

**Minutes of the meeting of the High Level Monitoring Committee held on
15th January 2018 at 1.00 pm at Conference Hall, Collector Office, Satara**

Members of HLMC Present –

1)	Dr. Ankur Arun Patwardhan	Chairman
2)	Smt. Shweta Singhal, Collector, Satara	Member
3)	Dr.Kailas Shinde, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad Satara	Member Secretary
4)	Shri. L.P.Sharma, , Dy. Engineer, (Representative of Director, Municipal Administration, Govt. of Maharashtra)	Member
5)	Shri. Avinash Patil, Joint Director, Town Planning, Pune Division, Govt. of Maharashtra, Pune.	Member
6)	Dr. Rahul Mungikar	Member

Following Other Officials were present –

1)	Shri. S.B.Limaye, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Personnel) , M.S., Van Bhavan, Nagpur (Special invitee)
2)	Shri.Sachin Baravkar, , Residential Deputy Collector, Satara.
3)	Shri.Avinash Shinde, Deputy Collector (Revenue) Satara.
4)	Shri. A.M. Anjankar, Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara.
5)	Shri. Anand Bhandari, Dy. Chief Executive Officer (V.P.), Z.P.Satara.
6)	Smt.Asmita More, Sub Division Officer, Wai
7)	Assistant Director, Town Planning, Satara
8)	Representative of Regional Manager, MTDC, Pune division, Pune
9)	Senior Geologist, GSDA, Satara
10)	Shri.B.M.Kukade, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Satara.
11)	Dy. Engineer, Public Works Department , Chiplun, Dist.Ratnagiri
12)	Shri. Ramesh Shendage,Tahsildar, Mahabaleshwar
13)	Shri. Dilip Shinde, Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti, Mahabaleshwar.
14)	Smt.Amita Dagade, Chief Officer, Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani Municipal Council.
15)	Manager, MTDC, Mahabaleshwar
16)	Police Sub Inspector, Mahabaleshwar Police Station, Mahabaleshwar
17)	Assistant Police Inspector, Panchgani Police Station, Panchgani
18)	Dy.Engineer, Works Sub Division, Mahabaleshwar



At the outset, Dr. Kailas Shinde, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, welcomed Dr. Ankur Patwardhan, Hon. Chairman, High level Monitoring Committee (Eco Sensitive Zone of Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani Region) and other Members and officers present for the meeting.

Subject No.(1) – The suggestion given by Joint Director, TP regarding correction in the subject No. 2.8 of the minutes of previous meeting was accepted as follows. 'The use of Polo ground should be only for the natural things and not for any other purposes.

Then the minutes of the meeting held on 14th November, 2017 were confirmed.

Subject No.(2) – Action taken report on the issues of the previous meeting dated 14th November, 2017.

2.1 Tourism Master Plan -

Representative of MTDC informed that the plan has already been submitted to Government. It was observed that despite the directions given for circulating a copy of the Plan to the Members and submitting an action taken report within 8 days of the meeting, no action was initiated by the concerned authorities.

It was decided that the responsible officer from MTDC should remain present at the next meeting and give detailed presentation on Tourism Master Plan.

2.2 About the Panchgani Table Land :-

The Chief Officer Panchgani stated that, the estimates are submitted to Executive Officer, MJP Satara for technical sanction and the demand of grants will be sent to Govt. at the earliest.

It was decided that a compliance report will be submitted by the end of February.



2.3 About the unauthorized Construction at Village Dandeghar Survey No. 87/1D.

It was observed by the committee that there was a discrepancy in the facts of the case and the report submitted to the committee. The committee was aware that Civil suit bearing No. 519/2015 is pending in the Hon'ble District Court regarding illegal construction at village Dandeghar S.N.87/1D. It was observed that despite evident unauthorized constructions were identified civil suits were filed and the irregularity continued and the violators continued enjoying benefits without fear.

It was decided that the concerned authorities will file appropriate affidavit in the court pointing out the illegalities and ensure that immediate action against unauthorized construction is initiated. Further it was decided that the copy of the affidavit will be circulated to the members before the meeting and the progress of the matter will be reported in the next meeting.

