

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF EXISTING SUGAR CANE CRUSHING CAPACITY FROM 2,500 TCD TO 8,000 TCD, ESTABLISHMENT OF 40 MW CO-GENERATION POWER PLANT AND 110.0 KLPD DISTILERY TO PRODUCE 110.0 KLPD RECTIFIED SPIRIT/110 KLPD EXTRA NEUTRAL ALCOHOL/ 105 KLPD ETHANOL BASED ON "C" / "B" HEAVY MOLASSES / SUGARCANE JUICE / SYRUP/ GRAINS PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S YASHWANT SUGAR & POWER PRIVATE LIMITED, AT POST – NAGEWADI, TAL – KHANAPUR, DIST - SANGLI, MAHARASHTRA.

The Public Hearing for proposed expansion of existing sugar cane crushing capacity from 2,500 TCD to 8,000 TCD, Establishment of 40.0 MW Co-generation Power Plant and 110.0 KLPD Distillery to produce 110.0 KLPD Rectified Spirit / 110 KLPD Extra Neutral Alcohol / 105 KLPD Ethanol based on "C" / "B" Heavy Molasses / Sugarcane Juice / Syrup/ Grains proposed by Project Proponent M/s Yashwant Sugar & Power Private Limited, At Post – Nagewadi, Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli, was conducted on Wednesday, the 27th January, 2021 at the site of the said industry at 12.30 pm.

Following were the panel members are present as per Board's Office Order No. E- 05 of 2021 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 210/20-FTS-0135, Dated 20-01-2021.

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| 1) Dr. Abhijeet Chaudhari, (IAS) Collector & District Magistrate, Sangli, | - Chairman |
| 2) Shri. Ravindra Anadhale, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kolhapur | - Member |
| 3) Shri. Navanath S. Awatade, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sangli. | - Convener |

Shri Navanath Awatade, Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Sangli and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed that this meeting is called as per the directives of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Govt. of India (GoI), New Delhi dated 09-12-2020 and

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) dated 15-12-2020, which is conducted by Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli. He further informed that the meeting is called in the background of Covid-19. Hence, it is requested to all participants to follow strict guidelines of Govt. of India. The thermal checking and use of sanitizer are kept at the entrance of the meeting hall and now it is compulsory to wear a mask in the meeting and follow the social distancing amongst the persons.

Shri Navanath Awatade, Convener of the Public Hearing Meeting welcomed District Magistrate and Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Regional Officer, MPCB, Kolhapur, who is Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Non-Government Officials (NGOs) working in the field of environment, Company Officials and local people / participants who were present and with the permission of Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee elaborated the preface.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment 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.

Convener informed that MPCB was in receipt of application from Project Proponent, M/s Yashwant Sugar & Power Private Limited, At Post – Nagewadi, Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli, for proposed expansion of existing sugar cane crushing capacity from 2,500 TCD to 8,000 TCD, Establishment of 40.0 MW Co-generation Power Plant and 110.0 KLPD Distillery to produce 110.0 KLPD Rectified Spirit / 110 KLPD Extra Neutral Alcohol / 105 KLPD Ethanol based on "C" / "B" Heavy Molasses / Sugarcane Juice / Syrup/ Grains.

Convener further informed that this project is established outside the Industrial Zone and as per EIA Notification, 2006, the project falls under Category A-5 (g) and 5 (j) which requires to obtain Environment Clearance from MoEFCC, GoI for which prior public consultation is mandatory.

Convener of the meeting further 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 submitted online prescribed application alongwith pre-feasibility report to the MoEFCC, Gol, New Delhi for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies on 27-11-2020 and MoEFCC, Gol, New Delhi has considered the project and given online approval on 09th December, 2020.

As per the Office Memorandum as issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi (MoEFCC, Gol) dated 14th September, 2020, while conducting the public hearing, certain guidelines are issued such as thermal checking, use of sanitizers, wearing of mask, keeping social distancing.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by MPCB Sangli Office in the Local Newspaper in Daily Lokmat for Marathi and in National newspaper daily The Times of India for English on 25-12-2020. The NGOs working in the field of environment, public residing in the vicinity of the project, people who will be affected or people whom have impact of this project, local people were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed expansion of the unit. But as there was typographical mistake published in the local newspaper daily Lokmat, the corrigendum is published on 27-12-2020 in Marathi only.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summery in English and Marathi were made available to make aware local people at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Zonal Office, West Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur-440 001; District Magistrate Office, Sangli; Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad Office, Sangli; General Manager, District Industries Centre Office, Sangli; Tahsildar, Tahsildar Office- Khanapur, Dist, Sangli; Gram Sevak, Grampanchayat office at Nagewadi, Gardi, Chikhalhol, Salshinge, Bhagyanagar, Ghanawad, Hingan-Gade, Tal-Khanapur, Dist-Sangli; Regional Officer, Regional Office, MPCB, Kolhapur, Sub Regional Officer, Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai, Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, New Administrative Building, Mantralaya, Mumbai and on the website of MPCB. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the proposed expansion of existing sugar factory commissioning of new co-gen and distillery projects. The Convener further informed that few objections have been received by local MPCB Office, Sangli.

