

## **DRAFT FOR APPROVAL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT 250.0 KLPD GRAIN BASED DISTILERY TO MANUFACTURE 125.0 KLPD ETHANOL AND 125.0 KLPD EXTRA NEUTRAL ALCOHOL (ENA) AT VILLAGE-USROLI, TALUKA - KHALAPUR, DISTRICT-RAIGAD, MAHARASHTRASTATE BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S ROCKING BOMBAY BEVERAGES PRIVATE LIMITED (RBBPL)**

---

The Public Hearing for proposed establishment of 250.0 KLPD Grain Based Distillery to manufacture 125.0 KLPD Ethanol and 125.0 KLPD Extra Neutral Alcohol (ENA) at Village Usroli, , Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad, Maharashtra by Project Proponent M/s Rocking Bombay Beverages Private Limited was conducted on Friday, the 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 at Harshali Hotel,Sangadewadi, Group Gram Panchayat Devnhave, Tal-Khalapur, Dist – Raigad (410 203) at 12.30 noon.

Shri Vidyasagar Killedar, I/c Regional Officer-Raigad, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai, Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Dr. Padamshree Bainade, Additional District Magistrate, Raigad and Chairperson of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Tamboli, Tahsildar of the Khalapur Taluka, Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists and Company Officials and local people/participants who were present and informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEF & CC, 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.

Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed that the meeting is called in the background of Covid-19 & Omicron variants. Hence, it is requested all the participants to follow strict guidelines of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi's Office Memorandum dated 14-09-2020. As per the guidelines, the thermal checking and use of sanitizer is kept at the entrance of the pandol and now it is compulsory to wear a mask and follow the social distancing amongst the persons in the meeting hall.

Convener further informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEF & CC, Gol) 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.

He informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s Rocking Bombay Beverages Private Limited for establishment of 250 KLPD Grain Based Distillery to manufacture 125.0 KLPD Ethanol and 125.0 KLPD ENA at Village – Usroli, Tal -Khalapur, District-Raigad, Maharashtra.

The Convener further informed that this existing project is established outside the Industrial Zone and as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category A-5 (g) (ii) which requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department, Govt of India, New Delhi for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory.

Convener 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 submitted online prescribed application along with pre-feasibility report to the, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi on 16-03-2022 and it has been considered and given online approval on 23-03-2022.

After sanction of District Collector, Raigad-Alibag to conduct the Physical and Online Environment Public Hearing via Webex Meet App. On Friday, the 10th June, 2022 at 12.30 noon, and as per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEF & CC, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Board's Office Order No. E- 32 of 2022 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 220526 – FTS-0149, dated 26/05/2022.

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 1) District Magistrate-Raigad<br>or his representative not below<br>the rank of an Additional District<br>Magistrate                                    | <b>Chairman</b> |
| 2) Representative of Maharashtra<br>Pollution Control Board, Mumbai -<br>Regional Officer – Raigad,<br>MPCB, Raigad Bhavan,<br>CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai | <b>Member</b>   |
| 3) Sub Regional Officer- Raigad-1<br>MPCB, Raigad Bhavan,<br>CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai   | <b>Convener</b> |

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Officer, Raigad-1, MPCB, Raigad Bhavan, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai in the Local Newspaper in Daily Sakal and Daily Krishwal for Marathi and in National Newspaper daily The Indian Express for English on 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2022. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summery were made available in Marathi and in English at various notified Government offices –

- 1) District Collector Office, Raigad-Alibag.
- 2) General Manager, District Industries Centre Office, Raigad.
- 3) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad Office, Raigad.
- 4) Regional Officer-Raigad, Regional Office, MPCB, Raigad Bhavan, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai;
- 5) Sub Regional Officer-Raigad-1, Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Raigad Bhavan, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai;
- 6) Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sion, Mumbai.
- 7) Environment & Climatic Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
- 8) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Zonal Office, West Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur-440 001.
- 9) Sub Divisional Office, Karjat, Dist – Raigad.

