

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON 25-03-2015 AT 11.00 A.M IN RESPECT OF M/S. SHRI BALAJI SUGARS AND CHEMICALS PRIVATE LIMITED, SY.NO. 74/1 OF YARAGAL VILLAGE AND SY.NOS. 32/1, 35/4, 35/5, 35/6, 36/1A1, 40/1A/1, 40/1A/2, 40/1B, 40/1D, 40/1K, 40/3, 40/4, 40/5, 40/6, OF MADARI VILLAGE, MUDDEBIHAL TALUK, VIJAYAYPURA DISTRICT FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT TO ESTABLISH A NEW 60 KLPD MOLASSES BASED DISTILLERY PLANT AND 3 MW CO-GENERATION POWER PLANT IN THE EXISTING SUGAR INDUSTRY PREMISES.

Venue of the Public Hearing: At the existing premises of Sugar Industry located at Yargal, Madari Village, Muddebihal Taluk, Vijayapura District.

- Panel Members Present** :
1. Sri D. Randeep
Chairman-Environmental Public Hearing Panel
Deputy Commissioner,
Vijayapura District.
 2. Sri. C.M.Satish
Senior Environmental Officer,
Zonal Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board,
Dhrawad.(Representative of Member Secretary, KSPCB,
Bengaluru)
 3. Sri K.M.Ramesh - Member Convener
Environmental Officer,
Regional Office,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Vijayapura

- Officers Present** :
1. Sri. S.Ramesha
Deputy Environmental Officer,
Regional Office,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Vijayapura
 2. Sri. Anilkumar D Talageri,
Assistant Environmental Officer,
Regional Office,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board,
Vijayapura.
 3. Smt. Reshma P Naikar,
Assistant Environmental Officer,
Regional Office,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Vijayapura

Representatives of the Project : Annexure-I.

Name of the public participated : Annexure-II.

PREAMBLE:

M/s. Shri Balaji Sugars and Chemicals Private Limited have proposed to establish a **new 60 KLPD Molasses based distillery plant and 3 MW Co-generation Power Plant** in the existing Sugar Industry Premises at Sy.No 74/1 of Yaragal Village and Sy.Nos. 32/1, 35/4, 35/5, 35/6, 36/1A1, 40/1A/1, 40/1A/2, 40/1B, 40/1D, 40/1K, 40/3, 40/4, 40/5, 40/6, of Madari village, Muddebihala Taluk, Vijayapura District.

As per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification dated, 14-09-2006 of Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India, it is mandatory to conduct a public hearing of the above said project. Accordingly the Deputy Director, Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India, New Delhi after finalizing the **Terms of Reference (TOR)**, has directed the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board to conduct the Environmental Public Hearing. The project proponent has also requested the Board to conduct the public hearing as per Notification.

The project proponent has submitted the Executive Summary of the said project in Kannada and English along with draft REIA to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bengaluru as laid down in the procedures of the EIA Notification 2006. The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board has issued Paper Notification in State level leading Kannada daily newspaper **Samyuktha Karnataka** and leading english daily newspaper **Deccan Herald** on 23-02-2015 and also issued Paper Notification in District level local newspaper **Satya Kranti** on 23-02-2015 regarding the proposed project by inviting objections/suggestions from the bonafide residents, NGO's, Environmentalists and general public who are affected from the proposed project, either by attending the public hearing/in writing/by e-mail to KSPCB and Chairman of public hearing panel & Deputy Commissioner, Vijayapura District (Earlier: Bijapur District).

The Environmental Public Hearing commenced at 11.00AM on 25-03-2015 and the welcome speech was made by the Environmental Officer, Regional Office, KSPCB, Vijayapura. He also explained the purpose of the meeting. The Deputy Commissioner, Vijayapura addressed the gathering and explained the need of conducting Environmental

Public Hearing for the project which proposes increasing the production capacity of 60 KLPD Molasses based distillery plant and 3 MW Co-generation Power Plant in the Existing Sugar Industry Premises by M/s. Shri Balaji Sugars and Chemicals Private Limited, Yargal, Madari Village, Muddebihal Taluk, Vijayapura District. There after he informed the project proponent to present the case before the committee and the public present, before suggestions/objections could be invited.

Sri. Deepak Desai on behalf of ACE Engineers & Consultation, Patiala, Chandigarh who is the project consultant of M/s. Shri Balaji Sugars and Chemicals Private Limited briefed in detail about the history and activities of the company, total extent of land available, availability of raw material, sources of water, existing Distillery and Co-generation Power Plant, products manufactured and by products generation, mode of collection and its disposal, waste water generation and its mode of treatment and disposal and air pollution sources and the control measures adopted in the unit.

Further, the company consultant highlighted the geography of the area, proposed land use plan, Afforestation, manufacturing process of Distillery and Co-generation Power Plant unit. The consultant explained about the likely impacts on the environment arising due to proposed integrated unit, through prediction studies and by compiling the base line data collected within a distance of 10.00 KM radius on Air, Water and Noise qualities, ecology of the area and socio-economic details. He briefed that the proposed integrated plant needs about 600 M³ of water per day for the manufacturing and domestic purposes when it operates for 330 days (Distillery plants in operation & Co-generation Power plant). The water is procured from the Krishna River. The project proponent is planning to take up the preventive measures on Water and Air pollution control measures, green belt development and socio economic activities for which funds has been made available in the budget allocation and planning so as to spend every year starting from the date of commencement of production activities.

Further, he informed that the proponents have proposed to establish a steam generation boiler of capacity 25 TPH with ESP as air pollution control measures to mitigate air pollution. The bagasse generated from the Sugar unit will be used as fuel to the boiler within the premises. The fly ash generated from the captive power plant will be used in composting for preparation of the manure. He has also informed that the molasses generated from the sugar plant will be used as raw material for manufacturing of Alcohol within the premises.

He explained that the proposed project is an integrated unit having Distillery unit and Co-generation Power Plant. The waste water generation from the different units will be treated in the Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) and same will be completely recycled back into the process and excess quantity will be used for green belt development and irrigation purposes. Hence there will be zero discharge from the unit.

He informed that the industry has already adopted the water conservation techniques in the unit. He further informed that total water requirement is about 600 KLPD in which only 500 M³ per day of fresh water is being drawn from the river Krishna and remaining quantity of water is from distillery activities and recycling of condensate water and treated trade effluent. Further he clarified that the total extent of land is 40500 Sq.m. The factory will develop the area under green belt development in factory premises by planting 1000 No's saplings per hectare by using treated trade effluent and domestic effluent by way irrigation system. There is a plan to take more afforestation work in and around the industry.

After the detailed presentation on the proposed project, the Deputy Commissioner, as the Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing informed to the public that the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board issued Paper Notification in the leading newspapers on the proposed project establishment by inviting objections/suggestions from the public. So far, no body had filed objections/suggestions on the proposed project to the State Pollution Control Board or to the District Administration.

Hence, now the Deputy Commissioner invited the public who were present at the meeting to express their comments/views/suggestions on the proposed project.

Accordingly, the following persons came ahead and expressed their views of the proposed project activity;

1. Sri. Jagadish Pampannavar, Ex-Chairman of Gram Panchayat, Baikur Village:

He said that from the beginning I have had good relationship with this industry and they are managing the factory without affecting the public at large. At present we are economically better placed after cultivating sugar cane. Earlier there were no roads and after establishing the industry, the roads were improved. We have to see that there would be no water and air

pollution and industry should adopt advanced technology. As per CSR the industry should give facility of schools and colleges to students here. He requested the industry to give medical and ESI benefits to the employees and their children, as per Factory Act.

2. Sri. Laxman Hanamanthappa Bijjura, Lebagiri Village:

He said that it is our right to air our grievances in front of the Deputy Commissioner. It is good for the people of Muddebihal Taluk if M/s. Balaji Sugar Private Limited is established. He requested the farmers to cooperate the industry for the improvement of the people of Muddebihal Taluk.

