

Minutes of the meeting of the High level Monitoring Committee held on 5th March 2009 at 11-00 am.

Persons Present –

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| 1. Shri B.N.Bahadur | Chairman |
| 2. Dr.R.P.Jagdale, | Member |
| 3. Dr. Vijay Paranjpe | Member |
| 4. Shri.P.K.Mirashe, Representative of Secretary Environment Govt. of Maharashtra, | Member |
| 5. Smt.Naik Deputy Director, Town Planning, Pune Division | Member |
| 6. Representative of Director, Municipal Admn. | Member |
| 7. Shri.R.K.Pole, Conservator of Forests, Kolhapur circle Kolhapur | Member |
| 8. Shri.V.V.Deshmukh, Collector Satara | Member Secretary |

Other Officers-

1. Asst.Director. Town Planning, Satara
2. Sub Divisional officer,Wai Div.Wai
3. Representative of Suptt. of Police Satara
4. Senior Giologist,Ground Water Servey Satara.
5. Dy.Regional officer, Pollution Control Board Satara
6. Dy. Excutive Engineer,PWD (West) Satara.
7. Dy.R.T.O. Satara.
8. Tahasildar Mahabaleshwar
9. Chief Officer, Mahabaleshwar Municipal Council
10. Chief Officer, Panchagani Municipal Council
11. Manager, M.T.D.C. Mahabaleshwar
12. Representative of Police Inspector Mahabaleshwar
13. District Superintendent of Land Record Satara.
14. Taluka Inspector of Land Record Mahabaleshwar

Firstly Member Secretary Collector Satara,welcome the Hon'ble Chairman and all the Committee Members.

Chairman of the committee requested all the members to introduce themselves . After introduction of every member Chairman appealed to the

दिनांक 9/7/2009 चे सत्राव्यये मागणी केलेली के.मा.स. 2005 सन्ध्ये पुनर्पिणेची माहिती.

members that instead of going into individual cases we will first discuss what is the role of Committee and what is mandatory by the notification. Then Mr. Jagdale told that we must know the status of Regional Plan, Zonal Plan, Sub Zonal Plan, Tourism Plan, then and then we will go ahead.

The Collector, Member Secretary told that the regional plan has already been submitted to the Government and after the state Government's approval it will go to Central Government for final sanction.

Dy. Director of Town Planning Pune Division told that though preparation of tourism plan was mandatory according to Ecosensitive Zone Notification it has yet not been prepared by tourism department.

The question was raised by the chairman about the implementation of the provision of the regional plan, that which provisions are presently in force. Collector, Member Secretary explained that we consider the stringent provisions while sanctioning any proposal in this region.

Dy. Director of Town Planning Pune Division confirmed this applicability by stating that section 46 of M.R.T.P. Act 1956 says that stringent provision shall be applied when there is ambiguity in provisions.

2. Tourism Plan :- All the members opined that tourism plan should be the part of regional plan. It must be prepared by considering all the facts, carrying capacity of the region. It is the duty of the Tourism Dept. of Government of Maharashtra to prepare the plan and it should be submitted to Ministry of Environment and Forest, New Delhi for final sanction. After considering the points raised in the discussion with the members, Chairman directed to the member secretary to keep followup with tourism dept. to get tourism master plan prepared as early as possible because tourism season has extended and he also suggested that Secretary Tourism be invited for the next meeting to discuss the above issue. Collector pointed out the fact that though the tourism plan has not been prepared by the tourism dept. the tourism aspect was considered while preparing the regional plan.

Mr.Jagdale, member, pointed out that without tourism master plan, regional plan may not be sanctioned by the Ministry of Environment and Forest, New Delhi.

3. The Conservator of forest told that roads passing through the forest are a cannot be widened without prior approval. There are very few approach roads to Mahabaleshwar. and no extra roads be permitted through forest. Only existing road can be strengthened and widened.Hon.Chairman opined that it can be considered if required and proposal for approval may be send.

4. Members asked about the position of the Development Plan in Panchgani and Mahabaleshwar Municipal Council. Chief Officer, Panchgani told that the Draft Development Plan prepared by Town Planning is presently with Municipal Council and we are working on that. In next few days Draft Development Plan will be submitted in general body of Municipal Council. Chief Officer of Mahabaleshwar Municipal Council told that the Draft Development Plan is under preparation with Dy.Director of Town Planning .

5. Mr.Mirashe, Representative of Secretary, Environment Govt. of Maharashtra, told that almost every hotel in regional plan has complied with Sewage Treatment Plant, but Mahabaleshwar Municipal Council has not complied so far. Member Secretary, Collector explained that STP work in Mahabaleshwar is in progress. We have alloted the Government land for STP but later it was noticed that Taluka Inspector Land Record of Mahabaleshwar in his report to the Hon.High Court included the said land as a forests though we have specifically allotted the land for the STP without any green coverage. The Bombay Environment Action Group (beag) has also objected the said allotment of land for STP as it is a forest area. Hence, after enquiry we have stayed the land allotment order.

6. Chief Officer Mahabaleshwar pointed out to the Committee that there are land problems for Mahabaleshwar Municipal Council to start any new project (Burial ground). Chairman opined that clear land problem must be a big issue. and the land for burial ground must be obtained by clearing all the neccessary steps required because it is sentimental issue.

