

Proceedings of the Environmental Public Hearing towards the proposed quarrying of natural sand of capacity 79,205 TPA by Sri H T Nagareddy over an area 8-36 acres at Sy. No: 44/1, 44/2, 44/3, 44/5 and 44/18, Machenahalli, Molakalmuru Taluk, Chitradurga District.

Date: 12.08.2022 at 11.00 AM

Place: Proposed project site at Sy. No. 44/1, 44/2, 44/3, 44/5 and 44/18, Machenahalli, Molakalmuru Taluk, Chitradurga District

Officers Present:

Sl no	Name	Designation
1	Smt. Kavitha S. Mannikeri, I.A.S.,	Deputy Commissioner and Presiding Officer of Environmental Public Hearing Panel, Chitradurga.
2	Sri Muralidhara B.S	Senior Environmental Officer, Zonal Office, KSPCB, Chitradurga.
3	Sri E. Prakash	Environmental Officer and Convener of the Environmental Public Hearing Panel, KSPCB, Chitradurga
4	Sri T Suresh Kumar	Tahasildar, Molakalmuru
5	Sri Rajesha P	Deputy Environmental Officer, RO, KSPCB, Chitradurga.
6	Kum. Padma G R	Geologist, Department of Mines and Geology, Chitradurga.

I. Project Proponent and Consultant present:

1. Sri Nagareddy H T, Project Proponent
2. Sri Sachin M U, Consultant to the Project, M/s. Horizon Ventures

II. List of Participants as per Attendance Register (Enclosed as Annexure-A).

Sri E. Prakash, Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Chitradurga welcomed the Deputy Commissioner, Officials, Project Proponent, Environmental Consultant, Public, Environmental groups and Media persons.

As per the guidelines stipulated in the EIA Notification, 2006, the Environmental Public Hearing was scheduled on 12.08.2022 and the same was published in leading news papers "Vijaya Karnataka" (Kannada) and "Deccan Herald" (English) on 12.07.2022 and also published in Chitradurga District local News paper "Suddi Giduga" on 20.07.2022.

The Panchayath Development Officer of Ashoka Siddapura were apprised about public hearing required for the process to facilitate local residents, Environmentalist and the public who are directly or indirectly affected by the proposed project to submit their suggestions/objections/views/opinions/comments through E-mail/in writing to the presiding Officer of Environmental Public Hearing Panel (Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga District)/Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Chitradurga or orally during the time of public hearing.

The copy of the EIA draft report and Executive summary of the EIA report both in Kannada and English were placed at the following Offices for references to the general public and requested the said Offices to maintain the register by recording Suggestions/objections/views/opinions/comments of the general public.

1. Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga.
2. Office of the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Chitradurga.
3. Office of Tahasildar Office, Molakalmuru Taluk, Chitradurga District.
4. Office of the Dept. of Industries and Commerce, Chitradurga.
5. Office of the Taluk Panchayath, Molakalmuru Taluk.
6. Office of the Grama Panchayath, Ashoka Siddapura, Molakalmuru Taluk.
7. The Regional Office, KSPCB, Chitradurga.
8. Help Desk, Board Office, KSPCB, Parisara Bhavan, Bengaluru.
9. Ministry of Environment and Forest, South Zone Office, Koramangala, Bengaluru.

It was brought to the notice of Presiding Officer that, till 11.08.2022 no written submissions were received by the above said offices.

Sri E. Prakash, Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Chitradurga in his preamble said that, Sri H T Nagareddy, the project proponent has proposed to carry out quarrying of Natural sand of capacity 79,205 TPA in the lease area of 8-36 acres located at Sy. No. 44/1, 44/2, 44/3, 44/4, 44/5 and 44/18 of Machenahalli village, Molakalmuru Taluk, Chitradurga District, Karnataka. The project proponent has to obtain Environmental Clearance (EC) from State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Bengaluru as per the EIA Notification dated: 14.09.2006 and is required to go through Environmental Public Hearing.

The Proponent has obtained Terms of Reference (TOR) from the State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Bengaluru vide No. SEIAA 83 MIN 2021, dated: 07.08.2021 and has requested the Karnataka State pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on 02.06.2022 to conduct Environmental Public consultation/ Public Hearing.

As per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 2006, the Public Hearing was conducted on 12.08.2022 at 11.00 AM at proposed project site at Sy. No. 44/1, 44/2, 44/3, 44/4, 44/5 and 44/18 of Machenahalli village, Molakalmuru Taluk, Chitradurga District under the Chairmanship of Smt. Kavitha S Mannikeri, Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga District.

