

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING OF FOR PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF NAGPUR-GONDIA ACCESS CONTROLLED EXPRESSWAY (NAGPUR DISTRICT COMPONENT) OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER OF MAHARASHTRA STATE ROAD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION NAGPUR DTD. 16/05/2025.

As per Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India Notification dated 14.09.2006 amended notification dated 1.12.2009. Executive Engineer of Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Nagpur has applied for Environmental Public Hearing in respect of proposed Construction of Nagpur-Gondia Access Controlled Expressway (Nagpur District Component). The Public Hearing was held at Krishnam Lawns, Shrikrishna Nagar, Besides Outer Ring Road, Hudkeshwar, Nagpur-440034 under the Chairmanship of Shri. Anup Khande, Additional District Magistrate, Nagpur. Smt. Hema Deshpande, Regional Officer, M.P.C.Board, Nagpur attended as a Member of the public hearing panel, and Shri. Sushilkumar Rathod, Sub-Regional Officer, M.P.C.Board, Nagpur-II as a Convener. The Public Hearing started at 11.30 a.m. with the permission of the Chairman of the Public Hearing Panel. Attendance of the citizens present during the Public Hearing is attached as **Annexure-I**.

PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE:

Public Hearing procedure was initiated with the permission of Chairman of Public Hearing panel. The Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Nagpur-II welcomed the Chairman and Member of the public hearing panel, local citizens and others.

The Chairman of Public Hearing Panel informed that, the Public Hearing is conducted for recording the views/objects/suggestions of the participants regarding the project, and the same will be communicated as it is to the Government. Chairman also clarified that this panel is not here to take decision regarding accordance of approval to the project and appealed the participants to express their views and suggestions orally or in writing.

Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Nagpur-II explained the purpose of conducting this public hearing and that as per MoEF&CC, GOI Notification SO 60(E) of 27th January, 1994 and amended on 14th September, 2006 notices for the public hearing were published in local widely circulated Newspapers i.e. the 'Hitavada' (English) and 'Navrashtra' (Marathi) on 11/05/2025. Copies of the same are enclosed as **Annexure-II**.

Copies of the Environment Impact Assessment & executive summary containing salient features of the project in English & Marathi and other information/documents were made available to the public before 30 days in various Govt. offices as well as local Gram Panchayats as per MoEF&CC, GOI Notification. Suggestions, comments and objections of the public were called in writing during the notice period of the publication of the notice. The public hearing panel was constituted vide MPC Board Office Order No. E-42/2025 vide letter No. BO/JD/(WPC)/PH/B-250515-FTS-0185 dtd. 15/05/2025. Copy of the same is enclosed as **Annexure-III**. One online suggestion through email was received to MPCB in the notice period. Copy enclosed as **Annexure-IV**.

Thereafter, Sub-Regional Officer, Nagpur-II and Convener requested the project proponent to give the detail presentation about the project. Accordingly, representative of the project proponent gave detailed power point presentation of the project in Marathi language. Project proponent explained regarding project location, benefits of proposed project, proposed facilities, fire-fighting facilities, manufacturing process description, description of environment and identification of anticipated impact, Land environment, climate and meteorology, Air Environment, existing water quality, water consumption, biological environment, socio-economic environment, impact on local infrastructure, environment management plan, air emission, preventive maintenance / inspection etc.

After the presentation Sub-Regional Officer & Convener Shri. Sushilkumar Rathod requested the citizens to express their views, comments, concern & suggestion after mentioning their name & name of the village.

FOLLOWING MEMBERS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN PUBLIC HEARING AND RAISED QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS. THE DETAILS ARE GIVEN BELOW:

1) Shri. Shrikant Deshpande, Nagpur.

