

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING MEETING IN RESPECT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR BALALANGA STONE QUARRY-A, C, D OF THE TAHASILDAR, MANESWAR OVER AN AREA OF 12.148 HA. IN VILLAGE BALALANGA CONDUCTED ON 11.04.2023 AT: 11.00 A.M. AT: KUDENISHA SCHOOL BUILDING, MOUZA-BALALANGA, G.P.: BATEMURA P.S: DHAMA UNDER SAMBALPUR DISTRICT.**

Sri Pravash Chandra Dandsana, OAS, Sub-Collector, Sadar, Sambalpur, presided over the meeting along with Er. Ramesh Kumar Ekka, Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Sambalpur, Odisha.

At the outset, Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Sambalpur welcomed all the public present in the meeting. He briefly described the objective of the public hearing conducted as per the provisions of EIA Notification No. S.O. 1533(E) of Dt.14<sup>th</sup> September 2006 of the Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change (MOEF & CC), Government of India. He also informed that the date, time and venue for conducting the public hearing meeting in respect of the Environmental Impact Assessment for Balalanga Stone Quarry-A, C, D of the Tahasildar, Maneswar over an area of 12.148 ha. in village Balalanga conducted on 11.04.2023 At: 11.00 a.m. At: Kudenisha School building, Mouza-Balalanga, G.P.: Batemura P.S: Dhama under Sambalpur district duly advertised in Odia daily "*Prameya*" dtd.10.03.2023 and English daily "*The New Indian Express*" dtd.11.03.2023. (Paper clipping are enclosed as **Annexure-I**).

On behalf of the Stone Quarry, Sri Abani Panigrahi, Lessee has addressed the public during the public hearing meeting. He briefly explained about the proposed project and various air, water and pollution mitigation measures proposed in the project. He briefly explained the following points;

1. blasting shall be carried out following certified procedure as per adhering information on explosive used for blasting.
2. It was informed that the mining process includes semi mechanized way of mining of stone using drilling & blasting. Handling of rock mass will be done both manually & by excavators. Handpicks, spade, chisel, hammer will be used by manual labors for sorting & sizing. Loosing of rock mass will be done by drilling & blasting. In order to prevent haphazard exaction of pits and suitable blending of ore, the excavators have been proposed at one place. Development in stone will be carried out in bench of average height 6 m & the width of the bench will also be 6 m.
3. During blasting precautionary measures shall be taken up as per requirement. Prior information/proclamation to the local villagers before blasting shall be made and blasting in mines to be taken up once in a week with controlling measures such as dust suppression through water sprinkling arrangement. Besides, the samplings and analysis of air,

water, soil and noise within the proposed project area and all the values are well within the norms.

4. During operation of mines there will be generation of dust, water and noise pollution to the surrounding areas, which shall be taken care of adequately by the project proponent. Adequate water spraying on the haul road shall be done. Construction of proper haul road in the lease area will be carried out. Water spraying shall be done before the mineral is loaded in dumpers/trucks.
5. To minimize dust pollution water sprinkling arrangements on haulage and connecting roads and plantations on road sides shall be taken up.
6. It has been informed that no wastewater generation is envisaged during the mining process. The sanitary waste generated from the mine office will be treated in the septic tank via soak pits.
7. Company authority will provide direct and indirect employment to the local people pertaining to their educational qualifications in the proposed project.
8. It has been informed that all precaution will be taken to reduce generation of noise and noise level survey will be done at regular intervals. Ear protectors or earplugs will be given to persons working in higher noise level area or on machines.
9. It has been informed that impact of mining activities in the area is positive on the socio-economic environment of the region. Mine will be providing employment to local population in the proposed project.

The Regional Officer invited the public to offer their views on environmental related issues of the proposed project.

About 70-80 participants have attended the public hearing meeting and out of them 60 participants have put their signature in the attendance sheet whose list is annexed as **Annexure-II**. 16 persons have registered their name to deliver their views during public hearing meeting and list is annexed as **Annexure-III**.

Statements of the public participated in the deliberation during public hearing meeting is as follow;

Sl. No.	Name of the Participants and their deliberation
1.	<b><u>Sri Sushil Kumar Panda- Balalanga:</u></b> He stated that he has no objection as the livelihood of the Balalanga Village depends on the quarry. Hence, he supported the proposed stone quarry project.
2.	<b><u>Sri. Sudarshan Chatria-Balalanga:</u></b> He welcomed and supported the operation of the quarry. He requested to start the quarry operation as soon as possible.
3.	<b><u>Sri Sanjay Bag – Kudenisha:</u></b> He stated that elephants destroy the rice paddy in their agricultural fields of the Balalanga village. Hence, the villagers are forced to dependent on the stone quarry for their livelihood.

