PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF M/S. BADAMI SUGARS LTD FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING SUGARCANE CRUSHING CAPACITY FROM 2,500TCD TO 5,000TCD & CO-GENERATION CAPACITY FROM 8MW TO 20MW AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW 200KLD DISTILLERY UNIT AT SY. NO. 364/B, 309, 310/1, 310/2, 310/3, 364/A, 365/2B, 217/1, 7, 307/3A, 307/2, 365/2B, 366, 216 OF BADAMI TALUK HELD ON 20/09/2022 AT 11.00AM AT GODOWN OF EXISTING SUGAR INDUSTRY M/S. BADAMI SUGARS LTD, BADAMI-RAMADURGA ROAD, BADAMI, BAGALKOTE DISTRICT

Public Hearing Panel Members Present		
1	**Shri. P Sunilkumar,** Deputy Commissioner & Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee, Bagalkote District.	**Chairman**
2	**Smt. Shweta Beedikar,** Assistant Commissioner, Bagalkote	**Member**
3	**Shri.Rajshekhar Puranik,** Senior Envionmental Officer, KSPCB, Zonal Office, Dharwad (I/C) and Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Regional Office,Bagalkote.	**Member**
M/s. Badami Sugars Ltd industry representatives and M/s. Samrakshana Consultants present		
1.	Shri. Ravikant Patil	Managing Director
2.	Shri. Ravindra Kumbhar	Unit Head
3.	Shri. Vinayak Kulkarni	HOD Process
4.	Shri. Prakash Sutar	AGM- Environment
5.	Shri. S Nanda Kumar	CEO, Samrakshana
6.	Shri. Shreeshail Badiger	Engineer, Samrakshana

Shri Rajshekhar. Puranik., Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Bagalkote extended a warm welcome to the Deputy Commissioner & Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee, Bagalkote District, the Assistant Commissioner, Bagalkote, the Tahasildar, Badami Taluka, Bagalkote District and all the participating villagers from surrounding area & public, elected representatives who were present in the public hearing. Further, he

briefly explained the needs for Environmental Clearance and public hearing for the said project as follows:

M/s. Badami Sugars Ltd propose to undertake Expansion of the existing Sugarcane crushing capacity from 2,500TCD to 5,000TCD & Co-Generation capacity from 8MW to 20MW and establishment of new 200KLD Distillery unit at Sy. No. 364/B, 309, 310/1, 310/2, 310/3, 364/A, 365/2B, 217/1, 7, 307/3A, 307/2, 365/2B, 366, 216 of Badami, Bagalkot District.

As per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India on 14.09.2006 (Amendment Notification on 01-12-2009), it is a prerequisite to get Environmental Clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GOI and Conducting Environmental Public Hearing for the said project.

As per the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (IA Division), GOI, the project proponent has made application for Environmental Clearance and got the Terms of Reference from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GOI vide Letter dated: 17-09-2020 and accordingly the draft EIA report is prepared. The project proponent submitted the request letter to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bangalore for conducting the public hearing. Accordingly, with the concurrence of the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkote, the Public Hearing is scheduled on 20-09-2022 at Godown of existing Sugar Industry M/s. Badami Sugars Ltd, Badami-Ramadurga road, Badami, Bagalkot District.

As per the EIA Notification, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board gave the Paper Notification 30 days in advance in the Kannada Daily Newspaper "**Hosa Digantha**" and English Daily Newspaper "**Times of India**" dated: 19-08-2022 and in local daily Kannada Newspaper "**Sanje Darshan**" on 20-08-2022. In the said Notification, the suggestions / views/ comments and objections of the interested bonafide residents, Environmental groups and others located near the project site and are likely to be affected by the proposed project were given opportunity to send their suggestions, objections, grievances, etc. in written or through E-mail to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board/Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee, within 30 days from the date of publication of the notification.

The copy of the draft EIA report and Executive summary of the EIA report both in Kannada and English were placed at the following places 30 days in advance for the references of the general public.

- Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Navanagar, Bagalkote.
- Office of the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Navanagar, Bagalkote.
- Office of the Joint Director, District Industries Centre, Navanagar, Bagalkote.
- Office of the Senior Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Zonal Office, Dharwad
- Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Navanagar, Bagalkote.
- Ministry of Environmental & Forests, South Zone Office, E-3/240, Kendriya Sadan, 4th floor, E&F Wings, 17th main road, 2nd Block, Koramangal, Bengaluru.

