Government of Maharashtra

STATE LEVEL EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE –1

MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting No: 403rd

Date: 13/11/2026

Department of Environment and Climate Change

Government of Maharashtra, Motimahal, Jamshedji Tata Roaad, Churchgate 400021.

Member Secretary

Chairman

403rd Meeting SEAC-1

Date: 13th November 2026

The SEAC-1 committee meeting was held on **November 13th, 2026,** at **10.30 AM** via video conferencing. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kamlakar B. Phand, Hon. Chairman, and attended by the following members.

Sr. No.	Name	Designation	Remarks
1	Shri. Kamlakar B Phand	Hon. Chairman	Present
2	Shri. Vishal Madane	Member Secretary	Present
3	Shri. Kanhaiya M Shah	Member	Absent
4	Dr. S. N. Patil	Member	Present
5	Prof. R. G. Chillawar	Member	Present
6	Shri. Moqtik Bawase	Member	Present

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed all Expert Members & Member Secretary/ Deputy Secretary, Environment and Climate Change Department

Member Secretary

Chairman

Item No.: 01

Title: Discussion on OM dated 19.06.2026 for clarification regarding preparation and updation of District Survey report (DSR) for minor minerals under Appendix- X of EIA Notification, 2006 (as amended).

Discussion: The Committee deliberated on the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum dated 19.06.2026 regarding clarification on preparation and updation of District Survey Reports (DSRs) for Minor Minerals under Appendix-X of the EIA Notification, 2006. The Committee noted that MoEF&CC has clarified that the provisions of Appendix-X of the EIA Notification, 2006 do not specifically designate an authority responsible for conducting surveys and preparation of DSRs for minor minerals other than sand mining/river bed mining. The said clarification has been issued subject to the outcome of Civil Appeal Nos. 3799-3800 of 2019, *Union of India Vs. Rajiv Suri & Others*, pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The Committee further noted that, pursuant to the said clarification, the concerned District Administrations have undertaken the preparation of Draft DSRs through accredited consultants and Sub-Divisional Committees headed by the Sub-Divisional Officer (SDM) comprising concerned departmental officers. Draft DSRs are being submitted to SEAC/SEIAA for appraisal & approval.

During deliberations, the Committee observed that the existing PARIVESH Portal does not provide any provision for online submission and uploading of Draft DSRs by the concerned District Administrations, appraisal thereof by SEAC, uploading of SEAC Minutes of Meeting (MoM), and uploading of subsequent decisions of SEIAA.

The Committee further observed that, in the absence of such facility on the PARIVESH Portal, the appraisal and approval process of Draft DSRs cannot be completed through the prescribed online mechanism. Therefore, appropriate provision on the PARIVESH Portal is required at the earliest to facilitate a transparent, systematic and time-bound appraisal and approval process.

The Committee also observed that, till such time the requisite online facility is developed and operationalized on the PARIVESH Portal, the Draft DSRs submitted by the concerned District Administrations shall be accepted and processed through physical mode along with all relevant supporting documents. The agenda of such proposals, Minutes of Meeting of SEAC and approved Final DSRs shall be uploaded on the website of EC-MPCB for public access and record. The corresponding SEAC Minutes of Meeting shall be issued through physical mode.

Resolution

The Committee decided to request **SEIAA, Maharashtra** to take up the matter with **MoEF&CC, Government of India** for making necessary provisions on the PARIVESH Portal at the earliest to facilitate:

1. Submission and uploading of Draft DSRs by the concerned District Administrations.
2. Online appraisal of Draft DSRs and uploading of SEAC Minutes of Meeting (MoM).
3. Submission and uploading of decisions/approvals of SEIAA.

The Committee further decided that, pending development and operationalisation of the requisite facility on the PARIVESH Portal, Draft DSRs shall be accepted and processed through physical mode along with all relevant supporting documents. The agenda, Minutes of Meeting and approved Final DSRs shall be uploaded on the EC-MPCB website, and corresponding SEAC Minutes of Meeting shall be issued through physical mode.

Decision:

Recommended to SEIAA for further action

Member Secretary

Chairman

Item No.: 02

Project title: Approval for Draft District Survey Report (DSR) of River Bed Sand Mining & Other Minor Minerals for Chandrapur District

Introduction:

The District Survey Report (DSR) is a comprehensive document prepared for the scientific assessment, identification, documentation and systematic management of minor mineral resources available within the respective district. It provides the necessary geographical, geological and environmental information for identifying mineral-bearing areas and assessing their availability, mining potential and associated environmental considerations.

