

MINUTES OF THE 44th MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (NCZMA) HELD ON 22nd FEBRUARY, 2022 AT NEW DELHI

The 44th meeting of the National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) was held in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi on 22nd February, 2022 through Video Conferencing (VC) considering the prevalent pandemic situation, under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The list of participants is at Annexure. The deliberations held and decisions taken in the meeting are as under: -

At the outset, Secretary (EF&CC) welcomed the Authority members and other participants. Thereafter, further deliberations were initiated on the agenda items.

(i) Details of Proposals and Agenda by the Member Secretary

Joint Secretary (CRZ), MoEF&CC and Member Secretary, NCZMA took up the Agenda items to be discussed during the meeting.

(ii) Confirmation of the Minutes of the 43rd Meeting of the National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) held on 16th August, 2021 at MoEFCC, New Delhi through VC.

The NCZMA, noted that no comments have been received on the minutes of the 43rd Meeting of the National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) held on 16th August, 2021 conducted through Video Conferencing (VC), confirmed the same.

(ii) Consideration of proposals:

With the permission of the Chairperson, discussion on each agenda items were taken up *ad-seriatim*.

Item No. 1: Draft CZMP 2011 of Goa State as per the CRZ Notification, 2011.

The Chairman, Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority (GCZMA) made a presentation on the draft Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) of State of Goa prepared as per the provisions of the CRZ Notification, 2011. It was informed that the CZMP has been prepared both in 1:25000 scale and 1:4000 scale. The CZMP has been discussed in various stakeholder's meetings including public consultation and approved by the State Government with certain observations for further consideration by the NCZMA. It was also informed that objections / suggestions received from various stakeholders have been examined and suitably incorporated, as admissible.

JS, MoEFCC appraised the Authority that Hon'ble NGT (PB) in OA No.424 of 2016 and No.11 of 2014, *vide* order dated 22/11/2017, disposed of the case with directions not to grant any clearances in the coastal states until the Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZMPs) based on CRZ Notification, 2011 are finalised and approved by the Central Government, as per the CRZ Notification, 2011, all the State

Government and UT Coastal Zone Management Authorities (CZMA) are required to prepare Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZMP) as per provisions of the said notification. All the States have prepared the CZMP as per the CRZ Notification, 2011 except the State of Goa.

Further, the Hon'ble NGT in MA No. 65 of 2021 in OA No.424 of 2016, *vide* order dated 7/10/2021 directed that the State shall complete the CZMP by 31/12/2021. The MoEFCC received the draft CZMP proposal prepared under CRZ Notification 2011 by e-mail *vide* letter No. GCZMA/CZMP-2011/20-21/01/1688 dated 28/12/2021 and the same has been placed in the meeting.

The Chairman, GCZMA informed that the State have requested the NCZMA to make following revisions in the draft CZMP, 2011

- i. Removal of depiction of Port limits in the CZMP maps.
- ii. Non-depiction of structures.
- iii. Removal of buffer zone for Mangroves in Khazan lands, as is already provided in CRZ Notification 2019.
- iv. Permit other developmental activities in fishing wards.
- v. The extent of the boundary of the CRZ area in the Khadepar river to be incorporated as per the recommendation of the Water Resources Department.
- vi. The Survey nos and their sub divisions to be depicted on the final CZMP maps in the 4000 scale.

The Director, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM) informed the Authority that the structures were part of the Cadastral data (PT Sheets) provided by the Govt. of Goa and that the CZMP has been approved by the Technical Scrutiny Committee (TSC) in its meeting held on 04.12.2021 at NCSCM, Chennai. The Director, NCSCM informed that the sub-divisions of the survey numbers may not be accommodated in the 1:4000 scale maps, as there would be too many sub-divisions. The NCSCM has provided the revised Draft CZMP maps on 10.12.2021 as per decision taken at TSC meeting.

The NCZMA deliberated on the amendments proposed by the State of Goa in the draft CZMP. The Authority observed the following:

- i. That demarcation of notified port limits in the CZMP is essential for regulation of various activities as per the CRZ Notification, 2011. Govt. of Goa needs to provide proper justification for their request of not depicting the same. However, in order to avoid any ambiguity, the major and minor ports shall be depicted separately and in different colour, if required.
- ii. That existing structures shall be required to be depicted on 1:4000 scale. CZMP and the State Government through a separate order may clarify the legal position of the structures so depicted.
- iii. The State can start preparing the CZMP as per the CRZ Notification, 2019 wherein the buffer zone for mangroves in private Khazan land is not required.
- iv. Special provisions have been given in the CRZ notification for the State of Goa, including for various developmental activities for the fishing and fishery allied

activities and as such other developmental activities are not permitted in the fishing yards as per the notification.

