

STATE LEVEL EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE (SEAC), BIHAR

2nd Floor, BELTRON Bhawan, Shastri Nagar, Patna – 800023.

Ref. No. - 38

Patna Dated: - 10/02/2026

MINUTES OF 15th MEETING OF STATE LEVEL EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE (SEAC), BIHAR CONSTITUTED VIDE S.O. 5192(E) DATED 02.12.2024 of MoEF&CC, NEW DELHI

VENUE: SEIAA Office

DATE: 05.02.2026

Minutes/Proceeding of the Meeting

- 1. Opening Remarks of the Chairman:** In light of the constituted, the 15th meeting of SEAC, Bihar constituted vide S.O. No. 5192(E) dated 02.12.2024 of the MoEF&CC, GoI. started with the Chairman's welcome to the members. Thereafter, the meeting was started as per the agenda adopted for the meeting.
- 2. Confirmations of Minutes of 14th Meeting of State Expert Appraisal Committee held on 13.01.2026.** The State Expert Appraisal Committee, herein after referred to as SEAC, was informed that no representation has been received regarding projects considered in the meeting held on 13.01.2026. The minutes of the said SEAC meeting was confirmed by the Committee.
- 3. Consideration of Proposals:-**The SEAC considered the proposals which were related to Building and Construction Projects, Sand Mining Projects and Ordinary Soil / Brick Earth / Clay Mining Projects received as per the agenda adopted for the 15th meeting (15/2025) vide Ref. No. – 33, dated – 03.02.2026 the key points of the deliberations held were as follows.

Agenda Item No.- 01

Proposed Sand Mining Project of Jamui Barnar – 05 Sand Ghat on Barnar River at Mauza – Dumari, Block – Sono, District – Jamui, State – Bihar, (File No.- SIA/1(a)/2272/2023, Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/445759/2023).

Proponent:- M/s Brahmdeo Prasad.

Environment Consultant:- M/s P & M Solution.

Application along with filled up 'Form – I, Pre-feasibility report in the prescribed format and scrutiny fee were submitted to the SEIAA, Bihar on 30.01.2023 for obtaining Terms of Reference (ToR). The SEIAA, Bihar issued System Generated ToR Vide SIA/1(a)/2272/2023, dated 02.02.2023 and public hearing for the proposed project was conducted by Bihar State Pollution Control Board on 26.06.2023. Online Final EIA report was submitted by Project Proponent in the prescribed format to the SEIAA, Bihar on 25.09.2023 for obtaining Environmental Clearance.

The sand ghat under the proposal has been mentioned in the District Survey Report approved by the SEIAA, Bihar vide letter no. 268, dated 23.05.2022.

The SEAC discussed the proposal in the meeting dated 06.01.2024 (vide Ref. No. 20 dated 10.01.2024) the Project Proponent submitted a letter stating that due to short notice, he is unable to attend the meeting. Therefore, the committee deferred the proposal for the next meeting.

The SEAC again discussed the proposal in the meeting dated 06.05.2024 (vide Ref. No. 213 dated 07.05.2024) the committee after discussion decided to keep the screening of proposal on hold and refer the matter to Mines and Geology Dept. Govt. of Bihar for its opinion regarding the issue raised in the public consultation.

The reply has been received from District Collector, Jamui vide is Letter No. 30/M, dated 10.01.2026.

As mentioned in the said Letter of District Magistrate, Jamui report regarding impact of sand mining on the Ground Water Level was sought from the Central Ground Water Board, Patna. The Central Ground Water Board, Patna sent the report vide its Letter No. 227, dated 12.12.2025 wherein it has been reported that the Board has not carried out any special study on the effect of sand mining on Ground Water levels in Jamui district. However, it has informed that the Board monitors the ground water level four times in a year viz. January, May, August and November. The monitoring of May, 2025 has shows a fall in Sono and Khaira Blocks, wherein the said sand ghats are located in from 13.3 to 14.7 meter. The report says that the Klapel level of May, 2025 when compared to decadal mean

(May, 2015 – May, 2014) shows that 4 wells are showing a fall in water levels within 2 meter.

