

Minutes of Environmental Public Hearing for Proposed 54 no.sand ghats (0.00 to 5.00 hectare) located in Bhandara district, namely Wadegaon (Rithi), Mandavi, Kothurna, Juni Takli, all in Taluka Bhandara, Bhojapur, Bhojapur-2, Khatkheda, Vilam, Junona-2, Yenola-2, Mangli-1, at Taluka Pauni, Chargaon, Sukli De, Lobhi, Mandvi, Warpindkepar, Sondya, Chandmara, Ashti/Anjanvihiri, Mandvi-2, Sondya-2, Sondya-3, Taluka Tumsar, Nilaj Khurd, Dhiwarwada, Mundhri Bu, Kanhalgaon, Devhada Khurd, Takli, Pachgaon-1, Bothali, Mohgaondevi, Taluka Mohadi, Wattetkar, Salebardi, Sasra, Khandala, Parsodi (Maleghat), Parsodi (Aamrai), Taluka Sakoli, Palasgaon, Miregaon, Wakal, Vihirgaon, Narwha, Marhegaon, Narwha-2, Taluka Lakhani, Asola, Lakhandur, Antargaon Kha, Bhagadi, Khairna, Kholmara, Nanded-2, Irali Dambi, Moharna-2, Donad,for year 2024-25 DTD. 30/01/2025. TIME 11.30 A.M, at Collector Office, Bhandara.

As per Ministry of Environment and Forest, Govt. of India Notification dated 14.09.2006 amended dated 1.12.2009, Environmental Public hearing was conducted for proposed 54 no. sand ghats in Bhandara district, namely Wadegaon (Rithi), Mandavi, Kothurna, Juni Takli, all in Taluka Bhandara, Bhojapur, Bhojapur-2, Khatkheda, Vilam, Junona-2, Yenola-2, Mangli-1, at Taluka Pauni, Chargaon, Sukli De, Lobhi, Mandvi, Warpindkepar, Sondya, Chandmara, Ashti/Anjanvihiri, Mandvi-2, Sondya-2, Sondya-3, Taluka Tumsar, Nilaj Khurd, Dhiwarwada, Mundhri Bu, Kanhalgaon, Devhada Khurd, Takli, Pachgaon-1, Bothali, Mohgaondevi, Taluka Mohadi, Wattetkar, Salebardi, Sasra, Khandala, Parsodi (Maleghat), Parsodi (Aamrai), Taluka Sakoli, Palasgaon, Miregaon, Wakal, Vihirgaon, Narwha, Marhegaon, Narwha-2, Taluka Lakhani, Asola, Lakhandur, Antargaon Kha, Bhagadi, Khairna, Kholmara, Nanded-2, Irali Dambi, Moharna-2, Donad, for the year 2024-2025 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Additional District Magistrate, Bhandara. Ms. Hema Deshpande, Regional Officer, M.P.C.Board, Nagpur was member of the public hearing panel, and Shri. Kishor Pusadkar, Sub-Regional Officer, M.P.C.Board, Bhandara acted as a convener. Public Hearing conducted on 31.01.2025, at 11.30 A.M. with the permission of the Chairman of Public hearing, at Zilha Niyojan Bhavan, Collector Office, Bhandara. Shri Janardan Londhe, Additional Collector, Bhandara & Shri Sachin Wadhwe, District Mining Officer, Bhandara also attended said public hearing. Attendance of People present during Public Hearing is attached as **(Annexure-I.)**

BACKGROUND :

The proposed sand mining projects attract provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006. District Mining Officer, Collector Office, Bhandara has requested Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, to conduct public hearing for their proposed 54 no. sand ghats (0.0 to 5.0 hectare) in Bhandara district for the year 2024-2025 vide letter dated 04.12.2024.

Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai vide letter no.MPCB/JD(WPC)/Env-PH/B-241217-FTS-0122 dtd 17.12.2024 directed to initiate public hearing process. Hon'ble District Collector, Bhandara vide letter no.128/2025 dated 29.01.2025 authorized Residential Dy Collector & additional District Magistrate to conduct said public hearing.

PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE:

With permission of the Chairman of Public Hearing, Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Bhandara & convenor has started Public Hearing procedure by welcoming Chairman, Member of the public hearing panel, officers & public present during hearing.

Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Bhandara, informed that Public Hearing is conducted under provisions of the EIA Notification 2006 and amended thereof for recording views / objects / suggestions of participants regarding proposed project, and same will be communicated to the Competent Committee. It was also clarified that this panel has not the right to take any decision for accordance or any kind of approval to the project and appealed to participants to express their views and suggestion orally or in writing.

Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Bhandara further said that notices for public hearing were published in two local widely circulated newspapers i.e. the 'The Hitavada' (English) and 'Lokmat' (Marathi) on 28.12.2024 for thirty days period. Copies of the same are enclosed as (Annexure-II.)

