PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF DHUNKAPARA DECORATIVE STONE MINES OF SMT. M.M. ANNAPURNA OVER AN AREA OF 23.337 HA. AT VILLAGE DHUNKAPARA, TAHASIL POLASARA IN GANJAM DISTRICT (IN CLUSTER AREA OF 55.8 HA.)

VENUE: AT THE GRAM PANCHAYAT OFFICE, DHUNKAPARA VILLAGE UNDER TAHASIL POLASARA OF DISTRICT GANJAM ON 18.09.2019, 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 Dhunkapara Decorative Stone Mines of Smt. M.M. Annapurna 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 Odia daily "Sambad" dated 15.08.2019 and an English daily " The Times of India" dated 15.08.2019 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 Dhunkapara Gram Panchayat, Sodaka Gram Panchayat, Bartini Gram Panchayat , Kendubadi Gram Panchayat, Pankalabadi Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti Polasara & Panchayat Samiti Buguda of Ganjam District.

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 Laxmi Kanta Sethi, 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 Dhunkapara Decorative Stone Mines of Smt. M.M. Annapurna to give the detail description on the project.

Sri S.K. Das, Representative of Dhunkapara Decorative Stone Mines of Smt. M.M. Annapurna, 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 as proposed in the Environmental Management Plan.

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 60 persons were present in the public hearing meeting, but only 25 persons signed in the attendance sheet, 15 persons registered in the deliberation sheet and 13 persons participated in the oral deliberation. No any written representation was 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 V. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist.

He supported the project with his best wishes to the proponent of the proposed mines and said that he always supported the industrial development activities so that employment opportunities would be generated and for the fulfillment of the industrial development of the Odisha State. At the same time, he suggested for maintaining of ecological balance and development of the industry. Further, he added that, the mining operation should be carried out on phase manner without causing environmental problems and development of adequate plantation, provision of rain water storage tank, emphasize on village plantation in nearby villages with fruits bearing plants and medicated plants should be done. Also he suggested for local employment and promotion of skilled development training to unemployed youth of the locality and constitution of coordinate committee with the villagers, Govt. Officials and Officials of State Pollution Control Board for the CSR activity. Finally, he once again expressed his support for the project.

02. **Sri Chiranjibi Panda. At- Dhunkapara**

Signed in the deliberation sheet but did not come forward for deliberation.

03. Sri Bibekananda Jena, At- Dhunkapara

He addressed thc audience present in the hearing and apprehended that the operation of the proposed mining activity would affect the agriculture of the poor farmer near the mining area. There would be scarcity of water to the surrounding agricultural field as the water yielding from the mountain of the decorative stone mines would be caught hold by the mining personnel. Further, he added that the Peacocks present in the mining area would be disturbed and threat for them and the nature would be degraded, pollution would be caused and plantation would be reduced in the mining area. He requested the authority to take the matter seriously and he opposed the project.

04. Sri Tirtha Sangram Dalai, At- Dhunkapara

He also repeated the issues of threat to Peacock living in the mining area and said that the project would affect the forest area and the surroundings, farmers would not get water for their agricultural purpose and the agricultural land would be affected due to the mining activity.

05. Sri Balaram Polai, At- Dhunkapara

He addressed the gathering and showed his concern that if the project comes, then the nature would be degraded and they would face health problems . Further, he added that they require fresh water and air, if the mine would operate, animals of the mountain, agriculture of the surrounding area would get affected. He opposed the project and said that the nature should be safe. Further, he emphasized on more plantations in their area and opposed the destruction of mountain by mining.

06. Sri Ramana Ranjan Polai, At- Dhunkapara.

He said that, due to the mountain they are getting water and good crops. He apprehended that if the mining would come up, then pollution would occur and the mountain and the forest would be destroyed, for which he opposes the mining project.

07. Sri Tukuna Polai, At- Dhunkapara.

Signed in the deliberation sheet but did not come forward for deliberation.

