

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE PROPOSED NAGPUR - MUMBAI ACCESS CONTROLLED EXPRESSWAY PROPOSED BY M/S MAHARASHTRA STATE ROAD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD., FROM SHIVMADAKA TO WADEGAON (BAKSHI) 28.4 KM NAGPUR DISTRICT (PACKAGE-I)

The public hearing for proposed Nagpur - Mumbai access controlled expressway proposed by M/s Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd., from Shivmadaka to Wadegaon (Bakshi) 28.4 km Nagpur District (Package-I) was conducted on 28th February, 2017 at 11.30 hrs at Survey No.108, Agriculture field of Shri Ajay Ganeshchandra Migra (Gujar), Tahsil-Hingana, Dist - Nagpur, which is close proximity to the project area under the Chairmanship of Shri K. N. K. Rao, Additional District Magistrate (A representative nominated by the District Collector-Nagpur). Shri Nagesh Lohalkar, Regional Officer, MPCB, Nagpur was the Member of the Public Hearing Panel and Shri Kiran Hasabnis, Sub Regional Officer -II, MPC Board, Nagpur act as a Convener. The public hearing started at 11.30 hrs with the permission of the Chairman of the Public Hearing Panel. Attendance of the people present during the public hearing is attached as Annexure -"I."

BACKGROUND :-

The Govt of India (Gol) has planned 10 (Ten) world class Express Highways in order to boost the road infra-structure. Simultaneously, the Govt. of Maharashtra has planned Nagpur-Mumbai Expressway (NMEW) for diversion and redistribution of heavy traffic on existing corridors. The proposed NMEW is being implemented by Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd., which will pass through ten districts from Vidharbha through Marathwada to Konkan region.

The project intends to develop a six lane Expressway with paved shoulders from Nagpur to Mumbai in the State of Maharashtra. This six-lane Nagpur-Mumbai Prosperity Corridor has a ROW of 120 mtr. And will bring the travel time between the two cities of Nagpur to Mumbai from 16 hrs to 06 hrs. This prosperity corridor will pass through all the five Regions that make up Maharashtra Vidarbha, North Maharashtra, Marathwada, Western Maharashtra and Konkan thus linking developed and developing towns. The project ensures greater regional connectivity and equitable development as it passes through Vidharbha, North Maharashtra, Marathwada, Western Maharashtra and the Konkan Region. It also promises to open new avenues of economic and social growth along the drought-hit districts of Vidharbha and Marathwada.

This Prosperity Corridor (NMEW) is being designed for sustainable growth with emphasis on agro-industries in rural and underdeveloped districts of Maharashtra. The project is so massive that it will open up multiple sectors including township along the expressway emerging as a self-reliant model. From textile sector to IT hubs, each NODE will have its distinct character developed to tackle the local requirements of livelihood of the people and growth. An equal opportunity to grow and develop is the only way for a region to ensure a prosperous demography. Cities have concentrated employment opportunities, skilled work force, financial independence and the infra structure to keep the demand-supply cycle intact. Most of the needs of the urban areas in terms of food and electricity are sourced from the rural areas. Urban areas act as the drivers of economy for the rural regions, whereas the rural areas provide necessary



resources. Thus, the urban and rural areas in any state have an interdependent relationship with each other.

PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE :-

Shri Lohalkar, Member of the said meeting welcomed Hon'ble Chairman and Members of Public Hearing Panel, company representatives and general public who were in large number and informed that, as per EIA Notification of GoI, MoEF CC dated 14th September, 2006, amended thereto, it is mandatory to conduct prior public hearing to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification. The Sub Regional Office, Nagpur-II, MPCB was in receipt of application of M/s Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd., for conducting public hearing for proposed project from Shivmadaka to Wadegaon (Bakshi) 28.4 km length (Package-I) of Access controlled Nagpur Mumbai Express Way, for Nagpur District.

