

Minutes of the Public Hearing for Proposed Brahmagavahan Lift Irrigation Scheme undertaken by Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation Aurangabad (GMIDC), Proposed by “Bramagavhan Lift Irrigation Scheme – III” at Jayakwadi Reservoir near old Lakhmapur Village Tal. Gangapur Aurangabad District of Maharashtra by Minor Irrigation Division No-1 Aurangabad Maharashtra conducted on 14.12.2021.

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division No-1 Aurangabad has submitted proposal for conducting Environmental Public Hearing for the proposed Brahmagavhan Lift Irrigation Scheme undertaken by Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation Aurangabad(GMIDC),Proposed by “Brahmagavhan Lift Irrigation Scheme-III” at Jayakwadi Reservoir near old Lakhmapur Village Tal-Gangapur, Aurangabad District of Maharashtra by Minor Irrigation Division No-1 Aurangabad Maharashtra.

Hon. District Collector, Aurangabad approved the date of public hearing on Tuesday, the 14th December, 2021 and as per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEF & CC, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Board's Office Order No. E-116 of 2021 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 211203-FTS-0124, dated 03.12. 2021 and Hon. Collector Aurangabad has appointed Additional District Collector as a Chairmen vide letter no. 1020 dated 12.12.2021 for the said public hearing: -

Following Panel Members were present during the public hearing:

1) Dr. A. B. Gavane,

Additional District Collector, Aurangabad

District Aurangabad.

: Chairman

2) Dr. P. M. Joshi,

Regional Officer, MPCB,

Aurangabad.

: Member

3) Shri. P. D. Wankhede

Sub Regional Officer,

MPCB, Aurangabad.

: Convener

Shri. Pradeep Wankhede, Sub Regional Officer, Aurangabad-I, MPCB, Aurangabad and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Dr. Anant Gavane, Additional District Magistrate, Aurangabad and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Dr. Pravin M. Joshi, Regional Officer, MPCB, Aurangabad and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Environmentalists, Hon. MLA Shri. Prashant Bamb Saheb, Journalists and local people/participants who were present and informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEF & CC, 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 of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed that the meeting is called in the prevailing situation of Covid-19 pandemic. Hence, it is requested all the participants to follow strict guidelines as issued by Govt. of India and Govt. of Maharashtra from time to time. As per the guidelines, only 100 persons/participants are allowed in a session. If the participants are more, then remaining will be allowed in next session. The sessions will continue till all the participants are given opportunity to attend the meeting. The thermal checking and use of sanitizer is kept at the entrance of the pandol and now it is compulsory to wear a mask and follow the social distancing amongst the persons in the meeting hall.

He informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application from Project Proponent the Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division No-1 Aurangabad has submitted proposal for conducting Environmental Public Hearing for the proposed Brahmagavhan Lift Irrigation Scheme undertaken by Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation Aurangabad(GMIDC), Proposed by "Brahmagavhan Lift Irrigation Scheme-III" at Jayakwadi Reservoir near old Lakhmapur Village Tal-Gangapur, Aurangabad District of Maharashtra. The Convener further informed that the category of project requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the Environment and Climate Change Department, Govt of Maharashtra, Mumbai for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory.

Convener 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 along with pre-feasibility report to the State Environment Assessment Committee-I, Environment & Climate Change Department, New Administrative Building, Mantralaya, Mumbai for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Office, MPCB Aurangabad in the Local Newspaper in Daily Sakal for Marathi and in National Newspaper daily The Times of India for English on 12th November, 2021 and further given Corrigendum in Daink Sakal dated 13.11.2021. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summery in Marathi and English along with CD were made available at various notified offices of Government is as below:

- 1) Hon'ble District Collector, Aurangabad.
- 2) The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division No-1 Aurangabad.
- 3) District Industries Centre, Aurangabad.
- 4) Zilla Parishad, Aurangabad.
- 5) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office, Gangapur, Dist. Aurangabad.
- 6) Block Development Officer, Gangapur, Dist. Aurangabad.
- 7) Gram Panchayat Office, Ambelohal , Arapur , Borgaon, Bhoigaon, Dighi , Derda , Dhoregaon , Domegaon, Dahegaon, Gavli Shivra, Gajgaon, Govindpur, Ghodegaon, Gavli Dhanora, Jikthan, Kankori, Khadak Narala, Kalegaon, Kasoda, Kobapur, Malkapur, Mirzapur, Murmi, Narayanpur, Nagapur, Narsapur, Pendhapur, Pratappur, Fulshevra, Padampur, Rampuri, Rajura, Sarangpur, Sultanabad, Sultanpur (jikthan), Shirodi, Turkabad Kharadi, Wadgaon, Wasusaigaon, Yesgaon, Lakhamapur, Amalner, Ganeshwadi, Babrgaon, Khaigavhan Tal-Gangapur Dist.Aurangabad.
- 8) Sub-Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Plot No. A-4/1, MIDC Chikalthan, Aurangabad.
- 9) The Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Plot No. A-4/1, MIDC Chikalthan, Aurangabad.