- Help Desk, KSPCB, Parisar Bhavan, Ground Floor, No.49, Church Street, Bengaluru.
- Office of Town Municipal Council, Badami, Bagalkot-District.
- Web site of KSPCB "http://kspcb.gov.in"

The Regional office KSPCB, Bagalkote and other offices mentioned above have not received any E-mail or any written applications with comments or objections from public as on 19-05-2022 in respect of said project. This Environmental Public Hearing is organized for hearing the suggestions/ views/ comments and objections of the interested public and villagers on Environmental related issues.

He informed the representatives of the Environmental Consultant, M/s. Samrakshana, Bengaluru to make a Power Point Presentation on environment study conducted on Air, Water, Soil & noise environmental impact assessment and the environmental management plan of the proposed project proponent to the public gathered;

On behalf of **M/s. Samrakshana, Bengaluru,** the Environmental Consultant Shri. Shreeshail Badiger, made the Power Point Presentation. He explained about the objectives of the proposed project, the Environmental base line data and present scenario of existing environment in the project area. The impacts of the project on the environment, The Environment Management Plan and measures proposed to control/ mitigate the Environmental Pollution and its protection, environmental monitoring etc by the Project Proponent. The hard copy of the presentations made in the public Hearing is enclosed with this proceeding, as **Annexure-01**. List of participants/villagers & others who attended the Public Hearing is enclosed as **Annexure-02**.

The Environmental Officer requested the public present in the hearing to express their suggestions / views / comments if any about the said project. Accordingly the following villagers/public are expressed their views in the hearing:

1. **Shree. N S Bommanagoudar of Kittali village, Badami Taluk**
   - He informed that, he owns 15 acres of agriculture land having sugarcane crop.
   - The industry was not in operation since last 10 years period. Hence, they were facing lot of problems in transporting the sugarcane crop for crushing as other Sugar industries are located far from his agriculture land.
   - Now, M/s. MRN group has taken over this sick industry and commissioned & operated it successfully.
   - He informed that, they will be benefitted by the proposed expansion and commissioning of sugarcane crushing from 2500TCD to 5000TCD and Co-generation from 08MW to 20MW and distillery project as they can produce & transport the sugarcane crop in more quantity to the industry and get their bills cleared early.
   - Hence, he extended his support for undertaking the proposed project.

2. **Shree. Poojappa D Budihal of Yaragoppa village, Badami Taluk**

- He informed that, he has no objection for undertaking proposed expansion of Sugar, Co-gen & Distillery project and submitted a supporting letter for the proposed project on behalf of the villagers of Yaragoppa village.

3. **Shree. Ningappa R Hosamani of Beeranur village, Badami Taluk**

- He informed that, he is a progressive farmer.
- M/s. MRN group has taken over the sick industry through bid, which was not under operation since very long period and they are running it successfully.
- He informed that, the proposed expansion project will benefit the surrounding farmers.
- He submitted a supporting letter for the proposed project on behalf of the villagers of Beeranur village.

4. **Shree. Anjanagouda B Patil, Narasapur village, Badami Taluk**

- He informed that, due to heavy rain in the area they lost maize, onion and green gram crop and sugarcane crop is supported the farmers.
- Now, they have proposed to expand the sugarcane crushing capacity along with Co-gen capacity & establishment of a new distillery unit, which is very helpful in the upliftment of socio-economic condition of the surrounding farmers.
- Hence, he stated that, he has no objection for undertaking proposed expansion project.

5. **Shree. Mahadevappa B Yattinamani, Kallapur SK village, Badami Taluk**

- He informed that, he grown sugarcane in 12 Acres.
- He informed that, previously farmers were suffering to send the sugarcane as there were no sugar industries in nearby viscinity.
- Now, it is very helpful for them to send the sugarcane crop as M/s. MRN Group industry is located near to their agriculture land.
- Hence, he extended his support for proposed expansion project.

