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PROCEEDINGS OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION (HEARING) OF MODERNISATION-CUM-EXPANSION PROJECT OF M/S ROURKELA STEEL PLANT (SAIL) HELD ON 13-09-20021 (10AM) AT EXHIBITION GROUND ADJACENT TO BHANJA BHAWAN AT AMBAGAN, SECTOR 5 IN ROURKELA OF SUNDARGARH DIST. (ODISHA)

Public consultation (hearing) of M/s Rourkela Steel Plant (SAIL) was held on 13-09-2021 at 10 am at Exhibition ground adjacent to Bhanja Bhawan at Ambagan, Sector 5 in Rourkela of Sundargarh district in the state of Odisha for their application relating environmental clearance on proposed modernisation-cum-expansion project of the existing Steel Plant. Addl. District Magistrate (ADM), Sundargarh presided over the consultation (hearing) meeting. In the beginning, the Regional Officer, Rourkela of State Pollution Control Board, Odisha and ADM explained the villagers on the aspects of consultation (hearing) for environmental clearance under E. I. A. Notification, 2006 and invited M/s Rourkela Steel Plant (SAIL) to address public on details of the expansion project and its environmental aspects for their views onward. Sri P. C. Dash, Gen. Manager & I/C of Environmental Engg. Dept. of M/s Rourkela Steel Plant (SAIL) addressed public on the expansion project and its environmental aspects. ADM then invited the public to address their views on environmental aspects of the project. 35 nos. of nearby residents opined their views as mentioned below. Attendance sheets of nearby residents present & signed and who addressed views are annexed in Annexure – 1 & 2 respectively.

Statements of the public participated in the deliberation during public hearing

Sl. No.	Name & Address	Views expressed
1.	Sri Niranjan Dash, Advocate, Hamirpur	<p>a) RSP has cheated inhabitants residing in Industrial Township by violating the terms and conditions of agreement signed in the year 1995 with the Odisha Government.</p> <p>b) NAC-ST was abolished and Industrial township was declared in the year 1995 as per above agreement. However, RSP authorities has failed to provide basic facilities like drinking water supply, electrification, road development, construction of school etc. for the residents.</p> <p>c) They didn't say what environmental development will be taken and expenditure thereof.</p> <p>d) He has filed a PIL in this regard and RSP authorities have agreed in the Court to undertake development work; however it was not fulfilled yet.</p> <p>e) MLA / MP LAD fund were also not utilized in their areas as RSP authorities are creating hindrance to provide land for those</p>

		<p>projects. Land guards of RSP are opposing infrastructural development inside the Industrial Township. Even construction of Toilet is opposed by them.</p> <p>f) RSP should fulfill commitments made as per agreement signed in the year 1995 with the Odisha Government and thereafter they should undertake expansion.</p>
2.	Sri Harihar Routary, Sr. Citizen, Chhend, Rourkela	<p>a) Supports the expansion project as it would create permanent and temporary employment opportunity and RSP will able to compete with private players in steel sector.</p> <p>b) RSP is the identity of Rourkela city therefore it should further expand for betterment of city.</p> <p>c) Land guards of RSP are disrupting the development work undertaken by utilizing fund from MP/MLA IAD fund. RSP authority should stop these activities or otherwise they will face public protest.</p> <p>d) RSP should undertake development of Basti, construct pavements along ring road and undertake development of city for Hockey World cup going to be organized in the year 2023.</p>
3.	Sri Ramesh Ch. Bal, President, Rourkela Bar Association	<p>a) Rourkela bar association fully supports the expansion project as this would create direct & indirect employment opportunity.</p> <p>b) The project proponent should circulate the information to everybody about project and commitment of proponent. And if they will fail to deliver than public will go to court.</p> <p>c) RSP should rehabilitate the displaced and inhabitants of Basti. Displaced and local public should be employed in the factory in priority basis.</p> <p>d) Due to road construction, pollution is a major concern in the city. The Pollution Control Board should take its responsibility and control it.</p> <p>e) District Administration and RSP authority should take steps for development of city.</p>
4.	Sri Gorge Trikey, Ex-MLA, Biramitrapur	<p>a) Supports the expansion project on behalf of Rourkela Congress Committee and Gangpur Majdur Manch for local employment and benefit of local public.</p> <p>b) The RSP authority should clarify whether expansion project will be inside factory premises or outside it. Whether there is a proposal for displacement of Barkani, Bagbudi etc in this proposal. If there will not be any displacement than they are</p>

