

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED IRON ORE MINES AT MAUZA ZENDEPAR, TAL. KORCHI, DIST. GADCHIROLI TOTAL MINE LEASE AREA 46.37 HA. AT S. NO. 82. 1) SHRI. R. M. RAJURKAR, PROPOSED ZENDEPAR IRON ORE MIN (8.0 HA), KH. NO. 82 PART (82/1), ZANDEPAR, TAL. KORCHI, DIST. GADCHIROLI, 2) M/S. ANUJ MINES MINERALS & CHEMICALS PVT. LTD., PROPOSED ZENDEPAR IRON ORE MIN (12.0 HA), KH. NO. 82 PART (82/2), ZANDEPAR, TAL. KORCHI, DIST. GADCHIROLI, 3) SHRI. NIRMAL CHAND JAIN, PROPOSED ZENDEPAR IRON ORE MIN (10.37 HA), KH. NO. 82 PART (82/3), ZANDEPAR, TAL. KORCHI, DIST. GADCHIROLI, 4) SHRI. ANOJ KUMAR AGARWALA, PROPOSED ZENDEPAR IRON ORE MINE (12.0 HA), KH. NO. 82 PART (82/4), ZANDEPAR, TAL. KORCHI, DIST. GADCHIROLI, 5) SHRI. MANOJ KUMAR AJITSARIYA, PROPOSED ZENDEPAR IRON ORE MIN (4.0 HA), KH. NO. 82 PART (82/5), ZANDEPAR, TAL. KORCHI, DIST. GADCHIROLI

Date : 10/10/2023
Time : 11.00 A.M,
Place : Niyojan Bhavan, District Collector Office, Tal. Dist. Gadchiroli.

Preamble:-

Project Proponents 1) Shri. R. M. Rajurkar, 2) M/s. Anuj Mines Minerals & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., 3) Shri. Nirmal Chand Jain, 4) Shri. Anoj Kumar Agarwala & 5) Shri. Manoj Kumar Ajitsariya has applied to Environment, Forest & Climate Change Department (MoEF & CC) Govt. of Maharashtra, (GoM), Mumbai for permission of carrying out the study in the radius of 10 k.m. of project and preparation of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report for obtaining Environmental Clearance for the Proposed Iron Ore Mines At Mauza Zandepar, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli Total Mine Lease Area 46.37 Ha. At S. No. 82. 1) Shri. R. M. Rajurkar, Proposed Zandepar Iron Ore Min (8.0 Ha), Kh. No. 82 Part (82/1), Zandepar, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli, 2) M/s. Anuj Mines Minerals & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Proposed Zandepar Iron Ore Min (12.0 Ha), Kh. No. 82 Part (82/2), Zandepar, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli, 3) Shri. Nirmal Chand Jain, Proposed Zandepar Iron Ore Min (10.37 Ha), Kh. No. 82 Part (82/3), Zandepar, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli, 4) Shri. Anoj Kumar Agarwala, Proposed Zandepar Iron Ore Mine (12.0 Ha), Kh. No. 82 Part (82/4), Zandepar, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli, 5) Shri. Manoj Kumar Ajitsariya, Proposed Zandepar Iron Ore Min (4.0 Ha), Kh. No. 82 Part (82/5), Zandepar, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.

The Ministry of Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai (Env. Dept. GOM, Mumbai) approved Terms of Reference (ToR) (copy attached). As per Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, the environment study should be carried in the radius of 10 km from the project site before environmental public hearing and to include in the final environmental impact assessment report the environmental issues raised by the project affected people about the proposed project. As the proposed project falls under Category "B" Projects non-coal mine lease, it is mandatory to the Project Proponent to obtain prior Environment Clearance (EC) from Environment Department, GoM, Mumbai.

Project Proponents 1) Shri. R. M. Rajurkar, 2) M/s. Anuj Mines Minerals & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., 3) Shri. Nirmal Chand Jain, 4) Shri. Anoj Kumar Agarwala & 5) Shri. Manoj Kumar Ajitsariya has applied Maharashtra Pollution Control Board on 10/03/2023 for conducting Environment Public Hearing. District Collector, Gadchiroli, Maharashtra State, in co-ordination with MPCB Chandrapur Office, approved to hold a public hearing on 10-10-2023 Offline & Online. The meeting number and password was made available.

As per EIA Notification, 2006, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Office, MPCB Chandrapur in the Local Newspaper in Daily Lokmat for Marathi and in National Newspaper daily The Hitavada for English on 06/09/2023. An appeal was made to residents of the area, environmental organizations, residents to be displaced by the project or residents to be affected by the project in any other way to submit their views, comments, suggestions or objections about the proposed project in writing or by email to the local MPCB Chandrapur office till the date of public hearing. Till the date of Public Hearing, 142 written representations were received to Sub-Regional Office, M. P. C. Board, Chandrapur.

Also copy of draft EIA report and executive summary in Marathi and English were made available at various notified offices of Government for the observation, study and comments of the local people as under:-

- (1) Environment Department, 15th Floor, New Administrative Building, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400032
- (2) Joint Director (Water Pollution Control), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 2nd and 4th Floor, Opp. Cine Planet, Near Sion Circle, Sion (E), Mumbai-400022
- (3) Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, First Floor, Udyog Bhavan, Opposite Bus-Stand, Railway Station Road, Chandrapur.
- (4) Sub-Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, First Floor, Udyog Bhavan, Opposite Bus-Stand, Railway Station Road, Chandrapur.
- (5) Collector Office, Gadchiroli.
- (6) Zilla Parishad, Gadchiroli.

- (7) District Industries Center, Gachiroli.
- (8) Sub-Divisional Office, Kurkheda, Tal. Kurkheda, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (9) Nagar Panchayat Office Korchi, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (10) Panchayat Samiti Office Korchi, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (11) Tahsil Office Korchi, Tal. Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (12) Grampanchayat Office Nandli, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (13) Grampanchayat Office Maseli, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (14) Grampanchayat Office Navargaon, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (15) Grampanchayat Office Kotra, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (16) Grampanchayat Office Botekasa, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (17) Grampanchayat Office Bihatekala, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (18) Grampanchayat Office Bedgaon, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (19) Grampanchayat Office Janbhali, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (20) Grampanchayat Office Aaswal Hudki, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (21) Grampanchayat Office Betkathi, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (22) Grampanchayat Office Navezari, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (23) Grampanchayat Office Murkuti, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.
- (24) Grampanchayat Office Belargondi, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli.

It is also informed to the notified government departments (Sr.no.5 to 24 as above) about giving wide publicity at their level regarding Environmental Public Hearing.

The public hearing was thus widely publicized following the due procedure as per the Notification, so that it would be convenient for the project affected or concerned persons to register their views, comments, suggestions or objections with the concerned department. As per the directives, the public consultation is arranged on the project site.

As per the EIA Notification as issued by the MoEF & CC, Gol, New Delhi dated 14th September, 2006, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has constituted Environment Public Hearing Committee vide no. E-64/2023 under letter no.BO/JD(WPC) PH/B-230913-FTS-0319, dated - 14/6/2023 as under :-

- 1) District Magistrate-Gadchiroli - **Chairman**
or his representative not below
the rank of an Additional District
Magistrate
- 2) Representative of Maharashtra - **Member**
Pollution Control Board, Mumbai
Regional Officer – Chandrapur,
MPCB, Udyog Bhavan, Chandrapur

3) Sub Regional Officer-Chandrapur
MPCB, Udyog Bhavan, Chandrapur

- Convener

This office is in receipt 142 written representations regarding the above project and the persons / concerned institutions have been informed to attend the public hearing and submit their views, opinion, suggestions or objections if any.

The attendance sheets of the participants during the public hearing as well as the Order of the Environment Public Hearing Committee constituted by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board are attached herewith as **Annexure-I & II.**

Minutes of the Environment Public Hearing:-

At the beginning of the meeting, Shri Umashankar Bhadule, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chandrapur and Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri Dhanraj Patil, Additional District Magistrate, Gadchiroli and Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri. Tanaji Yadav, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chandrapur and Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee, Project officials, Journalists, NGOs working in the field of environment and local people who were present in large number and informed all the procedure of the public hearing. He appealed all the participants to raise views, doubts, ideas, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only. He said that the public hearing is organized only for the local people and project affected persons, so that the environmental issues and doubts would be resolved.

Convener of the meeting further informed that this meeting is arranged to know the feelings, suggestions or objections of the local people for the proposed project in environmental angle only and this Committee has no right to sanction, reject or recommend the proposed project. The suggestions or objections received during the meeting will be noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting in Marathi and in English and it will be submitted alongwith Final EIA report, the written suggestions/objections with the approval of Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee through MPCB Head Office to Environment, Forest & Climate Change Ministry, Govt. of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee will take further decision accordingly.

Convener of the meeting further informed that as per the provisions of the Notification, the meeting is being photographed and video is being shot and after the presentation, the participants can raise their questions, suggestions,

thoughts and objections. The Project Environmental Consultant or Project Proponent will answer the same. While asking questions, first inform your full name and residence village.

With the permission of Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Convener asked Environment Consultant to give presentation of Environment Management Plan of the proposed project.

Project Consultant informed regarding expansion of the project and Environment Management Plan in local language Marathi. Following points were explained in the meeting:-

Detailed Information of the Project -

- Project Area, Latitude-Longitude, Map, Submerged Area, Beneficiary Area, Forest Area, Project; Features, Project Significance, Consequences, Land Use, Earthquake Stability;
- Project objectives, social status, employment opportunities, development of farmers due to the project;
- Project analysis, summary, findings;
- Analysis of social and economic status
- Information about air, water, land, sound, project affected areas etc.
- Impact and management of air, water, displacement, biodiversity due to planned project
- Information on environmental management after project implementation
- Information on other environmental management

After reading the suggestions given by Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Convener appealed to the participants to raise their environmental suggestions or objections about the proposed project. While raising questions, inform the full name, village. He also informed Project Environment Consultant and Project Proponent to give appropriate answers.

Views, questions, suggestions/objections raised during the Environment Public Hearing and the answers/promises given by the Project Proponent:-

1) Dr. Shri. Namdeo Usendi, Ex-MLA, Chimur-Gadchiroli Constituency, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | <p>We are delighted for the public hearing which is held here for the proposed iron ore mining projects. I think that the public hearing is held as per the provisions made by MOEFCC in which there are some general conditions & some specific conditions. I would like to highlight some of these general conditions. Before that, I would like to talk to the public present in the Public Hearing. I would like to know who did the demarcation of the said projects. Either you should answer my questions spontaneously or you should note down my questions & then answer them collectively. Demarcation process shall be done by Revenue Department & Forest Department collectively and it shall be done within 1.5 kms radius of the projects. These are the general conditions. No mining activity can be carried out near natural, man-made or archaeological/historical sites. Is there any natural, man-made or archaeological/historical site found near the project site? I would take point-wise answers for my questions. I would like to know if there is any natural, man-made or archaeological/historical site near the said projects as you have carried out</p> | <p>The point is noted.</p> |

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| | <p>survey within 10 kms radius. Because when I asked the people it is found that, there is an ancient temple namely Raopath located near the project site at a distance of 3.5 kms. Raopath is an ancient temple where the tribal are worshipping since long time. It is a devotional place for the local tribal people. This is the first point.</p> | |
| <p>2)</p> | <p>Secondly, which type of trees will you be planting while creating green belt? Is there any survey carried out by you? Which type of trees are existing in the said area? Is there any list of trees & where are you going to plant those trees? Because as we have seen in Surjagarh that many trees such as teakwood which are around 200-300 years old has been cut down which are amounting around Lakhs & Crores has been demolished. But till date no information has been given regarding their disposal. Also where the trees are planted is also not known. A survey shall be carried out for the existing trees & trees shall be planted elsewhere. If you are planting trees then where are you going to plant them, no. of trees to be planted & which type of trees are going to be planted. This is an important question.</p> | <p>The point is noted.</p> |
| <p>3)</p> | <p>Similarly, transportation trucks should not be parked at public places. I would like to ask that why any action is not taken on the transportation trucks coming from Surjagarh project which are parked roadside? Because major accidents are occurring in the area due to these parked transportation trucks. Mining lease has been granted to Surjagarh Iron Ore project on these conditions or is there any different condition for</p> | <p>The point is noted.</p> |

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| | <p>Surjagarh Project. If the conditions are not complied in Surjagarh then is there any possibility that the same will not be repeated in the proposed iron ore mining projects. Our tribal people are totally dependent on forests products such as Moha, Todi, Gum, etc. In today's Loksatta new item appeared that, 41 Gram Sabhas has earned about Rs. 30 Crores from forest products. What these projects will give to gram sabhas? It is binding that no harm should be caused to wildlife. In your presentation you have mentioned that there are no wild animals in the area. This raises a question if survey has been carried out or not. How have you declared this? Who did the survey? What type of employment will you provide? If you need engineer, ITI pass out, other skilled persons, then you should provide trainings to local people. If you require skilled labour then either you shall arrange skill development program at the outset or you shall appoint them & then provide skill development trainings to the local unemployed persons.</p> |
| <p>4)</p> | <p>Everything is shown in the presentation but information regarding royalty to be paid through mining activity has not be shown. We shall be informed about the actual cost of the mines or how much CSR funds will be allocated. Today, CSR funds are distributed through local NGOs & the NGOs are misusing these funds due to which nearby villages are not developed. Project Affected People should have been granted entry in this Public Hearing. We hope that the administration will grant entry to project affected people during the upcoming public hearings. We are not against development but</p> |

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| it should not be done at the cost of local tribal people & if development is done at the cost of forest property then we will oppose the project. | |
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Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all participants to raise any suggestions, objections retarding the proposed project in environmental angle only.

2) Shri. Vijaykumar Shamsaheb Koreti, Gram Panchayat Nandeli, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli :-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | Priority to local unemployed people shall be given while providing employment. Proper transportation management shall be done. Basic facilities shall be provided. Proper compensation shall be given to the PAPs whose land, homes & agricultural land is being acquired. If the excavated iron ore is used in Gadchiroli district, it will be beneficial. What measure will be adopted to maintain pollution free environment in affected areas? | The point is noted. |

Chairman of the committee said that, this is an environmental public hearing & other subjects shall be avoided. Also, subjects should not be repeated. Only point-wise questions shall be raised. Instructed to tell the names before asking questions.

3) Shri. Padmakar Sadashiv Mankar, Bodegaon, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | What our adivasi brothers has preserved, we are intentionally trying to destroy it. We need development but what our ancestors has preserved, if the industry is | The point is noted. |

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| <p>utilizing it then project proponent should provide proper compensation to residents. These 5 projects have allocated Rs. 2 Crores towards CSR funds which includes health & environment which is meagre. This should be increase to provide good quality educational & health facilities. Along with this, skill development trainings shall be given to residents. 80% priority shall be given to local people while providing employment. 100KL underground water will be extracted as shown in presentation & this will deplete the water table. Project proponent shall provide information about ground water management. We want development but local people shall not be overlooked.</p> | |
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4) Shri. Krushna Gajbe, MLA, Armori Constituency, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | Living standards, culture, water, forest land shall be conserved. More trees should be planted in project affected areas. | The point is noted. |
| 2) | Priority to local people shall be given in employment. | The point is noted. |
| 3) | Basic amneties such as education, health, social welfare, electricity supply should be provided. | The point is noted. |
| 4) | Local people shall be taken into confidence while commissioning the Project. Livelihood of resident depends on forest products & farming. So proper compensation shall be given against land acquisition. Also residents shall be benefited by awaring them of govt. schemes. PP shall take utmost care to avoid water pollution & conservation of | The point is noted. |

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| | culture, etc. Land losers shall be given priority in employment. We do not oppose Public Hearing as these projects will bring development. | |
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5) Mrs. Amita Madavi, Gram Panchayat Zendebar, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | If Adivasis are safe then forests are safe, if forests are safe then environment is safe & if environment is safe then whole world is safe. This is the slogan of our Gram Sabha. MPCB conducted survey but did not take permission from local people. The photograph shows only rock. But does not show the area which has tree plantation around it. Did not ask Gram Sabha while conducting survey of trees. Environment department shall consider our submitted objection. | The point is noted. |

6) Shri. Siddharth Ramchandra Raut, Gram Panchayat Maseli, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | The public hearing should have been conducted at the project site so that PAPs or concerned old aged people could have attended the Public hearing. | The point is noted. |
| 2) | It is shown in the presentation that pollution will certainly increase after commissioning of the project. If pollution will increase & will affect the local people then what type of compensation will be | The point is noted. |

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| | given to them. Once the project is commissioned this will be overlooked by the Project Proponents. | |
| 3) | Employment opportunities will be only for 149 people as shown in presentation. New trades should be made available in Industrial training course by the Project Proponents. Guarantee of employment for youths shall be given. | The point is noted. |
| 4) | Adivasis are residing in the area since ancient times. Most of the people have yet not received land documents. About 80% people do not have 7/12 or 8A land document and if land is acquired from these people then they will not get compensation. | The point is noted. |

7) Shri. Suresh Katinge, Gram Panchayat Member Bedkathi, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | How trees cutting will be compensated? What measures will be taken to avoid water scarcity problem which will arise during depletion of ground water level. Will there be blasting in mine? Will the project proponents provide any help to Men & women bachat gats for establishing small scale industries. What help will be provided to local NGOs by the Project Proponent for forest conservation? | The point is noted. |

8) Dr. Shri. Deorao Holi, MLA, Chimur-Gadchiroli Constituency, Tal. Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | <p>People are present here for Public Hearing being held for proposed 5 Iron ore projects of Taluka Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli. the same. You are aware that Sponge Iron industry is being commissioned in Konsari. All the 5 PPs will form one industry or only excavation activity will be carried out. Unemployed educated youths of Korchi Taluka shall be given employment in these 5 projects. There is no oppose from any MLAs & MPs to these 5 projects. I would like to request to all the 5 project proponents to take local people into confidence to avoid agitation against the projects. There will be oppose from some people. But Project Proponent shall provide employment to local people. There is no oppose from local people but project proponents shall conserve the ancient devotional places. Local people shall be allowed to worship at that place. Environment will be deteriorated during operation of the project & for protection of environment local people shall be involved. Iron ore processing plant shall be established & commissioned in Korchi taluka.</p> | <p>The point is noted.</p> |

9) Shri. Anandrao Choube, Korchi, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | Concrete decision is expected from this public hearing as this project is hanging since 2017. It will also help to eradicate unemployment in Korchi Taluka. Develop our adivasi religious temples. Adopt measures to ensure minimum pollution in the area. 5 time compensation shall be given to the persons who do not possess any land documents. Traffic management shall be done & concrete road shall be constructed from mine lease area upto Chattisgarh State Border. | The point is noted. |

10) Shri. Rupesh Dineshwar Ganvir, Gram Panchayat Bedkathi, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | I support the projects but I have some terms & conditions. If the project is commissioned by affecting our adivasi people then we don't want the project. If the project is commissioning then local people shall be given priority in employment. Also company shall take responsibility of higher education of local youths. We do not have capability to purchase mineral transportation trucks. Company shall cooperate for the same & shall encourage the truck owners for mineral transportation. | The point is noted. |

11) Shri. Virendra Sukhdev Aade, Gram Panchayat Bedkathi, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | <p>We support all the 5 projects. But we have certain terms & conditions. There is a big issue of unemployment in Korchi Taluka. Youths from our area are going to Bangalore, Mumbai & other places for employment. Local people shall be given priority in employment which will help eradicating unemployment from Korchi Taluka & youths will not be going outside Korchi Taluka. Gadchiroli District is known for not having any industrial development. If this tag is removed by these 5 projects then we support these projects. There will be rise in pollution levels due to mining activities. But company shall take responsibility of people which will be affecting due to mining activities in the area. Livelihood of people will increase & problem of unemployment will be eradicated from these projects.</p> | <p>The point is noted.</p> |

12) Shri. Yunus Sheikh, Tal. Dist. Gadchiroli :-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | <p>I have 2-3 important issues. The representatives have spoken on all subjects. Unemployment in Korchi Taluka will decrease due to these projects. But none of the project proponents are residents of Gadchiroli District. Therefore, they do not care about the emotions of the local people. I request you to take an affidavit while allotting mining lease that the project proponents</p> | <p>The point is noted.</p> |

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| <p>shall provide employment throughout Gadchiroli District. Because the demands raised during the public hearing are not fulfilled afterwards. PP should give assurance in writing that mining lease should not be allotted till employment is generated. The roads are in dilapidated condition. New industries should come up in the village which will give better employment opportunities. It will help in development of adivasi people. The Gram Panchayat has the right to take bamboo production but why they don't have right of mining? This should be given to Gram panchayat. Profit earned from it will be helpful in development of adivasi brothers. Revenue should be reserved for development of local people so that they can come together to establish any industry.</p> | |
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13) Shri. Nakul Pralhad Sahare, Bedkathi-Sohole, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | <p>My Village my rule, even if it is so, Adivasis has sacrificed their culture, water, forest & land to others to development. Government should do excavation & operate the mine. People has come from far & are anxious. During hearing there should be exchange of thoughts. Public Hearing was supposed to be held at project site. Right of water, forest, land are given to Gram Sabhas. Those Gram Sabhas who has right of forests, should be permitted to do mining. Govt. should have control over activities. If privatization is done then there will be no job opportunities. It is requested to 5 mines to buy insurance of workers of minimum 15 Lakhs Rupees. Compensation of only Rs. 2.5 Lakhs is</p> | <p>The point is noted.</p> |

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| paid for accidents occurring in Surjagarh. We want our life to be social so that we can get benefit of govt. schemes. Ancestor land is our wealth. | |
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14) Shri. Deepak Lakhan Nayak, Korchi, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | Unemployment prevails in our village. Higher educated youths leave the village & reside in Cities like Chandrapur, Nagpur & other metro cities. A Sponge Iron industry is established in Chamorshi Taluka which has helped in eradicating unemployment of local people. Proper management of ground water shall be done. 10 time tree plantation shall be done with conservation for 5 years. | The point is noted. |

15) One citizen, Tal. Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | This area is in schedule 5. According to which gram sabha permission is required to conduct public hearing. But permission of any gram sabhas is not taken. Due to which this public hearing should not be considered. Therefore, the public hearing shall be adjourned & shall be conducted on project site again after taking permission from gram sabhas. Till date company has not commissioned then why shall the company provide employment opportunities, construct roads & provide basic amenities. Public hearing shall be cancelled. | The point is noted. |

Hon'ble District Collector, Gadchiroli called upon the participants to maintain peace during conduct of public hearing. One person should come up

on the stage to express his thoughts & there should not chaos. Video recording is being done which ensures that there is no misguiding.

16) Mrs. Chandrakala Kallo, Zendepar, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | Public hearing is being conducted for 5 mines. People sitting outside should be allowed to come & express their thoughts. | The point is noted. |

17) Shri. Naresh Sahay, Reporter, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
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| 1) | Korchi taluka is on the border of Chattisgarh state. Public hearing is one sided because gram sabha are not considered which is according to PESA Act. PESA Act provides rights to gram sabhas over water, forest & land. All people should be allowed to come for public hearing. Since yesterday people are waiting outside. On what basis the proposal of 5 mines is considered. Only 154 trees are mentioned existing on 46.37 Ha land. I request conduct a tour of Korchi Taluka with me. I will show them dense forest. Why those people are not heard who oppose the project? Why common people are not allowed to enter? Their say should be heard. Public hearing was supposed to be conducted at Project site. If people oppose mining then permission should be denied. Due to transportation of Surjagarh Iron Ore, bad road conditions prevail between Aheri & Allapalli. | The point is noted. |

18) Shri. Adesh Gopichand Raut, Maseli, Tal. Korchi, Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
|---------|--|--|
| 1) | Mining activity will cause pollution which will affect human health. These mines are about 1 km, 1.5 km, 2 km & 2.5km away from villages. People residing nearby will be affected. Also their generations will be affected. Project will cause bad effects upto 20 km distance. It will damage crops. If these projects are going to harm us then these projects should be cancelled. Project proponent has deliberately shown photograph of only rock & avoided to show photographs of mountain which has dense forest. This is misleading activity. The area has huge number of trees. | The point is noted. |

19) Shri. Umashankar B. Bhadule, Sub-Regional Officer, M. P. C. Board, Chandrapur:-

He said that, according to MMRDA Act, 2015 RC Schedule-I Notification 1960 iron ore is major mineral whereas PESA Act is applicable for minor minerals.

As per instructions of Hon'ble District Collector, Gadchiroli presentation was again showed. 7/12 of proposed survey number was shown. MMRDA Act was described briefly.

Ex-MLA Shri. Usendi asked whether the land falls under Scheduled Area or not.

Hon'ble District Collector, Gachiroli said that, in chapter 6 mines & minerals, detailed information is given about mines & minerals. Before asking questions, its relativity shall be verified. What are the directives given in PESA shall be checked. Directions under PESA are made in the year 2015.

20) A Citizen, Tal. Dist. Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
|----------------|---|---|
| 1) | Public hearing cannot be held without prior permission of gram sabha according to schedule 5. Permission from none of the gram panchayats was taken & so this public hearing is invalid & shall be cancelled. | The point is noted. |

21) Dr. Namdeo Kshirsagar, Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee, Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
|----------------|--|---|
| 1) | As per information shared by Shri. Usendi, gram sabha has the right over forest products & minor minerals. Adivasis also have right over minor minerals, therefore, any upcoming project should obtain prior permission of gram sabha. Collector can allot lease & take royalty. Bad condition of Ashti to Allapalli Road, due to which one has to travel via Wadsa. Processing industries should be established near mines. For example Belatilla Mines, where though there is mining on mountains, road conditions are good. | The point is noted. |

22) Shri. Ashok Nete, MP, Gadchiroli:-

| Sr. No. | Objection / Information / Question | Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion |
|----------------|---|---|
| 1) | I welcome all. Land losers should get 10 times compensation, 10 trees should be planted against 1 tree cutting. Wadsa | The point is noted. |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Gadchiroli Railway project will get Rs. 900 Crores from State Govt. PESA Act was implemented in 1996. According to which, local people has the right over minerals of the area. In 2014 Forest Right Act was published in which land can be given on lease. In these projects, local people will be given priority in employment. In Gadchiroli District, 78% is forest area & this is an adivasi district. He also briefed about developmental works of about Rs. 14500 Crores.</p> | |
|---|--|

Environment Consultant on behalf of Project Proponent answered the questions as below:-

During survey in a radius of 10 kms., there was no historical monument, Raopath religious place will be developed, tree plantation will be done in open land & along roadside. There is no any endangered wild animal species found in 10 kms radius of the project. Ground water will not be used for any industrial & domestic purpose. Water will be brought through tankers for domestic use. Water will be used from Rain Water Harvesting Pit, Mine Pit & Garland drains for dust suppression. Vehicles will not be parked at public places, trucks will not be parked on roads. All possible help will be given to encourage forest product industries. Survey of EIA/EMP was conducted through registered agency. Locals will be provided necessary training. One person from Project affected families will be given employment wherever possible. Emphasis will be given on providing transportation facility, basic amenities & land compensation. Proper compensation will be given. PP has allocated Rs. 2.0 Crores which includes health facilities, skill development training & educational facilities. Priority will be given to local people while providing jobs. Land losers will get proper compensation & jobs. Those who don't have proper documents, their scrutiny will be done again. To control air pollution, controlled blasting, concrete/tar roads, water sprinkling, tree plantation, etc. measures will be adopted. Project Proponent did not apply for Public Hearing between 2017 to 2022 due to heavy Naxal activities and therefore, public hearing is being held today.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee thanked all the people's representatives of the district, all the people's representatives of the project-affected villages - Sarpanch, Dy. Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Members, Local People, project officials, Hon.

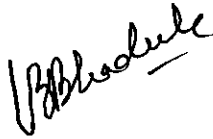
MLAs and Member of Parliament and all MPCB officers and employees, journalists.

He said that the environmental doubts, comments, suggestions or objections raised by the participants in the meeting regarding the proposed project are recorded and minutes of it will be prepared in Marathi and English and the final environmental impact assessment report, along with the written suggestions received, will be submitted with the consent of the Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee through MPCB Head Office to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee there will take further decision.

Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee thanked all the local people, PAPs, government officials and employees, Police Administration, all management of the project in the meeting and declared that the public hearing is concluded.

No person was present on online mode during public hearing.

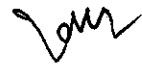
Enclosed herewith 142 written representations as received.



(Umashankar Bhadule)
Convener, Environment
Public Hearing
Committee & Sub
Regional Officer,



(Tanaji Yadav)
Member, Environment
Public Hearing Committee
& Regional Officer,
M.P. C. Board,
Chandrapur



(Dhanaji Patil)
Chairman,
Environment Public
Hearing Committee &
Additional District
Magistrate, Gadchiroli