

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF SUGAR FACTORY CAPACITY FROM 12,000 TCD TO 24,000 TCD & EXPANSION OF CO-GENERATION POWER FROM 78 MW TO 83 MW AT SY No's. 31/8, 32/6, 97/1, 97/2, 98/3, 99, 100, 100/1, 100/5, 102/1, 103/1, 105, 106/4, 107, 116, 118/2, 119/1, 120/2, 136, 139, 140 & 141 OF UTTUR VILLAGE, MUDHOL TALUK, BAGALKOT DISTRICT, KARNATAKA BY M/S. INDIAN CANE POWER LIMITED (ICPL)**

**DATE** : 08.11.2016  
**TIME** : 11.30 AM  
**VENUE** : M/S. INDIAN CANE POWER LIMITED INDUSTRY PREMISES

As per the Board Office directions, vide **Memo. No. 3533, dated 26-09-2016**, in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot, a Technical Presentation by the Project Proponent as a pre-requisite necessity before the public to enable to know the overall objectives & Environmental issues of the Proposed project. Accordingly Regional office KSPCB, Bagalkot arranged the **Technical Presentation** under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot on **07.11.2016 at 3.30 PM** at the Deputy Commissioner's Office regarding the proposed expansion project.

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

<b>Public Hearing Panel Members Present</b>		
1	Shri. P A Meghannavar., I.A.S, Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot District	Chairman
2	Shri. Ravindra Karilingannavar, Assistant Commissioner, Sub Division - Jamkhandi	-
3	Shri. E Prakash, Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Regional Office, Bagalkot	Member Conveyor

<b>Project Proponents Present</b>		
1	Shri. G A Prakash	DGM - (C & S), M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited
2	Shri. G N Joshi	AGM - (P & A), M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited
3	Shri. Sivananda S G	Project Coordinator, M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited

4	Shri. H N M Murthy	AGM - (W & E), M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited
5	Shri. Suresh Sarwad	PS to CEO
6	Shri. Shivanand M Dambal	EIA Consultant, EHSPL, Bangalore
7	Shri. Madhu Kumar C	EIA Consultant, EHSPL, Bangalore

## **PREAMBLE**

The Proposed Project by M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited is for the expansion of sugar factory capacity from 12,000 TCD to 24,000 TCD & expansion of co-generation power from 78 MW to 83 MW at Sy No's. 31/8, 32/6, 97/1, 97/2, 98/3, 99, 100, 100/1, 100/5, 102/1, 103/1, 105, 106/4, 107, 116, 118/2, 119/1, 120/2, 136, 139, 140 & 141, of Uttur Village, Mudhol Taluk, Bagalkot District, Karnataka.

The proposed Scheme attracts Environmental Impact Assessment notification, 14-9-2006 (as amended on 01-12-2009) and comes under 'B' category project hence Public Consultation and Environmental Clearance from the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Government of Karnataka is mandatory. As per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board has issued the public notice 30 days in advance in the news papers viz. **"Vijaya Karnataka" (Kannada daily), "Deccan Herald" (English daily) on 08-10-2016 and "Sanje Darshana" (Local Kannada Daily) on 24-10-2016.**

The suggestions / views / comments and objections of the interested bona-fide residents, Environmental groups and others located at the Project site and are likely to be affected by the project were given opportunity to send their suggestions, objections, grievances, etc either orally or written or through E-mail to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board / Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee, within 30 days from the date of Publication of this Notification.

The copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Executive summary of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment, both in Kannada and English were kept in the following Office premises for references/suggestions from the public.

1. Deputy Commissioner Office, Bagalkot
2. Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Bagalkot
3. District Industries Centre, Bagalkot
4. City Municipal Council, Mudhol, Mudhol Taluk, Bagalkot District
5. Uttur Gram Panchayat, Mudhol Taluk, Bagalkot District
6. Zonal Office, KSPCB, Dharwad
7. Ministry of Environmental & Forests, South Zone Office, Bangalore
8. Help Desk, KSPCB, Parisar Bhavan, Bangalore

The Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of the Public Hearing panel Bagalkot verified the Notifications issued in the newspapers and ascertained whether sufficient publicity had been made as required under the statute.

The Regional office K S P C B, Bagalkot received the following written submissions through email till 08-11-2016.

1. Letter from Shri. Vootkuri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist / President – Dharithri Paryavarana Parirakshana Samstha, Shivaji Nagar, Nalgonda District, Telangana State.

The copy of the suggestions is herewith enclosed as **Annexure – 01**.

During the course of Public Hearing, Shri. Balasaheb M Pawar, Uttur Village & Shri. Vootkuri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist has submitted the objection / suggestions in written regarding the proposal. There were 2 written submissions submitted during the course of Public Hearing. The copies of the letters are herewith enclosed with this proceeding as **Annexure – 02**. Other than these, the Regional Office, KSPCB, Bagalkot has received a submission on 08-11-2016 regarding the proposal of the project in written by the public. The copy of the letter is herewith enclosed as **Annexure – 03**.

### **Proceedings of the meeting**

The Environmental Public Consultation Meeting was conducted at the M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited Industry Premises on 08-11-2016. The public of surrounding villages of the project area and the Project Proponents and Consultants in total about 160 people participated in the public consultation meeting.

At an outset, Shri. E Prakash, Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Bagalkot extended a warm welcome to the Chairman cum Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot, Project Proponents, Consultants and Public who have attended the meeting. The Regional Officer, KSPCB, Bagalkot has briefed the gathering about the procedure followed to conduct the Environmental Public Consultation and the purpose of the meeting. The photography and video recording was also arranged to record the entire proceedings of the meeting

Regional officer KSPCB requested the Deputy Commissioner who is the Chairman of the Public Consultation Meeting to start the proceedings and has informed the project proponents/consultants to brief the proposed expansion project details to the gathering.

On behalf of the M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited Industry, Shri. Madhu Kumar C, EIA Consultant, EHSPL, Bangalore has made the technical presentation of the proposed project in Kannada language on EIA of the project. The highlights of the presentation were Compliance to Terms of Reference (TOR), Project Description, Description of the Environment, Anticipated Environmental Impacts & Mitigation Measures, Environmental Monitoring Programme, Project Benefits, Environmental Management Plan, Socio Economic Measures. The hard copy of the presentations made in the Public Hearing is enclosed with this proceeding as **Annexure-04**.

Villagers from surrounding villages, Press and other interested parties, attended the Public Hearing. List of participants, who attended the Public Hearing, is enclosed as **Annexure-05**.

After presentation by the project proponent, Shri. P A Meghannavar, Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot appealed to the public who gathered in the meeting to express their views / suggestions / objections about the proposed project. Accordingly the public have expressed their views/comments/objections related to Environmental aspects of the proposed project. The following are the opinions and the suggestions expressed by the gathered public.

**1. Shri. Govindappa Gujannavar, Vontagodi**

- He said that expansion of the industry to the Sugar Crushing capacity of 24,000 TCD is farmers wish & by increasing the crushing capacity, crushing time will decrease & thus helps the farmers.

**2. Shri. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Nalgonda District, Telangana State**

- He introduced himself as the environmentalist & informed that he is not much fluent in speaking Kannada language & read a letter in English & submitted the same letter to the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot for perusal. The copy of the letter is herewith enclosed as **Annexure-02**.

The Consultant in turn objected this by saying that the person is from Hyderabad & read the EIA Notification. The Notification stated "a public hearing at the site or in its close proximity – district wise, to be carried out in the manner prescribed in Appendix IV, for ascertaining concerns of local affected persons". The Consultant then requested the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot not to consider his statement since he is not from the local affected village.

**3. Shri. Somashekar Hirayya Gudi, Yadwad Village**

- He said that during the power generation, dust emissions are reaching 2 to 3 Km from all the industries & they have not noticed the same from this industry.
- He stated that so far no pollution was caused from this factory. Previously it was taking 18 months to 2 years to send the cane to the industry. Now it will reduce to 12 months after expansion.
- He further informed that the project proponents should provide some education fund to the villagers as the donation for Schools to admit for LKG is ranging from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 15,000/-. The industry should give free education to the villagers.

On behalf of M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited, Shri. Sivananda S G, Project Coordinator has clarified as under

- The industry has the intention to provide education to the villagers & the search of land for the School is under progress. He assured the public that the management will take necessary action for providing the education.

**4. Hirappa Hanchanal, Shirol**

- He said that the industries are posing lot of problems to the Environment.

