

PROCEEDING OF THE PUBLIC HEARING MEETING FOR THE PROJECT OF M/S. MAHANADI COALFIELDS LTD. FOR PROPOSED MANDAPAL SAND MINES (RATED CAPACITY OF 0.25 Mm³/YEAR) OVER AN AREA OF 17.805 Ha IN THE RIVER BED OF BRAHMANI AT VILLAGE NIZIGARHZAMI AND GOPINATHPUR IN THE DISTRICT OF ANGUL HELD ON DTD.02.04.2015 AT 10.00 A.M. AT DEULBERA COLLIERY INSTITUTE, DEULBERA COLLIERY, TALCHER, DIST-ANGUL.

The public hearing of M/s. Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. for Mandapal Sand Mines (rated capacity of 0.25 Mm³/year) over an area of 17.805 ha in the river bed of Brahmani at village Nizigarhzami and Gopinathpur in the district of Angul, was conducted on dtd.02.04.2015 at 10.00 AM at Deulbera Colliery Institute, Deulbera Colliery, Talcher, Dist-Angul. Sri Sushanta Kumar Barik, Additional District Magistrate, Angul presided over the meeting. He welcomed the public who were present at the venue for participating in the meeting. Dr. B.B Dash, Regional Officer and other Officials of Odisha State Pollution Control Board Regional Office , Angul organized and conducted the public hearing meeting. The public hearing in respect of the above project was held as per the schedule and at the venue in accordance with the EIA Notification S.O.1533 (E) dt.14.09.06 and subsequent notifications. The public hearing meeting with regard to date, place & time was announced in the public address system apart from its publication in local dailies. The process followed for the public hearing was adequate. The attendance sheet of the public present in the public hearing meeting is annexed in **Annexure- I**. Around 150 persons attended the public hearing meeting where as only 50 persons signed the attendance sheet. Ten persons had delivered their views whose list is annexed as **Annexure-II** and all of them took part in the deliberations.

At the outset Dr. B.B.Dash, Regional Officer, Regional Office of State Pollution Control Board, Angul welcomed all the public present in the meeting. He briefly described the objective, processes and procedures followed for conducting such public hearing. He also briefed about the objectives of conducting the public hearing as per the EIA Notification No. S.O. 1533(E) of Dt.14th September 2006 of the Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change (MoEFCC), Govt. of India and the detail about the proposed mining project. He also informed that the date, time and venue for conducting the public hearing for Mandapal sand mines

(rated capacity of 0.25 Mm³/year) of M/s. Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd was advertised in Oriya daily "The Dharitri" on dtd.01.03.2015 and in English daily "The Times of India" on dtd.01.03.2015.

He also intimated that the date, time & venue of public hearing was informed to the public in surrounding villages by public address system.

Sri Susant Kumar Barik, Additional District Magistrate, Angul, briefed the audience about the importance of such hearing and invited the project proponent to make a presentation on the proposed project prior to the presentation by the public. He also invited the public to offer their views, objections, opinions and suggestions regarding the project related to environment issues and also they may give written representation reflecting their views. The Additional District Magistrate, Angul explained to public that those who want to participate in the public hearing may discuss about the impact on the environment due to the proposed project.

Dr. B.B Dash Regional Officer, Regional Office of State Pollution Control Board, Angul described about the agenda of the meeting. He requested the representatives of MCL for Mandapal Sand Mines to give brief description about the project and pollution control measures and Environmental Management Plan proposed to be taken by the project proponent.

Sri Satrugan Sahoo, Area Environment officer, of Mandapal Sand Mines (MCL) of the mine welcomed the public and explained about the different aspects of requirement of the sand mines & pollution control measures to be adopted in the mine during operation of the sand mine. He also informed that they had left out 0.291Ha of area for protection of embankment, road for transportation, plantation and for safety of mine. He also told that they will make huge amount of plantation and assured that they shall distribute fruit-bearing plants to the villagers of the aforesaid area for greenbelt development. He informed the public that at present MCL will require a vast amount of sand to fill up the void by using Hydro-Pneumatic method for stabilization of the land surface features of Talcher town. He also informed that they will use water sprinklers, mobile tankers during transportation of sand for dust suppression. The tippers used for transportation of sand will be

covered to prevent air borne dust. He also informed that they will use less amount of tipper for transportation of sand into the coal mines. He elaborated about the technological advancement for the aforesaid project such as they will engage equipments such as backhoes & tipping trucks for sand mining as well as transportation.

