

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION PROJECT FOR MANUFACTURING OF SPECIALITY CHEMICALS FOR OIL WELL DRILLING APPLICATIONS LOCATED AT GAT NO.185, 190, 191, 192, 193, 195/1, 195/2, 196, VILLAGE-DHEKU, TAKAI-ADHOSHI ROAD, KHOPOLI, TALUKA-KHALAPUR, DISTRICT- RAIGAD - 410 203, MAHARASHTRA STATE BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S GUMPRO DRILLING FLUIDS PRIVATE LIMITED

The Environment Public Hearing in respect of proposed expansion project for manufacturing of Speciality Chemicals For Oil Well Drilling Applications located at Gat No.185, 190, 191, 192, 193, 195/1, 195/2, 196 Village-Dheku, Takai-Adhoshi Road, Khopoli, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad - 410 203 Maharashtra State By Project Proponent M/s Gumpro Drilling Fluids Private Limited was conducted on Friday, the 24th April, 2026 at 03.00 noon at Rishivan Resort, Jha & Associates, Survey No.8/1, Khopoli Pen Road, Adoshi, Shilphata-Khopoli, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad-410 203.

Shri Prashant Bhosale, Sub Regional Officer, Raigad -I, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor, Sector-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400 614 and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri Sandesh Shirke, Additional District Magistrate, Raigad, Alibag and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Sanjay Bhosale, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee and Environmentalists, 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.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) 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 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.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s Gumpro Drilling Fluids Private Limited to conduct Environment Public Hearing for their proposed expansion project for manufacturing of Speciality Chemicals For Oil Well Drilling Applications located at Gat No.185, 190, 191, 192, 193, 195/1, 195/2, 196 Village-Dheku, Takai-Adhoshi Road, Khopoli, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad - 410 203 Maharashtra State on 24.12.2025.

Convener further informed as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category A schedule 5 (f) (Synthetic Organic Chemicals Industry) which requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt of India, New Delhi for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory.

Project Proponent had submitted online prescribed application on 09.07.2025 along with pre-feasibility report to obtain Terms of Reference (ToR) to Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi and it has been considered and given online approval on 16-07-2025.

Accordingly, Project Proponent has appointed an Environmental Consultant who has obtained NABET Approval as per the directives of the Government of India and have carried out the environmental assessment through the environmental consultant. A detailed environmental survey within a 10.0 km radius of the project site was carried from 01st March, 2025 to 31st May, 2025. (three months). It is submitted to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board on 24.12.2025.

Joint Director (Water Pollution Control), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai vide letter dated 13.01.2026 directed Sub Regional Officer, Raigad-I, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, Navi Mumbai to carry the process of conducting environmental public hearing regarding the said project.

Afterwards, Sub Regional Officer, Raigad-I, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, Navi Mumbai vide letter dated 13.02.2026 requested Hon'ble District Collector, Raigad, Alibag to conduct Environment Public Hearing for the proposed activity.

District Collector, Raigad, Alibag vide letter dated 23.03.2026 directed to conduct Physical Environment Public Hearing on Friday, the 24th April, 2026 at 03.00 noon at Rishivan Resort, Jha & Associates, Survey No.8/1, Khopoli Pen Road, Adoshi, Shilphata-Khopoli, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad-410 203.

After sanction from District Collector, Raigad, Alibag to conduct the Physical Environment Public Hearing on Friday, the 24th April, 2026 at 03.00 noon, 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 Environment Public Hearing Committee vide Board's Office Order No. MPCB/JD/(WPC)/ENV-PH/B - 260113-FTS-0215, dated 13.01.2026 as under:-

- 1) District Magistrate-Raigad, Alibag - **Chairman**
or his representative not below
the rank of an Additional District
Magistrate
- 2) Representative of Maharashtra **Member**
Pollution Control Board, Mumbai -
Regional Officer - Raigad,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor, CBD Belapur,
Navi Mumbai - 400 614
- 3) Sub Regional Officer, Raigad-I, - **Convener**
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor, CBD Belapur,
Navi Mumbai - 400 614