Convener of the meeting informed that due to COVID background, certain guidelines are issued by the MoEFCC, GoI, New Delhi vide Office Memorandum dated 14th September, 2020 while conducting the meeting use of thermal screening and sanitizers are kept outside the meeting hall and in the meeting, wearing of mask is mandatory with keeping social distancing between two persons.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed the procedure of hearing, first off all the technical consultant will give power point presentation regarding the present status of environment which includes water, air, solid waste, hazardous waste in the radius of 10 Km. of the project site. The future impact on the environment of the proposed project and steps to prevent the damage to environment and information on detailed Environment Management Plan (EMP). There after the session will be open for the participants for allowed to raise their views, suggestions, objections orally or in writing also regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only. The questions raised will be answered by Environment Consultant or Project Proponent or by Environment Public Hearing Committee as per the need. While raising the views, suggestions or objections, the participants is informed to tell his full name and name of the residential village. It will be noted in the minutes of meeting. There will be conclusion of meeting in the third stage. The minutes of the meeting will be submitted along with Final EIA report to Government.

Convener, with the permission of Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, requested to Project/Technical Environment Consultant to give the detailed presentation on Environment Management Plant (EMP) of the project, and accordingly consultant gave the preventative in detail.

After the presentation, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing remarked that Project Technical/Environment Consultant has gave the detailed presentation regarding the Environment Management Plan. All the aspects of the pollution control are covered.

Now the participants are appealed to raise their views, suggestions or objections if any regarding proposed expansion of the distillery unit in environmental angle only by mentioning their self-name and residential village so that it will be included in the minutes.

Following participants have participated during the discussions and answers given by Project Environment Consultant / Project Proponent / Environment Public Hearing Committee:-

- 1) **Shri Anil Khashaba Chavan, Resident –Chikhalhol, Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

I am sugarcane producer agriculturist. There will be requirement of additional water for the expansion of the project. Then, whether local farmers will face the difficulties if the additional water is drawn by the Project Proponent?

Ans.

Project Environment Consultant answered that though the project will be expanded, the additional water will be drawn for industrial usages by the Project Proponent. The effluent produced in the manufacturing process will be treated, recycled and reused in the process. There is 70% water in the sugarcane crop, the 20% of water will be condensate and stored. The stored water will be used in the Distillery Unit after completion of crushing season. So, there will not be requirement of any additional water for the expansion of the project and local farmers will not suffer due to less water to their agricultural fields.

- 2) **Shri Santosh Chandrakant Chavan, Resident – Chikhalhol, Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

I am sugarcane producer agriculturist. As the coal will be used in the expansion of the project, how the proposed pollution will be avoided and how the ash will be controlled to avoid the sufferings of the adjoining villages?

Ans.

Environment Consultant answered that the imported coal will be used in the process. The combined stack will be provided to 200 TPH and 30 TPH boilers. The Electro Static Precipitator will be installed to the stack which proves the efficiency of 99.9%. The total collected ash will be made available to local brick manufacturers for production of bricks. So, the adjoining villages will not suffer due to ash.

- 3) **Shri Ajit Hanamantrao Deshmukh, Resident-Mahuli, Tal-Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

There will be requirement of additional water for the expansion of the project and hence an additional effluent/spent wash will be produced. How it will be disposed of?

Ans.

Project Environment Consultant answered that the effluent/spent wash to the tune of 303.0 Kilo litre per day will be produced. The existing Effluent Treatment Plant will be upgraded with installing of Reverse Osmosis system. Hence, the total 303.0 Kilo litre per day effluent will be treated and recycled in the process. After expansion, 8,000.0 kilo litre water will be condensate and 30% of it i.e. 2,000.0 kilo litre per day additional effluent will be available. It will be treated and reused in the process.

4) **Shri Sakharam Mane, Resident-Nagewadi, Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

The ash will be produced due to use of boiler in the Distillery project. Hence, the information regarding the steps to avoid the damage to adjoining areas and farmers be informed.

Ans.