- 10) Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalptaru Point, 2nd ,3rd & 4th floor, Sion Matunga Scheme Road No. 8, Sion (E), Mumbai – 400022.
- 11) Environment Department, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32.
- 12) The Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, (WCZ), Ground floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur.

The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the proposed project.

Convener informed that participants can raise their views, suggestions/objections for the proposed expansion of the project in environmental angle only orally as well as in writing also. It will be noted minutes of the meeting. Also, the video recording of this meeting will be forwarded as it is to Environment, Forest & Climate Change Department, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

With the permission of Chairman, Project Proponent Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division No-1 Aurangabad and Project Environment Consultant gave brief idea of the proposed project and how it will be helpful for environment and local farmers in the surrounding area. Environment Consultant informed that said project is environment friendly project in which there will be no any land acquisition and no deforestation.

After presentations, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise their views, suggestions or objections regarding propose plant in environmental angle only.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise views, suggestions or objections regarding proposed project in environmental angle only in brief. While raising it, first name and name of the village should be informed.

Following persons have taken part in the discussions and the answers given by Project Environment Consultant/Project Proponent/ Environment Public Hearing Committee: -

1. Shri Santosh Patil Jadhav, Ex. Bandhkam Sabhapati, Taluka Gangapur

Today, on this important life-and-death question of agriculture, irrigation and drinking water of all our farmers. The Proposed Brahmagavhan Lift Irrigation Scheme No. 3 will be implemented under the guidance of Hon. MLA Shri. Prashanji Bamb, Gaganpur. And today this public hearing is the last compliance of this scheme in Environmental point

of view. After obtaining the permission, the issue of irrigation of 40 villages in Gangapur Taluka will be resolved in agriculture point of view.

Today, this public hearing is conducted in the presence of Regional Officer Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mr. Joshi Saheb; Chairman of the public hearing and Additional District Collector, Dr. Anant Gavane Saheb, as well as Sub-Regional Officer, Mr. Wankhede Saheb in presence of Hon. MLA. Under the guidance of the MLA this public hearing is conducting today at Gawalishivara Arapur where all of us had some doubts about land acquisition and tree cutting due to this scheme which were cleared after the detailed presentation given by Project consultant Shri. Deshpandeji that no land acquisition and tree cutting will happen due to this project.

About 10,000 hectares of land of our 40 villages will be irrigated through underground pipeline. And on behalf of all my farmers, I request here that the report of today's hearing be submitted to the Government immediately and that the permission of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board be granted to our project to solve our drinking and agricultural water problem. This is a public request on behalf of everyone in this place.

There is a taluka in Marathwada which is in the shadow of continuous drought. Our MLA Saheb has been fighting for this scheme for eight to ten years and farmers from 40 villages are getting support in this place. Therefore, on behalf of all of us, we request you to approve this project by approving the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and submitting this proposal to the government. Thank you.

2. Shri Pratap Shivnath Pawar, Farmer Mauje Kankori:

We don't understand much about this through this meeting but I express my feelings here. Saheb we have near MIDC. Pollution is increasing a lot. Every year we plant trees through the Grampanchayat. Every year we plant about 1000 to 1500 trees in this place. We are able to survive them in rainy and winter season only but we do not able to survive them in summer season due to water scarcity. Due to this project will have available ample of water and now our trees will survive and help to reduce the pollution. Our environment will clean. Thank you.

3. Mr. Kaduba Shewale, Former Zilla Parishad Member, Gajgaon

Public hearings on environment are being held in this place and people have been demanding for many years that there should be an Lift irrigation scheme in this area. First, I would like to thank MLA Shri Prashant Bhau Bamb for giving valuable guidance to propose this lift irrigation scheme. This Public hearing was conducted to achieve the objectives and fulfill the requirement in environment point of you.

He suggested that at the time of implementation of this project there are lots of gayran available in this area which are barren. Earlier lots of trees are there which are helpful to the environment now today there are no trees in this gayran. Hence it is suggested to develop a sanctuary on 50 acres of land and such activity shall include in this proposed project which will helpful to the local people and benefits to keep the pollution free environment in the periphery.

With the detailed presentation about proposed project we came to know that there will be no any rehabilitation, no any cutting of trees and no actual land acquisition take place which is a good thing hence we all are in favor of this proposed project and requested to implement this project at earliest.

Project Proponent Shri. Dhananjay Godse, Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Department no. 1 replied upon this that -

There is a separate head for tree plantation in the proposed project and we assure you that we will keep certain budget for tree plantation. During the implementation of the project it is not possible for us to take a land and do the tree plantation on the same. But wherever Government land will available or make available we will certainly do the tree plantation.