6. **Shree. Gangadhar Mokashi, Teggi village, Badami Taluk**

- He informed that, MRN Group has provided employment to more than 72,000 youths in Bagalkot District.
- More job opportunities will be created to surrounding villagers from this proposed expansion project, he added.
- He thanked the Government for arranging public hearing to hear public and farmers to express their views.
- Hence, he welcomed proposed expansion project.

7. **Shree. Venkanna T Pujar, Retd Superintendent of Forest Department, Badami town**

- Till now, the surrounding villagers & seniors who have spoken previously have only told about the positive things from the said expansion project. But, there are many negative effect from this industry, he stated.
- The economical conditions of the surrounding farmers will be improved and many job opportunities will be created from this expansion project, but lot of environmental pollution problems occur during peak time of sugarcane crushing like Air & Dust pollution, smell nuisance etc..
- Earlier Smell nuisance was generated from this industry between 5.00PM to 7.00PM in the Badami town and surrounding villages, which he experienced at the time of going on walk in the area, he added.
- He enquired about the impact on the historical monuments located in Badami town from the air & dust pollution generated from the industry.
- He also enquired regarding allocation of Rs. 1497 Lakhs fund for environment management and protection mentioned in the presentation for controlling of environmental pollution inside factory premises only or for the surrounding areas of Badami town and whether the forest department also contributed for plantations in that fund or not.
- Water flow in MLBC Canal to the farmers has blocked which is located adjacent to the factory premises. Hence, he requested to clear the blockage of water canal at the earliest to benefit farmers to carryout agriculture activities.

8. **Shree. Mallanagouda S Rudragoudar, Cholachagudda village, Badami Taluk**

- He informed that, there will be pros and cons from every industry. Today 99% of the surrounding public and farmers are positive on benefitting from the said expansion project, the public hearing committee can avoid remaining 1% negative comments addressed by the public may not be considered.
- The surrounding farmers and public will be benefitted from the proposed expansion project.
- He informed that, previously they were suffering to send the sugarcane as there were no sugar industries located nearby. Now, it is very helpful for them to send the sugarcane.
- He submitted a supporting letter for the proposed project on behalf of the villagers of Cholachagudda village.

9. **Shree. S C Angadi, Badami Town**

- He informed that, earlier M/s. Badami Sugars Ltd industry was established in the year 2001 by Shree. Chimmanakatti, Ex-MLA.

- He enquired about the availability of additional sugarcane growing area for said expansion of sugarcane crushing of capacity from 2500TCD to 5000TCD.
- As the capacity of sugarcane crushing increases the Air & dust pollution related problems will also increases and causes health impact such as lung cancer etc to the residents of Badami. Hence, he requested to explain about the proposed pollution control measures by the industry to control the Air & Water pollution levels.
- He enquired about the water requirement for expansion of sugarcane crushing of capacity from 2500TCD to 5000TCD and whether they have obtained permission from the concerned department to draw water from Malaprabha river.
- He submitted a written application during the public hearing with request to provide or clarify the following points:
  - How much sugarcane growing area is required for expansion of sugarcane crushing capacity from 2500TCD to 5000TCD?
  - The water requirement for expansion of sugarcane crushing of capacity from 2500TCD to 5000TCD.
  - The effect of proposed expansion on surrounding environment.
  - The effect on health of pollution on human beings.
  - The effect on national monuments from the smoke of sugar industry.
  - The water requirement for production of Sugar.
  - The source of water for sugarcane growing area and for factory.
  - The details regarding objections of the Archaeological survey of India authorities during the establishment of the industry.
  - The requirement of NOC from Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
  - The details of power requirement for expansion of sugarcane crushing of capacity from 2500TCD to 5000TCD.
  - The permissions obtained from the HESCOM for supply of power for proposed extending capacity.
  - The details of self-production of power in the industry.
  - The details of submission of Environmental Statement by the industry for the year ending 31-03-2022.
  - The arrangement for storage of molasses for expanded capacity.
  - The details of submission of Environmental Assessment report and Environmental Management Plan by the factory.
  - The details of Consent obtained by the F/A's under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environmental Protection Act, 1986.
  - Cropping pattern of Irrigation Department (MLBC).

The copy of the above said written application is enclosed with this proceeding as Annexure-3.