The following is the summary of the public hearing proceedings, reflecting the views and relating to environmental issue as well as some of their demands, expressed by the assembled public at the venue. It was recorded by the officials of the Regional Office of State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Angul.

1. **Sri Dushashan Naik, Gopinathpur village:-** Sri Naik expressed that Ward No.16 of Talcher town is being neglected and government officials are not paying any heed to their issues and problem. The road conditions of Mandapal and Gopinathpur village area are very much miserable. The Gopinathpur village nearby land of about 80 Acre has been remaining uncultivated due to water inundation and the people were having double crops prior to mining activities which are now uncultivable. He further said that they are labour category people and they have no future. He suggested that a drain may be constructed for smooth drainage of water so that the land will be made cultivable again. The MCL authority should make one dedicated transportation road for transportation of sand. The area between Banabhutia lease area and Santhapada bridge are uncultivable and should be free from water inundation by taking appropriate measures.

2. **Sri Prakash Kumar Moharana, Amlapada :** Sri Moharana welcomed all and stated that MCL authority will lift sand again, but MCL had got permission to lift sand up to year 2012 only. He further stated that he had witnessed that MCL was lifting sand from mine after year 2012 and questioned that how it was made possible. He expressed following. The concerned authorities should reply on this and now MCL will lift sand again. Since MCL authority need permission from SPCB, so this meeting is being conducted. He further said that he is completely against the project for sand lifting because the road condition are not good even patient cannot safely go to the hospital by this road. If heavy vehicles will move in this road traffic problem will arise. He wanted to know that whether road can support plying of heavy vehicles

and if there is any permission for plying heavy vehicle on this road and around the sensitive area like hospital. The paschimeswar Temple is a famous temple and devotees use the same road to offer prayer and worship in the temple after coming by same road. Earlier in year 2012, the road were being cleaned once or twice in two months and again the same problem will arise. The project proponent said that they have done massive plantation but he has observed no plantation. As the previous speaker was speaking about the water logging in the agricultural land due to which farmers cannot cultivate their land and are adversely affected. The MCL authority is not addressing to the problems. The safety of the Talcher people is at risk, because anytime subsidence may occur due to underground void. For transportation road the land from the people may be acquired near Champapasi side and separate transportation road should be constructed for this purpose specifically without using medical road for transportation of sand.

3. **Sri Jitendra Kumar Das, Gopinathpur, Talcher** : Sri Das expressed that for nation development the people of Talcher had dedictaed thier life for last fifty years. But MCL Authority will not do any thing for thier betterment. The people of Talcher are at heavy risk. During previous occasion of sand transportation, MCL authority were not listening to their problem and he wanted to know what measures will be taken during transportation of the sand from the mine and who will assure about, how many tipping trucks will be used. If sand transportation shall take place then medical road shall be congested and in order to avoid the congestion what measures has been taken by MCL, Project proponent. The waste water discharged to agriculture land of 20 Acres is leading to land infertility. The Word No.16, Gopinathpur village, Kashipur, Sendegaon village children come to school by the hospital road. The MCL Authority may lift and transport sand and they do not have any objection but drinking water facility, education and health care facility should be provided to them. The sand filling in void should be proper. The special dedicated road near Champapasi side may be constructed for sand transportation. Paschimeswar Temple sould be protected and developed as thousand people come there for worshipping.

4. **Sri Dubesh Behera, Gopinathpur** : Sri Behera told that they need development of Gopinathpur village. He stated further that the MCL Authority may do sand mining & they have no objection. He stated that they have some demands. The people are facing drinking water problems. They are not having proper drainage system, proper transportation road for which they are suffering from various problem. There shall be heavy vehicle movement for which there should be arrangement of water sprinkling on roads. He said that they need playground, adequate water sprinklings on road etc. and if these demands are fulfilled MCL Authority may continue its sand mining activities.