It is informed by the Project Environment Consultant that the ash which will be produced due to use of boiler will be made available to the local brick manufacturers for the production of bricks. It will not be stored and there will not be any threat of ash to fly by the wind and damage to the nearby agriculture fields.

5) **Shri Ramesh Mohite, Resident – Hingan Gade, Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

How the effluent/spent wash will be treated which will be produced in the Distillery Unit?

Ans.

First the Anaerobic Digester will be installed and operated in the project. There will be production of Bio-gas. It will be used for the boilers. The spent wash will be concentrated in the MEE i.e. Multi Effective Evaporator. It will be dried

in the Dryer. The remaining solids can be used as potash manure for the agriculture fields.

6) **Shri Babanrao Kale, Resident of Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

Whatever promises are made here should be followed strictly. Otherwise discharging of effluent in the nearby Odha/stream or release of ash in the atmosphere will be threat to the environment and adjoining farmers will suffer.

Ans.

Environment Consultant of the Project informed that all the promises will be followed.

7) **Shri Amol Baburao Jankar, Resident of Bhikwadi, Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

Whether the treated effluent can be used by the adjoining farmers?

Ans.

Environment Consultant informed that effluent will be treated, recycled and will be reused in the process. The project is Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD).

8) **Shri Sachin Shankar Mane, Resident – Sal Shinge, Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

The local people are expecting the job opportunities due to this project. Whether there will be job opportunities after completion of the project?

Ans.

Environment Consultant informed that local people will be definitely given priority while giving job opportunities. After expansion of the sugar unit and commissioning of new co-gen and distillery, 360 persons will be given job opportunities. But after installation of the total project, there will be tremendous increase in local business such as hotel business, grocery shops, vegetables and other various ancillary shops which will be helpful for getting indirect job opportunities to many thousand people.

9) **Shri Tatya Vikas Nawale, Resident–Nagewadi, Tal–Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

How much water will be required for the manufacturing process and how much effluent/spent wash will be produced?

Ans.

Project Environment Consultant informed that after completion of the total project, there will be requirement of water of 100.0 Kilo litre per day. The total effluent of 423.0 Kilo litre will be produced. As we are installing advance technology in the plant, the project will be Zero Liquid Discharge.

10) **Shri Rajendra Tukaram Patil, Resident –Vita, Tal - Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

The capacity of boiler will be increased for the expansion of the project. The management of treatment of ash be informed which will produced in the process.

Ans.

The Environment Consultant informed that the capacity of boiler will be increased with use of bagasse or coal and biogas as fuel. Hence, the ash will be produced of 666.0 MT/M. The ash will be made available to local brick manufacturers for the production of bricks. The ratio of 70% soil and 30% of ash will be kept.

11) **Shri Mahesh Popat Nikam, Resident – Nagewadi, Tal – Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

The management has planned for the expansion of the project which is definitely towards the progress. But whether there will be any change in the rates of the sugarcane crops to the farmers?

Ans.

Project Proponent informed that now only sugar unit is in operation. After commissioning of the co-gen unit and distillery plant, we will get an additional income. Hence, the management will be able to give additional rate of Rupees 450-500 to the sugarcane crops to the local farmers. Now, as per the recent

decision, the Govt. of India agreed to purchase Ethanol produced from sugarcane juice for the ten years and rates are also fixed for it. Secondly, we will produce electricity through co-gen which can be sold to Electricity Board of Govt. of Maharashtra. The project will get the income. Hence, the income will be definitely more than getting income only from sugar unit. There will be change in the rates of sugarcane crop.

12) **Shri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Chairman, Dharitri Paryavaran Parirakshana Sanstha, Dist-Nalgonda, Telangana State.**

Shri Sunanda Reddy congratulated management of the project for planning of the expansion of the sugar unit and commissioning of new co-gen and distillery project. He informed that in India there are 40 crores of unemployed young male and female in the age of 18 to 35 years, who are searching the job opportunities. Hence, industrial development is essential. But there should be preservation and protection and of environment.

He has given various suggestions such as collection of health, crop and groundwater status of 10 k.m. radius of the project. He suggested to built large storage tank to preserve the rain water and use the stored water after rainy season. Shri Reddy demanded that fruit bearing plants and medicinal plants.

Shri Reddy strongly recommended to give job opportunities to local young boys and girls and extend them training of Skill Development. He informed that 96% young boys and girls are given skilled development in Japan and Korea, while in India it is given only to ust 5-6% young boys and girls.

Shri Reddy suggested to give boost to drip irrigation system and requested Environment Public Hearing Committee to sanction the project without any conditions. He further congratulated Environment Consultant for preparing the detailed EIA report. He has also submitted the suggestions in writing.

