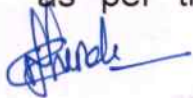


Minutes of the Environmental Public Hearing For Expansion In Existing Unit Of Sugar Plant (Sugarcane Crushing Capacity) From 7,200.0 TCD To 15,000.0 TCD (Expansion Of 7,800.0 TCD) & Co-Generation Power Plant From 30.0 MW To 68.0 MW (Expansion Of 38.0 MW) At Post – Pravaranagar, Taluka-Rahata, District-Ahilyanagar, Maharashtra By Project Proponent M/s Padamshri Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil SSK Ltd.

The Environment Public Hearing in respect of Expansion In Existing Unit Of Sugar Plant (Sugarcane Crushing Capacity) From 7,200.0 TCD To 15,000.0 TCD (Expansion Of 7,800.0 TCD) & Co-Generation Power Plant From 30.0 MW To 68.0 MW (Expansion Of 38.0 MW) At Post – Pravaranagar, Taluka-Rahata, District-Ahilyanagar, Maharashtra By Project Proponent M/s Padamshri Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil SSK Ltd., was held on Tuesday, the 30th September, 2025 at 11.00 a.m at project site - M/s Padamshri Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil SSK Ltd., At Post Pravaranagar, Taluka - Rahata, District - Ahilyanagar, Maharashtra.

Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Ahilyanagar and Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee, Ahilyanagar welcomed Resident District Magistrate, Ahilyanagar and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Company Officials and local people/participants who were present and with permission of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee started the proceedings of Public Hearing.

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 14th September, 2006 as amended on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

He informed that Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai was in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s Padamshri Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil SSK Ltd., to conduct Environment Public Hearing Regarding expansion of existing sugar unit and Co-generation.

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.

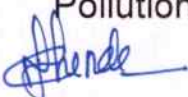
After sanction from District Collector, Ahilyanagar to conduct the Physical Environment Public Hearing On Tuesday, the 30th September, 2025 at 11.00 a.m. at project site - M/s Padamshri Dr. Vitthalrao Vikhe Patil SSK Ltd., At Post – Pravaranagar, Taluka-Rahata, District-Ahilyanagar, Maharashtra. Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Board's Office Order No. E- 69 of 2025 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 250912- FTS- 0191, dated 12-09-2025 as under.

1) District Magistrate-Ahilyanagar
or his representative not below
the rank of an Additional District
Magistrate

Chairman

2) Representative of Maharashtra
Pollution Control Board, Mumbai -

Member



Regional Officer – Nashik,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Nashik

3) Sub Regional Officer, **Convener**
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Ahilyanagar

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Ahilyanagar in the local newspaper in daily Sakal for Marathi and in national newspaper daily Times of India for English on 28-08-2025. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed project.

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

- 1) Hon. District Collector, Collector Office, Ahilyanagar;
- 2) General Manager, District Industries Centre, Ahilyanagar;
- 3) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Ahilyanagar;
- 4) Sub Divisional Officer – Rahata /Shirdi, Taluka-Rahata, District-Ahilyanagar;
- 5) Tahsil Office-Rahata, Taluka-Rahata, District-Ahilyanagar.
- 6) Panchayat Samiti Office-Rahata, Taluka-Rahata, District-Ahilyanagar;
- 7) Grampanchayat Office – Lohgaon, Babhaleshwar, Tisgaonwadi, Loni Budruk, Kolhar Budruk, Kolhar Bhagvatipur, Sadatpur, Chinchpur, Hasanapur, Taluka-Rahata, District-Ahilyanagar;
- 8) Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15th Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai – 400 032;
- 9) Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (Head Office), Kalpataru Point, 3rd 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, Nashik;
- 11) Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Savitribai Fule Commercial Building, 1st Floor, Hall No.2 & 3, Near T.V. Center, Savedi, Ahilyanagar – 414 003
- 12) Website, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board – Executive Summary of the Proposed Project is made available in Marathi and English.

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 and same is noted in minutes of meeting and forwarded with video recording to the Government.

Convener, with the approval of the Chairman of environmental public hearing committee, ordered the project promoters to make a presentation about the project.

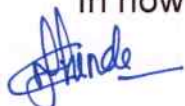
With the permission of the Hon'ble Chairman, Project Environmental Consultant made a presentation about the proposed project and the Environmental Management Plan.

After completion of the presentation convener appeal to all participants to raise any doubts, suggestions or objections.

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

- 1) **Shri Sachin Babanrao Aaher, Residence -Loni Khurd, Tal. Rahata, Dist. Ahilyanagar:-**

In how many days, the project expansion work will be completed?



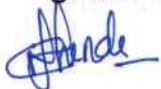
Environmental Consultant of the project said that sugarcane crushing capacity of the project is planned to be expanded from 7,200.0 TCD to 15,000.0 TCD, as well as co-generation electricity from 30.0 MW to 68.0 MW per day. The process of various statutory permissions/No Objection Certificates (NOCs) required for this is in process. Hence, expansion work will be completed in 8-10 months after receiving the Environment Clearance from the Maharashtra Government for this expansion project.

