

Proceedings of the public hearing held at Govt. Upper Primary School, Kurebaga, Dalki, in Jharsuguda district of Odisha on 30.09.2020 at 4.30 PM for the proposed expansion of Aluminium Smelter Plant (capacity 16 LTPA to 18 LTPA), CPP 1215 MW of M/s. Vedanta Limited by adding 2 LTPA Smelter Plant at village Bhurkamunda, P.O:Kalimandir Road, Jharsuguda, Odisha

The public hearing of M/s. Vedanta Limited for environmental clearance of the proposed expansion of Aluminium Smelter Plant (capacity 16 LTPA to 18 LTPA), CPP 1215 MW was scheduled to be held at Govt. Upper Primary School, Kurebaga, Jharsuguda on 30.09.2020 at 11.00 AM. The State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Bhubaneswar had advertised a public notice dated 27.08.2020 regarding the details of Public Hearing in respect of the above project and specify in the Date, Time & Venue of public hearing in accordance with the EIA Notification S.O.1533(E) dated 14.09.2006 in Odia daily – The Samaj and in English daily- The Times of India on 28.08.2020. Hon'ble High Court Of Odisha, Cuttack ordered on 29.09.2020 in the matter of Writ petition (c) No. 24789/2020 of Subrat Bhoi versus State of Odisha & Others that the public hearing pursuant to advertisement dated 27.08.2020 issued by the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, scheduled to be held on 30.09.2020 at 11.00 A.M. at Government U.P. School, Dalki, Kurebaga in the district of Jharsuguda shall not be held till next date. Copy of the court order is annexed as **annexure-I**.

In the mean time, M/s. Vedanta Limited approached Hon'ble High Court of Odisha, Cuttack to review the matter and the Hon'ble Court partially modified the aforesaid order on 30.09.2020 that the public hearing pursuant to advertisement dated 27.08.2020 issued by the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha may continue, but no final decision shall be taken till the next date. Petitioner, if so advised may participate in the public hearing. Copy of Court order is annexed as **annexure-II**. After receiving the court order at about 4.20 PM the aforesaid public hearing was conducted at 4.30 PM on 30.09.2020. During the course of public hearing the instructions of Govt. of India communicated vide Office Memorandum F. No.22-25/2020-IA.III dtd.14.09.2020 of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of Govt. of India regarding Covid-19 Pandemic Restrictions and also the guidelines for Covid-19 of Govt. of Odisha has been duly followed. Shri Pradeep Kumar Sahoo, Additional District Magistrate, Jharsuguda supervised and presided over the Public Hearing Process, assisted by Shri Hemendra Nath Nayak, Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board (SPCB), Jharsuguda. The attendance sheet of the Panel members present in the public hearing and the public deliberated in the meeting are annexed as **Annexure III and IV** respectively. In response to the Covid -19 pandemic restrictions & precautions, sitting arrangement at meeting place with social distancing was made up to 100 and seven numbers of waiting sheds near the venue had been made to accommodate more numbers of public with maintaining social distancing.

At the outset, Shri H. N. Nayak, Regional Officer of State Pollution Control Board, Jharsuguda welcomed the panel member and the public present in the meeting. He briefly described the objective and the procedure followed for conducting

Hemendra Nath Nayak
Dt. 1. 10. 2020
Regional Officer

Pradeep Kumar Sahoo

the public hearing as per the EIA Notification No. S.O. 1533(E) of Dt. 14th September 2006 of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India. He requested Additional District Magistrate, Jharsuguda to preside over the meeting.

Additional District Magistrate, Jharsuguda, welcomed the assembled public again for the Public Hearing. He briefly explained about the both aforesaid orders of Hon'ble High Court, Odisha for conducting the public hearing and read out the direction of the court orders. He requested the public to maintain peace & come forward one by one to put their views/ opinion for the proposed project expansion. He invited the public to present their views about the proposed project on environmental consideration only. He also described the details of Covid-19 Pandemic Restrictions & guidelines and told that the public who were in the different waiting sheds may wait & can place their views after the persons already present in the meeting place. He clarified that meeting will continue till the last person intended to deliver his/her views completed his deliberation. He asked the Project Proponent to make a brief presentation before the public gathered in the meeting about the various aspects of the proposed expansion of project.

On behalf of the Project Proponent, Shri G.G. Pal, Chief Operating Officer of Vedanta Limited gave a brief description about the proposed project. He presented the brief in Odia language. He stated that Vedanta Limited has been operating 16 LTPA Aluminium Smelter & 3615 MW Power Plants at Jharsuguda location. He expressed the details of the proposed expansion which are as follows.

- Expansion of Aluminium smelter capacity from 16 LTPA to 18 LTPA by adding 66 pots and auxiliary plant (Green anode plant, rodding, cast house and utilities) inside the present Smelter Plant
- Expansion of township adjacent to the existing township.

Apart from the previous investment there will be around Rs.2100 Cr. investment through this expansion.

The salient features of this expansion as submitted by him are as follows:-

- The proposed expansion facility is within the existing premises and there is no land requirement.
- The water requirement for the proposed expansion will be met from the existing water allocation from Hirakud reservoir.
- Power required for the expansion facility will be sourced from the existing power plants, state grid or group captive model.

