

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF PROPOSED EXPANSION IN EXISTING SUGAR UNIT FROM 8,500.0 TCD TO 11,500.0 TCD (EXPANSION BY 3,000.0 TCD) AT POST-KUNDAL, TALUKA-PALUS, DISTRICT - SANGLI (416 309), MAHARASHTRA BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S KRANTIAGRANI DR. G.D. BAPU LAD SAHAKARI SAKHAR KARKHANA LIMITED -**

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The Environment Public Hearing in respect of Proposed Expansion in existing sugar unit from 8,500.0 TCD to 11,500.0 TCD (Expansion by 3,000.0 TCD), At Post – Kundal, Taluka-Palus, District- Sangli (416 309), Maharashtra by Project Proponent M/s Kranti Agrani Dr. G. D. Bapu Lad Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited was held on Thursday, the 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 at 12.00 noon at Project Site – Kranti Agrani Dr. G. D. Bapu Lad Smarak Sabhagruha, At Post – Kundal, Taluka-Palus, District- Sangli (Kranti Agrani Dr. G. D. Bapu Lad Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, At Post-Kundal, Taluka-Palus, District-Sangli – 416 309), Maharashtra.

Shri. Vidyasagar V. Killedar, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sangli and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Dr. Raja Dayanidhi, IAS, District Magistrate, Sangli and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Jayawant S. Hajare, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kolhapur and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists, Representatives of media channels and Company Officials and local people/participants who were present and with permission of Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee started the proceedings of the meeting.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) 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 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.

Convener further informed that Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai was in receipt of application dated 25-09-2024 from Project Proponent M/s Kranti Agrani Dr. G. D. Bapu Lad Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, At Post – Kundal, Taluka-Palus, District- Sangli (416 309), Maharashtra in respect of Proposed Expansion in existing sugar unit from 8,500.0 TCD to 11,500.0 TCD (Expansion by 3,000.0 TCD), At Post – Kundal, Taluka-Palus, District- Sangli (416 309), Maharashtra.

Convener further informed that as per EIA Notification No.1533 (E), Dated 14-09-2006 and Amended Notification, the proposed activities fall under Category A – 5 (j) – Sugar Production Project, which requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from Ministry Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory.

Project Proponent had submitted online prescribed application on 14-03-2024 along with pre-feasibility report to obtain ToR (Terms of Reference) to Ministry Environment, Forest & Climate

Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi, and it has been considered by Government of India and granted online approval on 22-03-2024.

Accordingly, Project Proponent has appointed NABET approved Environment Consultant and through their Environment Consultant had carried detailed Environmental Survey in the radius of 10.0 k.m. of the project site to study the proposed impact on environment due to the commissioning of this project and prepared a draft Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report and submitted it.

Joint Director (Water Pollution Control), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai vide letter dated 27-09-2024 directed Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sangli to carry the process of conducting environmental public hearing regarding the said project.

Afterwards, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sangli vide letter dated 07-10-2024 requested Hon. District Collector, Sangli to conduct Environment Public Hearing for the proposed activity.

District Collector, Sangli has directed to conduct Physical Environment Public Hearing on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 at 12.00 noon, and after getting sanction from District Collector, Sangli, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai as per the Notification No. S.O. 1533 dated 14-09-2006 and as per Amended Notification S.O. 3067 (E) Dated 01-12-2009 as issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEF & CC, GoI), New Delhi has constituted Environment Public Hearing Committee vide Board's Office Order No. E- 169 of 2024 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 241126- FTS- 0048 dated 26-11-2024 as under: -

1. Hon. Dr. Raja Dayanidhi - Chairman,  
District Collector, Sangli.
2. Shri. J. S. Hajare, - Member  
Regional Officer,  
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,  
Kolhapur.
3. Shri. Vidyasagar V. Killedar, - Convener.  
Sub Regional Officer,  
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sangli.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sangli in the local newspaper Daily Sakal for local language Marathi and in national newspaper daily Times of India for English on 12-11-2024. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit in environmental angle.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summery were made available in Marathi and in English at various notified Government offices as under:-

- 1) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Zonal Office, Western- Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur-440 001;
- 2) District Collector, Collector Office, Sangli;
- 3) General Manager, District Industries Center, Sangli;
- 4) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Sangli;
- 5) Chief Officer, Palus Nagar Panchayat, Palus, Taluka – Palus, District-Sangli;