Status of Application:

Sr. No.	Particulars	Details
1.	Application For	Approval of Draft DSR of for Chandrapur District
2.	Proposal Number	DDSR/MH/CHANDRAPUR/01/2026
3.	Date of draft DSR submission to SEAC 1	03.11.2026
4.	SEAC 1 Meeting No & Date	403rd SEAC-I dt. 13.11.2026
5.	Date of minutes signed	17.11.2026
6.	Time Taken by SEAC appraisal	14 days

Preparation, submission, appraisal and approval of the draft survey report in accordance with the provision as under:

- EIA Notification, 2006 - Appendix-X (District Survey Report)
- Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines (SSMG), 2016
- MoEF&CC Notification dated 15.01.2016
- Sand Mining Framework, 2018
- MoEF&CC Notification dated 25.07.2018
- Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining (EMGSM), 2020
- MoEF&CC Office Memorandum dated 19.06.2026 regarding updation of District Survey Reports (DSRs)

Procedure and Process for Preparation and Approval of DSR

i. Under the earlier prevailing practice, the respective District Collectors, through accredited consultants appointed by them and in coordination with the concerned District Mining Officers (DMOs), prepared the District Survey Reports in accordance with the MoEF&CC Notifications dated 15th January 2016 and 25th July 2018, along with subsequent amendments, guidelines, Office Memoranda and relevant Government Resolutions issued from time to time. These DSRs were published and finalized at the district level. Under the then prevailing procedure, the District Collectors were not required to submit the DSRs to SEAC/SEIAA for appraisal and approval.

ii. Subsequently, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India, vide Office Memorandum No. F. No. IA-L-11011/138/2025-II

(NCM), dated 19th June 2026, clarified the requirement of technical appraisal and approval of Draft DSRs by SEAC and SEIAA, respectively. Accordingly, the Draft DSRs prepared by the respective District Collectors are required to be submitted to SEAC for technical scrutiny and appraisal, followed by submission to SEIAA, along with SEAC's recommendations, for final approval.

iii. In compliance with the aforesaid Office Memorandum, the concerned District Collectors, through their respective District Mining Officers (DMOs), being the authorized officers of the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Nagpur, have submitted the Draft District Survey Reports to SEAC/SEIAA for appraisal and approval.

iv. During preliminary scrutiny of the Draft DSRs submitted by the respective districts, it was observed that the reports had been prepared with reference to the instructions, prescribed formats and applicable guidelines issued by MoEF&CC, Government of India.

v. It was further observed that the respective District Collectors had published the Draft DSRs on their official district websites and kept them in the public domain for the prescribed period of 21/30 days, as applicable, to invite objections, comments and suggestions from the general public, stakeholders and other interested persons.

vi. Upon completion of the prescribed public notice period and consideration of the objections, comments and suggestions received, wherever applicable, the concerned District Mining Officers submitted the Draft DSRs, along with the relevant supporting documents, in physical form to SEAC/SEIAA for technical appraisal and subsequent approval by SEIAA.

Broad Structure and Contents of the District Survey Report

The District Survey Report is broadly structured into the following three parts:

Part I – General Information of the District ***(Pages 96-151 (Chapter 7 to Chapter 12 of Part-A)***

This part covers the geographical, geological, topographical, climatic and administrative profile of the district, including rainfall, drainage and river systems, land-use pattern, forest areas, environmentally sensitive zones and other relevant district-level information.

Part II – Sand Mining ***(Pages 3-95 (Chapter 1 to Chapter 6 of Part-A)***

This part deals with the identification of river stretches and proposed sand ghats, their geographical locations, estimated sand deposits, replenishment potential, mining feasibility and associated environmental considerations.

The validity of the approved DSR pertaining to sand mining is one year.

Part III – Minerals Other Than Sand Mining (***Pages 152-212 (Part-B)***)

This part covers the availability and distribution of minor mineral resources such as stone, murum, ordinary earth, soil, clay and other applicable minerals, including their locations, estimated reserves and mining potential. Details of other relevant mineral categories, wherever applicable, are also incorporated.

The validity of the approved DSR pertaining to minerals other than sand is five years.

Project Information:

SR NO.	PARAMETERS	DETAILS
I.	**Status Of Application:**	
1.	Application For (Sand Ghat/Minor Minerals)	Sand Ghat/Minor Minerals
2.	Date of Application for Draft DSR	03.11.2026
3.	SEAC Meeting No & Date	403rd dt. 13.11.2026
II.	**Project information-District Profile**	
1.	District Name	Chandrapur
2.	Revenue division	Nagpur
3.	Location	Chandrapur Maharashtra
4.	Area in Sq. km	11443
5.	No. of Sub divisions	08
6.	No. of Talukas	15
III.	**Administrative details**	
1.	Previous DSR Approval Date/Year	18.10.2025
2.	Constitution of SDM Committee (Date)	11.08.2026
3.	Approval of draft DSR (Date)	Collector: Chandrapur; Committee: 28.08.2026
4.	Publication of Draft DSR on official Website District Administration	28.08.2026
5.	Draft Sand Ghat DSR	2026-27 & Validity 1 Year
6.	Draft Minor Minerals DSR	2026-27 & 5year
7.	Consultant Name & Appointment Date	N.S. Envirotech Laboratories and Consultant. & 08.06.2023
8.	Appointment of Third-Party Environment Audit Committee (Yearly) (Ref. NGT O.A 173/2018, 04.09.2018)	None
A.	**District Topography**	
1.	Climatic Conditions	High temperature is 49°C and the lowest is 2.8°C
2.	Annual Average Rainfall (mm)	Normal 1128.4 & Actual Rain 699.2
3.	Total Land Area (Ha. & %)	11,44,300 & 100.00%
4.	Agriculture land (Ha. & %)	487,000 & 42.52%
5.	Horticulture land (Ha. & %)	14,500 ha. & 33.30%
6.	Forest cover (Ha. & %)	381,000 & 33.30%
7.	Industrial land (Ha. & %)	3,234 & 0.28%
8.	Barren land etc. (Ha. & %)	55,000 & 4.81%
9.	Major Rivers	Wainganga
10.	Major Irrigation Dams	Asolamendha Irrigation Dam sawali Chandrapur
11.	Major Mineral Types (Names)	Coal, Limestone, Fluorite
12.	Minor Mineral (Names)	Sand, Stone / Gitti, Murum, Soil, Ordinary Clay Laterite
13.	Geological Structures	Recent Alluvium, Laterite, Deccan Trap Basalt, Gondwana Group, Vindhyan Formation and Archean Crystalline Formation
14.	Mining Zones in District	Identified River Sand Mining Stretches on Wainganga, Wardha, Uma, Andhari, Painganga, Vena and Other Nallahs (99 Sand Ghats Proposed)
15.	Non-Mining Zones in District	Eco-sensitive Areas, Protected Areas, Bridge Safety Zones, Water Intake Buffer Zones, River

Member Secretary

Chairman

		Bank Protection Zones and Other Restricted Mining Areas
B.	**Environmental Sensitivity**	
1.	MoEF&CC Notified area under ESA/ESZ Category (Western Ghat/ Wildlife Sanctuary/Corridors/ National Parks/ Bird Sanctuaries/Tiger Reserves etc)	No
IV.	**Sand Mining**	
1.	No. of Ghats (Average/Yr)	99
2.	Total Sand Availability (Brass/Yr.)	1059468 Brass/Yr
3.	Total M-Sand Production (Brass/Yr.)	None
4.	Revenue from Sand Auction (last year) in Rs./Crs.	104 Cr.
5.	Riverbed Replenishment Study (Pre monsoon/ Post monsoon)	Yes
6.	District wise sand Demand and Supply (in Brass)	1025990 Brass
V.	**Minor Minerals**	
1.	List of Minerals available	Yes
2.	Minerals reserve Quantity	1344159 Brass
3.	No. of Operational Existing Mineral leases category wise (Basalt/ Gravel/Dolomite/Limestone/Laterite/ Quartz/Bauxite/Iron Ore/ Coal etc.)	Basalt 23, coal -18, Limestone- 13 Dolomite-1, Iron-1
4.	No. of Abandoned Quarries as per Master List	53
5.	Revenue from Minor Mineral Royalty (last year) in Rs./Crs.	160 Cr.
6.	Post EC Actual Execution of CER Activity (Progressive of Master List)	CER Activity has been done

Deliberations & Observations of the Committee:

The Committee noted that the proposal pertains to approval of Draft District Survey Report (DSR) for river bed sand mining and minor minerals for Chandrapur District, submitted by District Mining Officer.

1. **Climate and Land Use Pattern:** The Committee noted that the district is traversed by major rivers namely Wainganga, Wardha, Uma, Andhari, Painganga and Erai, which constitute the principal sand-bearing river systems of the district.

Table 1: Major Rivers in Chandrapur District

Sr. No.	Name of River	Length in District (Km.)
1	Wainganga	190.0
2	Wardha	178.0
3	Uma	102.0
4	Erai	74.4
5	Andhari	55.2
6	Painganga	49.5

The Committee noted that Wainganga River is the longest river stretch in the district followed by Wardha and Uma Rivers, which together constitute the major sand-bearing

Member Secretary

Chairman

river systems considered in the Draft DSR.

2. The Committee further noted that the district receives normal annual rainfall of 1128.4 mm against actual rainfall of 699.2 mm during the year 2026. The minimum average temperature of 9 °C and a maximum average temperature of 23.2 °C.
3. The Committee observed that agriculture land constitutes about 4.87 lakh ha (42.52%) and forest area about 3.81 lakh ha (33.30%) of the district area.

Table 2: Land Use Pattern

Land Use Category	Area (Ha.)	% Area
Agriculture Land	4,87,000	42.52
Forest Land	3,81,000	33.30
Industrial Land	3,234	0.28
Barren Land	55,000	4.81
Total Area	11,44,300	100

4. **Mineral Resources:** The Committee noted that Chandrapur district is endowed with major minerals and minor minerals.

Table 3: Major and Minor Minerals

Particulars	Minerals
Major Minerals	Coal, Limestone, Fluorite
Minor Minerals	Sand, Stone/Gitti, Murum, Soil, Ordinary Clay, Laterite

5. **Environmental Sensitivity:** The Committee observed that no Eco-Sensitive Zone/Wildlife Sanctuary/National Park notified area has been reported under the Draft DSR as environmental sensitivity within the proposed mining stretches.
6. **Proposed Sand Ghats:** The Committee noted that a total of 99 sand ghats have been proposed for the year 2026-27.

Table 4: River-wise Proposed Sand Ghats

River/Nallah	No. of Ghats
Wardha	27
Wainganga	27
Uma	22
Andhari	09
Vena	04
Painganga	03
Chak Somanpalli Nalla	02
Irai River	01
Hivra Nallah	01
Dhaba Nallah	01
Bokodoh River	01
Jena Niwali Nallah	01
Total	**99**

Member Secretary

Chairman

7. **Demand and Supply Assessment**: The Committee noted that the total annual sand availability assessed in the district is 10,59,468 Brass, whereas the district demand has been estimated as 10,25,990 Brass. The DSR indicates a surplus availability of approximately 33,478 Brass over the assessed demand.

Table 5: Demand-Supply Assessment of Sand

Particulars	Quantity (Brass)
Annual Demand	10,25,990
Annual Availability	10,59,468
Surplus Availability	33,478

8. **Replenishment Study**
   - The Committee noted that replenishment studies were carried out through pre-monsoon (April-May 2026) and post-monsoon (October 2026) surveys for assessment of sediment deposition and annual replenishment in the identified river stretches of the district.
   - The Committee observed that DGPS-based surveys and river cross-sectional profiling were undertaken and data pertaining to river geometry, bed levels, sediment thickness and geo-referenced survey locations were collected for scientific assessment of replenishable mineral resources.
   - The Committee observed that the replenishment assessment methodology was based on comparative analysis of pre-monsoon and post-monsoon riverbed conditions, enabling estimation of replenishment depth, replenishment percentage and annual replenishable quantity.
   - The Committee further noted that the annual mineable quantity proposed in the Draft DSR has been derived based on the replenishment study, river-wise sediment availability and demand-supply assessment conducted for the district.
9. **Mineable Quantity Assessment**: The Committee observed that the total area recommended for sand concession is about 22,20,825 sq. m with total mineable mineral potential estimated at 21.47 lakh MT. The annual deposition/replenishable quantity has been assessed as 12.89 lakh MT, considering 60% of the mineable potential.

Table 6: River-wise Mineable Potential (Replenishment Study)

River	No. of Ghats	Area Recommended (Sq.m.)	Mineable Potential (MT)
Andhari	09	2,29,000	1,90,013
Wardha	27	2,61,100	2,14,043
Uma	22	7,17,500	5,92,313
Wainganga	27	7,86,500	9,91,575
Painganga	03	46,000	40,163
Others	11	1,80,725	2,19,153
Total	**99**	**22,20,825**	**21,47,259**

Summary

Particulars	Quantity
Total Concession Area	22,20,825 Sq.m.
Total Mineable Potential	21.47 Lakh MT
Annual Replenishable Quantity	12.89 Lakh MT

Member Secretary

Chairman

10. The Committee further noted that replenishment assessment has been carried out through comparative analysis of pre-monsoon and post-monsoon DGPS surveys and the annual replenishable quantity has been estimated as 12.89 lakh MT against total mineable mineral potential of 21.47 lakh MT.
11. The Committee noted that the DSR proposes extraction only from replenished sand and prescribes environmental safeguards such as prohibition of mining within 500 m of bridges/water intake structures, prohibition of riverbank excavation, restriction of mining to the central channel and prohibition of mining during monsoon period.
12. **Existing Mining Leases**: The Committee observed that the district has reported mineral reserve availability of 13,44,159

Table 7: Existing Operational Mining Leases

Mineral	No. of Mining Leases
Basalt	23
Coal	18
Limestone	13
Dolomite	01
Iron Ore	01
Total	**56**

13. **Abandoned Quarries**: The Committee further noted that 53 abandoned quarries have been identified in the district and included in the DSR inventory.

Table 8: Summary of Abandoned Quarries

Particulars	Number
Abandoned Quarries Identified	53
Period Covered	2012 onwards
Mineral	Stone / Building Stone
Status	Included in DSR Inventory

14. **Revenue Generation:** The Committee noted the details of royalty/revenue realized from minor mineral extraction in the district during the last four financial years.

Table 9: Royalty Or Revenue Received in Last Three Years

Sr. No.	Year	Royalty / Revenue (₹ Lakhs) (Major, Minor mineral & Sand)
1	2023-24	2226.00
2	2024-25	545.18
3	2025-26	9358.63

The Committee further noted the mineral-wise royalty collection details for major minor minerals in the district as under:

Year	Building Stone/Gitti	Murum	Ordinary Clay/Earth	Laterite	Dolomite	Total Royalty (₹ Lakhs)
2023-24	863.14	1489.62	298.64	126.20	36.00	2813.60
2024-25	865.89	2351.61	79.19	140.10	20.00	3456.79
2025-26	2141.85	4500.00	37.09	162.60	12.69	6854.23

15. The Committee noted that separate chapters on Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) and Green Belt (GB) development have been incorporated in the DSR.
16. **Environmental Safeguards:** The Committee noted that the DSR proposes extraction only from replenished sand and prescribes environmental safeguards including restriction of mining within permissible depth, prohibition of mining within 500 m of bridges and water intake structures, prohibition of river bank excavation, restriction of mining to central river channel and prohibition of mining during monsoon period
17. **Occupational Health & Safety:** The Committee noted that the DSR incorporates Occupational Health & Safety measures including provision of PPE, first-aid facilities, drinking water, temporary shelters, periodic health check-up camps, warning signboards, information display boards, security arrangements and regulated access to the sand ghats through designated approach roads
18. The Committee observed that Third-Party Environmental Audit is yet to be undertaken in accordance with the directions of Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 173/2018 and recommended that annual environmental audits be conducted and considered during subsequent updation of the DSR.
19. The Committee further observed that 53 abandoned quarries have been identified in the district and recommended that quarry closure, reclamation and rehabilitation status of such quarries be documented and submitted during future updation of the DSR.
20. The Committee also recommended that an annual addendum to the DSR containing the updated list of LoIs granted for Basalt/Building Stone and Murum during the period from 1st April to 31st March be submitted to SEAC-I.

Recommendations & Decision of the Committee:

After detailed deliberations and presentation made by the PP/consultant, the Committee observed that the Draft District Survey Report (DSR) of Chandrapur District has been prepared in accordance with Appendix-X of the EIA Notification, 2006, MoEF&CC Notification dated 15.01.2016, MoEF&CC Notification dated 25.07.2018 and MoEF&CC O.M. dated 19.06.2026 regarding updation of District Survey Reports.

Accordingly, the Committee recommended the Draft District Survey Report (DSR) of Chandrapur District for Sand Mining and other Minor Minerals to SEIAA for consideration and approval.

The validity of the approved Draft Sand Ghat DSR (2026-27) shall be one (01) year from the date of approval by SEIAA, whereas the validity of the approved Draft Minor Minerals DSR (2026-27) shall be five (05) years from the date of approval by SEIAA.

Decision:

Recommend for approval

Member Secretary

Chairman