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Proceedings of the Environmental Public Hearing held on 29/07/2013 at Taluk Office Premises, Srinivasapura Town, Kolar District, for the proposed Rehabilitation and up-gradation of National Highway – 234 from chainage km - 343 + 800 to km 486+690, 2 lane/ 2 lane with paved shoulder of Madhugiri – AP border section in the state of Karnataka (NHIP SP/A/2) by Public Works Dept, Government of Karnataka.

Public Hearing Panel members Present		
1	Dr. D.S. Vishwanath, Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.	Chairperson
2	Sri. M.K Prabhudev, Senior Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Bangalore (East),	Representing, KSPCB
3	Sri. H.K. Marimadaiah , Environmental Officer, Regional Office, K.S.P.C.B.	Convener

Representatives of Project Proponent		
1	Sri. Vijay Kumar Chavadannanavar,	Superintendent Engineer, National Highway
2	Sri. Lokesh,	Asst. Engineer
3	Sri. Raghunath	Asst. Engineer
4	Sri. S Santhosh	Group Senior Planner—Environment Project Consultant M/s. M/s. CDM Smith India Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore,
5	Sri. Jomey Mathew	Asst. Vice President Environment Project Consultant

List of participant's enclosed as annexure - I

The PWD, Government of Karnataka is proposing to take up rehabilitation and upgrade of NH-237 from chainage km - 343 + 800 to km 486+690, 2 lane/ 2 lane with paved shoulder of Madhugiri - AP border at cost of Rs.474.15 Crores. The said project starts from Madugiri in Tumkur District and ends at AP Border i.e, at Mulbagal Kolar District, Karnataka State. The said project requires EC from MOEF Government of India as required under EIA notification 2006.

The project proponent have obtained TOR from MOEF & as per the directions of MOEF, Environmental Public Hearing was conducted on 29/7/2013 at Taluk Office Premises, Srinivasapura Town, Kolar District for the proposed work which is being taken up in Kolar District. Public Hearing notices were published in News papers viz., Samyuktha Karnataka (Kannada Daily) and The Hindu (English Daily) on 27/06/2013 and also in Kolar local News paper Kolar Prabha on 12/07/2013.

At the outset Sri M.K. Prabhudev, Regional Senior Environmental Officer (Bangalore- East), Karnataka State Pollution Control Board welcomed the gathering and requested the public to give their views/objections/comments/suggestions pertaining to Environmental aspects after presentation by the project proponent.

Dr. D.S. Vishwanath, Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, has directed the Project Proponent to explain the project work.

Sri. S. Santhosh, Group Senior Planner - Environment of M/s. CDM Smith India Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, Technical Consultants for National Highway, PPP Cell has made presentation in Kannada language and explained in detail to the gathering regarding the proposed project and explained the salient features of the project.

The total length of the road 139.351 km starting point 343+800 to 483+151 and proposed speed of the vehicles 20-100 km, road width varies from 12 mts to 21.7 mts and type of pavement flexible (Tar road) and to bypass. In Kolar District the proposed road starts at Bruhanahalli of Srinivasapura Taluk and ends at NH -4 near Mulbagil

VIEWS/COMMENTS/OBJECTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC:

1. Sri Surya Narayana T.R. Resident of Srinivasapura Town:

The proposal for up-gradation of road was appreciated and expressed that the people of Srinivasapura town are having confusion whether the proposed NH-234 Road connecting

chinthamani and Mulbagal is passing through Srinivasapura town or proposed road passing through existing old Azad Road or Rajaji Road or any By pass Road outside the town.

The representative of the project consultant Mr. Ravi has replied that, the proposed road will be passing through Santhepete Road.

Mr Narayana swamy, Srinivasapura Town Resident:

Earlier the buses were passing in existing old Azad Road and hence the same may be considered for upgradation, since the Government offices other establishment / Bus Stand are existing on this road also passing through Centre of the town. He requested to provide by pass Road to the town in order to reduce traffic density inside the town.

Mr S. Santhosh representative of the project consultant has replied that, during the start of planning for road widening, the issue was discussed with public and got opinion. The Santhepete road was the SH and the same was converted from SH to NH during 1999, the same is proposed for widening.