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Officer, Raigad - I, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400 614 in the Local Newspaper in Daily Lokmat and Krushival for Marathi and in National Newspaper Indian Express for English on 26th March 2026. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summery were made available in Marathi and in English at various notified Government offices as under: -

- 1) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Zonal Office, Western- Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur-440 001;
- 2) District Collector, Raigad, Alibag,
- 3) General Manager, District Industries Center, Raigad Alibag,
- 4) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Raigad, Alibag,
- 5) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office – Khalapur, Taluka-Khalapur, District - Raigad,
- 6) Block Development Officer, Panchayat, Samiti, Taluka – Khalapur, District – Raigad,
- 7) Group Gram Panchayat Office – Honad, Gram Panchayat Office – Adoshi, Atkargaon, Dheku, Sajgaon, Thanenavhe, District – Raigad,
- 8) Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15th Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai – 400 032;
- 9) Joint Director (WPC), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 1st,2nd,3rd, 4th Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai – 400 022;
- 10) Regional Officer- Raigad, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor, Sector – 11, C.B.D. Belapur, Navi Mumbai – 400 614
- 11) Sub Regional Officer, Raigad – 1, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor, Sector – 11, C.B.D. Belapur, Navi Mumbai – 400 614;
- 12) Website of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board;

Convener informed that no suggestions/objections have been received regarding the proposed project.

Convener informed that an opportunity is given to all participants to raise any doubts, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle, which can be submitted by orally or in writing also.

Convener asserted that this Committee is only for recording public opinion, views, suggestions, objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only and the Committee has no right to approve, reject or recommend the project. The suggestions/objections raised by the participants in the public hearing will be noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. Similarly, the revised Environmental Assessment Report of the Project Proponent, written suggestions/objections and minutes of the meeting after approval of Chairman will be submitted through MPCB Head Office to the Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi after taking note of the video recording of the said meeting, suggestions and objections recorded in the meeting. An Expert Committee there takes further decision regarding the same He requested Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee to inform Project Proponent to start the presentation.

With the permission of the Chairman, the Environmental Consultant of the project made a presentation on the entire Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed project.

Inspired by the Indian Government's "Make in India" initiative, the Project Proponent has decided to scale up its products.

The total plot area of the project is 3.13 hectares and the total capital investment is ₹ 41.60 crore and the proposed capital investment for expansion is ₹ 20.0 crore.

As per the directives of the Central Pollution Control Board, it is mandatory to develop 33% of the total project plot as a green belt, accordingly, the green belt will be developed.

Project requires 74 skilled and unskilled workers and priority will be given to locals for employment in the project. Gumpro Company has focused on women empowerment, i.e. providing 20% employment to women workers and the same policy will be followed in the future as well.

However, the establishment of this project will greatly increase indirect business in the area.

Proposed project is a ZLD - Zero Liquid Discharge project and not a single drop of wastewater from the project will be discharged outside the project.

Project will invest around ₹ 10.0 lakhs towards the corporate environmental responsibility budget, and it will be spent in the project affected villages. The EMP cost related to capital cost will be Rs. 6.14 Cr. and the recurring cost will be Rs. 0.31 Cr.

This project is in the interest of the local area, the state of Maharashtra, and the country.

After the Presentation, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all participants to raise their suggestions, objections in respect of proposed project in environmental angle only. While asking questions, full name and residential address should be informed.

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 :-

1) Shri Akshay Ashok Khedekar, Residence- Atkargaon, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad, Panchayat Samiti President, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena:

We welcome the expansion of this project. If the expansion project will provide employment opportunities to the local people/sons of the soil and if the company is going to carry out various social works under CSR funds in the future as shown in the presentation, then this project is welcomed.

I have a question. In the Presentation, it is mentioned that it is planned to built Effluent Treatment Plant to treat industrial effluent in the expansion project. So our objection is that ETPs are built in many companies, even Zero Liquid Plant i.e. M.B. plant is also built, but to operate and maintain, the cost of processing in the plant is huge which the company cannot afford. That's why it doesn't kept in operation. So whether in this project, the M.B. is in existence?