Dr. Pravin Joshi, Member and Regional Officer Maharashtra Pollution Control Board asked that -

35 acres of land will be leased?

Project Proponent Shri Dhananjay Godse, Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Department No. 1 replied that -

The actual land we are going to acquire is only six hectares. The rented land was required for the reason that I want to lay the pipeline after the construction of the pump house. The first pipeline is 23 kilometers and the second is 13 kilometers. As per the fund released by irrigation department the implementation of the proposed project will be done phase wise accordingly.

At the time of pipeline laying we will take precaution that there will be no loss of concern farmers. If there will be a certain crops on such field we will give compensation to such farmers during that certain period of time and in such cases such land will be acquire for pipe line laying and after completion of work land will be level and again handover to the concern farmer.

Dr. Pravin Joshi, Member and Regional Officer Maharashtra Pollution Control Board asked that -

Adequate area has been secured for green belt development?

Project Proponent Shri Dhananjay Godse, Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Department No. 1 replied that -

06 Hectare area will be required. We will not take any area except the area that will be required but green belt and pump house will be made at the place where the pump house is located.

4. Mr. Santosh Kalwane, Director Agricultural Produce Committee, Lasur Station, Gajgaon mentioned that -

We are grateful to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board for conducting this public hearing today. Hon. MLA Shir. Prashantji Bamb of our taluka, has been consistently pursuing this for five consecutive years and this scheme is very important for 40 villages in Gangapur taluka. These talukas are constantly drought prone and due to lack of water in the middle belt, these villages are comes under G-40. The ground water table in this area is very low and such scheme is required to raise the ground water table. As shri Hiwale Anna suggested that in our village about 40-45 acres of Government gyran land is available which may available for tree plantation. Earlier farmers are growing fruit crops such as sweet lemon tree but due to the scarcity it was not possible. Now after this scheme water will available and farmers are able to take such fruit crops and thereby able

to do dairy farming. Compost from animals are easily available and soil fertility also increased.

Hence request to do the next procedure as early as possible and implement this project. Thank you.

5. Shri Harishchandra Bhausahab Neharkar Former Sarpanch Yesgaon mentioned that -

This scheme is very important scheme for our 40 villages. No water source is available for this villages till date. Hence this scheme will be of great benefit to these villages and farmers. Every farmer will be grown up. The important thing is that there will be no harm to the environment due to this scheme. So I am very thankful to MLA Sahab for bringing this scheme for us. Every village has gyran land which can be used for tree plantation.

6. Mr. Arjun Kisan Pawar, Kankori requested that -

Sixty-seventy acres of gyran kept barren and needs tree plantation. My only suggestion is that due to tree plantation there is a benefits to farmers and villagers.

7. Shri Chandrakant Sandu Gawali , Gawalishivara suggested that -

My suggestion is that Gram Panchayat has so far planted Bahuguni trees in 50 hectors land. Bahuguni trees have specialty that it grown up to 100 feet heihgt. In our villages, we have sent a proposal to the Government for a plating this trees in 100 acres of land. It kept balance of the Environment and helpful for farmers. Even if it is planted, it will be of great benefit. There is permanent drought in 40 villages, so if this scheme is implemented, it will be of great benefit to the farmers. There is nothing left here due to lack of water so the only wish is to implement this scheme immediately.

8. Mrs. Alka Bharat Kirti Shahi Sarpanch, Gavli Shivra.

When we first arrived, we had a lot of questions in our mind about this scheme regarding lot of pits has done, what about the disposal of soil? etc. but you have given a brief idea of the proposed project and give answers to our questions already in the presentation so we don't have any question in our mind now. I am tailing as a representative from women's that women's are mostly sufferer due to water scarcity how

✓ much water will come by tanker. So if this scheme comes then we will get good benefit from water. Farmers will benefit a lot from this scheme. Farmers have no water, no employment, hence electricity cuts due to lack of money if this scheme is beneficial then the farmer will be better off so that he can repay the loan. If this scheme is implemented then women like us will benefit a lot and I had a doubt that who will take care of the trees that you are going to plant?

Project Proponent Shri Dhananjay Godse, Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Department No. 1 replied that -

Presently the tree plantation and its survival project is implemented under the Water Resource Department. Now during the implementation of this project if Government land or land provided by concern Grampanchayats we will do the tree plantation and take care of there survivals for next 3 years.

Mrs. Alka Kirti Shahi replied upon this that -

Therefore, we have full support/consent to this project. We want this project to happen as early as possible.

9. Dashrath Bhau Shelar, Gavli Shivar

A Senior Citizen of Gajgaon, did not understood the speech of this person. But the overall body language shown to support the proposed project.

