

Minutes of the first meeting of the Reconstituted State Coastal Zone Management Authority held on 11th September, 2002 at 3 p.m. at West Bengal Pollution Control Board

Members Present :-

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Hirak Ghosh, Pr. Secretary, Department of Environment | - | Chairman |
| 2. | Shri P. Sanyal, Addl. PCCF, Forest Department | - | Member |
| 3. | Prof. Sugata Hazra, Professor, Jadavpur University | - | Member |
| 4. | Shri Ravi Kant, Member Secretary, WBPCB | - | Member |
| 5. | Shri KJS Cheema, MS & PD, Sunderban Development Board | - | Member |
| 6. | Dr. M. Mukherjee, Dy. Director, Fisheries Department | - | Member |
| 7. | Dr. Dhrubajyoti Ghosh, CEO, Department of Environment | - | Member Secretary |

Shri Biswajit Mukherjee, Sr. Law Officer, WBPCB was present as an invitee.

Agenda 1. Opening of Bank Account :- It is resolved that a bank A/C will be opened in the name of "West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority". The bank A/C will be opened with the State Bank of India or any nationalised bank. The bank A/C will be operated jointly by

1. Dr. Dhrubajyoti Ghosh, Chief Environment Officer
2. Shri Subir Ghosh, Sr. Environment Officer

Agenda 2. Conversion of certain areas from CRZ-III to CRZ-II

This is in response to the proposal of the Digha Development Authority for redesignating certain sectors under the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) at Digha. The Digha Development Authority desires a number of sectors to be brought under the purview of CRZ-II in place of CRZ-III. These sectors are A-1, B-5, F-1, F-2 & H-1. The Chief Environment Officer reported his findings on the basis of a spot enquiry carried out during 13th -14th March, 2001. The Committee resolved that

- (i) In view of a large number of constructions having already come up, A-1 sector be construed as CRZ-II in place of CRZ-III.
- (ii) B-5 sector may be converted to CRZ-II in place of CRZ-III with the conditions that only holiday homes will be allowed in this sector and any extraction of ground water will require the permission of the Central Ground Water Board.

- 94
- (iii) F-1 sector will continue to be designated as CRZ-III. However the existing bus stand will continue to remain in the interest of the tourists.
 - (iv) At present Digha railway station is on this F-2 sector and therefore this sector should also be redesignated as CRZ-II in place of CRZ-III.
 - (v) H-1 sector is situated on the landward side of the foreshore road. This sector is also recorded as green area in the land use map recently completed by the urban development department. This sector should continue to be designated as CRZ-III.

Agenda 3. Violation of CRZ Notification

The Ministry of Environment & Forests had forwarded a list of violations of CRZ Notification (no. L-11011/12/94-IA III (vol.VII) dt. 24/26 December, 2001 for examination and reporting.

Representative of the Fisheries Director intimated that no such violation has taken place and it has already been informed to the Govt. of India.

Agenda 4. Sunderban as a Ramsar Site

The Ministry of Environment & Forests intimated the Department of Environment (D.O. No. J-22012/68/89-W dt. 30th May, 2002) to examine the prospect of declaring Sunderbans (Indian part) as Ramsar Site. The Bangladesh part of Sunderbans has already been declared as Ramsar Site.

The matter was discussed in details. The members wanted to know more about the obligations of the Govt. when a site is declared as Ramsar wetland site. Detailed information in this matter was sought before deciding on this agenda issue. The matter will be discussed in the next meeting.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.



Chairman