10. **Shree P. Venkatesh from M/s. Haritha Educational Rural Welfare Society, Uravakonda, Ananthapuram District, Andhra Pradesh state**

- He requested the industry authorities to give top priority to local people in employment opportunities, follow CPCB & CREP guidelines.
- To take-up village plantation and avenue plantation & develop the greenbelt within the industry premises,
- Conduct medical and health camps for local public and for the employees.
- Take-up CSR activities in the local area which will improve the socio economic status of the local people,
- Take precautionary measures to control dust pollution,
- Develop the agricultural area around the villages,
- Provide education, health, economical activities for local people and also provide roads and street lights.
- He welcomed proposed expansion project.

11. **Shree. Suresh G Herkal, Kittali village, Badami Taluk**

- He informed that, it is hard to make payments to farmers of sugarcane suppliers on time by producing sugar as only product. Hence, it is necessary to produce by-products and establish new distillery unit Co-gen to make payments to sugarcane farmers on time.
- Industry authorities should take all the necessary precautionary measures to avoid environmental pollution from the industry.

12. **Shree. Yallappa Marigoudar, Manneri village, Badami Taluk**

- He informed that, his village is located on bank of Malaprabha river every season affected by flood in the area in his village almost every farmer harvest sugarcane crop. Having a sugar industry nearby and expanding its crushing capacity is beneficial for them.
- Hence, he supported the proposed expansion project & submitted a supporting letter for the proposed project on behalf of the villagers of Manneri village.

13. **Shree Ishtaling Sirsi, Badami Town**

- He informed that, almost all the industries are owned by the elected representatives of this country. Hence, some people may say they will not face

any problem from the said project. But, he will not tolerate if any problems occurred to farmers and to the surrounding environment.

- As per the survey of Horticulture Department we are growing sugarcane crop more than any other crop.
- The Government should make policy regarding the harvesting the different crops in different seasons depending on soil texture, as we are only concentrating on growing sugarcane crop.
- The Industry management should clear all the sugarcane bills regularly.
- The industry authorities should make by-pass road for transporting sugarcane during the sugarcane crushing season from Badami town as it is creating traffic problems in the area.
- He requested to clarify the impact of Air & dust pollution on the historical stand stone monuments located in Badami town from the expansion activity of said industry.

14. **Shree. Ramesh Badami, D.S. Bileri village, Ron Taluk**

- He informed that, he owns 20 acres of agriculture land which produces sugarcane crop.
- Before they needed to transport the sugarcane crop to sugar industries situated in the Mudhol and Jamakhandi talukas. But, now it is easy for them to transport the sugarcane to this industry which is located near to their agriculture land and it is reducing their transportation charges.
- He also requested the management of the said industry to give same price as given by the industries of Mudhol and Jamakhandi for their sugarcane crop.

15. **Shree. Nagaraj Kachatti, Member of Town Municipal Council, Badami**

- The industry was not in operation since long period. Now, M/s. MRN group has taken over this industry and commissioned successfully.
- He requested the industry management to give financial help to the children of the surrounding farmers in their profit and also to take suitable measures to avoid pollution related problems as the historical monuments are located near to the industry premises.

16. **Shree Somanna H Bingeri, Badami**

- The industry was not in operation since last 10-12 years period. Now, M/s. MRN group has taken over this industry and commissioned it successfully &

proposing for expansion of sugarcane crushing capacity from 2500TCD to 5000TCD.

- It is the responsibility of the industry authorities to take precautionary measures to avoid environmental pollution and take up adequate plantation in and around the industry premises for good air quality.
- Already, this industry has provided employment to youth of the surrounding villages. Many new job opportunities will be created by undertaking expansion of the proposed project, he informed.
- The Project Proponent should adopt waste to energy concept and CO_2 gas capturing in the project.
- Every industry has advantages and disadvantages. Hence, the industry authorities should adopt best available technologies to combat & to reduce environment damage.

