

**MINUTES OF THE 27TH MEETING OF SEAC KERALA HELD ON 27TH MARCH
2014, AT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

The twenty-seventh meeting of SEAC-Kerala was held on 27th March 2014 at Department of Environment and Climate Change, Thiruvananthapuram. The meeting commenced at 11 am and the following members of State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) Kerala have participated:

1. Dr. N.G.K. Pillai - Chairman, SEAC
ICAR Emeritus Scientist &
Former Director CMFRI
2. Dr. P.S. Harikumar - Member, SEAC
3. Dr. K. Harikrishnan - Member, SEAC
4. Dr. George Chackacherry - Member, SEAC
5. Dr. C.N. Mohanan - Member, SEAC
6. Sri. John Mathai - Member, SEAC
7. Sri. Eapen Varughese - Member, SEAC
8. Sri. P. Sreekantan Nair - Secretary, SEAC
Director,
Department of Environment & Climate Change

Item No. 27.01

**Environmental clearance for sand mining from the rivers
of Malappuram District viz. Bharathapuzha, Chaliyar
and Kadalundi, Kerala submitted by District Collector,
Malappuram (File No. 238/SEIAA/KL/940/2014)**

The proposal and documents submitted by the proponent were considered. Taking into account the environmental protection measures being adopted so far and considering the urgency in the requirement of construction material and taking a lenient view not to hamper the developmental needs of the state, the Committee RECOMMENDED the project for Environmental Clearance (EC) which shall be VALID UP TO 31ST MAY 2014 on the following conditions:

1. The depth of sand mining should not exceed the water level at summer.
2. The quantity of sand removed during the period(s) of EC validity, should not exceed the quantity removed during the corresponding period in 2013.
3. Mining of sand in the Coastal Regulation Zone shall be as per the guidelines stipulated by the KCZMA.
4. Summer water level must be fixed with reference to a permanent point (bench mark) by levelling and should be recorded for future reference. At least two such points must exist in each Panchayath.
5. Sand mining in rivers can be permitted in future only after consideration of recent sand audit reports. In this context, the reports of sand audits (that is under completion) should be speeded up and the reports must be made available before 31st August 2014.
6. The conditions under Para 1 (iii) (a) to (e) stipulated in the O.M. dt. 24th December 2013 of MoEF for river sand mining should be complied with. Items mentioned under Chapter 3 of the Kerala Protection of River Bank and Regulation of Removal of Sand Act 2001

should be followed, unless repugnant with the conditions in the O.M. dt. 24th December 2013.

7. Sand auditing of all the rivers in the district should be completed before 31st July 2014.
8. Online e-management system should only be resorted for sand distribution.
9. All the other statutory clearances as is required should be obtained.

Item No. 27.02

Environmental clearance for removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 464/1 at Chambakkulam Village and Panchayath, Kuttanad Taluk, Alappuzha District, Kerala by Sri. Thomas Kutty Cyriac (File No. 254/SEIAA/KL/1112/2014)

The Committee verified the additional clarifications/documents submitted by the proponent and the following discrepancies were noted on the same:

1. The proponent has provided land tax receipts for Sy. Nos. 464/14-2 (in the name of Soumya), 463/2 (in the name of Rosamma), 465/1 (in the name of Alice Varghese) and 466/2 (in the name of Mathen Varghese). ***But Sy. No. 466/2 is in the name of Sri. Mathen Varghese whereas in the application it is stated as belonging to Mathew Varghese. Also, the said Sy. No. is marked as 'chira/purayidam' in the land tax receipt whereas in the mahassar (which is not found to be prepared by Village Officer or any such authorized person), the nature of land is recorded as purayidam.***
2. Consent from Sri. Mathew Varghese for dumping the removed earth in Sy. No. 466/2 provided. It is also stated that his sisters, Lisamma Varghese, Thresiamma Varghese & Mariamma Juby have given Power of Attorney to him and that his mother Alice Varghese and his brother James Varghese have given their consents to him for doing transactions with respect to Sy. No. 466/2. Accordingly, the proponent has provided copies of consent from James Varghese & Alice Varghese and Power of Attorney given by Mariamma Juby, Lissamma Varghese & Thresiamma Varghese. ***But as per the land tax receipt, Sy. No. 466/2 is in the name of Mathen Varghese and no valid document to prove that the above said persons (Lisamma Varghese, Thresiamma Varghese, Mariamma Juby, Mathew Varghese Alice Varghese and James Varghese) have the right to give consent to do any act with respect to Sy. No. 466/2 which is in the name of Mathen Varghese is not provided.***
3. ***As reported in the mahassar, mud removed from Sy. No. 464/1 is seen dumped in Sy. Nos. 466/2, 465/1 and Sy. No. 464/14-2. This needs clarification as to whether mud has been already removed from Sy. No. 464/1, as the proponent has now only sought clearance for removal of earth from Sy. No. 464/1 to be deposited in Sy. Nos. 466/2, 465/1 and Sy. No. 464/14-2. The mahassar is also not found to be prepared by Village Officer or any such authorized person.***

The Committee found the survey numbers shown for dumping of earth to be either paddy field or chira (pond). The Committee was of the opinion that dumping of earth in such areas cannot be allowed. Hence the proponent is directed to show alternative sites so that dumping of earth shall not cause environmental impacts or to any authorized agencies.