Project Environment Consultant replied that we have noted the suggestions raised by you. We are going to implement ZLD system in the project. Online monitoring system made mandatory by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) is in operation in the project. One of its connections is connected to the server of the Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi and the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai. Even if one of the parameters exceeds the prescribed standards, a SMS is sent immediately to the Project Proponent and to the Project Environment Consultant from both the departments. Officials of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board

come to inspect the plant immediately. Also, the officials of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board do visit and inspect the plant as per their specified period/norms. Not a single drop of treated waste water from the plant will be generated outside the plant.

Shri Akshay Ashok Khedekar opined that Zero Liquid Discharge means not releasing treated sewage outside the plant and recycling and reusing it in the plant itself. ZLD system is installed in many companies. But it is built only to show off. It can't be run because it's expensive. So are you going to implement it?

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee opined that participant had raised a very valid point. In many places, ETPs are built, but it is not operational.

Project Proponent replied that of course ETP & ZLD system will be in operation. It is a good thing that in the project, oil based products and water based products are fully used while the liquid in the water based product is completely 100% used. Project Management has shown this to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. Now we are going to make full use of the treated waste water in the project production itself.

Shri Akshay Ashok Khedekar objected that even though ETP was kept operational in the plant, the remaining treated sewage is discharged into the rivers and drains in the area.

Project Proponent said that would not happen. We have internal products and the wastewater generated in the plant will be treated and recycled 100% in the plant product.

Mr. Akshay Ashok Khedekar opined that if that is the case, we will welcome your project.

2) Shri Suresh Archan Patil, Residence - Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad.

My agriculture farm is behind M/s Fibre Company. I am taking follow up with the company for the last two years. Though it was chemical water/chemical contained water, but you said No. I went to the back gate. There the water of Sonal Company was shown. The water was coming near the gutter near your back gate. It was totally chemical water. It was white chemical water.

Here, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee expressed the opinion that the site should be inspected first while bringing the minutes of the meeting for approval. Chairman of the Committee instructed Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to give a further report only if it is okay.

Shri Suresh Archan Patil complained that none of the drains of the company were clean. That's why agriculture workers don't come to our farms.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that he would first complete the public hearing of this company and then take up the second issue.

3) Shri Suraj Suresh Patil, Residence- Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad:-

It is shown in the presentation that while preparing the Environment Impact Assessment Report, water samples of borewells were taken at eight locations while surveying within a radius of 10.0 km of the project site. Then whether there are Google Map photos of the location?

Here, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested that photos of Geo Tech be shown.

At that time, Project Environment Consultant said that there are also geo-tech photos of each location.

Shri Suraj Suresh Patil demanded that the photo be shown on the screen.

Environmental Consultant said that in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report prepared for the project, in Chapter 3, on page no. 23, all the geo photos have been given.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee asked Project Environment Consultant that is it in the report as demanded? Member of the Committee directed that the water of the borewell which is checked, its location/geotech should be shown.

Shri Suraj Suresh Patil demanded that the location of the borewells from which the sample/s was/were collected and checked, the geo-tech should be revealed.

Environmental consultant said that all the information, Geo Tech Information have been given in the Environment Impact Assessment Report (EIA).

Shri Suraj Suresh Patil asked that 0.41 Geotech has been shown in Dheku village, where is it, its photos should be shown. He objected, "You can't tell where this location is. The water sources in all the companies here are polluted. The condition here is bad, all the chemical mix water comes. However, the report says that there is good quality of borewell water. We will take criminal action against the laboratory where the collected bore water samples were analysed and the address of the laboratory should be given.

Environmental Consultant explained that if you enter the latitude and longitude in Google Earth from where we have collected the water sample in the EIA report, you will get the exact location of Google. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi has approved the T.O.R. to the proposed project. Accordingly, water samples of borewells have been tested from NABL Accredited laboratory.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee directed Environment Consultant to provide photographs of the locations of borewells and a copy of the report to the concerned participant.

Environmental Consultant said that as directed by Hon'ble Chairman of the Committee, a copy of the EIA report will be made available.

Shri Suraj Suresh Patil objected that Environmental Consultant says that the water is good, and if we show that the water is coming out of any particular borewell is bad, then will you take legal action against this company?

