

**State Environment Impact Assessment Authority
West Bengal
Minutes of SEIAA Meeting**

Subject: 57th meeting of SEIAA
Venue:- Conference Room of Environment Department, Prani Sampad Bhavan, 5th Floor, LB - Block, Sector - III, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700106
From :- 29th April 2022
To :- 29th April 2022

1. Meeting under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, MoEF&CC held on 29.04.2022 at 11:00 a.m. through VC to review issues related to EC with States / UTs.

The meeting started at 11:00 a.m. convened by Secretary, MoEF&CC. Chairman and Member Secretary from a majority of the states participated and deliberated in the meeting. The deliberations by the SEIAAs were made alphabetically based on the names of the states. A presentation was given by MoEF&CC mentioning new features in the PARIVESH portal and reforms made therein. PARIVESH-2 was also announced to be launched soon.

Chairman, SEIAA, WB highlighted the following issues:-

- i. The pendency of EC cases reflected in the portal are mainly due to sand mining cases, which could not be appraised nor processed due to incomplete applications. In none of the cases of sand mining applications, the approved DSRs are available.

The rest of the pendency is negligible and would be cleared soon. SEIAA, WB is also aiming for a zero pendency.

- ii. EC applications for stone crushing units could not be processed under the mining category in which the project proponent have applied. There is no provision for dealing / processing of EC applications under any other category in the portal.

NGT, Principle Bench in O.A No. 475/2016 dated 19.07.2017 and subsequent order in M.A. No. 13/2019 dated 31.01.2019 have directed that 'no stone crushers can be permitted to operate unless they obtain consent from the State PCB, proper NOC from concerned authorities and have Environment Clearance from the competent authority'.

Since stone crushing unit is not listed in any schedule of EIA Notification, 2006 (as amended) nor reflected in the portal, MoEF&CC was requested to include the same in the EIA Notification, 2006 as well as in the portal in order to comply with the directives of the Hon'ble NGT. The MoEF&CC agreed to include the same.

- iii. It was pointed out that there is no provision for cancellation / revocation of EC in the portal. In cases where the project proponent fails to comply with the EC conditions or violates EC conditions, the EC deserves to be cancelled / revoked. The MoEF&CC agreed to include and make such provisions in the portal.
- iv. It was mentioned that there is no infrastructure, office, support staffs for functioning of SEIAA, WB. This issue had been already raised with the MoEF&CC for their intervention in the matter, however, the same has not yet been resolved. In the absence of basic infrastructure and office, it is becoming extremely difficult for SEIAA, WB functioning.

2. Disposal of EC applications for mining of minor minerals.

Based on the deliberation made by the Chairman, SEIAA, WB, MoEF&CC opined that all EC applications for mining of minor minerals without DSR and other mandatory documents are required to be delisted. Thus, SEIAA decided to delist all pending 163 EC applications for mining of minor minerals. Out of 163 pending applications, 160 applications were submitted within 31.03.2022 and 3 applications were submitted after 31.03.2022. In view of Order No. 90-ICE/0/MIN/GEN-MIS/27/2021 dated 17.02.2022 issued by the Dept. of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Mines Branch, GoWB, the project proponents (PPs) who have applied within 31.03.2022 will have the option of relisting their application with appropriate and complete documents including approved DSR as per the existing provisions in the PARIVESH portal.

3. Dealing with High Court cases for disposal of EC applications for sand mining.

Based on the Order of Hon'ble Calcutta High Court in sand mining cases, Chief Environment Officer & Member Secretary, SEIAA is conducting hearing of the PP to dispose off the cases. MS, SEIAA is requested to place the list of such cases before SEIAA for ratification.

4. Hon'ble NGT O. A. No. 42/2022/EZ – Prabir Kr. Bose Vs State of West Bengal.

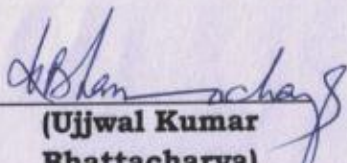
In view of the order of the NGT, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata in the case referred above, Prof. Indranath Sinha, Member, SEAC is nominated to represent SEIAA, WB in the committee.

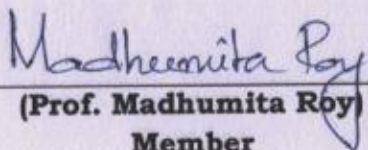
5. Discussion on online status of pending EC/ToR applications.

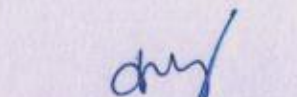
Based on the deliberation made by MoEF&CC and observing the present status of pendency of EC applications reflected in the PARIVESH Portal as on date, SEIAA, WB intend to take the following actions:-

Sl. No		SEAC	SEIAA	Total	Remarks
	Pendency	19	180	199	
1.	Deferred	11	4	15	To be placed in the subsequent SEIAA meeting at the earliest.
2.	Awaiting EC		3	3	2 projects to be uploaded. Other case should be placed in the next SEIAA meeting.
3.	Under examination of SEIAA after SEAC			3	Out of 3 pending cases, 2 are building projects and 1 is industry. 2 building projects to be placed in the next SEIAA meeting. Regarding the industry project of (Orissa Metaliks Pvt. Ltd.) it is observed that EC has already been issued. Different windows of PARIVESH portal are showing different status of the project. MS, SEIAA is requested to take up the matter with NIC & MoEF&CC urgently.
4.	Request for withdrawn		4	4	SEIAA will upload approval letter for withdrawal on 29.04.2022.
5.	Under examination of SEIAA		165 IND-2 / BLD-6 / MIN-163	165	163 applications will be delisted by 02.05.2022.
6.	Return to SEIAA		1	1	SEIAA has already rejected this case after

Sl. No		SEAC	SEIAA	Total	Remarks
	Pendency	19	180	199	
					hearing. Since there is no option for rejection in the portal for this case, SEIAA will delist the application by 02.05.2022.
7.	Minutes uploaded by SEAC	2		2	SEAC is requested to take appropriate action and SEIAA will delist on the recommendation of SEAC
8.	Agenda uploaded by SEAC	6		6	


 (Ujjwal Kumar
 Bhattacharya)
 Chairman


 (Prof. Madhumita Roy)
 Member


 (K. Balamurugan)
 Member Secretary