri. Ashok Kare, Regional Officer M.P.C. Board, Nagpur, and welcomed all present during public hearing.

Her introductory speech explained procedure of public hearing and cleared that, public hearing panel doesn't have right to recommend or approved the proposed project. The proceeding of public hearing along with received written objection/memorandums and video recording will be submitted to the Ministry for further needful action.

She then invited Mining officer, Collector Office, Gondia Representative to give power point presentation of proposed Sand Ghats projects.

Mining Officer Gondia has given background for the proposed mining proposal. He told that as per Maharashtra sand policy 03.09.2019 District Mining Officer is project proponent initially and after auction of sand ghats Environmental Clearance will be transferred to successful bidder. Total 63 sand ghats were surveyed but 33 ghats are finalized for EC by Taluka level Technical Committee headed by Tahsildar and team members are Dy. Engineer irrigation Department, Junior Geologist appointed by Directorate of Geology and Mining, Junior Geologist from G.S.D.A. Gondia and representative Maharashtra Pollution Control Board.

Manual method of mining will be adopted for excavation of sand from designated area of Riverbed. He asked Representative of a Technical Consultancy M/s. Mahabal Enviro Ltd. For said sand Ghat projects to give power point presentations in Marathi. Details of proposed project, Project, present Environmental status, impact of proposed project & Environmental mitigation measures for each sand ghats was presented by them in power point presentation.

Smt. Hema Deshpande, convener of the hearing invited present people to put their views, objections etc. regarding project on behalf of Hon'ble chairperson. Those who raised the issue they should first tell their name, village and designation.

Points discussed during Environment Public Hearing are as under

1. Shri A. C. Bisen. Gram Panchayat Mahalgaon.

Objection / Information / Question	Answers / feedback given by the project holder accordingly
Due to the transportation of sand from the village, the villagers are facing problems. Sand should be transported by outer road. An alternative route should be used.	Outside road village has been proposed for the transportation sand from the Sand Ghats at Mahalgaon. Transportation will be done accordingly. And vigilance will be taken in this regard.

2. Shri M. Khare, Deputy Sarpanch Kasa Pujari Tola

Objection / Information / Question	Answers / feedback given by the project holder accordingly
Roads damaged by sand transport need to be repaired.	As per the provisions of the Sand Policy under the District Mineral Foundation Fund, as the said area is affected by transportation of sand, appropriate action will be taken to provide funds for the repairing and construction of roads in the respective villages.

3. Shri. R. B. Patale gram sevak, Palasgaon, Sadak Arjuni

Objection / Information / Question	Answers / feedback given by the project holder accordingly
The road from Gram Panchayat to the river should be constructed and then the Reti ghat should be auctioned. Trees should also be planted.	Outside road from the village is proposed for transportation for sand ghat. As the said area is affected by mining under the fund, appropriate action will be taken to provide funds for the repairing and construction of roads in the respective villages. Also, plantation of trees in the area of sand ghats has been planned in sand ghats proposal.

4. Shri. H.P. Gajbhiye, Dangurli Kinni

Objection / Information / Question	Answers / feedback given by the project holder accordingly
Initially we were against this auction. Transport is through the village. Every year we include the condition of road in the resolution. There is a school in the village, transport should be from outside the village. Road are not constructed.	Outside road the village has been proposed for the movement of vehicles carrying sand to the Sand Ghats in Dangurli village. Transportation will be carried out accordingly and vigilance will be taken in this regard.

5. Shri. Jagdish Nagalwade, Village Development Officer, Saundhal

Objection / Information / Question	Answers / feedback given by the project holder accordingly
Last year, after the auction process was completed, trees were not planted. Sand is not transported through the route which is fixed in the auction. Sand is transported by illegal way. The mineral development fund that should be received Not received yet.	Outside road of the village has been proposed for transportation of sand to the Sand Ghats at Saundhal. Transportation will be carried out accordingly and vigilance will be taken in this regard. Also, plantation of trees in the area of sand ghats has been planned in sand ghats proposal.

6. Shri. H. S. Varthe, Murdada, Gondia.

Objection / Information / Question	Answers / feedback given by the project holder accordingly
There have been a lot of problems in Gram Sabha. The villagers are demanding that we will not approve the resolution until the mineral development grant is received, for the repairing of roads.	As per the provisions of the Sand ghat Policy under the District Mineral Foundation Fund, as the said area is affected by mining, appropriate action will be taken to provide funds for the repairing and construction of roads in the respective villages.

7. Shri. Mohapat Khare, Karwa.

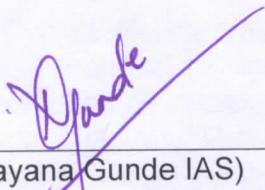
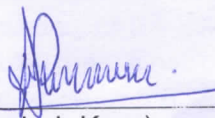
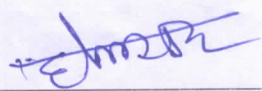
Objection / Information / Question	Answers / feedback given by the project holder accordingly
The auction has been going on for last five years, but we are not getting the Mineral Development Fund grant so we are losing money. A farmer are taking vegetable production. Dust damages the vegetable so it is not sold in the market. Alternative roads should be arranged. Sand theft has also increased.	Water sprinkling is planned to prevent the dust from flying due to the vehicle transporting sand on the Sand Ghat in Birsola. As per the provisions of the Sand ghat Policy under the District Mineral Foundation Fund, as the said area is affected by mining, appropriate action will be taken to provide funds for the repairing and construction of roads in the respective villages.

Smt. Hema Deshapande Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Bhandara challenge all the participating citizens that if anyone else wants to raise their opinion, they can do so. After that, no one came forward to present their views.

Hon'ble District Magistrate, and Chairperson Public Hearing Panel Gondia ensure citizens present that the feedback and suggestions given by the citizens will be taken into consideration. Also special care will be taken regarding movement of vehicles from Sand Ghat. Also, it is mandatory to plant different types of trees in the mining area / area and the relevant authorities / departments will be instructed to plant trees as per the rules.

After that, the questions raised and the answers of the project proponents were reviewed and it was reported that the people present in Gondia District regarding 33 Sand Ghats quietly presented their statements and the points raised were accurately recorded in the minutes.

The chairperson of the Public Hearing committee concluded the Public Hearing. Smt. Hema Deshpande, Convener and Sub-Regional officer M.P.C. Board Bhandara expressed the vote of thanks and also the representative of the project proponents expressed their vote of thanks. With the permission of the Hon'ble chairperson, this public hearing ended with thank to chair and all present.

 (Nayana Gunde IAS) District Magistrate, Gondia & Chairperson, Public Hearing Panel	 (Ashok Kare) Regional Officer, MPC Board Nagpur & Member Public Hearing Panel	 (Hema Deshpande) Sub-Regional MPC Board Bhandara & Convenor Public Hearing
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