

Proceedings of Environmental Public Hearing of proposed 1.8 LTPA capacity Non Recovery Coke Oven Plant, 10 MW Co-gen Captive Power Plant and 2.0 LTPA capacity Ductile Iron Spun Pipe (DISP) Plant in 166.16 acre area located at Plot No. 456 & 457, Baikampady Industrial Area, Panamburu, Mangaluru Dakshina Kannada District by M/s Kudremukh Iron ore company limited held on 10.10.2019 at 11.00 AM at St.Antony's Church Mini Hall, Kuluru, Mangaluru, Dakshina Kannada District.

At an outset, Sri. Rajshekhar Puranik, Senior Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Mangaluru welcomed Hon'ble Smt.Sindhu B Rupesh, IAS, the Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of District Environmental Public Hearing Committee, Dakshina Kannada District and requested to Chair and conduct the public hearing. He welcomed the officers from various Departments of the District, the representatives of the project proponents, Media persons and the Public present in the meeting. The list of Officials / Representatives of Project proponent / Public present is enclosed as Annexure-1. He briefed the gathering about the project as follows.

- M/s KIOCL has proposed 1.8 LTPA capacity Non Recovery Coke Oven Plant, 10 MW Cogen Captive Power Plant and 2.0 LTPA capacity DISP Plant in 166.16 acre area located at Plot No. 456 & 457, Baikampady Industrial Area, Panamburu, Mangaluru Dakshina Kannada District
- As per the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification-dated 14.09.2006 and subsequent amendment of 01.02.2009, the project requires environmental clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC), New Delhi and requires public hearing as per the procedure of EIA Notification, 2006.Hence the project proponent had submitted the application to MoEF & CC.
- Considering the application filed by the project proponents, MoEF & CC has issued Terms of Reference (TOR) vide letter dated 21.12.2018 to prepare Draft EIA report and directed to submit the detailed EIA report including the subjects raised during public consultation.
- The project proponent submitted a letter to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board vide letter dated 10.07.2019 requesting to conduct the Public Hearing as per the TOR and hence

KSPCB had written a letter to the Deputy Commissioner, Dakshina Kannada District, requesting to conduct the Public Hearing in their Chairmanship vide letter dated 24.07.2019. Accordingly the Deputy Commissioner finalized the date and the venue and directed to conduct the Public Hearing on 10.10.2019 at 11.00 A.M. at **St.Antony's Church Mini Hall, Kuluru, Mangaluru, Dakshina Kannada District.**

- KSPCB, Bengaluru had issued paper notification on 09.09.2019 in State level leading English and Kannada News Paper "Indian Express" and "Vijayavani" respectively and Regional Office, KSPCB Managloru had issued paper notification in local leading newspaper "Karavali Ale" on 11.09.2019. Copies of the said paper Notifications are enclosed as **Annexure-2.**
- Draft EIA report, Executive summary (Kannada & English), CD of Draft EIA report prepared by the project proponents are placed at the following places for the reference of public and to file any suggestions, views, comments and objections of interested bonafide residents, environmental groups and others located at project site and likely to be affected by the proposed project.
  1. Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Dakshina Kannada District, Mangaluru.
  2. Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Dakshina Kannada District, Mangaluru.
  3. Joint Director, District Industries Centre, Dakshina Kannada District, Mangaluru.
  4. Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, "Parisara Bhavan" 10B, Baikampady Industrial Area, Mangaluru.
  5. Ministry of Environment & Forest, South Zone Office, E-3/240, Kendriya Sadan, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, E&F Wings, 17<sup>th</sup> Main Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru – 560 034.
  6. Help Desk, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ground Floor, No.49, Parisara Bhavan, Church Street, Bengaluru – 560 001
- Board had also uploaded the Draft EIA report, Executive Summary in Kannada and English on the official website: [www.kspcb.gov.in](http://www.kspcb.gov.in).

After this, the Deputy Commissioner, Dakshina Kannada District and Chairman, District Environment Public Hearing Committee was requested to initiate the Environmental Public Hearing.

**The Deputy Commissioner and the Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee** informed the project proponent to present technical presentation of the proposed project to the gathering. The consultant of the proposed project on behalf of the project proponent gave brief presentation to the assembled public regarding the proposed project and the impact on the environment due to the implementation of proposed project and mitigation measures proposed to reduce the impact and also statistics of study conducted in the surrounding area on Air water soil and Noise.