2.3.1 About the unauthorized Construction at Village Dandeghar Survey No. 89A/1+2+3/A/12

Tahsildar, Mahabaleshwar informed the Committee that, as per the complaint of Smt. Varsha Dilip Kalambe, enquiry was completed. As per the Talathi's enquiry report, SDO, Wai has passed an order to demolish the unauthorized construction of Shri. Gajanan Kalambe in S.N.89A/1+2+3/A/12. But Shri. Gajanan Kalambe has applied to the office of the Collector for regularization of the construction.

It was decided since Shri. Gajanan Kalambe has applied to the office of the Collector for regularization of the construction, the concerned authorities will verify the matter and take the necessary action by the end of Jan 2018 and the progress of the matter will be reported in the next meeting.



2.4 Debi Goenka's application about illegal tree cutting on Duchess road and illegal construction of Blue Valley.

Since the Tahsildar, Mahabaleshwar informed the Committee that location of Blue Valley is not identified yet, the matter stands closed.

2.4 a. Action taken about the vigilance of unauthorised constructions

Assistant Director, Town Planning informed the Committee that a one day training programme for all Gramsevaks was conducted at district level with the help of Zilla Parishad Satara on 28.11.2017 to create awareness amongst Grampanchayats to avoid illegal constructions.

It was decided that SDO will arrange training programme for Talathi's, Circle Officers before the next meeting.

2.4.b. Regarding unauthorized constructions discussed at the last meeting.

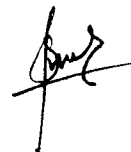
Tahsildar Mahabaleshwar stated that old 5 and new 20 unauthorized constructions have been identified and as per ORDER passed by Hon'ble NGT, report on violation on forest alike areas at Kumbhroshi, Dudhoshi, Bhose, Mettale, Avakali and Kshetra Mahabaleshwar has been submitted to SDO, Wai.

It was decided that

- a. Tahsildar Mahabaleshwar and SDO, Wai will submit action taken report before next meeting.
- b. As suggested by Dr. Mungikar, precise data should be produced.

2.4.c. nauthorized constructions along the Mahabaleshwar Panchgani Highway

The Hon'ble Chairman informed the committee that the new constructions along both the sides of Mahabaleshwar Panchgani road was noticed by him during his travel for the meeting. He enquired with the Tahsildar whether



these new were authorized. It was decided that the Tahsildar will conduct enquiries and submit the report in the next meeting.

2.5 About the Survey No. 527 A/3 Taighat Green Zone :-

Assistant Director, Town Planning, Satara stated that a site visit was conducted on 9.11.2017 and the said construction was illegal. It was decided that the CO will issue a notice within one month and action will be taken within 15 days. The action taken report will be submitted in the next meeting.

2.6 About the plastic garbage in the forest area.

Gram Panchayats had submitted proposals to Forest Department for getting permission to install Solid and Waste Management Projects in Forest land. The BDO Mahabaleshwar informed that the Forest Department has refused these proposals. The Chairman informed that in the last meeting it was decided that the Gram-panchayat will submit proposals for *in-situ* organic waste disposal to the BDO and the inorganic solid waste can be dumped into municipal councils dumping ground with the cooperation of the municipal council.

It was decided that to solve this issue a meeting of the BDO, Tahsildar, Sarpanchs, Gramsevaks and both COs will be held by the Collector before 24.1.2018.

2.7 Research proposal for Mapping of Eco – Sensitive Zone.

It was decided that since the mapping of the Eco-Sensitive Zone was an absolute essential, proposals from any expert could be sought.



2.9 About proposal of NA of survey No. 529 in Buffer Zone at Vahagav, Tal. Jawali, Dist. Satara

Assistant Director, Town Planning Satara reported that the Regional Plan for Satara district has been published vide notification dated 8.1.2018. He further informed that since the project was situated above 1600 MSL, the regulations for governing the same are yet to be finalized. It was decided that the action taken report will be submitted at the next meeting.

2.10 About formation of Local Biodiversity Management Committee according to Biodiversity Act for Mahabaleshwar Panchgani Eco sensitive Zone.

CO, Panchgani MC informed that Panchgani MC has taken this issue on agenda of General Body meeting already scheduled on 22.1.2018.