- 10) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office-Khalapur, Dist-Raigad.
- 11) Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti, Tal-Khalapur, Dist – Raigad;
- 12) Gram Panchayat Offices at – Usroli, Kharvali, Narangi, Khanav, Chilthan, Nandanpada, Devnhave, Tal – Khalapur, Dist -Raigad.
- 13) Website of MPCB

The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the proposed project. MPCB Consent is in receipt of few objections in writing and by email which have been noted.

Convener informed that participants can raise their views, suggestions/objections for the proposed project in environmental angle only orally as well as in writing also during the course of Public Hearing.

Convener informed that this Committee is constituted to know the views, opinions, suggestions or objections of the local people and it does not take any decision of sanction, recommendation or rejection of the project. The suggestions/objections raised during the meeting will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The video shooting of the meeting as it is along with minutes of the meeting and Final EIA report will be submitted with the approval of Chairperson of the Committee through Head Office MPCB to Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi for further decision. An Expert Committee at MoEF & CC will take further decision.

Convener requested Chairperson to give approval to Project Proponent to start the presentation.

With the permission of the Chairperson, the Project Officer made a presentation on the entire Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed project. He informed about the geographical location of the proposed project, possible impact on the environment due to the proposed project, and the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) prepared for it.

Project Officer informed that Rupees 3,000.0 lakh as capital investment have been ear-marked for EMP and Recurring expenditure for the EMP will be Rs. 350.0 lakh annually.

After the Presentation, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed the participants to raise views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed plant in environmental angle only. While raising the suggestions or objections, full name & of the village should be informed.

**FOLLOWING PARTICIPANTS HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS AND ANSWERS GIVEN BY PROJECT CONSULTANT/PROJECT PROPONENT/ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC HEARING COMMITTEE**

**1) Shri Bhushan Suryakant Patil, Residence – Khanav gaon, Tal – Khalapur, Dist – Raigad:-**

Shri Bhushan Patil said that this project will be implemented at a distance of about 600-700 meters from my village. Therefore, the local people will get employment opportunities and according to the information I got, this project is environmentally friendly. I have also discussed with the local people and concluded that if Ethanol is being produced as an alternative to petrol, then this project is beneficial for the whole

of Maharashtra and the country. The CSR funding of this project will also benefit the tribal community in the area.

**2) FROM ONLINE SYSTEM – SHRI PURUSHOTTAM, MAHARSHI VED VIDYAN SANSTHA: -**

Shri Purushottam said that though this project is beneficial for the Society, the land purchased for this project is purchased by Maharshi Ved Vigyan Sanstha in 1984. We have objected to this while conducting the survey and it has been submitted by our lawyer Mr. Vishal Singh. We have registered objections regarding 3-4 survey numbers which are 17/15, 21/1, 17/19. Hence, the legal ownership of the project land should be considered while approving the Environmental Clearance.

The Project Proponent replied that in this regard, all the documents related to the plot viz NA, 7/12 document have been attached with the EIA report and will be submitted again. At this time, Shri Purushottam objected that 7/12 is not a legal document but a sale deed is a legal document.

Here, the Chairperson of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed the person while replying online that the said Committee has no right to decide the ownership of the land. This platform is not for determining land ownership. This committee is concerned with the environmental impact of the proposed project and the measures to be taken for it.

However, you are assured that as per the rules, whatever the constitutional process is there you will have to file an application in the Revenue Court or elsewhere. It is informed that you should raise your objection to the concerned department.

### **3) Shri Bhai Shinde, Villager, Grampanchayat Khanav, Tal – Khalapur, Dist – Raigad :-**

Shri Bhai Shinde while objecting informed that though the documents regarding the proposed project were made available by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board at Gram Panchayat Offices, the villagers are not aware about the benefits and ill-effects of the proposed project. The villagers at Usroli village, where this project will be commissioned are misguided.

He objected and asked that the area where the project is to be set up falls under the "Green Belt Zone" and hence an explanation should be given as to how the approval has been given for setting up a chemical plant there.

He said that from the distance of 5-6 k.m. of the project sites, the Narangi Gram Panchayat is adjacent to the Chilthan Gram Panchayat, where there is an "Eco-Sensitive Zone". Still then, if the project is commissioned, then there will be degradation of environment. These facts are not reflected in the project's EIA report and in the presentation.

The Khanewadi village is just 200 meters away from the project site. The villagers of Khanewadi are here in the meeting. No guidance has been given to the local people regarding the production of the proposed project and environmental protection measures. So we oppose this project.

Shri Bhai Shinde further objected that how a chemical company can be set up in a green belt, then whether the "Green belt" is converted as a "Chemical zone" as per the rules. What production is going to be taken in the company, this should be informed by MPCB to us. There is a forest area at a distance of 500 meters from here.



Project production is expected to increase pollution, as the project will require 250.0 tons of coal per day. There is no opposition to the development. However, near the project site, the downtrodden people of the society, the tribals (Adivasis) live. It is a very backward area. But some people are misleading those people.

Shri Bhai Shinde objected that if the coal of 250.0 tons per day is burnt in the project, there will be huge pollution. Already, local people are suffering from pollution from other companies.

He said that as villagers, we are opposing this proposed Rocking Bombay project. This is an environmentally degrading project. He said that although the Project Proponent said that 250 people would be provided employment opportunities here, he assured that further adverse effects would be extremely harmful to the environment. People in the area may suffer due to cancer, TB. He raised the question as whether the Project Proponent would take the responsibility of the concerned local persons at that time? There is no hospital with modern medical facilities. Hence, as a villager, we are against this project.

Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed Project Proponent to give answers to the objections raised by Shri Bhai Shinde.

The Project Proponent replied that all government directives have to be followed while acquiring land for the project. Otherwise, the MoEF does not accept the proposal. The map shown in the presentation is Google Image.

Earlier, we had a presentation before an Expert Committee of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India. After considering all these factors, the Government of India has approved the Terms of Reference (ToR). Therefore, if the project location and the surrounding area had

been green zone as the issue is presented, the proposal would not have been approved.

The Project Proponent said that all the documents have been submitted along with the proposal and they can also be viewed online. He further said that as per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification (revised from time to time) , the survey and study of the radius of 10 km from the project site is done. There is no Reserved Forest in the radius of 10 k.m. There is no Historical Monument. Karnala Bird Sanctuary is out of range of 10 km radius.

Hence, the permission is granted by the Central Government. He further said that the plot and area for construction of the project falls under the "Industrial Zone".

Project Proponent further answered that this is not Chemical Factory. Ethanol is a bio-fuel and mixed @ 10% of the fuel.

While some local people raised aggressive doubts on the point of not being a Reserved Forest, the Chairperson suggested that the Project Proponent be heard first.

At this time, the Project Proponent stated that the Reserved Forest notified by the Central and State Government is not in the radius of 10 km from the project site. He further informed that the site has been selected for the construction of the project considering all the environmental factors

Chairperson informed the participants that all suggestions and objections are being noted. At that time, some of the participants questioned whether the Government has declared the "Industrial Zone" only for their land/plots or whether whole area is declared as an "Industrial Zone". The Project Proponent stated that permission is obtained as Industrial Sector for this project. It is further informed that there is no green belt / area. At that time, some

of the participants collectively said that this land is still a green belt / area.

At that time, the Chairperson of the Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed to the participants to raise the issues peacefully and remarked that it is not expected that the company officials should know the area in which Usroli village is located.

The issue falls under the jurisdiction of Planning Authority. It is planned by them that in which zone the Usroli village should be. They can answer regarding their project plot only. She directed Project officials to show the certificate granted to them for Industrial Zone.

Chairperson informed Project Officer to clarify the point regarding the use of 250.0 tons of coal per day in the project.

Project Proponent replied that only coal will not be used in the production activities. There is a lot of rice production in Konkan, rice spurn is also called rice husk, we will use that too. The Government has been informed coal as one of the choices of fuel we will use.

In the same way, bagasse also a bio-mass from the sugar factory, the leaves of the trees will also be used as fuel. Provision has been made to use all types of fuels in the boilers of the project.

The Project officials stated that the doubt is raised that the production process at the project is likely to lead to a high rise of diseases like cancer and TB. He answered that the project does not produce carcinogenic chemicals that causes cancer. The Ethanol that we will make, we use in our vehicle as a fuel.

Shri Bhai Shinde stated that project officials informed about Ethanol but did not say anything about the pollution that will occur

after using of coal. It doesn't say anything about the 250-tonne coal dust that will fly into the atmosphere.

The Project Proponent said that the Electro-Static-Precipitator (ESP) will be installed in the plant to control air pollution. It contains plates of anode and cathode. ESP is 99.9% efficient. Due to which, the resulting ash will not go out, it will fall down, and the ash will be made available to the cement companies. It will be packed and supplied to the cement companies. It is used in OPC type cement.

Here, some participants collectively questioned whether the project has a ETP mechanism and remarked that 95% of the industries here do not operate ETP system. All the wastewater is discharged into the river without any treatment. Whether this will not happen here?

Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee remarked that though this issue cannot be denied, but Govt. of Maharashtra has constituted MPCB for the protection of environment. The inspection is carried as per schedule and vigilance is kept. If the pollution control system is not kept in operation, the factories have been closed.

Here Project officials informed that this is ZLD i.e., Zero Liquid Discharge project. No effluent will be discharge outside.

Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that as informed by the Chairperson in the meeting, MPCB do carry vigilance in all the factories. The samples are collected as per the schedule. Now in this plant, the project officials promised to commission and operate the pollution control system and treated effluent will be 100% recycled and reused in the process. If they are using recycled effluent for process, the effluent has to be treated. This is ZLD project, it means Zero Liquid

Discharge project. If a single drop of water comes outside the plant, action will be initiated against the project.

Member, Convener further informed that Continuous Online Monitoring System will be installed in the project. Participants collectively raised the doubts that if 250-ton coal is burnt every day, there will be huge pollution.

Chairperson appealed all to raise suggestions, objections regarding the proposed project.

Shri Bhai Shinde again started raising objections, Chairperson directed him not to talk further and give opportunities to others as well.

**4) Shri Naresh Taturam Patil, Member, Zilla Parishad-Raigad, Taluka President, Rashatrawadi Congress:-**

He said that the Project Officer gave a concise, good information about the project in the presentation. It is promised by them that they will take care of the surrounding after inception of the project. Hence, I think that if the health of the people in the area will not be affected and if they take care of the project then project is welcomed, and we support the project.

He further said that the facilities required if provided to the local people and if employment opportunities is extended to local people, if there is increase in the indirect business of the area which will benefit to the local people, there is no sense of opposing the project.

Shri Naresh Patil stated that our Khalapur Taluka has become an Industrial Taluka. Many companies came here. The land has been sold by local farmers for the project. If projects do not operate,

the youth here will remain unemployed. The project has always been welcomed by the villagers of Khalapur.

He through Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed project officials that care should be taken to ensure that the health of the citizens is not endangered. The project should provide employment opportunities to the local young boys and girls and the project officials should operate the pollution control system efficiently. Complaints should be understood and resolved. I support the project.

The Project Proponent in reply to Shri Naresh Patil, promised that the standards of pollution would be strictly adhered to. He said that coal ash would also be packed and sold. Every part of the grain that will be used as raw material in the project is reused / recycled.

Ethanol will be made from grain starch; protein & fiber shall be converted to cattle feed & will be supplied to cattle feed manufactures. Carbon-dioxide will be bottled & supplied to beverage industry. Ash will be supplied to local brick manufacturers and cement industry. Similarly, local people will be given priority in employment.

**5) Shri Sunny Yadhav, Residence – Devnavhe village, Tal-Khalapur, Dist – Raigad, Treasurer, BJP: -**

He opined that such a hearing is necessary. No one will support the project unless the doubts of local people are cleared. Ethanol means Ethyl Alcohol. It is the policy of the Central Government that Ethanol should be given priority.

Shri Yadhav said that as the price of petroleum products are rising, it needs to find alternatives. Countries like Brazil have been using alcohol as a fuel since 1932. After Brazil, Sweden

uses Ethanol. Here now we are considering whether to start a project or not.

The doubts raised by the participants should be resolved. The Project Management is responsible for ensuring that the local people should not suffer. It is suggested that the doubts of the local people should be cleared while expressing support for the project.

**6) Mrs. Kamini Bhushan Patil, Member, Grampanchayat Khanav, Tal-Khalapur, Dist-Raigad: -**

If this project will provide employment to the unemployed young boys and girls in the area, then I welcome this project.

**7) Shri Narayan Patil, Residence – Khanav, Tal-Khalapur, Dist-Raigad:**

This project will make the people of my village and ten villages happy.

**8) Shri Gautam Kashid Pawar, Sarpanch, Grampanchayat Chilthan, Tal -Khalapur, Dist-Raigad:-**

He stated that this project falls within the limits of our Gram Panchayat. At the time, when the MPCB had made available the environmental document of the said project in the Gram Panchayat office and the villagers were instructed to file written suggestions / objections and to attend the public hearing, a Special Gram Sabha was held at that time. Although all members in the Gram Sabha not opposed the project, they remarked that the project should not endanger the lives of the local people.

Shri Gautam Pawar, Sarpanch expressed the opinion that it is mentioned in the report that Magva Lake is 1.5 k.m. away from project site. It is clarified as per the suggestions of the villagers.

Project officials informed that it is Usroli Pazar Lake. The project works according to Google Images. In that Google image, the name Mangav Dam appears. However, in the main report, it is written as Usroli and Magva is written in the brackets.

Shri Gautam Pawar, Sarpanch further informed that it is demand of the Usroli and Chilthan villagers that the water from Usroli lake should not be lifted by the Project Proponent for the project, because Usroli, Kharvali, Chilthan and Khanav are water scarcity villages. Water is supplied by tanker there.

The Project Proponent replied that the water required for the production of the project would be lifted from a nearby river. Permission will be sought from the concerned department of the Government for this purpose. Here the villagers are promised that water will not be taken for the project from Usroli Pazar Lake.

Shri Gautam Pawar, Sarpanch while further asking questions said that the distance of Patalganga river in the report is written as 3.0 km. As far as we know, there is no Patalganga river at the distance of 3.0 k.m.

The Project Proponent replied that this distance is the aerial distance. Shri Gautam Pawar, Sarpanch further questioned that the report states that the water required for the project will be taken only with the permission of the Irrigation Department. He asked for information about the spent wash.

At the time, the Project Proponent replied that the grain-based Ethanol project does not produce a spent wash but a thick syrup. This thick syrup will be dried in dryer and shall be converted



to cattle feed. This cattle feed will contain 10% of water / syrup as moisture. It will be filled in the bag & supplied.

Shri Gautam Pawar, Sarpanch further asked the question that as 250 Ton coal will be used in the project, how it will be managed? If you keep it in the open, the coal dust particles will mix with the air. Inform the steps for the prevention.

The Project Proponent replied that a closed coal shed would be constructed for storage of coal. It will have an outlet through conveyor belt, which will take coal to the boiler. Therefore, there will not be pollution of coal dust due to closed sheds.

Shri Gautam Pawar, Sarpanch further asked that if CO<sub>2</sub> will be bottled, then how are you going to manage it?

The project officer gave full scientific information and said that CO<sub>2</sub> would be bottled in large cylinders and will be given to the beverage / aerated drink companies.

Shri Gautam Pawar said that the Sarpanch of the village and the villagers do not oppose the development. But there should be no adverse effects on the health of the citizens of the area, respiratory problems, pollution. People co-operate, but when there is trouble, they oppose.

The Project Proponent promised that all the regulations would be followed in the project and all the pollution control system would be implemented properly.