The Member of the Committee further informed that, as per said Notification, the project falls under Category '7 (f).' The aim of conducting public hearing 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 proposed Expressway. The State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC-I) of Ministry of Environment, Govt. of Maharashtra has granted the proposal for ToR for conducting EIA studies in its 128th meeting held on 2,3,4 June 2016. Accordingly, MSRDC, the project proponent prepared draft EIA Report. As per EIA Notification, one month advance public notice was published in the local newspapers on 26th January, 2017 in Daily Lokmat for Marathi and in Daily Hitawad for English. So also the copies of EIA report and Executive summary in English and Marathi were also made available at Ministry of Environment & Forest Office and at various offices of Govt. of Maharashtra i.e. District Magistrate Office, Nagpur, Additional District Magistrate, Nagpur, Sub Divisional Office, Tal-Hingana, Dist-Nagpur, Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Nagpur-II, Regional Office, MPCB, Nagpur and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai, Zilla Parishad, Nagpur, District Industries Centre, Nagpur, Grampanchayat, offices in the vicinity of the project area Tal-Hingana, Dist-Nagpur, Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestions/comments regarding the above project. The Member further informed that no objections in writing are received by the Sub Regional Office, Nagpur-II, MPCB. He appealed Chairman of the Committee to allow to start the proceedings of public hearing.

Shri K. N. K. Rao, Additional District Magistrate and Chairman of Committee welcomed all and informed officials of the project proponent to explain the details about proposed project and its environment management plan in local language Marathi. He further appealed general public to give suggestions/comments/opinion if any, about the project after technical presentation of the project.

The officials of Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation gave the presentation of the construction of proposed project and Environment Management Plan in detail. Shri Toke during presentation, clarified that as per ToR (Terms of Reference) granted by SEAC-I of Govt. of Maharashtra, the concept of "Rain Water Harvesting" and channelizing of flow of rain water alongwith the high way will be the part of project design only. The abandoned stone quarries will be converted into water

reservoirs with the help of District Administration. He also pointed out that to meet the demand of water storage and supply, the existing abandoned quarries can be handed over to MSRDC so that those can be converted into water reservoir which will cater the need of water requirement for the construction of proposed Nagpur Mumbai Express Highway.

After completion of presentation and detailed information, Chairman of the Committee appealed general public to ask any questions or give suggestions if any regarding the project.

PROCEEDINGS :-

1) **Shri Arun Wankar of Maharashtra Rajya Kisan Sabha :-**

He objected the project and opined that the agriculture fertile land of the area will be ruined. The farmers of this areas toiled hard since many generations for cultivation of the agriculture fields and their livelihood will be affected. Due to this project, the problem of municipal solid waste disposal will rise. So also the natural water sources will be polluted due to cement dust. The agriculture cultivations will be minimized which will naturally affect the production of crops in the area. Due to hotmix plant, the issues related to air pollution may arise within the project area. He further objected that the project proponent has not clarified the water management, the sources and requirement of water for such vast project and if the drinking water from the dam is lifted, the poor villagers will be starved for the drinking water. In this area, there is forest on the hill tops in which Adivasi Tribes are residing since generation after generation. The livelihood of poor Adivasi will be destroyed. While giving presentation, the project officials has not mentioned any plan of construction of service road for local residents to carry out their daily needs alongwith construction of high way. The project will destroy the livelihood of poor farmers and healthy atmosphere of the area.

Shri Wankar further suggested to made available the copy of the proceedings. Shri Rao, Chairman of the Committee informed that the EIA report alongwith Executive Summary of the project was made available by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board at various Government Offices including the website of MPCB. In addition to this, Executive Summary of this project in English and Marathi were made available at all Grampanchayat offices from where the proposed road is passing through. He further clarified that all the aspects regarding the queries raised by Shri Wankar are addressed in EIA report, however, if at all any local residents desires, the soft copy in the form of CD will be made available from MPCB local office. He directed MPCB officials to provide the same, if somebody request for copy of EIA.

2) **Shri Mukund Bhagat, resident of Datal village :-**

While raising the objection, Shri Bhagat informed that project proponent mentioned in the presentation that a Communication Team is constituted for acquaintance of the proposed project in the villages

through it is passing, which will address the issues related to land pooling for the proposed project. The Communication Team will communicate the salient features of the land pooling scheme to the common public at a large. The Members of Committee do visit the villages of Hingane Tahsil and counseling the villagers for giving their land for this project. The agriculturists of Hingane Taluka are opposing the project and more than 100-200 farmers had given objection in writing to District Collectorate Office, Nagpur. Shri Bhagat further said that this project will destroy the livelihood of poor farmers and will benefit the rich people. Chairman of the Committee informed Shri Bhagat to give their writing objection regarding the land acquisition which will be submitted to Competent-Authority for getting the benefits of the project to the project beneficiaries. However, it is objected by Shri Bhagat.