Environment Consultant thanked Shri Reddy for giving good suggestions.

13) **Shri Ramesh Suryawanshi, Resident –Hingan Gade,Ta –Khanapur, Dist – Sangli.**

Qes.

How the industrial effluent treatment system and air pollution control system is monitored?

A

Ans.

Project Proponent informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) do visit the plant as per schedule and do check the pollution control devices. As per the directives, Online Monitoring System is in operation which is connected to MPCB and CPCB server. Hence the vigil of MPCB and CPCB is there for all the time and if at there is any violation, it is brought to the notice to the industry immediately and explained is called.

14) Shri Sudarshan, Environmentalist NGO.

He has given his suggestions in writing.

15) Shri Vijay Jagtap, Mahuli, Tal –Khanapur, Dist-Sangli.**Qes.**

The effluent/spent wash discharged through the Distillery unit do release the smell. What steps will be taken to avoid the smell nuisance?

Ans.

Project Environment Consultant informed that if the spent wash is kept more than seven days, the smell nuisances occurs. Hence, in this project the spent wash will not be kept more than seven days.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise any suggestions, objections regarding the project in environmental angle. There was no response.

Convener of Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that public hearing of M/s Yashwant Sugar & Power Private Limited, At Post – Nagewadi, Tal – Khanapur, Dist -Sangli for expansion of existing sugar cane crushing capacity from 2,500.0 TCD to 8,000 TCD, establishment of 40 MW Co-generation Power Plant and 110.0 KLPD Distillery to produce 110.0 KLPD Rectified Spirit/110 KLPD Extra Neutral Alcohol / 105 KLPD Ethanol based on "C" / "B" Heavy Molasses / Sugarcane Juice/Concentrated Juice Syrup/Grains is arranged today. The views, suggestions, objections raised orally during the public hearing are noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The explanation given by the Project Technical/Environment Consultant will also be included.

He informed that 30 days' advance public notice was published in local newspaper and in national newspaper by the Convener. Also, the report was made available at notified government offices to make aware the public. Few objections have been received by the Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli as well as on the day of public hearing complaint/objection of Hon'ble M.L.A. Shri. Anilbhai Babar, Member of Legislative Assembly at Vita, Tal-Khanapur, Dist-Sangli which is enclosed herewith as an **Annexure-'A'**, and the written explanations from project proponent is submitted against the complaint/objection raised by Hon'ble M.L.A. is enclosed herewith as an **Annexure-'B'**. is submitted along with final EIA report to Government.


Convener requested Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee to express his views.

Hon'ble Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that public hearing of M/s. Yashwant Sugar & Power Private Limited, At Post – Nagewadi, Tal – Khanapur, Dist -Sangli for expansion of existing sugar cane crushing capacity from 2,500 TCD to 8,000 TCD, establishment of 40 MW Co-generation Power Plant and 110.0 KLPD Distillery to produce 110.0 KLPD Rectified Spirit/110 KLPD Extra Neutral Alcohol / 105 KLPD Ethanol based on "C" / "B" Heavy Molasses / Sugarcane Juice/Concentrated Juice Syrup/Grains is arranged today. The views, suggestions, objections raised orally during the public hearing are noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The explanation given by the Project Technical/Environment Consultant will also be included. The written objections have received by the Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli and written explanation from the Project Proponent is called. It will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee asked participants if anybody desires to raise any view, suggestion, it can be raised, otherwise the meeting can be concluded.

One of the Resident of Bhendawade village expressed the opinion that local people are of the opinion that after expansion and commissioning of new co-gen and distillery unit, how much rate will be given to sugarcane crop? When the money will be given? The Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee remarked that this public hearing is conducted for the proposed project in environmental angle only. You may approach to the Competent-Authority i.e. Commissioner of Sugar for rate of sugar cane crops.

Finally Mr.Navanath S. Awatade, Sub Regional Officer, and Convener of Public Hearing thanked the audience and Hon'ble Chairman and member of committee, technical consultant and office bearers of the factory for extending their full co-operation for completion of the today's public hearing and with the permission of the Hon'ble Chairman the said public hearing was declared over.

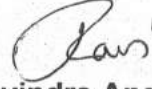
The procedure of public hearing has started at 12.30 am. and ended to 02.30 pm.



(Navanath S. Awatade)

Convener

And Sub Regional Officer, MPC Board,
Sangli



(Ravindra Andhale)

Member

And Regional Officer, MPC Board,
Kolhapur



(Dr. Abhijeet Chaudhari, IAS)

Chairman

And Collector & District Magistrate,
Sangli.