The District magistrate has enumerated four benefits from the sand mining in the ghat under consideration which are however, not related with the environment.

In the facts and circumstances, since no specific study has been done regarding impact of sand mining on the ground water level in Jamui district, there in absence of any scientific data, the claims made by the people cannot be sustained because ground water depletion may be due to some other edaphic and climatic factors.

The Project Proponent along with their environmental consultant M/s P & M Solutions, made a presentation on the key parameters and salient features of the project. Based on the discussion, the committee found their presentation and proposal satisfactory and acceptable, hence the Committee decided to recommend the proposed proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to the following additional conditions along with standard conditions as mentioned in Annexure "A".

1. The proposed plantation consisting of mixture of indigenous and fast-growing species of trees must be done and proper care must be taken. Plantation of a minimum of 6 feet tall plants must be done in the 1st year of lease period itself and properly maintained till the validity of Environmental Clearance and preserve the existing trees at the proposed site. Apart from this, submit the KML file area with correct latitude / longitude along with the colour photograph of the tree plantation done.
2. As per the Office Memorandum F. No. IA3-22/3/2024-IA.III (E – 241594) dated 24.07.2024 of MoEF&CC, GoI, plantation of saplings shall be carried out in the earmarked greenbelt area as a part of the tree plantation campaign "Ek Ped Ma Ke Naam".
3. The Project Proponent shall execute and conduct measurable CER activities like facilities for drinking water supply, solar light, rain water harvesting, solid waste management facilities & sanitation for the nearby villages, local government schools or Anganwadi Kendra and also donating furniture to the local government schools or Anganwadi Kendra. A display board of the CER activities must be fixed for the information to the public at the project site/mining site before start of the mining and proper records should be maintained to be presented during inspection etc.
4. Project Proponent has to fix display board on mining site mentioning thereupon various activities to be done under Environment Management Plan (EMP).

5. The project proponent shall limit the sand mining upto 01 meter (one meter) depth. Mining should be done by semi-mechanised method without using any heavy machine, preferably by manual excavation.
6. The Project Proponent must maintain nearby existing ponds if any.
7. Proper care should be taken during transportation of sand from the sand mining site by covering the loaded sand. There should be a freeboard of atleast 3 inches from the body level of the vehicle, so that the sand doesn't get spilled over on the road and doesn't affect the air quality as well.
8. Lessee to appoint an environment professional to facilitate sustainable mining in terms of mining plan and environmental norms.
9. The Proponent must submit high resolution satellite images with stereoscopic 3D view from the National Remote Sensing Center (NRSC), Hyderabad for the month of June and December every year, along with the respective half-yearly compliance report in hard and soft copy.
10. Temporary extraction path (Iron bridge / Hume pipe) constructed for local transport from the mining site should be compulsorily dismantled before the onset of rainy season (1st July) so that natural flow of water through the active river channel may not get disturbed.
11. Sand transportation shall be strictly prohibited during the period from one hour before to one hour after the opening and closing times of schools located in route, on working days. For example, if a school opens at 10:00 AM and closes at 4:00 PM, sand transportation shall be prohibited from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM and from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, respectively.

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**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN 15th MEETING OF THE SEAC, BIHAR HELD ON
05th FEBRUARY, 2026.**

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Attended on 05.02.2026
1.	Shri Arvinder Singh, IFS	Chairman	Present
2.	Shri Lalan Prasad Singh, IFS(R)	Member	Online Present
3.	Shri Swami Nath Jayaswal	Member	Present
4.	Dr. Vinita Prasad	Member	Absent
5.	Dr. Md. Nazim	Member	Absent
6.	Prof. Naveen Kumar Nishchal	Member	Online Present
7.	Shri Mokhtarul Haque, BFS	Member	Present
8.	Shri Neeraj Narayan, IFS	Member Secretary	Present


Signature(s) of the Members Present

Sd/-
(Swami Nath Jayaswal)
Member, SEAC

Sd/-
(Lalan Prasad Singh, IFS(R))
Member, SEAC

Sd/-
(Mokhtarul Haque)
Member, SEAC

Sd/-
(Prof. Naveen Kumar Nishchal)
Member, SEAC


(Neeraj Narayan, IFS)
Member Secretary


(Arvinder Singh, IFS)
Chairman

Copy to:-

Member Secretary, SEIAA, Bihar
for information and necessary action.

