MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF THE PROJECT FOR THE PROPOSED MANGALWEDHA LIFT IRRIGATION SCHEME, TAL. - MANGALWEDHA, DIST. - SOLAPUR PROPOSED BY UJJANI CANAL DIVISION NO. 9, MANGALWEDHA, TAL. - MANGALWEDHA, DIST. - SOLAPUR, MAHARASHTRA

The Environment Public Hearing in respect of the project for the proposed Mangalwedha Lift Irrigation Scheme, Tal. - Mangalwedha, Dist. - Solapur proposed by Ujjani Canal Division No. 9, Mangalwedha, Tal. - Mangalwedha, Dist. - Solapur was conducted on Thursday, the 27<sup>st</sup> March, 2025 at Kamsiddha Mandir Devasthan Sabhagruh Village - Hivargaon, Taluka - Mangalwedha, District - Solapur, Maharashtra at 12:00 P.M.

Shri. Nikhil More, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed the Hon'ble Manisha Kumbhar, Resident Deputy Collector, District Solapur and Chaiman, Environment Public Hearing Committee, Shri Jagannath Salunkhe, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune and Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee, villagers, farmers, Environmentalists, Environmental Institutions, NGOs, Journalists, Representative of media channels and Company Officials and local people/participants who were present and with permission of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee started the proceedings.

The Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that, as per the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Govt. of India vide Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 and its subsequent amendments, prior Environmental Clearance is applicable for the proposed Mangalwedha Lift Irrigation Scheme project for which prior environmental public consultation is mandatory. In this regard, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai was in receipt of application from the Project Proponent Executive Engineer, Ujjani Canal Division No. 9, Mangalwedha, District: Solapur, Maharashtra to conduct Environment Public Hearing for their proposed Mangalwedha Lift Irrigation Scheme, Tal. - Mangalwedha, Dist. – Solapur.



Joint Director, Water Pollution Control Board, Mumbai vide letter dated 30/01/2025 directed Sub-Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur to conduct Environmental Public Hearing.

The Hon'ble District Collector, Solapur sanctioned to conduct the Physical Environment Public Hearing in respect of the proposed Mangalwedha Lift Irrigation Scheme on Thursday, the 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 at 12:00 P.M at Kamsiddha Mandir Devasthan Sabhagruh, Villae-Hivargaon, Tal-Mangalwedha, Dist. Solapur. The Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai vide Office Order No. E-7 of 2025 under letter no. BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-250303-FTS-0184 dated 03/03/2025 constituted Environment Public Hearing Panel in compliance of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Notification dated 14/09/2006 and its subsequent amendment vide Notification dated 1/12/2009. The following office bearers were present

District Magistrate-Solapur
 or his representative not below
 the rank of an Additional District
 Magistrate

Chairman

2) Representative of Maharashtra
 Pollution Control Board, Mumbai Regional Officer,
 Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune
 Pune

Member

Sub Regional Officer,
 Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
 Solapur

Convener

Accordingly, In pursuance to the above-mentioned Notification, the Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur published 30 days prior notice for Environmental Public Hearing in the local newspapers on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 in English and Marathi languages vide Divya Marathi and Daily Sanchar, respectively. All persons including bonafide residents, project affected people,

environmental groups were appealed to participate in the Public Hearing, and also to raise any environmental objections, suggestions & comments in written/oral during Public Hearing with the provision to submit the same in writing prior to Public Hearing. Documents comprising of EIA report and executive summary were made available in English as well as Marathi in soft and hard copies at various notified Government Offices as under;

- 1) District Collector Office, Solapur
- 2) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Solapur
- 3) Head Office, M.P.C.Board, Kalpataru Point, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sion Matunga Scheme Road No. 8, Opp. Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai 400 022
- 4) The Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Jog Centre, 3rd Floor, Old Mumbai Pune Road, Wakadewadi, Pune 400 003
- 5) The Sub Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, B/4, Bali Block, Civil Lines, Opp. Government Milk Diary, Sat Rasta, Solapur 413 003;
- 6) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office Mangalwedha, Taluka Mangalwedha, District Solapur;
- Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti Mangalwedha, Tal-Mangalwedha, District - Solapur;
- 8) General Manager, District Industries Center, Solapur;
- Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15th Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai -400 032;
- 10) Grampanchayat offices related to Laxmidahiwadi, Lendve-chinchale, Andhalgaon, Shelewadi, Khupsangi, Bhose, Radde, Siddhankeri, Nimboni, Jitti, Khave, Talsangi, Yedrav, Bhalvani, Nandeshwar, Khadaki, Jalihal, Patkhal, Hajapur, Hivargaon, Metkarwadi, Dongargaon, Junoni, Gonewadi villages, Tal-Mangalwedha, Dist.-Solapur.
- 11) Maharashtra Pollution Control Board Website.



The Convener asserted that this Committee is only for recording public opinion, views, suggestions, and objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only. The environmental consultant retained by the project proponent will present the project details. The local inhabitants may express their suggestions/ queries in respect of the proposed project in oral or written format. Based on the discussions held during the Public Hearing, minutes will be prepared in two languages, English and Marathi and will be submitted to the Government for further proceedings. The Convener further requested the project proponent to brief the project details.