- v. The NCSCM shall incorporate the extent of the boundary of the CRZ area in the Khadepar river as per the State Government's recommendation, in accordance with the provisions of the notifications.

*Further, the NCZMA after detailed deliberations is of the view that map of scale 1:25,000 is only required as per the CRZ Notification, 2011 for preparation of the CZMP which is already completed by the NCSCM and approved by the TSC. Map of 1:4000 scale is project/activity specific and required only at a later stage. The Authority pointed out that the draft CZMP (1:25,000) can be considered for approval after incorporating the observation and comments of the NCZMA. **However, as the State has not agreed to the proposal and insisted for preparation and approval of both 1:25000 and 1:4000 scale map, the Authority decided to refer back the proposal to the State of Goa and desired to resubmit the final CZMP by 15th March, 2022 for consideration of the NCZMA.** The Committee also desired that the State of Goa shall certify that the CZMP has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the CRZ Notification, 2011.*

It was also requested that the State of Goa shall provide the Shapefiles of the Cadastral data with the Survey Nos. and their sub divisions, the structures to be finally shown in the 1:4000 scale CZMP to NCSCM, to enable NCSCM to revise the maps on 1:4000 scale. In addition, the State of Goa may also separately issue an order clarifying the legal position of the structures finally shown in the CZMP, as indicated in the Minutes above. In any case, CRZ maps are required to be prepared separately for each project on 1:4000 scale, superimposing the project layout plans and other details, for the purpose of CRZ clearance.

Item No. 2: Reclassification of mudflats from CRZ 1A to CRZ 1B within port limit of Bhavnagar District, Gujarat.

The NCZMA was informed that the Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZMPs) of Bhavnagar District, Gujarat was approved on 28th February, 2019. The Government of Gujarat have requested for reclassification of mudflats from CRZ-1A to CRZ-IB in Bhavnagar Port limit due to tentative futuristic developmental projects or activities as under:

	Actual Area in the Database		Proposed Area To Be Converted to CRZ IB
	Area in Sq. Km		
	Total Area in the Sheet No. 93	Total Area within Port Limit	
Mangroves	10.97	3.84	0
50 m Mangroves Area	4.78	2.84	0
Mudflat	23.67	18.16	4.12 (22.68%)

The NCSCM have submitted their comments based on the approved CZMP as per CRZ Notification, 2011 and the same was considered by the NCZMA in its meeting held on 16th August, 2021, as under:

	Total area in sheet No. GJ 93 (sq. km.)	Total area within port limit (sq. km.)	Proposed area within port limit to be converted into CRZ-IB (sq. km.)	Areas outside port limit (sq. km.)
Mangroves	10.97	3.84	0	0.07
50 m mangrove areas (buffer)	4.78	2.84	0	0.04
Mudflat	23.67	18.16	5.95 (32.76%)	0.28

The representative of Government of Gujarat submitted that there is ambiguity in the mudflat area within the Bhavnagar port as per NCSCM report and informed NCZMA that the entire mudflat area proposed by Government of Gujarat is within the port limit.

The NCZMA in its meeting held on 16th August, 2021 decided that the ambiguity in area of mudflat within Bhavnagar port vis-a-vis the total intertidal area shall has be resolved between NCSCM and Government of Gujarat as per approved CZMP, 2011 and accordingly a revised proposal duly endorsed by Gujarat CZMA and Technical Scrutiny Committee may be submitted by the Government of Gujarat.

The representative of the Government of Gujarat/CCZMA have informed that they have requested NCSCM to change the Bhavnagar port limit provided in the approved CZMP, 2011. The Government of Gujarat provided the corrected port limits along with the notification and corresponding KML file. The mudflat area to be converted to CRZ IB within the revised port limit of sheet no GJ 93 is 6.19 Sq. km. As per the request, port limit of Bhavnagar port has been revised. The revised port limit falls in additional sheet no. GJ 94 (F 43M 5/SW). Mudflat area of 6.19 Sq. km which are within port limit and within the proposed boundary provided by Gujarat are converted into CRZ IB.

The NCSCM has informed that the proposal was placed before TSC in its 13th meeting held on 04/12/2021 and as per the revised draft CZMP sheet No. F43 M1/SE (Map No. GJ 93), the site within the boundary proposed for conversion to CRZ-IB, consists of the following areas.