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		<p>supporting.</p> <p>c) Air pollution and sound pollution should be controlled as committed.</p> <p>d) Local employment should be given on priority basis. Employment should be given through employment exchange as per Employment Exchange Compulsory Notification against Vacancies Act-1959.</p> <p>e) Out-State contractors engaged in the factory are deploying man power from their respective States. Local public are deprived from employment in factory. This should be discouraged and local public including displaced should be employed in priority basis.</p> <p>f) District Labour Office should abide by the Interstate Migration Act- 1979 and register immigrant labours for record.</p> <p>g) 5 % reserve fund and periphery development fund should be utilized for development resettlement colonies at Jhirpani, RS Colony at Jagda, Ushra, Lachda, Hatidharsa, Bandamunda etc.</p> <p>h) Development activity should be continued in various Basti settled inside township.</p>
5.	Sri Gopal Das, General Secretary, Gangpur Majdur Manch Union	<p>a) Welcomes and fully supports the expansion project for direct and indirect employment opportunity and development of city.</p> <p>b) RSP has taken steps to control pollution and installed proper pollution control equipments. Environmental emission should be within the norms. The factory should implement Zero Liquid Discharge and stop discharge of effluent to River.</p> <p>c) Displaced persons, inhabitants of Sundargarh District and people residing in Odisha should be employed in the factory in priority basis respectively.</p> <p>i) Contractual employment should through employment exchange as per Employment Exchange Compulsory Notification against Vacancies Act-1959.</p> <p>j) Labour Office should abide by the Interstate Migration Act- 1979 and register immigrant labours for record.</p> <p>d) 5 % of the project value should be utilized for development of all resettled colonies as because they have sacrificed their land for establishment of factory and Mandira Dam. Basic facilities like drinking water facility, development of road, electrification and health care facility should be provided to them on priority basis.</p> <p>e) Adjacent villages of steel city should also be developed under</p>

		periphery development fund.
6.	Sri Jyoti Ranjan Mohanty, Construction Colony, Rourkela	<p>a) They are supporting this expansion project as RSP is the identity of Rourkela and Odisha.</p> <p>b) RSP authority and Government should take stapes for provision of basic facilities like drinking water, road infrastructure and electrification to the colonies established during initial construction of RSP like Construction Colony, Auto Colony, Modern India colony etc.</p> <p>c) Settlements going to be displaced should be properly rehabilitated and re-settled with basic facilities.</p> <p>d) RSP should construct a good road from Sarna Chowk to Deogan for ease of daily commuters.</p> <p>e) Local public should be employed in priory.</p> <p>f) Due to discharge of polluted water to River Brahamani from factory a layer of sludge has been deposited in river bed at downstream. During summer water quality get worsen and it was not fit for use by animals also.</p> <p>g) RSP has failed to undertake development in settled Basti's inside township as per signed agreement in the year 1995. Odisha Government has sanctioned Rs. 92.00 Crores for drinking water facility at Basti's. RSP should accord NOC for this project.</p> <p>h) RSP should take steps for betterment of education in the locality. The unused infrastructure of fertilizer school owned by RSP should be handed over to State Government for establishment of Adarsha School with hostel facility for unprivileged.</p>
7.	Sri Prasanta Sethi, INC, Raghunathpalli	<p>a) They are supporting this expansion project.</p> <p>b) He demanded for development work such as electrification, construction of road, drain, school, health center and proper sanitation in the 236 numbers of Basti's settled inside the Steel Township.</p> <p>c) Dengue is spreading inside the Basti due to improper sanitization.</p> <p>d) Employment to local youths in priority basis. Employment to outside State workers in contractual job should be discouraged.</p>
		<p>a) They are supporting this expansion project.</p> <p>b) RSP shall undertake development work as per tri-party agreement signed in the year 1995. NAC-ST was abolished as per this agreement and Industrial Township was constituted.</p>

