

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF SHRI. SUBHASCHANDRA MAHANTAPPA MODI AT SY. NO. 73 TO 76, 79(P) & 80 TO 85, ML NO. 2195, HEBBAL VILLAGE, MUDHOL TALUK & BAGALKOT DISTRICT HAS PROPOSED TO UNDERTAKE MINING OF LIMESTONE MINE OF CAPACITY 1.0 MTPA IN AN MINE LEASE AREA OF 70.82HA HELD ON 17/05/2022 AT 11.00AM AT PROJECT SITE, HEBBAL VILLAGE, MUDHOL TALUK & BAGALKOT DISTRICT.

<u>Public Hearing Panel Members Present</u>		
1	Shri. Mahadev A. Muragi Additional Deputy Commissioner & Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee, Bagalkote District.	Chairman
2	Shri.Rajshekhar Puranik, Senior Envionmental Officer, KSPCB, Zonal Office, Dharwad (I/C) and Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Regional Office, Bagalkote.	Member
<u>Consultants & Mines representatives present</u>		
1.	Shri. Pawan B Udapudi	Mine Owner
2.	Shri. Shivanand Udapudi	Agricultarist
3.	Shri. I S Rao	Environmetal Consultant - Sri Sai Manasa Nature Tech Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad
4	Hayavardana	

Shri Rajshekhar. Puranik., Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Bagalkote extended a warm welcome to the Additional Deputy Commissioner & Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee, Bagalkote District, the Tahasildar, Mudhol 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:

Shri. Subhaschandra Mahantappa Modi propose to undertake mining of Limestone Mine of capacity 1.0 MTPA in an Mine lease area of 70.82Ha at Sy. No. 73 to 76, 79(P) & 80 to 85, ML No. 2195, Hebbal village, Mudhol Taluk & 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: 19-07-2019 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 17-05-2022 at Project site, Hebbal village, Mudhol Taluk & 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 "Vijay Vani" and English Daily Newspaper "The New Indian Express" dated: 17-04-2022 and in local daily Kannada Newspaper "Sanje Darshan" on 19-04-2022. 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 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 the Executive Officer, Taluka Panchayat, Mudhol, Bagalkot-District.
- Office of the Secretary/Panchayat Development Officer, Gram Panchayat, Hebbal village, Mudhol Taluk, Bagalkot-District.
- Web site of KSPCB "<http://kspcb.gov.in>"

The Regional office KSPCB, Bagalkote received one application through E-mail from Shri. Vootkuri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Hyderabad supporting the proposed Limestone mining project on 16-05-2022. The copy of the said letter is enclosed with this proceeding as Annexure-01 and other offices mentioned above have not received any E-mail or any written applications with comments or objections from public as on 16-05-2022 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, Sri Sai Manasa Nature Tech Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad 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 to the public gathered;

On behalf of Sri Sai Manasa Nature Tech Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad, the Environmental Consultant Shri. I S Rao, 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-02. List of participants/villagers & others who attended the Public Hearing is enclosed as Annexure-03.

The Environmental Officer requested the public & villagers 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. Mahadev N Hosatti of Hebbal Village

- He informed that, it is very hard for the surrounding farmers to depend on agriculture as they have to wait till whole year for their bills to get clear.
- He informed that, many job opportunities will be created from proposed limestone mining project in surrounding villages.
- The Udapudi family is very helpful for all the surrounding villagers and they are available for surrounding villagers at all the time.
- Hence, he extended his support for undertaking the proposed project.

2. Shree. Sadashiv T Layammanavar of Hebbal Village

- He informed that, the proposed Limestone Mining project is helpful in upliftment of economy of surrounding villagers and more job opportunities will be created from proposed project in surrounding villages.
- He informed that, there will be no environmental related problems to surrounding villagers as the villages are located at the distance of 02 to 03 KMs from the proposed Limestone Mine.
- The mine owners are very helpful for all the surrounding villagers. Hence, he extended his support for undertaking the proposed Limestone mining project.

3. Shree. Abdul Rehman A Toragal of Lokapur Village

- The mine owners are very helpful for all the surrounding villagers and more job opportunities will be created from proposed project in surrounding villages.

- Hence, he extended his support for undertaking the proposed Limestone mining project.