Copies of Executive summary both in English and Marathi, with Environment Management Plan and other information/documents submitted by Project proponent were made available to the public by making these documents available in various Govt. offices as well as local Gram Panchayat as per MoEF GOI Notification. Suggestions, comments, and objections of the public were called in writing during the notice period of publication of notice. The public hearing panel was constituted vide MPC Board Office Order No. E-10/2025 vide letter No. BO/JD/(WPC)/PH/B-250109-FTS-0028 dtd. 09/01/2025. Copy enclosed as (Annexure-III). One objections/suggestions received by email before & during public hearing.

Executive summary in English and Marathi along with soft copy were kept in the following offices for information and study of concerns and asked to give extensive publicity.

- 1) Collector Office, Bhandara.
- 2) Zilla Parishad Office, Bhandara.
- 3) District Industries Centre, Bhandara.
- 4) Sub-Divisional Officer, Bhandara, Dist. Bhandara.
- 5) Sub-Divisional Officer, Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.

- 6) Sub-Divisional Officer, Sakoli, Dist. Bhandara.
- 7) Tehsil Office Bhandara, Dist. Bhandara.
- 8) Tehsil Office Pauni, Dist. Bhandara.
- 9) Tehsil Office Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.
- 10) Tehsil Office Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.
- 11) Tehsil Office Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 12) Tehsil Office Lakhani, Dist. Bhandara.
- 13) Tehsil Office Sakoli, Dist. Bhandara.
- 14) Regional Office, M.P.C.Board, 5th Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur.
- 15) Department of Environment & Climate Change, 15th Floor, New Administrative Building, Madam Kama Marg, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
- 16) Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Headquarters, Kalpataru Point, 3rd Mala, Sion Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opposite Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai-400022.
- 17) Regional Office (West Central Region), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Ground Floor, East Block, New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.
- 18) Gram Panchayat Office, Bhojapur, Tq. Pauni, Dist. Bhandara.
- 19) Gram Panchayat Office, Khatkheda, Tq. Pauni, Dist. Bhandara.
- 20) Gram Panchayat Office, Vilam, Tq. Pauni, Dist. Bhandara.
- 21) Gram Panchayat Office, Mangli, Tq. Pauni, Dist. Bhandara.
- 22) Gram Panchayat Office, Yenola, Tq. Pauni, Dist. Bhandara.
- 23) Gram Panchayat Office, Junona, Tq. Pauni, Dist. Bhandara.
- 24) Gram Panchayat Office, Mandvi, Tq. Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.
- 25) Gram Panchayat Office, Sukli De, Tq. Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.
- 26) Gram Panchayat Office, Chargaon, Tq. Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.
- 27) Gram Panchayat Office, Lobhi, Tq. Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.
- 28) Gram Panchayat Office, Sondya, Tq. Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.
- 29) Gram Panchayat Office, Chandmara, Tq. Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.
- 30) Gram Panchayat Office, Ashti/Anjanvihiri, Tq. Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.
- 31) Gram Panchayat Office, Warpindkepar, Tq. Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.
- 32) Gram Panchayat Office, Dhiwarwada, Tq. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.
- 33) Gram Panchayat Office, Mundhri Bu, Tq. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.
- 34) Gram Panchayat Office, Kanhalgaon, Tq. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.
- 35) Gram Panchayat Office, Devhada Khurd, Tq. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.
- 36) Gram Panchayat Office, Nilaj Khurd, Tq. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.
- 37) Gram Panchayat Office, Takli, Tq. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.
- 38) Gram Panchayat Office, Pachgaon, Tq. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.
- 39) Gram Panchayat Office, Bothali, Tq. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.

- 40) Gram Panchayat Office, Mohgaondevi., Tq. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara.
- 41) Gram Panchayat Office, Khairna , Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 42) Gram Panchayat Office, Kholmara, Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 43) Gram Panchayat Office, Lakhandur , Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 44) Gram Panchayat Office, Asola , Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 45) Gram Panchayat Office, Bhagadi , Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 46) Gram Panchayat Office, Antargaon Kha., Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 47) Gram Panchayat Office, Donad , Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 48) Gram Panchayat Office, Moharna, Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 49) Gram Panchayat Office, Irali Dambi, Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 50) Gram Panchayat Office, Nanded, Tq. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara.
- 51) Gram Panchayat Office, Palasgaon , Tq. Lakhani, Dist. Bhandara.
- 52) Gram Panchayat Office, Miregaon , Tq. Lakhani , Dist. Bhandara.
- 53) Gram Panchayat Office, Wakal , Tq. Lakhani, Dist. Bhandara.
- 54) Gram Panchayat Office, Vhirgaon , Tq. Lakhani, Dist. Bhandara.
- 55) Gram Panchayat Office, Narwha , Tq. Lakhani, Dist. Bhandara.
- 56) Gram Panchayat Office, Marhegaon , Tq. Lakhani, Dist. Bhandara.
- 57) Gram Panchayat Office, Wattetkar , Tq. Sakoli, Dist. Bhandara.
- 58) Gram Panchayat Office, Salebardi, Tq. Sakoli, Dist. Bhandara.
- 59) Gram Panchayat Office, Sasra, Tq. Sakoli , Dist. Bhandara.
- 60) Gram Panchayat Office, Khandala, Tq. Sakoli , Dist. Bhandara.
- 61) Gram Panchayat Office, Parsodi, Tq. Sakoli , Dist. Bhandara.
- 62) Gram Panchayat Office, Wadegaon (Rithi), Tq. Bhandara , Dist. Bhandara.
- 63) Gram Panchayat Office, Mandavi, Tq. Bhandara , Dist. Bhandara.
- 64) Gram Panchayat Office, Kothurna, Tq. Bhandara , Dist. Bhandara.
- 65) Gram Panchayat Office, Juni Takli, Tq. Bhandara , Dist. Bhandara.