<p>8.</p>	<p>Sri Ananda Ch. Mohanty,</p>	<p>Periphery development should be undertaken.</p> <p>c) A representative from Corporate Office of SAIL should be present at this meeting to address the issues of public. The local management has no power to give commitment in this meeting.</p> <p>d) Issues of displaced shall be resolved in priority basis. All the educated and un-educated local youths should be employed and if required necessary training may be imparted to them before employment.</p> <p>e) Rourkela City, Kalunga, Kuarmunda and entire Sundargarh District is heavily polluted.</p> <p>f) Employment under contractor should be given to local youths in priority basis and out State employment should be discouraged.</p> <p>g) 4 numbers of contract workers were retrenched from the service due to demand of ESI & PF should be employed immediately. Otherwise there will be protest.</p> <p>h) Fertilizer plant should be resumed operation for benefit of local public.</p> <p>i) The excess land acquired by the RSP shall be utilized for Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.</p> <p>j) Now Barsuan-Taldihi-Kalta iron ore mines is under administrative control of RSP. They are apprehending that this was done to privatize the steel plant with assurance of mines.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Dr. Pravat Mallick, President, Cultural Academy, Rourkela</p>	<p>a) Supports the expansion project</p> <p>b) Requested for financial assistance to various socio-cultural organizations in Rourkela for promotion of culture. RSP should assist them under CSR scheme.</p> <p>c) RSP should provide better infrastructure facility for cultural organizations.</p> <p>d) RSP should undertake development work in Hamirpur, Tumkela and Luakera villages as it is not under the RMC or RSP Township.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Sri Biman Maity, General Secretary, CITU, Sundargarh</p>	<p>a) CITU supports this expansion project</p> <p>b) Pollution Control Board should take steps to control Pollution in Rourkela City as well as in Sundargarh District.</p> <p>c) RSP should take steps for better road, drinking water facility, sewerage system etc inside Township.</p> <p>d) RSP should undertake development work in settlement colonies of contract workers.</p> <p>e) Time from home to Plant and return to home shall be considered</p>

		<p>under duty hours of contract workers. And accordantly accidents under such timing may be covered under duty hours.</p> <p>f) Issues of displaced people shall be resolved, excess land shall be returned to the land losers etc.</p> <p>g) Local public shall be employed in the factory in priority basis. Proper wages to the Contract workers as per Central Govt. norms.</p> <p>h) RSP should undertake peripheral development work in health, education and other sectors. Super specialty Hospital shall be run by the AIIMS.</p>
11.	Sri Sajal Banerjee, General Secretary, Rourkela Contractor Association	<p>a) Assured support to the expansion.</p> <p>b) Contributions of contract workers are not less than the permanent workers.</p> <p>c) A committee shall be constituted for local employment. Contracts shall be awarded to local contractor and local industry.</p> <p>d) Employment shall be through employment exchange.</p>
12	Sri Surendra Kansari, Luakera	<p>a) Supports the expansion project as it is the need of the hour to compete in steel market. BMS is also supporting this expansion project.</p> <p>b) Local public and displaced should be employed in the expansion project in priority basis.</p> <p>c) This project will be established inside the plant premises and no additional land will be acquired for it. The RSP authority shall fulfill the commitments made during last public hearing as well as at this public hearing.</p>
13.	Sri Letha Tricky, Bondamunda	<p>a) If proposed expansion will be inside the factory boundary and there will be no opposition, however if is going to be established outside the plant premises than local public will strongly oppose it.</p> <p>b) As per executive summer about 4235.38 Acres of land will be required for expansion project, the RSP authority should clarify whether this will be inside the factory boundary or outside it.</p> <p>c) Details about the gas pipe line network are not mentioned in executive summery therefore they are apprehending that this expansion will be outside the factory premises.</p> <p>d) Displaced families are deprived from employment rather outsiders are employed in factory.</p> <p>e) Propaganda for public hearing was not carried out at buffer zone</p>