Annexure – A (Sand Mining Projects – EC) for one meter depth

A. Specific Condition

1. The Project Proponent shall obtain all necessary clearance/ permission from all concerned departments before commencement of mining works.
2. The Environmental Clearance will be valid for mine lease period subject to a ceiling of 5 years.
3. The project proponent before starting any activity /preparation of ground, on the leased area shall demarcate his lease hold by RCC pillars erected at the cost of lease holder after certification of the mining officer. On each pillar Geo-Coordinate and fore bearing/ back bearing shall be written with permanent paint mark as described in the mining plan. All the pillars should remain intact at same geo-coordinate. Establishment/ labeling of Benchmark at each pillars or ground control points.
4. Extraction of sand beyond annual production capacity is not permitted.
5. The Project Proponent should undertake the sand mining limited to 01 meter (one meter) depth by semi-mechanised method without using any heavy machine, preferably by manual excavation.
6. Extraction will be carried out up to a maximum depth of 01 meters from surface of mineral deposit and not less than one meter from the water level of the River channel whichever is earlier.
7. No mining shall be carried out in the areas prominently used by wild animals (birds and reptiles) for nesting. Restricted working hours-Sand mining operation has to be carried out between 6 am to 7 pm.
8. No mining shall be carried out in 3 meter wide strip from the river bank in a River flood plain and within flowing/live water channel.
9. To maintain the safety and stability of Riverbanks, 3 meter or 10% of the width of the River whichever is more will be left intact as "No Mining Zone".
10. No stream shall be diverted for the purpose of sand mining. No natural water course and / or water reservoirs shall be obstructed due to mining operations.
11. The pollution due to transportation load on the environment will be effectively controlled & water sprinkling will also be done regularly. Vehicles with PUCC only will be allowed to ply. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through covered vehicles / trucks only and the vehicle shall not be overloaded. Project should obtain 'PUC' certificate for all the vehicles from authorized pollution testing centre.

12. The stacking area of mined-out sand which shall be situated near the mining site within a fenced area from all sides to avoid being spread in the nearby areas by high winds and the height of stacking should not exceed 2 meter. Transportation shall be confined to day time only that is from sunrise to sunset, to avoid inconvenience to local population in anyway.
13. Rubbish burial shall not be done in the Rivers.
14. Adequate steps shall be taken to check soil erosion and control of debris flow etc. by constructing engineering structures.
15. Mining activity shall not be done for mine lease where mining can cause danger to site of flood protection works, places of cultural, religious, historical, and archaeological importance.
16. The approach road from loading point upto main road shall be properly developed with proper width and geometry required for safe movement of traffic by lease holder at his own cost.
17. Main haulage road in the mine shall be provided with permanent water sprinklers and other roads shall be regularly wetted with water tankers fitted with sprinklers.
18. Transportation of the Minerals by road passing through the village shall not be allowed. A 'bypass' road should be constructed (say, leaving a gap of at least 200 meters) for the purpose of transportation of the minerals so that the impact of sound, dust and accidents could be mitigated. The Project Proponent shall bear the cost towards the widening and strengthening of existing public road-network in case the same is proposed to be used for the Project. No road movement should be allowed on existing village road network without appropriately increasing the carrying capacity of such roads.
19. The project proponent shall comply with the provisions contained in this Ministry's OM vide F. No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated 1st May 2018, as applicable, regarding Corporate Environment Responsibility.
20. Project Proponent shall appoint a Monitoring committee to monitor the replenishment study, traffic management, levels of production, river Bank erosion and maintenance of Road etc.
21. Project Proponent shall submit the annual replenishment report certified by an authorized agency. In case the replenishment is lower than the approved rate of

production, then the mining activity / production levels shall be decreased / stopped accordingly till the replenishment is completed.