The technical presentation presented by the project proponent in Kannada and in English is enclosed as **Annexure-3**.

After Completion of the presentation Deputy Commissioner District Environment Public Hearing Committee requested the gathering to present their views / comments / objections on the proposed project pertaining to specific Environmental related issues. Accordingly, following local residents expressed their views / comments / objections.

**1. Sri. Dany D'Souza, Melukoppa, Kulur.**

On behalf of villagers of Padukodi and Bengra Kulur, he submitted his application (enclosed as Annexure-IV) wherein he asked to consider the control of pollution from the industry and medical insurance to the public residing in the area. Continuing he said that people are facing dust pollution mainly the black dust which flies from NMPT Coal unloading and loading areas, also pointed out that there is no proper measures adopted to control dust emission for dust control and also said that, dust from existing KIOCL unit also adding up. He pointed out the environmental issues faced by other villages like Permude, Jokatte from MRPL and Nandikuru, Padubidre from UPCL Thermal Power Plant and said that though there were several objections raised with the concerned authorities for not giving the permission to such industries but they were all came to existence. He told that even though pollution preventive measures were taken by the respective Industries, still it has not been fully controlled. As a result of these the air pollutant concentration is varying in this area and causing several diseases like Cancer, Asthma, Bronchitis, Liver diseases, Allergies etc., Further he said that along with air, water resources are

also getting polluted by these industries. Because of rules and regulations of industrial zone it is not possible to stop the industries to be set up in these zone and said that the temporary measures taken for pollution control will not address the medical problems faced by the people and reiterated providing of free medical treatment and facilities and treatment from KIOCL to the nearby public if the permission for new project is to be given. Also he demanded to provide medical insurance scheme within the radius of five kilometres of affected area and 60% of job opportunities to the qualified nearby villagers/public and also to provide contract works to local contractors.

## **2. Sri. Rany D'souza, Padukodi, Kulur.**

He read out the appeal from the people of Padukodi and Bangra Kulur, Kunjathbail villages enclosed as Annexure-5 and said that they are facing environmental problems from neighbouring industries. He informed that he is one of the displaced persons for setting up of NMPT but was not provided any job in NMPT in spite of his efforts. He said that even after agitation they have not get any jobs in the neighbouring industries. Referring to dust pollution he said that because of dust generated from existing KIOCL pellet plant they are facing health problems and he himself is suffering from health issues due to the pollution of industries located nearby.

Further he said that the neighbouring four villagers are facing health problems such as asthma. He accused of releasing the waste water from these industries and because of this river getting polluted, which has affected the Agriculture, plantation, fishing etc. and even wells and ponds are getting polluted and there is no pure water for drinking. Also said that whole area is facing dust pollution and questions the measures taken by the concerned authorities. He asked what is the necessary to establish the industries which creates the problems to the people and said that he support the industries which do not pollute the environment.

He said that public are worried after knowing that two new industries are coming in this area. He asked to conduct a survey on health and economic condition of the affected villagers of the nearby areas and provide them with necessary medical insurance facilities and also appealed to the environment department to test the air and water quality for a month period. Further he questioned the proponent how many jobs were given for the people who lost their lands for the industries and accused that the industries are neglecting the local people in giving the jobs. He

said he will support the industries only if it is not affecting the villages and environment and only after giving assurance in writing of giving the jobs to the locals. He suggested addressing the issues such as health problems of affected villagers before the establishment of the industries and also in future.

**3. Sri. Ashraff, Jokatte Grama Panchayath Member.**

Referring to the problems faced by Jokatte villages from MRPL coke and Sulphur unit he said that villagers of *Nirmunje* and *Panchayth Gudde* are leaving their residences and residing at different places. The villagers are protesting against MRPL from last five years and it became a part of their life. He informed that KIOCL Company, has not given any fund to Jokatte Panchayath under CSR activities nor any employment. It is just 4. kms away from KIOCL unit. He was expressing concern on coming up of new Projects which will definitely be harmful to nearby residents and pollute the environment. He indicated that the samples were taken without the knowledge of the local Grama Panchayath and appealed that before giving the permission, every aspect/details to be explained clearly to the locals.