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee clarified that Environmental Consultant, who is appointed by the company has to carry and conduct the survey in the radius of 10 k.m. of the project site as per the Orders of ToR as issued by Government of India. So, Environmental Consultant will show you the sampling spots. If you find it objectionable, they will take a sample in front of you and report it to you.

Here Shri Suraj Suresh Patil objected that even today if our borewells here are getting water contaminated due to the company's chemicals, will it be of use to our citizens?

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that these issues have been noted and will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

Shri Suraj Suresh Patil again objected that though it will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting, many borewells here are contaminated and this expansion project is going to add to it.

Here, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee requested that you need to understand the process of today's public hearing. This committee does not approve any project, does not deny permission to any project or recommend any project. This environmental public hearing is for you to submit suggestions, views, objections about the proposed project.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that the water sources here have been polluted due to the company. It is recorded in the recording process also. This will be noted in the minutes of the meeting and will be communicated to the government. Your suggestions and objections have been noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The report will be submitted by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee will take further decision in this regard.

Shri Suraj Suresh Patil demanded here that I request that the water samples of all the borewells should be collected again or we, local people can help Project Consultant as to which borewells are contaminated. Water samples from those borewells should be collected.

Suggestion is noted.

4) Shri Rohit Patil, Residence- Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District- Raigad:-

Chairman said that environmental suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project be raised in the meeting. They will be noted. However, awareness about the conducting of environmental public hearing has not been done in the local village and in the project area. We have 15,000 people living here, but not even 50 people are present here.

Many people wanted to complain against this company. But they have been deprived of the opportunity.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that Convener had given information about how the public awareness was created at the beginning of the meeting. As per the directives of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi, Sub-Regional Officer, Raigad-1, MPCB, Navi Mumbai had published a public notice in two local newspapers in Marathi and one in English in a national newspaper for public information. Similarly, the Executive Summary Report of the proposed project was made available in Marathi and English at the notified government offices, local Maharashtra Pollution Control Board office and on the website of the Board.

However, if the local people have any suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project, they are given time till Monday, April 27, 2026 till 5.00 pm to submit written suggestions. You can submit your written suggestions/objections to the District Collector's Office, Raigad, Alibag by post or email.

At that time, Shri Rohit Patil again objected that it was necessary to create awareness about this public hearing.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that all the directives as issued by the Central Government i.e. publication of public notices in local and national newspapers have been followed. Here Chairman of the Committee asked for the names of local and national newspapers. Chairman opined that a public notice on the environment has been published in the paper which is read by the local people. However, I am extending the time for filing suggestions and objections. I give you seven more days, you have to register the suggestions, objections of the

people, PAPs collectively or individually. Suggestions and objections should be submitted in person, by post or by email to the District Collector's Office, Raigad, Alibag. They will be submitted to the Government.

5) **Shri Shubham Dnyaneshwar Patil, resident of Chincholi, Taluka, District-Raigad, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena, Branch President:-**

The industry is allowed by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. When the industry does not comply with the directions passed by the MPCB, we inform Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. However, the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) is not taking any further action. There is an Kamani company at my Chincholi stop. Two days ago, the Kamani company has poured two tankers. Sarpanch is present here, his hotel is there. Obnoxious smell comes on the road. I have videos about the Kamani company. There are also videos about the Prasol company.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee here informed Shri Shubham Patil that if he had any objections to the other companies, he would discuss with him after this meeting. If objection is regarding this Gumpro Company, it will be noted.

6) **Shri Suraj Suresh Patil, Residence- Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad: -**

Job opportunity for local people was discussed in the meeting. The presentation indicated that the project will provide employment opportunities to the locals. However, I request that those who have skills and willingness to work should be given a chance while giving employment.

Project Proponent replied that local people would definitely be given priority while providing employment opportunities in the project. The

expansion will provide employment opportunities to 70-80 persons in the project. For this, skill-training scheme will be prepared for local young boys and girls and they will be given employment opportunities.

Shri Suraj Suresh Patil, Residence-Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad objected that the management had denied local people an opportunity when they had one here for local employment and business in the past. I am suggesting that this should not happen. Project Proponent assured co-operation.

