

**MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF PROPOSED ASHTI LIFT IRRIGATION SCHEME NO. 3, ASHTI, TQ. ASHTI, DIST: BEED UNDER THE KRISHNA-MARATHWADA LIFT IRRIGATION PROJECT PROPOSED BY THE GODAVARI MARATHWADA IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AURANGABAD, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA CONDUCTED ON 05/04/2018 AT 12.00 NOON AT SHREE GOVIND MANGAL KARYALAYA & LAWNS, AHMEDNAGAR-JAMKHED ROAD, BALEWADI PHATA, VILLAGE DHANORA, TQ. ASHTI, DIST: BEED, MAHARASHTRA.**

Environmental public hearing in respect of proposed **Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 3** under the Krishna-Marathwada Lift Irrigation Project proposed by the Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation, Aurangabad, Water Resources Department, Government of Maharashtra was conducted on 05/04/2018 at 12.00 noon at Shree Govind Mangal Karyalaya & Lawns, Ahmednagar-Jamkhed Road, Balewadi Phata, Village Dhanora, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed, Maharashtra.

Following members were present during the public hearing :

1. **Shri C.V. Suryavanshi,**  
Additional District Magistrate, Beed,  
Dist: Beed. Chairman.
2. **Dr. J.B. Sangewar,**  
Regional Officer,  
MPCB, Aurangabad. Member.
3. **Shri C.N. Shinde,**  
I/c Sub-Regional Officer,  
MPCB, Jalna. Convener.

A list of members and public participants present for Public Hearing is annexed herewith. All those present were given welcome by the Convener. Then, **Shri C.N. Shinde**, I/c Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Jalna and Convener of Public Hearing Panel with the permission of the Chairman of Public Hearing Panel narrated the procedure to be followed for obtaining environmental clearance for **Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 3** by explaining the provisions of the MoEFCC, Government of India Notification No. S.O. 1533 dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 and amended Notification No. S.O. 3067 (E) dated 01/12/2009 and Summary of the project right from the date of receipt of application submitted by the Project Proponent for conducting Public Hearing till fresh notice issued by MPCB in the local newspapers Daily Sakal (Marathi) and Daily Lokmat Times (English) dated 28/02/2018. He stated that one representation with respect to the said Public Hearing is received at Regional Office, MPCB, Aurangabad. He also stated that if anybody would like to express their suggestions, objections, views, etc. regarding the proposed project, they may record the same either orally or in writing during the today's Public Hearing. He requested the public participants that the questions to be asked about the proposed project shall be related with the environment only, which will be replied by the Project Proponent satisfactorily and same will be recorded. He stated that the detail report of the public hearing will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change

(MoEFCC), Govt. of India for further necessary action. Thereafter, he requested the Project Consultant with the permission of the Chairman of Panel to brief the presentation of their proposed project.

Then, the Project Consultant, **Padmini Shinde** Environment Expert, Ultratech Environmental Consultancy & Laboratory, Thane started the power point presentation of the proposed project and stated that the main purpose of public hearing is to know the support of the people for the proposed project and effective measures for the environmental and social development activities/plans.

She stated that **Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 3** is a part of Krishna-Marathwada Irrigation Project and it is the aim of Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation to make available the water in the drought prone area. By proposing the Krishna-Marathwada Irrigation Project, the said Corporation (GMIDC) has proposed to bring the area in Paranda, Bhoom, Washi, Kallam, Osmanabad, Tuljapur, Omerga, Lohara Tehisls in Osmanabad district and Ashti Tehsil in Beed district under irrigation. There are 3 Lift Irrigation Schemes under the Krishna-Marathwada Project, i.e. Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 1 & 2 for Osmanabad district and Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 3 for Ashti Tehsil in Beed district. She further stated that initially, the Government had given administrative approval for an amount of Rs. **2382.50** Crs. for the Krishna-Marathwada Irrigation Project as per G.R. dated 23/08/2007. Thereafter, the Government had submitted the modified estimated budget by including the Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme for Ashti Tehsil in Beed district as per letter dated 04/11/2008, for which the Government has given first modified administrative approval for an amount of Rs. **4845.05** Crs. for Krishna-Marathwada Irrigation Project for Osmanabad and Beed districts and first modified administrative approval for an amount of Rs. **1046.00** Crs. for **Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 3**, Ashti, Dist: Beed.

She further stated that in the Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme, the water will be lifted from Ujani Reservoir in 6 stages, which are as below :

1. Ujani Pedgaon to Takli Kolewadi Lake
2. Takli Kolewadi Lake to Bhosekhind Tunnel.
3. Sina Nimgaon Project to Parodi Ridge.
- 4A Khuntephal Lake to Ganesh Ridge.
- 4B Khuntephal Lake to Balewadi Ridge.
5. Kambli Project to Dongargaon Ridge.
6. Kini L.P. Lake to Kini Ridge.