2) Shri Sudhir Aaher, Residence-Pravaranagar, Taluka-Rahata, District – Ahilyanagar:-

I am a local resident. How will the water and air pollution generated by this expansion project be controlled? I am asking this question as a local resident.

Environmental Consultant of the project stated that to control air pollution due to the expansion, an 85.0-meter height of chimney/stack will be installed for the 160 TPH boiler in the proposed expansion project. A most advanced air pollution control system i.e. Electro-Static-Precipitator (ESP), will be attached to chimney/stack. The efficiency of the ESP system is 99.9%. Also, the bagasse from the project will be used as raw material for the boiler in the expansion project. Bagasse contains 2% ash and .05% sulfur. The bagasse produced in the sugar factory will be used as fuel for the boiler. The pollution level bagasse is low.

Also, to prevent water pollution, an industrial wastewater treatment plant (Effluent Treatment Plant -ETP) with a capacity of 800.0 M3/day is currently operating in the project. Its capacity will be expanded to 1500.0 M3/day. Treated industrial effluent will be used for green belt development in the project.



Similarly, a Condensate Polishing Unit (CPU) will be implemented in the expansion project. This will reduce the fresh water requirement in the project. This is under consideration.

3) Shri Kisan Changdev Aaher, Residence-Loni, Taluka-Rahata, District – Ahilyanagar:-

What will be the benefits to farmers due to the expansion of the proposed project?

Project Environmental Consultant opined that it is a very good question. The sugarcane that the farmers in this area will produce, due to the project expansion, the local farmers can give their additional sugarcane for crushing in the factory.

Therefore, the losses which farmers face will not happen. There is a distillery project also. This will definitely help for giving good prices to farmers for their sugarcane.

4) Shri Balasaheb Chincharkar, Residence-Lohgaon, Tal. Rahata, Dist. Ahilyanagar:-

How much manpower is required for the expansion project?

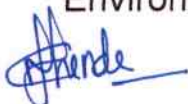
Project Proponent said that the expansion project could provide employment opportunities to nearly 120 people.

However, there will be tremendous increase in indirect business in the area such as two-wheeler repair center tea stalls and other business, which will provide indirect employment opportunities to about 500-550 people.

5) Shri Shatrugna Vikhe, Residence-Loni Budruk, Tal. Rahata, Dist. Ahilyanagar:-

What is the planning of treatment of waste water generated in the expansion project?

Environmental Consultant of the project informed that at present



the factory is generating 720.0 CMD of wastewater . The expansion project will generate 534.0 CMD of wastewater, bringing the total wastewater generated in the project to 1254.0 CMD.

For this, the capacity of the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant (ETP) in the existing project will be increased to 1500.0 CMD. Thus, all the wastewater will be processed in the project.

Convener, Environmental Public Hearing Committee, appealed participants to raise any suggestions, views or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only. There was no response from the participants.

6) Shri Chandrakant Shinde, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee:-

The expansion project will increase vehicular traffic in the factory area. What is the Traffic Management of the factory in this regard?

Project Environmental Consultant said that while preparing Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report, the traffic management in the area has also been studied. The traffic in the area due to the ongoing project and the increase in it due to expansion is very negligible, because the road system around the factory area is good.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee again appealed to all participants to raise their suggestions, views or objections in the respect of the proposed project in environmental angle only. There was no response from the participants.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee requested Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee to guide all.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that we have gathered for the Environment Public Hearing of M/s Padamshri Dr. Vittalrao Vikhe Patil SSK Ltd., At Post – Pravaranagar, Taluka-



Rahata, District-Ahilyanagar for their proposed expansion of sugar plant from 7,200.0 TCD (Sugarcane Crushing Capacity) to 1500.0 TCD (Sugarcane Crushing Capacity) and Co-Generation Plant from 30.0 MW to 68.0 MW.

Here, an Environmental Consultant has studied the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project and made a presentation to the local public present.

Local people have registered their suggestions, views and objections in this regard, and Project Environmental Consultant has given appropriate answers to them.

Hence, if you have any suggestions or objections other than the questions raised, you have given an opportunity to raise

Also, as per the appeal made by Convener, Environmental Public Hearing Committee, those who wish to submit a written suggestions/objections may do so, and their submission will be acknowledged. Chairman gave time for this. There was no response from the participants.

Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee directed Convener, Environmental Public Hearing Committee to conclude the meeting,

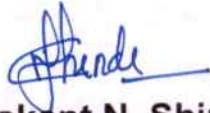
Convener, Environmental Public Hearing Committee again appealed all to raise their suggestions, objections if any orally or writing. There was no response from the participants. Convener requested Project Proponent to say a few words.

Project Managing Director thanked all for attending this meeting and raising suggestions/objections in respect of proposed project and on behalf of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee

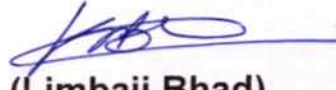


declared that the meeting is concluded.

Meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.



(Chandrakant N. Shinde)
Convener,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
Sub Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control
Board,
Ahilyanagar



(Limbaji Bhad)
Member,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control
Board,
Nashik



(Dadasaheb Gite)
Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Resident Deputy Collector, Ahilyanagar
District – Ahilyanagar