Reply & Clarification given by Shree. Shrishail Hiremath, Employee of Cane Department of M/s. Badami Sugars Ltd regarding availability sugarcane growing area required for expansion of sugarcane crushing capacity from 2500TCD to 5000TCD is as follows:

- In previous sugarcane crushing season of the year 2021-22, they have crushed total sugarcane of capacity 2,44,000 Tons and cleared all the bills of the farmers and they have proposed to crush 4,00,000 Tons of Sugarcane this 2022-23 sugarcane crushing season.
- They are receiving sugarcane from many surrounding villages.
- From last 02 years, the area received good rain, which helped in good yield of sugarcane crop.
- The farmers are growing more sugarcane in their agriculture fields compared to other crops. Hence, there is good quantity of sugarcane is available in the surrounding areas.

Clarification given by Shri. S Nanda Kumar, CEO, Samrakshana, Bengaluru for the queries raised by the public are as follows:

- They have already prepared draft impact assessment report based on the study carried out in 10KM radius of said industry and they have made the power point presentation.
- To control Air & dust pollution and to avoid adverse impact on archaeological monuments, Project Proponent has installed dust collector to existing 60TPH Boiler and they have proposed to install 55TPH Boiler with ESP for proposed expansion and also proposed to install 55TPH incineration boiler with ESP for establishment of proposed distillery unit. The waste water from the distillery unit is proposed to be concentrated and incinerated in the boiler completely.

- Bagasse is used as fuel in the boilers and they have proposed to install Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP) to the boilers at the cost of Rs. 600 Lakhs.
- As per latest CPCB guidelines the pollutant limits for particulate matter emission from chimney attached to Co-Gen Boiler is 50mg/ Nm^3 and previously it was 150mg/ Nm^3. Hence, they propose to adopt additional air pollution control measures required as mentioned in the power-point presentation and also they will install chimney of height 60 meters to the boilers proposed.
- They will increase the capacity of ETP for treatment of effluent and install Condensate Polishing Unit for the treatment of condensate generated from the proposed expansion project and also propose to provide rain water harvesting system at the cost of Rs. 800 Lakhs and total cost will be Rs. 1498Lakhs.
- They will provide Contnuous Online Monitoring System to ETP and to the chimney attached to the incineration boiler which will be connected to the CPCB & KSPCB server to monitor limits of parameters stipulated by the CPCB & KSPCB regularly. The cost of the same will be around 30 Lakhs.
- Pressmud will be used to manufacture CNG and proposed to establish CO_2 gas capturing unit.
- The proposed distillery will be established on Zero Liquid Discharge concept. The waste water generated will be completely concentrated & incineratd to produce K-ash by the industry.
- The proposed distillery unit will produce ethanol which is further used to mix with petroleum products by HPCL, IOCL & BPCL, etc.
- They are treating the effluent generated in the Effluent Treatment Plant as per the KSPCB guidelines and using it for irrigation purpose. It is organic effluent. Hence, it will not impact the soil & not create any kind of soil pollution.

Further, Sri. Sangamesh Nirani, Executive Director of M/s. Badami Sugars Ltd clarified to the remaining queries as follows:

- They had a vision of making sugar industry in the Bagalkot, Badami & Hunagund taluka region as there are dry lands. Hence. Shri Murugesh Nirani has taken over & restarted this industry as per a request made by seniors of Badami town.
- M/s. MRN Group has total 03 Sugar industries in Badami Taluka namely- M/s. Badami Sugars Ltd, M/s. Kedaranath Sugar and Agro Products Limited in Kerakalamatti village & M/s. MRN Cane Power (I) Ltd at Kallapur SK village.
- This M/s. Badami Sugars Ltd industry has pride of clearing all the sugarcane bills of farmers regularly.
- The suggestions given during the public hearing by the public and farmers will be viewed seriosuly and regarding establishment of pressmud to CNG unit and CO_2 gas capturing unit will be installed and they will take adequate steps to

combat environmental pollution & also local youths will be given priority for employment and bills of sugarcane of surrounding farmers will be cleared on time.

