

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF M/S NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF INDIA (NHAI) FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC CORRIDORS, FEEDER ROUTES AND COASTAL ROAD PRIMARILY TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF FREIGHT MOVEMENT IN INDIA (LOT-3 ODISHA & JHARKHAND/PACKAGE-2) RAIPUR-VISAKHAPATNAM (CH.124.661-CH.365.033KM) (LENGTH 240.372KM) IN THE STATE OF ODISHA UNDER BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA HELD ON 07.12.2020 AT 11.00 A.M. AT- POLICE GROUND, (NEAR POLICE STATION) NABARANGPUR DISTRICT- NABARNAGPUR**

The public hearing in respect of the above project was held on 07.12.2020 as per the schedule and at the venue in accordance with the EIA Notification S. O. 1533 (E) dt. 14.09.2006. The public hearing with regard to date, place and time was announced in Public Address System in nearby villages of proposed project site and also published in Daily News Paper namely The Pragatibadi & The New Indian Express. The process followed for public hearing was adequate.

Er P Kar, Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Rayagada welcomed the public to the hearing and briefed about the objectives, process & procedures to be followed for conducting such public hearing.

Shri Ramakanta Nayak, OAS (S), Project Director, DRDA, Nabarangpur presided over and supervised the entire process of public hearing. He briefed about the importance and objectives of such hearing and invited the project proponent to highlight on proposed project.

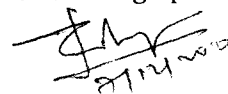
Er Subha Kanta Senapati, Project Consultant of M/s National Highways Authority of India (Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India) explained about the proposed project and briefed about the Pollution Control measures to be adopted in the Project.

The following is the summary of the public hearing proceedings, reflecting all the views and concerns expressed by the assembled public at the venue. It was recorded by the officials of the Regional Office, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Rayagada.

**1. Sri Gopal Pujari, Samiti Sabhya, Badabharandi**

Sri Pujari introduced himself as a Samiti Sabhya and emphasised on importance of Farmers & Agriculture. While welcoming the Bharatmala Road Project of NHAI, he requested the District administration to implement the project as per 2017 survey report. He gave emphasis for protection of Forest, Water bodies, & expressed that there is no alternatives for lively hood other than agriculture for people of Nabarangpur. Further he added that due to poor irrigation facilities, local people are compelled to migrate as "Dadan Shramik" to other states & during this COVID pandemic, they returned in distressed conditions & managing with Government aid. Though he welcomed the Economic Corridor, he suggested for renovation & expansion of existing NH 26 connecting Raipur -Jeypore that passes through Nabaranpur with due compensation. He expressed his dissatisfaction over the no clarity about compensation for land losers & also non settlement of the land between Umerkote to Raigarh even after 74 years of independence though it is a tribal area. He described regarding setting up of DNK colony in 1950 by destroying Reserve Forests.

Further he questioned on the development of the District without having proper provision of Irrigation, Forest & Land for local Tribals. He also emphasised on development at grass root level through Mo Sarkar & 5T. He expressed his displeasure over fixing of pillars on their land without their knowledge for the project though they are not opposing the Bharatmala project which is a pride for them. He described about huge production of Corn,



largest in Asia at present & earlier the cotton production & sugarcane along Indravati Rive. in their locality but no development occurred due to lack of industrial units. He welcomed the project & urged that District administration should take such steps that nobody will suffer. He again stressed on development of cotton farming & irrigation facilities up to Kundesai from Indrabati Reservoair for local employment & development. He suggested for revival of Ginning Mill & establishment of Corn factory & proper facilities for KBK at Umerkote. Being the President of Bharat Kissan Sangh, he informed that the Farmers are denying for giving their land for the project as lands encroached by them have not yet been settled which leads to apprehension on no compensation. He demanded for irrigation facilities through dams, Patta for their Land & protection of Forest to control Pollution. He wished for overall development of the district in the interest of the public. He also expressed his concern over the siltation of Bhaskel Reservoir & informed that people in Ayacut area of the Reservoir are not getting water for their Kharif crops. He suggested for renovation of Reservoir to facilitate irrigation. He told that Local Tribals were dependant on Forest products but now all type of Forests have been finished & people have encroached to those lands through Podu cultivation. He questioned on compensation on Government Lands & demanded equal area against the land to be lost. He also informed that proposed Road has been aligned through Private, Patita & Forest land excluding the Reserve Forest area. He requested the district administration to change the recent surveyed road project & consider the existing Road for the Corridor.