10. Shri. Devidas Bankar, Ambelohal mentioned that -

I would first like to thank the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and the Hon'ble MLA for bringing this scheme to this place. The first point is that due to lack of water, farmers have only one crop in their hands in Marathwada. Since there is no water, they are using as much fertilizer as they can. Excessive use of fertilizers degrades soil texture and Soil/land pollution is increasing. If water is available, they will ignore maximum fertilizer spraying. Therefore, they will look at how to improve the soil texture. If it doesn't happen, it won't take long for Maharashtra to become Punjab, so if we have water, more and more people will keep animals. Agriculture is not our business. Our primary occupation was cow rearing and getting organic manure from it and increasing the soil texture so that the crop would be good without any spraying. What happened over time?

Due to the shortage, our animals were destroyed. We did not have any cows. We did not have dung and cow urine. We started using fertilizers and the texture of our soil was deteriorating. This means that if water comes to this project, if we have agricultural business, the number of animals will increase, and it will benefit 40 villages in this area and the pollution will definitely be reduced.

11. Shri Santosh Patil Jadhav, Ex. Bandhkam Sabhapati, Taluka Gangapur replied that -

Today's Public Hearing Report will submit to the Government for the recognition of the environment. Hence requested you all to raise their hands in support of the project.

After that the people were inclined to protest in favor for project

No hand raised Against the project.

12. After due permission of President of Public Hearing Hon'ble MLA Prashant Bamb, Gangapur views that -

Today's public hearing is organized for obtaining Environmental Clearance. In this connection I requested all the present Government Officials that understood the feelings of all the people. This Project is Environment friendly project. There are two to three reasons to help the improvement in Environment. The first thing I have studied so far is that we are not building any dams here which will harm the Environment. And secondly we will not acquire any farmer's land except pump house for this project and there will be no any tree cutting proposed in the said project. This scheme includes clusters, about 1000 acres including 30 clusters planned. I would also like to tell the Environmental authorities that if this project is a project that complements the environment, then it will be a value added chain. This project has been implemented with the help of farmers. When I spoke to Delhi about the Environment, they said that if you actually put this project on the ground, then literally the country's officials and leaders will come to see this project and I am happy to say that almost 75% of the completion has been done in this place. All the permissions are related to the environment. In fact, this is a historical day for us. If you grant us these permissions, our Administrative Approval will usually be completed up to February-March because we have to go after our permission for our final permission in our CDO, Nashik. 95 percent of the permits have been completed so our tender can float

up to March-April and start the work in actual monsoon or after monsoon as we want to tell all the officials through farmers that indeed we have been deprived for decades because Jayakwadi is our pillow but we have not benefited till now I once again request the authorities to give us these permissions as soon as possible and help us to carry out the final process. Thank you.

13. Shri Santosh Patil Jadhav, Ex. Bandhkam Sabhapati, Taluka Gangapur replied that -

Thank you, MLA Saheb. Thank you for your valuable guidance regarding the problems of 40 Villages in Gangapur Taluka.

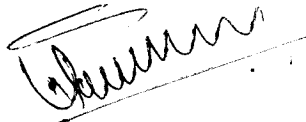
Subsequent there are about 19 nos. written statements were given by the farmers/villagers in favor of the proposed project and they were requested to provide guidance by Mr. Gavane Saheb.

Hon. President and Additional Collector, Aurangabad Dr. Anant Gavane mentioned that -

We are not able to guide in this matter. We concluded with this that all the farmers in the area were present today. Not shown any opposition, Most people want this project. We have also taken note of the oral statements that you have given here. We will also include them in the proceedings. Of course, our report is confidential, but the general public sentiment is positive for this project. I am from Marathwada in Marathwada region, so such projects should be done in Marathwada. I believe the decision will be taken after the hearing of the place where we are sending this report to the committee. Most of them expressed these sentiments even outside the project (cluster). Is there anything you can do differently, and when such a big project is set up, add it to make it more environmentally friendly and implement some good things for the people who want it? I urge you, as an officer of this district and a citizen of Marathwada, to have the attitude that you should have. I would also like to express my gratitude to all of you for being present here and express thanks

At last Dr.R.G.Auti, Field Officer, MPCB express the vote of thanks of all the panel and management committee of the proposed project and villagers and officials.

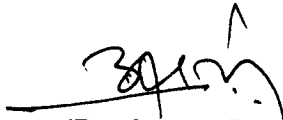
Lastly, the Public Hearing ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



(Pradeep Wankhede)
Convener,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
and
Sub Regional Officer,
Aurangabad -I,
MPCB, Aurangabad



(Dr. Pravin M. Joshi)
Member,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
and
Regional Officer,
MPCB
Aurangabad



(Dr. Anant Gavane)
Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
and
Additional District Collector, Aurangabad,
District – Aurangabad.