**4. Sri. Manikanta, Kodialbail, Mangalore.**

He told that project proponent is claiming that the job opportunity will be given to locals but since last 10 years there is no recruitment in the industries. The jobs are given to the outsiders but locals are facing the environmental pollution from the industries. He mentioned about recent recruitment of Engineers who are all from outside Karnataka state, whereas locals are facing pollution problems from the Industry. He mentioned about the construction of Lakya Dam, which is not in a proper way and also causing the pollution of Bhadra river at Kudremukh area. He mentioned about the closing of educational institutions at Kudremukh and questioned the industries responsibility in promoting education.

He further informed that training is being given to local persons for one year or two years, however, for regular appointments locals are not considered. He expressed that in view of environmental angle, it is better not to start the new project.

**5. Dayananda Shetty, Ex. Corporator, Kulur.**

He said that advantages and disadvantages have been seen by the nearby villagers by industries who came up in the nearby areas,. It is a fact that people had experienced water pollution and air pollution, fly ash issues and other related problems from the industries by the nearby residents. He accused that projects are being set up without considering the locals opinions. Pointing out the recruitment of outsiders in the industries he accused that even our state peoples are not given any jobs in the industries. He asked to set up the industry only if there is establishment of suitable control measures to protect the industrial pollution by using latest technologies as people will not tolerate if again they have to face the problems from these industries. He appealed to consider local and displaced people for appointment to jobs in the industries. He suggested that with installation and improved latest technology, industries may be established. Industries are essential; however, environment aspect should also be taken care. He also urged to call another public Meeting in this regard. He said that the people in this area are in fear and mentioned one incident that has happened in a school at Kulur wherein due to the bad smell some students suffered health problem of vomiting and till date the cause was not yet traced. He said that if locals are not given jobs then industries will be forcibly closed by public.

**6. Mrs. Wilma, Kulur**

She informed that she was displaced person wherein their land was acquired by NMPT but no job has been given and accused that the NMPT Chairman had not responded to her request. She accused that she has not got any help from the NMPT and other industries even though she was a displaced resident from the industries. She asked when industries are not responding to their grievances then why people should allow new project to come up in their acquired land. She said that she does not support the new industry for the safeguard of future generation. Giving an example of terrace garden she informed that dusts from the industries are affecting the yield of the vegetables and this dust spreads in the whole area causing pollution.

At this time a public from the gathering exhibited a deformed tender coconut and said that due to the dust pollution in this area the yield of coconut plantation and vegetables are affected and consumption of these items is affecting the health of the people.

Mrs. Wilma, Kulur continuing her speech pointed out that fly ash from Coke Oven Plant is very harmful and with the new projects, the environment problems may increase further, already temperature is very high and hence appealed that this type of projects should not be taken up and allow the future generation to survive with their cultural customs and requested to conduct another Meeting.

She asked the Chairman of the meeting that such projects are not required and requested for the proponent to get the information from the residents for their requirements before spending the CSR fund and accused the people are not getting any benefits from the industries.

**7. Smt. Shantha Ravindra, Ex. Corporator, Kulai**

She congratulated the KIOCL authorities for conducting such a public meeting for their expansion project and complained that there is a smell problem in this area. She told that opposition should not be for the sake to oppose as there is progress in new technology. We have to think what benefits can be taken from the industry. She refused to agree that KIOCL authorities had not done anything for the affected area and informed about the various benefits she got when she was a Corporator, of Kulur and Panjimogaru (nearby areas) residents, like Buildings for Church School, Water Tanks for Kulur school, Drinking Water Tank at Kulur Bus-stand, Computers at Panjimogaru School, etc., including small jobs to the local people. She said that the people in this area are affected by various health problems but it is not right to reject the establishment of new industry right away just because of that.

She further said that with the new projects local people will get some benefits of employment and contract jobs. Normally, local people will be preferred for any new projects. She informed that with the closure of Kudremukh BF unit, many people have been transferred. Hence, instead of stopping the new projects, we have to extend support and

suggested to adopt new and latest technology to control pollution and protecting the local people health and environment.