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	What is the necessity of the proposed expressway? An alternative route is available to travel from Nagpur to Gondia.	Currently, the journey from Nagpur to Gondia takes approx. 3:15 to 3:30 hours. Although the need for this road is not felt today, it will definitely be needed in the future. The Government has done advanced planning in this regard. MSRDC has conducted a scientific study and after that the Government has approved this project after considering all the aspects.
2	This expressway will have an adverse impact on the environment, shrubs, forests, agricultural land and wildlife. Agricultural land is decreasing due to the use of agricultural land for development purpose. How much forest land will be acquired for this expressway?	If any project is to be implemented, a certain amount of trees have to be cut down. This project will acquire approximately 12.93 hectares of forest land and some trees on other land will also be cut down. To compensate for this, 5.50 lakh trees are planned to be planted along the Highway, and he further announced that trees of more than 10 feet height will be planted. Shrubs will be planted in the median of the highway.
3	Has MSRDC complied with the conditions in the Environmental Clearance of the existing Samruddhi Expressway? Also, there has been casualty of 150 wild animals on this highway so far. MSRDC has made a provision of approximately Rs 850 crore for tree plantation in the existing Samruddhi Expressway. But in reality, it appears that no tree plantation has been done.	It is mandatory for every project proponent to submit half-yearly compliance report of the environmental clearance. MSRDC has appointed IIT Bombay in this regard. IIT Bombay independently verifies status of the project and prepares the report. This report is submitted to the Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Nagpur and Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai. The length of Samruddhi Highway is 700 km and it has been divided into 15 land packages for tree plantation. Work on 8 of these packages is nearing completion.

4	Is there a need to raise the expressway by 25 feet? How will be the drainage of rainwater from the land along the highway? What measures have been taken for this aspect?	Drainage channels will be constructed on both sides of the road to drain rainwater. Hydrological study of the area will be conducted and based on that, drainage channels will be constructed on both the sides. Also, culverts will be provided at every 500 meters of the highway for drainage of rainwater. If such problem arises on the existing Samruddhi Highway as well, the concerned farmers should bring it to the notice of the MSRDC Engineer. Measures will be taken accordingly.
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2) Shri. Sachin Khobragade, Nagpur.

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	What is the necessity of the proposed expressway? The existing national highway is sufficient. This expressway will cause environmental damage and waste of public money.	Currently, the journey from Nagpur to Gondia takes approx. 3:15 to 3:30 hours. Although the need for this road is not felt today, it will definitely be needed in the future. The Government has done advanced planning in this regard. MSRDC has conducted a scientific study and after that the Government has approved this project after considering all the aspects.
2	Is the proposed expressway in public interest? There is an existing national highway which is sufficient.	

3) Shri. Sheshrao Meshram, Mangli.

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	What is the necessity of the proposed expressway? This expressway will cause environmental damage and will have adverse effect on human life.	Currently, the journey from Nagpur to Gondia takes approx. 3:15 to 3:30 hours. Although the need for this road is not felt today, it will definitely be needed in the future. The Government has done advanced planning in this regard. MSRDC has conducted a scientific study and after that the Government has approved this project after considering all the aspects.
2	Will people receive compensation for environmental damage?	Point noted.

4) Shri. Rajesh Bhowate, Dhanora.

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	If someone's one acre farm land is acquired for the proposed expressway and the remaining one guntha farm land is left, how will the farmer carry out farming in such small piece of land? Will such a small piece of farm land be registered in the Registry Office? Therefore, the Government should also purchase the remaining farm land.	A Committee of the District Collector and Sub-Divisional Officer is appointed regarding land acquisition and the said committee will take the appropriate decision in this regard.
2	8 feet service road should be constructed for farmers to access their fields.	3.5 meter wide service roads will be constructed on both sides of the proposed expressway.
3	Farmers will become landless as their land will be acquired for the proposed project. Will their children get jobs and other facilities?	Point noted.

5) Shri. Mohan Yewale, Lanjala, Tal.Kuhi, Dist-Nagpur.

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	No information was provided regarding the valuation and measurement of agricultural land. This information should be provided.	A Committee of the District Collector and Sub-Divisional Officer is appointed regarding land acquisition and the said committee will take the appropriate decision in this regard.

6) Shri. Ankit Agrawal, Ruhi

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	My farm is in the yellow zone. Will I get compensation on per acre basis or per square meter basis. There is a huge difference between the Government rate and the actual rate. How much compensation will I get and how will I get it?	A committee headed by the District Collector and comprising of various Government Officers is constituted by the Government and the said committee decides the remuneration. MSRDC does not take a decision in this regard.

7) Shri. Rahul Bhandarkar, Malni, Tal.Kuhi, Dist-Nagpur.

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	Is there a provision in the development plan for construction of Shivdhura, Pandan roads and for the drainage of rainwater? The expressway will cause stagnation of rainwater. Hence, there should be provision for drainage systems to carry the rainwater.	Culverts and underpasses will be provided at every 500 meters of the highway and drainage channels will be constructed to enable drainage of rainwater and easy crossing of the highway. Also, no traffic will be disturbed at the intersection of National Highway & State Highway as major bridges will be constructed at the intersections.