- *Effluents from the industries were discharged to the Ghataprabha River & no one is taking steps to protect the River. The yield of the crops has reduced due to improper management of Bagasse, fly ash & also due to vehicular pollution. No compensation was given to the farmers.*
- *He informed that the industry is required for the farmers, however the project proponents has to look after the farmers as well.*
- *He further stated that the intention of this meeting is important & the farmers have given their land, water to the industry & the project proponents should not misuse this.*
- *He also informed that there is no water in the River & also in the bore-wells. The industry has not made the cane bill payment to the farmers. He urged the District Administration to take the responsibility of this bill payment issue & needs to be sorted out.*
- *He said that the River water is polluted & it is not safe even for the drinking purposes of domestic animals.*

*On behalf of M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited, Shri. Sivananda S G, Project Coordinator has clarified as under*

- *The industries having Distillery Section will have high BOD & contribute to the pollution of Rivers & not from sugar industries. He assured the public that however due care will be taken in the future to prevent this.*
- *The project proponent informed that previously it was completely a mud road & now after the establishment of the industry, roads have improved, however repair works of the adjacent roads will be carried out step by step.*

##### **5. Subhas Sirgur**

- *He said that the increase in the crushing capacity is a good step. This in turn reduces the crushing season of the industry. The crushing season should finish in 16 weeks so that the recovery will increase.*
- *It should be made mandatory to all the industries that the crushing capacity should be fixed to 10,000 TCD & not less than that. He also quoted an example that in Brazil the minimum crushing capacity is 40,000 TCD.*

- *The industries are using magno floc & Sulphur as a raw material to whiten the Sugar & this can be avoided by the industry as this may be harmful to human beings.*

*On behalf of M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited, Shri. Sivananda S G, Project Coordinator has clarified as under*

- *Molasses content in the cane will make the Sugar yellow colour. Sulphur is used to whiten the sugar because the consumers will not buy the sugar if it is yellowish in colour. The magno floc used for the production of Sugar is within the Standard limits.*
- *These chemicals are used in all the Sugar factories across the country & not only in ICPL. However he assured that they will discuss this matter with the National Institute of Sugars.*
- *He further informed that these sugars are consumed by everyone & no harmful effects were found till now.*

#### **6. Basalingappa Maithri, Jaliberi**

- *He said that the expansion of the industry is a good step. Establishing one more industry rather than expansion is not useful.*
- *He stated that the Project Proponents have money to establish an industry but not to pay the bill for the farmers.*
- *He said that no officers responded properly when the effluents were discharged to Ghataprabha River. The effluent discharge also killed the fishes in the River.*
- *The officers should not only involve in these programs but should also come forward to address the problem of the farmers.*
- *The factories are commencing its crushing operation & nobody is worried about the bill payment. The elected members are not showing much attention towards this. If all the officers & elected members sit for a meet, the cane price can be fixed tomorrow itself.*

#### **7. Ramesh Rangappa Jambagi, Jaliberi**

- *He informed that no much development is seen in the roads nearby the industry. The dust emanating from these roads are reducing the yield of the crop. The industry*

authorities are not sprinkling the water on the road to control dust. The vegetables are not growing properly.

- The emissions were observed from the chimney of M/s. Nirani Sugars in the midnight. No officers inspect the industry at that time. They have discharged the effluent to the River & fish kill took place. No action was initiated by the concerned officers.
- The ICPL industry authorities are not recruiting the localities for higher positions in their industry & most of them are from Davangere. These officers are not meeting the farmers in person with respect to the discussions regarding the bill payment & other issues; instead they are sending others to meet the farmers.
- The fly ash has been dumped in the agricultural fields. The industry authorities are not taking the plantations & they will not take in the future as well.

#### **8. Mehaboob Sab Nadaf, Roogi**

- He said that the canal road is not good & it has to be asphalted.
- The industry is generating the Power & the industry should supply the Power to the villages with free of cost.
- The effluents were discharged in to the River & it was also informed to the Tahashildar. The crocodiles, snake in the River are coming to the village due to the discharge of effluents to the River. The domestic animals are dependent on this water & hence it is harmful for them.

#### **9. Ramesh Rangappa Jambagi, Jaliberi**

- He insisted the project proponents to repair the roads which will be use for all the commuters.

#### **10. Shri. Veerbhadra Ganiga, Udupi**

- He informed the public that he is basically from Udupi & now has relocated to here & has shop in Mudhol. He also informed that he is actively participating in all the activities related to farmers & coordinating the farmers.
- He said that industry & farmers are the 2 faces of body. Both are dependent on each other & look after each other.



- There are well qualified people in the local village & the industry has to consider them for the employment. The industry is giving employment for the people from Davangere.
- Farmers are facing problem due to shortage of rain these days. The farmers are not objecting the proposed project; however the project proponents should sit & talk with the farmers regarding the farmer's problems / issues.

