

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION
IN EXISTING UNIT OF SUGAR FACTORY FROM 7,000.0 TCD TO
9,000.0 TCD (EXPANSION BY 2,000.0 TCD) PROPOSED BY
PROJECT PROPONENT M/S LOKNETE MARUTRAO GHULE PATIL
DNYANESHWAR SAKHAR KARKHANA LTD., GUT NO.320, 334,
POST - BHENDE (BK), TAL-NEWASA, DIST-AHMEDNAGAR,
MAHARASHTRA**

The public hearing for proposed expansion in the existing unit of Sugar Factory From 7,000.0 TCD to 9,000.0 TCD (Expansion By 2,000.0 TCD) proposed by Project Proponent M/s LokneteMarutraoGhule Patil Dnyaneshwar SakharKarkhana Ltd., Gut No.320, 334, Post-Bhende (BK), Tal - Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar, Maharashtra was conducted on 13th August, 2019 at 11.00 a.m. at the site of the said industry.

As per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEFCC, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Office Order No.E-51of 2019 issued under letter no.BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-2781, Dated 23-07-2019 as below :-

1) District Magistrate, Ahmednagar - **Chairman**
or his representative not below the
rank of an Additional District Magistrate

2) Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik - **Member**
(Representative of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)

3) Sub Regional Officer, - **Convener**
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Ahmednagar

Shri AjitVasantraoPatil, Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Ahmednagar and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed Hon'ble Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, Member of the Public Hearing Committee, Company Officials, Government Officials

and public who were present in large number and informed that as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, GoI) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

He informed that the Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar was in receipt of application of Project Proponent M/s LokneteMarutraoGhule Patil Dnyaneshwar SakharKarkhana Ltd., Gut No.320, 334, Post-Bhende (BK), Tal – Newasa, Dist - Ahmednagar, Maharashtra for proposed expansion in the existing unit of Sugar Factory From 7,000.0 TCD to 9,000.0 TCD (Expansion By 2,000.0 TCD) at the existing site of the industry.

The Convener further informed that the project is in operation outside of notified industrial area and as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category A 5 (j). Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation is to make aware, local people who can be participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of the unit.

Project Proponent had sought permission from MoEFCC, GoI for sanction of TOR and for preparation of Environment Impact Assessment and MoEFCC, GoI has sanctioned ToRon 30th January, 2018.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published in the local newspaper daily Lokmatin Marathi and in national news paper daily Times of India in English on 08-07-2019. The public were appealed to send their suggestions or objections regarding the proposed expansion of the concerned unit.

Also a copy of EIA report and executive summary were made available at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, West-East Division Office, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440 001; District Magistrate Office-Ahmednagar; Additional District Magistrate Office- Ahmednagar; Zilla Parishad Office- Ahmednagar; District Industries Centre-Office, Ahmednagar; Sub Divisional Office-Ahmednagar, Tal & Dist – Ahmednagar, Tahsil Office-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar; Grampanchayat offices at BhendeBudruk, Bhende Khurd,

Kukana and Saundala, Tal - Newasa, Dist- Ahmednagar; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar; Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai; Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai and on the website of MPCB. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the expansion of above project. The Convener further informed that not a single objection is received by the local MPCB Office Ahmednagar. He informed that this public hearing will be conducted in three stages. First the presentation for Environment Management Plan will be given by the Environment Consultant, then there will be questions session. The participants can raise any suggestions, objections in environmental angle for the expansion of the project. The answers will be given by Project Proponent and Environment Consultant of the project collectively. Then there will be concluding session. With the permission of Chairman, Public Hearing Committee, he asked Environment Consultant to give presentation.

Environment Consultant of the Project Proponent gave presentation of Environment Management Plan. He informed that the expansion will be carried in the existing plant only. As per the Notification of MoEFCC, GoI, Project Proponent has sought permission to prepare Environment Impact Assessment Report and MoEFCC has accorded the sanction on 30-01-2018.

He informed that the project is in operation at the outside of notified Industrial area and as per EIA Notification, 2006, it falls under Category A 5 (j), which is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation for expansion.

The Environment Consultant informed that budgetary provisions of Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) Fund of Rupees 15/- lakh is made by the project proponent. The activities of green belt development, rain water harvesting, production of organic fertilisers will be carried in it. The water auditing will be carried from time to time for minimising the water usage in the project.

Shri Prasant Patil, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed the expansion in sugar crushing is proposed by the Project Proponent. An opportunity is given by the Government to local people to raise any suggestions, objections in environmental angle for the expansion of the project. The presentation is already made by the Environment

Consultant. Hence the participant can raise their objections, suggestions, doubts. While raising it, first name and residence address be informed. The Project Proponent and Project Consultant will give answers collectively.

Followings have participated during the discussions and the Answers given by the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Public Hearing Committee :-

1) Shri Ganesh Karbhari Gavane, Ex.Sarpanch, BhendaBudruk, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar :-

After expansion of the project, how much quantity of waste water will increase and how it will be treated? In the past, the waste water is used to be discharged near my house, but now the project management has adopted other way and now it is discharged in the factory's own agriculture land.

Due to this project, the local unemployed youths have got the job opportunities. Nearly 6,000 families have been knitted as a team in the project area.

2) Dr.Raosaheb Eknath Fulari, Resident of BhendaBudruk, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar :-

The local people are aware that though the expansion of the project is opposed, the permission will be granted. The oral or written complaints sent to the project management are not at all complied. Every day carbon particles/soot of the quantity of one bag have be removed from my house, as residing in the neighbourhood. It should be solved immediately. The project should be operated smoothly, but the complaints should be attended effectively.

3) Shri Babanrao Tagad, Resident of BhendaBudruk, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar :-

With the expansion of the project, green belt also will be developed. How many saplings will be sown, how much plot will be used and what type of saplings will be sown?

4) Shri Rajendra Ramrao Adhav, Resident-Bahegaon, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar:-

How much expenditure will occur for the expansion of the project?

5) Shri Sharad Baburao Argade, Resident of Saundala, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar:-

After expansion of the project, whether new boiler alongwith stack will be provided?

6) Shri Balasaheb Eknath Argade, Resident of Saundala, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar:-

How much additional water will require for the expansion of the project.

7) Shri H. Madhu Babu, Environment Worker, Hyderabad:-

While supporting the expansion of the project, few suggestions in writing is submitting to Environment Public Hearing Committee.

8) Shri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Hyderabad:-

While supporting the project, submitting here few suggestions. It is requested to give the suggestions in English. I am the first Environmentalist in India who supports the project. It is observed that most of the Environmentalists do oppose the projects. I am supporting the expansion of the project.

In India, there are 40 crores unemployed young men and women. who are in the age of 18 to 35. They need job opportunities. The Central Government and all State Governments are unable to give them jobs. Hence there is requirement of projects. Project Consultant has carried the survey of water, air, soil, noise. The Health Status Survey of the 10 k.m. radius also be carried. The additional water will require for the expansion of the project. Hence the project proponent should commission the rain water storage tank. The priority should be given to local people for job opportunities. The Skilled Development Programmes for the local young boys and girls should be undertaken by the project management to empower them for the jobs.

The project proponent can constitute a Co-ordination Committee of project officials, MPCB officials and representatives of the local people for implementing various social welfare programmes in the local area.

The local farmers should be encouraged to adopt and implement drip irrigation system. While giving support for the expansion of the project, it is requested that the project proponent should implement various environment protection programmes. The Environment Consultant is also congratulated for carrying detailed survey. It is requested Environment Public Hearing Committee to recommend the Government for granting Environment Clearance.

9) Shri DadasahebHaushiramGajare, Resident-BhendaBudruk, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar: -

As staying near the project, there were three major issues i.e. Carbon Particles/Soot and waste water. The project management is treating the waste water and discharging it in their own agriculture fields. The three number of stacks have been erected, hence there is no trouble of soot/ carbon particles. The project officials have nicely developed green belt development in and around the project due to which there is no dust pollution.

10) Shri Y. Chandrasekhar Reddy, Social Worker & Environmentalist, Hyderabad: -

The capacity of Effluent Treatment Plant should also be increased alongwith the expansion of the project. The villages of the project affected area should be adopted by the Project Proponent. The local farmers be encouraged for adoption and implementation of drip irrigation system. The rain water harvesting should be carried under the Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) Fund. Under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Fund, various social welfare schemes should be adopted. The Environment Public Hearing Committee is requested to recommend the project for granting Environment Clearance.