Later, he appealed to the farmers to support the 2017 survey road project for implementation & submitted a written representation to the Chair on behalf of Bharatiya Kissan Sangha, Nabarangpur during hearing.

**2. Sri Sanraj Gond, President, Krusak Sangh, Raighar**

Sri Gond told that Nabarangpur area is a scheduled tribe area & Gram Sabha is prime requirement for any developmental project. He expressed his dissatisfaction over conducting Public hearing after substantial progress of the project including survey. He welcomed the project & hoped that it will bring development but questioned on the steps taken by the Government for improvement of Farmers. He expressed his displeasure of not getting irrigation facilities from Indravati reservoir for Nabarangpur District & suggested to construct Check dams throughout the District to improve irrigation facilities for farmers.

He hoped that there will be development due to this road project & will attract industrial units but land is the prime requirement for the livelihood of the farmers. He supported the road project & informed that all farmers urged for expansion of existing road connecting Raipur to Visakpatnam which will be economical & will save their water bodies, Forest & Land. The compensation for the project can be utilised for other purposes. He apprehended that the proposed road project will affect their Rivers, Land, Forest, Funeral grounds, Worship places, Environment etc. He requested to the authority of NHAI, District administration & Pollution Control Board to modify the proposed project to expansion of existing Road & appealed to the public for offering their views in this Hearing.

**3. Shri Munna Khan, Hon'ble MP, Rajyasabha**

Hon'ble Sri Khan emphasized on the interest of the Farmers & simultaneously implementation of proposed Road project. He described about the benefits like time saving in journey, access to Medical facilities etc due to this project. He informed that some



farmers encroached to Government lands & some of them have private land & urged that a holistic approach should be followed by taking all farmers into confidence so that no farmer will suffer. He welcomed the project & stressed on obtaining views of local farmers, especially the tribals on this project. He assured full support from the Government for farmers & development of agriculture. Further he suggested for setting up of corn processing units in the District for the benefit of the Maize farmers & assured that Government will certainly take steps for this.

He appealed to the public for offering their opinion before the Officials present in the Hearing for recording & hoped for proper implementation of developmental project. He expressed that they are always standing with the Farmers. While supporting the project, he emphasized on no adverse impact & proper compensation to the farmers. Further he assured his full support for the benefits of the locals.

**4. Sri Saradu Bhatra, Karmari**

Sri Bhatra introduced himself as successor of Freedom Fighter & also a farmer. He told that farmers need water, Land & road communication for their survival, but Land is the prime importance for livelihood. He informed that small farmers & their families are depending on 1 to 2 Acres of land for their livelihood & questioned on their survival if those lands will be taken for the project. He urged that demands of farmers should be fulfilled by the District administration, State & Central Government. He informed that Government has settled the Bangaladesi Refugees by allotting huge lands. He appealed to the Government not to compensate the Tribals & farmers with money & other means of income as farmers & their families can only survive through agricultures. He informed that farmers are having small patches of encroached land, Forestlands & requested District administration for resolving the issues. He also expressed that land settlement in Umerkote & Raighar is still pending since last 60 to 70 years & land losers of Bhaskel Dam project are not properly rehabilitated by the Government till date. He demanded for implementation of Road project as per survey made during 2017 & for renovation of existing NH 26. He expressed his displeasure for not getting any reply of their demands from District Administration. He extended their support for development of the farmers, district as well as for the state & urged that the livelihood of the farmers should be ensured through proper interaction with them.

**5. Sri Muna Rupchand, Advocate cum Secretary Krushak Sangha, Raighar**

Sri Rupchand introduced himself as an Advocate & Sampadak of Krushak Sangh. He expressed that on request of farmers the Krushak Sangh organised a rally on 6<sup>th</sup> March to change the road project & communicated to different State & District level authorities. He apprehended that the road project is likely to destroy forest, Hills, Small streams & rivers, worship places of Tribals etc. He reminded that Food, Cloths & Shelters are basic needs of Human. Krushak Sangh opposed the road project but District Administration did not respond to their demands. While appreciating the contribution of the Collector & Project Director, DRDA for development, he expressed his dissatisfaction over non settlement of Lands in Raighar & Nabarangpur areas since long back. Further he expressed his concern on survivability of the successor families with the small patches of lands. He informed that nobody objected the survey for the road project made during 2017 & advised to consult with the farmers losing their lands from Raighar to Six Tehasils of Nabarangpur & implement the outcomes. Further he argued for execution of 2017 Road Project and to cancel the proposed 2020 Project.



**6. Sri Topiram Nayak, Vice President, Krushak Sangh, Raighar**

Sri Nayak told that they are farmers and informed that earlier Project work was started & then Hearing being conducted. Further he told that Government thought is to get the work done through small compensation. He opined that Farmers are backbone of the country & they are feeding the nation. He expressed that they have not opposed the road project yet as they will be benefitted & it will bring development for their locality.

He expressed his dissatisfaction over the conduct of Public hearing prior to Pallasabha & Gram sabha & also for not getting any reply to their demands. Further he demanded for Patta land in place of land to be acquired & informed those lands have been encroached by them since British time. Land will not be handed over to Government. He warned Government that it may lead to public resentment & there will be the 2001 Raighar blood shade situation.

**7. Sri Pabitra Sunani, Raighar**

Sri Sunani informed that he is going to loose his house & land for the project. He expressed that his fore father settled at Raighar when there was no town but the land Patta is still in his name. He is not willing to be displaced for the project & requested to implement the proposed Six lane project as per 2017 survey on existing road.

**8. Sri Kedhuram Harijan, Hatibeda**

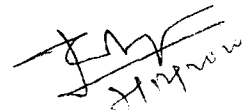
Sri Harijan expressed that they queried about the change of 2017 Road alignment in Bharatmala Project to the people engaged for survey but could not get any satisfactory reply. Then they approached to different leaders & authority for clarification on the project through Krushak Sangh as they were unaware. He expressed that they know the use of land but not the money as crores of money will be exhausted in days. He requested for implementation of road project based on 2017 survey.

**9. Sri Lachhamidhar Bhatra, Murtama**

Sri Bhatra told that they are here for placing their demands before District administration. He opined that Government & country will be benefitted due to Bharatmala Road but farmers loosing their land would not be benefitted. He informed that they are cultivating the land since their ancestors and completely dependent for their livelihood. He expressed that the patta land holders will get compensation and questioned on the survival of the encroached land losers. He demanded the provision of equal land in exchange of land to be acquired for all land losers or else implementation of road project based on 2017 survey as suggested by Krushak Sangha and to cancel the proposed 2020 project. Further he described their land as mother and any attempt to grab their mother land cannot be tolerated. He expressed that their demands raised in the hearing should be fulfilled or else they are prepared to die for their land. He appealed to the public to wait till getting reply from the Government prior to take further decisions.

**10. Sri Gautam Gand, Tarangapur, Raighar**

Sri Gond expressed that they are small farmers and they do not have any other alternatives for their livelihood. They completely depend on agriculture and they are enjoying the small patches of land belonging since the time of their ancestors. Environment, food, clothes and forest are their prime concern. He apprehended that the Bharatmala road project may



make them helpless. He added that farmers do not know any other business except cultivation. Though he welcomed the project, he suggested to implement the proposed project on existing road for safeguard of farmers.

**11. Sri Padmaram Nayak, Bagbeda**

Sri Nayak informed that they are depending on agriculture for their livelihood and not willing to leave the land made by their ancestors. He requested to the Government for execution of the bypass road project on existing road.

**12. Sri Saroj Behera, Nabarangpur**

Sri Behera told that Nabarangpur district is having identity crisis and he welcomed the project. He questioned the Government on protection of life and property of the tribals as per Law. He expressed his concern over the livelihood of the encroached land losers due to Bharatmala project. He expressed that whole world progress based on industrial growth whereas India's progress is based on agricultural growth. If there will be no development of farmers then India cannot be developed. He emphasized on settlement of encroached land. Further, he questioned on the real valuation of tribal lands away from the towns and demanded for four to six times of compensation of their land.

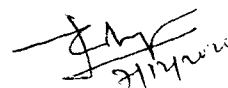
He suggested for consideration of encroached Government land for compensation and demanded land in exchange of land. He informed that there is provision of giving land to landless people by the Government and described the land losers of the Bharatmala project as affected people. He strongly recommended for proper compensation, rehabilitation, land in exchange of land and Government job for one family member of each land losers. Further, he cautioned that if Government will not fulfill the demand then farmers will reply.

