

**PROCEEDINGS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON 13-06-2014 AT "INSEPCION BUNGALOW (PREMISES), MALAVALLI, MALAVALLI TALUK, MANDYA DISTRICT" IN RESPECT OF PROPOSED PROJECT OF WIDENING & UPGRADATION OF EXISTING 2-LANE CARRIAGEWAY TO 2-LANE WITH PAVED SHOULDER / 4-LANE FROM KM 307.810 TO KM 435.250 OF CHAMARAJANAGARA TO HAROHALLI SECTION OF NH-209 IN THE STATE OF KARNATAKA BY NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA.**

1. **Venue of Public Hearing** : **Inspection Bungalow (Premises), Malavalli, Malavalli Taluk, Mandya District.**
2. **EPH Members Present** : **Annexure – I**
3. **Representatives of the Project NHAI** : **Annexure – II**
4. **Officers Present** : **Annexure-III**
5. **Name of the Public Participants** : **Annexure – IV**

**PREAMBLE:**

M/s. NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA (Ministry of Road Transport & Highways) has proposed project for widening & up-gradation of existing 2-lane carriageway to 2-lane with paved shoulder 4-lane from km 307.810 to km 435.250 of Chamarajanagara to Harohalli section of NH-209 in the state of Karnataka. As per notification of Ministry of Environment and Forest, GOI SO No S.O. 1533 Dated 14.09.2006, M/s. National Highway Authority of India has to obtain Environmental Clearance for its proposed said road development project from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, GOI, New Delhi, and also it is mandatory to conduct Environmental Public Hearing (District wise).

The project proponent has submitted proposal of the proposed project along with the application to Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), New Delhi seeking approval for the widening of NH 209. MoEF has issued the Terms of Reference (TOR) vide reference No. F. No. 10-86/2012-IA.III dated 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013 for the said proposed project for conducting the Public hearing as per the provisions of Environmental Impact Notification, dated 14-09-2006 to address the issues raised by the public in the Environmental Management Plan and to prepare a detailed draft EIA/EMP report as per the TOR conditions. As per the TOR, the project authorities have submitted Executive Summary in English and Kannada along with draft Rapid

Environmental Impact Assessment (REIA) study report carried out by M/s. Feedback Infra Pvt. Ltd., and requested the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board to conduct Public Hearing.

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bangalore, obtained the date of the public hearing from the Deputy Commissioner, Mandya and accordingly the Environmental Public Hearing was scheduled on 22-3-2014. Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bangalore has issued Public Notice in the leading newspapers, The Times of India (English), Prajavani (Kannada) on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2014 and in Andolana Kannada local newspaper on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2014. However due to Lok sabha 2014 Elections, the public hearing scheduled on 22-3-2014 was postponed and the postponement public notice was issued in leading news papers, The Times of India (dated 15-3-2014), Kannada Prajavani news paper (dated 15-3-2014) and in Andolana daily local newspaper (dated 18-3-2014). Later again the date was taken from Deputy Commissioner, Mandya and the public hearing was scheduled on 13-6-2014 at the premises of Inspection Bungalow, Malavalli taluk, Mandya District and the public notice regarding Environmental Public Hearing notification was issued in leading news papers, The Times of India dated 13-5-2014, Prajavani Kannada newspaper dated 13-5-2014 and in Andolana Kannada local newspaper dated 14-5-2014 by inviting suggestions, views, comments and objections from interested bonafide residents, environmental groups and others located at project site and likely to be affected by the proposed project within 30 days from the date of publication of the Notification.

The draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report along with Executive Summary(both in English and Kannada) were placed at the following designated places for public to access the report.

1. Deputy Commissioner Office, Mandya District, Mandya,
2. Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Mandya District,
3. District Industrial Centre, Mandya.
4. City Municipal Council, Mandya.
5. Town Municipal Council, Malavalli.
6. Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Mandya.
7. Ministry of Environment & Forest, South Zone Office, Koramangala, Bangalore
8. Helpdesk, KSPCB, Ground Floor, No.49, Church Street, Bangalore – 560001 for Public reference.

Also vide publicity about the Public Hearing scheduled on 13.6.2014 was given through public address system (Mike) and by distributing pamphlets in the surrounding villages.