7) Shri Pratik Yashwant Lale, Resident-Dheku, Post-Sajgaon, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad:

We are the sons of the local soil where this company stands. Despite this, we sons of the soil have been deprived of employment opportunities. Today, our fertile land was given to the company for the village development, but the sons of the soil here have been excluded from the company's business/contracts, employment. But you have labor contractors from other States.

Project Proponent opined that even though this is an environmental public hearing, suggestions raised by them will definitely be considered positively.

Here, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee opined that local people should be given priorities for job opportunities as well as for business contracts. The demand/say of local people is right. Local people have to give their land for the project, due to pollution, their environment will be spoiled, they will face difficulties, but outsiders will come and fill their own stomach. However, priority should be given to the locals. And a time-bound plan should be made for this, not just promises.

Shri Pratik Lale said that the locals have co-operated every time. Hence, everyone should be given a chance.

Project Proponent assured that local people will definitely be given priority in terms of employment, business in the expansion project.

8) Mr. Rohit Patil, R/o Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad:

How many workers are local people working in the project today?

Project Proponent replied that the information was not compiled here as it was an environmental public hearing. However, it will definitely be made available to you personally.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested that the information should be made available to the concerned person after the meeting is over.

9) Shri Chandrakant Baban Patil, Residence- Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad: -

Thank you to Environment Public Hearing Committee for coming to our village to listen to our environmental issues. Now this meeting has been organized for the expansion of the Gumpro company. So Gumpro Company, Sonal and other companies pollute the air so much that we are not able to breathe naturally after 7.00 pm. The lives of the citizens here are literally in danger. Also, if clothes are kept in the evening, there are oil bubbles on them in the morning.

Also, whether the safety of the tanks in which all these companies store their chemicals is checked.? Information should be given about it.

Evening pollution is still affecting the citizens. Information should be given whether the expansion of this company will cause such a problem.

It is further requested that the locals be given more time to file suggestions/objections. The matter should be temporarily put on hold for

10-15 days. Because the people of our village could not come. Also, who will take responsibility if this company pollute the environment ?

Project Environment Consultant said that you could not breathe natural after 7.0 pm and commented that the lives of citizens is in danger. He also said that oil bubbles appear on clothes.

It is clarified that the chimney (stack) installed in the project is in accordance with the standards as specified by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. Accordingly, the same height will be maintained in the expansion project. Also, the height of the DG set in the project is as per the standards passed by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board.

At that time, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee clarified that although the Environmental Adviser said that the height of the chimney will be kept as per the standards passed by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, then it should be considered as per the standards passed by the Central Pollution Control Board. Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that this report will be submitted to Central Government. An Expert Committee takes a decision on whether to grant Environmental Clearance (EC) to the project or not after taking note of the environmental suggestions and objections raised in the meeting.

Here, **Shri Chandrakant Baban Patil, Residence - Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad** said that the village is in the east and the company is in the west. In the evening, the west wind blows, so it troubles us.

Member said that views, suggestions have been noted.

10) **Shri Rakesh Jalgaonkar, Resident-Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad:**

I would like to thank Gumpro for your support during the Covid period. The company has now held a public hearing for the expansion proposal.

So what is the area of the company, how many trees are there in the plant, if you have a chemical plant, which trees are planted to stop pollution? What is the area of the company, how much of it was constructed?

Environmental Consultant said the area of the project is 3.13 hectares. Shri Rakesh Jalgaonkar asked how much area is used for construction in it? As far as I know if one acre of land is allowed 20 gunthas, whether it's collector's office or MSRDC, then how much of our construction, how many trees have been planted & what kind of trees are there?

Project Environment Consultant said the total area of the project is 3.13 hectares. 33% of its green belt will be developed, i.e. 2583 trees will be planted. In the present project, 78 trees have been planted. That is, 2505 saplings will be planted.

It has local species – priority will be given to the cultivation of neem, karanj, dumar, tamar, tekova and local broadleaf trees. This is because the wide leaves help reduce the emissions that are generated in the project and reduce noise pollution.

Shri Rakesh Jalgaonkar objected that if the Public Hearing Committee on Environment now visits and inspects the project, then the Environment Department will not give you permission.

