

STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY, BIHAR

Letter No.- 309.

Patna, Dated- 22 10 19.

NOTICE

A meeting of SEIAA shall be held on Wednesday, 23rd October, 2019. All the Honourable Members are requested to make it convenient to attend the meeting at the venue & time mentioned below:

Day

:- Wednesday

Date

23rd October, 2019

Time

:- **> 5**:00 PM onward.

Venue

Chairman's Chamber

2nd Floor, Beltron Bhawan, Shastri Nagar, Patna-23

Agenda

• For consideration of grant of Environmental Clearance of the followings:-

- 1. SHRI RAM JANAKI MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL, Village:- Narghoghi, Tehsil:-Sarairanjan, District:- Samastipur, Bihar Total Plot Area:- 85,652 m², Total Build-up Area:-1,24,288.714 m² (File No. SIA/8(a)/692/19). Online Proposal No.:-SIA/BR/MIS/115168/2019).
- 2. Sand Mining Project on river Kiul at Kishanpur Sand Ghat of Lakhisarai district, Area 23 Ha (Proposal No. SIA/1(a)/543/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30930/2019).
- 3. Maliya Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Lakhisarai district, Area 24.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/545/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30938/2019).
- 4. Sand Mining Project on river Kiul at Ghoshi Kundi Sand Ghat of Lakhisarai district, Area 22 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/546/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30928/2019).
- 5. Sand Mining Project on river Kiul at Garhi Bisanpur Sand Ghat of Lakhisarai district, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/548/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30922/2019).
- 6. Sand Mining Project on river Kiul at Rampur Sand Ghat of Lakhisarai district, Area 23.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/550/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30937/2019).

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- 7. Kalai & Durga Mandir Sand Ghat on Ulai River of District-Jamui, Area 24 Ha (Proposal No. SIA/1(a)/555/18). Online Proposal No.:-SIA/BR/MIN/30947/2019).
 - 8. Kalyanpur Sand Ghat on Kiul River of District- Jamui, Area 21.5 Ha (Proposal No. SIA/1(a)/557/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30958/2019).
 - 9. Garsanda Sand Ghat on Kiul River of District- Jamui, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/558/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30961/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41334/2019 (new)}.
 - 10. Kendua Balu Ghat on Barnar River of District- Jamui, Area 23 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/559/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30968/2019).
 - 11. Sono Balu Ghat on Barnar River of District- Jamui, Area 21 Ha {(File No. SIA/1(a)/561/18), Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/31027/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41270/2019 (new)}.
 - 12. Smarak Sand Ghat on Kiul River of District- Jamui, Area 22 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/563/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/31025/2019).
 - 13. Sand Mining Project on river Kiul at Birdaban Sand Ghat of Lakhisarai district, Area 18 Ha (File No.:- SIA/1(a)/566/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30913/2019).
 - 14. Judgi Balu Ghat on Barnar River of Jamui district, Area 23.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/569/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30998/2019).
 - 15. Charghara and Amba Sand Ghat on Ulai River of Jamui district, Area 23.5 Ha {(File No. SIA/1(a)/570/18), Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30959/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41143/2019 (new)}.
 - 16. Ghanshyamthan Koluha Balu Ghat on Barnar River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha (File No. \$IA/1(a)/575/18). Online Proposal No.:- \$IA/BR/MIN/30972/2019).
 - 17. Katauna Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 22.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(u)/576/18). Online Proposal No.: SIA/BR/MIN/30963/2019).
 - 18. Dumri Sand Ghat on Barnar River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/577/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30943/2019).



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- 19. Gausala Sand Ghat on Ulai River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha {(File No. SIA/1(a)/578/18), Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30966/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41127/2019 (new)}.
- 20. Parsa Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/579/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/31024/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41076/2019 (new)}.
- 21. Sair and Pandeydih Sand Ghat on Ulai River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/580/18), Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30995/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41189/2019 (new)}.
- 22. Kendih Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 23 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/581/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30965/2019).
- 23. Nariyana Chacho Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 21.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/582/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30945/2019).
- 24. Panbarwa Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 22 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/584/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/31021/2019).
- 25. Bihari Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 20.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/585/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30950/2019).
- 26. Satgama Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 23.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/586/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30999/2019).
- 27. Auria Sand Ghat on Bannar River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/588/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30960/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41235/2019 (new)}.
- 28. Balthar and Hanjro Sand Ghat on Bannar River of Jamui district, Area 22.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/589/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30975/2019).
- 29. Pakri Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/591/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/31026/2019).
- 30 Bhour Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 23.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/592/18). Unline Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30962/2019).
- 31. Jaljoga Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 23 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/593/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30983/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41216/2019 (new)}.

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- 32. Lotun and Ratanpur Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/595/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30978/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41398/2019 (new)}.
- 33. Sati and Garhi Sand Ghat on Ulai River of Jamui district, Area 22 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/597/18). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/31019/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41164/2019 (new)}.
- 34. Sand Mining Project on river Kiul at Tetarhat Sand Ghat of Lakhisarai district, Area 21.5 Ha (File No.:- SIA/1(a)/608/19). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30921/2019).
- 35. Giddheshwar Sand Ghat on Kiul River of Jamui district, Area 23.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/609/19). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30974/2019).
- 36. Mandhata Sand Ghat on Barnar River of Jamui district, Area 23.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/611/19). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/31028/2019).
- 37. Jogidiha Numar Sand Ghat on Anjana River of Jamui district, Area 22.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/612/19). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30996/2019).
- 38. Lipatwa Sand Ghat on Barnar River of Jamui district, Area 22 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/613/19). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30976/2019).
- 39. Simaria Sand Ghat on Barnnar River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/614/19). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/31031/2019).
- 40. Darha & Bharari Sand Ghat on Anjana River of Jamui district, Area 23.5 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/615/19). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30980/2019 (old) SIA/BR/MIN/41436/2019 (new)}.
- 41. Dinari Sand Ghat on Barnnar River of Jamui district, Area 24 Ha (File No. SIA/1(a)/616/19). Online Proposal No.:- SIA/BR/MIN/30967/2019).

Agenda Note for proposal of RSM in Jamui & Lakhisarai district.

40 applications of River sand mining (RSM) for grant of Environmental Clearance were initially received in SEIAA in (and around) October 2018. M/s Westlink Pvt. Ltd. had made all applications for

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mining in the District of Jamui and Lakhisarai on several rivers on the strength of LoI issued to them by the Deptt. of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Bihar. The SEAC had recommended all the proposals after its due appraisal in its two consecutive meetings held on 26th & 27th November 2018, however after pronouncement of orders by the Hon'ble NGT dated-11.12.2018 prohibiting any action for grant of Environmental Clearance on the basis of G.o.I. Notification of 15.01.2016; the Chairman SEAC conveyed (vide his communication dated-18.12.2018) that recommendations made by SEAC becomes inadmissible. Govt. of India MoEF&CC, (vide its OM No. F. No.-11011/175/2018/IA-II (M) dated:12.12.2018 also directed all SEIAAs to comply with the orders dated:-04.09.2018 & 13.09.2018 in OA No. 173 of 2018 &186 of 2016. Accordingly the SEIAA resolved to defer grant of Environmental Clearance to any RSM and it was also decided to advise the concerned Project Proponent to re-submit EIA/EMP & therefore report of Public Hearing as per directions of the Hon'ble NGT for reconsideration of their proposals. Incidentally individual area of all proposals fall between 20-25 ha.

In above context the Project Proponent approached SEIAA with fresh applications for grant of ToR (under category B₁ in place of B₂ applied previously) for RSM in Jamui & Kiul district, received in SEIAA in the month of February, 2019. After re-appraisal of the applications they were recommended for grant of ToR vide its minutes of meeting dated- 26th February 2019, 29th & 30th March 2019, 25th & 26th September 2019 by the SEAC. The SEIAA in its turn, after considering the recommendations of SEAC, resolved to grant ToR and ToR were issued in the month of (April/May-2019). The SEAC had also carried out site inspection of the river stretch for appraising proposals received initially.

After submission of EIA, EMP and Report of Public Hearing in the month of September 2019 by Project Proponent the SEAC has re-appraised the applications and has recommended all proposals for grant of Environmental Clearance vide decisions taken in its sitting dated 19th, 20th & 21st September, 2019. Thereafter the SEIAA in its sitting of 16th & 17th October 2019 considered the recommendation of SEAC, however decided to obtain comments of the Chairman SEAC, for alleged denial & inclusion of dissents by a member of his views in the minutes of SEAC pertaining to mining.

2. The quality of sand from Jamul and Lakhisarai districts are considered superior for construction work. The rugged large terrain with degraded forests as well as several number of

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rivers in the district makes the area tough for regulators and easier for illicit miners to do their part of job. It is also affected by Naxals/Terrorists and has history of crimes as same hilly areas are not easily approachable and has been used by gangsters since long. All these factors add to the problems of illicit removal of natural resources, may it be stone, timber, sand etc.

When proposals of R.S.M. were considered finally for recommendations of SEAC & SEIAA, there had been a flow of complaints from few local persons and politicians providing their logics, allegations & citing reasons for not granting Environmental Clearance to a bonafide entity. This Authority had to seek facts/clarification on such complaint applications from concerned deptts. A good deal of such correspondences are their available in SEIAA. Similar to last year the SEIAA has again received certain complaint petitions for not granting Environmental Clearance to the Project Proponent stating allegations. The SEIAA again had to ask comments from Deptt. of mines & Geology, as well as asking petitioner if he will be able to substantiate his allegations in person if asked to appear before SEIAA and provide proof. But such communications from SEIAA has returned back from Jamui and Patna which suggests that complainants are seudonymous. Again the Authority has kept such complaints in its records. As mentioned in CVC, New Delhi, circular No.:-03/03/2016, issue No. 98/DSP/9 (Part - 2) and dated 07.03.2016 that "No action should be taken on anonymous / pseudonymous complaints in line with commission's present instructions dated 25th November, 2014 and such complaints should be filed.

- 3. The Deptt. of mines and Geology, GoB, vide their letter No 1103, Dated- 03.04.2019 and letter No 1505, Dated- 20.05.2019 has communicated that illicit removal of sand is becoming menace, there is a loss of Revenue to State Govt. and public is facing crisis of sand locally therefore Environmental Clearance may be granted to the proposals.
- 4. A perusal of recent Public Hearing report submitted by Bihar State Pollution Control Board, it is clear that public is in favour of sand mining as it would provide job to the locals, as well as their demand of sand shall be met conveniently and locally.

(Kamal Jeet Singh)