The Presiding Officer/Chairman informed the representative of proposed project to make power point presentation on the project including Environmental issues (Impact on Environment). On behalf of the project proponent, Sri Sachin M.U., Consultant representing M/s. Horizon Ventures, Bengaluru, explained the public about the proposed project of quarrying of natural sand through Power Point Presentation. The Salient feature of the project, the Environmental base line data, present scenario of existing Environment in the project area, the impact of the project on the surrounding Environment, Environment Management Plan, Measures proposed to control/mitigate the Environmental Pollution and CSR activities. Further he has informed that, the activity will be carried out by open cast quarrying through semi mechanized method. The hard copy of the presentations made in the Public Hearing is enclosed as **Annexure-B**.

The Presiding Officer/Chairman informed the gathered public to express their views/opinions about the proposed project with respect to Environmental issues by submissions either in writing or orally. During the time of Public Hearing, nine persons have expressed their views orally and are summarized as below:

1. **Sri Honnareddy, Venkatapura Village**

He thanked the Deputy Commissioner and he expressed that, they have no information on arrival of Deputy Commissioner to the project site for the meeting. Earlier in this area two sand quarrying permissions were given. Those mining activities have affected the area & damaged the roads and nothing was done/implemented by the project proponents as per their proposals. Hence, he quoted his remarks against the project and urged to not to allow any new sand quarrying projects in the area.

2. **Sri Maheshkumar S/o Ramareddy, Vittalapura Village**

He mentioned that, no proposals were refused by the Government so far and quoted his remarks against the project and said that, sand transporting vehicles are passing in the village roads and passing near the School and Anganawadi thereby causing nuisance to the School children. There are cotton growing lands all along the road of Vittalapura Village limit & the mining activities are causing nuisance to the farmers. He further added that, mining activity will cause ground water depletion & leads problem to the farmers and hence project shall not be allowed and apprehended that, there is no value to the opinions collected in the EPH and urged to reject the sand quarrying proposal.

3. **Sri Somashekhar, Venkatapura Village**

He requested not to issue permission to the project as there will be a nuisance due to movement of lorries during night hours and also the borewells are being dried in their land due to sand quarrying.

4. **Sri Sateeshkumar, Vittalapura Village**

He strongly opposed the project and informed that, they have already submitted the requisition to stop sand quarrying activities in the area, as the people are facing problems and not leading happy life. Till now no action was initiated by the Govt. and approving all the proposals and carrying mining in the area will cause ground water depletion & drought in future. He apprehended that, if permissions issued like this, farmers will migrate to the cities like Bengaluru for their livelihood and requested not to allow the project and to stop all the mining activities.

5. **Sri Surendra, Venkatapura Village**

He quoted his remarks against the proposal. Permitting the mining will cause ground water issues & local farmers will face the problems in the area and he requested not to issue permission.

6. Sri Sanjay, Venkatapura Village

He said that, by the existing mining we are facing the problem in the area and there are no proper roads & transporting vehicles create nuisance and the local students are discontinuing their education & getting attracted towards job (as drivers in transport vehicles). The project proponents will not implement the measures like water sprinkling, tree plantations as proposed and roads are being damaged and 90% farmers are facing the consequences in their land and hence, he objected the project.

7. Sri Narendrababu, Venkatapura Village

He quoted his remark in favour of the project and stated that, he don't have any objection if the sand mining is carried out by taking necessary measures as per the presentation made in the Public Hearing.

8. Sri P G Shekhar, Vittalapura Village

He quoted his remarks against the project. He mentioned that, while sheep grazing, lot of nuisance being caused by the sand transporting vehicles in the road and said that, sheep are dying in accidents and vehicular movement are causing damage to the roads and nuisance to the villagers.


9. Sri Mahesh H Maranna, Urthala Village

He said that, he don't have any issues if the permission is given or not, only thing is that, the sand transporting lorries shall not pass through their village.

The Presiding Officer/Chairman has informed the project proponent to express his remarks to the public oral expressions. For which, Sri H T Nagareddy replied that, necessary measures will be taken as per the presentation made in the Hearing.

During Public Hearing meeting, the Panel has received Four (04) written submissions which are enclosed as Annexure-C. Finally the Presiding Officer informed the gathered public that, all the views, opinions, suggestions, concerns and grievances expressed here are noted and the entire program has been video recorded and same will be made into CDs and the proceedings of this meeting as it is would be sent to Government for further action.

Thereafter, the Environmental Public Hearing was concluded with vote of thanks and hence the Proceedings.


Deputy Commissioner and Presiding Officer
Environmental Public Hearing Panel,
Chitradurga District

