

**Minutes of Environment Public Hearing for Proposed Ethyl Acetate Manufacturing With Production Capacity of 40.0 TPD In Existing Ethanol Project Site at Gat No. 147/A, Village-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara, Maharashtra State By Project Proponent M/s Ashirwad Industries, Gat No. 147/A, Village- Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District- Satara, Maharashtra State**

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The Environment Public Hearing in respect of Proposed Ethyl Acetate Manufacturing With Production Capacity of 40.0 TPD In Existing Ethanol Project Site at Gat No. 147/A, Village-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara, Maharashtra State By Project Proponent M/s Ashirwad Industries, Gat No. 147/A, Village-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara, Maharashtra State was held on Tuesday, the 16th December, 2025 at 11.00 morning at project site - Gat No. 147/A, Village-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara, Maharashtra State.

Shri Amol A. Satpute, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Satara and Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee on behalf of District Collector Office, Satara and Sub Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune welcomed Shri Nagesh Patil, Additional District Magistrate, Satara and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Shri Babasaheb Kukade, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists, Representatives of media channels, Police Administration, Officials of the Project Proponent and local people/participants who were present and started the proceedings with permission of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEF & CC, GoI) dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 as amended on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2009, June, 2014 and April, 2022, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

Convener informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation is to make aware local people who can be participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities regarding the proposed project and Environment Management Plan of the unit.

The proposed project falls under Category "A" 5 (f) - "Synthetic Organic Chemicals as per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and its amendment from time to time by the Ministry

of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India. Therefore, the project needs to obtain "Environmental Clearance" from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi and for this, it is mandatory to hold a public hearing on the environment in advance.

A proposal was submitted by the Project Proponent to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi on 24/03/2025 to obtain the Terms of Reference for studying the Environmental Impact Assessment Report of the proposed project. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi has approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the proposed project on 28-03-2025.

Accordingly, Project Proponent has appointed an Environmental Consultant who has obtained NABET approval as per the directives of the Government of India and have carried out the environmental assessment through appointed Environmental Consultant. A detailed environmental survey within a 10.0 km radius of the project site was carried out from December, 2024 to February, 2025 (three months).

A draft of the project site and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report was prepared and submitted to study the potential impact/impacts on the environment due to the establishment of the proposed expansion project.

Convener informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Mumbai was in receipt of application on 16-06-2025 from M/s Ashirwad Industries, Gat No. 147/A, Village-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara, Maharashtra State to conduct an Environment Public Hearing in respect of Proposed Ethyl Acetate Manufacturing With Production Capacity of 40.0 TPD In Existing Ethanol Project Site at Gat No. 147/A, Village-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara, Maharashtra State.

Project Proponent has submitted the draft EIA report of the proposed project to Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai on 16/06/2025 and requested to conduct Environment Public Hearing for the proposed project.

Joint Director (Water Pollution Control), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai vide letter number MPCB/JD(WPC)/ENV-PH-B-250624-FTS-0116 dated 24/06/2025 directed Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Satara to carry the process of conducting environmental public hearing regarding the proposed project

Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Satara initiated the process and vide letter dated 14/08/2025 requested

Hon. District Collector, Satara to provide suitable date for taking Environment Public Hearing for the proposed activity.

Hon'ble District Collector, Satara vide letter dated 31/10/2025 directed to conduct Physical Environment Public Hearing on Tuesday, the 16 December, 2025 at 11.00 a.m. at project site and after getting sanction from Hon'ble District Collector, Satara, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai as per the Notification No. S.O. 1533 dated 14-09-2006 and as per Amended Notification S.O. 3067 (E) Dated 01-12-2009 as issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEF & CC, GoI), New Delhi has constituted Environment Public Hearing Committee vide Board's Office Order No. E- 87 of 2025 under letter no. BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-251205-FTS-0280 dated 05/12/2025 as under: -

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

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Satara in the local newspaper in dainik Sakal for Marathi and in national newspaper daily Indian Express for English on 15-11-2025. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only.

