

WEST BENGAL STATE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

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No. ^{EN/}1553/T-II-4/03/2020

Date : 08/9/2021

To:-

1. The Addl. Chief Secretary, Deptt. of Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Govt. of W.B. — **Member**
2. The Principal Secretary, Deptt. of Fisheries, Govt. of WB — **Member**
3. The Principal Secretary, Deptt. of Sundarban Affairs, Govt. of W.B. — **Member**
4. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Director, Sundarban Biosphere Reserve, Directorate of Forests, Govt. of W.B. — **Member**
5. Sri Sandip Chatterjee, Ex-Engineer-in-Chief, Deptt. of Public Health Engineering, Govt. of W.B. — **Member**
6. Dr. Prathasarathi Chakraborty, Former Chief Scientist, Geo-informatics and RS Cell, Deptt. of Science & Technology, Govt. of W.B. — **Member**
7. Smt. Sumita Bagchi, Additional Secretary, UD&MA Department — **Member**
8. Director, School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur university, Kol-32.

Sir,

I have been instructed to forward the minutes of the 13th meeting of West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority held with Indian Coast Guard on 23 August, 2021 regarding setting up of Radar Station at Junput, Purba Medinipur District.

Jah

Senior Environment Officer,
Deptt. of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal,

No. ^{EN/1553/1(9)/}T-II-4/03/2020

Date : 8/9/2021

Copy forwarded to:

- 1) Addl. Chief Secretary, Deptt. of Science and Technology & Biotechnology, Bikash Bhavan, 4th Floor, Kol-91,
- 2) Member Secretary, West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Paribesh Bhawan, Salt Lake.
- 3) Smt. Neelam Meena, Director, Institute of Environmental Studies and Wetland Management.
- 4) The District Magistrate, Purba Medinipur.
- 5) Prof. Sugata Hazra, School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University, Kol-32.
- 6) Sri Samir Biswas, WBCS(Exe.), Joint Director (Surveys).
- 7) Sri Pankaj Verma, DIG of Indian Coast Guard, In-charge of West Bengal
- 8) Sri Biplab Mukhopadhyay, Deputy Secretary, (Works), Irrigation & Waterways Deptt. Govt. of W.B. Jalasampad Bhavan, 3rd Floor, Kolkata-91.
- 9) Smt. Abha Garg on behalf of Mantras Green Resource Ltd. Nashik Maharashtra.

Jah

Senior Environment Officer,
Deptt. of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal,

MINUTES OF THE 13th MEETING OF WEST BENGAL STATE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (WBSCZMA) HELD ON 23 AUGUST 2021 WITH INDIAN COAST GUARD REGARDING SETTING UP OF RADAR STATION AT JUNPUT, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF ENVIRONMENT DEPTT, GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

The following officials attended the meeting:

1. Sri K. Balamurugan, Chief Environment Officer & Member Secretary, WBSCZMA – Member
2. Smt. Neelam Meena, Director, Institute of Environmental Studies and Wetland Management
3. Smt. Tripti Sah, Senior Environment Officer, Environment Department

The following officials attended the meeting on behalf of project proponents:

4. Shri Pankaj Verma, DIG of Indian Coast Guard, in charge of West Bengal.
5. Shri Deepak Singh, Commandant, Officer-in-Charge ROS (HLD), No.8, Coast Guard (WB), Anchorage Camp, Haldia, PIN-721605.
6. Smt. Abha Garg on behalf of Mantras Green Resources Ltd, Nashik, Maharashtra (Consultant of Indian Coast Guard)

The following experts were virtually present:

7. Dr Parthasarathi Chakrabarti, Former Chief Scientist, Geo-informatics and RS Cell, Deptt. of Science & Technology, GoWB. — Member
8. Sri Piar Chand, Addl. PCCF & Director, Sundar Biosphere Reserve, West Bengal.
9. Prof. Sugata Hazra, Ex- Director, School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University
10. Mr. Sandip Chatterjee, Ex-Engineer in Chief, PHED.

Agenda:

The agenda of the meeting was CRZ clearance for “Setting up of Radar Station under CSN Project (Phase-II) by Indian Coast Guard, Ministry of Defence”, at J.L No.-583, R.S Plot No.-481/643, P.S- Contai Junput, Mouza Birampur, District -Purba Medinipur (West Bengal).