- The Government of Karnataka has already allotted Sugarcane growing area for proposed expansion of Sugarcane crushing capaity from 2,500TCD to 5000TCD and M/s. S. Nijalingappa Sugar Institute, Belagavi has given report regarding avaialability of Sugarcane of 6,00,000 Tons in surrounding area.
- M/s. Nirani Group has taken over this industry 03 to 04 years back. But, the MLBC canal has been blocked before that. Now, he assured to take necessary action for clearing the blockage of MLBC canal.
- Presently fresh water is drawn from borewells and they have filed an application to Irrigation Department, Government of Karnataka for drawing water from Malaprabha river, which is under progress.
- They are proposing to draw water from Malaprabha river during river flowing period and store it in storage tanks within industry premises, more than that, sugarcane has 60% of water in it and 30% of bagasse, they will condensate the water evaporated from sugarcane and use it in the process by installing Condensate Polishing Unit.
- They have obtained all the 26 licenses from the different departments of Government of Karnataka for this expansion project.
- They have a Bio-CNG plant adjacent to M/s. Sai Priya Sugars from which farmers are benefitted and they are proposed to install the same plant in Badami so that, the farmers of this region also can get more benefits.
- They are planning to make Badami Taluka completely irrigated area within next 02 to 03 years.
- Finally, he thanked all the public hearing panel, public and farmers present in the public hearing for giving opportunity to speak in the meeting.

Following supporting letters/ objection letters to the proposed project were received during public hearing and the details are as follows:

1.13 No's of supporting letters were submitted by the different villagers of Badami Taluk during the public hearing are as follows:

- **Yaragoppa S.B. village,**
- **Beeranur village,**
- **Kutakaneri village,**
- **Neelagund village,**
- **Muttalageri village,**
- **Cholachagudda village,**
- **Pattadakallu village - 02 No's**
- **Manneri village, Kataraki village,**

- **Timmapur S.N. village,**
- **Kallapur SK village,**
- **Nandikershwar village of Badami-Tq**

Above 13 No's of villagers have has submitted a supporting letter to the proposed expansion of project stating that- M/s. Badami Sugars Ltd industry was not under operation since a long period. Now, MRN Group has taken over the company and they have proposed to establish new distillery unit in the existing Sugar industry premises. It will be helpful for them to get more price for the crop and early sugarcane bill as the industry will be financially strong by establishing a new distillery unit. Hence, they support the proposed project. The copies of the said letters are enclosed with this proceeding as **Annexure- 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16.**

2. **The following 07 No's of NGOs from outside the Bagalkot District have submitted the supporting letters to the proposed expansion project. The details are as follows:**

    - **M/s. Sneha Environment, Ballari,**
    - **M/s. People Sustainable Development Society, Rayadurgam, Ananthapuramu District, Andhra Pradesh State,**
    - **M/s. Shalini Environment and Education Society, Ballari**
    - **M/s. Gnana Jyothi Rural Development Society, Ananthapuramu, Andhra Pradesh State**
    - **M/s. Haritha Educational Rural Welfare Society, Uravakonda, Ananthapuramu District, Andhra Pradesh State,**
    - **M/s. Keerthy Environment Society, Ananthapuramu, Andhra Pradesh State,**
    - **M/s. Shakthi Environment Rural Development Society, Ballari**

All above 07 No's have submitted the supporting letters with suggestion to Project Proponents to:

- Give top priority to local people in employment opportunities,
- Follow CPCB & CREP guidelines,
- Take-up village plantation and avenue plantation & develop the greenbelt within the industry premises,
- Conduct medical and health camps for local public and for the employees.
- Take-up CSR activities in the local area which will improve the socio economic status of the local people,
- Take precautionary measures to control dust pollution,

- Develop the agricultural area around the villages,
- Provide education, health, economical activities for local people and also provide roads and street lights.

The copies of the said letters are enclosed with this proceeding as **Annexure- 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 & 23.**

