

**MINUTES OF THE 4TH MEETING OF THE WEST BENGAL STATE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (WBSCZMA) HELD ON 24TH DECEMBER, 2010 AT 11 A.M IN THE INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES & WETLAND MANAGEMENT AT DD-24, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA – 700 064.**

The following Members attended the meeting :

- 1) Shri Sandipan Mukherjee, Member Secretary, West Bengal Pollution Control Board
- 2) Shri Somnath Bhattacharyya, Senior Scientist, Institute of Environmental Studies & Wetland Management
- 3) Dr. S.P. Sinha Roy, Convenor, Arsenic Task Force in West Bengal
- 4) Shri S. Chanda, Representative of PCCF(Wildlife).
- 5) Representative of Principal Secretary, Department of Sundarban Affairs.
- 6) Prof. Subrata Maity, Professor in Seed Science and Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalay
- 7) Shri Debal Ray, Chief Environment Officer, Environment Department.

**INVITEE**

1. Shri Arijit Banerjee, Senior Environment Officer, Environment Department
2. Representative from Relogistics Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.

1. The Chairman welcomed everybody and initiated the discussion. At first Relogistics Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. was requested to make a presentation of their project. M/s. Relogistics made a power point presentation of the entire project with special emphasis on the part of the pipeline that passes through West Bengal. They showed in details the area where the proposed pipeline crosses different rivers/ tidal creeks in West Bengal and the method to be adopted for laying the pipeline. This was followed by a video showing the methodology of work to be adopted by them.
  - The members of the State Coastal Zone Management Authority (SCZMA) after thorough discussion consented to give State CRZ Clearance and refer the matter to National Coastal Zone Management Authority for further action. In addition to usual conditions, 2(two) special conditions were imposed as given below -
  - M/s. Relogistics Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. will take separate permission from Forest Department for cutting down of the trees.
  - They shall take concurrence of the Kolkata Port Trust before undertaking HDD work in order to prevent any disruption to Haldia Dock Complex.
- 2) Clearance to Hotels – Documents submitted by Sonali Beach Resorts Pvt. Ltd. Digha, and Hotel Belanibas P.S. Ramnagar, Purba Medinipur claiming that they came into existence at a date prior to notification of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 was examined by SCZMA. It was found that the documents submitted are either not valid or not in the name of hotels.
  - Therefore, the Authority concluded that these documents cannot be taken as a proof of the hotel's existence at a date prior to CRZ Notification, 1991.

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- 3) Executive Officer, Digha Sankarpur Development Authority vide a letter dt. 24th November, 2009 forwarded a list of construction in violation of CRZ Notification. 40 Properties apparently are within 500 meters from HTL at Digha Coast line while 15 Properties (New construction) are within 200 meters of HTL at Digha Coastal area.
- The Members, SCZMA discussed about the letters and agreed upon following actions :
- Institute of Environmental Studies & Wetland Management or any other suitable agency shall be requested to determine the actual nature of CRZ Violation.
  - F.I.R. should be lodged against the units who have violated the CRZ norms.
  - West Bengal Pollution Control Board shall be requested to examine whether 'Consent to Establish' and 'Consent to Operate' permission has been issued to these units. If not, legal action may be initiated under 'The Air(Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act,1981' & 'The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act,1974' against these units by WBPCB.
  - District Magistrate, Purba Medinipur may be requested to take legal action for violation of CRZ Notification,1991 under Environment(Protection)Act,1986.
- 4) CRZ Violation in Sundarban – Recently some instance of CRZ violation for construction of Eco-tourism Centre has come to the notice of the SCZMA. The Regional Office, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, Bhubaneswar conducted an independent survey of such violation and forwarded a list to SCZMA,W.B. It was discussed in the meeting and it was resolved that following actions may be initiated for the violators –
- Institute of Environmental Studies & Wetland Management or any other suitable agency shall be requested first to determine the actual nature of CRZ Violation.
  - F.I.R. should be lodged against the units who have violated the CRZ norms.
  - West Bengal Pollution Control Board shall be requested to examine whether 'Consent to Establish' and 'Consent to Operate' permission has been issued against these units. If not, legal action may be initiated under 'The Air(Prevention and Control of Pollution)Rules,1982' & 'The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act against these units by WBPCB.
  - District Magistrate, South 24 Parganas, may be requested to take legal action for violation of CRZ Notification,1991 under Environment(Protection)Act,1984.
  - SCZMA shall try to sensitize Gram Panchayats and Panchayat Samities regarding provision of 'Coastal Regulation Zone'.
  - SCZMA should be a party in the case initiated by the Block Development Officer, Gosaba against these units

- Environment Department shall try to engage one lawyer for all environment related cases.

5) Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan

- The letter from MoEF regarding the ICZM Plan prepared by School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University and the reply to that prepared by Prof. Sugata Hazra was circulated to all the members. The members requested for time to go through it and promised to send their comments through letter, e-mail etc.✓

6) Re-issue of CRZ Clearance to Haldia Energy Limited

- Haldia Energy Limited requested to re-issue the CRZ Clearance from the name of CESC to Haldia Energy Limited was considered and approved by SCZMA.

7) Professor Subrata Maity, Member of SCZMA suggested that West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority should impose processing fee for all the proposal received by the Authority. It was brought to the notice of the Chairman that Maharashtra State Coastal Zone Management Authority and some other Authority do the same.

- It was resolved after discussion to adopt processing fees at following rates -

<u>Processing Fees</u>	<u>Investment in the Project</u>
Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 1 crore - up to Rs.5 crore
Rs. 20,000/-	Above Rs.5 crores - upto Rs.50 crores
Rs. 25,000/-	Above Rs.50 crores and re-demarcation/ reclassification / public consultation

This will be effective from the calendar year 2011.

As there was no further matter to be discussed, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks.



(K.S. Rajendra Kumar)  
Additional Chief Secretary  
Environment Department  
&

Chairman,  
West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority