

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF EXPANSION OF BULK DRUG & INTERMEDIATES MANUFACTURING UNIT BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/s. SMRUTHI ORGANICS LIMITED (SOL), PLOT NO. A-27, CHINCHOLI MIDC & GAT NO.230, 231, 232 & 233, VILLAGE: CHINCHOLI TALUKA: MOHOL, DISTRICT: SOLAPUR, STATE: MAHARASHTRA.**

---

The Environment Public Hearing in respect of Expansion of Bulk Drug & Intermediates Manufacturing Unit at Plot No. A-27, Chincholi MIDC & Gat No.230, 231, 232, & 233 in Village: Chincholi, Taluka: Mohol, District: Solapur, State: Maharashtra by Project Proponent M/S. Smruthi Organics Ltd. (SOL), was conducted on Tuesday, 3rd February, 2026 at 12.00 noon at Plot No. P-7, Jaykumar Patil Udyog Bhavan, Chincholi MIDC, Tal- Mohol, Dist-Solapur.

Shri. Nikhil More, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), Solapur & Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri. Abhijeet Patil, Additional Collector, Solapur & Chairperson of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Shri. Babasaheb Kukade, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune & Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists, Representatives of media channels and Company Officials and local people/participants who were present and with permission of Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee started the proceedings of the meeting

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that, as per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, Gol) 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.

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



Convener further informed that Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai received an application from Project Proponent M/S. Smruthi Organics Ltd. (SOL), Plot No. A-27, Chincholi MIDC & Gat No.230, 231, 232, & 233, Village: Chincholi, Taluka: Mohol, District: Solapur, State: Maharashtra to conduct Environment Public Hearing in respect of their Expansion of Bulk Drug & Intermediates Manufacturing Unit. Accordingly, Head Office, MPCB, Mumbai issued a public hearing order to SRO, Solapur Office and directed to conduct public hearing through their letter dated 09.09.2025.

Convener further informed that, as per EIA Notification No.1533 (E), Dated 14.09.2006 and Amended Notification, the proposed activities fall under Category B- Synthetic Organic Chemicals Industry 5 (f); which requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from Ministry Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi, Govt. of India for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory. However, applicability of general condition, the Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary is located about 2.1 Km from the project site & its ESZ located about 1.98 Km from project site. And due to project partly established on adjacent Non-MIDC land, the proposal is treated as Category 'A'.

Project Proponent had submitted online prescribed application on 15.04.2025 along with Pre-feasibility Report to obtain ToR (Terms of Reference) to Ministry Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi, Govt. of India and it has been considered by MoEFCC, New Delhi, Govt. of India and granted online approval on 22.04.2025.

Accordingly, Project Proponent has appointed NABET approved Environment Consultant through which detailed Environmental Survey in the radius of 10 Km of the project site was carried out to study the proposed impact on environment due to the commissioning of this project and prepared a draft Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report and submitted it.

Joint Director (Water Pollution Control), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai vide letter dated 09.09.2025 directed Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur to carry



the process of conducting environmental public hearing regarding the said project.

Afterwards, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur has requested Hon. District Collector, Solapur to conduct Environment Public Hearing for the proposed activities. Hon. District Collector, Solapur directed to conduct Physical Environment Public hearing on Tuesday, 03rd February, 2026 at 12.00 noon, and after getting sanction from Hon. Additional Collector, Solapur, 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- 02 of 2026 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-260108-FTS-0025 dated 08-01-2026 as under: -

- 1) District Magistrate-Solapur - **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,  
Solapur

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur in the local newspaper Daily Sanchar for language Marathi and in newspaper daily Divya Marathi for English on 03.01.2026. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit. Also copy of EIA report and executive summery were



made available in Marathi and in English at various notified Government offices as under:-

- 1) The District Collector, Collector Office, Solapur;
- 2) The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Solapur;
- 3) The General Manager, District Industries Center, Solapur;
- 4) The Regional Officer, Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Jog Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Wakadewadi, Old Pune-Mumbai Road, Pune - 411 003;
- 4) Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road
- 6) Director, Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai - 400 032;
- 7) Sub Regional Officer, Sub Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, B/4, Bali Building, Civil Lines, Opp. Government Milk Dairy, Sat Rasta, Solapur - 413 003;
- 8) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office-Mohol, Taluka-Mohol, District -Solapur;
- 9) Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti-Mohol, District-Solapur;
- 10) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office-North Solapur, Taluka-North Solapur, District – Solapur;
- 11) Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti-North Solapur, District- Solapur;
- 12) **Grampanchayat Offices related to Tal- North Solpaur** - Nannaj, Akolekati, Pakani, Bibi Darfal, Kondi, Karamba, Gulawanchi, Khed, Mohitewadi, Shivani, Tal- North Solpaur, Dist- Solapur
- 13) **Grampanchayat Offices related to Tal.: Mohol** - Wirwade Bk., Chincholikati, Savaleshwar, Shirapur, Lamboti Tal- Mohol, Dist- Solapur

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



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

Project Environment Consultant welcomed all the participants and with the permission of Hon'ble Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee made a presentation about the project and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the project. He informed that Bulk drugs have become a part of life for sustaining many of day-to-day activities, preventing and controlling diseases. Bulk drugs manufacturing sector in India is well established and has recorded a steady growth in the overall Indian industrial scenario. An ever-increasing demand for Bulk Drug and Intermediates in India and abroad as well as changing market conditions for manufacture and sale of products has prompted the promoters to go for expansion of existing Bulk Drugs and Intermediates manufacturing unit.

