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• PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF BHAGABANPUR DECORATIVE STONE MINES OF M/S ILIYAS GRANITES FOR PRODUCTION OF 25,900 CUM PER ANNUM OVER AN AREA OF 24.225 HA. AT VILLAGE BHAGABANPUR, TAHASIL KUKUDAKHANDI IN GANJAM DISTRICT (IN CLUSTER AREA OF 28.333 HA.)

VENUE: AT OVER PLOT NO. 243 & 244 NEAR EMBANKMENT OF NUABANDHA OF MOUZA LANJIA UNDER TAHASIL KUKUDAKHANDI OF DISTRICT GANJAM ON 06.08.2019, AT 11.00 AM.

At the outset, Sri Mitrasen Majhi, Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Berhampur welcomed all the persons assembled in the hearing. He briefed about the EIA notification, 2006 and the objectives of the public hearing. He stated that Bhagabanpur Decorative Stone Mines of M/s Iliyas Granites have proposed to have environmental assessment for establishing Decorative Stone Mines and has applied to obtain environmental clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India and carried out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study.

Publicity regarding public hearing was made in the following manners –

- Advertisements through an Oriya daily "Sambad" dated 04.07.2019 and an English daily "The New India Express" dated 04.07.2019 regarding the venue, date and time of the public hearing along with the places of availability of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report, Executive Summaries (Oriya & English) and soft copy in the office of Collectorate Ganjam, Chatrapur, District Industries Centre(DIC). Ganjam, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Ganjam, Head Office of the State Pollution Control Board, Bhubaneswar, Regional Office of the State Pollution Control Board, Berhampur & Department of Forest & Environment, Govt of Odisha and also in the website of State Pollution Control Board, Bhubaneswar (www.ospcboard.org).
- Executive summaries along with paper clippings regarding date, time, and venue of public hearing were made available to the Lanjia Gram Panchayat, Balipada Gram Panchayat, Anantei Gram Panchayat , Dakhinapur Gram Panchayat and Panchayat Samiti Kukudakhandi of Ganjam District.
- Further announcements were also made through loud speaker regarding Public Hearing for information of the public in the surrounding villages.

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He requested the audience to state their opinions orally or in written, based on the environmental aspects. Then he requested the Additional District Magistrate, Ganjam, Sri Kabindra Kumar Sahu, O.A.S. (S) to kindly preside and supervise the public hearing.

The Additional District Magistrate, Ganjam, welcomed the people for attending the hearing with a message to the audience that they should give their comments based on the Pollution related aspects. He briefed about the project and elaborated the objective of conducting public hearing in respect of any project seeking environmental clearance from the Govt. of India. Then he asked the representatives of Bhagabanpur Decorative Stone Mines of M/s Iliyas Granites to give the detail description on the project.

Sri Suklambar Patra, Consultant, Bhagabanpur Decorative Stone Mines of M/s Iliyas Granites, stated that the proposed project is a Decorative Stone Mines. Then he presented the salient features of the project, the present status of the environmental conditions, possible impact on the environment due to execution and operational activities and the remedial measures to be undertaken by the project proponent to reduce the impact while executing the project.

He concluded that a suitable Environmental Management Plan has been formulated and would be continuously upgraded to mitigate the impact on the different components of the environment.

The Additional District Magistrate, Ganjam, invited the public to offer their views, objections, opinions, comments and suggestions regarding the proposed project; specifically relating to environmental issues. About 50 persons were present in the public hearing meeting, but only 16 persons signed in the attendance sheet, 07 persons registered in the deliberation sheet and participated in the oral deliberation. No any written representations were received in the hearing. The attendance sheets of audience and deliberators are enclosed as **Annexure-I**, and **Annexure-II** respectively.

The statements recorded are as follows.

01. Sri Santosh Kumar Choudhury, At-Lanjia.

He addressed the gathering, showed his happiness that the project is coming and welcomed the project. He demanded that the project proponent should provide employment to the local people. Further he added that the Project Proponent should develop plantation, take adequate pollution control measures in the mines and provide safety equipments to the workers .Also he hoped that the Project Proponent would looked into the health and economical development of the local villages.

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L...Sri Rama Hari Sahu. At-Lanjia.

He addressed the gathering, welcomed the project and demanded that the Decorative Stone Mines should take adequate pollution control measures as per the guidelines, plantation in the mine area. He also demanded for employment to the local people.

03. Sri Manas Kumar Behera, At- Lanjia

He addressed the audience present in the hearing and expressed his happiness and supported the project. He demanded that the pollution aspect should be properly addressed so that there should not be any adverse environmental impact to the surrounding. He hoped that people would get employment by this project.

04. Sri Bighneswar Sethi, At-Anantei

He showed his happiness and said that they are getting their livelihood due to operation of this type of project in their locality. Therefore, he welcomed the project.

05. Sri Niranjan Mallick, At- Bhagabanpur

He welcomed the project and hoped that they would get jobs in this project.

06. Sri Bipra Charan Sethi, At-Anantei.

He welcomed the project and hoped that they would get employment opportunities because of this project. Further, he demanded for adequate plantation in the mines area.

07. Sri Govinda Chandra Gouda, At-Balakrushnapur.

He addressed the gathering and said that, since 1989 the mining activities have been started in their locality and the employment opportunity has been increased and there are a lot of developments taken placed in the surrounding area. He demanded in the hearing that the development to be made by the proponent in their area should be done through the local Sarapanch not through other authorities. Lastly, he welcomed the project.

CONCLUSION:

During the hearing the project proponent redressed the apprehensions raised by the public. Further the Additional District Magistrate, Ganjam, Chatrapur & Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Berhampur also discussed on issues raised by the public.

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Sri Mitrasen Majhi, Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Berhampur & representative of State Pollution Control Board, Odisha prepared the summary of the public hearing proceedings accurately reflecting the views and concerns, expressed by the oral deliberators. The content of the proceedings was explained to the audience in Odiya and the minutes were prepared which has been ratified by the Additional District Magistrate, Ganjam, Chatrapur with the views and concerns of the deliberators.

The statement of issues and concerns of public with the comments of the representative of the project proponent, prepared in Oriya and English Language are annexed as **Annexure-III** and **Annexure-IV** separately.

The public hearing was ended with vote of thanks by the chair.

Regional Officer,

State Pollution Control Board, Odisha

Berhampur

(Assisted as representative of

State Pollution Control Board)

(Sri Kabindra Kumar Sahu,OAS(S))

Additional District Magistrate

Ganjam, Chatrapur

(Presided and Supervised

the public Hearing meeting)