

**Minutes of the Public Environmental Hearing regarding the proposed 5 KLPD Mahua-flower-based Distillery Project of M/s. Mahunza Winery Pvt. Ltd., Gat No. 1/1B, Village Chulwad, Taluka Akrani, District Nandurbar, Maharashtra.**

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The public environmental hearing pertaining to the proposed 5 KLPD Mahua-flower-based distillery manufacturing project of M/s. Mahunza Winery Pvt. Ltd., Gat No. 1/1B, Mouje Chulwad, Taluka Akrani, District Nandurbar, Maharashtra, was conducted on 13 November 2025 at 1:00 PM, under the chairmanship of the Hon. Assistant District Collector and Sub-Divisional Officer, Taloda, District Nandurbar.

As per the office order No. E-75/2025, Letter No. B.O./J.D.(WPC)/PH/B-251031 – FTS – 0030 dated 31/10/2025 issued by the Hon'ble Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), Mumbai, a Public Hearing Committee was constituted.

The following officials of the committee were present at the hearing:

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| 1) Hon'ble Assistant District Collector & Sub-Divisional Officer, Taloda, District Nandurbar.                      | Chairperson |
| 2) Representative of Regional Officer, MPC Board Nashik<br>Sub-Regional Officer<br>MPC Board, Jalgaon (Authorised) | Member      |
| 3) Sub- Regional Officer, MPC Board, Dhule   | Convener    |

Mr. Pranav Pakhale, Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Dhule, and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee, welcomed all attendees and, with the permission of the Chair, briefly outlined the purpose of the public hearing.

In accordance with the Notification S.O. 1533 dated 14/09/2006 (as amended on 01/12/2009) issued by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, New Delhi, this public hearing was organised to record environmental suggestions, observations, critical comments and objections regarding the proposed project.

A formal application requesting a public environmental hearing had been received by the MPCB. A public notice regarding this hearing was published on 13/10/2025 in the newspapers Lokmat (Marathi) and The Times of India (English). Residents of the area, environmental organizations, displaced persons and other affected residents were invited to submit written comments/objections within 30 days to the Deputy Regional Office, MPCB, Dhule.

Copies of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Summary in Marathi and English were made available at the following offices:

- District Collector Office, Nandurbar
- District Industries Centre, Nandurbar
- Zilla Parishad, Nandurbar
- Sub-Divisional Office, Shahada Dist. Nandurbar
- Tehsil Office, Akrani, Dist. Nandurbar
- Gram Panchayat Offices: Chulwad, Shisa, Radikalam, Gaurya, Tal. Akrani, Dist. Nandurbar.
- Sub-Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Dhule
- Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board Nashik.
- Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Headquarters, Sion, Mumbai.
- Environment Department, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
- Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Western Central Region, Civil Lines, Nagpur.



The convener informed that no written or email objections, criticisms, or comments regarding the project had been received by the MPCB Dhule office. Anyone wishing to submit oral or written objections could do so during the hearing.

The convener then requested the Chairperson to direct the project proponent or their representatives to present the project details. The Chairperson accordingly instructed the project representatives to make their presentation.

The environmental consultants of the project presented information covering environmental impact assessment, purpose of public hearing, project details, project layout plan, baseline environmental studies, local environmental status, study-area, air quality, noise levels, water quality, soil quality, biological environment, socio-economic environment, anticipated environmental impacts, environmental management plan, mitigation measures, socio-economic welfare activities under Corporate Environmental Responsibility, environmental management costs, and project benefits.

After the presentation, the following suggestions/objections from citizens were recorded:

**PROCEEDINGS:**

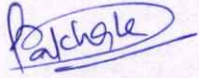
Sr. No.	Name, Design. and address of the person along with suggestions, views, comments etc.,	Reply given by project proponent / Consultant
1.	Shri Prakash Pawara, Resident of Chulwad, Akrani requested that residents be given priority in employment.	The representatives stated that at least 10 local people from the village and surrounding areas would be given priority, and additional employment would prioritise locals based on their education and skill levels.
2.	Shri Jordar Barku Pawara, Resident of Chulwad asked where the wastewater from the project would be discharged.	The representatives stated that company would follow Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) policy wherein no water would be discharged outside factory premises.
3.	Shri. Suraj Pawara, Residents of Chulwad asked how	The representatives stated that around 600 trees would be planted, covering

	many trees would be planted within the company area.	33% of the total area.
4.	<p>Smt. Sugandha Reddy — Environmentalist She raised the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unemployment is one of the major forms of pollution in the country.</li> <li>• Employment generation mainly depends on the government; about 1 crore youths seek employment every year.</li> <li>• Some NGOs propagate that industries harm public health, but only 15% of the population lives near industrial zones, and such claims are baseless.</li> <li>• Each industry generates around 10 direct and 100–200 indirect employment opportunities.</li> <li>• Environment Clearance processes require nearly 3 years; the duration of public hearings should be reduced.</li> <li>• Fruit-bearing and medicinal plants should be given priority during plantation.</li> <li>• The industry should implement rainwater harvesting on its premises.</li> <li>• A coordination committee should be established for employment-related matters.</li> <li>• She congratulated the project's environmental consultants and requested the Central Ministry of Environment, Forests &amp; Climate Change to grant Environment Clearance to the project.</li> </ul>	

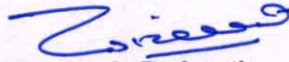
The Hon. Chairperson noted that if anyone still wished to submit written or oral suggestions/objections, they could do so, but no further points were raised.



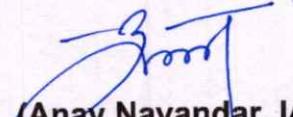
Shri Pranav Pakhale, Sub- Regional Officer, MPCB, Dhule, stated that all points raised by the citizens had been duly recorded and would be incorporated in the official hearing proceedings. With the permission of the Chair, he thanked all attendees and declared the hearing concluded.



**(Pranav Pakhale)**  
Convener &  
Sub-Regional Officer,  
MPC Board, Dhule



**(Karansingh Rajput)**  
Member and Sub-Regional Officer,  
MPC Board, Jalgaon(Authorized)  
representative of Regional Officer,  
MPC Board, Nashik



**(Anay Navandar, IAS)**  
Chairperson & Assistant  
District Collector,  
Sub-Divisional Officer,  
Taloda, District Nandurbar