Sri. Nataraju, Dalasanur, Srinivasapura Taluk:

The proposed Road is having four curves inside the town limit and it should be straight in any case of any national highway roads. The education institution is existing along the road side, about 2000 students are studying and lot of vehicle movement will be there, this affects the safety of students while crossing National Highways. Hence, he has emphasized the project proponent to provide only By-pass road.

Mr S. Santhosh representative of the project consultant has replied that, when the PCU exceeds 15000 No's bypass road can be proposed. But, as per the traffic study conducted, the anticipated PCU as on year 2040 will be 9970 No's. Also stated that, with respect curves, normally in the town limits the road width recommended is 12-21 meters wide., 13mtrs in town limits including existing road width, 12mtrs in forest limits, 15 mtrs in village & plane land and 21 mtrs at bridges and cutting of trees 1954 nos and planting of trees 3908 No's. Cost of the proposed project is 474.15 Cr. Land acquisition is 28.3 hectares other than forest land and 1.43 hectares forest land.

Deputy Commissioner, Kolar insisted to Mr. S. Santhosh to clarify about the precautionary measures to be taken for students crossing proposed highway as the speed of the vehicles will be high.

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Mr. S. Santhosh has informed that, in the town limits foot path will be provided along with handrails & barricades, and at pre-identified locations opening will be given to cross roads along with zebra crossings

Deputy Commissioner, Kolar insisted to Mr. S. Santhosh that, in addition to hand rails, it is necessary to provide service road, the same may be incorporated in project by considering the safety aspect and obtain approval for the additional cost if any.

Mr Mohmed Asmatulla Resident of Srinivasapura Town:

At present the proposed road will be constructed for 13 mtrs wide and accordingly the road side buildings will be demolished, and also in near future the road will be widened frequently and also the building will be demolished, for such repeated demolition activity who is responsible.

The Project Proponent explained that at present road widening is planned for year upto 2040.

Further Mr Mohmed Asmatulla, has sought to know, the availability of details in respect to the compensation, widening and demolition.

Mr. S. Santhosh has replied that, the land acquisition process is under progress, then the 3(A) notification will be published in regional news paper within 8 months, along the details such as name of the land owner, survey number, extent of land, etc., the details are also available at Gazette Notification of India, DC Office, Taluk office and PWD Office, Bangalore.

Mr Pathkota Naveen Kumar, Taluk Secretary , Karnataka Pranthiya Raithya Sangha.

The proposed road is having 3 curves with schools nearby and the road widening is planed for year upto 2040 ie., only for 27 years, since the present population growth is very high and many development activities are already being taking place, hence the planned road may not be adequate to pass inside the town. Hence it necessary to provide bypass road as at Kolar & Mulbagal instead of widening of the existing road.

Mr. S. Santhosh has replied that, as said earlier as per the traffic study bypass for Srinivasapura town is not required

Mr Chandra, Resident of Srinivasapura Town:

He requested to provide by pass road out side the city like Kolar and Mulbagal by considering the present traffic problem of town and city development, it also helps the people of town.

Mr Veerappa Reddy, Resident of Srinivasapura Town:

He requested to provide by pass road out side the city.

Mr Vijay kumar Chavadannanavar, Superintendent Engineer, National Highway:

The construction of bypass road will be costly and as per study conducted, less number of vehicles from town will utilise the bypass road to reach other town. The traffic & number of vehicles in the town remains same, hence if the national highway is widened and passing inside the town, then more number of peoples and vehicles of town can use the new widened road and it facilitates local people.

Sri. Nataraju, Dalasnur, Srinivsasapura Taluk:


He expressed that traffic density will be more during Mango season and hence it has to be taken into consideration.

The Deputy Commissioner informed the public that the concerns and quarries raised by the public during hearing will be forwarded to MOEF for due consideration while implementation of the project.

He requested the project proponent to explore the possibility of providing service roads at schools, as a safety measure to innocent school children as they normally cross the highways leading to accidents.

Lastly, the ~~Non-Body~~ Deputy Commissioner concluded the hearing.

During the Environmental Public hearing 1 written memorandum was received, requesting for providing bypass road instead of widening of existing road, so as to avoid losses to public by building demolitions and may lead to accidents as the road passes near to the school. The photo copies of the same are herewith enclosed with proceedings as **Annexure-II**.


(Dr. D.S. Vishwanath, IAS)

Deputy Commissioner & Chairman
Environmental Public Hearing Committee
Kolar

