

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DISTILLERY UNIT OF 45.0 KLPD IN THE EXISTING SUGAR FACTORY PREMISES AT GAT Nos 17, 25, 26, 28, 146, 148, 149, 151 and 152, AT POST-KASAR SAI-DARUMBRE, POST-KASAR SAI, TAL-MULSHI, DIST – PUNE, MAHARASHTRA BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S SHRI SANT TUKARAM SAHAKARI SAKHAR KARKHANA LIMITED (SSTSSKL)**

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The Environment Public Hearing for proposed establishment of new distillery of 45.0 KLPD capacity in existing sugar factory unit at Gat nos 17,25,26,28,146,149,151 and 152, At Post – Kasar Sai-Darumbre, Post-Kasar Sai, Tal-Mulshi, Dist-Pune, Maharashtra of M/s Shri Sant Tukaram Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited (SSTSSKL) was conducted on Tuesday, the 05th April, 2022 at the site of the said industry at 12.00 noon.

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- 24 of 2022 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 220330-FTS-0014, dated 30-03-2022 as under :-

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| 1) District Magistrate-Pune<br>or his representative not below<br>the rank of an Additional District Magistrate | <b>Chairman</b> |
| 2) Representative of Maharashtra<br>Pollution Control Board -<br>Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune                   | <b>Member</b>   |
| 3) Sub Regional Officer, Pune-2<br>MPCB, Pune   | <b>Convener</b> |

Shri Nitin Shinde, Sub Regional Officer, Pune-2, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune and Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri Himmat Kharade, Additional District Magistrate, Pune and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Shankar Waghmare, Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists and Company Officials 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 Corona and Omicron 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. 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.

Convener informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of the application to conduct public consultation for the establishment of new distillery unit of 45.0 KLPD at the existing premises of M/s Shri Sant Tukaram Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited (SSTSSKL).

The project is outside the notified Industrial Development Area/Belt and falls in Category A 5 (g) as per EIA Notification, 2006.

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 Environment, & Climate Change, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies and it has been considered and given online approval on 22-1-2021.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Office, Pune-2, MPCB, Pune in the local newspaper in Daily Loksatta for Marathi and in national newspaper daily The Indian Express for English on 04th March, 2022. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summary were made available 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 Collector Office, Pune; Additional District Collector Office, Pune; Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad Office, Pune; General Manager, District Industries Centre Office, Pune; Tahsildar, Tahsil Office – Mulshi, Dist -Pune; Grampanchayat Offices –Kasar Sai, Marunji, Darumbre, Godumbre, Nerhe, Chandkhed, Tal. – Mulshi, Dist. – Pune; Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, Mantralaya,

Mumbai; Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board; Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune; Sub Regional Office, Pune-2, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune and on the website of MPCB. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the proposed new distillery project. Convener informed that not a single objection is received by local MPCB office. On behalf of Chairman and Member, he directed Project Consultant to give presentation regarding Environment Management Plan of the proposed unit.

With the permission of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee Environment Consultant gave the presentation regarding Environment Management Plan (EMP).

Environmental Consultant while giving information about the Environmental Management Plan of the project said that since Distillery Project will be set up on the existing project site, no additional land will be required for the expansion. The Project Proponent will invest Rs. 81.24 Cr. for various environmental protection plants and will spend Rs. 350 Lakh for annual maintenance of pollution control devices.

The waste water from the project will be treated in the CPU (Condensate Polishing Unit) and it will be recycled and reused in the project. Not a single drop of treated waste water from the project will flow out of the project. This project will be a Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) project.

For air pollution control, ESP -Electro-Static Precipitators will be installed. The proposed new distillery project will provide direct employment opportunities to the local people and will also increase indirect business opportunities in the area.

After completion of the Presentation, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise any views, opinion, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only. While raising the issues, the name and residence village should be informed.

**FOLLOWING PERSONS HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS AND ANSWERS GIVEN BY ENVIRONMENT CONSULTANT/PROJECT PROPONENT/ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC HEARING COMMITTEE:-**

**1) Shri Popat Eknath Rakshe, Sangawade, Tal.-Maval, Dist.-Pune:-**

Shri Popat Rakshe while objecting informed that the polluted water from the factory goes to the local farmers' agriculture fields, it is used for cattle. The water is so polluted that all the people who come contact with the water get itchy. This water has often killed fish. The local people have complained to the factory about this from time to time and it is of no use. They do not take the cognizance of the complaint. The polluted water of the factory flows into the local nalla and nalla meets to Pawana River water is lifted for supply to Pimpri-Chinchwad City. Hence, the factory and the District Administration are requested to take note of this.

Managing Director of the project replied that the waste water generated during the production process was being processed and used for agriculture / fertilizer. The fertilizer was being made available to local farmers. The industrial waste water treatment plant has been upgraded at a cost of around Rs. One Crore this year.

Similarly, CPU (Condensate Polishing Unit) plant will be implemented by the factory management. For this, advertisement has been published in the local newspaper. The industrial effluent generated during the production process will be sent to CPU plant and

after treatment at CPU, it will be recycled and reused in the process. Due to this, the requirement of fresh water for the production activities will be minimized.