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

- 1) Hon. District Collector, Collector Office, Satara
- 2) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Satara
- 3) General Manager, District Industries Centre, Satara;
- 4) Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai – 400 032;

- 5) Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai – 400 022;
- 6) Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Jog Center, Old Mumbai-Pune Road, Wakadewadi, Pune-411 003
- 7) Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, New Administrative Bldg., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Behind S.T. Stand, Sadar Bazar, Satara – 415 001
- 8) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office-Khandala, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara.
- 9) Grampanchayat Office – Sukhed, Dhavadwadi, Ghatdare, Bori, Ahire, Khed Budruk, Karadwadi, Vagoshi, Morve, Mhavashi, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara
- 10) Regional Office, West Central Zone, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Secretariat Building Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur
- 11) Website, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board –  
Executive Summary of the Proposed Project is made available in Marathi and English

Convener informed that total 00 suggestions / objections have been received by Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Satara through email regarding the proposed project.

Convener informed that an opportunity will be 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 in this meeting after project proponent completes its presentation.

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

Hearing Committee to direct the Project Proponent to start the presentation.

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

Project Environmental Consultant said that Project Proponent M/s Ashirwad Industries, Gat No. 147/A, Village-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara, Maharashtra State has planned to establish Acetate Manufacturing with Production Capacity of 40.0 TPD In Existing Ethanol Project Site at Gat No. 147/A, Village-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara, Maharashtra State. Hence, no additional land will be required for the project. The cost of the proposed project is estimated at Rs. 5.75 crore. As per the EIA Notification, 2006 as issued by MoEF &CC, Govt. of India, the proposed project falls under Category A 5 (f) – Synthetic Organic Chemicals, it requires to obtain Environmental Clearance (EC) prior to commissioning of the plant for which conducting Environmental Public Hearing is mandatory.

While explaining the details of EMP-Environment Management Plan, Project Consultant informed that proposed project will be ZLD – Zero Liquid Discharge Project. Not a drop of single treated effluent will be generated outside the factory. For Environment Management, Capital Cost is Rupees 82.39 lakh and Recurring Cost will be 9.23 lakh per annum.

Project will require 30 people during the construction phase and 15 people after the project is operational, and priority will be given to locals in employment based on their qualifications.

After the presentation, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all participants to raise any environmental suggestions, views or objections, if any, about the proposed project. Before making the suggestion/objection, please mention your name and the name of the village first.

**Following are the questions asked by the participants present and the replies given to the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Environment Public Hearing Committee :-**

1) Shri Sangram Dhayagude, Residence-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara:-

Here, the signatures of those present at the meeting have been collected. However, it is observed that more than 50% of the people here are not from Sukhed village and its surrounding areas. Yet, they have written in the register that they are residents of Sukhed village. We live in the village and have not seen the relevant persons. Hence, the people whose names will be read, and they please stand up and

show their voter card or Aadhar card if they have it, so that we too can know that they are from our village. He read out all the names.

Staff of Environmental Consultant informed that the name of the village was written because we were at this location.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee directed concerned staff to write your name of residence village or native village.

Shri Sangram Dhaygude raised question asking for an explanation of how industrial wastewater generated in the operational project is treated and disposed of, because we have invited people working in the media. The shepherd community lives behind the project site. The industrial effluent from the company is discharged there.

50 goats have died due to drinking discharged wastewater from the company. Who is responsible for that? He objected that the industrial wastewater released by the company has spoiled the surrounding agriculture land. If government officials visit the area right after the meeting, the present status will be brought to the attention of the authorities right now.

Here, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee directed Technical Officers of the Project Proponent to clarify the current situation.

Shri Sangram Dhaygude alleged that farmers whose fields industrial effluent is discharged are lured and by oppression, they are stopped from filing written complaints.