Area	Total area in sheet No. GJ 93 (sq. km.)	Total area within port limit (sq. km.)	Proposed area within port limit to be converted into CRZ-IB (sq. km.)
Mangroves	10.97	7.56	0
50 m mangrove areas (buffer)	4.78	3.66	0
Mudflat	23.67	19.12	6.19 (32.37%)

The Technical Scrutiny Committee agreed to and recommended conversion of 6.19 sq. km. (32.37%) from earlier 5.95 (32.76%) of mudflat areas within Bhavnagar port limit, Gujarat, into CRZ-IB for development purposes, as requested by the Government of Gujarat.

*The NCZMA deliberated on the proposal and noted that the revised proposal has been approved by the Technical Scrutiny Committee and is in accordance with the Authority's earlier consideration. **The Authority, accordingly recommended the proposal for reclassification of mudflat area of 6.19 sq. km from CRZ 1A to CRZ 1B within the port limit of Bhavnagar District, Gujarat.*** The CZMPs may be revised accordingly as per the provisions in the CRZ Notification, through NCSCM, in view of the corrected port limit and the revised CZMPs may be submitted for approval/certification by MoEF&CC.

Item No. 3: Status of updation / revision of CZMPs of all Coastal States / UTs based on provisions of the CRZ Notification, 2019.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change have issued the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2019 *vide* GSR 37(E), dated 18/01/2019. This notification prescribes that that all the Coastal States and Union Territory administrations shall revise or update their respective Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) framed under the CRZ Notification, 2011 number S.O.19(E), dated 6th January, 2011, as per provisions of this notification and submit to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for approval at the earliest. All the project activities attracting the provisions of the CRZ Notification, 2019 shall be required to be appraised as per the updated CZMP and until and unless the CZMPs is so revised or updated, provisions of this notification shall not apply and the CZMP as per provisions of CRZ Notification, 2011 shall continue to be followed for appraisal and CRZ clearance to such projects.

The CZMP may be prepared or updated by the Coastal State Government or Union Territory by engaging reputed and experienced scientific institution(s) or the agencies including the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai, of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and in consultation with the concerned stakeholders. To facilitate the Coastal States/UTs, the Ministry have issued 'Guidelines for updation of Coastal Zone Management Plan prepared as per CRZ Notification, 2011 to align it with CRZ Notification, 2019', on 26/06/2019 and circulated to all Coastal States / UTs Management Authorities.

The NCZMA in its 43rd meeting held on 16/08/2021 desired that the Coastal State Government / Union Territory Administration shall expedite the updation / revision of CZMP's and shall submit to this Ministry for early approval. The NCZMA has also directed NCSCM to expedite the updation / revision of CZMP's pending with them.

The status of CZMP 2019 intimated by State's / UT's and the timeline stipulated by the NCZMA is as follows:

**STATUS REPORT FOR PREPARATION OF
COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PLAN (CZMP) – 2019**

S.No.	State/UT	Status of	Agency preparing CZMP-2019	Time proposed by the agencies to Complete Draft CZMP 2019	Timeline stipulated by the NCZMA to complete draft CZMP
		Draft CZMP 2019			
1	Maharashtra	Mumbai city, Mumbai sub-Urban: Approved by NCZMA	NCSCM	Completed	2 Months
		Other 5 Districts: Public hearing completed and recommended by TSC			
2	Odisha	Approved by NCMA	ORSAC/SAC	Completed	
3	Andhra Pradesh	Mapping completed Public Hearing to be conducted	NCSCM	4 Months – May 2022	4 Months
4	Karnataka	Mapping Completed Public Hearing completed	NCSCM	4 Months – May 2022	April, 2022
5	Puducherry	Mapping completed Public Hearing to be conducted	NCSCM	4 Months – May 2022	4 Months
6	Daman & Diu	Mapping completed Public Hearing to be conducted	NCSCM	4 Months – May 2022	4 Months
7	Tamil Nadu	Mapping completed Public Hearing to be conducted	NCSCM	4 Months – May 2022	4 Months
8	Gujarat	In progress	NCSCM	6 Months – July 2022	6 Months
9	Kerala	In progress. Being monitored by Kerala High Court.	NCESS	In progress.	6 Months
10	West Bengal	Pending. Status not known	IESWM	Status to be obtained from IESWM	May, 2022
11	Goa	Pending	Not known	CZMP - 2011 Approval under progress	CZMP - 2011 is under approval process. Prepare for CZMP, 2019
12	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	• Great Nicobar (ICRZ)-Approved by NCZMA	NCSCM	Completed	
		• Little Andaman Island (ICRZ) (TSC recommended)		Completed	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Andaman (ICRZ) • Middle Andaman (ICRZ) • Baratang (ICRZ) • North Andaman (ICRZ) • Rutland Island (ICRZ) • Kamorta Island (ICRZ) • Swaraj Dweep (ICRZ) • Car Nicobar Island (ICRZ) • Shaheed Dweep (IIMP) • Long Island (IIMP) • Aves Island (IIMP) • Smith Island (IIMP) • Flat Bay (IIMP) <p>(Maps submitted to ANCZMA for Public Hearing).</p>		4 Months – May 2022	4 Months
13	Lakshadweep Islands	Revision of IIMPs of Suheli, Kadamat & Minicoy Islands in progress.	NCSCM	4 Months – May 2022	4 Months

