

## **MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING**

### **MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED EXPANSION FOR SUGAR UNIT FROM 2,500.0 TCD to 6,000.0 TCD AND MOLASSES BASED DISTILLERY UNIT FROM 30.0 KLPD TO 55.0 KLPD PROPOSED BY SHREENATH MAHSKOBA SAKHAR KARKHANA LTD., SHREENATH NAGAR, AT – PATETHAN, POST – RAHU, TAL – DAUND, DIST – PUNE**

The public hearing for proposed expansion in the existing unit of M/s Shreenath Mahskoba Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Shreenath Nagar, At – Patethan, Post – Rahu, Tal-Daund, Dist – Pune for proposed production of sugar unit from 2,500 TCD to 6,000 TCD and Molasses based distillery plant from 30.0 KLPD to 55.0 KLPD was conducted on 02<sup>nd</sup> August, 2018 at the site of the said industry.

Following were the panel members as per Board's Office Order No. E-56 of 2018 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 2625, dated 13-07-2018 :-

- 1) Shri Vijaysinh Deshmukh - Chairman,  
Addl. Divisional Magistrate, Pune  
(Representative of District Magistrate,  
Pune)
- 2) Dr. H. D. Gandhe, - Member  
I/c Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune  
(Representative of MPCB, Mumbai)
- 3) Shri Nitin Shinde, - Convener  
Sub Regional Officer, Pune-I,  
MPCB, Pune

Shri. Nitin Shinde, Convener of the Public Hearing Committee and Sub Regional Officer, Pune-I, MPCB, Pune welcomed Hon'ble Chairman of the public hearing, company officials and public who were present in large number and informed that as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, GoI) dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 as amended on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification. The Sub Regional Office, Pune-I, MPCB, Pune was in receipt of application of M/s Shreenath Mahskoba Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Shreenath Nagar, At – Patethan, Post – Rahu, Tal-Daund, Dist – Pune for proposed production of sugar unit from 2,500 TCD to 6,000 TCD and Molasses based distillery plant from 30.0 KLPD to 55.0 KLPD at the existing site of the industry.

The Convener further informed that, as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls as per production i.e. sugarcane crushing capacity 5 (j) and Distillery 5 (g). 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 of the meeting informed that as per the Notification of MoEFCC, the sugarcane crushing capacity more than 5,000 TCD falls under Category B and the distillery project falls under Category A. Hence the project proponent had submitted online prescribed application alongwith pre-feasibility report to the MoEFCC for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 and MoEFCC, GoI, New Delhi considered the project and given online approval on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2017. As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published in the local newspapers "Daily Pudhari" in Marathi on 29/06/2018 and in "Daily Indian Express" in English on 28/06/2018. The public were appealed to send their suggestions or objections regarding the proposed expansion of the concerned unit.

Also a copy of EIA report and executive summary were made available at various offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Western Zone Office, Nagpur; District Magistrate Office, Pune, Additional District Magistrate Office, Pune, Zilla Parishad, Office, Pune, District Industries Centre Office, Pune, Tahsil Office- Daund, Dist, Pune, Grampanchayat offices at Patethan, Telewadi, Pilanwadi, Rahu , Tal – Daund, Dist- Pune, Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Pune-I, Regional Office, MPCB, Pune and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai, Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai and on the website of MPCB. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the expansion of above project. The Convener further informed that one written suggestion on email is received by local MPCB Office, Pune supporting the expansion. He appealed Chairman of the Committee to allow to start the proceedings.

Shri Vijaysinh Deshmukh , Chairman of Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed officials of the project to explain the details of pollution control devices and environment management plan of the project in local language Marathi. He also appealed general public to give objection / suggestion if any about the project after their technical presentation.

The Environment Consultant appointed by the company has gave the presentation of the expansion project and Environment Management Plan in detail.

After the presentations, Public Hearing Committee appealed all to give their suggestions or objections regarding the Environment Management Plan of the proposed expansion of the project.