	Therefore, he welcomed the proposed project.
4.	<b><u>Smt. Srimanti Panda – Balalanga:</u></b> She welcomed and supported the proposed project.
5.	<b><u>Smt. Jagyasini Padhan - Balalanga:</u></b> She stated that all the village women including mothers and daughters will be working in the proposed project for their livelihood. Hence, she welcomed and supported the proposed project.
6.	<b><u>Smt. Janani Majhi – Kudenisha:</u></b> She stated that elephants destroy the rice paddy in their agricultural fields of the villagers. Hence the villagers are forced to dependent on the stone quarry for their livelihood. She further stated that as the elephants are destroying their mud houses (kaccha) so she requested to build a village Club for shelter during emergency. Finally, she welcomed and supported the proposed project.
7.	<b><u>Smt. Pyari Soren – Kudenisha:</u></b> She stated that elephants destroy the rice paddy in their agricultural fields of the villagers. Hence the villagers are forced to dependent on the stone quarry for their livelihood. She further demanded before the proposed proponent to construct a pond for bathing purpose for the villagers and she welcomed and supported the proposed project.
8.	<b><u>Smt. Kuntala Chata – Kudenisha:</u></b> She stated that she usually takes her child along with her to the stone quarry and it is the only source of income for her livelihood in the village. Hence, she welcomed and supported the proposed project.
9.	<b><u>Sri Rabikanta Bag – Kudenisha:</u></b> He requested before the authority to allow the operation of the proposed quarry and he welcomed and supported the proposed project. He further informed that village children are traveling 3Kms distance for attending school as the village school has been closed. Hence, he requested the govt. to reopen the village school.
10.	<b><u>Sri Suratha Nayak – Balalanga:</u></b> He introduced himself as a village priest and informed that Government has taken his all-agricultural land for which he is facing difficulties for his daily livelihood. Hence, he requested before the district administration to return his agricultural paddy fields. Finally, he welcomed and supported the proposed stone quarry project.
11.	<b><u>Sri Ram Prasad Sau – Balalanga:</u></b> He informed that the govt. is taking all his agricultural paddy fields and hence it becomes difficult for his daily livelihood.
12.	<b><u>Sri Arjun Hara – Balalanga:</u></b> He stated that the villagers are completely dependent on the operation of the quarry for their livelihood. He also informed that there is a scarcity of drinking water in Kadaliranga and Anand Nagar village area. Hence, he requested before the authority to supply drinking water in those village area.
13.	<b><u>Ms. Sureswari Bag – Kudenisha:</u></b> She welcomed and supported the proposed project. She informed that the livelihood of the villager people is depend on the operation of the stone quarry.

14.	<b>Ms. Laxmi Bag – Kudenisha:</b> She welcomed and supported the proposed project and requested to not stop the operation of the quarry
15.	<b>Smt Purnima Bag – Kudenisha:</b> She welcomed and supported the proposed project and informed that the livelihood of the villager people is depend on the operation of the stone quarry.
16.	<b>Smt. Sangita Chatar – Kudenisha:</b> She welcomed and supported the proposed project and informed that the livelihood of the villager people is depend on the operation of the stone quarry.

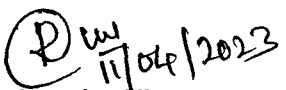
Summary of the points raised by the participants in the public hearing are being read out by Dr. Satya Narayan Nanda, Deputy Environmental Scientist, Regional Office, State Pollution Control Board, Sambalpur and same in English and Odiya (vernacular language) is enclosed as **Annexure-IV (A & B)**.

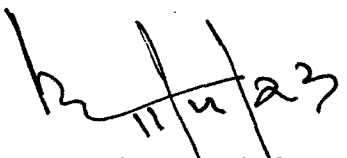
After the completion of the deliberation process the Regional Officer invited the representative of the project proponent to reply the point raised by the participants in the public hearing meeting.

Sri Abani Panigrahi, Lessee of the stone quarry project gave a brief note on the issues related to the demand and grievances raised by the participants which are given in English and Odia (vernacular language) in **Annexure-V (A& B)**. The video recording of the entire proceeding of the public hearing is enclosed as **Compact Disc (CD)**. During the public hearing meeting 03 nos. of written statement were received and are enclosed in **Annexure-VI**.

After the above-mentioned deliberation, the Sub-Collector has announced the completion of public hearing meeting and Regional Officer has proposed the vote of thanks to the Chair as well as to the Participants present in the meeting.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

  
 Regional Officer  
 State Pollution Control Board, Odisha,  
 Sambalpur  
 (Assisted as representative of SPCB,  
 Odisha)  
 Regional Officer  
 State Pollution Control Board  
 Regional Office, Sambalpur

  
 Sub-Collector, Sadar, Sambalpur  
 (Presided and supervised over the Public  
 Hearing Meeting)  
 Sadar, Sambalpur