Issues discussed in meeting

sr.no	Issue discussed	Direction of Committee
1	Seepage in Dhangarwada (forest area):- member Shri.Paranjpe suggest that soak pit can be taken in that area with the help of Municipal Council but Collector pointed out that the Dhangarwada is out of Municipal Council area hence Municipal Council cannot do the soak pit.	Conservator of Forests and Pollution Control Board shall visit the place and get with the reasonable solution
2	Bread and breakfast :- licence under bread and breakfast scheme are issued by M.T.D.C. Shri.Paranjpe,member pointed out that without considering the provisions in Regional Plan, permissions are given by M.T.D.C.and accordingly some owners have started illegal business like Hotel,Restaurant etc.	Provision in the regional plan must be followed scrupiously by M.T.D.C. while granting such licences and Collector shall write to the Managing Director M.T.D.C. pointing out the provision in the regional plan. Collector also pointed out that N.O.C. from Collector is necessary before granting such licences.
3	Amusement park :- Committee Members and Chairman sought information about the necessity about the Committees approval. The Collector pointed out that according to provision in the Ecosensitive Zone notification it is manadatory for any tourism project to get clearnce from High Level Monitoring Committee until the tourism master plan gets fianalised by the Ministry of Environment & Forests,New Delhi .	Chairman directed that all the individual cases before coming to this Committee must be thoroughly scrutinized sething out the brief of the case, ,provision related and necessity of approval by this Committee and also directed that the applicant must give presentation to the Committee henceforth.
4	Solid waste :- Committee Member Shri.Paranjpe point out that due to use of plastic carry bags, bottles it is becoming very dangerous to this zone. Even some agriculturist cultivating strawberry crops are using plastic papers as a mulching. Plastic can not be decomposed in soil.Mr.Paranjpe also pointed out that use of pesticides is	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Orginic farming be encouraged. 2. Environment Dept.(State of Mah.) must find the solution for the disposal of plastic of less than 50 micron. and greater

	increasing day by day. This is also very harmful to Ecosensitive Zone .	than 50 micron. 3. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board shall study the use of pesticide and submit a report and propose a suitable solution in this regard.
5	Natural water :- Members pointed out that natural water being misutilised and diverted from its original source.	Tahasildar Mahabaleshwar should take care by regular visiting such locations and he must take strict action against those who breach the law.

Suggestion by Member Secretary, Collector Satara-

Ecosensitive Zone notification applies to old Mahabaleshwar Tahasil and five villages in old Jaoli Tahasil including Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani Municipal Council. Land owners from Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani Municipal Council generally approach to the Collector Office for sanctioning their layout, building plan etc. But the owner from remaining area (rural area) are not approaching the Collector's Office to get approval to their building plan, layout etc. because their area may be very small. They carry out construction, changes in the existing structure without permission. The local governing body i.e. Grampanchayat is unable to control this type of unauthorised or illegal constructions because it has no technical manpower or machinery. Therefore it is suggested that there must be task force comprising of officers from Public Work Dept., Town Planning, Taluka Inspector of Land Record, Revenue Dept, Forest Dept, with ample funds and machinery. An Authority like P.M.R.D.A., M.M.R.D.A., can be useful in the long run for effective implementation of the provision of the Ecosensitive Zone. Chairman welcomed the suggestion given by the Collector and asked for the submission of a detailed proposal about the task force.

The Member Secretary has put some individual cases before this Committee. But the Chairman and Committee member unanimously said that the

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cases which does not require approval of High Level Monitoring Committee and the cases which does not fall within the preview of the Committee hence forth shall not be brought before this Committee. If the provision or Act empowers the Collector or any competent authority shall go ahead with his authority, there is no need to bring the cases before this Committee unnecessarily.

There being no other matter the meeting terminated with a Vote of Thanks to the Chairman.

sd/-
Member Secretary
High level Monitoring Committee &
Collector Satara

sd/-
Chairman,
High level Monitoring Committee

By U.P.S.C.

Collectorate Satara
No.RB/Mwar/LND/WS/275/09
Satara :- 1/7/2009

To,

2/- For information and necessary action.


For Collector Satara

A1 P 50001

No.J-20011/7/98-IA.III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003.

Dated 27th August, 2009

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Reconstitution of High Level Monitoring Committee under the Notification No. S.O. No. 52 (E) dated 17th January, 2001 (Mahableswar - Panchgani as an Eco-Sensitive Region).

In partial modification to the Office Memorandum No. J-20011/7/98-IA.III dated 24th April, 2008, the following changes have been made:

In place of Shri B.N. Bahadur, Chairman, the name of Shri Devrat Mehta, IAS (Retired), (404, Shalaka, Maharshi Karve Road, Mumbai - 400 021) has been included as Chairman and Dr. Farrokh Framji Wadia, Ex-Member of the first Regional Planning Board constituted by Government of Maharashtra in 1983, (8, Nagar Road, Yeravada, Pune - 411 006) has been included as Special Invitee of the said Committee.

This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

G.V. Subrahmanyam
(Dr. G.V. Subrahmanyam)
Adviser
Tele No. 24364594

To:-

1. Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
3. Chairman and the Members of the Monitoring Committee.
4. Guard File.

Copy to:

1. PS to MOS (I/C) Env. & Forests
2. PPS to Secretary (E&F)
3. PPS to AS (BSP)