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State Environment Impact Assessment Authority
West Bengal
Minutes of SEIAA Meeting
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Subject: **8th meeting of SEIAA (Reconstituted on 17.05.2023)**

Venue:- **Office Chamber of Chief Environment Officer, Environment Department, Prani Sampad Bhavan, 5th Floor, LB Block, Sector III, Salt Lake, Kolkata 700106.**

From :- **11 July 2023**

To :- **11 July 2023**

CONSIDERATION/RECONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

(1) Proposed Residential, mercantile and MLCP project near Vega Circle Mall, Sevok Road, at Plot no. (LR) – 555, 611, Plot no. (RS) – 82, 82/298, 81/297, Khatian no. (LR) – 545, 2516, Khatian no. (RS) – 282/1, 282/3, 282/5, JL No.- 02, Mouza- Dabgram, Parganas- Baikunthapur, P.S.- Bhaktinagar, District- Jalpaiguri, under Siliguri Municipal Corporation, West Bengal by **M/s. Shree Vinayak Constructions.**

Proposal No. :- SIA/WB/MIS/257178/2022, File No. : EN/T-II-1/008/2022, Type-EC

INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. **SIA/WB/MIS/257178/2022** dated **17 February 2022** seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. **8(a) Building and Construction projects** under Category "**B2**" of EIA Notification 2006.

Earlier the proposal was forwarded by SEAC to SEIAA on 17.11.2022 for rejection. SEIAA considered the matter in the 88th meeting held on 21.02.2023. The project proponent (PP) was intimated to submit NOC / clearance from Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal. The reply from PP dated 13.04.2023 was considered by SEIAA in its 95th meeting held on 20.04.2023 and observed that the Chief Wildlife Warden vide his Memo No. 822/WL/2W-682(Part-IV)/2022 dated 27.03.2023 has informed that the proposed project site is about 6 km. from the boundary of Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary and hence the said project site is beyond the notified area of the eco sensitive zone of Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary. Therefore, the case was referred back to SEAC for reappraisal.

The project site was again inspected by the WBPCB on 18.01.2023, wherein it was observed that the PP had already initiated construction activity for the proposed towers for which EC application was made.

Based on the report of inspection of WBPCB dated 18.01.2023 and also the letter from Chief Wildlife Warden vide his Memo No. 822/WL/2W-682(Part-IV)/2022 dated 27.03.2023, the SEAC during its 1st meeting held on 31.05.2023, observed that the PP had already initiated construction activity for its proposed project which is a gross violation of EIA Notification, 2006 and its amendments. Therefore, the SEAC recommended that the present application for EC may be rejected and the PP should apply afresh for ToR under violation category.

PROJECT DETAILS

The project of **M/s. Shree Vinayak Constructions** located in as follows :

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Jalpaiguri

DELIBERATION IN SEIAA

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC regarding the commencement of the construction activity by the PP without obtaining EC which puts the project under violation category.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

The project proponent is required to appear for a hearing before the SEIAA, WB before a final decision on EC application is taken.

CONCLUSION

Deferred for further consideration.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Discussion on order of Hon'ble NGT dated 11.04.2023 in O.A. No. 38/2023/EZ.

The matter was discussed by SEIAA in its 1st meeting held on 30.05.2023 and it was decided to request the Dept. of Industry, Commerce and Enterprise to examine the allegation raised by the petitioner in Case No. O.A. No. 38/2023/EZ particularly the order issued by Chief Mining Officer dated 09.01.2023 and 17.01.2023 and convey their findings to SEIAA within next two weeks for timely compliance of Hon'ble NGT order dated 11.04.2023.

Dept. of Industry, Commerce and Enterprises, Mines Branch submitted observations vide their letter No. 437-ICE-12013(12)/7/2023-MINES dated 07.07.2023.

After detailed discussion, the reasoned order was prepared.