It was decided that CO Panchgani will submit compliance report in the next meeting.


2.11 Shri. Shriraj Satarawala's application about the plastic garbage collected from the forest area :-

CO Mahabaleshwar informed the Committee that various steps are being taken in action to tackle plastic garbage issue. Recently Smt. Manisha Mhaskar, Principal Secretary, UD visited Mahabaleshwar and said that Mahabaleshwar MC is handling this issue very nicely. MC is providing cloth bags instead of plastic bags in MC jurisdiction, this can be a role model for state. CO Panchgani informed that Toll free No. 18002330245 is activated in MC. Do's and Don't's boards are displayed in MC area.

This issue stands closed till any new complaints are received.

2.13 The illegal construction near the Christ Church.

CO, Mahabaleshwar MC informed that the FIR has been filed about the illegal construction. The Court has issued the stay order. It was discussed



that CO Mahabaleshwar should challenge the stay order and file appropriate affidavit.

It was decided that a report on the status of the matter should be filed regularly before the Committee.

2.14 About the permission for drinking water pipeline and construction of local roads in the Forest area.

DCF, Satara stated that 3 proposals are sanctioned. Bhilar can submit proposal of Drinking Water tank at earliest.

It was decided that an action taken report will be submitted at the next meeting.

2.15 Regarding the permission to parking at the bottom of Fort Pratapgad.

Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara told that he has surveyed the parking site and the estimate has been prepared and an online application will be submitted before 31.1.2018.

It was decided that a compliance report will be submitted in next meeting.

2.3-A Mahabaleshwar Development Plan

It was decided that ADTP will send a soft copy of Mahabaleshwar Development plan to all Committee members of HLMC through email.

2.3-B Panchgani Development Plan :-

It was decided that ADTP will send a soft copy of Mahabaleshwar Development plan to all Committee members of HLMC through email.

2.3-C Traffic and Tourism Plan :-

Since there was no compliance of the decisions of the earlier meeting, It was once again decided that Panchgani and Mahabaleshwar Municipal councils and the concerned officers for the Region along with the Police



Department should conduct a joint inspection and submit the Action Plan regarding Traffic and tourism at the next meeting.

Mapro Parking

Further as per the decision taken in the last meeting, it was once again reiterated that Mapro should plan and provide for their own parking. It was further decided that parking on both sides of road near Mapro Garden should not be allowed and the CO should communicate this decision and follow-up with Mapro.

Parking at Mahabaleshwar Club

Representative of Mahabaleshwar Police Station stated that the Mahabaleshwar Club house is having about 65 acres of open land. If this land is allowed for parking, major traffic issue can be minimized. Hon. Collector asked the Police Dept. to correspond with the Club House in this regard and submit report at the next meeting.

After the discussions It was decided that

- a. A Sub Committee shall be formed for preparing the Traffic and Tourism Plan.
- b. Superintendent of Police, Satara will head this Committee and the COs of Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani MC, Representative of Shop owners, Representative of Forest Department, Block Development Officer, PS Mahabaleshwar, representative of MPCB will be Members and Dy.SP will be Member Secretary.
- c. Office of the Collector will send a letter regarding formation of Sub-Committee to all concerned Members.

2.3-D Sanctioned Regional Plan for MPESZ dated 07th August, 2015.

Joint Director TP stated that the copy of the Regional Plan will be circulated to the members within 8 days.



2.(4) Creating awareness about Eco Sensitive Zone –

It was decided that the COs of Mahabaleshwar & Panchgani and the forest department should submit a report on the initiatives taken in this regard.

2(5) -About parking at Venna Lake

It was decided that, the sub-committee formed as under point 2.3-C will study and submit report on this issue also.

2.6-A. About illegal construction of Hotel King's Garden :-

Tahsildar, Mahabaleshwar informed that, the notice has been issued to the concerned person in this regard and the Writ Petition No. 3748/2015 is pending in the High Court, Mumbai.

It was decided that Tahsildar will follow-up this issue with the help of concerned Advocate and report at the next meeting.