**13. Sri Jayasen Khara, Kacharapada Colony**

Sri Khara expressed his concern over the lively hood of the tribal farmers & their families who are going to loose their land due to project. He stressed upon the protection of the land of the farmers and their livelihood. He suggested to implement the road project based on 2017 survey to protect the land and livelihood of the farmers. Further, he stated that farmers are approaching him for the protection of their land and families and he requested for their safeguard. He also warned that if Government will not listen to them then tribals will revolt with the traditional weapons and will die for their lands.

**14. Sri Dibakar Pujari, Presiden to Rastrakishan Majdhur Mahasangha, Nabarnagpur**

Sri Pujari introduced himself as Ex-Army man and President of Rastra Kishan Majdhur Mahasangha. He expressed his gratitude to the District Administration for conducting such interaction meet with the farmers for taking a decision on the road project. He described the Nabarangpur district as a backward and tribal area and questioned on the development of the tribals even after a long period. He expressed his disappointment on local tribal political leaders for not doing any improvements for local tribals though the seats of constituencies are reserved for them. He appealed to the public to think about the development of the farmers. He also informed that the tribal farmers are not willing to give their land. He told that they are not opposing for the roads and everybody wants the road like Cuttack-Bhubaneswar and lighting facilities like Bombay-Madras and it also reduce the accidents and improve in transportation. He cited the examples of Koraput,



Jeypore, Malkangiri and Boriguma for road expansion and questioned the failure of the Authority in Nabarangpur for such expansion. He compared the expenses for expansion of existing road versus the proposed bypass road and advised to go for expansion of existing road instead of by pass for sake of economic gain. He appealed to the public not to object the project for the sake of development and requested the district administration to ensure the safety and livelihood of the farmers to be affected due to the project. He emphasized on proper rehabilitation of the affected families. He informed that Government has made provision of Farmer ID Card for each farmer but most of them are not aware. He assured that if the interest of the farmers will be ensured then they will cooperate in the proposed project. He also emphasized on proper compensation and rehabilitation of encroached land losers.

**15. Sri Ramesh Gond, Sargipada, Raighar.**

Sri Gond expressed that they cannot give their ancestral land in order to sustain of their livelihood and suggested to implement the road project based on 2017 survey.

**16. Sri Satman Pujari, Ramanaguda, Dabugaon**

Sri Pujari expressed that during demarcation of proposed project they ignored them & now conducting public hearing by inviting them. He informed that in Nabarangpur there are 04 categories of Pujaries & 03 of them belong to Batra Pujari & one belongs to Gond. He described about their traditions and apprehended that this project will convert them to drunkards. He suggested to execute the project on existing road. He expressed his dissatisfaction on the non- availability of schools and hospitals in their locality and questioned on requirements of the roads. He informed that he is going to loose 12 acres of land for the project.

**17. Sri Jayadev Pujari, Kacharapada, Kandripakara**

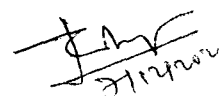
Sri Pujari stated that all of them are going to loose their land in the project and expressed his grief by saying that either they will commit suicide or Government may shoot them. Further, he expressed that project work has been done earlier and now conducting public hearing. He told that they will support the road project if it will be executed based on 2017 survey. He warned that if new survey project will be implemented it may lead to bloodshed as done in 2000.

**18. Sri Sukudev Gond, Jadapada, Raighar**

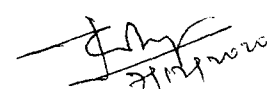
Sri Gond expressed that they have communicated their problems to different authorities related to the road project, but unfortunately no body responded. He informed that after demarcation for the road project they are in panic conditions. He stated that land is their livelihood and money is insignificant. He expressed that their land has been developed by their forefathers, but, nobody asked them before putting pillars for the demarcation. Further, he told that they have no objection if the road project will be implemented based on 2017 survey. He apprehended that they have to migrate to other villages if their land will be taken away. He blamed the local politicians for not caring in this situation. He requested to shift this six lane project to existing main road.

**19. Sri Dillip Gond, Biripur, Bobeya, Raighar**

Sri Gond supported the 2017 survey road project and appealed to cancel the 2020 survey project.