		<p>outsiders are employed in factory.</p> <p>e) Propaganda for public hearing was not carried out at buffer zone and affected villages. Affected villagers are not present in this hearing, then how public hearing will be completed. Therefore this should be stopped.</p> <p>f) RSP has mentioned that local tribal people are not having proper skills, without any survey. Many youths among displaced are having qualifications of ITI, Diploma and Engineering Degree.</p> <p>g) RSP has invested more than Rs.24000/- Crores for Periphery development and more than Rs.26000/- Crores for Slum development. However, the resettlement colonies are deprived from development, what is their fault ? In the upcoming project fund shall be utilized for development of resettlement colonies.</p>
14.	<p>Sri Kamalakanta Nayak, State Secretary, BJD-Youth</p>	<p>a) Supports the expansion project and thanked State Government for extending its support.</p> <p>b) Local youths are deprived from employment rather out State workers are employed. Youths are the future of the Nation; therefore RSP should promote local youths.</p> <p>c) RSP authorities are not taking responsibility of Ex-employees. Quarters allotted to them are shall be renewed.</p> <p>d) RSP has closed down all its lower schools and high schools rather private schools are promoted. Education through private schooling is expensive.</p> <p>e) Health care facility at IGH has deteriorated. No specialist is there in super specialty hospital.</p> <p>f) Level of pollution is high in coke oven battery no. 4 & 5 and SMS-1 etc.</p>
15.	<p>Smt Latika Pattanik, District President- BJP</p>	<p>a) Supports the Public Hearing and local MP is also supporting this.</p> <p>b) Local employment shall be on priority and local contractor shall also be engaged in RSP.</p> <p>c) RSP always fulfills the norms of pollution and bags Green Tech Awards each year.</p> <p>d) Health and Education is the responsibility of State Government.</p>
16.	<p>Sri Ganeswar Roa, General Secretary, Basti Union / Gumuti Association</p>	<p>a) The purpose of this hearing shall be clearly informed to the local public.</p> <p>b) Sufferings of poor villagers will not be realized by the others. The inhabitants of 237 slums are facing much difficulties and RSP has not undertaken any development in that area. Even construction</p>

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		<p>of toilet at slum is not possible without prior permission of RSP.</p> <p>c) Health care facility at IGH has deteriorated now. RSP shall increase its efficacy in health care facility.</p> <p>d) All the political parties and trade unions should take steps for development of slums.</p>
17.	Smt. Minati Debata, Social Worker, Rourkela	<p>a) RSP should take its responsibility as per agreement signed in the year 1995 for development of Basti inside Township. Proper sanitation facility and basic infrastructure facility shall be there. Dengue is spreading in slums due to improper sanitation.</p> <p>b) Local RSP authority should appraise the real truth to higher management of Corporate for development of Basti. Land shall be allocated by RSP for Anganwadi Center in Basti.</p> <p>c) Dwellers of Basti shall not be used only for vote bank politics rather all should come forward for development of them.</p> <p>d) Pollution is concern in the city, a layer of dust is getting deposited on the floors.</p> <p>e) Local youths shall be employed in priority or otherwise un-social activity will increase in the city. Outside employment shall be discouraged.</p> <p>f) All Basti shall be properly rehabilitated by facilitating them with Pucca house under Government schemes before displacement.</p> <p>g) RSP shall take its responsibility to take care of its Ex-employees.</p>
18.	Sri Ramchandra Hansda, Secretary, Rourkela Karmachari Sangha	<p>a) Supports the expansion project.</p> <p>b) RSP is regularly taking steps to control air, water & noise pollution. All the parameters are within norms. There will be no impact pollution to the adjacent habitations. Rourkela is a clean and green city.</p> <p>c) RSP authority shall continue to expedite welfare activity in the city like development of road, street light facility, drinking water facility etc.</p>
19.	Sri Nihar Ray (BJP), Rourkela	<p>a) Supports this expansion project on behalf of BJP.</p> <p>b) Central Government has allocated Rs 294/- Crores for drinking water facility of Rourkela City. However State Government is taking its credit by spreading false propaganda.</p> <p>c) Every health care units including RGH is referring critical patients to IGH, therefore it is well established that IGH is the best health care facility in the Rourkela city.</p> <p>d) Displaced public protesting outside shall be allowed to express</p>

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