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Rasesh Kanakla

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Sandeep Runwal

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Bandish Ajmera

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Prakash Baviskar

Ref. No. MCHI/PRES/17-18/031

October 13, 2017

To,
Hon'ble Shri Devendra Fadnavis
Chief Minister
Government of Maharashtra,
Mantralaya,
Mumbai 400 032

मुख्यमंत्री सचिवालय
महाराष्ट्र शासन
मंत्रालय, मुंबई - ४०० ०३२.
दिनांक १३/१०/१७

Sub: To clear pending backlog of files till formation of Environment Cell in the Urban Local Body (ULBs) & Special Planning Authorities (SPAs) in MMR jurisdiction in Maharashtra

Ref: (1) Gazette Notification issued by MoEF dtd. 9th December 2016 (copy enclosed).

(2) D.O. Letter by Shri Gyanesh Bharti, Jt. Secretary, MoEF, GoI dtd. October 06, 2017 bearing D.O. No. 19-159/2014-IA.III (Pt.) (copy enclosed).

(3) Our D.O. Letters addressed to Shri Ajay Narayan Jha (I.A.S.), Secretary, MoEF, bearing Nos. MCHI/CEO/17-18/037 & MCHI/CEO/17-18/034, dtd. August 19, 2017 & August 10, 2017 respectively. (Copies enclosed).

(4) Our D.O. Letter to Shri Anand Kulkarni (I.A.S., Retd.), Chairman, State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) dtd. July 28, 2017 (Copy enclosed).

Respected Sir,

Please refer to the above Gazette Notification issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC) of Government of India on 9th December, 2016 on the above subject. Since, no further directions were issued from Government of Maharashtra, the work was also not done, and it was indicated that State Government cannot interfere, and MoEF & CC can only issue the clarifications on the above subject as the powers has been transferred to the Environment Cell in the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) & Special Planning Authorities (SPA), created for the integration of environmental principles with building permission. We already wrote two D.O. letters to Shri Ajay Narayan Jha (I.A.S.), Secretary of MoEF & CC (copies attached), it was being followed up because the Environmental Cells in ULBs & SPAs, were either not formed or not fully operational.

Now, after continuous follow up with the concerned officials, we came to know that the Ministry has sent a reply on 6th October 2017 under the signature of Shri Gyanesh Bharati (I.A.S.), Jt. Secretary at MoEF & CC, Government of India, in response to our letter addressed to the Secretary, MoEF & CC, GoI.

The said letter has been addressed to Shri Satish Gavai (I.A.S.), Additional Chief Secretary for Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra and it is very clearly mentioned that *"no separate Environment clearance is required for building and construction projects upto 1,50,000 square meters built up area in*

respect of Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils and all Special Planning Authorities in Pune and Konkan Divisions. The authority competent to grant the building permission will integrate the Environment Clearance conditions based on the recommendation of Environment Cell following the process as envisaged in the notification." It is clarified by this letter that the cases of 1.5 laks sq. mtrs may be cleared by competent authorities at State level.

In view of the above, our request is that the said competent authorities and committees, formed by State can clear pending files during the transition period and till the Corporations and Councils are made fully functional. Concurrently, all ULBs & SPAs could be directed to form and completely functional the requisite Environmental Cells, at the earliest, for clearing the pending projects by integrating environmental conditions/approvals with building permissions. This will not only ease the situation but also clear the huge, long pending backlogs of the permissions and also the work stalled since long, could be started. We would therefore, request you to give suitable directions to the concerned authorities for necessary action.

Awaiting for your positive response and help at the earliest, please.

Thanking you,

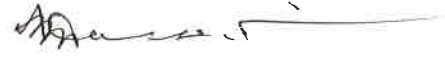
Yours faithfully,
For CREDAI-MCHI



Mayur Shah
President



Domnic Romell
Hon. Secretary



S. S. Hussain, I.A.S. (Retd.)
Chief Executive Officer

CC to:

✓ **Shri Satish Gavai (I.A.S.)**

Additional Chief Secretary for Environment Department &
Member-Secretary for State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority
(SEIAA)

Government of Maharashtra
Mumbai

Encl: Copies of earlier letters addressed to Hon'ble Chief Minister.



D.V.v.
13/10/12
लिपिक-दफ्तरेवरक
अपर मुख्य सचिव कार्यालय
पर्यावरण विभाग, मंत्रालय, मुंबई