2.6-B..About the illegal construction of Shri. Prakash Laxman Hirave and Shri.Ramchandra Baburao Hirave in City Survey No.59 at Mahabaleshwar: -

It was decided that Additional Collector, Satara will conduct an enquiry within one month and submit the report at the next meeting.

2.6-C. About illegal Construction at Mahabaleshwar City Survey No. 92 by Shri. Aaba Maruti Jiman.

It was decided that Additional Collector, Satara will conduct an enquiry within one month and submit the report at the next meeting.

2 (7)- About permission for pay and parking in Survey No. 1/2 and 1/5 at Kshetra Mahabaleshwar -proposal of Mr. Pralhad Narayandas Rathi.

Dy.Collector (Revenue) stated that, the report is submitted to Collector, Satara by SDO, Wai. After getting legal opinion from legal cell further action will be taken. It was decided that action taken report will be submitted at the next meeting.



2 (8)- About the proposal of permission for proposed Maha-Pratap Cable Car

Project (Mahabaleshwar Lodwick Point to Pratapgad)

Representative of SAIO Infra gave a presentation about proposed Maha Pratap Cable Car Project and safety features of the project and security of tourists.

SDO informed the Committee that the Applicant agency SAIO Infra does not have its own land and proper documents have not been submitted. The 7/12 extracts are in the possession of locals.

It was decided that ;

Applicant agency shall submit all required documents to the SDO Wai within 15 days, based on which further action shall be discussed at the next meeting.

2 (9) About the Permission for revised construction on Survey No. 77A, 78A, 79 at Mahabaleshwar

It was decided to give permission for proposal of revised construction on survey No. 77A, 78A, 79 on terms and conditions of permissions and terms and conditions of Town Planning.

This issue stands closed.

2 (10) – Regarding change in the Member Secretary of the HLMC.

The Committee was informed that as per the discussion in the previous meeting, a joint letter by the Chairman and CEO, ZP Satara has been sent to MoEF&CC on 14.11.2015 requesting for nominating the Collector, Satara as Member Secretary, HLMC instead of CEO, ZP Satara. Hon. Collector suggested an additional letter to be sent to Shri. Patil, Dy. Secretary, Environment Dept. Govt. of Maharashtra.



2 (11) Permission for the construction of bridge on Venna River and linking Road at Mahabaleshwar Venna lake road:-

As permission is given, this issue stands closed.

3.1 Presentation of Prof. Sanjeev Nalavade, RANWA, Pune

It was decided that RANWA, Pune will approach Forest Department for finalization of the proposal of Ecological Survey and Biodiversity Assessment of Mahabaleshwar-Panchgani Ecologically Sensitive Region, Satara district. Further to this the forest department will submit the proposal for funding under the DIF.

3.2 Regarding Proposal of allotting forest land at Kshetra Mahabaleshwar for crematorium purpose


As per letter of Hon. Makarand Patil, MLA dated 16.10.2017, the proposal of allotting forest land S.N.108 area 3.03 R. to Grampanchayat Kshetra Mahabaleshwar is pending with Forest Department. DCF Satara informed that decision on above proposal will taken within 10 days.

It was decided that DCF will submit report at the next meeting.

3.3 About the complaint of Smt.Gangubai Hari Sakpal regarding destruction of environment at Manghar Tal.Mahabaleshwar.

Smt. Gangubai Hari Sakpal, Manghar had given a complaint letter dated 11.11.2017 to the Committee regarding destruction of environment at Manghar Tal. Mahabaleshwar.

Tahsildar Mahabaleshwar submitted a report that an order has been passed for a fine of Rs.48400/- against Shri.Shyam Kisan Kasodekar and 3 others and a Report of unauthorised construction is submitted to SDO Wai on 15.12.2017.



It was decided that the concerned authority will file an FIR and undertake demotion of the unauthorized portion and will submit the action taken report at the next meeting.

3.4 About the letter of Shri.Balasaheb Bhilare, Chairman, All India Strawberry Growers Asso. New Delhi. At /Post Bhilar.

It was discussed that MLRC amendment will allow the extension of Gaothans within the limit mentioned in the amendment notification of 8.1.2018. Otherwise such proposals from concerned villages should be submitted to revenue dept.