**FOLLOWINGS HAVE PARTICIPATED DURING THE DISCUSSIONS, QUESTIONS AND ANSWER GIVEN BY PROJECT PROPONENT :-**

**1. Shri Kisan Gadge, resident of Patethan Village, Post-Rahu, Tal-Daund, Dist-Pune**

Sr.No.	Issue/Question Raised	Comments/Commitments made by Project Proponent/Environment Consultant
1	What will be the benefit of the expansion of the project	<p>It is informed by Environment Consultant that there will be many benefits such as -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Due to increase in crushing capacity, whole stock of sugarcane produced in the area will be utilized, hence there will not be financial loss of local farmers;</li> <li>2) The press mud will be used for producing organic fertilizer, due to which use of chemical fertilizer will be minimized. It will be beneficial to environment and will save the money of local farmers</li> </ol>
2	<p>He opined that due to this project, everybody is benefited as project proponent has taken in hand various social welfare schemes in the area.</p> <p>The project proponent has paid the instalments regularly to Members of Karkhana for purchase of sugarcane and given reasonable charge.</p>	Agreed

**2. Shri Namdeo Dhanaji Bande, resident of Wadgaon Bande, Tal-Daund, Dist-Pune –**

Sr.No.	Issue/Question Raised	Comments/Commitments made by Project Proponent/Environment Consultant
1	It is good that the project proponent planned for expansion. But the payment/salary disbursed is very less. The payment of the employees should be increased.	<p>1) Member of the Public Hearing Committee Dr. Gandhe informed that this public hearing is conducted for the environmental issues due to the expansion of the project. Hence Committee will not give the answer. He appealed project proponent to answer the same.</p> <p>2) Project Proponent informed that due to expansion, there will increase in organic fertilizer, which will be made available at a reasonable cost.</p> <p>3) The project proponent do carry many social welfare schemes in the vicinity, it can be continued after expansion.</p>

**3) Mrs. Anita Sanjay Gadge, resident of Patethan, Tal-Daund, Dist-Pune**

Sr.No.	Issue/Question Raised	Comments/Commitments made by Project Proponent/Environment Consultant
1	After expansion, there will be increase in the effluent and also in air pollution. Whether crops will be	<p>Environment Consultant answered that –</p> <p>1) The existing Effluent Treatment Plant will be</p>

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	<p>affected and nearby wells will be polluted due to discharge of effluent.</p>	<p>upgraded and it will be built to treat 600.0 M<sup>3</sup>/Day effluent;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2) The treated domestic and industrial effluent will be used for green development in the factory premises only;</li> <li>3) Spray pond overflow water will be separated and after treatment, it will be used for agriculture purposes in the factory premises;</li> <li>4) Condensate water from the sugar unit will be treated and recycled in the process only;</li> <li>5) Spent wash will be treated in biogas digester and it will be converted into compost with using the press mud.</li> <li>6) Compost yard and spent wash storage tank will be built as per guidelines of CREP, CPCB and MPCB.</li> <li>7) Thus the project will be "ZLD" (Zero Liquid Discharge). Hence there should not be any fear that well water and agriculture will be affected due to discharge of effluent.</li> <li>8) For air pollution, wet scrubbers of higher capacity will be installed. Hence crops of the fields will not be affected.</li> </ol>
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**4) Shri Uttam Raghu Kele, resident of Kelewadi, Tal-Daund, Dist-Pune –**

<b>Sr.No.</b>	<b>Issue/Question Raised</b>	<b>Comments/Commitments made by Project Proponent/Environment Consultant</b>
1	Whether sugarcane crop will be affected due to increase in air pollution after expansion of the project.	As informed earlier, wet scrubbers of higher capacity will be installed. Hence nearby sugarcane crop will not be affected due to air pollution.

**5) Shri Yeshwant Sitaram Chavan, resident of Rahu village, Tal-Daund, Dist-Pune**

<b>Sr.No.</b>	<b>Issue/Question Raised</b>	<b>Comments/Commitments made by Project Proponent/Environment Consultant</b>
1	Whether compost will be made available to only Members of Factory or any other residing in the area.	Project Proponent informed that compost will be made available to Members and other residents at a reasonable cost.

**6) Mrs. Shraddha Memane, Sarpanch of Wadgaon Bande village, Tal-Daund, Dist-Pune**

<b>Sr.No.</b>	<b>Issue/Question Raised</b>	<b>Comments/Commitments made by Project Proponent/Environment Consultant</b>
1	She informed that the local people supports the expansion of the project.	