22. Regular monitoring of the flow rate of the springs and seasonal stream flowing in and around the mine lease shall be carried out and records maintained. Regular monitoring of water quality upstream and downstream of water bodies shall be carried out and record of monitoring data should be maintained and submitted to the SEIAA, Bihar, Regional office, Ranchi, Central Ground water Authority, Regional Director, Central Ground water Board, State Pollution Control Board and Central Pollution Control Board.
23. The project proponent shall abide by the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 08.01.2020 [Writ Petition 9 (s) (Civil No. (s) 114/2014)]. Proposal of re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. In compliance to the direction dated 8th January, 2020 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petitioner(s) Civil No. 114/2014, Common Cause Vs Union of India &Ors.
24. The individual sand ghat-miner will take appropriate measures to avoid parking of empty / loaded vehicles on nearest highway/ public roads to avoid traffic congestion.
25. Project Proponent will adhere to all applicable provisions of Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines 2016 and Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020 (EMGSM – 2020) issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. In case, any ambiguity or variation between the provision of both these document arises, the provision made in “Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining – 2020” shall prevail.
26. All specific and general conditions which are of public concern at large shall be permanently displayed at a prominent place for public along with address and contact details of authority where the violation of EC conditions can be reported.
27. Project proponent shall erect a signboard on his project site and display information regarding name of the project, No. & date of validity period of EC, annual production capacity of the mineral and other relevant information for the general public.

B. General condition

1. No stacking of sand is allowed on road side of any public road including national highways/ State highways.
2. No labour camp shall be allowed in riverbed.
3. Provision shall be made for housing labour with all necessary infrastructure and facilities (outside mining Block and river-bed) such as fuel for cooking, toilets / mobile toilets, safe drinking water, First-Aid facilities, crèche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.
4. Labour & Personnel working in dusty areas shall wear protective respiratory devices and they shall also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects. Occupational health surveillance program of the workers shall be undertaken periodically to observe any adverse health impact due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.
5. The Project Proponent shall make arrangements for safe drinking water, first aid facility along With anti-venom injection, in case of emergency for the workers.
6. The project proponent shall maintain register for production and dispatch of mineral and submit periodic return (six-monthly) to the SEIAA, Bihar / Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, Ranchi. If the remaining period of lease is for less than a year, the Project Proponent shall submit a monthly return of production.
7. The EC holder shall keep a correct account of quantity of mineral mined out, dispatched from the mine, mode of transport, registration number of vehicle and mine plan. This should be produced before officers of Central and State Government for inspection whenever asked for.
8. Regular monitoring of ground water table shall be carried out at the upstream and depth of water available in the adjoining dug-well.
9. Monitoring of Ambient Air Quality, Water Quality & Noise Quality shall be carried out as per the Notification, as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board. Water sprinkling should be increased at places of loading and unloading points & transfer points to reduce all sorts of fugitive emissions.

10. The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in a separate bank account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year-wise expenditure should be reported to the SEIAA, Bihar.
11. The Project proponent shall provide all necessary logistic support to the authorized officer of this authority as and when required. They will facilitate and assist the authority in site inspection and monitoring.
12. All the provisions made and restrictions imposed as envisaged in the Bihar Minor Mineral Rule, shall be complied with; particularly regarding Environment Management and payment of compensation to the affected land owner(s).
13. No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the SEIAA, Bihar.
14. The Ministry / SEIAA may alter / modify the above conditions or stipulate any additional condition(s) in the interest of environment.
15. Concealing of factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal/suspension of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
16. The instruction contained herein above regarding air and noise pollution and details of mining proposals shall be displayed on Signboard in Hindi for the public information.
17. The SEIAA may impose additional conditions in the interest of Environment & Ecology whenever it becomes necessary to do so.
18. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

(B)