She showed the slide showing the details of above water lifting stages.

Thereafter, she briefed about the about the salient features of the project and stated that it is proposed to irrigate **27543** ha of land in Ashti Tehsil of Beed district and it is proposed to use **5.68** TMC of water for **Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 3**, which will be made available from the Ujani Reservoir through Krishna-Bhima Stabilization Project. She showed the details of location of proposed project, project map and photographs in the project area. She briefed the details regarding Command Area of the project, which are as Total Command Area – **52662** ha,

Cultivable Command Area – 35647 ha, Irrigable Command Area – 27543 ha, Total Cost of Project – Rs. 1046.00 Cr., Cost of Irrigable Area – Rs. 379770/- per ha, Benefit Cost Ratio – 1.25, Cost of Water Storage of Project – Rs. 184.15 Cr./TMC and further showed the map of Command Area of the project.

She further briefed the details about Khuntephal Storage Tank and stated that Khuntephal Storage Tank is located at a distance of 1 km. at the downstream of village Khuntephal Pundi. The other details shown by her in the table are like Toposheet No., Latitude, Longitude, Capacity of Full Reservoir Level – 131.59 MM<sup>3</sup>, Total Submergence Area – 1067 ha, Percentage of Submergence to Irrigation Area - 3.87%, Villages in Submergence Area – Khuntephal, Balewadi, Kumbhephal, Solapurwadi & Waghrol, etc. She also showed the details about Earthen Dam viz location, length, maximum height, width, free board, etc.

While briefing about the crop pattern, she stated that there are sugarcane, crapes, sapodilla (*chiku*) (perennial crops), chilli, turmeric (dual season crops) and wheat, jowar, sunflower (rabbi crops), etc. in the project area.

**Padmini Shinde** further briefed about the environment study and stated that to know the probable environment impact due to the proposed project and the mitigation measures to be taken thereof, they have studied various aspects, which includes air quality, water quality, soil quality, noise level, biological environment, socio-economic environment, etc. during the period from September - 2016 to November - 2016, December - 2016 to February - 2017 and March - 2017 to May - 2017.

**Air Quality** – Air quality monitoring is carried out at 9 locations in the study area and observed that the concentration of parameters PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> is within the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board. She showed the slides showing the details regarding air monitoring locations, climate, etc. in the area.

**Noise Level** – The noise level monitoring carried out at various locations in the study area during the month of August, 2016, December, 2016 and March, 2017 observed within the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board.

**Water Quality** – The surface water and ground water quality monitoring is carried out at various locations in the study area and it is observed that the pH of water is neutral to acidic and electrical conductivity is normal. As the land in the command area of the project is sloppy early water draining is observed. As the water level is being decreased day-by-day, the concentration of Dissolved Solids observed slightly increased in the ground water sample. The concentration of Coliform observed slightly increased in the water sample during the Monsoon and Winter season, hence it is necessary to disinfect the water for drinking purpose.

**Soil Quality** – For soil testing, total 33 Nos. of soil samples are collected in the study area and various tests are carried out in the laboratory. After soil testing, it is observed that the water holding capacity of the soil in command area is 52.2 to 79.1%. Mainly, black soil is observed in the study area and pH of the soil is neutral to acidic and electrical conductivity is normal. The concentration of organic matters, available Nitrogen, phosphorus, etc. observed in the soil is

oper for growth of crops. She showed the slides of satellite/LULC maps of the proposed project area.

**Bio Environment** – The study about plants and animal in the project area is carried out during the Summer, Monsoon and Winter season and observed that there are various types species of trees, shrubs, plants, animals and birds, etc. She showed the map showing the bio environment survey in study area and photographs of various animals, birds, trees, etc. in the area. The study area is hilly, high and low. Climate in the area is dry except rainy season and due to drought prone area, there is no sufficient rainfall in the area. The area is of few trees and shrubs/bushes, hence it is classified in the shrubs forest. The big trees occur mainly on the farm bund and on the bank of river and creek/nalla. The land in the command area is of light and medium quality and the greenery in the area occurs slightly. The area is of dry leaf fall shrubs and no any rare plant species occurred during the study in the project area.

**Social Environment & Survey** – Farming is the main business of the people in command area for living. 143 villages will get benefit in Ashti Tehsil due to the Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme. The percentage of working people, non-working people and educated people in the area is 53%, 47% & 69% respectively. The farmers having very less land will be benefited due to the proposed project. She further showed the slide showing the details regarding total population, SC/ST, literate/illiterate, etc. in the command area and submergence area.