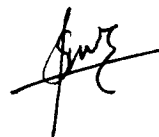
3.6 About the letter of Mahabaleshwar Tourism Stall Holders Professional Assosiation, Mahabaleshwar regarding closing Un-authorized Stalls at Venna lake, Mahabaleshwar.

As decided in the previous meeting, since there was no report submitted, it was once again decided that the CO Mahabaleshwar along with representatives of PWD, Forest & Police shall take necessary action within 8 days and submit the report at the next meeting.

As the action taken on the above minutes of previous meetings were discussed thoroughly the following were the discussion on the agenda items.

4.1 Regarding proposal for getting consent of HLMC for the proposed road part of Khed-Ambavali-Birmani-Hatlot road MDR-12 Tah. Khed Dist.Ratnagiri passing through village Hatlot, S.No.49, area requiring 0.744 ha. falling under ESZ. (Proposal from EE, PWD, Chiplun)

It was decided that a detailed presentation will be given by the Executive Engineer (Chiplun) and will be followed by a site visit.



4.2 Regarding site visit of Panchgani table land (S.N.40) for Horse Track as per High Court Order dated 8.10.2013

The CO Panchgani informed the Committee that as per the High Court of Bombay Order dated 8.10.2013, a joint visit was conducted for demarcation of Horse Track, on 15.1.2018 morning with Hon'ble Chairman, Dr. Aparna Watve (Ecologist) and others. Dr. Salunke who was also required to be present for the joint inspection had excused himself due to prior commitments.

The Chairman informed the Committee that there was no implementation of the Order of High Court and the following was observed during the site visit.

- i) There was no control in place to stop the riding of two wheelers on the main Tableland.
- ii) There were numerous small food vendors seen on the main Tableland.
- iii) Horses were seen galloping and causing dust swirls.
- iv) The horses were seen moving on the entire length and breadth of Main Tableland.
- v) Entertainment and amusement activities such as merry go round were seen functioning on the Main Tableland.
- vi) Certain ecologically important species were found on the plateau indicating potential to regenerate and grow.

As regards the demarcation of the horse track on the main Tableland, it was observed that the plan submitted to the High Court and the actual track that was being demanded by the Tableland Vyapari Association differed.

The Chairman decided to follow the track submitted to the Court and the entire team walked on the entire route of the track. The following decisions were taken at the time of the site visit.

- i) Distance from the edge to be decided as per the final drawings that will be submitted by the Architect, finalized by Dr. Watve (Ecologist) and will then be ratified by the HLMC.
- ii) The route at the start will follow the tar road and continue to cross the entrance of cave 1 & 2.



- iii) After this, the route takes a slight right turn for the Pandav Paul site.
- iv) The track will continue towards the MRA view Point and terminate at the sunset point.
- v) Only a single track will be used for the purposes of going and coming back. It was felt that a width of 8ft was more than enough, but with the insistence of the Tableland Vyapari Association, the width was finalized at 10 ft.
- vi) Further a detailed drawing will be submitted by the architect and a discussion will be held in Pune for finalizing the same.
- vii) This finalized Plan will then be submitted to the High Court after obtaining the signatures of the stakeholders.
- viii) The remaining areas of the plateau (100 acres), other than earmarked for horse track, will be considered as conservation zone and a plan will be prepared and submitted to the committee at the next meeting.
- ix) It was pointed out that the horse carts were plying on the 20 acre part. Hence it was decided that a route for the cart shall also be demarcated so that the table land can be conserved in its entirety.

5 Regarding complaints of Mr. S.K.Satarawalla, Mahabaleshwar

5.1 About extensive crop damage by wildlife reported by local farmers.

It was decided that DCF Satara will submit report in this regard before next meeting.

5.2 About large scale encroachments on forest land in Mahabaleshwar.

It was decided that DCF Satara will submit report in this regard before next meeting.

5.3 About Govt. lease hold property CTS 98 Mahabaleshwar

It was decided that CO Mahabaleshwar, RFO Mahabaleshwar and representative of MPCB will conduct a joint visit and action taken report will be submitted at the next meeting.

6 Regarding representation of Smt. Hema Ramani BEAG, Mumbai about unauthorized and illegal activities on Harrison Folly.



It was decided that the SDO Wai will submit a detailed enquiry report in this regard to the Collector Satara.