Proceedings:

The Chief Environment Officer and Member Secretary WBSCZMA chaired the meeting. He welcomed all and initiated the discussion.

Project Brief:

The Project Proponent (PP), Indian Coast Guard, Ministry of Defence, Government of India made a detailed powerpoint presentation on the proposed project where they mentioned that the Indian Coast Guard is implementing an Integrated Coastal Surveillance System along the Coast line of India for ensuring maritime security. The Integrated Coastal Surveillance System includes a chain of Radar stations to track movement of ships and fishing boats plying in the Indian waters round the clock in the aftermath of terror attack on Mumbai on 26th Nov 2008. They stated that it is a defence project but not a classified defence project.

As part of Coastal Surveillance System a Radar station and allied technical facilities are planned to be installed at J.L No.- 583, R.S Plot No.-481/643, P.S- Contai, Junput, Mouza-Birampur, Dist-Purba Medinipur, West Bengal at a cost of Rs. 1.3076 Crore. The Radar Station laden with state-of-the-art technology will be set up on the South-Eastern side of the area of interest to give clear visibility of the Sundarbans up to Bangladesh border for optimum surveillance. The physical possession of vacant land measuring 01 acre has already been transferred from Govt. of West Bengal to Ministry of Defence for the purpose of setting up of radar station under this project by the Indian Coast Guard. However, the AoI delineated by IESWM as per geographic co-ordinates mentioned in IRS, Anna University report which was also confirmed by Coast Guard comes to 1.28 acres.

per the accompanied report prepared by IESWM, based on MoEF&CC approved CZMP, 2011 as per CRZ notification, 2011 the Area of Interest (AoI) falls under the following CRZ categories.

SL	DESCRIPTION	AREA (sqm)	AREA (percent)
1	TOTAL AREA OF INTEREST (AOI)	5197.4393	100%
2	MUDFLAT (CRZ-IA)	5137.8859	98.85%
3	INTERTIDAL ZONE (CRZ-IB)	59.5534	1.15%

Deliberation:

After the presentation the following issues were raised by WBSCZMA:

- (1) The CZM experts mentioned about the discrepancy in HTL and LTL and requested the PP to correct it.
- (2) The experts questioned the need for setting up the project so close to the sea and whether it would be feasible to shift the project landwards in order to protect the structure from storm surges, cyclones and other natural hazards.
- (3) Under the Disaster Management Plan it is mentioned that planting of Casuarina would be taken up in the inter-tidal region. The experts stated that planting of Casurina as proposed by the Project Proponent is not feasible in the inter-tidal zone and suggested planting mangrove species for conserving the area.
- (4) Raising of the ground level with natural beach sand for rehabilitating the coastal region has been included by the Project Proponent as a protective measure to minimize the impact of cyclone, storms etc. WBSCZMA stated that use of sand from the project site cannot be allowed and if required, any such material would have to be procured from outside the CRZ area.
- (5) WBSCZMA opined that, creation of sandy ramps along the coast would not be allowed. Project Proponent was requested to modify the proposal accordingly.
- (6) As the area is highly prone to high wave, tsunami, cyclone and often remains submerged even during normal high tide, it was suggested that the platform on which the tower would be placed, should be raised to considerable height to protect the Radar Station from these natural hazards.
- (7) The experts enquired about the carriage of water to Project site and how the water tanker carrying water for project will ply on the mud roads of the village.
- (8) Solid waste generated will need to be disposed of outside the CRZ area.
- (9) For disposing liquid waste the experts suggested constructing bio- toilets in the construction site in place of toilets with soak pits.
- (10) Experts suggested exploring alternative avenues like installing the radar station upon a barge so that ecological balance of the area remains undisturbed.
- (11) Proper scale and direction need to be mentioned in the maps.

Reply from the Project Proponent:

In reply to the above queries the project proponent assured that they have experience in installing and operating close to 59 such Radar Stations, all along the coastline of the country and therefore a set of checks and balances for round the clock monitoring and for immediate rectification if needed in case of emergency, is already in place.

Beside this, the project proponent also agreed to :

- (i) Rectify the discrepancy regarding HTL in the presentation and in all future documents.
- (ii) It was assured that the mangrove and coconut plantation would be taken up in the area
- (iii) Regarding plying of water tankers, the Project Proponent stated that the tankers will ply through the pucca road and will stop 100 metres away from the project site, after which the transportation of water or other liquid materials will be done through pipeline to the project site.
- (iv) The Coast Guard assured that they will not use any beach sand or any other beach materials for construction purpose and will procure all the materials needed for construction from outside the CRZ area.