She stated that due to construction of Khuntephal Storage Tank 5 villages will be affected viz. Khuntephal (Pundi), Solapurwadi Kumbhephal, Balewadi & Waghluj and showed a table showing the details regarding Project Stage No. 1 & 2. The water storage in the Project Stage-1 & 2 will be 1.68 TMC & 4.0 TMC respectively. Villages Khuntephal & Kumbhephal fall under Project Stage-1 and the villages Solapurwadi, Balewadi & Waghluj fall under Project Stage-2 in Ashti Tehsil of Beed district.

**Padmini Shinde** further briefed about the Anticipated Environmental Impact on the surrounding environment due to the proposed project and the Mitigation Measures to be taken thereof and stated as follows :

#### **Impact on Air Quality :**

During the construction phase, there will be emission of dust and smoke due to transportation, excavation work, land leveling, etc. Due to use of diesel operated machineries and vehicles there will be slightly increase in concentration of SO<sub>2</sub>, CO. During the operation phase, water will be supplied for irrigation in the command area and electric pumps will be used for lifting the water at certain places, hence no any pollution is expected, however, very less air pollution will be there due to vehicles.

#### **Impact on Noise Level :**

During the construction phase, there is the possibility of noise pollution due to the use of machineries and vehicles, but it will not affect the health of the people. Possibility of noise pollution is also there due to the movement of wild animals in the area, but the said impact will

be local and temporary and a for taking care of the same, a plan has been prepared. During the operation phase, except transportation, there is no possibility of any noise pollution due to the proposed project.

#### **Impact on Water Resources :**

During the construction phase, there is possibility of temporary quality of ground water and surface water changes due to sludge runoff during rainy season, useless material in construction work and draining water from the temporary labour camps, etc. During the operation phase, the proposed project is useful for bringing the non-cultivated land under cultivation. The level of ground water table will be increased in the area due to the said project and it will be helpful to increase in agriculture production due to availability of water. There is possibility of change in soil and water quality in command area after some period due to use of more water, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, but due to agriculture technology, it is necessary to aware the farmers in the district for drip irrigation, organic farming and less use of chemical fertilizers, etc.

#### **Impact on Soil :**

During the construction phase, due to daily activities, the dust particles, cement and other construction material will be mixed in the soil in the surrounding area because of which the water holding capacity of soil will be reduced. The soil quality will also affect due to the lubricant (*vangan*) leakages from the vehicles used daily, but such impact will be temporary and negligible. During the operation phase due to irrigation on a large scale, the impact on upper layer of soil will be more due to which there will be increase in salinity of land. Command Area Plan will be prepared and the impact to be occurred will be reduced by conservation of soil for which the measures like green belt development, to stop soil erosion, etc. can be taken.

#### **Impact due to Construction Waste :**

During the construction phase, the solid waste generated includes debris, stones, soil from excavation work, waste from labour camp, etc. The stone soil, murum generated from excavation work will be reused and the waste generated from labour camp will be disposed off properly. During the operation phase, the waste generated from the construction phase will be used for land filling, hence there is no possibility of adverse impact during the operation phase.

#### **Impact on Socio-economic Environment :**

There will be employment generation due to the proposed project and after construction and completion of the project, the local people will be benefited due to step by step employment opportunities in the industries and commercial institutions. Due to definite availability of water, there will be increase in the industrial and commercial institutions by means of which employment will be generated for the skilled and unskilled categories of workers for which preference will be given to the local people. There will also be increase in agriculture oriented industries in the area due to the said project. As reported earlier, 5 villages namely Khuntephal (Pudi), Solapurwadi, Kumbhephal, Balewadi and Waghluj will be affected due to the Khuntephal

Storage Tank. However, rehabilitation of all those families of villages under the submergence area will be done as per the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. A necessary plan has been prepared so as to get the compensation to the project affected people. Proper rehabilitation and proper compensation will be given to the farmers those houses have been completely destroyed due to which the impact to be occurred will be negative.

**Padmini Shinde** further briefed about the Environment Management Plan and stated that there is a Mehkari river which flows seasonally and for the conservation of aquatic plants and animals, 10% water from the dam will be discharged in the said river. Due to dam, water bodies will be formed and therefore there is possibility of storing of water in the nearby area for which green belt will be developed near the water bodies. Water will be available in the command area due to the project and there is possibility of affecting the land due to excess use of water for which Command Area Development Plan is prepared in which drainage system is proposed for draining the water. Awareness will be done for tree plantation in the Catchment Area and Command Area and awareness also will be done for the development of proper crop system in the Catchment Area due to which soil erosion will be reduced. Catchment Area Development Plan will be prepared for reducing the soil erosion and the implementation of which will be done from various departments at Government level. The construction work of the project will be carried out during the day time only and stringent suggestion will be given to the workers for not hunting of any animal.

As far as Public Health & Nutrition is concerned, she stated that sufficient medical facility will be made available to the employees in the construction work and their camps and one vehicle will be made available at the project site during the emergency period. For keeping the environment friendly health, treatment will be given to the waste water.

She briefed about the Green Belt Development and stated that the Green Belt will be developed at camps, canals and road sides by planting local plant species. Green Belt will also be developed by cultivating the local plant species in the Catchment Area and Command Area for reducing the soil erosion.

She further briefed about the Rehabilitation Plan and stated that a village meeting (*Gramsabha*) has been conducted at Khuntephal and Kumbhephal for Rehabilitation Plan and the land required for rehabilitation. Accordingly, the process of finalizing the said land is at final stage and after finalizing the said land, the proposed works will be taken in hand as per the financial provision is made in the proposed project plan. She stated that the services and infrastructures to be provided under the Rehabilitation Act will be like Internal Village Roads, Effluent Network, Water Supply Scheme, Water Facility for Animals, Bus Stop, Primary Health Centre, Primary School, *Anganwadi* Building, Playground for Children, One Electric Connection for Every Family, Meeting Hall, Toiler, Grave Yard, etc. She showed a table showing the details of financial provision made towards rehabilitation, which includes above mentioned services and infrastructures,

She showed the details regarding Budgetary Cost Estimate towards Environment Management and stated that a provision of Rs. 36737.00 Lakh is made for the same. She stated

that financial provision is also made towards Rehabilitation, Green Belt Development, Environmental Monitoring, Catchment Area Development, Fishery, etc.

While briefing about the Project Benefits, **Padmini Shinde** stated that 27543 ha of area in drought prone area in Ashti Tehsil will be covered under irrigation, benefit will get to 143 villages in Ashti Tehsil, there will be increase in agriculture production, water scarcity problem will be solved, economical and social condition of the farmers will be improved, fish production will be increased in reservoir, facility for drinking water for the wild animals will be available and due to definite availability of water source local business and industries will be increased, therefore employment opportunities will be available for the local people. Lastly, she stated that the proposed project will be beneficial for all and then she concluded the power point presentation of the said project.

Then, **Shri C.N. Shinde**, I/c Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Jalna & Convener of Public Hearing Panel requested the public participants that if anybody is having any suggestion, questions, etc. about the proposed project related with the environment only, they may ask the same by telling their name and address. During the course of public hearing, the panel members and public participants raised certain questions related to the said project and same were answered by the Project Consultant/Project Proponent, which are as below :

1. **Shri Shri Shirish Korade**, a resident of nearby area in Ashti Tehsil, Dist: Beed asked whether the land in the surrounding area will be infertile due to excess water and if so, the measures planned thereof by the concerned. **Shri Adhikrao Yewale**, the Project Consultant clarified that 27543 ha of area will be covered under irrigation and there is a system in our area to use more water in their farm when water is available, hence he stated that they have created awareness in the people in planning stage for adopting drip irrigation scheme, water sprinkling scheme, etc. for using less water. He stated that as reported earlier, the area of 27543 ha will be covered under irrigation and the land in the area is undulating and draining, they have prepared a Command Area Development Plan, which includes land leveling, proper drainage system due to which water from the land will be drained properly.
2. **Shri Deepak Kele**, a resident of nearby area stated that there is a K.T. Weir located on the river Sina at the downstream of the said project and then asked about the planning to be done to discharge water in the said weir after filling the proposed project with water as previously, there was drought condition in the area. **Shri Ashok Khedkar**, Executive Engineer, Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation (Project Proponent) stated that the proposed project is a Lift Irrigation Scheme and after storing the water at Khuntephal for Ashti Tehsil and there will be higher control from North/hilly area of Ashti Tehsil and provision is made in the said scheme so as to fill up the existing percolation dams in the Command Area by discharging the water through rising drain, canal zone into every nallas in the area.
3. **Shri Subhash**, a resident of nearby village Kumbhephal, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed stated that encroachment has been done on his own land admeasuring half acre located at Survey No. 5, Village Kumbhephal, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed, but Talathi says that only 6.5 ft. of his

land has been acquired. He stated that inspite of acquiring his actual half acre of land, nobody is co-operating him properly, hence he requested **Shri Khedkar** to tell him whether his question is right or wrong. **Shri Khedkar** clarified that land measurement is being conducted both by Railway Department and Irrigation Department, and if the land is used by Railway Department, follow-up will be taken with the said department to issue notice against land acquisition and to make payment otherwise Irrigation Department will make the payment if the land of said person falls under submergence area.

4. **Shri Dadasaheb Bhausaheb Gavane**, a resident of nearby village Dhanora, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed asked that how many times the water will be given during the year to the farmers at the downstream after completion the said project and after receiving water to it. **Shri Khedar** stated that the proposed Scheme is 8<sup>th</sup> Scheme and water will be lifted for the said project from 31<sup>st</sup> July to October end and the provision is made in the said scheme for giving water for both the Kharip & Rabbi seasons. He suggested the people have to make necessary water management at the percolation dams in which water will be discharged and water is kept in balance, it will be beneficial for the people in the area during the Summer season.
5. **Shri Kolhe**, a resident of nearby village Pimpalgaon (Dani), Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed stated that there is a Mehakari percolation dam located at a distance of 5 km. at the downstream of the proposed project, he asked the rain water to be received to the said percolation dam will be arrested due to proposed project and if so, it will be injustice to the farmers in the command area of Mehakari dam, hence he suggested to store the lifted water in the proposed project and not to arrest the rain water receiving to the Mehaari dam. He asked whether the water from the proposed project will get to the Mehakari dam whenever there will be no rain in the area. **Shri Khedkar** stated that it is very good question and not a single drop of water receiving to the catchment area of Mehakari dam will be arrested for the Khuntephal Storage Tank for which as per the budget estimate of the proposed project, technically, they have proposed to provide switch gate at the bottom of Khuntephal Storage Tank at river bed level due to which the original water of river Mehakari will receive to the Mehakari dam and the switch gate will be closed only after filling up the said dam completely and the water from Ujani will be stored in the proposed Lift Irrigation Scheme. He further stated that if there will be excess water, first of all, it will receive to the river Mehakari and perhaps, the Mehakari dam would be filled upto 100% permanently.
6. One of the public participants asked whether the name of his village is included in the command area. **Shri Khedkar** reported that 143 Nos. of villages are selected in command area in which the name of village of said person is included.
7. After asking by one of the public participants about the hectares of land to be irrigated and numbers of villages to be benefited due to the proposed project, **Shri Yewale** reported that 27543 hectares of area will be irrigated and as per survey, 143 Nos. of villages in Ashti Tehsil area will be benefited due to the said project.



8. **Shri Ishwar Sandu**, a resident of nearby village Pimpalgaon, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed asked about the time period for completion of the proposed Khuntephal Storage Tank. **Shri Khedkar** stated that they have planned to complete the said project within 4 years period and in the Cabinet Meeting conducted on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 by taking the important decision, the Government of Maharashtra has directed to complete the Krishna-Marathwada Irrigation Project and Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme within 4 years period.
9. **Shri Shankar Thorve**, a resident of nearby village Solapurwadi, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed stated that the proposed project is divided in two parts, i.e. First Stage – Khuntephal & Kumbhephal and Second Stage – Solapurwadi, Balewadi & Waghrul, hence he asked why such stages are done. He further asked about the period required for completion of the work of 2<sup>nd</sup> stage after completion of the work of 1<sup>st</sup> stage; and actual period required for the rehabilitation of their villages. **Shri Khedkar** stated that though the Solapurwadi village is in the second Stage, it is clearly mentioned in the administrative approval given by the Government of Maharashtra dated 27/08/2009 to complete the work of said project in 2 stages, i.e. first stage is of 1.68 TMC and second stage is of 4 TMC. He also stated that again after another modification, they will request to the Government of Maharashtra for second stage work of the said project.
10. **Shri Govardhan Suryabhan Thombare**, a resident of nearby village Deubegaon (Ghat), Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed stated that the name of their village is not mentioned anywhere with respect to the proposed project. **Shri Khedkar** stated that it will be ensured about the name of village of **Shri Govardhan** and if not, the name of his village will be considered definitely at the time of conducting water survey.

During the course of Public Hearing, **Shri Sureshji Dhas**, Ex. MLA, requested the public participants that those would like to ask questions, they shall ask the questions silently specifically related with the proposed project only by coming at front side.

11. **Shri Babasaheb Wanve**, a resident of nearby village Chinchewadi, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed asked about the period required for completion of the work of proposed project. It is reported by some of the public participants that the said question is already asked, however, **Shri Khedkar** reported that after getting the Environmental Clearance, it is a planning of Government to complete the said project within 4 years period.
12. **Shri Gavane**, a resident of nearby area asked whether whether water will get to the villages namely Sarada, Ashti and Dhanora due to the proposed project. **Shri Khedkar** reported that the said three villages will be benefited because they fall under the command area.
13. One of the public participants from nearby area stated that earlier it is reported that the river water will not receive to the Khuntephal Tank and the water will be taken from Krishna-Marathwada Irrigation Project at Khuntephal, hence he asked which work will be carried out first, either the pipeline work of Krishna-Marathwada Irrigation Project or the Khuntephal Tank. **Shri Khedkar** stated that the work of Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme is to be carried out in 6 stages. Khuntephal Storage Tank is the major factory in which 2

villages in first stage and 3 villages in second stage are included and as the land acquisition and rehabilitation work in these stages is huge, the work of Khuntephal Storage Tank is taken in hand at first and till completion of the said project, no any other work will be taken in hand and no water will be stored in the said project. Thereafter, immediately the work of Ujani to Sina Dam and Sina Dam to Khuntephal are being taken in hand.

14. **Shri Navnath Eknath Atole**, a resident of nearby village Wahira, Tq. Asshti, Dist: Beed pointed out that water gets for drinking purpose and not for the farming at village Wahira, hence he requested the villagers of Wahira shall not be away from water and the agriculture land in village Wahira shall be brought under irrigation.
15. **Shri Shelke**, a resident of nearby village Dhanora, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed stated that in the General Meeting conducted at Tehsil level in the year 2002 when he was went there for work, it was told about the Ranai, Jokhari, Takri and Takari projects and at that time a project of 4000 ft. tunnel was completed and 18000 hectares of land was brought under irrigation. And therefore he suggested that the water from this Tank/Talav shall be lifted and shifted at Talav at Varati Mountain and from the said talav, the water shall be provided to them through canal via village Ghata, Pimpri, Dongardal. He further stated that the Dhanora Talav is constructed in the period of Nizam Government and the water available in the said talav is very less (one and half ft.) He stated that the people in Western Maharashtra come together for developmental work, likewise, he requested the people in the area to come together for development works. **Shri Khedkar** stated the suggestion made by **Shri Shelke** for taking water properly at mountain will be considered technically at the time of conducting detail survey in the area.
16. One of the public participants & the resident of village Kumbhephal, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed pointed out that the agriculture land of five to six people is being acquired for the said project, then, he asked that what will be done for the children of such farmers. **Shri Khedkar** reported that it is a very important question and the rehabilitation of the village will be carried out as per the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 and whatever the infrastructures, like colleges for the children will be provided as per the prevailing rules of the Government. The said participant further asked whether the infrastructures will be provided immediately and stated that they have to wait for four years for the same. **Shri Khedkar** reported that the Rehabilitation Officer is the head for the same. A board showing the infrastructures to be provided for village will be displayed in the village. He also reported that the Chairman of Public Hearing Panel & the Hon'ble Collector is here, a meeting will be conducted with the District Rehabilitation Officer and then request will be made to them alongwith the report from the District Rehabilitation Officer, hence actually, there will be no need to wait. **Shri Survanshi**, the Additional District Magistrate, Jalna & the Chairman of Public Hearing reported that 18 types of infrastructures/schemes are to be provided in the villages, which includes schools, roads, electricity, water, etc. and the project will be completed only after completing the necessary infrastructures. He further reported that a separate meeting will be conducted and whatever the decision is to be taken will depending on the meeting.

17. **Shri Shankarrao**, a resident of nearby area stated that his question is related with environment, i.e. more and more trees of different species will be cut due to the said project, hence he asked whether new trees will be planted. **Shri Yewale** reported that a provision has been made in the planning for development of green belt where trees will be cut either in the submergence area or at canal side in the project area. The big trees to be cut in the submergence area will be transplanted at the back water side and where the trees will be cut in land to be acquired for canal, a green belt will be developed along the canal side, i.e. he reported that double or five times more trees will be planted against the trees to be cut.
18. The Ex. Sarpanch, village Nandur, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed stated that village Waghrol is near to their village Nandur and he asked that how many long the slope of water from the said project will reach in the agriculture land of village Nandur by keeping aside the village Waghrol. He stated that the agriculture land in village Nandur is at both the side of river and if the slope of water reaches at a more long distance, then he asked about the arrangement to be made for doing the agriculture work in such land. **Shri Khedkar** reported that after conducting detail survey of the area, they will visit the office of Grampanchayat, Nandur and will show the map of the area and then will know the survey numbers and situation.
19. **Shri Thorve**, a resident of nearby village Kuntephal, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed asked about the percentage of water to be stored in the Khuntephal Storage Tank for the area of village village, Khuntephal, Solapurwadi, etc. **Shri Khedkar** replied that provision for storage of water is made by considering the command area of local villages and considering the irrigation area in command area, the capacity of the said project is proposed.
20. **Shri Krishna Sahebrao Kakade**, a resident & farmer of nearby village Khuntephal, Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed stated that as reported earlier, the water will receive to 143 Nos. of villages in the area, but he asked about their actual land under submergence area. He also asked about the provision made for the reservation of any water (10%, 15%, etc.) for the farmers whose land is acquired actually for the said project. **Shri Khedkar** replied that 1067 hectares of land from village Khuntephal, Balewadi, Solapurwadi in these two stages will be under submergence area out of which 256 hectares of land is of village Khuntephal and there is reservation for remaining land, hence, the storage tank will be constructed by considering the remaining area as command area. He clarified that basically, the water from the storage tank will not be provided through canal as it is to be lifted by the farmers at their own cost, hence permission from the Government will be required for lifting of water for upper side or anywhere in the surrounding area.
21. **Shri Manikrao Chavan**, a resident of nearby area asked to provide a list of villages in command area, upon which **Shri Khedkar** reported that there are 144 villages, a photocopy of which will be provided to the said person and suggested him to study of the same in detail.

22. **Dr. J.B. Sangewar**, Regional Officer, MPCB, Aurangabad & Member of Public Hearing Panel asked about the period and duration/hours of air monitoring, carried out before commissioning of the project, monitoring to be carried out after commissioning of the project as there may be increase in pollution and the planning is done for control of pollution during the construction and after commissioning of the project, etc. **Shri Yewale** reported that the air monitoring is carried out on 24 hours basis as per the guidelines of Central Pollution Control Board. **Dr. Sangewar** asked about the noise monitoring, then **Shri Yewale** reported that the noise monitoring is carried during night and day time. He further reported that the said monitoring is carried out before commissioning of the project, however, planning is also done for monitoring during the construction phase and provision is made for detail study for air quality, ground water quality, surface water, noise level, soil quality, ecology, bio environment, plants, animals, etc. after commissioning of the project. **Shri Khedkar** pointed out that the pump of 81000 H.P. capacity will be required for the proposed project, hence a committee was formed for certain modification in the project and recently in the letter dated 19/03/2018, it is clearly mentioned to use solar pumps so as to save the electricity, hence after detail study, they will submit the report to the Government in this behalf. **Dr. Sangewar** further asked about the existing ecology and the ecology and changes, if any after receiving water at the project. **Shri Yewale** reported that there is a river Mehakari in the area, which is not perennial, flows in the monsoon season on which a dam will be constructed and provision is made to discharge 10% of water in it so as to maintain the ecology (trees, animals, fish, etc.) at the downstream of the river. **Dr. Sangewar** said that the lifestyle of the people, etc. in the area will be changed, then **Shri Yewale** told that yes, the ecology will be changed, hence they have made the provision of discharging 10% of water in the said river.
23. **Shri C.N. Shinde**, I/c Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Jalna & Convener of Public Hearing read a representation received at Regional Office, MPCB, Aurangabad from **Shri Machhindra Amrua Thorve**, a farmer of village Khuntephal (Pundi), Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed wherein it is mentioned that the work of the project of Stage No. 4, having capacity 5.68 TMC, Khuntephal (Pundi), Tq. Ashti, Dist: Beed under the Krishna-Marathwada Irrigation Project Scheme No. 3 was in progress during day and night time illegally during the year 2010 to 2014 by pressuring, beating, etc. the farmers in the area without conducting environmental public hearing and without obtaining required permission. It is further mentioned in the said representation that the said work was done by the Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation during day and night time due to which there was heavy air pollution and noise pollution by vehicle transportation and operating various machines due to which the people in the villages are suffering from various diseases like asthma, lungs, skin diseases, eye irritation, etc. and therefore, due to violation of Environmental Act and Pollution Control Act, he requested through his representation to file criminal case against the officers who worked on the said project and a copy of F.I.R. shall be given to him. **Shri Khedkar** stated that the representation given by **Shri Thorve** is correct and due to violation of environmental rules, a notice was issued by the MoEF and at that time, criminal cases was filed against the officers from Osmanabad division. Thereafter, the GMIDC and Government of Maharashtra submitted a *Tharav* to the MoEF, Delhi, which is agreed by them and then

issued a letter on 12/02/2014 directing to stop and suspend the work immediately and hereafter not to do such mistake and to carry out any work. Thereafter, they have not started any work from 01/01/2014, they have not started any work of any scheme. Thereafter, they (GMIDC) newly applied for TOR, which has been approved in the year 2015 and then by following proper procedure, viz. environmental impact assessment study, etc. now, they have taken in hand the work of which the today's public hearing is being conducted. **Dr. Sangewar** stated that the MPCB has not filed any case in the said matter, upon which **Shri Khedkar** reported that they have followed the guidelines of MPCB properly, however, he said that he will show the letter dated 12/02/2014 issued by MoEF.