**11. Shri. Balasaheb M Pawar, Uttur Village**

- He informed that he is having the land at Sy No. 110 & extent of land is 12A, 36G.
- He also informed that ETP has to be properly maintained otherwise it will be a problem for the farmers.
- He further stated that emissions from the chimney are falling on their houses, cattle feeds, deteriorating the vegetation & it also has adverse effect on the domestic animals.
- The River water had turned red colour due to the discharge of effluents in to the River. Farmers are using the same water for drinking & cultivation, thus posing a problem for the Environment.
- He submitted a written letter to the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot during the course of the Public Hearing. The copy of the letter is herewith enclosed as **Annexure**

**02**

Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot read the submitted letter & informed the project proponents that in the letter, it is stated that you have already expanded the industry & crushing 24,000 TCD. In return, the project proponents declined the statement stated in the letter submitted & informed that they are not crushing the cane for the expanded capacity.

**12. Shri. Muthappa Komar, Vice President, Zilla Panchayat**

- He welcomed all the dignitaries on the stage, officers, farmers & all the public gathered.
- He said that Pollution Control Board (PCB) should work to achieve some progress on bringing the pollution level down.

- There was an episode of fish kill in the River Ghataprabha, however no action was taken by the PCB against the industries even after knowing who was the culprit.
- The roads are not good & dust is emanating from these roads & making it difficult to the vegetable growers besides the road. The farmers are not getting the proper returns on their investment & also they are not getting any compensation.
- All the factories are discharging the emissions in the midnight. The effluents from the industries are reaching the River, domestic animals are facing problem due to the intake of this water.
- M/s. Nirani Distillery's emissions are more. The effluents are penetrating in the ground & reaching the ground water. The effluent present in the water is also causing several skin related diseases. He further stated that the industry authorities are discharging the distillery effluent on farmers land. In the rainy season, the effluent percolates & reaches the ground water. They are also emitting emissions & PCB should monitor & check whether the emissions are within the standards.
- He further informed that he has no objection for the proposal of expansion. The crushing season should finish within 16 weeks. This time the quantity of cane is less & hence the competition will be more.
- Finally he thanked all the dignitaries on the stage, officers, farmers & all the public gathered.

The Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot directed the Environmental Officer to give his opinion regarding the proposal of expansion of the industry & action taken for the violations observed from the industries in the past.

The Environmental Officer informed that M/s. Indian Cane Power Limited is a modern plant, they have installed the ESP to the boilers, they have provided the ETP to treat the effluent & no complaints was received against the industry from last 1 year.

He further informed the public that the fish kill episode took place in the year 2014. This year also few complaints were received in the month of July & August, upon inspection, it was noted that the effluent was coming from upstream of Ghataprabha River, Dhavaleshwar barrage & Dhavaleshwar barrage being the entrance to the Bagalkot District. The report was

submitted to Board Office regarding the same. He also informed that action has been taken against the defaulters by refusing the consent twice & authorisation has been issued by the Board to file the criminal case for the past violations.

Shri. Muthappa Komar further stated that PCB has not given closure directions to the violated industry so far. He said that closure order has to be issued rather than taking any other action against the violated industry. He further stated that M/s. Nirani Sugars have made a pipeline to the River from the industry & discharging the effluents on to the River.

The Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot acknowledged the people for attending the meeting and also for giving their valuable suggestions/opinions on the proposed project. The Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of the District Environmental Public Consultation Committee, Shri P A Meghannavar, while addressing the meeting said that the appeals, suggestions, complaints and grievances of the Public have been recorded through video and the same would be made into CDs and the proceedings of the meeting, as it is, would be sent to the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Government of Karnataka through Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bengaluru for further deliberations & necessary action and concluded the meeting by thanking the public.

At the end, Shri E Prakash, Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Regional Office Bagalkot has bid the vote of thanks to the Chairperson Deputy Commissioner - Bagalkot & Project Proponents. He also extended his thanks to the public, other dignitaries, press and police staff for the support extended during the course of meeting.

Thereafter, the public hearing was concluded & hence the proceedings.

  
(E Prakash)  
**Environmental Officer,  
KSPCB, RO Bagalkot**

  
(P A Meghannavar., I.A.S.)  
**Deputy Commissioner & Chairman  
Environmental Public Hearing Committee  
Bagalkot, Karnataka**