**9) Shri Sanket Krishna Sinkar, Residence – Khirkandi village, Tal – Khalapur, Dist – Raigad:-**

He demanded as per the point no. 3.4 of the report, the project management require experienced manpower. So how do

you promise to employ local people? He objected to the company's name Bombay. If the local people here are Marathi, then why the name Mumbai is not taken?

The Project Proponent replied that the factory could provide employment to 250 people. It requires skilled and experienced, skilled, semi-skilled, sweepers and cleaning workers. Preference will be given to local people only.

Shri Sinkar objected that on the issue of lack of experience, factory management will not give employment opportunities to the local people in the project. This is what has happened here before. If the skilled workers you need are not available in the area, you will bring from outside. At that time, some local participants demanded implementation of training scheme before giving job opportunities in the project.

Project Proponent welcomed the demand and said that the project management will formulate policy for training of the local people.

At this time, Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested that the project management should make available to all the Gram Panchayats in the area, information about the manpower required by them, including skilled, semi-skilled and other staff. They should be trained according to their needs.

She said that if training programme started 6-7 months before the commissioning of the project, local trained manpower will be available. Care should be taken to include local young boys and girls graduates in the project. The Project Proponent promised to implement the plan.

The Project Proponent stated that the name Bombay has been approved by the company register.

**10) Shri Santosh Bailmare, Member, Savroli Group Gram Panchayat, Tal – Khalapur, Dist – Raigad:-**

He stated that nearly one thousand small and large industries are operating in the area. He suggested to implement training scheme before starting the project.

He demanded that local people should be given job opportunities and for this letter should be sent to Gram Panchayat offices well in advance.

Shri Bailmare informed that project management before starting the project promises everything, but after starting of the project, closes its gate and do not permit local people to enter. Then local people have to agitate against the management. At the time of agitation, the police administrations also opposes us. We have given our land for the project. Naturally, local people desire justice by getting job opportunities. We demand that local people should get permanent jobs in the factories.

He suggested local people to welcome the project. Due to the project, the Gram Panchayat will get the local tax, due to which fund will be available for development of infrastructure facilities. There will be increase in the direct & indirect business activities. He said to local people not to oppose the project, oppose the pollution. He appealed Project Proponent to co-operate for the various developmental activities. But if the co-operation is not extended by the Factory Management, then the local will oppose the project. He suggested to spend few amount from the CSR fund for the various educational schemes. There is no good medical facilities available in the villages. Hence well modern hospital should be built.

Shri Bailmare appealed that project officials should implement various social development schemes in such a way that, other villages should say that this factory should have been in our village.

Project Proponent promised that local people will be extended training facilities and local people will be given priority for the job opportunities.

**11) Shri Mahesh Patil, Residence-Shiroli, Tal – Khalapur, Dist – Raigad: -**

He asked Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee that the standards of water and air shown in the presentation which is made by the company. Hence, whether there was any involvement of Government while collecting the samples or whether the company has collected the samples on their own?

Member answered that as per the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi's Notification dated 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016, it is mandatory to certain projects to obtain prior Environment Clearance (EC). For this, first the Project has to obtain Terms of Reference from the MoEF & CC, Gol to study the present status of environment in the radius of 10 k.m. from the project site. After obtaining ToR, the Project has to study current state of the peripheral ecological status of water, air, sound, ground water, land is the first study to generate baseline data. For this, Central Government has Accredited Consultants. There is no any involvement of Govt department while collecting samples.

The suggestions, objections raised during the Public Hearing has to be compiled and entered in the Final EIA report which is to be submitted to Central Government. After obtaining EC, it is mandatory to send the environmental status in every six months after operation of the factory.

Surveys conducted by Accredited Consultants and standards approved by the Central Government determine whether the project is polluting or not. The purpose of this study is to check the environmental condition of the area before setting up the project and also after the operation of the project.

**12) Shri Uddhav Namdeo Deshmukh, Present Dy.Sarpanch, Narangi Grampanchayat, Tal-Khalapur, Dist-Raigad :-**

There are 2,000 acres of land lying with MIDC. However, my request to the Administration is to train the local people to empower them as the workers in the company without harming the environment.

Similarly, while giving employment opportunity, first opportunity should be given to Usroli village, but employment should also be given to the people of neighboring panchayats. The Pollution Control Board should ensure that the project does not cause any pollution.

**13) Shri Vitthal Balkrishna Waghmare, Residence-Khanewadi, Tal-Khalapur, Dist-Raigad :-**

I am a villager from Khanewadi. I go to work every day in the remote village of Takai which is 15 k.m. away. If this company becomes operational and if I get employment in this company, then I will not have to drive 15-20 km every day. No need to go far. Also, the people of the village will get employment with me, so I support the project.

**14) Shri Anant Vishnu Bhonge, Khanav Tanta Mukti President :-**

In my tribal village, about 200 children are unemployed. Moreover there are many unemployed young boys and girls in the

surrounding area. Hence, the unemployed here will be able to earn a living by getting a job, so I welcome this company.

**15) Shri Jaydas Bhonge, Residence – Khanav, Tal – Khalapur Dist – Raigad :-**

The common man today does not know what a chemical is. People are intimidated as a chemical company. I have been working in a chemical project for the last 20 years. Ethanol is a part of our lives. We are using sanitizer a lot for the last two years due to Corona.

Sanitizers contain 70% alcohol. People are made afraid of the chemical and hence they oppose the company. Any company has to provide security for its workers. There is no loss of life. An accident can happen, but it is an accident only.

In the same way, anybody can progress according to the performance. He said that he was the worker, when he join industry, now he is head of the department. As we give/work hard for the company, our category changes. I fully support this project.

**16) Shri Siddhesh Sudharao Amre, Group Gram Panchayat, Nandanpada, Tal-Khalapur, Dist- Raigad :-**

He stated that although the Presentation was good, the company management is asked that what measures it would take to prevent spillage and leakage in the company?

The Project Proponent stated that the entire project is modern automated and each reactor will be equipped with temperature sensors, oxygen analyzer, pH analyzer. All its data comes in PLC system. Therefore, if there is a leak, it appears on the system and further action is taken immediately.

Also as per PESO (Petroleum Explosive Safety Organization) directives, the storage area is provided with foaming system, Automated Fire Exhaustive System and CO<sub>2</sub> Bottle, the combined system of these three is given. It will be implemented. The PESO engineer will come and approves the same and then only the project is allowed to start.

Shri Amre further asked the question that the information is given of CO<sub>2</sub> foaming, but not informed about water arrangement in case of fire.

The Project Proponent said that we are going to build a 2500 cubic meter tank for rainwater harvesting. It will be connected to the fire prevention system. The basins of the cooling tower, which will store a thousand cubic meters of water and shall be connected to fire protection system. The entire system will be auto detected.

**17) Shri Ashok Marajge, Wadwal, Tal – Khalapur, Dist – Raigad :-**

He said that the Government has come to our doorstep for public awareness. Various companies have been welcomed in this taluka and help has been extended as much as possible. Some previous experiences were not good. The land of local people have been purchased by penny/very negligible amount for the company but nothing happens for many years.

The young boys and girls from here have to go out for employment. The project must be implemented. But the long-term effects of starting a company should also be studied. The company should not cause adverse effects in the area. The project officials answered the questions well. However, if this project has any adverse effects, everyone will unite and will oppose the company. Due to this project, the local people will get job opportunities and

Gram Panchayat will get the taxes. There will be increase in local business activities.

He further suggested that Godrej, Tata first carried out the social welfare works in the area under CSR funding and then started the project. So, what is your policy in this regard? There is a lot of tribal community in this area. Similarly, the level of education among the local student is low. You should give permanent employment in the project to 10th failed, 12th failed youth.

Project Proponent responding positively said that in the meeting, the Chairperson has instructed to implement the training scheme 5-6 months before the start of the project. Accordingly, the company management will prepare a policy and will contact the Gram Panchayat offices. Training will be given to local young boys and girls.

Shri Ashok Marajge wished the project to be implemented without any bias and to provide employment opportunities to the local people.

Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee expressed the views that the public hearing is expected to be conducted in the manner in which the suggestions are presented by Shri Ashok Marajge. It is not expected that the participants should shout and file objections.

The public hearing is to record the suggestions, objections, views of the local people and the participants can register their positive or negative thoughts about the proposed project. The job of the Administration is to record the suggestions, objections and present them in the minutes of the meeting and inform the Government.

Chairperson expressed the view that those who work hard and achieve their goals make progress in the company. Just as the



local people need employment, the company also needs manpower. However, training programs should be prepared and implemented as discussed in the meeting.

**18) Shri Ankit Sakhare, Sarpanch, Group Gram Panchayat, Devnhave, Tal-Khalapur, Dist – Raigad:-**

Shri Sakhare stated that as Sarpanch of Group Devnhave the policy declared by the Central Government for Ethanol, I support this project as Sarpanch. There are many large-scale industries and International Theme Park in our Gram Panchayat area. Due to Theme Park and various industries, there is total change of scenario in our area. Due to this project, local people will get job opportunities and there will be increase in local business also.

He further said that we should welcome the Project. Similarly, if the company guarantees the health of the citizens, then I support this project.

**19) Shri Harichandra Raghunath Patil, Former Sabhapati, Khalapur Taluka, Dist- Raigad.**

Shri Patil said that at the beginning of the public hearing, the Mahashri ved vigyan sanstha had lodged an objection that the land was 32 acres, out of 13 acres, 10 acres of land belongs to me alone. The 10 acres have been purchased with the permission of 32 G. He further said that all the land with three survey numbers was purchased by me eight years ago. The land has been sold after eight years and now it is objected. He requested Chairperson to consider this at the hearing.

Shri Patil stated that the land of 32G cannot be purchased without permission, and as per the rules, I have made the purchase deed.

Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed to the participants to raise any suggestions, comments and objections regarding the project. There was no response from the audience. Chairperson directed Member, Convener to conclude the meeting.

While concluding the meeting, Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee said that we have gathered for the public hearing of the Project Proponent M/s Rocking Bombay Beverages Pvt. Ltd., Usroli, Taluka-Khalapur, District-Raigad for their proposed establishment of production of 125.0 KLPD Ethanol and 125.0 KLPD Extra Neutral Alcohol (ENA) for 250.0 KLPD Grained Based Distillery Project which is jointly called by MPCB and District Collector Office, Raigad-Alibag.

Convener said that the public hearing is conducted in a very good manner. There is no opposition, but whatever the objections the thought, comments & suggestions raised the meeting will have to be strictly followed by the Project Proponent.

Convener informed that many suggestions, objections raised by the local people in the meeting are noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

Also 25 written supporting letters have been received and 2 written objections are received during the meeting and after getting the answers from the Project Proponent, the answers along with all the written suggestions and objections will be sent along with Final EIA and minutes of the meeting with the approval of the Chairperson through MPCB Head Office to MoEF & CC, Govt. of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee will take further decision.

Convener thanked Dr. Padamshree Bainade, Chairperson of the meeting, Shri Tamboli, Tahsildar of the Khalapur; all project officials, government officials, local people who came in large numbers, Police Administration, Journalists, NGOs working in the

field of Environment for attending this meeting and on behalf of Chairperson of the meeting declared that the meeting is concluded.

Meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

The 25 written no objections & 2 objection /suggestions are enclosed herewith.



**(Vidyasagar Killedar)**

Member, Convener, ,  
Environment Public Hearing Committee  
And  
Incharge Regional Officer-Raigad,  
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,  
Raigad Bhavan, CBD Belapur,  
Navi Mumbai



**(Dr. Padamshree Bainade)**

Chairperson,  
Environment Public Hearing Committee  
And  
Additional District Magistrate, Raigad,  
District – Raigad-Alibag