

**Minutes of Public Hearing Panel in respect of proposed 45 nos. of Sand Mining Projects in the Amravati District proposed by District Mining Officer, Collector Office, Amravati Maharashtra dtd. 18/01/2023 at 12.00 Noon, at Bachat Bhavan, Collector Office, Amravati.**

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The District Mining Officer, Mining Department, Collector Office Amravati has submitted the application for conducting Environmental Public Hearing for obtaining Environmental Clearance in respect of 45 sand ghats in Amravati 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 18/01/2023 at 12.00 Noon at Bachat Bhavan, District Collector Office, Amravati as per the provisions made in the office memorandum dtd. 09 June 2021 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. Hon'ble Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has issued Office Order No. E-01 of 2023 vide letter no. BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-230104-FTS-0181, dtd. 04/01/2023 for constitution of Environmental Public Hearing Committee to conduct the said Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing has been conducted in presence of following members of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee.

1. Hon'ble Pavneet Kaur, District Magistrate, Amravati – Chairperson.
2. Hon'ble Ramdas Siddhabhatti, Additional Collector, Amravati
3. Shri R. A. Rajput, Regional Officer, MPCB, Amravati – Member.
4. Smt. Dhanashree Patil, Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Amravati – Convenor.

The public notice for conducting the Environmental Public Hearing has been published in Daily "Lokmat" (Marathi) and Daily "Hitavada" (English) on 16/12/2022. Accordingly, the Environmental Public Hearing has been conducted on 18/01/2023 at 12.00 Noon at Bachat Bhavan, Collector Office, Amravati.

The Public Hearing was started with due permission of Hon'ble Chairperson. The convenor of the Public Hearing Committee, Smt. Dhanashree Patil, Sub-Regional Officer, Amravati-I welcomed the participants present in the Public Hearing. She further briefed about the requirement of conducting Environmental Public Hearing for the said project. She further stated that the District Mining Officer, Amravati has submitted Environment Management Plan, Executive Summary (English & Marathi) in respect of 45 sand ghats in Amravati 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/Sub-Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sahakar Surabhi, Near Vivekanand Colony, Bapatwadi, Amravati-444606.
3. Collector Office, Amravati.
4. Zilla Parishad, Amravati.
5. District Industry Centre, Amravati.
6. All the Sub-Divisional Officer (revenue), Dist. Amravati.
7. All the Tahasil Offices, District, Amravati.
8. All the Panchayat Samitee & concerned Gram Panchayat Offices, Donoda Khairi/ Shahapur and Sawali/ Sawalapur/ Hiwara Purna & Yelki Purna/ Yesurna & Nimbhari, Ta. Achalpur, Rajurwadi, Ta. Morshi, Naygaon/ Borgaon Nistane/ Gokulsara/ Dighi Mahalle, Ta. Dhamangaon Rly., Kharya Tembhru/ Chichghat/ Ratnapur Ta. Dharni, Wathoda Sh./ Sonarkheda/ Bhalsi, Dangarkheda, Ganoja Devi/ Dadhi/ Kanphodi/ Nanded Kh/ Purnanagar, Ta. Bhatkuli, Nanded Bk/ Khairi/ Nalwada/ Chandola/ Karatkhed/ Lasur/ Ramtirth/ Wadura, Ta. Daryapur, Jawara Fattepur/ Bharwadi/ Umbarkhed/ Dhamantri Ta. Tiosa, Hirul Purna/ Talani Purna/ Takarkheda Ta. Chandur Bazar, Dist. Amravati.

With the permission of Chair Smt. Dhanashree Patil, Sub-Regional Officer, Amravati-I and convenor 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 Consult Pvt. Ltd.] Nagpur (Environmental Consultant of the Project Proponent) gave the presentation regarding sand ghat projects.

Smt. Dhanashree Patil, Sub-Regional Officer, Amravati-I and convenor 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. She appealed the participants to raise their suggestions /objections.

Shri Amol Jadhav, Sarpanch, Lasur, Ta. Daryapur said that the Purna river ghats were auctioned last year. However, the Gram Panchayat has not received 5 to 10 percent of funds which Grampanchyat receives from the sand auctions every year for development purpose. In this regard, District Mining Officer, Amravati said that this matter is not related to this public hearing and the direct transfer of funds to the Gram Panchayat has been stopped from the last few years. 10 % of royalty funds are deposited in the District Mining Fund and it is used for the development activities in the mining affected areas in the district. However, if there are any proposals regarding development in the village, they can be given in written form to the Collector office and appropriate action will be taken accordingly.

Hon'ble Chairperson suggested that if there are any objections or suggestions regarding the existing 45 sand ghats, they should be raised in the said public hearing.

Mr. Amol Jadhav, Sarpanch, Lasur, Ta. Daryapur further said that the trips of the vehicles carrying sand from sand ghats should be changed from the usual timing of

8 am to 5 pm as these timings coincide with school timings so possibilities of accidents by sand carrying vehicles will increase. The sand transporting vehicles shall have strict/restrict speed limits and the frequency of trips shall be reduced to one/day/royalty. In this regard, the Additional Collector, Amravati replied that regarding these provisions are in the rule.

Shri Rajeshwar Nistane, former Sarpanch, Borgaon Nistane, Ta. Dhamangaon Railway told the sand ghats which were closed before were opened for auction. What remedial measures have been taken/planned for same. On this Hon'ble Chairperson said that the matter will be investigated and conveyed like wise. Shri Nistane suggested for proper technical studies before auction in this regard.

Shri Suraj Sisode, Naigaon, Ta. Dhamangaon Railway said that I had raised the question in the previous public hearing also. Our agricultural areas are decreasing due to illegal sand excavation. He further stated that the field soil is flown due to overflow of water from Upper Wardha project resulting in decrease of field areas. This is resulting in loss of agriculture due to reduction in field area and compensation shall be given for the same by acquiring the land.

In this regard, the Additional Collector, Amravati said that they shall submit the application mentioning gut numbers to the Collector office and the matter will be investigated and measures will be taken accordingly.

Hon'ble Chairperson suggested that a written application/submission should be given regarding the above issues and Additional Collector to inquire about same.

Shri Ram Nistane, Borgaon Nistane, Ta. Dhamangaon Railway said that their houses are located on the banks of the river. Transport vehicles carrying sand are loaded with excessive capacity than prescribed and due to overloaded the vehicles movement, cracks are observed on the walls of their houses. Raised his oppose for auction of related sand-ghat.

Hon'ble Chairperson said that a report will be sought from the concerned Tahsildar and appropriate action will be taken.

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

  
(Dhanashree Patil)  
Convenor

&  
Sub-Regional Officer,  
MPC Board Amravati-I

  
(R. A. Rajput)  
Member

&  
Regional Officer,  
MPC Board Amravati

  
(Parnet Kaur)  
Chairperson

Public Hearing Committee  
&  
District Magistrate, Amravati.