#### **8. Sri. Rafiq, Kulur**

Referring to the global warming and climatic change he asked the necessity of the new project. He expressed his apprehension that the emissions from the industries would affect very badly health of people residing in this area. Referring to the vomiting incident in nearby school due to bad smell he said there is no necessity for such a new project in the area. Objecting the presentation made by the proponent and its details he urged that the concerned ministry which is giving permission to the industry itself has to conduct the environment impact study and not by the industry itself and requested the Chairman of the meeting not to facilitate the new industry. He further said that he is objecting the establishment of new industry for the sake of future generation and said that there is no need of new project in this area. Referring to the recent recruitment in KIOCL he accused that all jobs are given to the outsiders and urged the public not to believe in the KIOCL company's claim of giving jobs to the locals and objected for establishment of new project.

#### **9. Head-mistress, Kulur Church Primary and High School, Kulur.**

The Head-mistress on behalf of Primary and High school read out the representation in the meeting. In her appeal she said that there is emissions from the existing KIOCL pellet plant by which the nearby environment has got polluted and is affecting the health of Kulur residents and school Children. She complained that because of the said pollution, School Children and teachers are suffering from health problems such as Vomiting, Asthma, Coughing etc and also said that the emission from the said industry is also affecting the structure of school building but the authorities of the industry had not responded to their problems even after giving the representation. She further mentioned that though the industries are good for development of the Nation, however, in view of the health aspect of the school children and environment she said she is opposing the new projects of KIOCL and urged not to give permission to the new project. She submitted her appeal to the Chairman of Public hearing, which is enclosed as Annexure-6.

**10. Smt. Vani Gokhale, Kannada Teacher, Kulur Church School.**

She expressed her apprehension that Kulur environment had already polluted and will increase further if the new projects will set up in this area and asked the people to alert in this regard.

Referring to the vomiting incident of bad smell in the Kuluru School she said that the air pollution from the industries is affecting the health of School children and teachers. She mentioned the dust pollution from the existing KIOCL pellet industry. She said that there is more loss to the people than the company profit. Opposing the said project she requested not to pollute the environment further by giving permission to the new projects. Requested the Chairman and concerned authority to give justice to the people by taking suitable decision by rejecting said project.

**11. Sri. Krishna Bhat, Ex. Union Bank employee, Kavoor,**

He stated that KIOCL Company making Pellets and iron blocks and now propose to start new projects at this location. He suggested that with detailed discussion and getting opinion from the general public the new projects may be started. He requested the Deputy Commissioner for improvement of Kulur Bridge and connected highway and service roads. He desired to know from where the water will be drawn and discharged after the used by KIOCL Ltd.

**12. Sri. Rajesh, Kulur,**

He stated that he is suffering from severe lung disease due to the dust particle emission form the KIOCL industry. Further he said that there are many people who are suffering from dust allergy in this area but these problems are invisible unlike natural disaster which gets more attention than these problems. He told that the trees and plants are not growing properly in their areas at Kulur due to pollution. He suggested to provide an Ambulance and a free medical treatment at one of the hospitals at Mangalore, for the illness caused due to pollution by the industries.

**13. Father Vincent D'Souza, Kulur Church.**

Referring to the dust pollution from KIOCL pellet plant he said that they are not able to open the door and windows of the church and houses and also badly affecting the school children and public. Because of this people are facing health problems such as cancer. He said that health of People, Children and environment get affected by the dust emission from the existing KIOCL pellet Industry and demanded the concerned industry authorities to address the issue. The two new proposed projects even though are beneficial for development aspects but they affect the health of the people, hence people of this area are expressing their anxiety to him. He urged to conduct the survey and to study the impact on environment, health status of the nearby villagers, River water quality and fishing activities of these area in detail before giving the permission to the project and appealed to protect people's well being and health. Finally he submitted a memorandum in this regard to the Chairman of the Public hearing committee which is enclosed hear with as Annexure-7

**14. Sri. Henry Pinto, Ex. President, Canara small-scale Industries Association (R),  
Baikampady, Mangalore**

He informed that at Baikampady Industrial area, there are more than 20,000 workers and out of which more than 60% are female workers. And emphasized the importance of environment and development in the progress of Nation and said they should march forward together. In Dakshina Kannada though the first Industry was opened in 1869, however, there is not much development in this area and educated citizens are going outside due to less job opportunity in Dakshina Kannada district. Hence, he suggested instead of opposing all the industries it is better to welcome environment friendly industries to set up, so that auxiliary/supporting industries will come up, which will help the local persons in getting employment opportunities.