Shri Rakshe here again complained that the local farmers complains that this waste water is in black colour. Now also it is generated outside the factory for which immediate vigilance inspection should be carried. Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee here informed Shri Rakshe that the complaint against the working project is noted and MPCB will further initiate the action.

**2) Shri Suresh Murkute, Marunjigaon, Tal.-Mulshi, Dist.-Pune :-**

How the surrounding villages will be benefited after the implementation of this project?

The Managing Director of the Project replied that the sugar department of the project employs about 350 people from two neighboring villages. After commissioning of the distillery project, about 100 people will get employment opportunities, this will be a direct benefit. This project will greatly increase the indirect benefits.

This project will greatly increase the indirect benefits. There will be an increase in local business, such as two-wheeler repairing, tea stalls, pan shops. Similarly, the distillery project will increase the income of the project, hence, management will be able to give additional price to the sugarcane crop of the local farmers. Just as the Co-generation project is benefited, this distillery project will also benefit to the local people.

**3) Shri Umesh Agale, Sarpanch, Darumbre Grampanchayat, Tal – Maval, Dist – Pune :-**

Shri. Umesh Agale informed that after filing the complaint a month

ago, the officers of the industry have come and inspected the site. Contaminated water comes from our well in the village.

The Managing Director of the project said that this issue has been discussed. However, he said that the waste water from the project is no longer flowing out side of the project.

Convener here informed that the objection/complaint raised is noted and officials of MPCB and Project Managing Director will visit the site and further action will be initiated if necessary.

Convener further informed that as per the Presentation given by the Environment Consultant, in the proposed Distillery project, the effluent will be treated and it will be recycled and reused in the process. In the proposed project, the effluent generated will be treated in the Condensate Polishing Unit (CPU) and it will be recycled and reused in the process only. Hence, the effluent will not percolate. The company will not be allowed to generate its treated effluent outside the factory. The project is ZLD-Zero Liquid Discharge Project.

**4) Shri Anil Waghole, Resident – Darumbre, Tal-Maval, Dist – Pune:-**

He objected that despite the factory being named after Saint Tukaram Maharaj, the Managing Director of the factory is giving false answers.

Managing Director here informed that the treated effluent will be potable. The treated waste water from the project is discharged into the farmer's land. The next day after watering, the crops get barren. Animals and birds cannot drink that treated wastewater. However, the project executive director should keep this in mind.

Convener here remarked that after the meeting, MPCB officials along with Managing Director of the Project will visit the site and further action will be initiated.

5) **Shri Vasant Sawant, Godumbre, Tal.-Maval, Dist.-Pune:-**

How many days the distillery project will be in operation?

Project Environment Consultant answered that the distillery project will be in operation for the 330 days i.e. it means Eleven months.

6) **Shri Mohan Bhumkar, Wakad, Tal – Mulshi, Dist-Pune:-**

Shri Bhumkar stated that Managing Director of the project informed that the local farmers will be benefitted. If there are any local issues, it will be solved. He wished that this project should be in operation at the earliest.

Convener appealed participants to raise any suggestions, views and objections of the proposed project in environmental angle only.

7) **Shri Pradip Kalokhe, Dehugaon, Tal.-Haveli, Dist.-Pune,**

**Shri Kshetra Dehu Pratipalak Krishi Mitra, Krishi Vikas Sevak :-**

He asked whether surrounding villagers will be suffer due to noise pollution of the proposed project?

Environment Consultant informed that in the Distillery Project, there is no heavy noise pollution making component/machineries.

The boiler will be erected at the ear-marked place which will be away from the shop floor. While exhausting the steam, high quality silencers will be installed in the project. Also in the proposed project, most advanced machineries will be installed. Hence, surrounding villagers will not suffer.

Convener appealed again to all the participants to raise any doubts, views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only. There was no response from the participants.

Convener remarked that as there is no response, it seems that the participants are satisfied by the explanation given by the Environment



Consultant and company management. He informed that the suggestions, views, objections raised during the meeting are noted and it will be included in the minutes of meeting. The minutes will be prepared in Marathi and in English and after approval of Chairman of the meeting, it will be submitted through MPCB Head Office along with final EIA report, writing suggestions/objections to Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai. An Expert Committee will be take further action accordingly.

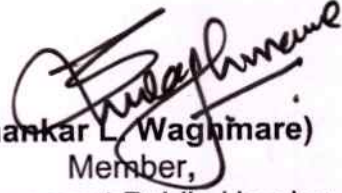
Convener thanked all local people, government officials, company officials, journalists, NGOs who attended the meeting and on behalf of Chairman and Member of the Environment Public Hearing, declared that the meeting is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

The 1 (One) writing suggestions/objections are enclosed herewith.



**(Nitin Shinde)**  
Convener,  
Environment Public Hearing  
Committee  
And  
Sub Regional Officer,  
Pune-2,  
M. P. C. Board, Pune



**(Shankar L. Waghmare)**  
Member,  
Environment Public Hearing  
Committee  
And  
Regional Officer,  
Pune,  
M. P. C. Board, Pune



**(Himmat Kharade)**  
Chairman,  
Environment Public Hearing Committee  
And  
Additional District Magistrate, Pune  
Dist. - Pune