- 6) Tahsildar, Tahsildar Office, Palus, Taluka – Palus, District-Sangli;
- 7) Gram Sevak, Gram Panchayat Offices – Kundal, Kumbhargaoon, Andhali, Devrashtre, Jadhavnagar, Rampur, Balvadi and Dudhondi, Taluka – Palus, District-Sangli;
- 8) Dy. Secretary, Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai – 400 032;
- 9) Hon. Member Secretary, Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai – 400 022;
- 10) Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Udyog Bhavan Building, Near District Collector Office, Kolhapur – 416 002;
- 11) Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, 300/2, Udyog Bhavan, Near Government Rest House, Vishrambaug, Sangli – 416 415;
- 12) Web site, MPCB – Executive Summary in Marathi and in English is made available;

Convener informed that no any suggestions / objections have been received by Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Sangli regarding the proposed project

Convener informed that an opportunity is given to all participants to raise any doubts, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle, which can be submitted by orally or in writing also

Convener asserted that this Committee is only for recording public opinion, views, suggestions, objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only and the Committee has no right to approve, reject or recommend the project. The suggestions/objections raised by the participants in the public hearing will be noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. Similarly, the revised Environmental Assessment Report of the Project, written suggestions/objections and minutes of the meeting in Marathi and English after approval of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee will be submitted through MPCB Head Office to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi after taking note of the video recording of the said meeting, suggestions and objections recorded in the meeting. An Expert Committee there takes further decision regarding the same. He requested Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee to inform Project Proponent to start the presentation.

Project Environment Consultant welcomed all the participants and with the permission of Hon'ble Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee made a presentation about the project and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) of the project.

Project Environment Consultant informed that this project is in the interest of local farmers and job provider to local people.

The total investment for the proposed project is ₹ 1,010.0 lakh (i.e. ₹ 10.10 crore). Whereas, for environmental management, an

investment of around ₹ 1,010.0 lakh (₹ 1.01 crore) will be made. The expansion of this project will provide direct employment to 40 persons in the project. But there will be tremendous increase in indirect business in the area.

The water requirement for the said project is 372.0 M<sup>3</sup>/day which will be fulfilled from the Krishna River with the approval of the Irrigation Department, Government of Maharashtra.

The industrial and domestic waste water generated in the project will be processed, will be recycled and reused in the project itself. Not a single drop of treated effluent from the said project will be released outside the project.

Also, underground water will not be used in any way in the project. Although 33% green belt development of the total plot is mandatory as per the directives of Central Pollution Control Board, the project will develop 34.9% green belt of the total plot. 10,370 trees have been planted in the operational project and additional 25,000 trees will be planted in the next three years in the expansion project. Also, Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) is proposed to spend 1% of the total cost which will be a total of ₹ 10.0 lakh.

Capital expenditure for the Environmental Management will be ₹ 100.0 lakh and the recurring expenditure will be ₹ 85.0 lakh per annum. Rain Water Harvesting project will be implemented in the proposed project. The said project is beneficial for local as well as Maharashtra state and our country.

After the Presentation, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed to the participants to raise any environmental suggestions, views, objections regarding the

proposed project. While registering suggestions, objections, your name, village name should be mentioned first.

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

**1) Shri Jayraj Ovhal, Sarpanch, Kundal Grampanchayat, Taluka-Palus, District – Sangli:-**

- Due to expansion of project, whether there will be job creation in the project?
- Project Environmental Consultant said that as shown in the presentation, the said expansion will increase the direct and indirect employment in the area. 40 (fourty) persons will get direct job opportunity in the expansion project.
- Also, due to the said expansion project, indirect business in the area will increase tremendously just as local tea sellers (hotels), transporters, shopkeepers, two-wheeler repair shops will get benefit from this expansion.

Here, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested that Project Representative can also answer this question.

**2) Shri Nitin Dinkar Lad, Residence-Kundal, Taluka-Palus, District – Sangli :-**

- It is requested that the said proposed expansion project should be completed at the earliest and job opportunities should be created to the people of the village and neighboring villages.



Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee informed Project Proponent to answer the question.

- Executive Director of the Project Proponent replied that more than 40 (forty) people will get job opportunity in the project as stated by the Environmental Consultant. Also, our hundred percent effort is to implement this project as soon as possible.

Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise any environmental suggestions, views, objections regarding the proposed project.

**3) Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee:-**

- Project production is expected to increase by 3,000.0 TCD. Hence, whether the ETP (Effluent Treatment Plant) and CPU (Condensate Polishing Unit) in the proposed project will be upgraded or whether the present capacity is sufficient to treat the additional effluent?
- Environmental Consultant replied that presently an ETP (Effluent Treatment Plant) of 1,000.0 M<sup>3</sup> capacity is in operation. It will be upgraded. Spray pond flows are also operational in the project.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee asked about the increase in industrial effluents due to project expansion.

- Environmental Consultant replied that as per the norms, per ton, there would be increase of 100.0 liters of industrial effluent.
- Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee asked whether Irrigation Plan is prepared according to increase in

effluent? If the land is available in the project, then it is necessary to prepare Rotation wise Irrigation Plan. It should be prepared.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee here remarked that local Maharashtra Pollution Control Board office has not received any complaint regarding the effluent from this project. The pollution control system is being handled properly in the operating project.

But the expansion will generate additional industrial effluent of about 300.0 M<sup>3</sup>/D. Provision has not been shown in the presentation regarding the same. Hence, Irrigation Plan should be prepared.

- Environmental Consultant replied that according to the policies of the working project, the surplus industrial effluent generated after the expansion will be processed and will be used for irrigation purposes in the project itself.
- At that time, Project Proponent explained that additional land is available in the project to treat the surplus industrial effluent generated due to the expansion and use of it for irrigation purposes within the project itself.

**Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee** here appealed participants to raise suggestions, views, and objections in respect of proposed project in environmental angle only. Hon. District has come here for you. It will noted in the minutes of the meeting

**Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee** here informed that if anybody desires to give support to the

proposed project, it can also be registered. All participants supported the project by clapping hands.

**Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee** informed Project Proponent that Hon. Chairman of the Committee wishes that if Project Proponent desires to give any suggestions to participants, they can give it. Project Proponent replied that there is no suggestion to participants.

Convener of the meeting requested Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee to say few words for the participants.

**Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee** informed that Project Environment Consultant has given detailed information regarding the proposed expansion of the project. Project Proponent has planned expansion of sugar crushing capacity from 8,500.0 MT/Day to 11,500.0 MT/Day. As per the Presentation and few suggestions raised during the meeting, I suggest that -

- a) Project Proponent should take utmost care that not a single drop of untreated industrial effluent generated in the project is released outside the project. Also care should be taken that the treated industrial effluent does not go outside the project area;
- b) In the presentation, it is asserted that Sulfur-Dioxide will be released. I assume that Sulfur-dioxide is to be released within prescribed limits as passed by the Government. It should be treated and then released in the atmosphere as per the directives passed under Environment Laws;

- c) Also, while installing the proposed chimney (stack) in the project, it should be installed only after studying the wind direction. The direction of wind should not be in one direction and the emission of pollutant in the project should not be in the other direction.
- d) Although Project Proponent are carrying out various social activities, but as my responsibility, I would like to say that under the company's CSR fund, the schools in the surrounding villages should be helped. Your's is Co-operative Sugar Factory and hence should co-operate with everyone. There is great expectation from you.
- e) It was said that 40 (fourth) persons will get job opportunities in the project. But you should give job opportunities to maximum number of people without putting any limit on it.
- f) Though, minutes of meeting in Marathi and English are made available on website, copy of the same is to be made available to all Project affected Gram Panchayat offices to paste/put it on notice board for information and study to local people and villagers. So that it can be seen that we have followed transparency.

**Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee** thanked all for their co-operation in conducting the said hearing peacefully.

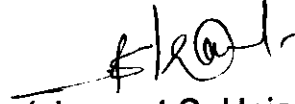
**Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee** while concluding the meeting thanked Dr. Raja Dayanidhi, IAS, District Magistrate, Sangli and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Jayvant S. Hajare, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kolhapur and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists, Representatives of media

channels and Company Officials and local people/participants for attending this meeting and raising their suggestions regarding the proposed project. Convener of the meeting also thanked Police Administration for extending their co-operation and with permission of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee declared that the meeting is concluded.

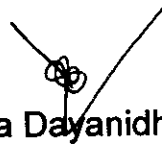
The process of the environmental public hearing started at 12.00 noon and ended at 1.15 pm.



(Vidyasagar V. Killedar )  
Convener  
And Sub Regional Officer,  
M. P. C. Board, Sangli



( Jayvant S. Hajare )  
Member  
And Regional Officer,  
M. P. C. Board, Kolhapur



(Dr. Raja Dayanidhi, IAS),  
Chairman  
And District Magistrate, Sangli.