The representative of the State & UT Government / CZMA presented the status of the CZMP preparation as per the CRZ Notification, 2019 before the NCZMA. The NCZMA noted the progress made by the States/UTs and desired that the updation shall be expedited without any further delay. The Authority noted that the Gujarat is taking up the updation in phases. The concerns raised by the State of Kerala regarding CRZ reclassification due to urbanization, IIMPs for small islands and CRZ in Pokkali fields, the Authority desired that the matter may be taken up separately with the Ministry.

The Authority, after detailed deliberation desired that the State/UT shall complete the revision / updation of the CZMP as per the given timeline.

Item No. 4: Status of SOP for Seven Authorized Agencies and related issues for uniformity in preparation of CRZ Maps and others issues

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has authorized seven institutes/agencies for demarcation of the High Tide Line (HTL), Low Tide Line (LTL) and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) as under:

1. Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad
2. National Centre for Earth Science Studies (NCESS), Trivandrum
3. Institute of Remote Sensing (IRS), Anna University, Chennai

4. Institute of Environmental Studies & Wetland Management (IESWM), Kolkata
5. National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa/ Mumbai
6. National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai
7. National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai

The NCZMA was also informed that as per the CRZ notification 2019, the following, among others, are the requirements for CRZ clearance for permissible and regulated activities.

- CRZ map in 1:4000 scale, drawn up by any of the agencies identified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change *vide* its Office Order Number J-17011/8/92-IAIII, dated the 8th August 2019, using the demarcation of the HTL or LTL, as carried out by NCSCM.
- Project layout superimposed on the CRZ map duly indicating the project boundaries and the CRZ category of the project location as per the approved Coastal Zone Management Plan under this notification.
- The CRZ map normally covering 7 km radius around the project site also indicating the CRZ-I, II, III and IV areas including other notified ecologically sensitive areas.

In order to resolve issues related to uniformity in preparation of CRZ Maps for the purpose of CRZ clearance, being prepared by the above mentioned Seven authorized agencies, a draft Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was decided to be prepared, which was placed before the 43rd NCZMA for its consideration. These standard operating procedures focus on the methods, processes, and requirements for preparation of the following CRZ mapping products:

- CRZ map of project site on 1:4000 scale.
- CRZ map on 1:25,000 scale covering an area of 7 km radius from the project site.
- CRZ report.

Based on deliberations held, the NCZMA during its 43rd meeting had desired that the SOP may be circulated to all State CZMAs for their comments / observations and upon receipt of the same, the proposal shall be considered at a later stage. Accordingly, the SOP was circulated to all State or UT/ CZMAs for their comments. The SOP has been revised based on the comments/observation received. The SOP prepared accordingly was presented by NCSCM before the NCZMA for its consideration and recommendation.

The Authority deliberated on the SOP with due consideration of inputs of the State/UT and authorized agencies. The Authority was informed that CZMP maps are prepared with 1:25000 scale, and in case of CRZ map for individual project map of 1:4000 is prepared. Considering the higher accuracy, it would be appropriate for the concerned expert appraisal committees to consider the latest HTL / LTL in the CRZ area on case to case basis. The NCZMA also opined that the Seven authorised agencies can take up project of any State/UT's and the shape file prepared by the NCSCM may

be obtained from the concerned State or with their concurrence. Based on the comments received, the NCSCM proposed following amendments: -

- Inclusion of the names of persons / agency which prepared the SOP.
- Template on the cost analysis.
- Inclusion of ESZ.
- Analysis of comments received from IESWM, Kolkata to ensure all concerns taken into account.

The NCZMA accepted the proposal and accordingly recommended the SOP with the amendments proposed.

5. Any other item with the permission of the Chair

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks of the Chair.

Annexure

S. No	Name of Participant	Organization	E-mail
1.	Ms. Leena Nandan Secretary (EF&CC) & Chairperson, NCZMA	MoEF&CC, New Delhi	secy-moef@nic.in
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