08. Sri Uttam Polai, At- Dhunkapara

He addressed the gathering and said that they don't know what is mines. In his deliberation he mentioned that if the mining project would come, then it become threat for the National Bird – Peacock. Further, he said that land slide would occur due to the mining activity. Though there is lot of unemployment problems in their area, still they oppose the project for the protection of the Peacocks.

9. Sri Balaram Polai, At- Dhunkapara

He addressed the gathering and wanted to know about the activities to be carried out in the mining. He also repeated the issues on protection of the Peacocks and said that, when the mines come, the nature would get polluted, hence, he requested not to give lease for mining.

10. Sri Prabhat Kumar Padhy, At- Dhunkapara

He addressed the gathering and said that if the project would come, they would not get any benefit. Further, he said that, there is an old temple in the mining area and requested that the temple should not be affected.

11. Sri Kuna Pradhan, At- Dhunkapara

He addressed the gathering and gave the example of the mining area of Keonjhar and Badbil and said that due to mining the roads of Keonjhar and Badbil areas have been destroyed and road accident are increasing. Therefore, he apprehended that if the mining project would come they would face same problems and also the agriculture and the Peacocks would get affected. Further, he said that due to mining, the dust problems would occur and due to blasting they would be seriously affected. Hence, he requested that taking in to accounts of the above factor, action should be taken.

12. Sri Prafulla Kumar Jena, At- Dhunkapara

He addressed the gathering and requested not to affect/ displace the temple existing in the mining area.

13. Sri Prasant Nayak, At- Chadeyapalli

He addressed the gathering and said that unnecessarily the peoples apprehending on the operation of the mines. It would not affect the agriculture, plantation and the proponent will take all precautionary measures on the pollution problems. Further, he said that if the project would come, the poor people would get employment, hence he supported the project.

14. Sri Bijay Kumar Swain, Sarapanch, Kendubadi G.P.

He addressed the gathering and gave the example of Keonjhar district and said that if the project come, there would be environmental issues and pollution problems. Blasting may affect the locality. Further, he said that blasting should be done as per the proper procedure and measure should be taken so that there shall not be any affect to the surrounding area. Hence he suggested that permission should be given taking in to account the above matter.

15. Sri Rama Chandra Padhy, At- Kanheyapalli

He addressed the gathering and said that due to mining and blasting, houses are getting affected. Further he mentioned about the safety of the Peacocks. He added that if lease will be given to the project then frequent blasting would occur and the buildings would get affected, hence he opposes 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.

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 Odia 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 Odia and English Language are annexed as **Annexure-III** and **Annexure- IV** separately.

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

18/09/2019

(Sri Mitrasen Majhi)
Regional Officer,
State Pollution Control Board, Odisha
Berhampur
(Assisted as representative of
State Pollution Control Board)

18/09/19

(Sri Laxmi Kanta Sethi,OAS(S))
Additional District Magistrate
Ganjam, Chatrapur
(Presided and Supervised
the public Hearing meeting)

ATTENDANCE SHEETS OF PARTICIPANTS PRESENT DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING OF M/S DHUNKAPADA DECORATIVE STONE MINES OVER AN AREA OF 23.337 HA. AT VILLAGE DHUNKAPADA, TAHASIL POLASARA IN GANJAM DISTRICT OF SMT.M.M.ANNAPURNA IN CLUSTER AREA OF 55.8 HA.

VENUE: GRAM PANCHAYAT OFFICE AT VILLAGE – DHUNKAPADA, TAHASIL-POLASARA OF GANJAM DISTRICT ON DATED 18.09.2019 AT 11.00 A.M.

SL.NO	NAME AND ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
01.	Sanjaya Kumar Pandi At/Po - Dhunkapada	Sanjaya Kumar Pandi
02.	Tistha Sangya Dalei At/Po - D.Pada	Tistha Sangya Dalei
03	Bibekananda Jena At/P. - Dhunkapada	Bibekananda Jena
04.	Rabindar Samal	Rabindar Samal
05.	Narayan Barada Dhunkapada	Narayan Barada
06.	padma lochan dadai DHUNKa padaa	padmalochan dadai
07.	BASANTA DHUNKA	