3. Sri. S.M Biradar, Yargal Village:

He said that our village road is narrow for allowing the sugarcane carrying vehicles. Hence, these vehicles should use the link roads. If these vehicles are allowed through the Yeregal village, it will affect the school children. Hence, I request you to divert the vehicles through link road.

4. Sri. Gurunath Gouda Biradar, Chief Secretary of Bharathiya Kishan Sangha, Yaranal Village:

He said that from the last 3 years Government is implementing irrigation system here. For 8 years we are growing sugar cane. Earlier to this we had burnt the sugar cane, since the factory was far away from this area. Now it is helpful for us for sending the sugar cane to this factory. Therefore, I request everyone to co-operate for coming-up of the industry. There will be no problem for environment by this industry and the industry should develop the surrounding roads. He requested the farmers to co-operate with the industry management for coming-up of this industry in this area.

5. Sri Vilash Pirakhe, Muddebihal Village:

He said that it is good for us to establishing this project and also requested to crush the sugar cane in time on the seniority basis. But the industry has not informed about the plus or minus points of the environmental pollution. In future, they have to inform the same.

6. Shri Basavaraj Damanal, Yargal Village:

He said that Muddebihal taluk is a backward taluk. The previous Minister gave an assurance to bring the sugar cane industry to this area. This industry has established the cane crushing facility for farmers. Hence, we are thankful to the factory management.

7. Sri Gurusangappa Basappa, Andragalli-Nemageri Village:

He said that the industry should give employment to the Diploma and BE students of this area by establishing this project and requested the industry to operate without causing any problem to the neighboring villages.

8. Sri. Adivappa Rudrappa Kaddi, Yargal Village:

He said that conducting of hearing and forwarding the opinion of farmers to the Government is good. This management has established the industry by coming from the Bagalkot District, which is helpful to the farmers of this area. I request the people not to imagine about generation of smell and pollution by the industry. Now the technology is advanced and they are implementing same. Therefore I request the farmers to co-operate and for coming up of the industry. However, he requested the Deputy Commissioner to provide the facility for drinking water, health and welfare of the employees located in this area.

9. Sri. Gangdhar Nadagouda, Member of Zilla Panchayat,

He said that pollution from the industry is known to everyone. We heard about the water pollution from the sugar industries. I request the Director of sugar industry not to give any scope for the pollution problems. Similarly, the industry should successfully control air pollution by implementing latest technology. The management of the sugar industry should take care about the farmers and public. He requested that the farmers should give co-operation to the industry as the Muddebihal taluk is very much backward in industrial development.

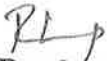
10. Sri. Sunand Reddy, Environmentalist, Hyderabad:

As he started to speak, the gathered persons agitated and said not to allow him as he was not local person. They requested to allow only local persons to give opinion as per the MOEF Notification. Then he requested the Chairman to allow him to give suggestions for the

proposed project. Accordingly he has been permitted to speak at the end of the session. He informed that he has attended the meeting at Bengaluru, Belagavi and other areas earlier. He said that he is expressing views on environment for the safety of public and industry. He requested the industry to improve the plantation to more than 40%, as the Indian population has increased to 135 Crores. He requested the industry to take up fruit bearing and medicinal plantation as per Corporate Social Responsibility by consulting Social Forestry Department. He suggested to carryout avenue and village plantation for the control of air pollution. Also, he requested to conserve the water during the flooding time. Since, the water in Krishna river will not be perennial he insisted to use the rain water throughout the year. He requested the farmers to adopt drip irrigation and sprinkler type irrigation for growing sugar cane.

The Senior Environmental Officer of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and Member Convener of the Environmental Public Hearing Panel, while addressing the meeting said that the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting will be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment & Forests for further action.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks.


(Sri. D. Randeep, I.A.S)
Deputy Commissioner & Chairman,
Environmental Public Hearing Panel,
Vijayapura District, Vijayapura.