5. **Sri Sarat Chandra Dash, Talcher** :- Sri Dash expressed that less number of public are attending in the meeting. He expressed the followings. He requested to conduct another meeting so that many more people will participate. He told that Mandapal road is very sensitive and it is being used by lot of people. If MCL Authority shall use Mandapal road for sand transportation they will face a lot of traffic problem. It will create difficulties for people to reach the hospital for which lot of Medical patients will suffer. He requested MCL authority to transport the sand from Brahmani river in such a technology by which transportation by road shall not be required. Sand stowing should be automatically done by slurry transportation method and requested to construct Mandapal road. He put some conditions before the MCL proponent that they will acquire separate land for sand transportation, stop illegal sand and soil mining, use high technology based sand mining process. He said that he opposes the transportation of sand by using existing hospital road.

6. **Sri Dayasagar Mishra, Talcher** : Sri Mishra expressed that hospital road condition shall be severely affected during transportation of sand. The Ambulance No.108 is not using existing hospital road because that road is not safe, instead road near Word No.3 is being used. He wanted to know that how much amount of water sprinkling will be done by MCL authorities. He also told to the MCL authorities that if they will hamper their day to day life and pollute their environment they will go to street for demonstration. He also wanted to know that what amount of royalty shall be given to the concerned revenue authority. He demanded that separate road should be developed for sand transportation.

7. **Sri Jyotirajan Panda, Talcher** : Sri Panda expressed that due to transportation of heavy vehicle like Hywa in the hospital road for which heavy traffic problem shall arise. He further expressed as follows. He requested MCL Authority to construct the by-pass road and in by-pass road they should transport their sand. He also wanted to know what amount of penalty charged for the illegal mining and what amount of royalty has been received by the revenue department for sand mining.

8. **Sri Dhruvacharan Naik, Talcher** : Sri Naik expressed that the people are facing a lot of problem due to transportation of sand in hospital road and adequate amount of sprinkling is not done by MCL project proponent. He further expressed as follows. They are also facing several water problems. The water sprinkling should be done on transportation road and sand mining may be continued.


9. **Sri Kumuda Chandra Bala, Amalapada, Angul** : Sri Bala expressed that MCL Authority should not transport sand through Gopinathpur village and Mandapal Hospital road and existing Medicine stores, Hotels, human habitation School Children and patients shall be adversely affected due to the activity. They are facing several problems due to transportation of sand. If MCL Authority want to transport sand they should have to construct another road at Champapasi side and transport sand by the same road. He also urged the authority to take action against the illegal sand transportation.

10. **Sri Niroj Dash, Talcher Town** : Sri Dash expressed that MCL Authority should not use Medical road. He compared about the surroundings of Talcher town before 50 years and told that a lot of changes have occurred due to mining activities. Talcher town was better during that period having all facilities like electricity and road communication etc. Earlier Banana and Jaggery were used to be distributed amongst the workers by MCL Authority and now it has been stopped. He once again repeated the issues like Hospital, Temple, Road etc. He demanded that special road should be constructed for transportation of the sand. He categorically told that MCL have not done adequate plantation for which dust emission is heavy and plantation should be done massively as mitigation measures in appropriate proportion of coal production.

After the deliberations were made by the public, the summary of the views and concerns of the public with minutes were read out in Oriya language by the Regional Officer, SPC Board, Odisha, Angul. Then, he invited the Representative of the mine to offer their views on issues raised by the public. Sri.Kishore Kumar Roul, General Manager, Talcher Area of M/S. MCL placed his views on the issues raised by the Public. The summary of the views and concerns of the public and the commitments made by the Project Proponent are annexed in Oriya language & English language as **Annexure-III & IV**, respectively.

At the closing of the meeting ADM, Angul thanked the public for their patient hearing and participation in the deliberation and for concluding the meeting in a peaceful manner. The video recording of the entire proceeding of meeting is placed herewith.

Finally the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair and all participants in the meeting.


(Dr. Binod Bihari Dash)
Regional Officer,
State Pollution Control Board, Odisha,
Angul.


(Sri Sushant Kumar Barik)
Additional District Magistrate,
Angul