

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION
IN EXISTING UNIT OF SUGARCANE CRUSHING FROM 2,500.0 TCD
TO 4,800.0 TCD, DISTILLERY FROM 30.0 KLPD TO 45.0 KLPD
(RS/ENA/ETHANOL) BASED ON "C"/"B" HEAVY
MOLASSES/SUGARCANE SYRUP/SUGAR CANE JUICE AS RAW
MATERIAL PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S
AJINKYATARA SAHAKARI SAKHAR KARKHANA LIMITED, AT
POST- SHAHUNAGAR, SHENDRE, TAL & DIST-SATARA,
MAHARASHTRA**

The public hearing for proposed expansion in the existing unit of Sugar Cane Crushing From 2,500.0 TCD to 4,800.0 TCD, Distillery from 30.0 KLPD to 45.0 KLPD) (RS/ENA/ETHANOL) based on "C"/"B" Heavy Molasses/Sugarcane Syrup/Sugar Cane Juice as Raw Material proposed by Project Proponent M/s Ajinkyatara Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, At Post – Shahu Nagar, Shendre, Tal & Dist-Satara, Maharashtra was conducted on Tuesday, the 10th August, 2021 at 12.00 noon at the site of the said industry.

As per the Notification S.O.1533 dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEFCC, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment vide S.O. 3067 (E) on 01-12-2009, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Office Order No. E-51 of 2021 issued under letter no.BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-210803-FTS-0033, Dated 03-08-2021 as below :-

- 1) District Magistrate, Satara - **Chairman**
or his representative not below the
rank of an Additional District Magistrate
- 2) Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune - **Member**
(Representative of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)
- 3) Sub Regional Officer, - **Convener**
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Satara

Shri L. S. Bhad Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Satara and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee while welcoming all informed that as this Physical Public Hearing is arranged in the background of Covid-19, we all have to follow the directives of the Central Government and State Government from time to time. Hence, 100 persons are allowed in the meeting hall in a session. If the participants are more, subsequent sessions will continue until all the participants are given opportunities to attend the meeting.

As per the directives, it is requested to all the participants to follow strict guidelines of Govt. of India. The thermal checking and use of sanitizer is kept at the entrance of the meeting hall and in the meeting hall, it is compulsory to wear mouth mask and follow the social distancing amongst the persons.

Convener of the Public Hearing Meeting welcomed Shri Sunil Thorve, Additional District Magistrate, Satara and Hon'ble Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, Shri Nitin Shinde, Incharge, Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune and Member of the Public Hearing Committee, Company Officials, Government Officials, Press Reporters, NGOs 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, Gol) 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

He informed that the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application of Project Proponent Project Proponent M/s Ajinkyatara Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, At Post – Shahu Nagar, Shendre, Tal & Dist-Satara, Maharashtra to conduct public hearing for their proposed expansion in the existing unit of Sugar Cane Crushing From 2,500.0 TCD to 4,800.0 TCD, Distillery from 30.0 KLPD to 45.0 KLPD) (RS/ENA/ETHANOL) based on “C”/”B” Heavy Molasses/Sugarcane Syrup/Sugar Cane Juice as Raw Material. The Convener further informed that the project is in operation outside of notified industrial area and as per EIA Notification, the project falls under Category “B” 5 (g), which requires to obtain Environment Clearance from Maharashtra Government for which prior public consultation is mandatory.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee 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.

Project Proponent had sought permission from State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra for sanction of Terms of Reference (ToR) and for preparation of Environment Impact Assessment and SEAC. Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra has sanctioned ToR on 25th February, 2021.

Shri Bhad informed that as sanctioned by District Collector, Satara, the public hearing is fixed today i.e. on Tuesday, the 10-08-2021 at 12.00 noon. He said that as per the EIA Notification, 30 days in advance, public notice is published by Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Satara in local newspaper Daily Pudhari for Marathi and in national newspaper Daily Indian Express for English on 9th July, 2021. The public were appealed to send their views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed expansion of the project in environmental angle only.

Also a copy of EIA report and executive summary in Marathi and English were made available at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, West-East Division Office, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440 001; District Magistrate Office-Satara; Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai; Zilla Parishad Office- Satara; District Industries Centre-Office, Satara; Tahsildar, Tahsil Office- Satara; Sarpanch, Grampanchayat Office – Shendre, Taluka & District – Satara; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Satara; Regional Office, MPCB, Pune and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai and on the website of MPCB. The public were appealed to send any views, opinion, suggestions or objections regarding the expansion of above project.

Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise any views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed expansion of the project in environmental angle only. He requested Chairman of the Committee to start the proceeding of the meeting.

With the permission of the Hon'ble Chairman of the meeting, the Environment Consultant appointed by the company has given the presentation of the expansion project and Environment Management Plan

in detail. He informed that the investment of proposed project is about 67.30 crores. This project is Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) and Rupees 1,130 lakh will be spent for Environment Management Plan. Not a drop of water will go outside the project and due to expansion, the 50 persons can get direct job opportunity in the project. But there will be tremendous rise in the indirect business activities.

After the presentations, the participants were appealed to raise their views, suggestions, objections regarding the proposed expansion of the project.

Followings have participated during the discussions and the Answers given by the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Public Hearing Committee :-

1) Shri Sadhashiv Mahadev Gaikwad, Residence – At Post – Shendre, Tal, Dist – Satara :-

Project Proponent has planned to expand sugar cane crushing capacity and distillery . Due to increase in sugarcane crushing capacity, also there will be increase in waste water. If the treated waste water is made available to the farmers, farmers can cultivate sugarcane in more areas. This will improve the economic conditions of the farmers.

Hence, the treated waste water please be made available to the farmers.

2) Shri Santosh Ankush Potekar, Residence- At Post – Shendre, Tal, Dist – Satara :-

For the expansion of the project, additional water will require for the production activities, which will also produce additional waste water. How the additional waste water will be disposed of?

Project Environment Consultant informed that due to increase in sugarcane crushing capacity, there will also increase in waste water. The waste water will be treated and it will be reused in the distillery unit for the production activities.

3) Shri Chandrakant Vishwas Jadhav, Residence – At Post – Shendre, Tal, Dist – Satara :-

Project Proponent has planned to increase the sugarcane crushing capacity and distillery production. It is definitely commendable and we support it. But due to increase in production, there will be demand for increased intake water, which will also produce additional waste water. The waste water should be treated properly.

4) Shri Sopan Shivaji Bhosale, Residence – At Post – Shendre, Tal, Dist – Satara :-

The expansion of sugarcane crushing capacity and distillery production, it will benefit the local farmers financially. Hence, we, the local people support the project.

Proponent has obtained NOC from Grampanchayat Shendre, Tal & Dist-Satara.

5) Shri Bhanudas Chaure, Member, Sugarcane Producer, At Post – Shendre, Tal, Dist – Satara :-

Project Proponent has planned to expand the sugarcane crushing capacity and distillery production. Hence, it is suggested that all the rules should be followed strictly. There should not be any violations. We support the project.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Satara was in receipt of the letter by email from President, Rural Environment Education & Health Awareness Society, Hyderabad. The agency has given few

suggestions and supported the project. He informed that the suggestions will be forwarded alongwith the minutes of the meeting and Final EIA to Government for their consideration.

Convener of the meeting further informed that just now in the meeting a letter from President, Environmental Pollution Control Awareness Society, Hyderabad & Manav Vanrula & Vikalangula Sankesham Sangam, Sarur Nagar are received. They have given few suggestions and supported the project. The suggestions will be forwarded alongwith the minutes of the meeting and Final EIA to Government for their consideration.

Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise any suggestions, objections regarding the expansion of the project in environmental angle only. There was no response from the participants.

Environment Public Hearing Committee Informed Convener of the Public Hearing Committee to conclude the meeting.

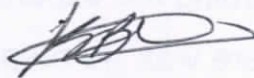
Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee while concluding the meeting informed that we have gathered here for the public consultation for the

proposed expansion in the existing unit of Sugar Cane Crushing From 2,500.0 TCD to 4,800.0 TCD, Distillery from 30.0 KLPD to 45.0 KLPD) (RS/ENA/ETHANOL) based on "C"/"B" Heavy Molasses/Sugarcane Syrup/Sugar Cane Juice as Raw Material proposed by Project Proponent M/s Ajinkyatara Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, At Post – Shahu Nagar, Shendre, Tal & Dist- Satara, Maharashtra. The good suggestions are given by the participants.

He informed that in the meeting, few writing suggestions are received. It will be submitted alongwith the minutes of the meeting in English and Marathi and Final EIA report to Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai. The Expert Committee will take further decision for the same. He thanked all participants for attending the meeting and on behalf of Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee declared that the meeting is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

The suggestions 04 nos received are enclosed herewith.



(L.S. Bhad),

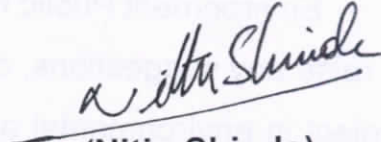
Convener,

Environment Public Hearing
Committee

And

Sub Regional Officer,

MPCB, Satara



(Nitin Shinde)

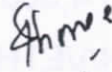
Member,

Environment Public Hearing
Committee

And

Incharge Regional Officer,

MPCB, Pune



(Sunil Thorve),

Chairman,

Environment Public Hearing Committee

And

Additional District Magistrate, Satara

District – Satara