Prakeep Kumar Saha

Hemendra Nath Nayak
Dt. 01.10.2020
Regional Officer

State Pollution Control Board

- (21/2)
- The direct and indirect employment for the proposed expansion will be around 1000. Further, it will benefit 4000 to 5000 people through various other engagements.
 - We are presently paying around Rs. 2738 Cr. as revenue to Govt. exchequer and we will pay around Rs. 3178 Cr. after this expansion.
 - The plant has adequate pollution control measures as per Central Govt and state government guidelines and will continue to treat the gases and maintain the air quality within stipulated limit after this expansion also.

They will maintain zero discharge and recycle water 100% inside our plant. State of the art Reverse Osmosis (RO) system is adopted for effluent treatment which will be further continued.

As Vedanta limited believes in inclusive growth and giving back to society. They subscribe to Sustainable development. Vedanta limited has been always with Jharsuguda people will continue to Impact through its CSR activities.

- Vedanta participates in various CSR activities in the areas like infrastructure development, education, medical facilities, sanitation, community development and awareness program, vocational training in and around the project site.
- Vedanta Limited has a well-defined CSR policy to carryout social development and welfare activities in the surrounding villages and urban areas.
 - Reaching out to 72 villages
 - 80,000 people in CSR coverage.
 - > 6400 children nurtured with educational support.
 - Empowering >4000 women of 331 SHGs through SHG & Cooperative movement
 - Ensuring economic prosperity among 250 families through land & water management
 - Promoted 1726 self-reliant women entrepreneur
 - Doorstep health services to 32,000 people per year at villages
 - > 570 Key infrastructural projects at community.
 - More than 1.48 Lakh sapling planted with community in PPP mode.
 - Supported district COVID-19 hospital providing 110 beds including 10 ICU beds, ventilators, corona kits, hand sanitizer etc.
 - As a flagship program 50 brown field Nandghars will be developed for Jharsuguda district.

Then Additional District Magistrate, Jharsuguda invited the public to present their views about the proposed expansion of project on environmental considerations only. Then the public deliberated on various issues one by one. During the Public Hearing, all have been given an opportunity to express their views freely on the proposed project. Around 221 persons had attended the public hearing meeting where as 62 persons had delivered their views whose list is annexed as **Annexure-V**. The statement of the public participated in the deliberation is annexed as **Annexure-VI**. About 153 numbers of written representations were received which are annexed as **Annexure-VII**. The video recording of the entire proceeding of the public hearing are enclosed herewith and will be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate

Hemendra Nath Nayak
Dt 01. 10. 2020

Regional Officer

State Pollution Control Board

Praveep kumar sahu

Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi as such along with the written statements of the public & proceeding of the meeting. After the deliberations were made by the public, Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Jharsuguda invited the project proponent to offer views on issues raised by the public. The summary of the views and opinions of the public and the commitments made by the Project Proponent are annexed in Oriya language & English language as **Annexure-VIII & IX** respectively.

Finally the meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair, public and other participants.

Hemendra Nath Nayak

DT. 01.10.2020

Sri Hemendra Nath Nayak
Regional Officer, SPCB
Jharsuguda

State Pollution Control Board
Jharsuguda

Pradeep Kumar Sahoo

Sri Pradeep Kumar Sahoo
Additional District Magistrate
Jharsuguda

W.P.(C) No. 24789 of 2020

2. 29.09.2020

Due to outbreak of COVID-19, this matter is taken up through Video Conferencing.

Heard Mr. Nayak, learned counsel for the petitioners.

Issue notice.

Since Mr. Mohanty, learned Additional Standing Counsel for the State accepts notice on behalf of opposite party Nos.1 and 2, two copies of the brief shall be served on him by 05.10.2020.

Issue notice to the opposite party Nos.3 and 4 by registered post with A.D. fixing a short returnable date.

Requisites shall be filed by 5th October, 2020.

Put up this matter immediately after the S.R. is back.

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K.R. Mohapatra, J.

I.A. No. 11105 of 2020

29.09.2020

Heard.

As an interim measure, it is directed that the public hearing pursuant to advertisement dated 27.08.2020 issued by the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, scheduled to be held on 30.09.2020 at 11.00 A.M. at Government U.P. School, Dalki, Kurebaga in the district of Jharsuguda shall not be held till next date.

Authenticated copy of this order downloaded from the website of this Court shall be treated at par with

certified copy in the manner prescribed in this Court's
Notice No.4587 dated 25.03.2020.

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K.R. Mohapatra, J.

bct

W.P.(C) No. 24789 of 2020

W.P.(C) No.24789 of 2020**I.A. No.11476 of 2020**

3. 30.09.2020 Due to outbreak of COVID-19, this matter is taken up through Video Conferencing.

This matter was not in the list today. On being mentioned, the matter is taken up at 2.00 PM as per the special list.

Heard Mr.Partha Sarathi Nayak, learned counsel for the petitioners and Mr.S.P.Mishra, learned Senior Advocate and long with Mr.Prasant Kumar Nayak, learned counsel for the opposite party No.4-M/s Vedanta Ltd., Jharsuguda.

None appears for State Government as well as State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Bhubaneswar, probably due to want notice.

In partial modification to the order dated 29.09.2020 passed in IA No.11105 of 2020, it is directed that the public hearing pursuant to advertisement dated 27.08.2020 under Annexure-1 issued by the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha may continue, but no final decision shall be taken till the next date. Petitioner, if so advised may participate in the public hearing.

On consent of learned counsel for the petitioner and opposite party No.4, put up this matter on 01.10.2020.

Detail reasoned order follows.

To avoid delay, Deputy Registrar (Judicial) is directed to communicate the above order to the Collector and District Magistrate, Jharsuguda immediately.

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K.R.Mohapatra, J.