Considering the above, the item is DEFERRED directing the proponent to provide necessary clarifications/documents for items (1) to (3) above and to show alternative sites so that dumping of earth shall not cause environmental impacts or to any authorized agencies, for further consideration of the proposal.

Item No. 27.03

Environmental clearance for river sand mining from Bharathapuzha, Chalakkudipuzha and Karuvannurpuzha in Thrissur District, Kerala submitted

The proposal and documents submitted by the proponent were considered. Taking into account the environmental protection measures being adopted so far and considering the urgency in the requirement of construction material and taking a lenient view not to hamper the developmental needs of the state, the Committee RECOMMENDED the project for Environmental Clearance (EC) which shall be VALID UP TO 31ST MAY 2014 on the following conditions:

1. The depth of sand mining should not exceed the water level at summer.
2. The quantity of sand removed during the period(s) of EC validity, should not exceed the quantity removed during the corresponding period in 2013.
3. Mining of sand in the Coastal Regulation Zone shall be as per the guidelines stipulated by the KCZMA.
4. Summer water level must be fixed with reference to a permanent point (bench mark) by levelling and should be recorded for future reference. At least two such points must exist in each Panchayath.
5. Sand mining in rivers can be permitted in future only after consideration of recent sand audit reports. In this context, the reports of sand audits (that is under completion) should be speeded up and the reports must be made available before 31st August 2014.
6. The conditions under Para 1 (iii) (a) to (e) stipulated in the O.M. dt. 24th December 2013 of MoEF for river sand mining should be complied with. Items mentioned under Chapter 3 of the Kerala Protection of River Bank and Regulation of Removal of Sand Act 2001 should be followed, unless repugnant with the conditions in the O.M. dt. 24th December 2013.
7. Sand auditing of all the rivers in the district should be completed before 31st July 2014.
8. Online e-management system should only be resorted for sand distribution.
9. All the other statutory clearances as is required should be obtained.

Item No. 27.04

Environmental clearance for river sand mining in Kozhikode District, Kerala submitted by District Collector, Kozhikode (File No. 234/SEIAA/KL/846/2014)

The proposal and documents submitted by the proponent were considered. Taking into account the environmental protection measures being adopted so far and considering the urgency in the requirement of construction material and taking a lenient view not to hamper the developmental needs of the state, the Committee RECOMMENDED the project for Environmental Clearance (EC) which shall be VALID UP TO 31ST MAY 2014 on the following conditions:

1. The depth of sand mining should not exceed the water level at summer at summer.
2. The quantity of sand removed during the period(s) of EC validity, should not exceed the quantity removed during the corresponding period in 2013.
3. Mining of sand in the Coastal Regulation Zone shall be as per the guidelines stipulated by the KCZMA.
4. Summer water level must be fixed with reference to a permanent point (bench mark) by levelling and should be recorded for future reference. At least two such points must exist in each Panchayath.
5. Sand mining in rivers can be permitted in future only after consideration of recent sand audit reports. In this context, the reports of sand audits (that is under completion) should be speeded up and the reports must be made available before 31st August 2014.
6. The conditions under Para 1 (iii) (a) to (e) stipulated in the O.M. dt. 24th December 2013 of MoEF for river sand mining should be complied with. Items mentioned under Chapter

3 of the Kerala Protection of River Bank and Regulation of Removal of Sand Act 2001 should be followed, unless repugnant with the conditions in the O.M. dt. 24th December 2013.

7. Sand auditing of all the rivers in the district should be completed before 31st July 2014.
8. Online e-management system should only be resorted for sand distribution.
9. All the other statutory clearances as is required should be obtained.

Item No. 27.05

Environmental clearance for river sand mining from Periyar river and Muvattupuzha in Ernakulam District, Kerala submitted by District Collector, Ernakulam (File No. 246/SEIAA/KL/979/2014)

The proposal and documents submitted by the proponent were considered. Taking into account the environmental protection measures being adopted so far and considering the urgency in the requirement of construction material and taking a lenient view not to hamper the developmental needs of the state, the Committee RECOMMENDED the project for Environmental Clearance (EC) which shall be VALID UP TO 31ST MAY 2014 on the following conditions:

1. The depth of sand mining should not exceed the water level at summer.
2. The quantity of sand removed during the period(s) of EC validity, should not exceed the quantity removed during the corresponding period in 2013.
3. Mining of sand in the Coastal Regulation Zone shall be as per the guidelines stipulated by the KCZMA.
4. Summer water level must be fixed with reference to a permanent point (bench mark) by levelling and should be recorded for future reference. At least two such points must exist in each Panchayath.
5. Sand mining in rivers can be permitted in future only after consideration of recent sand audit reports. In this context, the reports of sand audits (that is under completion) should be speeded up and the reports must be made available before 31st August 2014.
6. The conditions under Para 1 (iii) (a) to (e) stipulated in the O.M. dt. 24th December 2013 of MoEF for river sand mining should be complied with. Items mentioned under Chapter 3 of the Kerala Protection of River Bank and Regulation of Removal of Sand Act 2001 should be followed, unless repugnant with the conditions in the O.M. dt. 24th December 2013.
7. Sand auditing of all the rivers in the district should be completed before 31st July 2014.
8. Online e-management system should only be resorted for sand distribution.
9. All the other statutory clearances as is required should be obtained.

Item No. 27.06

Any other approved by Chair

None.

The meeting concluded at 12.30 pm with a vote of thanks by the Chair. The members unanimously responded with thanks to the Chair.