He objected that there is noise nuisance from the company's production process in the neighboring Padalkar locality. Infants, senior citizens, sick people and patients living in the surrounding neighborhoods are severely affected by the noise when the company is in operation.

Project Proponent admitted that last year, industrial wastewater from the project had flown into the sub canal, but now remedial action has been taken by the company and now no wastewater is going outside the premises.

At that time, Shri Sangram Dhaygude objected that whether industrial effluent is discharged by the Project officials purposely?

Project Proponent replied that the industrial effluents is percolated due the rainwater and mixed with the sub canal water.

Shri **Sangram Dhaygude** while objecting asked whether your effluent could go upto 250 metres long due to rainwater? There is a canal at the downside of the project. Here, company discharges industrial wastewater. Effluent is also discharged on the other side of the project. One truck which releases industrial effluent from the plant got stuck in the soil and water goes into the wells of the local people. A

lot of people do register complaints. The water of the wells and agriculture of the people have been damaged.

Project Proponent answered that whatever happened in the past should not be considered. All those errors have been rectified.

Here Environment Consultant informed that Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) has been commissioned in the working project to treat and dispose of the industrial effluent generated in the present project. At present, 3.50 KLD of industrial effluent is produced. It is treated in the ETP and this treated industrial effluent is used for the cooling tower in the factory only.

Also, the proposed project will be ZLD- Zero Liquid Discharge project. Not a single drop of sewage from the project will go outside the project.

Shri **Sangram** Dhayagude said that if the project is implemented without any problem of pollution by removing the shortcomings in the present project, then the permission of the villagers will be given, otherwise the proposed project will not be approved.

Here Shri **Sangram** Dhayagude objected that the current condition of industrial effluents of the company is terrible. There were three-time explosions happened in the plant. There is a threat to the lives of the people in the area.

Participants **collectively objected** that after the explosion, the workers of the plant run to the other side of the plant. There is a residential colony next to the project. Their lives are in danger due to this project. Agriculture fields are adjacent to the project. Agriculture fields are affected. There is a canal at the downside of the company, into which industrial effluent is discharged by the company. There is a well nearby the company which water is available to the village. Its water is polluted.

At that time, Project Proponent replied that all the problems related to the well have been resolved. Company's environmental consultant has inspected it. Company has also submitted a report in this regard to the gram panchayat office.

**Again some of the participants collectively demanded** that now everyone should come and inspect the well site. Here Shri **Sangram Dhayagude** promised that I would pay the fee myself and will carry the Soil Testing. **Some Participants again collectively objected** that there has been no rain in the last eight days, then how there is the water there now? The water is leaking from the company itself. The company administration has been informed about this immediately. The company is handling the situation illegally and by oppression.

Project Proponent said that local people should put together whatever grievances they may have. These will be resolved under the guidance of Hon. Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee.

**Shri Sangram Dhaygude and others stood up and said that** there was a danger to life due to this company, smoke was coming out of the company.

**Shri Sangram Dhaygude said** that we will sit on a hunger strike at District collector's office against the project. Also, we will send complaints against the project to Hon'ble Prime Minister's Office and to the Central Pollution Control Board. If the company is given permission illegally, all the villagers will come together and oppose the project. Company only promises, nothing else.

Project Proponent informed that ETP was built at a cost of Rs 70 lakh. Local people should raise their concerns, all of which will be resolved.

**At that time, Shri Sangram Dhayagude and others stood up and said that** proposed project should not be approved unless the deficiencies of water pollution, noise pollution, problems and safety caused are totally resolved of existing project. We totally oppose the project.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all participants to raise their suggestions, views or objections regarding the proposed project. It will be included in the minutes of the meeting and will be submitted Government. This committee does not approve the project, recommend the project or reject the project. This meeting is to take note of the suggestions and objections raised by you. Your suggestions and objections will be taken note of and included in the minutes and it will be submitted to the government. Government will take further decision on whether to approve the project or not. Hence, participants should register their suggestions or objections.

**Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee** appealed to the participants to submit the objections raised in writing to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Satara office within 1-2 days.

Participants informed that they had brought with them written objections. At that time. Convener of the meeting informed to submit it to the representative of MPCB, acknowledgment receipt will be given.

2) Shri Mahesh Mahadev Dhayagude, Residing -Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District – Satara:-

What are the initiatives undertaken by the company for the overall development of the village?

Environmental Consultant said that earlier the provisions to implement the CER -- Corporate Environment Responsibility Fund was

not applicable to the project which is in operation. Now, it is mandatory for the proposed project to implement CER activities.

However, even though it was not mandatory to implement CER activities, Project Proponent has undertaken various social activities in the project premises, such as painting of the school, donation for renovation and other works. There is no documentary evidence of this now. However, an amount of ₹ 8.62 lakh has been ear-marked for CER funds in the proposed project. The funds will be spent as per the directives of District Collector's office. The funds will be transferred to the respective Gram Panchayat as per the directives.

At that time, participants demanded to show proof of it. Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee expressed the opinion that this Environment Public Hearing is called for the proposed project and hence participants are requested to raise environmental suggestions and objections regarding the proposed project.

Convener, Environment **Public Hearing** Committee appealed to the participants to raise suggestions/objections without any discussions among themselves.

3) Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee:-

He appealed that whatever expectations the villagers have from the proposed project should be raised. This Environment Public Hearing is not to verify/check the mistakes made by in the present project. However, suggestions and ideas should be raised about the social activities required in the village.

4) Shri Aniket Dhayagude, Residence-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara:-

Why was such a meeting not held when the company was started here?

Convener, Environment **Public Hearing Committee** informed that this is already explained at the beginning of the meeting. According to Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2016, certain projects are required to obtain Environmental Clearance (EC), for which it is mandatory to hold Environment Public Hearing in advance. This Environment Public Hearing is being held as the product of the proposed project falls into specified category.

At that time, Shri Aniket Dhayagude said that we do not want to say anything about the present project, but we want information about the new proposed project and its production.

Project Environment Consultant informed that the proposed project will be commissioned within the area of present project. No additional space will be required for the proposed project.

Participants **collectively objected that the local people** suffering from water, air and noise pollution due to the present project.

So we don't want the proposed project. The distress and damage caused by this project is now enough.

Project Environment Consultant said that all the mistakes and shortcomings in the present project have been rectified. If there is a need for any social activities in the new proposed project, they should be indicated. Suggestions and objections from the villagers are welcome. Local people, farmers can submit environmental suggestions/objections about the proposed project to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, District Collector's Office, Satara. Now Central Government, State Government and the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board pass strict directives for the project to protect the environment. If the directives are not complied with, the permission is suspended. Convener has also said at the beginning of the meeting that this public hearing is only for the suggestions and objections of the local people. No decision is made here.

5) Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee:-

Information about the production in the present project, how much it is produced, what is the raw material required for it and what you are going to produce in the proposed project should be explained to the local people in a language which they can understand. At that time-

6) Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee: -

Now, in the present project, what is the production, what is its capacity, what is the capacity of the proposed production, which raw material will be used, how many trucks will be used for it, from where and by which road, what is the water requirement in the production per day, the sources of water for the production, and what is the "Zero Liquid Discharge" plant, what is the system for which you will adopt for this.

Technical Consultant of the project started sharing all the technical details of the project. He first gave a technical overview of the working project and explained that the working project is RS Ethanol. RS means that the sugar factories in the area produce Rectified Spirits from the sugar factories. It has 5-6% water. Here, in this plant, rectified spirits are brought in and the plant has a distillation process. Water is drawn from Rectified Spirit. That water is 5-6% The product that is produced after extraction is called "Ethanol". The oil companies of the Government of India need Ethanol. Government of India has announced Ethanol Blending Programme. Government of India, the country needs this Ethanol production. This ethanol is blended with petrol. About 5-6% water which is extracted from rectified spirits is treated in the ETP and processed with anaerobic and Aeration. The BOD, COD parameters are made lessen and it is used for cooling tower in the plant itself. The treated wastewater will be reused in the plant itself.