- Creation of sandy ramp would not be taken up in the area to minimise the project cost. Project Proponent will consult Civil Engineers regarding robust construction of the guard wall, raising platform as well as the total structure including the basement particularly to avoid all sorts of erosion or wave or cyclone related damage to the tower of the Radar station and the station itself.
- vii) To take necessary measures to dispose of solid waste and liquid waste as proposed by the experts.
 - viii) Regarding construction of Radar Station on a moving barge, the project proponent stated that the idea is not feasible because of its high operational cost.

The Coast Guard stated that the Radar Station has to be established close to the sea as it gives clear visibility for operation of radar and shifting landwards would degrade the performance of equipment.

Action Point:

The Project Proponent was directed to incorporate the suggestions and observations of WBSCZMA as discussed during the meeting. The meeting then ended with vote of thanks to and from the chair with a decision from the WBSCZMA to recommend the project to MoEF&CC for CRZ clearance with the following conditions as laid below along with the field compliance of above reply given by the Project Proponent.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

- i) CRZ norms as laid down in CRZ Notification, 2011 should be strictly followed.
- ii) Drawal of ground water within 200m of HTL is prohibited. In no case ground water should be extracted without permission of the Competent Authority under the West Bengal Ground Water Resources (Management, Control and Regulation) Act, 2005.
- iii) Liquid waste from this area should not be allowed to drain into the river without proper treatment.
- iv) The Proponent should abide by the Municipal Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2016. The Proponent must develop the solid waste management and disposal plan ensuring storage and segregation of bio-degradable and non-biodegradable wastes. The biodegradable wastes to be composted and used as manure. The inorganic wastes should be handed over to the Municipal Authority.
- v) The Proponent should strictly abide by The West Bengal Trees (Protection and Conservation in non-forest areas) Rules, 2007.
- vi) The Project Proponent shall submit a half yearly compliance report to WBSCZMA in respect of the stipulated terms and conditions in hard and soft copies on 1st July and 31st December each calendar year.
- vii) Adequate provisions for the infrastructure facilities including water supply and sanitation should be ensured for the labourers during the construction period in order to avoid damage to the surrounding environment. Medical aid facility to be made available quickly in case of an accident.
- viii) To construct bio- toilets to dispose of liquid wastes.
- ix) Construction materials and wastes including hazardous substances, if any, should not be allowed to pollute the surrounding land or aquatic environment as the case may be and should be disposed of as per prevalent rules.
- x) The noise level and the suspended particulate matters should be kept within permissible levels during construction as well as operation phase.
- xi) There should not be any removal of vegetative cover both during the establishment and operations stage, without the prior sanction of appropriate authority.
- xii) The WBSCZMA may monitor the implementation of the project at any stage. The authorised officials of the West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority shall have the power to inspect the sites to enforce the attendant conditions imposed by the State authority. The Authority reserves the right to add additional safeguard measures subsequently, if found necessary.
- xiii) Regular monitoring of the environmental parameters should be done to maintain environmental status of the area.

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

- i) The recommendation of CRZ clearance mentioned here is limited to a total of 1.28 acre falling within the Coastal Regulation Zone of West Bengal.
- ii) Green DG sets should be installed for controlling sound and gaseous emission.

- iii) Noise and vibration during construction & operation should be minimized through good working practices and management of working hours. Dust suppression should be done by sprinkling water wherever necessary.
- iv) PPE kits should be provided to the workers during construction. The first-aid kits should also be ensured at construction sites. Use of safety equipment like goggles, helmets etc. to be ensured compulsorily.
- v) Proper fire fighting equipment should be kept ready, regularly maintained and occasional drills to be carried out. Storage of fuel should be as per the Rules and guidelines laid down in relevant statutes.
- vi) Indigenous plants to be used for plantation in the area in collaboration with the Forest Department.
- vii) All vehicles, machinery and equipment to be engaged for construction would conform to relevant pollution standards.
- viii) Compensatory afforestation of suitable tree species 5 times that of the number of trees felled would have to be done with the Forest Department, in case of tree felling.
- ix) After completion of construction activities general clean up of area including inter tidal area should be undertaken.



Chief Environment Officer,
Dept. of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal,
& Member Secretary,
West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority