

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED INTEGRATED EXPANSION OF EXISTING SUGAR PLANT FROM 5500 TO 9000 TCD AND EXPANSION OF DISTILLERY FROM 40 TO 80 KLPD IN RESPECT OF M/S. SAHAKARMAHARSHI BHAUSAHEB THORAT SAHAKARI SAKHAR KARKHANA LTD., SR. NO. 85, 91 AND 92, AMRUTNAGAR, PO. SANGAMNER, TAL. SANGAMNER, DIST. AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA:

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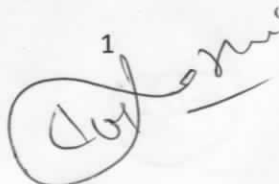
The public hearing for proposed integrated expansion of existing sugar plant from 5500 to 9000 TCD and expansion of distillery from 40 to 80 KLPD in respect of M/s. Sahakarmaharshi Bhausaheb Thorat Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Sr. No. 85, 91 and 92, Amrutnagar, Po. Sangamner, Tal. Sangamner, Dist. Ahmednagar was conducted under the Chairmanship of the Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar on 22 July 2021, 11.00 a.m. at project site.

Following were the panel members as per Board Office Order No. E- 54 of 2021 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B – 210720 FTS 0066 dtd. 20.07.2021:-

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| 1) Addl. District Magistrate
Dist. Ahmednagar | : | Chairman |
| 2) Regional Officer,
MPCB, Nashik | : | Member |
| 3) I/c. Sub-Regional Officer,
MPCB Ahmednagar. | : | Convener |

Mr. Sanjeev A. Redasni, I/c. Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Ahmednagar and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcome the Hon'ble Chairman of the Public Hearing Panel, officials, public representatives and public who were present and with the permission of the Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, he gave information in brief about the said proposed integrated expansion of existing sugar plant from 5500 to 9000 TCD and expansion of distillery from 40 to 80 KLPD in respect of M/s. Sahakarmaharshi Bhausaheb Thorat Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Sr. No. 85, 91 and 92, Amrutnagar, Po. Sangamner, Tal. Sangamner, Dist. Ahmednagar.

He informed that, as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, GoI) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public hearing to some projects which



are covered in the Schedule of the said Notification and this unit is also comes under the purview of this Notification.

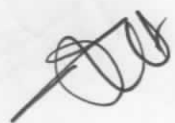
The Project Proponent has applied to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board for conducting the environmental public hearing for proposed integrated expansion of existing sugar plant from 5500 to 9000 TCD and expansion of distillery from 40 to 80 KLPD.

As per the said Notification, one month advance public notice was published in the local newspapers in "Daily Sakal" for Marathi and in national newspaper "The Times of India" for English on 19th June 2021. The public were appealed to send their suggestions or objections regarding the project.

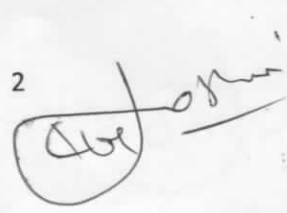
The Convener further informed that, the aim of conducting public hearing is to make aware local people who can be participated in the hearing and they should know the activity to be carried out in the proposed integrated expansion of existing sugar plant from 5500 to 9000 TCD and expansion of distillery from 40 to 80 KLPD in respect of M/s. Sahakarmaharshi Bhausaheb Thorat Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Sr. No. 85, 91 and 92, Amrutnagar, Po. Sangamner, Tal. Sangamner, Dist. Ahmednagar.

Also, a copy of EIA report and executive summery were made available at various offices of Government i.e.

- * District Collector, Ahmednagar.
- * District Industries Centre, Ahmednagar.
- * CEO Zilha Parishad, Ahmednagar.
- * Sub-Divisional Officer, Sangamner, Dist. Ahmednagar.
- * Tahasildar, Tahasil Office Sangamner, Dist. Ahmednagar.
- * Municipal Council, Sangamner, Dist. Ahmednagar.
- * Grampanchayat Office of Sukewadi, Maldad, Velhale, Ghulewadi, Gunjalwadi, Dholewadi, Tal. Sangamner, Dist. Ahmednagar.
- * Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Ahmednagar.
- * Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board Nashik.
- * Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, HQ, Sion, Mumbai-22.
- * Environment Deptt. Govt. of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32.



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The public in general were appealed to send any objection / suggestion regarding the above project.

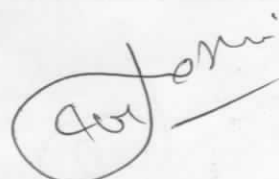
The Convener further informed that Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar had appealed to the concerned to submit any objection / suggestion but Sub-Regional Office, MPCB Ahmednagar has not received any objection. One letter is received from Dr. V. Sunanda Reddy in support of the project. Further, he informed the participants of the hearing to give their suggestions or objections.

The Convener further informed that the suggestions and objections raised during the hearing will be incorporated in the minutes of the hearing.

He requested the Chairman of the Panel to allow the Environment Consultant for the presentation.

Dr. Hemangi Nalawade, Representative of M/s. Sahakarmaharshi Bhusaheb Thorat Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Sr. No. 85, 91 and 92, Amrutnagar, Po. Sangamner, Tal. Sangamner, Dist. Ahmednagar on behalf of MITCON Consultancy and Engineering Services Ltd., Environment Management and Engineering Division, Agriculture College Campus, Next to DIC Office, Shivaji Nagar, Pune, Maharashtra has given information in brief along with presentation on various environmental aspects i.e. Environment Impact Assessment and intention behind arranging the Public Hearing, Details about the Project, Project Plan, Environment Status, Details of local Environment and surrounding environment information, Locations of the study area, Air quality in the study area, Noise levels in the study area, Water quality in the study area, Soil quality in the study area, Bio-diversity, Socio-Economic Environment, Expected impact on the surrounding area, Environment Management Plan, Remedial measures on the various environmental impacts, Social Economic Development Plan under Environmental Responsibility Plan, Budgetary provisions for environmental management, Net gain from the project etc.,

After completion of the presentation, the Convener of the Public Hearing Panel appealed to the participants in the said public hearing to give suggestions, views, comments etc., to enable to take the note of the same in the proceedings. Further, he appealed to the participants

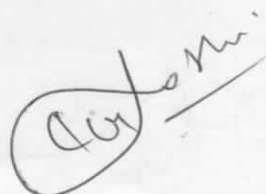


to inform their name, address before raising any suggestions, views, comments etc., The details of the proceedings are as hereunder, -

- 1 Shri. Râmnath Pundlik Kure, r/o. Gunjalwadi has raised a point regarding steps to be taken for control of water pollution.
- 2 Shri. Bhaskar Sharmale, r/o. Samnapur has raised a point regarding steps to be taken for control of air pollution.
- 3 Shri. Vilas Shankar Navgire, r/o. Maldad has raised a point regarding dust emission.
- 4 Shri. Vilas Abaji Gunjal, r/o. Gunjalwadi has raised a point regarding management of spent wash, effluent and solid waste.
- 5 Shri. Navnath Argade, r/o. Gunjalwadi has raised a point regarding steps to be taken for the treatment of effluent and problem due to effluent.
- 6 Shri. Goraksh Sonawane, r/o. Velhale has raised a point regarding sources of polluted water.
- 7 The Member and the Regional Officer, MPCB Nashik has raised some points i.e. the village Gunjalwadi situated upstream or downstream of the industry, the aspect of impact on the villages may be considered, discrepancies in presentation and EIA report regarding wind direction, online monitoring facilities etc.,
- 8 The Convener and I/c. Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB Ahmednagar has raised some points i.e. bio-composting run in operation, CPU for the sugar industry, budgetary provisions under CER for Covid Pandemic etc.,

Dr. Hemangi Nalawade, Representative of M/s. Sahakarmaharshi Bhausaheb Thorat Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., has replied on the points raised as hereunder, -

Regarding Water Pollution Control: It is explained that, two people have raised queries regarding water pollution. Industry has provided ETP having capacity of 680 M3 for the treatment of effluent generated from the process and for the proposed expansion the capacity of ETP will be enhanced upto 1000 M3. The effluent generated from the distillery i.e. concentrated spent wash, spent lee, condensate. The spent wash and spent lee is recycled and reused in the process. The spent wash is more polluted. For the treatment of spent wash biogas followed by MEE and incineration will be installed. Presently, existing industry has provided MEE followed by bio-composting. In proposed distillery modern technology will be used by which generation of spent wash will be less. The water generated from evaporation will be reused by which the requirement of freshwater quantity will be reduced. From spent wash 95% of concentrated



potash spent wash will be generated which will be used as a fuel in the boiler. Additional scientific ponds as per the guidelines will be provided for the storage of effluent arises in case of accidental discharge and during maintenance of ETP etc., In worse cases if effluent is found it's way outside the premises in such case, the plant will be shut down. The effluent treated in the ETP of sugar industry is not hazardous, the same treated effluent is used for irrigation, hence the question of discharge of effluent outside the premises will not be arises such arrangement will be provided by the industry.

Regarding air pollution Control: it is explained that, at present electrostatic precipitator and wet scrubber are provided for control of air pollution. In the expansion project, it is proposed to provide electrostatic precipitator and its capacity to arrest the dust particles is upto 99.99%., due to which very less quantity of dust particles will be released. Baggase and spent wash will be burnt and which are not hazardous.

Regarding solid waste management: It is explained that, yeast sludge is used for composting and ash having rich with potassium will be directly used for farming and there will not be any pollution from the solid waste.

It is explained that, in EIA report maximum and minimum impact is considered. If ESP fail to work or moisture in the baggase will increase, the emission of dust particles will impact on the nearby village Ghulewadi. It is mandatory on the industry to provide an alternative arrangement. The industry has provided online air monitoring to boiler stack.

It is informed that, bio-composting will be in operation and CPU of .1250 M3 capacity is installed for sugar industry.

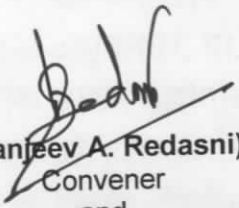
The Chairman of the public hearing panel and Addl. District Magistrate, Dist. Ahmednagar has informed that, the presentation is given on the expansion activity. The Member of the panel has raised certain queries. The discrepancies in presentation and EIA report can be rectified and updated as per the points raised by the Member of the Panel. The information about the expansion project is made available in Marathi to the nearby Grampanchayats in the periphery for the knowledge of residents who do not have attended the hearing. It is suggested to display the boards showing the air and water quality levels in the factory premises. The factory management shall comply the queries raised by the residents regarding air and water pollution.

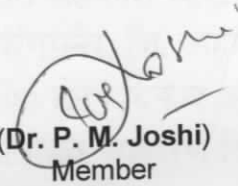
The Chairman of the public hearing panel and Addl. District Magistrate, Dist. Ahmednagar has informed that, due to expansion of the project the economic conditions of the farmers in the




periphery will be improved. It is necessary to protect the environment along with the developmental activities. The job opportunities will be generated for the unemployed. The industry shall use CER fund for Covid pandemic at the maximum extent. He thanked the industry for their valuable efforts / help during Covid Pandemic. He assured that, the videography of the hearing is done, and the points raised will be incorporated in the proceedings.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.


(Sanjeev A. Redasni)
Convener
and
I/c. SRO, MPCB A'nagar


(Dr. P. M. Joshi)
Member
And
Regional Officer, MPCB Nasik


(Sandip Nichit)
Chairman
And
Additional District Magistrate,
A'nagar