Also, the proposed new project will be Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD). Apart from this, Government of India does not approve the project. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) will not allow the project to operate until all the pollution control systems are operational. ETP in a previously operational project was not sufficient. Therefore, its efficiency was low.

However, in the new project, most advance equipment's will be commissioned and your knowledgeable, expert people can sit together with the Pollution Control Cell of the company for twenty-four hours and check the efficiency of the pollution control system and you can submit your report to the government. Thus, information about the ethanol plant is fully stated.

Technical Advisor further said that he is telling about Ethyl Acetate. The Ethyl Acetate plant will be started with the installation of a new modern system in the area of operational project. Rectified spirits will also be brought from outside. Ethyl acetate contains water, but it contains some chemicals. For both Ethanol and Ethyl Acetate, a combined ETP will be installed and ZLD system will be implemented. The industrial effluent generated in the new plant will be reused in the project itself. You can also come in the project and inspect the ETP of the new project. Technical Department of the project will provide you inspection report.

Technical Advisor of the project appealed participants to raise suggestions, objections, if any.

Here, **Chairman**, Environment **Public Hearing** Committee suggested that Project Proponent has obtained Membership of the "Common Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, Disposal Facility (CHWTSDF). Hence participants should be informed about it. Also, how much quantity of waste will be sent to TSDF every day?

In response to this, Environment Consultant said that the water is purified in the ETP and the remaining sludge is disposed of and sent to Facility at Ranjangaon, Pune for further scientific processing. It cannot be dumped here and anywhere as per the rules. Also, the plastic drums that come in the project will be sold only to the authorized dealer of the government. Used Oil in the plant will also be sent to Ranjangaon to CHWTSDF for scientific disposal. It is not dumped/thrown anywhere else in the area.

**At that time, Participants asked if there is any surety that it would be sent to Ranjangaon?**

Environmental Consultant and Technical Advisor of the project informed that it is mandatory to submit Annual Report of each tanker to the government. If it is not given, the government takes further action.

Here, Convener, Environment **Public Hearing Committee** clarified that Facility at Ranjangaon (CHWTSDF) submits detailed information to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board every year about the quantity of hazardous waste received from each company and the scientific process done on it. It is mandatory to provide the information.

7) Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee

here asked whether Project Proponent has prepared Disaster Management Plan? Whether there is any system to inform and alert the workers of the project and villagers also regarding an accidental fire, if there is a chemical explosion, (i.e. siren/announcement) in the project. It should be clarified whether a mock drill is being conducted, whether the people, villagers are involved in the mock drill or not. Also, co-ordinating with the District Disaster Management Section (DDMS).

Environment Consultant said the suggestions made by the chairman were acceptable.

8) Shri Deepak Dhayagude, Residence-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara:-

At that time Shri Deepak Dhayagude expressed apprehension that Project Proponent only made promises but did nothing. Also, they won't do anything here. He demanded that the nearby residential colonies should not face any problem with the project, no one outside the company's boundary (wall compound) should suffer.

Project Technical Consultant said that government would not approve the project without it. Shri Deepak Dhayagude asked if the new project will be set up in any new place.

Environmental Consultant showed the plan and informed that new project will be set up in the area of present project only.

9) Shri Sandeep Chopde, Residence-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara:-

He asked last time whether workers had ran away when there was a fire in the company. What preventive measures will be taken if this happens?

Environmental Consultant said that a separate financial provision has been made for the fire fighting system in the project. Also, in the meeting, as per the suggestions given by Hon'ble Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee, scientific information will be made available from time to time to create awareness about accidental fire and disaster control in the project-affected villages, mock drills will be organized. Also, people/representative recommended by people from different villages will be included in the mock drill.

10) Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee:-

Preparation of Disaster Management Plan is mandatory in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. However, in case of any

disaster or fire in the project, it should be informed that outsiders and residential areas will not be disturbed.

11) Here, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee expressed the opinion that in case of any disaster, how long the main road is, in how much time the fire brigade will come to the project site, in case of an explosion, in how much time, the medical aid and ambulance will reach the project site or how long it will take time for the people of the project to get medical help/hospitalisation. This should be included in the revised Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA).

At that time, Environmental Consultant said in Hindi that in the EIA report, there is a system (software) approved by the government in Chapter 7, which is called FAST. On the basis of this, the risk and hazard in the project has been studied, the project area has been studied i.e. 0.5 ML leakage, 0.25 ML leakage or if the entire pipeline leaks, then how far the dangerous impact will go if there is a fire. Emergency phone numbers, medical help numbers, police numbers, etc. are given in the Disaster Management Plan (DMP).

12) Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee opined that the reality is that no one knows the technical issues of disaster relief. The employee who is working in the lower category of the project does not know anything e.g. If there is a VOC, the odour will irritate the eyes of the employees working nearby, so they do not know what to do.

Environmental Consultant said that the reaction to the process in the project will be very low. However, if the tank leaks, it can catch fire. He promised that according to the suggestion of the Hon'ble Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee, special training should be given to the employees and officers of the company keeping in mind the risk and hazard. It is also necessary to organize mock drills in various villages of the area from time to time and involve the participants of the local people.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested that considering the risk and hazard of the proposed project, it is need that Project Proponent should organize 2-3 camps in different villages. Participants/villagers in the meeting here complained that 50 goats had died due to drinking of mixing of industrial effluent released by the plant. Whereas, it is necessary for the Project Proponent to create awareness among the local people keeping in mind the risk and hazard of the project. Also, it is necessary to inform the local people about how much raw material will be brought in the

project, whether it is dangerous, whether the road is good, how many trucks of raw material will come daily. Also, if there is a leakage of raw material of the trucks on the road, have you done disaster management for it?

Environment Project Consultant assured in Hindi that the suggestions raised in the meeting would be followed in toto.

At that time, **Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee** again suggested that local people should be told what is the condensate in the project, what is the scrubber, whether there is an activated carbon filter, what is the height of the stack, what will be the problem with the pollutants that come if a person stands up, as well as what is the lick detection plan like which pollutants will go up from the chimney. Regular monitoring, VOC monitoring should be explained. Air quality is different in winter and summer. Local people should be made aware about air quality control, ground level concentration. While developing the green belt, the local people should be given an explanation about which trees will be planted, which species of trees will be planted. It is wrong that you only say that you have made a technical presentation. Even Environmental Consultant appointed by the company is not able to explain/clarify the information properly. Capital expenditure and recurring expenditure do not seem to be appropriate in the Environment Management Plan (EMP). That's because ₹ 9.23 lakh seems to be a low recurring cost. The cost provision seems to be low.

Also, notice boards / banners about the project should be put up in all the project affected villages. Do's and Don'ts boards should be put up inside and outside the project so that people know about it. They won't go away because it's hazardous garbage.

13) Shri Sangram Dhayagude, Residence-Sukhed, Taluka-Khadala, District-Satara:-

The road leading to the company is so bad that the company management never thought that if the tanker overturned, there would be a big disaster in the area. The foul smell of ethanol from the plant is observed upto five km. He supported the suggestions raised by Hon'ble Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee.

Participants **collectively objected** that it was expected from the company to put up banners in the village during the public hearing. Local people were not aware of this Environment Public Hearing.

Convener, **Environmental Public Hearing Committee** clarified that as per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification (EIA), 2006, the public notice of the environment public hearing meeting was published in a local newspaper in Marathi and one in national newspaper in English thirty days advance of the meeting. Further, all

the environmental documents related to the proposed project were made available at the project affected Gram Panchayat Offices for public perusal. All Gram Panchayat offices were instructed to give proper publicity in this regard.

14) Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee:-

All the products in the project are hazardous chemicals. As per the suggestions raised by the Chairperson of the meeting, you have mentioned in the EIA report page no.293 Onsite and offsite plans. However, it should be made available in a language that the local people can understand. There was an accident/explosion at the plant a few days ago. Has the villagers been given complete information about it? There is apprehension among the villagers about the project. It should be removed. All our Environment Management Plans (EMPs) should be made available in Marathi in a language that they can understand and co-ordinate with them.

Here, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested that all the Environment Management Plans (EMPs) should be made available to the villagers in Marathi. Wherever possible, it should be made in a summary form.

15) Shri Sangram Dhayagude, Residnece-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara:-

Company took a tanker across the road. It was a rainy day. The tanker got stuck in the mud, they left it there only. The water from the well goes downstream. It was good that it is known, otherwise what would have happened if the people at the downside had drunk the water? If there had been a loss of life, who was responsible?

Participants **collectively objected that** company officials go to any field and release industrial wastewater, give big promises to the affected persons and with oppression prevent him to register the complaint.

**Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee** suggested that a meeting of the villagers should be convened on the basis of the issues raised by the **Chairman, Public Hearing Committee on Environment.**

At that time, Project Proponent assured that a separate Disaster Management Plan would be prepared and all the information would be made available to the villagers.

Shri Sangram Dhaygude, Resident-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara opined that the company management should run the company for 4-5 years as per the assurance given by the company in the meeting, after which all the villagers will review it and then only we

will take further decision. But now we are opposing the project. Suggestions given should be complied by the company. After 4-5 years, all the villagers will then take further decision.

Convener, Environment **Public Hearing Committee** informed that their objections would be recorded in the minutes.

Convener, Environment **Public Hearing Committee** appealed all participants to register any suggestions and objections about the proposed project.

**Shri Sangram Dhaygude, Residing-Sukhed, Taluka-Khandala, District-Satara, objected** to the Chairperson of the meeting that he had seen the condition of the road here. Those who have cattle, there is no tar/asphalt road here. If a tanker overturns, the dust causes trouble to the people residing side of the road, what measures will the company take to deal with it?

At this time, **Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee asked** about the difficulty of making the road. Project Proponent assured that the road leading to the village would be completely repaired by the company.

One participant opined that the company should not be allowed.

At that time, **Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee** remarked that this is not meeting to approve the project, but to register the suggestions and objections raised by the local people. It will be included in the minutes of the meeting and will be submitted to Government. Government takes further decision in this regard. Also, if local people want to file a written objection, they can do so. It is given two more days. Therefore, if you have studied and understood some issues, you can register them in writing at the Satara office of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board.

Convener, Environment **Public Hearing Committee** appealed to the participants of the meeting that those who want to submit objections in writing should submit them to Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, New Administrative Building, 2nd Floor, S.T. Behind the Stand, Sadar Bazar, Satara during office hours. It will be acknowledged.

Convener appealed to participants to submit environmental suggestions, thoughts, objections about the proposed project. There was no response from the attendees.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee thanked all the participants for attending the meeting and on behalf of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee declared that the meeting is concluded.

Meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

Written 01 suggestion /objection received are enclosed herewith.

*Amol Satpute*  
**(Amol Satpute)**

Convener,  
Environment Public Hearing  
Committee  
And  
Sub Regional Officer,  
Maharashtra Pollution Control  
Board, Satara

*Babasaheb Kukade*  
**(Babasaheb Kukade)**

Member,  
Environment Public Hearing  
Committee  
And  
Regional Officer,  
Maharashtra Pollution Control  
Board, Pune

*Nagesh Patil*

**(Nagesh Patil)**  
Chairman,  
Environment Public Hearing Committee  
And  
Additional District Magistrate, Satara  
District – Satara