The investment for the expansion Project is 25 crore. Also, about 102 additional manpower is needed in the expansion project and for that, priority will be given to local people. Good Management Practices is followed by the industry. All internal roads are fully paved and concreted.

After expansion, there will be no increase in the project area, and the expansion will be carried out within the existing project area itself. After expansion, 19 new products will be introduced. At the same time, the existing 10 products will be completely discontinued. Additionally, the



production of 5 products will be reduced and the production of 6 products will be increased. Therefore, after expansion, the total production capacity (492.5 MT/month) will remain the same as the current production capacity. After expansion, a total of 302 Cu.M/Day of water will be used. Also, 123.5 Cu.M/Day per day of wastewater will be generated.

In the existing project, an Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) is provided on site. The wastewater is segregated into two streams: one with High COD and High TDS, and another with Low COD and Low TDS. At present, the treated wastewater is completely recycled and reused within the industry and the same practice will continue after expansion. As a result, there will be a 45% reduction in fresh water consumption. The project follows a Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) system, and not a single drop of treated wastewater will be discharged outside the premises.

Under existing project, the industry has installed 3 & 4 TPH boilers for which Cyclone Dust Collector along with Bag filter is attached as APC equipment. The coal is used as fuel to the existing boilers. The new 12 TPH boiler will be installed under proposed expansion project for which Coal/ Bagasse will be used as fuel. The Multicyclone Dust Collector with Bag Filter is attached as APC equipment to the proposed 12 TPH boiler. The solid waste i.e. Boiler ash is given to Brick Manufacturer. The hazardous waste generated will be forwarded to CHWT SDF, Ranjangaon. The same practices will be followed for Solid & Hazardous waste disposal under expansion project.

In the proposed project, a provision of 340 lakhs has been made for Environmental Protection Measures and for the operation & maintenance of pollution control systems 85 lakhs per annum will be provided. A provision of 25 Lakhs (1% of Rs. 25 crores) has been made for Social and Environmental Responsibility (CER) in the area.

As per the directives of the Central Pollution Control Board, it is mandatory to develop 33% of the total project area as a green belt. However, the project proponents have so far developed and designated 38% of the area as a green belt.

A detailed study of various environmental components within the 10 km radius study area surrounding the project was carried out and



presented along with monitoring details and data sheets. This included comprehensive information on ambient air quality, surface and groundwater quality, soil analysis, noise levels, the socio-economic status of the area, as well as the ecology and biodiversity within the study area. Furthermore, while presenting the potential impacts of the proposed project on all the above environmental components, information was provided regarding the importance and methodology of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study. In conclusion, it was stated that the existing project and the proposed expansion of Smruthi Organics Ltd. would be beneficial to the local area, the State of Maharashtra, and the country as a whole.

After the Presentation, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed participants that with the permission of Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee participants to raise their suggestions, views, objections in respect of proposed project

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise suggestions, views, objections in respect of proposed project in environmental angle only. While raising suggestions, objections, first inform the name and name of the village.

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

1. **Shri. Abhijeet Patil, Additonal Collector, Solapur & Chairman of Public Hearing Committee:** - Is any casualties happened in the existing industry? Project Environmental Consultant replied that as we proudly said our success of 30-year experience in the field of API manufacturing business. It is also important to says that there is no any fatal or casualty happened in the existing industrial premises.
2. **Shri. Kisan Dhotre, Village Chincholikati, Tal.: Mohol, Dist.: Solapur:** - My agricultural land is adjacent to the concerned



company, and for the past 25 years I have been continuously filing complaints against it. I have repeatedly submitted written complaints to the Pollution Control Board. Due to the discharge of wastewater and its percolation into the soil, the Board had even issued a notice to the company. As a result, our agricultural land has suffered significant damage. There is a severe shortage of drinking water in the village. Wherever borewells are drilled, chemically contaminated water is found. Crops in our fields do not grow properly. In such circumstances, how can permission be granted to this company again? Approximately 50% of the information submitted by the company is incorrect. The company burns wood in large quantities, which is harmful to the environment. During their Audit time, they stopped burning wood and started using coal; however, later they discontinued coal and resumed burning wood. Thousands of tons of wood are being burned as fuel.

At present, the company is discharging wastewater outside its premises. Due to this pollution, around 7-8 people in our village have developed serious illnesses such as cancer. Therefore, strict action should be taken against the company. Earlier as well, applications had been filed against the company.

Currently, about 80% of those present at the public hearing are company employees. A large number of genuinely affected villagers are not present.