As directed by the Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee, the project consultant presented the project details, baseline monitored data, envisaged environmental impacts and the environmental management plan to the Committee Members and the participants. Wherein, the consultant briefed that, Government of Maharashtra has accorded administrative approval to the proposed Mangalwedha Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS) vide G.R. No.: 2019/(101/2019)/भाग-1/जांज dated 14th March, 2024 for Rs. 697.71 Cr. The proposed Mangalwedha L.I.S. envisages to irrigate 17187 Ha. of land in the Mangalwedha Taluka of Solapur district which is a drought prone area. The Gross Command Area (G.C.A.), Culturable Command Area (C.C.A.) and Irrigable Command Area (I.C.A.) under the proposed L.I.S. are 22507.916 Ha., 21725.482 Ha., and 17187.2752 Ha., respectively. The project will benefit a total of twenty-four villages by achieving 100% post-project cropping pattern comprising of 75% in Kharip season & 25% in Rabbi season. The water requirement will be met by lifting 2.04 TMC of water annually from Gunjegaon PH-1 which is fed by Ujjani Right Bank Canal (URBC) Ch. 94/300 at 95 Kms.

The Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all the participants to raise their suggestions, objections in respect of the proposed project by mentioning their full name and residential address.

Views, questions, suggestions/objections raised during the Environmental Public Hearing and the answers/promises given by the Project Proponent/ Project Environment Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee:



Sr. No.	Name of the person, village and their comments/	Assurance/ Reply given by Department Representative/ Project Consultant
	objections/ suggestions/ issues, etc.	
1	Mr. Pradeep Khedkar, Res. Hivargaon, Tal. Mangalwedha, Dist. Solapur through this public hearing expressed his opinion to ensure minimum environmental damage during implementation of this project. Also, to minimize the number of trees to be felled and to undertake tree plantation, accordingly.	In response, the project consultant stated that, rising main and pump houses are proposed for the project. For this, no tree cutting are proposed. Greenbelt development will be undertaken near the pump houses and along the approach road. The trees to be planted will be indigenous plant species comprising of neem, peepal, banyan etc. for conservation of the regional environment.
2.	Shri. Omkar Mali, Res. Hivargaon, Tal. Mangalwedha, Dist. Solapur enquired the duration for implementation of the said project.	In response, the project consultant stated that, the project's development work will be initiated after obtaining environmental clearance. The process for obtaining environmental clearance is in process. The time duration for completion of the said project from initiation is 5 years.
3.	Shri. Umesh Khandekar Res. Hivargaon, Tal. Mangalwedha, Dist. Solapur enquired the annual frequency of provision of water to the villages after implementation of the said project.	In response, the project consultant stated that, the implementation of the said project will be for eight months constituting Kharif season and Rabi season. Through the Ujjani project, water will be made available to the villages six times in a year. After the provision for water will be made, it will facilitate groundwater recharge and percolation dams will be developed to facilitate water utilization and agricultural production.
4.	Shri. Sanjay Barangay Res. Hivargaon, Tal. Mangalwedha, Dist. Solapur enquired the number of villages to be benefitted from this project.	In response, the project consultant stated that, 24 villages will be benefitted from the proposed project.



The Convener again appealed to the participants to raise their question, issues, concerns if they have any. Shri Jagannath Salunkhe, Public Hearing Committee Member opined that, approx. 9000 KW of electricity will be required for implementation of this project which will be met through non-conventional energy sources. In this regard, provisions for solar energy shall be made.

In response, Shri N. V. Joshi, Executive Engineer, Ujjani Canal Division No. 9, Mangalwedha stated that, many Lift Irrigation Schemes has been initiated in Maharashtra which are currently operational. Considering the overall power requirement, the electricity supplied by the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) is often inadequate due to which most of the schemes face problems. In this regard, the Government of Maharashtra has issued a Resolution (GR) indicating implementation of Lift Irrigation Schemes through solar energy. Accordingly, site inspection has been conducted by the department and the work has been initiated for implementation of the scheme through solar energy in the coming four to five years.

Further, Shri Jagannath Salunkhe opined that management of debris (C & D) waste management) generated during construction phase of the project shall be in accordance to the guidelines stipulated by the Government. Priority to be given to the localites for employment.

In response, the project consultant assured maximum reutilization of the debris towards construction of pumphouses, road development and backfilling of trenches. The excess generated debris will be disposed off at the low-lying areas in accordance to the government guidelines.

The Hon'ble Manisha Kumbhar, Resident Deputy Collector, Solapur directed to give information regarding the provisions made under Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER)

In response, the project consultant informed that, as per the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GoI Notification dated 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2018, provision of funds amounting to 1% of the total project cost has been made towards Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER). In this regard, a proposal will be



prepared by the Irrigation Department towards funds utilization under CER and the funds will be disbursed under the direction of District Collector.

The Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee concluded the meeting by acknowledging the active participation of the residents in the Environment Public hearing of Mangalwedha Lift Irrigation Scheme

Meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

(Shri Nikhil More)

Convener,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
and
Sub Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control
Board, Solapur

(Shri Jagannath Salunkhe)

Member,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
and
Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control
Board, Pune
Pune

(Manisha Kumbhar)

Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
and
Resident Deputy Collector,
Dist- Solapur