**7) Mrs. Surekha Chandane, Deputy Sarpanch of Patethan Village, Post-Rahu, Tal-Daund, Dist-Pune**

<b>Sr.No.</b>	<b>Issue/Question Raised</b>	<b>Comments/Commitments made by Project Proponent/Environment Consultant</b>
1	She supported the expansion of the project but complained that soot/carbon particles spread on nearby vastis / houses due to air pollution of the factory. It should be controlled immediately.	It is informed that if necessary modern devices for control of air pollution will be installed. Hence adjacent vastis/residents will not suffer due to release of soot/carbon particles.

Public Hearing Committee appealed the general public who were present to give their suggestions or objections if any regarding expansion of project in environmental angle only.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee appealed the Environmentalist who came from Hyderabad to attend the public hearing, who submitted their suggestions by email and informed their likely attendance in the meeting. There was no response. Some participants gave their suggestions/objections in writing to the Committee. The Committee asked project proponent and environment consultant of the project to inform the explanation / answers directly to the concerned person with a copy to the local office of MPCB i.e. Sub Regional Office, Pune-I, MPCB, Pune, which will be submitted along with minutes of the meeting and final EIA report to Govt. of India.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee here remarked that in the presentation, following points should be clarified as –

- c) The objections raised during the meeting should be solved immediately. The issue of release of soot/carbon particles in the environment should be solved immediately;
- d) From the **CER (Corporate Environment Responsibility) Fund**, previously which is used to be called as CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Fund, green belt should be developed in the area. It is appealed to the project proponent to extend the financial aid to the nearby villages for the construction and maintenance of Jalyukta Shivar;
- e) It is observed during the presentation that the bagasse remains in large quantity. It should be used for co-generation project;
- f) The local farmers should be made aware to use organic fertilizers for production of sugarcane.

Chairman of the Committee while concluding the meeting informed that public hearing attended by 68 persons which includes all government officials, project officials and general public.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed that suggestions, objections raised during the meeting will be incorporated in the minutes of the meeting and it will sent along with the final EIA report and writing suggestions, objections received during the meeting to the Expert Committee of the MoEFCC, Govt. of India. The Expert Committee of the MoEFCC, Govt. of India will take further decision. The Public Hearing Committee directed Environment Consultant to rectify the discrepancies, suggestions made during the meeting while preparing final EIA report.

- a) Disposal of Catalyst from distillery material is not mentioned;
- b) Piezometric well under CREP guidelines is not mentioned;
- c) GSDA guidelines are not mentioned if the project proponent is using bore well water;
- d) To install Continuous Online Monitoring System period is not mentioned which is indispensable to project proponent;

The above matter is discussed by the Public Hearing Committee and it is directed to mention the same while preparing final EIA report before submission to Government.

Member of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the suggestions, objections raised during the meeting will be inserted in the minutes of the meeting and along with final EIA report, it will be submitted to Govt. of India. As there was no further response from the participant for raising the issues, Member of the Public Hearing Committee requested Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to conclude the meeting.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee Shri Deshmukh informed that as mentioned in the presentation, it is observed that –

- a) As per the analytical studies of the soil of the area, it is observed that carbon quantity is very meager. Hence quantity of organic carbon should be increased;
- b) The pH of the soil is 8.8, which is at the higher side. This is due to excess use of chemical fertilizers. It affects ecosystem as well as our body system. As per the report, it is concluded that the soil of Punjab is totally spoiled due to excess use of fertilizers, hence there is rise of cancer patients of all age groups in Punjab. The awareness program for the same should be carried in the local area.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee declared the meeting is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

  
(Nitin Shinde )

Convener of the Public Hearing  
Committee and Sub Regional  
Officer, Pune- I, MPCB,  
Pune



(Dr. H. D. Gandhe)

Member of the Public Hearing  
Committee and I/c, Regional  
Officer, MPCB, Pune



(Vijaysinh Deshmukh )

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee  
and  
Additional District Magistrate, Pune, Dist-Pune

~~Add. District Magistrate~~  
~~Pune.~~