

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
Industry, Commerce & Enterprises Department  
4, Abanindranath Tagore Sarani (Camac Street)  
Kolkata - 700 016

ADM (LR)  
Pls put up in  
file for further  
action

Memo No. : 367-SECY/ICE

30<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

27/08/21

To  
All District Magistrates

As you are aware a new Sand Mining Policy 2021 has been formulated and approved by the State Cabinet. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the policy.

Chief Secretary's VC on the subject dated 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021, may also be recalled. A brief summary of the discussions is also attached.

Accordingly, it is requested that necessary action on collection of master data for the existing and potential ghats, existing leases and finalization of DSRs may be initiated.

CMD, WBMDTCL will be the Nodal Officer of all Sand-Mining related issues.

Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal

Copy to:

1. ACS Environment for kind information.
2. Pr. Secretary, Irrigation & Waterways Dept. - with the request to initiate action on points discussed in the CS's Video Conference of 27/7/2021.
3. CMD, WBMDTCL.

Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal

### New Sand Mining Policy-2021

Meeting of Chief Secretary through video conferencing facility on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 4.00 PM at Conference Hall, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Nabaanna.

Additional Chief Secretary, Environment Department, Principal Secretary, Irrigation and Waterways Department, Principal Secretary Transport Department and Secretary Industry, Commerce and Enterprises Department, MD, WBMDTCL and OSD WBMDTCL attended the meeting. All DM's joined through video conferencing.

Chief Secretary welcomed the participants and initiated the discussion. He outlined the New Sand Mining Policy and stressed on its objectives of scientific and systematic sand mining. The new policy aims to check pilferage environmental degradation and revenue loss.

The following action points were discussed and decided upon:

1. All ongoing auctions for sand mines at any stage of processing (except where mining has started) may be suspended immediately. No new auction/lease deed registration is to be done.
2. Where ever the lease is going to expire, there will be no automatic renewal.
3. No sand mining activity shall continue in rainy season and illegal transportation is to be checked. District level task forces are to be activated to curb all illegal activities.
4. WBMDTCL is designated as nodal agency for all sand mining issues.
5. WBMDTCL will prepare a central portal to capture the master data base of all existing/ potential sand blocks in the district. The desired format will be shared with the district by (29/09/2021). The Districts are requested to collect the data in the said format and enter the data once the portal is opened by 20th of August 2021.
6. It is decided to launch a centralized e-challan system. There will be a lessee module where existing lessee can pay royalty online and generate e-challan.
7. Transport module and enforcement module will also be launched.
8. Districts will get DSRs within 15<sup>th</sup> August, which are to be uploaded for 30 days to receive claims & objections as per norms. The DSR depicts overall picture of the mineral availability in the District. However, individual sand blocks (existing/proposed) are to be inspected by local inspection team (Land and irrigation officials) especially with view to continue ghats into cluster or larger ghats. DSR may be updated accordingly. DSRs must be in the lines of SSMP & NGT guidelines/orders to

obtain Environmental Clearances. Tentative date for receiving back the DSR's from district to ICE Deptt. is 30<sup>th</sup> September.

9. Irrigation Department will categorize the river system as per the guidelines issued by MoEF, Gov. De-siltation sites may be identified. Irrigation department is also requested to identify the vacant land near production centres for MDCL to establish the stockyards.

10. Districts are requested to identify suitable location of stockyards near production point/ near major urban centres. The vacant lands of departments like PWD may also be explored, for this purpose.

*V. Y. Joshi*  
Secretary, ICE

ADM (LR)

Received in whatsapp on  
04/08/21.

In the VC of CS on the new Sand Mining Policy the following points were put before the DMs-

- 1) District Survey Report (DSR) of all western districts will be sent by ICE Department to concerned districts by 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2021. For the Paschim Midnapore it will be sent by 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 and for all other districts will receive DSR by 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2021.
- 2) DMs will arrange for public display in the district website for 30 days to receive claims and objections and dispose them concurrently.
- 3) It is expected that ICE department will receive all DSRs back from the district by 4<sup>th</sup> Sept./6<sup>th</sup> Sept./12<sup>th</sup> Sept. respectively.
- 4) River bed material including gravel and pebbles is included in sand mining. DMs of northern districts are to take particular note.
- 5) WBMDTCL Portal will be opened from 15<sup>th</sup> August for Data Entry. Most of the fields will be pre-filled. DM's may ensure completed data entry based on the field reports on the existing basis.
- 6) Irrigation Dept. has already asked EE Irrigation Dept. to identify the de-siltation points required including Dam/Barrage/Moribund River/Canal. An App for the same has also been prepared. This report may be Completed by 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2021.
- 7) Stock yard sites/Dumping sites with requisite Infrastructure material may be identified within 2 weeks i.e., by 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2021.