- Also, **M/s. Mathru Sri Charitable Trust & Old Age Home, VS Puram, Hyderabad** has submitted supporting letter to the proposed project stating that, the management of the proposed project beneficial to the local village people. As more infrastructure development and improvement to the network of the roads in the village area. The management conduct the medical camps to the local village people for the health point of view management issue health cards of their workers and employees. The company CSR funds will be enhancement of 5% to 10% improvement of the local community villages to develop the schools, temples, ITIs and computer training institutes. Hence, they requested to recommend to MOEF & CC to issue the Environmental clearance to the said proposed project. The copy of the said letter is enclosed as **Annexure-24.**
- And **M/s. G K Education & Rural Urban Development Sociery, Chitradurga** has submitted supporting letter to the proposed project stating that, the proposed project will provide employment opportunities to the nearby people & also provides facilities like periodical health checkup, transport facilities, residential facility and there will be upliftment of the villagers as the economic condition will be improved. The said project will provide RO drinking water supply and solar street lighting facility to Badami. Green belt will be provided as per norms, Villages, Semi-Urban settings and towns are bound to create certain positive socio economic impact on the local population as the proposed project is based on the agriculture products in the area. Hence, they support the said project. The copy of the said letter is enclosed as **Annexure-25.**
- **M/s. SCSTBC Minority Generalist Forum, Mannegudem, R.R. District, Hyderabad** has submitted supporting letter with suggestions to the proposed project stating that, the management should take avenue plantations at the project site area, they should conduct medical camps every month in the project village and nearby villagers, they should establish RO drinking water plants in that area people who has been suffering from the drinking water of that village people and the management should raise the CSR budget to develop community villages. Hence, they requested to recommend to MOEF & CC to issue the

Environmental clearance the said proposed project. The copy of the said letter is enclosed as Annexure-26.

- **M/s. Samagra Parivarthana Samudaya, Airani, Ranibennur-Tq, Haveri-Dist** have submitted a supporting letter stating that, they welcome the proposed project for issue of Environmental Clearance. The copy of the said letter is enclosed as Annexure-27.

Finally, Shri P Sunil Kumar, the Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, Bagalkote District adressed the public hearing as follows:

- Already the Environmental Consultant of Samrakshana, Bengaluru made the Power Point Presentation. He explained about the objectives of the proposed project. The Environment Management Plan and measures proposed to control/ mitigate the Environmental Pollution and its protection by the Project Proponent.
- Almost 90 to 95% of public who have expressed their suggestions / views / comments are in favour of proposed expansion project and are positive about it.
- But, few of the public, NGOs have expressed their concerns regarding problems expected from this proposed expansion project. Hence, the industry authorities should adopt latest best technology available to combat the Environmental Pollution problems.
- The Industry Management and Environmental Consultants have given suitable answers to the queries raised during the public hearing.
- The 28 Acres of land which they are using for this proposed expansion project has been converted to industrial purpose by Revenue Department. The record regarding this is available.
- The Industry authorities have assured to clear the problem regarding the blockage of MLBC canal water and progress of the same will be monitored by us. Presently, the industry is using borewell water and as they informed that, they have filed application for permission for drawing water from Malaprabha river.
- The industry authorities have proposed a budget of around 15 crore rupees to combat environmental pollution problems such as soil pollution, noise pollution, smell nuisance, Air & Water pollutions by providing advance technology equipments as proposed in the presentation made by the Environmental Consultant.
- They proposed to install Online Continuous Monitoring System for flue gas emissions which can be verified through mobiles at any given time by the public.
- I have previously done my service in the area where historical archaeological monuments were located. In this case nearest historical archaeological monuments are located at the distance of 05KM. The sound pollution will harm the monuments when it is at the nearest distance of around 300 to 500 meters from the monuments and informed the authorities of Archaeological Survey of India to address any issues in this regard.

Shree Mohammad Sameer, Deputy Surveyor, Department of Archaeological Survey of India, Government of India has replied as follows:

- Even though the historical archaeological monuments are located at the distance of 05KM from this industry, they are concerned about effect of dust pollution on monuments.
- He requested the Pollution Control Board authorities and Industry authorities to study and submit the data regarding the Fly Ash emissions and its impact on monuments.

Shri P Sunil Kumar, the Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, Bagalkote District continues adressing the public hearing as follows:

- The concerns of the Archaeological Survey of India authority will be taken positively. The industry authorities have proposed to install latest best technologies equipments available to combat Air & dust pollution and Environmental Pollution. We will monitor if any environmental related problems occur through the Pollution Control Board and action will be taken if any pollution related problem found during monitoring.
- No industry will propose to expand their sugarcane crushing capacity without confirming sugarcane availability and growing area. Otherwise, it will be loss to industry only.
- The appeals, suggestions & apprehensions of the public have been recorded through video and the proceedings of the meeting will be sent to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India for further needful action.

The public hearing was concluded with vote of thanks.

(Shri P Sunil Kumar)
Deputy Commissioner & Chairman,
Environmental Public Hearing Committee,
Bagalkote, Karnataka