**Shri C.V. Suryavanshi**, the Additional District Magistrate, Beed & the Chairman of Public Hearing Panel stated that the questions about types of development are being asked frequently and while achieving the development by environment protection simultaneously through public hearing is a good system. He stated that he surprised that so far he has conducted 10 public hearings, but this is the only one public hearing which is conducted for a longer period in a very pleasant manner, the people have asked the good and lovely questions and same are answered by the concerned department. He said that it is the necessity of this scheme for Ashti area and expected that the Environment Department will consider this issue positively. Prior to conduct the public hearing by the Chairman of Public Hearing Panel, some other public participants expressed their views as follows :


24. **Shri Sureshji Dhas**, Ex. MLA stated that many questions are asked by the public participants, good replies are given and complaint is also received. He further stated that the said scheme was approved for Osmanabad during the tenure of Vilasrao Deshmukh Saheb and as the Ashti and Osmanabad falls under the Krishna Basin, while giving modified administrative approval at that time, the Environment Committee was not constituted in the State and the Notification is prepared at the Hon'ble High Court/Supreme Court, and there was no Chairman/President for the committee in the State for the same. After passing more and more days, Environment Committee was constituted and in such a situation, during that period, the said project shall not be remain behind, hence while giving modified administrative approval for the Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 3, modified administrative approval was given to Osmanabad as it is a continuous part of Ashti and at that time as it was a continuous part, initially, approval was given for 31 TMC of water, then it was decided to give 25 TMC of water and finally it was agreed to give 23.66 TMC of water and 5.68 TMC of water is agreed for their area. Further, with respect to Krishna-Bhima Tribunal, 14 TMC of water was given out of which 7 TMC of water was given to their area as emergency assistance and all this is happened because of non constitution of committee. He stated that **Shri Jawdekar Saheb** was Environment Minister and then, **Shri Bhimrao Dhonde** become MLA at that time they have written a letter for constitution of committee. He stated that while giving administrative approval,, combine approval was given and no separate approval was given for Ashti and thereafter a separate proposal was prepared and administrative approval for Rs. 1046 Crs. was given for the Ashti project and now whatever done is before all in which there are also some changes. He suggested that instead of Sina

Project, the water shall bring directly into Khuntephal Project and to give environmental permission for whatever the changes will be there later on. He stated that if the record of 700 years seen, it will be seen that this belt is of very less rain fall and this (Ashti Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 3) is only one scheme to become the area *Sujlam, Suflam*, hence he requested to support and not to oppose for the same. He stated that the people from whole Tehsil are come here, hence he requested to all to pray to get the permission for the said project at the earliest. He further stated that the people shall be thankful to the Central Government because earlier they have to go to Bhopal for the projects having capacity of 50 hectares and from Bhopal to Mumbai and then they have to visit those offices years to years, but now the Central Government has opened the office at Nagpur for the same. He stated that the said work is pending for so many years and Central Government is releasing the funds as per requirement. The work of 7 to 9 National Highways is in progress in the State, and a proposal for Rs. 1047 Crs. has been given by Shri Dhonde Saheb and accordingly, the expenditure of said scheme will increase upto Rs. 2000 Crs. and it is capacity of present Government to give such amount within one installment. Hence, he requested to complete the work of said project immediately. Hence, he expected that it is the pray of all the people in the area that permission for 1.68 from Chief Minister and 1.68 from Krishan Bhima Tribunal, i.e. total 3.36 is expected to be granted at the earliest due to which the water can get immediately to them.

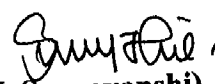
25. **Hon'ble Shri Bhimraoji Dhonde**, MLA stated that he has taken very much efforts at Mantralaya level for getting the water to their area, Ashti Tehsil area is one of the areas in India where there is very less rainfall and therefore for the common public work, they have gathered together. He stated that instead of requested for demand of water from Ahmednagar, he has submitted a proposal to the Government to get water from Ujani dam to Khuntephal directly due to which the water will get to the people in the area definitely and this work shall be completed immediately. He also stated that efforts will be taken so as to complete the proposed project within three to four years period. He pointed out that there are some new schemes by means of which all the farmers will get the benefit.

**Shri Suryavanshi**, the Chairman of Public Hearing Panel stated that considering the feelings of the public participants about the said project, they will consider positively and said that the public hearing is conducted in a very calm manner, then he concluded the Public Hearing by giving vote of thanks to the public participants

Lastly, the Public Hearing ended with a vote of thanks to the **Chair**.

  
(Dr. J.B. Sangewar)  
Member.

  
(C.N. Shinde)  
Convener.

  
(C.V. Suryavanshi)  
Chairman.