

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED GREENFIELD PROJECT COMPRISING OF ESTABLISHMENT OF PELLET PLANT (12,00,000 TPA), COAL GASIFICATION UNIT (SYN GAS 62,640 NM3/HR.), SULPHUR RECOVERY UNIT (2300 TPA), GAS BASED DRI PLANT (SPONGE IRON - 4,95,000 TPA), ELECTRIC ARC FURNACE WITH 65 T - LRF & 65 T - VD (BILLETS - 4,22,950 TPA), ROLLING MILL (TMT REBARS & WIRE RODS - 4,00,000 TPA) AND BRICK MANUFACTURING UNIT (10,000 BRICKS/DAY), LOCATED AT PLOT NO: B-1 & AM-1, MIDC BHADRAWATI, VILL. TELWASA, TAL. BHADRAWATI, DIST. CHANDRAPUR, MAHARASHTRA PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S. GRETA ENERGY LIMITED, 34, BALAJI NAGAR, FIRST STREET, ROHAPETTAH, CHENNAI-600014, TAMILNADU

Date : 28/05/2025
Time : 11:00 A.M.
Place : Plot No: B-1 & AM-1, MIDC Bhadrawati, Vill. Telwasa, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur.

Preamble:-

Project Proponent M/s. Greta Energy Limited, 34, Balaji Nagar, First Street, Rohapettah, Chennai-600014, Tamilnadu has applied to Environment, Forest & Climate Change Department (MOEF&CC) Govt. of India, (GOI), New Delhi 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 Greenfield Project comprising of establishment of Pellet Plant (12,00,000 TPA), Coal Gasification Unit (Syn Gas 62,640 Nm3/Hr.), Sulphur Recovery Unit (2300 TPA), Gas based DRI Plant (Sponge Iron - 4,95,000 TPA), Electric Arc Furnace with 65 T - LRF & 65 T - VD (Billets - 4,22,950 TPA), Rolling Mill (TMT Rebars & Wire Rods - 4,00,000 TPA) and Brick Manufacturing unit (10,000 Bricks/day), located at Plot No: B-1 & AM-1, MIDC Bhadrawati, Vill. Telwasa, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

The MOEF&CC, GOI, New Delhi approved Terms of Reference (TOR) was sanctioned on 07/10/2024. 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. As the proposed project falls under Category A-3 (a), it is mandatory to the Project Proponent to obtain prior Environment Clearance (EC) from MOEF&CC, GOI, New Delhi.

Project Proponent M/s. Greta Energy Limited, 34, Balaji Nagar, First Street, Rohapettah, Chennai-600014, Tamilnadu has applied to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board on 28/02/2025 for conducting Environmental Public Hearing. District Collector, Chandrapur, Maharashtra State, in co-ordination with MPCB Chandrapur Office, approved to hold a public hearing on



28/05/2025. In this connection, M.P.C. Board decided to hold public hearing in respect of the said project on 28/05/2025 in consultation with District Collector, Chandrapur. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has published public notices in Marathi newspaper namely "Lokmat" & and English newspaper "The Times of India" on dated 26/04/2025. The appeal was made to the concerned to submit objections, suggestions, complaints, comments, if any, in respect of the said project to concerned regulatory authorities. It is directed to conduct online public hearing. The meeting number and password were made available.

Copy of draft E.I.A. report along with executive summary in respect of the said project were made available in English/ Marathi in the following offices to apprise the public.

- (1) Environment Department, 15th Floor, New Administrative Building, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400032.
- (2) Joint Director (WPC), M.P.C. Board, Kalptaru Point, 3rd Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opp. Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai - 400 022.
- (3) Regional Office, New Secretariat Building, Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change. Opposite VCA Stadium, Civil Lines Nagpur.
- (4) Regional Office & Sub-Regional Office, M.P.C. Board, 1st Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Near Bus Stand, Railway Station Road, Chandrapur.
- (5) District Collector Office, Chandrapur.
- (6) Zilla Parishad, Chandrapur.
- (7) District Industries Centre, Chandrapur
- (8) Sub-Divisional Office, Chandrapur, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur.
- (9) Tahsil Office, Bhadrawati, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur.
- (10) Municipal Council Bhadrawati, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur.
- (11) Gat-Gram Panchayat Telwasa (Telwasa & Chargaon), Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur.
- (12) Gram Panchayat Dhorwasa, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur.
- (13) Gram Panchayat Plpri, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur.
- (14) Gat-Gram Panchayat Ghonad (Kocchi & Ghonad), Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur.
- (15) Gat-Gram Panchayat Chiradevi (Chiradevi & Gorja), Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur.
- (16) Gram Panchayat Kinhala, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur.
- (17) Gat-Gram Panchayat Pimpalgaon (Pimpalgaon & Junala), Tal. Wani, Dist. Yavatmal.
- (18) Gram Panchayat Ukani, Tal. Wani, Dist. Yavatmal.
- (19) Website of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board: www.mpcb.gov.in

It is also informed to the notified government departments (Sr. No. 05 to 19 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, GoI, New Delhi dated 14th September, 2006, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has constituted Environment Public Hearing Committee vide no. E-38/2025 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC) PH/B-250515-FTS-0118, dated 15/05/2025 as under:-

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| 1) District Magistrate, Chandrapur
or his representative not below
the rank of an Additional District
Magistrate | - | Chairman |
| 2) Representative of Maharashtra
Pollution Control Board, Mumbai
Regional Officer – Chandrapur,
MPCB, Udyog Bhavan, Chandrapur | - | Member |
| 3) Sub Regional Officer-Chandrapur
MPCB, Udyog Bhavan, Chandrapur | - | Convener |

This office is in receipt of 09 notices, complaints, statements, objections regarding the above project.

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 PUBLIC HEARING:-

At the beginning of the meeting, Shri. Umashankar Bhadule, Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chandrapur welcomed Dr. Nitin Vyavhare, Additional District Magistrate, Chandrapur and Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Sanjay D. Patil, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chandrapur and Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee and Convenor, Environment Public Hearing & Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chandrapur, 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 & other related aspects of the proposed 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

Thereafter, convener of Public Hearing announced that the forum is open for question answer. The summary of issues raised and reply submitted by project proponent is as below.