3) **Shri Sham Kale of INTAK Kamgar Sena, Maharashtra :-**

Shri Kale raised the objection that illiterate poor farmers are misguided and with fraudulent tactics, the approval letters for land acquisition is grabbed by the project proponent. He further suggested that the existing highway of 4 Lane may be first converted into 6 Lanes. Shri Kale further objected that the plan of drinking water for proposed housing complex and city is not mentioned. If the available water is diverted to new townships, the residing local people will suffer.

4) **Shri Rajkumar Divanga, Owner of Divyanka Industries, resident of Haladgaon :-**

Shri Divanga informed that they are running the factory in the Haladgaon which is now not in working condition due to slackness. They have agriculture land in the vicinity of the factory and their family is cultivating the land. Now the cultivated agriculture land of all the Haladgaon villagers will be acquired for the project. Hence livelihood of the local villagers will be affected. Shri Podar, resident of Haladgaon also supported for the same. Chairman of the Committee after detail discussions on this issue with local people and government officials directed project proponent to verify the grievance of Shri Rajkumar Divanga and try to accommodate the said industry in the proposed NODE if the structure of the industry is affected due to proposed ROW or Node Development at Haladgaon. He further mentioned that the small-scale industries if any are being affected due to proposed ROW or NODE Development, the same shall be accommodated in the nearby NODE. This will be benefitted to both, industrial business community and local people. Chairman of the Committee further suggested Convener to incorporate this issue in the proceedings while submitting report to Govt. of Maharashtra.

5) **Shri Surya Bhojar, resident of Supari Gharpure :-**

Shri Bhojar informed that District Administration has issued notices to respective Grampanchayat for acquiring the land for this project, but individual notices have not been issued.

Convener of the Committee Shri Hasabnis asked project proponent to answer the objections raised by the local people.

PROJECT PROPONENT :-

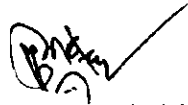
The Authority of the project congratulate the people present in the hearing for their valid suggestions and questions arises in the hearing and submitted their submission with reference to the questions and suggestions as below :-

Shri Toke, officials of project proponent informed that the issues raised by Shri Wankar are already addressed in EIA Report, however, suggestions made in this meeting are noted and will be incorporated during final EIA Report which will be submitted to the Ministry for grant of Environmental Clearance. He further informed that the project proponent has already made financial provisions for implementation of Environment Management Plan and Rs. 14 Crores have been ear-marked phasewise i.e. Pre-construction, during construction and operation. The ear-marked amount i.e.14 crores will be increased as per the need and amount will be modified accordingly.

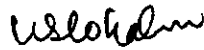
Chairman of the Committee while concluding the meeting thanked local people for raising the objections and suggesting and constructive steps for this project. Chairman of Committee appreciated the interest shown by the local people for environmental issues. He informed that 02 nos. of return objections were received and the suggestions, comments made in this meeting will be incorporated in the proceedings and the report will be submitted to the State Expert Appraisal Committee of Govt. of Maharashtra.

Chairman of the Committee thanked all government officials, company officials and particularly general public who attended the public hearing/meeting and stated that the said public hearing is concluded.

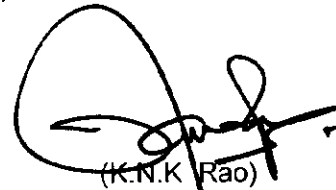
The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.



(K. N. Hasabnis)
Sub Regional Officer-II
MPC Board, Nagpur &
Convener of the Public
Hearing Panel



(Nagesh S. Lohalkar)
Regional Officer
MPC Board, Nagpur
Member of the Public



(K.N.K. Rao)
Addl. District Magistrate,
Nagpur & Chairman of
the Public Hearing Panel