20. **Sri Santosh Kumar Gond, Biripur, Bobeya, Raigarh**  
Sri Gond stated that they have small patches of land for agriculture and questioned that how they will survive if that land will be taken for the project. He also suggested for implementation of 2017 survey road project and to cancel the 2020 survey project.
21. **Sri Dhansingh Gond, Jadapara, Raigarh**  
Sri Gond addressed to the gathering in his local language. He expressed his dissatisfaction over the non caring attitude of the Government. He also questioned on survivability of their families under such conditions. He opined that they will prefer to die rather to give their land for the project. He expressed that during election politicians are taking votes but later they are not responding to their problems. He supported the old existing road project and demanded to stop the proposed new road project.
22. **Sri Andru Gond, Kacharapara**  
Sri Gond stated that 2020 survey road project should be cancelled as their family likely to be suffered. Government may finish them or implement the old 2017 survey road project.
23. **Sri Sanraj Gond, Gandhinagar, Nuapada**  
Sri Gond briefed about their Gond's traditions in Raigarh soil. He expressed his dissatisfaction over the politics and other nuisance, road construction etc in Raigarh soil leading to harassment of local poor people.
24. **Sri Somnath Gond, Kacharapara**  
Sri Gond described about different crops cultivation made by them.
25. **Sri Prabhudas Gond, Tisaguda**  
Sri Gond expressed that Government is ignoring the interest of Tribals. He described that farmers produce their own foods through hard work. He urged that their small patches of land should be protected. The lands are their livelihood. Government should not grab it for the benefits of the rich people. Taking away small patches of land from them may compel them for suicide. This small patch of land can provide food to them even after crisis. He suggested for renovation of the existing old road for their survival.
26. **Sri Krushna Harijan, Patrapara, Baboeya**  
Sri Harijan informed that land belongs to 15 families of their village going to loose for the project and they do not have any alternate shelters. He also complained that they have not obtained patta in spite of depositing tax for last two years. He stated that their funeral ground and other lands are likely to be lost in this project and they may die due to lack of any other alternatives.
27. **Sri Singiram Naitam, Hatibeda**  
Sri Naitam expressed that thousands of villagers are losing their land. They are neither literate nor they have jobs. He requested the district administration for implementation of 2017 survey road project for their benefits.
28. **Sri Meghnath Gond, Baranpara**  
Sri Gond expressed his sadness for losing his land for the project. He requested the district administration for implementation of 2017 survey road project for their benefits.



**29. Sri Balachand Gond, Khurabeda**

Sri Gond expressed that they are going to completely lose their house in this project and they are big families. He suggested for implementation of 2017 survey road project for their benefits and requested to cancel the 2020 survey road project.

**30. Sri Dehedi Gond, Daspur, Jadigaon**

Sri Gond informed that the proposed road project will pass near to their house, but he supported the 2017 survey road project.

**31. Sri Ghanashyam Gond, Junanipara**

Sri Gond expressed that he is going to lose his land in this project and Government is not paying any attention. He expressed his dissatisfaction on Government for ignoring tribals.

**32. Sri Jogeswar Rout, Bharanpara**

Sri Rout informed that he is a land looser in the project.

**33. Sri Durga Bhatra, Nanapara**

Sri Bhatra expressed that their village funeral ground, pond and other land belonging to them will be lost in this project.

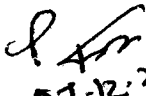
**34. Sri Sukunda Gond, Jadapara, Raighar**

Sri Gond supported the 2017 survey road project and requested to cancel the 2020 survey road project.

The Regional Officer, SPCB, Rayagada read over the issues raised by the public in the hearing and Er Grandhi Atchyuta Durga Kiran, Site Engineer of M/s National Highways Authority of India responded to the issues raised.

The issues raised by the public and corresponding comments of the applicant were prepared in Odia and English and it is annexed with the proceedings as Annexure-I & II respectively, list of the participants and oral deliberators and participants in the hearing is annexed as Annexure-III & IV respectively. Two nos of written representation from Bharatiya Kissan Sangha, Nabarangpur & Krushak Parivars, Raighar were received during public hearing are annexed as Annexure-V. The videograph of proceedings are recorded and submitted as DVD (I & II).

Hearing ended with thanks to the Chair and all the participants.

  
07-12-2020

Er P Kar  
Regional Officer  
State Pollution Control Board, Rayagada



Shri Ramakanta Nayak, OAS (S)  
Project Director, DRDA,  
Nabarangpur