

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE PROPOSED NAGPUR
- MUMBAI ACCESS CONTROLLED EXPRESSWAY PROPOSED BY
M/S. MAHARASHTRA STATE ROAD DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION LTD., FROM BELGAON TQ.MEHEKAR DIST.
BULDANA TO GOLEGAON TQ.DEULGAON RAJA
DIST.BULDHANA(87.29 KM) PART OF PACKAGE-II.**

The public hearing for proposed Nagpur - Mumbai access controlled expressway proposed by M/s Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd., for part of package - II i.e. from Belgaon Tq. Mehekar to Golegaon Tq. Deulgaon Raja Dist. Buldhana was conducted on 15th July 2017 at Shree Sant Gajanan Maharaj Seva Samitti (Mandir), Satyjeet Bhakt Niwas & Sabhgruh, Dongaon Road, Mehkar at 11:00 A.M.

Following were the panel members for conducting public hearing as per Maharashtra Pollution Control Board's Office Order E – 59/2017 under letter No. BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-2584 dtd. 30/06/2017.

1. **Dr.Chandrakant Pulkundwar**
District Collector
Buldhana
Chairman.
2. **Shri Nagesh Lohalkar**
Regional Officer,
MPCB, Amravati
Member.
3. **Shri Rahul Mote**
Sub Regional Officer,
MPCB, Akola
Convener.

Shri Nagesh Lohalkar, Regional Officer, MPCB, Amravati, Member of the Committee welcomed Hon'ble Chairman, Members of the public hearing panel and public participants. He briefed about the procedure of public hearing as prescribed in EIA Notification 2006. He further informed that the public notice of this public hearing was published on 13/06/2017 in Marathi Daily Newspaper Lokmat and In English daily News Paper The Hitavada. The details of the project including Executive Summary of EIA and Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report were made available at respective

Grampanchayat offices, Government offices as well as Buldana Collector Office and Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Website as per the EIA Notification, 2006 for its wide publicity.

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 participate in the hearing and to know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of proposed Expressway. The State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) of Government of Maharashtra granted approval to ToR in its 128th meeting held on 2nd, 3rd & 4th June 2016 and Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India has granted approval to the ToR for conducting EIA studies vide letter dated 9/12/2016. Accordingly, MSRDC, the project proponent prepared draft EIA Report. He further stated that no any written suggestion or comment about the proposed project is received to the MPCB, Akola office till dtd.14/07/2017 up to closing time of office. He also requested the participants present to offer suggestions/comments regarding the proposed project after completion of the presentation by the Project Proponent. He also requested that if you have any suggestion/comments then first say your Name & Place then after that give suggestion/objections which will be recorded and submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India. With permission of respected chairman project proponent made presentation before the assembly.

The official of Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation gave the detailed presentation on the construction of proposed project and Environment Management Plan. The official of MSRDC informed that 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, Marathwada to Konkan region. During presentation, MSRDC official clarified that as per approved ToR (Terms of Reference), the draft Environment Impact Assessment Report is prepared.

He further explained the purpose of proposed Expressway and stated that the proposed Expressway is passing through 10 districts of Maharashtra State which will cater the 60% geographical area of the state. The proposed highway is divided in five packages according to revenue divisions. The Environment Impact Assessment study is carried out package wise. However, as per EIA Notification 2006, the Public Hearing is to be conducted district-wise. The special features of the project such as availability of emergency telephones at every 5 km, rest areas at every 50 km, median tree plantation, planning for providing solar lamps, provisions of food plazas, restaurants and emergency services, etc. along the right of way were categorically briefed by him. The proposed provision of longitudinal drains along ROW and about 71 cross drainage structures/culverts, VOP, VUP, LVUP, PUP at 119 locations alongwith 2 major bridges & 34 small bridges are proposed and assured that the rain water along the right of way will be made to move freely and avoid stagnation of water in the nearby area. In addition to that the proposal of 100 rain water harvesting structures for ground water recharging was also deliberated in detail. The abandoned stone quarries will be converted into water reservoirs with the help of District Administration as per the proposal submitted by MSRDC. He also pointed out that to meet the demand of water for project, 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.

In addition to the technical details, the baseline monitoring carried out by accredited consultant alongwith its modeling and mitigation measures were discussed. He further stated that as per IRC 2009, SP : 21-2009, the Three Tier Plantation will be proposed on both the sides along the right of way and in such away @ 1,01,780 trees will be planted

all along the right of way as against the tree to be cut @ 15,695 Nos. These trees are in addition to the trees to be planted by forest department in lieu of forest land diversion proposal. The Environment Management Plan was discussed in detail and it was mentioned that noise generated due to proposed vehicular movement will be contained by providing adequate noise barriers along the sensitive areas of the nearby villages in addition to proposed thick plantation. He further clarified that the budget of Rs.19.36 Crs. is proposed exclusively for Environment Management Plan in addition to the Engineering cost to be incurred for proposed project.

After completion of presentation and detailed information, Chairman & Convener of the Committee appealed general public present to offer comments/suggestions if any regarding the proposed project. Accordingly, the public participants expressed their views:

1. **Shri. Nitin Pise-** He mentioned that he do not have any issue regarding construction of proposed Expressway. However, proper care shall be taken by the Project Proponent during construction of proposed Expressway, so that the nearby area should not be polluted.

It was assured by the Project Proponent that proper mitigation measures are already planned and will be implemented during execution of the project to avoid pollution in the nearby area.

2. **Shri. Kailash Gole-** He raised apprehensions about water pollution due to construction of proposed Expressway.

It was assured by the Project Proponent that proper mitigation measures are already planned and will be implemented during execution of the project to avoid pollution in the nearby area. Further It was also assured that after monitoring and obtaining expert comments from Maharashtra Pollution Control Board if necessary remedial measures will be taken by Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation.

3. **Shri. Prakash Chavan**– He raised the issue of Orange orchard fields along the proposed Expressway. If orange orchards gets affected, then who will be responsible?

The Project Proponent informed that the proposed Expressway is of 120 Meter width. The raw material required will be procured from environmental norms complying organizations. He further assured that the necessary compliance will be verified regarding the permission obtained from the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board and MoEFCC, PUC certificates for the vehicles, covered vehicles for the raw material transportation from its sources to the site of construction.

In addition to the technical details, the baseline monitoring is carried out by accredited consultant alongwith its modeling and mitigation measures were discussed. If it is found that due to construction activity orange orchards are getting affected, then a committee of technical experts will be formed for the detailed study.

4. **Shri. Nitin Pise**- He enquired about proposed tree plantations to be done along the proposed Expressway.

The Project Proponent informed that as per Indian Road Congress (IRC) SP_21_2009, 3 tier plantation will be carried out by the Project Proponent along the proposed Expressway. He mentioned that in addition to above plantation and proposed plantation in rest area Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd. will carry out median plantation considering IRC's specifications and local varieties, in consultation with forest department.

5. **Shri. Bhausahab Danve**- He raised the issue of number of plants to be cut during construction of proposed Expressway and other specific issues of farmers, such as non-availability of proper market, inadequate rains, drought situation and suicides of farmers, etc.

The Chairman of Committee requested to raise concerns about Environment as public hearing is for Environment.

The Project Proponent assured that as per the joint measurement survey carried out at about 15,695 trees in non-forest area and about 1,434 trees in forest area are required to be cut. As per IRC SP_21_2009 about 1,01,780 trees will be planted in 3 tier system along the Expressway. These numbers of trees are in addition to the tree plantation to be carried out by forest department in lieu of forest land to be diverted for the proposed project.

6. **Shri. Ritesh Deshmukh-** He mentioned that about 17,000 trees are to be cut. However, the newly planted trees will not be useful since the existing trees are to be removed. The newly planted trees may take long time for substantial growth.

The Project Proponent assured that about 1,01,780 number of trees will be planted within this district along the Expressway. He mentioned that the proportion of plantation to be done to the trees to be cut will be 1:7. He also mentioned that looking at the stretch of 701 km of Expressway a huge thick plantation will be carried out and maintained by Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd. which may develop an ecology that can be studied after - 10 years. He further reiterated that the Budget Provision of Rs.16.83 Crs. is made by Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd. which will not only includes the plantation cost but also includes cost of maintenance of those plants for the period of three years.

7. **Shri. Nltin Pise-** He enquired about, will there be any effect on existing water bodies/reservoirs i.e. the natural flow will be disturbed or the water bodies will be closed?

The Project Proponent assured that the proposed construction will not disturb any natural flow or will not close down any reservoir. The proper drainage structure / culverts have been planned for smooth flow of natural water within the area.

8. **Shri. Kailash Gole-** He raised the issue of wi-fi and its effect on human beings residing in nearby area.

The Project Proponent clarified that the pilot project of wi-fi is still in the pipeline at Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation level and if pilot is successfully implemented then only, it will be implemented for Maharashtra Samruddhi Corridor. He mentioned that the provisions for laying optical fiber network utilities will be made during designing.

9. **Shri. D.S. More, Ex-Principal-** He enquired about effects on environment during construction and its effects on trees to be removed & how many days would be required for the completion of proposed project. Also enquired about effects on the residents in the nearby locality.

The Project Proponent clarified that if any construction project carried out then it has some effects on environment. Remedial measures will be taken by Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation about the same. The proposed project shall be completed within 24 to 30 months only.

The Project Proponent informed that as per Indian Road Congress (IRC) SP_21_2009, 3 tier plantation will be carried out by the Project Proponent along the proposed Expressway. He mentioned that in addition to above plantation and proposed plantation in rest area Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd. will carry out median plantation considering IRC's specifications and local varieties in consultation with forest department. He also mentioned that looking at the stretch of 701 km of Expressway a huge thick plantation will be carried out and maintained by Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd. which may develop an ecology that can be studied.

10. **Shri. Pradip Deshmukh-** He enquired about the location of plantation along the Expressway.

The Project Proponent informed that as per IRC SP_21_2009 the proposed plantation will be carried out within the Right of Way considering the recommendation of Forest Department and local varieties of plants.

11. **Shri.D.S. More, Ex-Principal-** He enquired about the mitigation measures proposed for the raw material procurement.

The Project Proponent assured that, detail study about quantities of raw material required, availability of raw material has already been done and shown in the presentation. He further mentioned that the material will be procured from environmental norms complying organizations. He further assured that the necessary compliances will be done by the contractors regarding the permission from the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board and MoEF, PUC certificates, vehicles carrying raw material from its sources to the site of construction shall be covered.

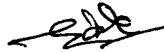
At the end Hon'ble Chairman and District Collector, Buldana appealed general public to offer comments/suggestions if any regarding the proposed project and since there were no any comments/suggestion from public, Chairman announced the completion of public hearing and also thanked public present for the public hearing.



(Nagesh Lohalkar)
Member,
Environmental Public Hearing,
&
Regional Officer,
M.P.C. Board, Amravati.



(Dr. Chandrakant Pulkundwar)
Chairman,
Environmental Public Hearing,
&
District Collector, Buldana.



(Rahul Mote)
Convener,
Environmental Public Hearing,
&
Sub-Regional Officer,
M.P.C. Board, Akola.