8) Shri. Bhojraj Bondre, Mangli

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	The Government should issue a Notification regarding land acquisition and should frame detailed policy for the same.	A Committee of the District Collector and Sub-Divisional Officer is appointed regarding land acquisition and the said committee will take the appropriate decision in this regard.
2	Service roads should be constructed for access to the farmland near the expressway.	3.5-meter-wide service roads will be constructed on both sides of the proposed expressway.
3	There are 5 land parcels in Khasra No. 47 in Mangli village. The entire Khasra No. 47 has been acquired. An explanation should be given or a GR should be issued as to which Gat No. will be included in land acquisition. Land acquisition should be done only for the required land and excess land should not be acquired. There is a confusion regarding whether the land has been acquired or not. Hence, should we carry out farming in the upcoming kharif season. The previous GR regarding land acquisition should be revoked and a revised GR should be issued.	Joint measurement of the land is carried out and the decision regarding acquisition is taken by the Taluka Inspector of Land Records. Joint measurement has been done and the work of collation of information is in progress. Once it is done, a final decision will be taken in this regard.

9) Smt. Anusaya Kale Chhabrani, Nagpur.

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	MSRDC should submit a report on whether they have complied with the conditions in the Environmental Clearance granted to existing Samruddhi Expressway such as tree plantation & other measures mentioned in the EC. Although a large amount of funds has been made available for tree plantation, the same has not been carried out satisfactorily.	The length of Samruddhi Highway is 700 km and has been divided into 15 land packages for tree plantation. Work on 8 of these packages is nearing completion.
2	Please provide detailed information on specifics of land acquisition such as from whom and how the agricultural land will be acquired for the proposed expressway.	Joint measurement of the land is carried out and the decision regarding acquisition is taken by the Taluka Inspector of Land Records. Joint measurement has been done and the work of collation of information is in progress. Once it is done, a final decision will be taken in this regard.

10) Shri. Vishwas Kale, Wadegaon.

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	The Government is going to acquire the remaining parcel of my land. A proposal for the same is submitted to Sub-Divisional Officer. However, I am yet to get the confirmation from SDO. Also, the area that is not included in the land acquisition is also being measured, what is the reason for that?	A Committee of the District Collector and Sub-Divisional Officer is appointed regarding land acquisition and the said committee will take the appropriate decision in this regard.

11) Shri. Ishwar Tulaskar, Bori-Nike

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	My farmland is included in the land acquisition for the proposed expressway and the remaining 5 Guntha/10 Guntha farmland is not acquired. Will this small piece of farmland be registered at Registry Office? Also, please clarify about the price and concessions offered to the farmers in return of their land.	A Committee of the District Collector and Sub-Divisional Officer is appointed regarding land acquisition and the said committee will take the appropriate decision in this regard.

12) Shri. Vinay Dhande, Malni

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	What is the Government's policy regarding land acquisition? Information regarding this should be presented to the farmers. Final decision regarding land acquisition should be made as soon as possible. Also, guidance should be provided on whether to carry out farming on the said land. If, sowing is done we will not give up control of farmland before harvesting crops.	A Committee of the District Collector and Sub-Divisional Officer is appointed regarding land acquisition and the said committee will take the appropriate decision in this regard.

13) Shri. Umesh Dhande, Malni

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestion/Question	Comments/ made by Project Proponent.
1	My farmland as per 7/12 is 4.25 acres, but as per joint measurement it is 3.3 acres. Since there is a discrepancy in the measurement, it should be re-measured.	Joint measurement of the land is carried out and the decision regarding acquisition is taken by the Taluka Inspector of Land Records. Joint measurement has been done and the work of collation of information is in progress. Once it is done, a final decision will be taken in this regard.

Shri. Anup Khande, Chairman of Environment public hearing panel and Additional District Magistrate, Nagpur appreciated the public for peacefully raising the suggestions and objections. He further said that the opinions and suggestions put forward by citizens will be incorporated in the minutes and will be sent to the Government. Also, if anyone wants to record their views in writing they are advised to submit them to the committee or submit them to the MPC Board, Office, Nagpur/Collector Office, Nagpur by 17/05/2025. He also thanked the public present for the public hearing. After that, it was declared that the public hearing was over.



(Hema Deshpande)
Member of the Public Hearing Panel
and
Regional Officer, MPC Board, Nagpur



(Sushilkumar Rathod)
Convener of the Public Hearing Panel
and
Sub-Regional Officer, MPC Board, Nagpur-II.



(Anup Khande)
Chairman of the Public Hearing Panel
and
Additional District Magistrate, Nagpur