Documents were also hosted on the Board's website www.mpcb.gov.in.

Thereafter, Sub-Regional Officer, Bhandara and Convener requested the project proponent to give their detailed presentation about proposed sand mining projects and Environmental issues related with it.

Accordingly, Shri Sachin Wadhwe, DMO briefed in short for proposals of sand ghats and their technical consultant gave detailed power point presentation of sand ghats in local language marathi comprising of sand ghats location, environmental aspects, mining methods, environmental management plans, occupational health and safety management, green belt development plans, project benefits, environmental management plan costs, etc.

Sub-Regional Officer & Convener Shri. Kishor Pusadkar has requested public present during hearing to express their views, comments, concern & suggestion for this proposed project, in writing as well as orally.

No written or oral objections were received regarding the proposed sand ghats from any attendees during the public hearing.

Details of objections raised & reply given by project proponent.

Sr no.	Objection/Suggestions	Reply given by project proponent
1	Sarpanch, Ashti (Tumsar): The transportation of sand from the Ashti-Anjanvihiri sand ghat is carried out through the farm access road, which is causing inconvenience to the farmers. A written complaint has also been submitted regarding this matter. Sand transportation should not take place on this farm road.	We will ensure that the sand transportation route does not pass through the village. Your complaint has been recorded, and we will take appropriate action accordingly.
2	Mr. Yogesh Deshmukh, Police Patil, Chandmara (Tumsar): <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Chandmara sand ghat was auctioned in 2019 and again in 2024, but the Chandmara Gram Panchayat does not receive revenue from the government under the pretext of environmental concerns.Last year, less tree plantation was done at the proposed sand ghat, and there is a need for more tree plantations in the village.	The royalty collected from minerals is deposited into the District Mineral Fund. The proposals received by the District Mineral Fund Committee are discussed and prioritized for action. Tree plantation is accounted for in the plan, and we will monitor it from time to time.
3	Mr. Vilas Parvate, Parsodi (Sakoli): Who will be responsible for the maintenance of the roads leading to the sand ghat, the ghat owner or the government?	The road maintenance of the sand ghat will be carried out by the contract holder, which includes sprinkling water on access roads, regular maintenance of roads, and tree plantation.

4	<p>Mr. Chandrakant Kapgade, Parsodi (Sakoli): How is tree plantation planned, and in which month will it be carried out?</p>	<p>Tree plantation will be carried out through depot holders under the environmental management plan, and we will monitor it periodically.</p>
5	<p>Mr. Sukhdev Navkhare, Bhandara:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some sand ghats do not have proper roads, so depot holders have to pass through farmlands. In such cases, farmers demand money. Who is responsible for paying them?• In Wadegaon, there is a sand ghat where the road passes through a forest nursery, and the forest department does not allow passage. Currently, there is a depot, and it is causing a lot of difficulties.	<p>Private roads and land are generally avoided for sand ghat access. The route to Charagaon ghats will be inspected, and we will re-evaluate the situation regarding the Wadegaon Rithi sand ghat based on the information you provided.</p>
6	<p>Mr. Dingambar Gopale, Ashti (Tumsar): My farmland is adjacent to the river road, which is only a 10-15 feet-wide farm path. Sand transportation should not take place on this road, as it has severely affected my farmland. I request that sand transporters use an alternative access route. I have already sent you 2-3 written letters regarding this issue.</p>	<p>We have taken note of your complaint and will inspect the matter.</p>
7	<p>Mrs. Priti Sonawane (Deputy Sarpanch), Ashti (Tumsar): There is a government depot within our village limits. I request that there should not be a depot within the village limits, as half of our village is situated near it, and the depot is causing inconvenience to the villagers.</p>	<p>We have taken note of your concern and will inspect the matter.</p>

Hon'ble Chairman, Public Hearing Committee: - said that Information about proposed sand mining sites has been provided and there are no doubts regarding it. All objections & Suggestions have been recorded and will be submitted to the competent authorities. public hearing concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.



(Kishor Pusadkar)

Sub-Regional Officer

**M.P.C. Board, Bhandara & Convener of
Public Hearing Panel**



(Hema Deshpande)

Regional Officer,

**MPC Board, Nagpur & Member of Public
Hearing Panel**



(Smita Belpatre)

**Additional District Magistrate, Bhandara
& Chairperson of the Public Hearing Panel**

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