**FOLLOWING HAVE PARTICIPATED DURING THE DISCUSSIONS,
QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS / MADE BY PROJECT PROPONENT/
MPCB GIVEN BY PROJECT PROPONENT/PROJECT
CONSULTANT/PUBLIC HEARING COMMITTEE**

- 1) **Shri. Madhukar Ramchandra Sawarkar, Taluka President, BJP
Kisan Aghadi, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-**

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>The company administration has given false information regarding court matters. Company shall admit that there are several court matters pertaining with this area in the court. Company has told that they have carried out survey of Sakharwahi Lake. But the coal mine had acquired around 50 acres of land in which coal excavation was proposed. Coal is found at around 150 feet under the ground. A coal mine was commissioned in this area but due to some reasons same has been closed. It is the duty of the company to provide health facilities through CSR funds in this area. Company is misleading local people by stating that they have provided health facilities in the area. Before the establishment of the company, it was told that around 8000 employment opportunities will be provided. But today it is being told that around 500-550 employment opportunities will be provided which is misleading the local people. Company has started erecting compound wall around the periphery which is resulting to dust emissions. Same kind of project is existing in MIDC Chandrapur which has resulted in damage of crops & it is difficult to carry out agricultural activities. Therefore, it is requested that company should make an agreement with the local farmers & shall provided compensation to them. Telwasa village is located at around 0.5 kms, Village Pipri is located at around</p>	<p>Project Proponent informed that the points have been noted.</p>

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	1.0 km distance & Dhorwasa village is located at around 1.5 kms, from the company. Villages will be affected due to pollution from the project. Presently, air pollution levels have increased due to coal mines in the area. Company shall give information about iron ore dust generation and its effects on local people. If the health of local farmers is affected due to the project then company shall take care of expenses & company shall make written agreement with the farmers.	
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2) Shri. Bhalchandra Dhanraj Badkhal, Dhorwasa, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	Dhorwasa village is located at a distance of 1.5 kms from the project. Company has informed during the presentation that they have carried out social works through CSR funds in Telwasa & Pipri villages. But company has not taken Dhorwasa village into confidence while doing socio-economic works. Dhorwasa village will be affected due to the said project or not? Company shall inform about the number of health camps conducted in Dhorwasa village. Agricultural land of around 40-50 acres which belongs to 9-10 farmers is existing in front of the project which has been acquired by MIDC. Pollution will be caused due to the project in future. The possibility of effects on Dhorwasa village cannot be denied. Whether the company is going to adopt Dhorwasa Village & shall inform about the number of health camps to be conducted in the villages. Whether the company will give employment to local people or not? Whether the company will provide compensation for the damages of crops in the area. Company shall cooperate with the project affected village for commissioning of the project. Company has not taken Dhorwasa village into confidence but nowadays are visited the village to carry out their work. The company shall adopt Dhorwasa village &	Project Proponent informed that the points have been noted.

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	shall carry out developmental works. Also, it is requested that the company shall take beneficiary decisions regarding health issues of local people.	
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3) Shri. Rajesh Bele, Founder President, Sanjivani Paryavaran Samajik Sanstha, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>There is significant pollution in this area, which is affecting the health of citizens. Who will take responsibility for this? According to a report received from the Zilla Parishad, in the year 2023-24, 1,313 citizens in Majri village, 188 in Manora village, and 1,917 in Chandanakheda village have been affected by pollution. Furthermore, in 2024-25, 1,290 citizens in Majri, 720 in Ghodpeth, 841 in Chandanakheda, and 1,088 in Bhadravati have reportedly been affected by pollution. Despite this, a sponge iron industry is being forced into Bhadravati taluka of Chandrapur district. This is an injustice to the citizens of Chandrapur. It is said that the company has acquired 51.0 hectares of land from the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC). However, their Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report mentions only 43.0 hectares. Citizens of Bhadravati taluka are being misled with false information. On the website of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), the executive summary of the report is published in English. However, since the local population does not understand English, they have not comprehended its contents. Despite repeated complaints, why hasn't the executive summary been published in Marathi? Also, the Environmental Impact Assessment report is published in English — why isn't it published in Marathi, the official language of Maharashtra? There is already a power generation project operating on the land of this same project. Why is the action taken on this power project not mentioned in the report? The proposed project is causing health issues for local citizens, and is also threatening</p>	<p>Project Proponent informed that the points have been noted.</p>

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<p>the health of wild and aquatic animals. Justice is not being served. Although this public hearing is supposed to focus on environmental matters, discussion is being diverted to CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) funds, and nothing is being said about the environment. The Honourable District Collector has been honoured with a first award, but has not taken any action to control pollution. As the Chairperson of the District Environmental Committee, the District Collector has neither held a meeting of the committee nor discussed with any environmental organizations. In 1994, the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) had acquired local farmers' land for the Nippon Dendro project, but that project was never implemented. Had it been completed, thousands of citizens in the region would have been employed today. The land, which was acquired for ₹12,000–13,000 per acre in 1994, is now being handed over to the Greta Energy project — this is an injustice to the locals. In the same region, despite opposition from local citizens, environmental clearance has been granted to the Aurobindo mine. According to the law, the Government of India's environment department must include an expert fluent in Marathi. However, there seems to be no such person available. During the land acquisition, the MIDC used police force — why was this necessary? Since the acquisition process is under legal consideration, why hasn't the Government of Maharashtra stayed the proposed project? Why haven't the Honourable District Collector, Tehsildar, and Sub-Divisional Officer submitted a report to the government on this matter? Until justice is served to local farmers, I demand that this project be put on hold. I also demand that disciplinary action, including suspension, be taken against the Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chandrapur.</p>	
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4) Shri. Bapu Waghuji Soyam, Bhadrawati, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	This land was acquired by the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) from local citizens. However, despite holding repeated meetings with the local administration and the Government of Maharashtra, our demands have not been fulfilled. Locals are neither given compensation nor employment, yet permissions are freely granted to industries. If the welfare of farmers is not ensured in the future, the welfare of companies will also not be possible. The problems faced by local people must be addressed first. MIDC should be clearly informed that unless the issues of locals are resolved, no company should be allowed to set up operations. Locals have had criminal cases filed against them for minor matters. I am an Adivasi (tribal) farmer, but I do not own any land. According to the regulations of the central government, I am required to own agricultural land. Around 300 farmers have become landless, but their issues remain unresolved. We have held meetings with the Honourable District Collector and the Honourable Minister, but our problems have still not been resolved. However, the problems of industries are resolved immediately. Nearly 8 villages are going to be affected by your project, but only 2 villages are being mentioned here.	Project Proponent informed that the points have been noted.

5) Shri. Nageshwar Bapuraoji Badkhal, Dhorwasa, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	First and foremost, the issues of farmers whose lands have been acquired must be resolved. The project should only be implemented after resolving the farmers' concerns. The company has ignored	Project Proponent informed that the points have been noted.

12/8/20

Dhorwasa village. After the project is implemented, the crops of farmers in the surrounding areas will be damaged. The company should provide information on what measures will be taken to address this issue. Once the company begins operations, pollution will have an adverse impact on the health of local residents. The company should provide information on what measures it plans to take to address these health impacts. Groundwater in the area is also expected to become contaminated due to the project. The company must inform what steps it will take to prevent or mitigate this issue. The nearby coal mines in Telwasa, Dhorwasa, and Old Kunada have been shut down. These areas are inhabited by wildlife such as tigers, bears, deer, and peacocks. The company must take appropriate precautions to ensure that these animals are not harmed. We demand that the company submit a written statement to the concerned Gram Panchayats outlining the mitigation measures to be taken in this regard. The company must enter into a health-related agreement with every project-affected village. MIDC has acquired 52% of the land in Dhorwasa village, a portion of which has been handed over to Greta Company. The remaining 12% of the land in Dhorwasa village should also be acquired by MIDC. Due to repeated flooding faced by our village, we have submitted several representations to the administration regarding the rehabilitation of Dhorwasa village. We have also consistently requested that the residents of Dhorwasa be given appropriate compensation, but the administration continues to ignore our demands. We request the company administration to provide a written response regarding these issues as well. Going forward, the company should provide written communication to the Gram Panchayats of all project-affected villages regarding every action taken. The company has stated that 500-550 job opportunities will be created. Just like the Nuera company, this company should also create a dedicated email address to collect resumes from local unemployed individuals and offer them jobs based on their educational qualifications. Moreover, project-affected farmers and villagers must

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be given priority in employment. The company must also clarify whether the jobs offered will be permanent or on a contractual basis.	
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6) Shri. Pravin Natthuji Sarpute, BJP Taluka President & President, Nippon Dendro Project Affected Committee, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>An environmental public hearing is being held here, but has there been any consideration for the struggle of local farmers over the past 30-32 years? We have repeatedly submitted representations to the Honourable District Collector, Chandrapur, regarding this, but no decisions have been taken. When we attempted to discuss our demands with officials of the proposed project, our concerns were ignored and work was carried out under police protection. Additionally, false criminal cases are being filed against locals. We farmers believe that the company's operations will only proceed smoothly if there is a good relationship between the company and the local community. The Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) had acquired our land for the Nippon Dendro project. That project should have been implemented. Since the project was not operationalized, MIDC should have returned our land to us farmers. But that did not happen. Instead, we continued to cultivate that land for our livelihood, and now a new project is being proposed on the same land, with an environmental public hearing taking place. The company should have considered the future of the farmers. Adjacent to the project area lies land owned by WCL (Western Coalfields Limited), which is home to wildlife like tigers, leopards, and other animals. This has been recorded by the Forest Department. The company should have obtained a report from the Forest Department regarding this. Even if the company creates a green belt, we locals are still going to suffer due to pollution. On</p>	<p>Project Proponent informed that the points have been noted.</p>

10/8/20

	<p>behalf of the farmers, I demand that the company include local unemployed youth and landless farmers in employment opportunities. Furthermore, the company should not begin any work at this location until the demands of the farmers are met. We have previously gone to jail for this cause, and we are ready to do so again if necessary. The Honourable District Collector of Chandrapur has appealed to us to maintain peace and has assured us that our issues will be addressed. But we will not sit quietly. We have submitted representations to the Honourable District Collector multiple times, but he continues to ignore us. Do not test the limits of our patience, or else there will be an uprising. The company should prioritize employment for people living in the area from which the land has been taken. Just like New Era Company, you should provide an active email address where job applications can be submitted. The company should reach out to unemployed youth in the project-affected villages, collect their resumes, and make efforts to include them in employment.</p>	
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7) Shri. Deepak Dixit, President, Prakruti Foundation, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>This public hearing is being conducted as per the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006. According to the Terms of Reference (ToR) issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, it is mandatory to include a plagiarism report along with the Environmental Impact Assessment report. However, the environmental consultants have not attached this report in the submitted document. Hence, I accuse the company of submitting a completely false and misleading Environmental Impact Assessment report. I respectfully request the Honourable Chairman to direct the environmental consultants to provide a clarification on this matter. The environmental consultants must answer</p>	<p>The Chairperson of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee stated that all your points are being recorded in the proceedings (minutes) of the public hearing.</p> <p>The project proponents stated that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report presented during the public hearing is a draft report. The plagiarism report will be attached when the final EIA report is submitted to the Environmental Impact Assessment Authority.</p>

10/03

	<p>why the required checklist has not been attached. As per the Ministry's regulations, it is also mandatory to include this checklist in the draft report.</p>	<p>The environmental consultant stated that the plagiarism checklist will be attached along with the final report submitted with the proceedings (minutes) of the public hearing.</p> <p>The Chairperson of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee appealed to the citizens to maintain peace. They stated that the public hearing is being recorded, and all the points raised during the hearing will be documented in the minutes of the public hearing.</p>
2	<p>In section 2.5, it is stated that synthesis gas (syngas) will be generated and used within the project. However, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report does not mention any preventive measures regarding accidents that may occur due to leakage of this hazardous gas. In case of a future boiler accident, a situation similar to the Bhopal gas tragedy could arise in 8-10 surrounding villages, which could potentially lead to significant loss of life. The environmental consultant has not mentioned any safety measures in the EIA report in this regard. A similar incident occurred 15 years ago at a project located on Mul Road of the Steel Authority of India, and its consequences are still affecting the local population. It is expected that the project proponent or the environmental consultant should respond to the issues raised during the public hearing. As I am raising technical questions here, I expect answers. If the environmental consultant has been paid 10-20 lakh rupees by the company for preparing the EIA report, then he is not here from Hyderabad to do social service. Therefore, the consultant must respond to the questions raised during the public hearing. The company itself has no direct connection to this matter. Hence, I request the Hon'ble Chairperson to direct the environmental consultant to provide answers. Since this is a life-and-death matter for the 10 nearby villages, the inclusion of safety measures in the report is mandatory. The environmental consultant must clarify whether such safety measures</p>	<p>The Chairperson of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee stated that all the points raised by you are being recorded in the proceedings (minutes) of the public hearing.</p> <p>The project proponents stated that while establishing the project, it will be commissioned only after implementing all types of safety measures, and all the shortcomings raised by you will be addressed in the final report. This matter concerns the safety of the citizens, and appropriate safety measures will be undertaken in this regard. When designing any equipment, certain safety features are incorporated, and without fulfilling these safety specifications, approval for installation of the said equipment is not granted. As this is a steel plant project, the design of the gasifier will not be approved without meeting its safety requirements. All these aspects will be included in the final report.</p>

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	have been included in the EIA report or not.	
3	<p>The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has issued Terms of Reference (ToR) to you. Based on these ToR, the company has prepared the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report. However, despite it being mandatory to include a backup plan in the report, there is no mention of it anywhere. Furthermore, in case of any accidents after the project becomes operational, and if public life or property is harmed, the EIA report does not outline any measures for compensation or relief.</p>	<p>The project proponents stated that all types of preventive measures will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report. The boiler in the said project will be operated only after obtaining approval from the Director of Boilers.</p>
4	<p>As per Appendix 3.7 of the report, it is stated that a survey was conducted in 40 villages in the project-affected area. I request clarification on the specific norms of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change regarding such surveys. As per my understanding, while conducting village surveys, it is mandatory for the environmental consultant to engage with at least 30% of the local population using a structured questionnaire and to document their responses. No such evidence has been presented by the company during this public hearing. No geo-tagged photos have been attached, nor has a copy of the questionnaire been provided. Moreover, the local population has not received or responded to such a questionnaire. Hence, I allege that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report submitted is false and fabricated. It is also the opinion of several villagers that they were never approached with this questionnaire. This indicates that the environmental consultant has submitted false documentation. Therefore, I demand that criminal action be initiated against the consultant under charges of forgery and submission of false documents. If the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) and the District Collector's Office are conducting this public hearing based on such false documentation, they too may be liable under the law. The district administration might get entangled in legal consequences. I demand that the consultant must submit the original questionnaire used during the survey, along with geo-tagged photographic evidence, during this public hearing. The Honourable Chairperson is being misled by the company, and I</p>	<p>The Environmental Consultant has stated that surveying villages within a 10 km radius of the project site is mandatory and that discussions have been held in these villages. It is also stated that geo-tagged photographs will be submitted along with the final report to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Furthermore, it was claimed that oral responses from villagers were taken during the survey.</p>

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	respectfully urge that this be taken on record.	
5	<p>As per point 4.22, the environmental consultant must conduct a risk assessment within a 10 km radius of the project site, collect air and water samples, and study the potential impact on the surrounding area using recognized software. If such a study has been conducted, the corresponding certificate should be presented during the public hearing. It is requested that the Hon. Chairman instruct the project proponent and the environmental consultant to submit this certificate. We are submitting evidence before the Hon. Chairman that the said report is false. If the environmental consultant fails to submit all the necessary certificates required along with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report, then legal action should be initiated against them, and the public hearing should be cancelled. The entire responsibility for this lies with the Hon. Chairman of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee. We intend to seek legal remedy in this matter, and in that petition, the Hon. District Collector, Chandrapur, will be named as the primary respondent. All allegations will be made against the District Collector, Chandrapur, as the company is misleading the local administration.</p>	<p>The environmental consultant stated that appropriate action will be taken on the points raised by you, and the necessary certificate will be attached along with the final report to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. A report based on risk assessment and collection of air and water samples within a 10 km radius of the project site has been included with the report.</p>
6	<p>As per Chapter No. 12 of the said report, it is mandatory—according to the guidelines of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change—to include the name, contact number, and NABL accreditation certificate of the expert responsible for air quality monitoring. Similarly, in the Risk Assessment Report, it is also mandatory to include the name, contact number, and NABL accreditation certificate of the expert involved, which has also been endorsed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. In addition, approval from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is required in this regard. These requirements also apply to matters concerning air and water pollution. If the environmental consultant has indeed conducted all these assessments through qualified experts, then their names should be disclosed here. Why have these names not been mentioned in the report? This omission</p>	<p>The project proponents stated that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report includes the certificate from the Quality Council of India (QCI) attached along with it.</p>

	suggests that the company has submitted a bogus Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report.	
7	<p>The name and mobile number of the air quality expert should be disclosed. I wish to contact them directly to ask certain questions. It is mandatory that their contact number be provided in the report. The name of the expert who conducted the risk assessment should also be disclosed, along with the name of the expert responsible for noise pollution assessment. I respectfully request the Hon. Chairperson to instruct the environmental consultant to disclose the name of the noise pollution expert. I demand that the names of all such experts be made public so that their details can be officially recorded. A complaint in this regard will be filed with NABL. A complaint was earlier filed against Anacon Laboratories, and their certification was suspended. The environmental consultant has not included geo-tagged photographs as evidence of air quality monitoring in the report, even though this is mandatory. These photographs must be attached to the report. I ask the Hon. Chairperson whether he is also complicit in this incorrect process or whether he will demand an explanation from the company. Furthermore, the No-Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Gram Panchayats within whose jurisdiction air testing was conducted has not been included. This indicates that the report is false. The Hon. Chairperson should direct the environmental consultant and the company to respond to these issues. Additionally, if citizens raise questions, it is the responsibility of the administration to provide answers on their behalf. If the names of the expert personnel are not disclosed, it may be alleged that the local administration is conducting the public hearing in an improper manner. The company must also disclose the names of the remaining two experts. Geo-tagged photos of the various tests conducted in the village must be presented. The EIA report also does not mention the impact of pollution on the wildlife present in the forest area located 8 km away, nor does it include any Wildlife Conservation Plan. Similarly, the impact of the company's pollution on the ancient site of Vijasan Caves has not</p>	<p>The environmental consultant stated that the name of the air quality expert is Mr. Y. Maheshwar Reddy, and the name of the expert responsible for the risk assessment is Mr. T. H. Patel.</p> <p>The project proponents informed that the mobile number of the air quality expert will be provided later.</p> <p>The Hon. Chairperson of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee stated that the points raised by you are being duly recorded and photographed. Responses to your questions, as well as any unanswered questions, are also being documented.</p>

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<p>been assessed. Residents of the Mul area are already troubled by pollution from the company's existing operations, yet the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board has not taken any action. The company has also failed to carry out any tree plantation activities in the surrounding areas. Because the company has submitted a false Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report, it should be rejected. Legal action under the Indian Penal Code should be initiated against the environmental consultant, including charges of intellectual property theft. If legal action is not taken, we will seek justice through the courts against the administration as well.</p>	
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8) Shri. Akash Moreshwar Junghare, Sarpanch, Gat-Gram Panchayat Chargaon-Telwasa, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>The company has repeatedly promised to provide employment to local residents, but in reality, no such employment has been given. Instead, outsiders have been hired. When objections were raised, the company expressed its inability to terminate the employment of the outsider. Why are local residents not being given priority in employment? What will be the salary structure for those who are employed, and will it include medical benefits? Has any agreement been made in this regard? How was employment provided to outsiders bypassing the project-affected local citizens? Residents from project-affected villages like Telwasa, Pipri, and Dhorwasa have been ignored, while a youth from Deulwada has been given employment. Why were the youths from Telwasa, Pipri, and Dhorwasa not employed? Skill development training for local youth should be initiated immediately. The person who has been given a job by the company has reportedly been threatening the locals, saying that the entire village will be bought. Will this person be removed from employment, or will he continue in the job?</p>	<p>The project proponents stated that local residents will be given priority in employment for this project. At present, only two individuals have been employed on a temporary basis. Employment-related information was shared with the local villages, but due to lack of response, these two individuals were hired. One youth from Telwasa village has been given employment, and in the future as well, locals will be prioritized.</p> <p>This project is expected to generate approximately 600 direct jobs and around 1,000 indirect jobs for locals. Once the project is operational, details regarding salaries and medical facilities will be shared. Permanent jobs will be offered to everyone after the project becomes functional; currently, only temporary employment is being provided.</p>

The project proponent must clarify this. The company should provide employment to local residents and remove the outsider currently employed. Despite repeated complaints to the company in this matter, the company continues to evade the issue. Even before the project has become operational, outsiders are being employed while ignoring the project-affected locals. Has the company held discussions with the farmers regarding compensation? We have sent repeated letters on this issue—has any discussion taken place? A written guarantee should be provided for offering jobs to local residents. The company has not engaged the tractors owned by local farmers. Our village has 24-hour water supply, and the company could have used it, but it has avoided doing so as well. Under CSR activities, the company has constructed a temple and painted a school, but it has not taken any concrete steps regarding employment. The company should use tractors and tankers owned by locals and provide employment to local residents as per their educational qualifications.

Locals will be given employment opportunities, and those lacking specific skills will be offered training under the Skill Development Program, after which they will also be employed. Further progress in the project cannot be made without obtaining environmental clearance. The project is expected to provide employment to 2,000–3,000 citizens. Without the cooperation of local residents, the project cannot proceed.

This project is planned to run for the next 25–50 years and is expected to contribute significantly to the development of the local area. Villagers are requested to show some patience. The company is committed to the development of the project-affected villages. Local youth who wish to be employed are requested to submit their resumes to the company. They will be offered employment accordingly.

The Hon. Chairperson stated that the company should collect resumes from local residents and prioritize them for employment.

The project proponents further clarified that the individual in question has not been officially appointed by the company. During the initial phase, manpower is required for tasks such as public relations or preliminary work. The company assures that it is committed to inclusive development of the project-affected villages. Further discussions will be held with the management, and the necessary information will be shared.

The matter of farmers' land falls

		under the jurisdiction of the government. The land has been allotted to the company by MIDC, and the required payment has already been made by the company to MIDC.
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9) Shri. Pravin Natthuji Sarpute, BJP Taluka President & President, Nippon Dendro Project Affected Committee, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	The company has stated that approximately 2,000–3,000 jobs will be created. However, information must be provided on how these jobs will be allocated. In the nearby Arvindho and EMTA mining projects, salaries range from ₹8,000 to ₹10,000. A discussion should be held on whether jobs in this project will be allocated based on skill sets. The land in this area has been under acquisition for the past 30 years. Therefore, the affected farmers should be given ex gratia compensation, as they have been unemployed for decades. MIDC has committed injustice towards the locals. The company must clarify whether it will provide such ex-gratia compensation to the affected locals. There is no opposition from locals to the project itself. The farmers are only inquiring about proper compensation for their losses. The company should give a written assurance regarding both ex gratia support and employment. Our demand is that the situation faced by locals in the Arvindho and EMTA projects — where they were neglected — should not be repeated here. The company is requested to halt project activities until a positive resolution regarding the farmers' issues is reached. If the farmers are benefitted, there will be no opposition to the project. The company should give priority in employment to local project-affected persons, followed by youth from other nearby villages. Since it will take at least 3–4 years for the project to become operational, the company should, in the meantime, offer part-time jobs to the local	The project proponents stated that employment opportunities will be made available in various phases of the project. Local residents will be included in these jobs based on their educational qualifications and skill levels. Citizens lacking required skills will be provided with skill development training, after which they will be given employment. The land was acquired by MIDC around 30 years ago, but no industries were established on it since then. Therefore, locals are requested to support this project so that they can benefit from employment and the development of the region. A dialogue between the government and the villagers is currently underway. According to recent updates, the government is positively considering the issues faced by the villagers. A positive response to upcoming projects will help in the development of this region. Infrastructure such as transport, education, and other amenities will be provided in the area. Secondary businesses will also grow due to the project. This project is expected to bring a transformative change in the area. Hence, the citizens are requested

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<p>project-affected farmers. The company should also prepare a list of unskilled persons from the local area and immediately begin skill development training for them.</p>	<p>to support the project and adopt a positive outlook, which will contribute to local development. In the first phase, the company has started activities in two villages. Similarly, work under CSR, health services, and employment generation will begin in the remaining villages in a phased manner. The company's construction work will commence within the next 6 months. At that time, the contractor will be instructed to give priority to local employment, and this condition will be included in the contract agreement. Discussions will also be held with villagers regarding this. Contractors will be required to hire locals based on their educational qualifications. A skill gap analysis will be conducted in the region to identify unskilled individuals, who will then receive relevant skill training and subsequent employment. No industry can operate without manpower, equipment, and raw materials. Therefore, a list of unskilled individuals from the village will be prepared for skill development, and a discussion will be held with the local Sarpanch to make an appropriate decision. After environmental clearance is granted, a minimum of three months will be required to initiate the employment process.</p>
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10) Shri. Sandip Annaji Khutemate, Former Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Pipri, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	The Sarpanch of Telwasa raised the issue regarding employment being provided to an outsider, and emphasized that priority should be given to project-affected local	The Project Proponents stated that priority will be given to local residents for employment in the

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<p>residents in employment. The land for the Nippon Dendro Project was acquired by MIDC. While conducting a survey across the eight project-affected villages, was it not found that there are local individuals with adequate educational qualifications? The company had previously committed to providing employment to an outsider. The company administration is therefore requested to give a written assurance that locals will be given priority in employment. About a month ago, we organized a protest against the company, but neither the administration, the company, nor any representative from MIDC responded to our concerns. We would also like to know whether a copy of the proceedings of this public hearing will be made available to us. Without a written assurance from your side, the locals will not have any confidence in the company's promises. Please provide information on what efforts the company has made over the past six months for the benefit of the local population. During the construction of the protective boundary wall around the project site, the company brought in labourers from outside instead of employing local workers. The company has not conducted any inquiry regarding manpower availability in the surrounding villages. It is the responsibility of the local administration to resolve the issues faced by locals, and hence, we request that the administration mediate and facilitate an appropriate resolution regarding employment. This appeal is made on behalf of all the project-affected citizens.</p>	<p>project. Within the next three months, discussions will be held with the villagers to prepare a list of local unemployed youth, and further dialogue regarding employment opportunities will be initiated.</p> <p>The Hon. Chairperson of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee suggested that the company should form a committee in coordination with the Sarpanchs and immediately begin addressing the employment-related issues. The company has been informed accordingly, and appropriate action will be taken in this regard.</p>
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11) Shri. Madhukar Ramchandra Sawarkar, Taluka President, BJP
Kisan Aghadi, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	Several meetings have been held with the company at the District Collector's Office as well as the Tehsil Office. In these meetings, our consistent demand has been that the company should engage in direct discussions with the farmers. The local farmers and villagers are willing to cooperate with the company, but the	The project proponents stated that priority will be given to local residents for employment opportunities in the project. In the next three months, discussions will be held with villagers, and a list of unemployed local residents will be

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<p>company is deliberately ignoring them. We demand that the company enter into employment agreements with the affected farmers. Employment should be provided at the rate of one job per 2.5 acres of acquired land. For example, a farmer who has surrendered 10 acres of land should be offered four jobs. However, the company has not provided any clarity on this issue. There are fears that, similar to Karnataka EMTA, employment may be routed through contractors, resulting in exploitation and deception of the local population. Therefore, detailed information about employment policies and procedures should be shared by the company. No further action should be undertaken by the company unless and until such employment agreements are formally made. Otherwise, the situation may escalate. Despite the availability of local contractors, the company awarded the work of constructing the boundary wall to a contractor from Chandrapur. This has raised serious concerns. Until employment-related agreements are concluded, the company should halt further work.</p>	<p>prepared to facilitate further discussions regarding employment.</p> <p>The Hon'ble Chairman of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee stated that the company should form a committee in coordination with the local village sarpanches and initiate immediate action to resolve employment-related issues.</p>
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12) Shri. Madhusudan Roongtha, President, MIDC Industry Association, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>Citizens from Vidarbha often have to migrate elsewhere for education due to the long-standing lack of industrial development in the region. However, due to the persistent efforts of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, industries are now beginning to be established in this area. The Chandrapur district has long been identified as a Naxal-affected, tribal, and backward region. Repeated requests were made to state and national representatives to bring industries to the district. It is essential to resolve the local issues in order to ensure development. Hon'ble Chief Minister took proactive steps, including signing MoUs during his visit to Davos, to attract industries to this region. His vision has created a developmental mindset aimed at</p>	<p>The project proponents stated that priority will be given to local residents while offering employment in the project. Over the next three months, discussions will be held with villagers to prepare a list of unemployed local youths, and further deliberations regarding employment opportunities will be conducted.</p>

the upliftment of the local population. Today, an investment of nearly ₹3,000 crore is being made in Vidarbha. Major industrial houses like Tata, Birla, and Adani are ready to invest. The foundation stone of the Nippon Dendro project was laid by the Hon'ble Prime Minister himself. However, unfortunately, the project has made no progress since then, causing significant loss and hardship to local farmers. Officials from MIDC should have been present at this public hearing since it was MIDC that acquired the land. The concerns of the farmers should have been discussed at the highest level with the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The company has chosen to invest in Bhadrawati, instead of any other location, which is commendable. Over the last 75 years of independence, very few industrial projects have come to Vidarbha. Mostly government-run entities like MAHAGENCO and WCL have set up operations here, and even in these, preference was given to non-locals based on educational qualifications. There is a strong need for local investors who will ensure local employment generation. Hence, a dialogue between the company, local administration, and villagers must be initiated to resolve ongoing issues. I have personally held repeated discussions with the Hon'ble District Collector to ensure that locals receive appropriate compensation and employment opportunities. No project can be implemented by ignoring local opposition. The delay of the Nippon Dendro project has already caused great distress to the people — two generations have suffered without resolution. Hon'ble Chief Minister has also mentioned that two new projects are expected to be established in this area. Besides the currently acquired land, more land is likely to be utilized for future industries. Many farmers have still not received adequate compensation for their acquired land. The project proponents could have easily exported their products to countries like China and gained international recognition, but they instead chose to invest in Bhadrawati and expressed commitment to work alongside local people for their development. This region has rich mineral reserves, making it ideal for industrial growth. With the availability of iron ore, the number of

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	<p>industries is steadily increasing. The Lloyd Metals project waited 28 years to commence iron ore mining, which has now triggered the beginning of industrialization here. I appeal to the local people to engage in dialogue with the company and help build a conducive environment for investment. No other region can match the developmental potential of Bhadrawati and Warora. Due to the lack of industries, youth from our city had to migrate to metro cities for employment and education and are now facing unemployment. During a discussion with Hon'ble Sharad Pawarji, it was mentioned that a large proportion of Vidarbha's youth have migrated to Pune for employment. To put an end to this forced migration, more projects like this must be set up in this region — so that the local youth can find sustainable employment in their homeland.</p>	
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13) Shri. V. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Hyderabad:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>Your environmental consultant has conducted a thorough baseline survey of air, water, and soil. I request that additional surveys be undertaken focusing on public health, agriculture, and groundwater levels. A rainwater harvesting system should be installed to ensure proper rainwater management and to prevent depletion of groundwater levels. Tree plantation should be carried out in the surrounding villages and fruit-bearing trees should be planted along the roadsides. Priority in employment should be given to educated local youth. Furthermore, skill development programs should be implemented to enhance the employability of the local population. CSR funds should be utilized for development activities in consultation with Gram Panchayats. Regular health camps should be organized for the benefit of the local population. Basic educational facilities should be provided for the underprivileged. The company should take proactive steps to address the concerns and grievances of the local residents.</p>	<p>Project Proponent informed that, the points have been noted.</p>

14) Shri. Mahendra Bhojar, Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Kocchi-Ghonad, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>The major mistake committed by the company was providing employment to outsiders. The company did not conduct any kind of survey in the project-affected villages. The company is requested to ensure that its operations will not have any adverse impact on the health of local villagers due to pollution. The temperature in this region reaches up to 48°C, and the company must ensure that their activities will not cause any further rise in temperature. Moreover, the company must guarantee that no additional pollution will be generated as a result of its operations. The route to be used for transportation of raw materials and finished products must be clearly disclosed. The source of water to be used by the company must be specified. If MIDC plans to supply water from village sources, we strongly object to it. As mentioned by the company, proper management of wastewater must be implemented. Otherwise, the Gram Panchayat and the local administration should have the authority to stop company operations. The company must ensure that agricultural crops will not be damaged due to vehicular movement. In case of any damage, adequate compensation must be provided by the company. The Pollution Control Department is requested to visit the villages and understand the concerns of local residents. Until the company provides a written assurance regarding pollution control measures and related issues, we request that environmental clearance should not be granted to the company.</p>	<p>The project proponents stated that, as mentioned during the presentation, transportation of materials will be carried out via roadways and appropriate pollution control measures will be implemented. Discussions with MIDC are underway regarding the development of roads in the area. Additionally, talks are ongoing with MIDC for the construction of a bridge in the region. The water supply will be facilitated through MIDC.</p>

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15) Shri. Vitthal Kawdu Pimpalshende, Telwasa, Tal. Bhadrawati,
Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>The company is planning to draw water from the Wardha River. I would like to bring to your attention that I own land bearing Survey No. 165/2, which is adjacent to the Wardha River and has been acquired. However, I have not received any compensation for the same. I request the Hon'ble District Collector to clarify who will be responsible for providing the compensation. Otherwise, I will not allow the laying of any pipeline through my agricultural land. A total of 1 acre and 2 gunthas of my land has been acquired. Additionally, my land was affected during road construction work, and I have not received any compensation for that either. Furthermore, my land was also acquired during the construction of the Bhadrawati to Wani road, but no compensation has been paid for that as well. The government is acting unjustly towards farmers. I also met with the Tehsildar of Bhadrawati, but I did not receive any satisfactory response from their side</p>	<p>The project proponents stated that, as mentioned during the presentation, transportation of goods will be carried out via road routes and appropriate pollution control measures will be implemented. Discussions with MIDC are ongoing regarding the development of roads, and talks are also underway about the construction of a bridge in the area. Water supply for the project will be provided by MIDC.</p> <p>The Hon'ble Chairperson of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee stated that your grievance should be submitted to the Tehsildar's office. Further action will be taken based on that submission.</p>

16) Shri. Watan Lone, Reporter, Daily Punyanagari, Tal. Bhadrawati,
Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>Initially, the Nippon Dendro project was proposed on this land. The local people have been struggling for the past 30 years. After much effort, this project is now being established in the Bhadravati taluka. It is hoped that this project will help address the issue of local unemployment. Given the scale of investment, this project appears to be beneficial for the Bhadravati region. The company is requested to provide employment to local project-affected people, farmers, and educated unemployed youth in accordance with their educational</p>	<p>Project Proponent informed that, the points have been noted.</p>

qualifications.

17) Shri. Muneshwar Bapuraoji Badkhal, Dy. Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Dhorwasa, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	<p>For the past 30 years, local farmers have not received justice. Justice must be served to these farmers, and employment should be provided to the unemployed youth. Until justice is ensured for the local people, the project should not be allowed to proceed. The company must clarify its stance on whether appropriate compensation will be provided to the farmers. We had contacted the contractor responsible for constructing the boundary wall and requested him over the phone to provide employment to local residents, but our demand was ignored. The company must give a written assurance regarding employment opportunities for locals. In the case of the Aurobindo company, local workers were terminated from their jobs, whereas 60-70 individuals from outside were retained. Such injustice must not be repeated in this project. The company must issue a written assurance addressing the concerns of local people; only then will we extend our support to the project.</p>	<p>The project proponents stated that the matter of compensation falls under the jurisdiction of the government, and hence, it would not be appropriate for them to comment on it. However, they are committed to giving priority to local residents in employment opportunities. The issue of compensation to farmers does not fall within the company's purview. The company has acquired the land from MIDC and has paid the applicable fees accordingly. Farmers are advised to approach the government authorities regarding compensation matters. The company assured that skill development programs will be implemented for local residents to enhance their employability. A committee will be formed in coordination with the sarpanches of the project-affected villages to ensure employment is provided to the locals accordingly. The company requested that the community remain patient for the next six months. Initially, unemployed individuals will be assessed based on their skills, and subsequently, employment will be offered. A discussion and survey will be conducted after three months, and based on educational qualifications and skill levels, employment will be provided. Furthermore, scholarships will be offered to local students for higher education.</p>

18) Shrimati Dhanibai Maruti Mathankar, Gaurala, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	There are barren lands in this area, and clarification should be provided regarding whether agriculture can be carried out on such lands. This year, a serious question has arisen regarding how we will sustain our livelihoods. The company should either begin providing salaries or immediately offer employment to the local residents. Despite staging protests, none of the public representatives have paid attention to our issues. The company should begin paying a monthly wage of ₹20,000 to the local residents, which would help address our livelihood concerns.	The project proponents stated that three months after the public hearing, discussions will be held with all concerned parties and a survey will be conducted. Based on educational qualifications and skill sets, employment opportunities will be provided. Youth who lack specific skills will be given skill development training and subsequently offered employment.

19) Shri. Praful Batti, Former President, Municipal Council Bhadrawati, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	The Bhadravati Municipal Council has laid an express feeder line to ensure 24-hour drinking water supply to the city. The company must ensure that this feeder line is not damaged in any manner due to the proposed project activities. The Ordnance Factory does not permit the construction of any boundary wall from Gotiya up to the end point. The company must clarify whether the necessary approvals have been obtained from the Ordnance Factory in this regard. So far, the company has not provided any official communication or information to the Bhadravati Municipal Council. Additionally, the utilization of CSR funds by the company is not satisfactory. The company must ensure fair and transparent distribution of CSR funds to the affected gram panchayats and must provide basic amenities and facilities in all project-affected villages. A formal	The project proponents stated that they guarantee there will be no damage to the feeder line of the Bhadravati Municipal Council. Also, information regarding the water extraction points will be provided to the village panchayats.

	<p>agreement should be made with all project-affected gram panchayats regarding the above. Furthermore, the company must guarantee that there will be no damage to the existing feeder line of the Bhadravati Municipal Council. At present, Bhadravati Municipal Council draws water from the Wardha River. Another water supply project is also underway. The company must disclose the exact reserved location from where it intends to draw water from the Wardha River for its operations. Since the Jal Jeevan Mission aims to supply drinking water to every village/town by drawing water from nearby rivers, the company must share its planned water draw points with all concerned gram panchayats to avoid future conflicts.</p>	
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20) Shri. Azhar Ahmad Khan, Tal. Bhadravati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	It is my demand that the said company should provide employment to the local residents.	The project proponents stated that priority will be given to local residents in employment.

21) Shri. Anup Sudhakar Khutemate, Pipri, Tal. Bhadravati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	Chandrapur district is already a hot region, and this project will further increase the heat. The company should provide information on how much the city's temperature will rise due to pollution from the company. If the pollution caused by the company affects the local population, will a well-equipped hospital facility be made available in the area? As the company's pollution will adversely affect the health of local residents, the company must provide a well-equipped hospital facility in this region. The first meeting was held on 24/04/2024. In that meeting, demands were made to provide ex-gratia compensation to	The project proponents stated that surveys of air, water, and noise in the area have been conducted and, as per government regulations, all parameters are found to be within the prescribed limits. The company asserted that there will be no adverse impact on the health of the local population due to pollution. The equipment used will have interlock systems, meaning that if any faults are detected, the production process will automatically shut down. The

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<p>farmers and to offer one job per hectare. Even after nearly a year, the demands of the locals have not been fulfilled by the administration. How much more time will it take to resolve the locals' demands? Since the project will be implemented in the MIDC area, a hospital facility must be available there. The company has not provided information regarding the source from which it will extract water for its use. The farmers in this region rely on irrigation. If the project causes damage to the farmers, will the company compensate them? Also, is the company planning to construct a barrage on the Wardha river? A Gram Sabha should be held in each village regarding the availability of water. Due to the company's transportation activities, the number of accidents in the area is likely to increase. Furthermore, due to the pipeline of the Ordnance Factory, the current road-widening work cannot be undertaken. As transportation will damage the farmland adjacent to the roads, information should be provided on whether compensation provisions have been made for such losses. Environmental public hearings are conducted as per government norms. However, the administration does not take note of the problems that arise after the project is implemented. The project proponents appear to be unable to provide satisfactory answers to the concerns raised. Will the project receive environmental clearance after these issues are resolved? Will the project work begin only after the farmers' demands are fulfilled? How many trees will be planted in this area?</p>	<p>company will ensure that no pollution-related problems arise once the project is operational.</p> <p>The Hon'ble Chairperson of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee stated that the demands of the local people will be resolved by the government within the prescribed time. The company has provided responses regarding employment and health. The company should provide ambulance or hospital facilities in the area to ensure readiness in case of emergencies. The use of water must follow the guidelines of the expert committee. The availability of water is prioritized as follows: first for drinking, then for irrigation, and lastly for industrial use. Only after ensuring drinking and irrigation needs are met will the remaining water be allocated for industrial purposes.</p> <p>The project proponents mentioned that the company will apply to MIDC for water availability, and the required water will be procured accordingly. Water distribution is done as per government regulations to different sectors. All actions will be carried out in accordance with governmental rules. No projects have been established in this area in the past 30 years. While implementing this project, related developmental works will also be undertaken. Various discussions are ongoing with the government regarding this matter. Currently, the roads are narrow, but once traffic increases, road expansion to four lanes will become necessary. Discussions are ongoing with the government to ensure the development of essential infrastructure.</p>
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		<p>The Hon'ble Chairperson of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee also stated that whether the project proponents have given satisfactory responses to the concerns raised by public representatives or citizens during the hearing is being recorded in the proceedings, and the government will take an appropriate decision based on that. Environmental clearance will be granted according to the report of the public hearing. It is currently not possible to comment on the status of the farmers' demands during the public hearing. MIDC has already acquired the land and handed it over to the project proponents, and the company's work is in progress. As this hearing pertains to environmental matters, it is not possible to respond to land-related issues here.</p> <p>The project proponents also stated that, as mentioned in their presentation, approximately 50,000 trees will be planted.</p>
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22) Shri. Naresh Laxman Matte, Bhadrawati, Tal. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objections/Suggestions/Questions	Responses/Assurances given by the Project Proponent/ Environmental Consultant/ Environmental Public Hearing Committee following discussion
1	All the issues raised by the local farmers and citizens are valid. This public hearing was related to pollution, and during it, satisfactory answers were not provided by the project proponents regarding the use of roads, various types of pollution, and the impact on farmers and villages in the surrounding area. However, the information should be provided to the concerned Gram Panchayats and Municipal Council. Additionally, another meeting should be held to provide satisfactory responses on these matters. Out of the total project area,	The project proponents stated that all standard parameters will be maintained within the prescribed limits as per regulations, and corresponding display boards will be installed. It is proposed to undertake tree plantation in quantities exceeding the government norms, and efforts will be made to further increase the green cover.

[Signature]

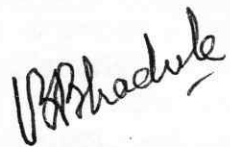
how much area will be developed as a green belt? Compared to the company's production scale, the proposed green belt is very minimal. The steel plant will significantly increase pollution, and the company should provide information on how sulfur will be disposed of. The steel plant will also cause a rise in temperature. The temperature in Chandrapur district often exceeds 46°C, while the 36°C mentioned by the company refers to February temperatures. The company should inform the Pollution Control Board how it plans to control the rise in temperature. The company must ensure that all standard limits will be strictly followed. Additionally, these standards should be prominently displayed on notice boards at the project site. The area under the green belt should be increased, and proper care of the trees must be undertaken.

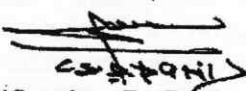
Nobody was present through online module for the public hearing.

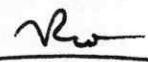
The Chairman of the Public Hearing briefed the people present if there are any other question /issues, the same may be asked. However, nobody came with any question. He announced that copy of the proceedings and CD of the public hearing will be made available in due course of time in MPCB office at Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, First Floor, Udyog Bhavan, Opposite Bus-Stand, Railway Station Road, Chandrapur.

The Chairman of the Committee while concluding the proceedings, summarized various points raised and declared that public hearing is ended, and concluded the public hearing with vote of thanks.

Enclosed 09 suggestions/objections received by the office.


(Umashankar Bhadule)
Convener of the Public
Hearing Committee and
Sub Regional Officer,
MPCB, Chandrapur


(Sanjay D. Patil)
Member of the Public
Hearing Committee and
Regional Officer, MPCB,
Chandrapur


(Dr. Nitin R. Vyavhare)
Chairman of the Public
Hearing Committee &
Additional District
Magistrate, Chandrapur
Dist. Chandrapur.