Thereafter, the Hon. Additional Collector stated that all objections should be submitted in writing, and action would be taken accordingly.

The Environmental Consultant informed that notice of the environmental public hearing had been published 30 days in advance in newspapers and on the website of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. Based on that information, any citizen could attend the public hearing and register their objections. Therefore, company or MIDC employees could also attend the public hearing. Although some of the attendees were company employees, they were also local residents.

After that, Mr. Dhotre argued loudly with the Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, shouting for quite some time. Observing that the



situation was creating confusion and an atmosphere of tension at the public hearing venue, the Hon. Additional Collector, Solapur (Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee), instructed Mr. Dhotre to lower his voice and refrain from using threatening or intimidating language. The Chairman stated that his concerns had been heard and that all complaints should be submitted in writing. Despite this, Mr. Dhotre continued to escalate the argument, claiming that no one was listening to them and that attempts were being made to suppress their voice. After this, the Chairman and members of the Public Hearing Committee advised Mr. Dhotre to sit down and allow others an opportunity to speak.

Thereafter, Mr. Vikram Dhotre stated that they had been filing complaints against the company since the year 2000. He further alleged that for the past 20-25 years, the company had encroached upon and blocked the village road from Chincholikati to Pakani by constructing a wall.

Taking note of this issue, the Hon. Additional Collector questioned the project proponent, who clarified that no such encroachment or blockage of the village road had been carried out. The Hon. Additional Collector stated that the written complaint would be accepted and that instructions would be given to the SLR department to conduct an inspection. However, despite these developments, Mr. Kisan Dhotre continued to escalate the dispute, disturbing the peace and atmosphere of the public hearing hall. Consequently, Hon. Additional Collector, Solapur (Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee) ordered police protection to be called and directed Mr. Kisan Dhotre to leave the public hearing hall.

**3. Shri. Babasaheb Kukade, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee :-**

For the proposed project, will a new plant be constructed, or will there be an expansion in the existing plant?

Environmental Consultant answered that No new manufacturing plant will be constructed at the said location. An ETP (Effluent Treatment Plant) already exists there, and a green belt will be developed.



#### 4. **Shri. V. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Telangana**

First he mentioned that he was the first environmentalist to support industrial development and sustainable development. He congratulated and supported the project management for setting up an industry in MIDC area. He requested project proponent to plant fruit bearing trees in industry. He also gave some suggestions to the project proponents such as taking care of the environment, he suggested to store rainwater in the factory for environmental protection. He also suggested to conduct skill development programs in the nearby villages. He also suggested to form a co-ordination committee with the help of volunteers from villages to undertake proposed CSR activities. He also mentioned that he is recommending this industry to MoEFCC for unconditional environmental clearance.

#### 5. **Shri. S. Chandrashekhar, Environmentalist, Telangana**

He requested project proponent to develop the greenery around factory site. He also mentioned that CSR activities to be carried out in nearby villages. Also, 50% local employment should be provided by the industry. plant fruit bearing trees in industry. He also mentioned that he is recommending this industry to MoEFCC for Environmental Clearance.

**Suggestion from Shri. Babasaheb Kukade, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee** :- Pollution control equipments like ETP, APC adequacy should be carried out by an reputed authorized institution or organization. Also, Pollution load will be carried out.

**Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee** remarked that questions, suggestions have been raised by the local people in a very appropriate manner and the Project Environmental



Consultant has properly answered them. Hence, Hon. Chairperson is requested to take further action.

While concluding the meeting Hon. Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that today we have gathered for Environment Public Hearing of Expansion of Bulk Drug & Intermediates Manufacturing Unit At Plot No. A-27, Chincholi MIDC & Gat No.230, 231, 232, & 233 in Village Chincholi, Tal. Mohol, Dist.: Solapur, State: Maharashtra by Project Proponent M/S. Smruthi Organics Ltd. (SOL).

Environmental Consultant of the project gave detailed information about the proposed project and its EIA - Environment Impact Assessment and gave relevant answers to the questions asked by the participants.

Similarly, Project Proponent and their Environment Consultant are expected to answer the queries and questions raised by the participants. It is to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to submit their any suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in written form by today only. The important thing here is that here we do not take any decision, but the suggestions and objections of the people are submitted to the Government.

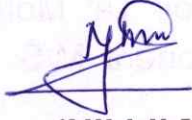
Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed to participants to register any suggestions, objections regarding the proposed project. There was no response from the audience.

Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee thanked all for attending this meeting and declared that meeting is concluded.

Meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.



Enclosed herewith written suggestions / objections/ comments/complaints as received with regards to Public hearing. A copy of the reply submitted by the project proponent, M/s. Smruthi Organics Limited, in response to the complaint received, is attached herewith.



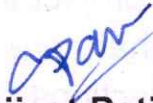
**(Nikhil More)**

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



**(Babasaheb Kukade)**

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



**(Abhijeet Patil)**

Chairperson  
Environment Public Hearing Committee  
And  
Additional District Magistrate, Solapur  
District – Solapur