Here, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee instructed officials of Sub-Regional Officer, Raigad-1 to inspect the site and check the information given by the company, to check the number of trees planted and prepare a report.

11) **Shri Suraj Suresh Patil, Residence- Dheku, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad:-**

Shri Suraj Suresh Patil while filing the objection said that Project Environment Consultant said that the total area of the project is 3.13 hectares while the proposed project will be set up in 0.47 hectares. So is the existing project more or the proposed project more? Only 78 trees were planted despite the existing project being larger in area. At that time, it was necessary to plant 2,500 trees. So how were so few trees planted?

Environmental Consultant clarified that the project promoters have developed the green belt as per the terms and conditions mentioned in the "Consent to Establish – C to E' and 'Project Operating Consent' (C to O) as issued by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board from time to time.

As per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 (EIA, 2006) as issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi, it is mandatory to develop 33% green belt in the proposed expansion project. Accordingly, green belts will be developed/planted in the project. It is mandatory for the Project Proponent to plant and conserve 2,505 trees in public places.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee directed the Sub-Regional Office-Raigad-1, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to check whether the number of trees are planted and maintained as per the directions of the first consent letter as issued by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board during the inspection. Even if Project Proponent do well in the future, they should check whether they have followed the guidelines of the Consent to Establishment and Consent to Operate issued by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board.

Shri Suraj Suresh Patil objected that if they did not follow the instructions to plant trees at that time, then how they would follow now? Project Proponent is already hesitating. Hence, we are demanding that local people be taken while inspecting the project.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee clarified that there is no provision in the law to take local people while carrying inspection of the project.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee on Environment directed Shri Yogesh Gore, Field Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) to visit and carry inspection of the company site on Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 11.00 a.m. considering the directives of the Consent to Establishment and Consent to Operate as issued by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. It was directed to check whether the trees were planted or not and submit a report. Also, after listening to the locals who have come in front of the main gate of the company at 11.00 am, then go to the company and inspect the company.

Member, Public Hearing Committee on Environment said that the suggestions/objections raised in the meeting have been noted and will be included in the report. Also, as per the instructions of the Hon'ble Chairman, those who want to submit written statements, suggestions or objections should submit them to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, Navi Mumbai in person or by email. These will be submitted to the government along with the minutes of the meeting.

Hon'ble Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee has stated that those who want to submit suggestions/objections through email, they should submit collectorraigad@gmail.com on this email. Suggestions/objections can be sent by post or can be handed over in person

to Mr. Yogesh Gore, Field Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, Navi Mumbai on Tuesday.

12) **Shri Vinodanand Kawle, Sarpanch, Group Gram Panchayat Sajgaon, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad.**

I welcome the expansion that Gumpro Drilling Fluids Company. From time to time, Project management has also looked after the environment and has also helped from time to time for tree plantation under CSR. Eco-friendly means cow dung gas in Anganwadi, which means cooking food from waste. This system is adopted in Anganwadi with help of project.

At that time, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed to the public to register any objections about the proposed project.

Mr. Vinodanand Kawle, Sarpanch, Group Gram Panchayat Sajgaon, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad said that the expansion project is welcome.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all to submit any suggestions, views, comments or objections regarding the proposed project. There was no response from the participants.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed the participants that since the Hon'ble Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee has given time to submit suggestions/objections, you can submit it physically or by mail to the office of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board at Raigad Bhavan, Navi Mumbai on sroraigad1@mpcb.gov.in Or on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, to the representative of the MPCB at the project site. The minutes of the meeting will be submitted to the Central Government.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee on behalf of Hon'ble Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee declared that the public hearing had concluded.

Meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

No objections/suggestions are received.



(Prashant Bhosale)

Convener,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
Sub Regional Officer, Raigad - I,
Maharashtra Pollution Control
Board,
Navi Mumbai



(Sanjay Bhosale)

Member,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
Regional Officer, Raigad
Maharashtra Pollution Control
Board,
Navi Mumbai



(Sandesh Shirke)

Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Additional District Magistrate, Raigad, Alibag
District - Raigad, Alibag