The Environmental Public Hearing was conducted on 13.06.2014 at Inspection Bungalow (premises), Malavalli, Mandya District. The Environmental Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Mandya extended a warm welcome to Chairman, Member Convener, Officer of various Departments and Public present at the said Public Hearing and briefly explained the procedure and purpose of Environment Public Hearing and the need for Environmental Clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India as per EIA Notification 2006 and informed that accordingly publicity was given in newspapers 30 days in advance and explained the procedure of the public hearing and also informed the Public to submit their views, suggestions in respect of environmental issues pertaining to the proposed project and to present all their submissions either in written or orally, which would be part of both written record and video graphed.

The project proponent gave a brief presentation about the proposed project and SLAO & CA, NH-209, Malavalli, briefed the procedure for land acquisition and informed the public to address their views, suggestions pertaining to the environmental issues in the proposed project and the hearing was open for discussions to the public and participants.

The following are the opinions and the suggestions/objections expressed by the gathered public/participants/press members.

**1. Sri Nagegowda, Market Road, Malavalli Taluk, (Sy. No. 421/3B,3C,3C2)**

He informed that his house is covered under the area of the proposed project and considered for acquisition under the proposed project and there are about 6-7 coconut trees in his said property and as the trees are getting affected due to acquisition and sought for necessary compensation.

SLAO & CA, NHAI-209, Mallavalli clarified that the compensation will be awarded as per the circulars of Forest Department / Horticulture Departments. He also clarified that if it is a horticulture crop, the compensation will be paid as per Horticulture Department Notification of Government of Karnataka.

**2. Sri Kanthraju, Hardli Basavanapura-Village, Malavalli Taluk. Sy.No 52/1.**

He informed that he own a house in Sy. No. 52/1 which at a distance of about 8 feet from the proposed PRow of project road. He enquired whether his house will be affected / demolished

due to the proposed project.

Manager Technical, NHAI replied that as per present developmental proposal his house is not getting affected.

**3. B.S. Thammaiah, Basavanapura village, Sy.No. 75/1 . A**

Expressed that, earlier plantation of trees were taken up prior to the developmental work of any NH or SH. As a result of which there were numerous trees along the road side giving shelter and good atmosphere. But in the present situation, the trees are felled first and there is no plantation of alternate trees. He suggested to plant and grow trees in 1:2 ratio to safe guard the environment.

Technical manager welcomed his suggestion.

**4. Sri Narayana Gowda, Halgur Village, Malavalli Taluk**

He expressed that during National highway expansion lot of trees will be felled. The number of trees is getting reduced to a large extent and only 10% of the total is existing. He also said that auction of felled trees is not done as per the standard procedure and the common people / the general public is not intimated about the auction. He suggested that the auction notice should be made public so that many people can participate and Government can get good financial benefit which can be used for planting and growing more trees in the said project area.

Technical Manager informed that as per the latest guidelines /circular of Department of Forest, the auction will be taken by calling open tender and it will be published in newspaper.

**5. Sri Narayana Bhat, Hosahalli Village. Malavalli Taluk**

He expressed that proposed Toll Plaza location is coming in his property, in which he has planted variety of trees like Teak, Coconut, Jackfruit, Mango etc since 20 years and these existing trees are bearing good fruits. Also he brought to the notice of the committee that 3 bore wells are located in the said property proposed for Toll plaza. As the trees will be felled for the proposed project, he requested to shift the toll plaza location to the adjacent vacant barren land located at a distance of about 20 meter away from the proposed toll plaza location.

NHAI - Consultant clarified that shifting of Toll Plaza is not feasible due to design criteria / Detailed Project Report.

**6. Sri. Lingaraju, Dasanadoddi Village, Mallavalli Taluk.**

He expressed that there is low lying area in front of his house just about 5 feet away from the proposed NH boundary stone and enquired what measures will be taken for dewatering the rain water and storm water.

NHAI - Consultant clarified that road side drain will be provided.

**7. Sri. Nagendra, Marehalli Village, Mallavalli Taluk.**

He informed that his house was constructed about 30 years back. At the time of construction it was covered under Gramatana limit. But NHAI has fixed compensation for properties located in Survey number. In this connection he requested, to pay the compensation as per land conversion criteria.

He also expressed that presently the storm water is entering into the house. The existing road is not maintained properly and to whom he has to address this problem.