11)Shri Somnath Hari Gavane,Resident-BhendaBudruk, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar: -

Our family is staying just 10 feet away from the boundary wall. Previously there was trouble of waste water of the project. Now the treated waste water is discharged by the project proponent in their own agriculture land. The project management has developed green

belt in and around the plant. Hence there is no threat of dust pollution. Local people do not have any bad effects due to this project.

12) Shri Balkrishna Madhav Waghalkar, Resident-BhendaBudruk, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar:-

How much area of land will require for the proposed expansion of the project? The EIA report which is read during the meeting should be implemented wholly.

13) Shri Sandip Balbhim Gavane, Resident-BhendaBudruk, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar:-

Last year complaint was lodged to project management. The report of compliance of complaint is still awaited. If the prior permission is not obtained from the local Grampanchayat, how the project can be operated? The information obtained under the Right to Information Act, 2005 is submitting here to the Committee. Here Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that this meeting is conducted for the environmental issues due to expansion of the project. Hence the suggestions, objections if any regarding environmental issues of the project should be raised. There is different platform for another issues. It can be raised before the different platforms.

14) Shri Bodhak Chandrakant Wamanrao, Ex. Engineer, Public Works Department, Resident-BhendaBudruk, Tal-Newasa, Dist-Ahmednagar:-

In this meeting, the local resident Shri Ganesh Gavane has already raised the issue regarding waste water which is generated by the Project officials. It is suggested that instead of discharging, it should be stored in the factory premises only by erecting water tank.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed to raise any doubts, suggestions to all the participants. As there was no response, he directed Project Proponent and Project Consultant to give answers to the questions collectively.

The Managing Director of the Project Proponent while giving answers informed that as question raised by Shri Ganesh Gavane, there may be increase in waste water of 10-15 M³/Day. It will be treated and

then recycled in the process. While answering the question of Dr. Fulari, it is informed that the project proponent has installed Electro Static Precipitator (ESP), which gives 99.9% efficiency. Hence, there will not be spreading of carbon particles in the area.

The Managing Director of the Project Proponent further informed that now there are 38,000 trees in and around the project. It is proposed that this year 2,000 saplings will be sown, out of which 700 saplings have already been sown.

He informed that while expanding the project, there will not be any installation of new boiler alongwith stack. The additional water of 10-20 M³/day will require after expansion of the project. But the waste water after treatment will be recycled and reused. Secondly water auditing will be carried periodically for less usage of water.

The Managing Director of the Project Proponent thanked participants for supporting the expansion of the project.

The Environment Consultant informed that additional water of 200.0 M³/day will be required. But the treated waste water will be recycled and reused in the process. The Effluent Treatment Plant of the capacity of 1,500.0 M³/day is in operation.

The Environment Consultant further informed that at present, there is 80.0 TPH capacity of boiler for which 76.0 Meters height of stack and for 110.0 TPH capacity of boiler, 85.0 Meters of stack alongwith Electro Static Precipitator (ESP) is provided. There is one 40.0 TPH boiler, which has 80.0 meters of stack. The wet scrubber is installed for it. It will be kept as stand by for any emergency.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed that suggestions, objections raised during the meeting and the answers given by the Project Proponent and Project Consultant are noted. It will be included in the minutes of the meeting, The minutes will be submitted along with supporting letters for expansion and letters of objection with Final Environment Impact Assessment report to an Expert Committee of MoEF & CC, Gol. The Committee will take further decision accordingly.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee thanked all for participating in the meeting and raising their suggestion. He declared that the proceeding of this meeting is completed.

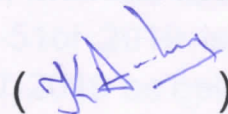
The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

Letter received in the meeting for supporting & objection are enclosed.


(Ajit Patil)

Convener,

Environment Public Hearing
Committee and Sub Regional
Officer, MPCB, Ahmednagar


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Representative of Member
Environment Public
Hearing Committee and
Regional Officer, MPCB,
Nashik


(Prashant Patil),

Chairman ,

Environment Public Hearing Committee

and

Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar,
District – Ahmednagar