7 Regarding operational procedures & guidelines about HLMC Bank Account.

In this regard CO Mahabaleshwar informed that there is bank Account in both MCs.

It was decided that both COs will give details of bank account to Hon'ble Chairman HLMC.

8 Any other subject with the permission of the Chairman.

8.1 MPG Club, M'shwar-Tapola Road, Mahabaleshwar :-

Application was received from MPG club for permission for project at C.S.No.233, Mahabaleshwar

It was decided that Sub Regional Officer MPCB Satara will submit report regarding the above application at the next meeting.

8.2 Applications from Smt. Hema Ramani, BEAG Mumbai :-

8.2.1 Unauthorised Constructions

In this regard, it was decided that MR-SAT would be approached for geo tagging. Geo tagging should be done by CO MCs for Urban area and Grampanchayats for rural area. For this purpose Dr. Mungikar will coordinate and explore the possibility of geo tagging with MR-SAT.

It was further decided that SDO Wai will scrutinize all the unauthorized constructions and submit a report at the next meeting.

8.2.2 Demarcation of High Flood lines for the Venna Lake and Dam and other Water Courses

It was decided that the above application will be forwarded to Irrigation department for further action and Irrigation department will submit a report in next meeting.

8.2.3 Reservations in Forest Zone/Land Development Plan (DP) of Mahabaleshwar (Second Revision)

It was decided that the above application will be forwarded to Forest Department for further action and Forest department will submit a report at the next meeting.



8.2.4 Ground Water Recharge

It was decided that the above application will be forwarded to GSDA department for further action and GSDA will submit report at the next meeting.

8.2.5 Proposed Maha-Pratap Cable Car Project (Mahabaleshwar Lodwick Point To Pratapgad)

As discussed in above at Sr.No. 2.25.

It was also decided that the above application will be forwarded to SDO Wai and who will submit report at the next meeting.

8.2.6 Encroachments/ Unauthorised Settlements in the Reserved Forests of MPESZ

It was decided that the above application will be forwarded to Forest department for further action. and Forest department will submit report at the next meeting.

8.2.7 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) in Panchgani

It was decided that the above application will be forwarded to CO Panchgani for further action. and CO Panchgani will submit report at the next meeting.

8.2.8 Felling of Trees in the Mahabaleshwar Panchgani ESZ

It was decided that the above application will be forwarded to Forest department and CO Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani for further action. Forest department and COs will submit report at the next meeting.

8.2.9 Regarding Copy of the Regional Plan Report 2002-2022

It was decided that the above application will be forwarded to ADTP Satara for necessary action and ADTP will submit report in next meeting.

8.2.10 Strategic Transport and Transport Mobility Plan MPESZ

The Chairman informed the committee that since an effort by the earlier HLMC had been taken by involving professional consultants, there was no necessity to duplicate the exercise. It was decided that PWD, Police department and both the COs should examine the report and there will be discussion at the next meeting.



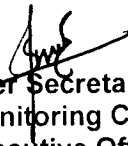
8.2.11 Polo Ground at Mahabaleshwar ESZ

The Committee took note of the fact submitted that the proposal for conversion of Polo Ground under FCA for playing polo has not been approved.

Since the above application is only for information this Issue now stands closed.

With the discussion of the agenda items coming to an end, it was decided that the next meeting will be held in the first fortnight of March 2018.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


Member Secretary,
High Level Monitoring Committee,
Chief Executive Officer,
Zilla Parishad, Satara.


Chairman,
High Level Monitoring Committee

Note


1. Draft of the minutes has been approved by Hon'ble Chairman. The minutes will be discussed and confirmed in the next meeting of HLMC.
2. The concerned agencies should start taking appropriate action on the decisions recorded herein above and submit compliance reports for placing the same before HLMC in the next meeting in the **form of soft copy, Hard copy and related photographs.**

Satara Zilla Parishad,
Village Panchayat Department,
No.VPT/5/WS/2147/2018
Satara. Dated 21/2/2018

To,

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2/- For information and necessary action.


Chief Executive Officer,
Zilla Parishad, Satara.