SLAO/CA clarified that Gramatana properties were not yet notified due to non availability of assessment numbers. After notification individual notice will be issued. He also clarified that regarding the rainwater entering into the house, he has to address the problem to the existing PWD NH Sub division office, Malavalli Taluk, Mandya District.

**8. Shri Guruve Gowda, Sy.No. 152/1, 152/3, Halaguru Village, Malavalli Taluk.**

He informed that construction of bridge across Bheema and Shimsha River will take minimum 3 to 4 years and commencement of the proposed project will take a long time. In such a situation if the lands were acquired at the earlier stage, the compensation will also be very less and the acquired land will also be kept idle and barren without growing any crops. He requested if there is any provision to utilize the identified lands for growing crops till the commencement of the project.

SLAO & CA clarified that 3A preliminary notification and 3D final notification is already published and the payment of compensation is yet to be made. Under such circumstances, the land is acquired by NHAI. There is no possibility of cultivation in the acquired land and should be kept vacant.

**9. Shri Ramalingaiah, Banasamudra, Mallavalli.**

He informed that he purchased a house in the year 1995 for which he possess Assessment Number and is paying tax at the Gram Panchayat. Also expressed that although his house is

coming under the proposed ROW, he has not yet received any notice for acquisition.

SLAO & CA clarified that survey number related properties are already notified and the assessment numbers / Gramtana related properties are yet to be notified. In this regard, further clarification will be provided only after providing the necessary documents.

**10. Sri. Kempasiddegowda, Basavanapura, Parisara Jagruthi Samrakshana Samithi, Mallavalli Taluk.**

- a. He expressed that there is a thumb rule to plant trees in the ratio of 1:2. About 10 years back about 10,000 saplings were planted. Out of which now only about 1000 trees are existing. Usually the NH or SH authorities is just planting the saplings but do not take measures to protect and maintain them.
- b. He expressed that road construction will take a long time, may be about 5-6 years for completion. During the course of construction lot of dust pollution will be generated which will cause respiratory disorders like Asthma to the nearby residents and the public. Giving an example, he mentioned that there was road construction project at Mallavalli which took nearly 2-3 years for construction and during this time the residents and public faced lot of dust pollution problem and the contractor did not take steps to control the dust nuisance even after repeated appraisal. He asked what measures will be taken by the project proponents to mitigate the dust nuisance during construction of the proposed project in the project area.
- c. He informed that along the project stretch from Coimbatore border to Bangalore, number of lakes, tanks and other water bodies are coming across the project stretch. He asked whether alignment is passing through these water bodies and what measures are taken to save the above water bodies.
- d. He also expressed that in the existing road, there are many curves, which is leading to accidents. He asked whether provisions can be made to provide a straight alignment.

Manager Technical of NHAI informed that all measures will be taken to plant trees as per the Forest Circular and the Guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court will be implemented to plant, grow and maintain trees in NHAI projects, clarified that all the measures will be taken for preventing the dust pollution as mentioned in EMP and necessary budgets has been set aside in the EMP including Safety measures during construction period. Further, clarified that during finalizing of the design, best efforts has been made to safe guard most of the water bodies. If at all any water body gets affected, care will be taken to avoid any volumetric loss of that water

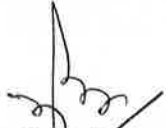
body as per the EMP provisions / as per the NOC conditions of the Minor Irrigation Department.

Technical Manager, NHAI clarified that the curves will be improved as per IRC standards. Even by passes and realignments are also provided to improve the curve location.

In the concluding remarks, the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mandya District Presiding Officer and Chairman informed that the opinions, suggestions of the public and farmers will be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment and Forest, New Delhi for further action. Also, informed that proper compensation shall be awarded as per rules. He recommended that during the construction period, the NHAI must take all safety measures for better implementation of the project. He also added proper prevention measures should be taken to avoid adverse impact on environment and surrounding due to generation of Dust pollution, Noise pollution etc.,

SLAO&CA extended the vote of thanks to all officers, public and all participants for extending their co-operation and concluded Public Hearing.

Date: 30.6.14  
Place: Malavalli



(M. Lakshman)  
Sr. Environmental Officer,  
Mysore Zone & Member Convener  
EPH Committee



(Shankrappa, K.A.S.)  
Additional Deputy Commissioner and  
Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee,  
Mandya District