4. Shree. Vittalagouda H Patil of Naganapur Village

- He informed that, there are many mining activities are under operation in surrounding area. But, the surrounding villagers have not faced any problems due to mining activities.
- He stated that, more job opportunities will be created to surrounding villagers from the proposed limestone Mining project.
- He also informed that, it helps for ground water recharging from to the storage of rain water in mine pits.
- Hence, he extended his support for undertaking the proposed Limestone mining project.

5. Shree. Mahesh Dandannavar, Senior Assistant Horticulture Director resident of Hebbal Village

- He informed that, his agriculture land exist adjacent to the proposed mining site.
- He requested the mine owner to plant adequate plantations adjacent to his agriculture lands/ forest zones before commissioning of the proposed mine.
- He extended his support for undertaking the proposed Limestone mining project.

6. Shree. Ravi G Bolishetti of Lokapur Village

- He informed that, the proposed mine will produce good quality of limestone and it is raw material for his mineral pulverizing industry.
- Hence, he extended his support for undertaking the proposed project.

7. Shree. Nagaraj G Jiragal of Lokapur Village

- He informed that, the proposed mine will generate the job opportunities to surrounding villagers and already many are working in existing mines and getting minimum payment of Rs. 500 per day from the mining activities of in the area.
- Hence, he extended his support for undertaking the proposed Limestone mining project.

8. Shree. Mallappa B Angadi of Lokapur Village

- He informed that, the proposed mine will give more than 02 Crore rupees to District Mineral Fund and it will help for building a better infrastructure in surrounding area.



- Hence, he extended his support for undertaking the proposed Limestone mining project.

9. **Shree. B V Reddy, President, Shakthi Environment Rural Development Society, Bellary**

- He extended his support for undertaking the proposed Limestone mining project and submitted a letter in this regard during public hearing. The copy of the same is enclosed with this proceeding as Annexure-4.

10. **Shri. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Hyderabad**

- He informed that, he is an environmentalist and advocate by profession and expressed his views and comments on the behalf of the mining.
- He informed that, 01 crore educated youths will come out every year. But, the organised sectors and other institutions will provide hardly 04-05 lakhs employments to them and the remaining the employments will be catered by the industries/ mining activities.
- He congratulated the mining authorities for assigning the task of preparing the environmental assessment report to the highly qualified, experienced environmental consultants.
- He informed that, the detailed study has been carried out on Air, Water and Soil while preparing the environmental assessment report.
- He demanded that, the mine authorities should take up the study on health status of the surrounding villagers, crop yield and ground water recharge within the 10 K.M. radius of the mine.
- He informed that, the technical institutions shall be established by the industry to train the local people as per the requirements of the industry and provide the employments in the industry.
- He informed that, the mining authorities shall meet the needs of the surrounding people on demand basis through C.S.R. activities.

The Office of Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkote has received three objection letters from following publics after completion of public hearing and the details are as follows:

1. The surrounding farmers of agriculture land bearing Sy. No. 73, 74, 75, 76, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84 & 85 of Hebbal village of Mudhol Taluka have submitted objection letter vide dated: 30-05-2022 stating that - the mining authorities have obtained the mining lease in the year of 1995 without obtaining permissions farmers of the agriculture lands of said survey numbers and they are facing regular problems for carrying out agriculture activities from the mining activity carried out by the mine authorities. Their income is completely dependent on agriculture. It has come to their notice that, as per the section of 8A (3) of MMDR (Amendment) Rule, 2015 the mining



authorities have applied for extension of deemed mining lease along with SOP checklist.

Hence, they requested the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkote not to accord the permissions to the said expansion of limestone mining project bearing ML No. 2195 of Shri. Subhaschandra Mahantappa Modi. The copy of the said objection letter is enclosed with this proceeding as Annexure-5.

2. Shri Anand H Gurajatti of Hebbal village of Mudhol Taluka have submitted objection letter vide dated: 30-05-2022 stating that - "His agricultural land is located adjacent to the mine area. Hebbal is a agriculture based village and farmers are completely dependent on agriculture. Previously, the mining authorities have obtained permissions for mining and completely destroyed his agriculture land. The mining authorities have stopped the Ghataprabha Canal flowing to Timmapur Sub-canal in the mine area and they have built the mine office in the said land, from which the water is blocked by the mining authorities and water is not flowing to the complainant's agricultural land. They have reported this issue to the Chief Engineer, KNNL. But, they also have not done anything in this regard.

He has also built shed for himself and cattles in his agriculture land and due to blasting activities carried out by the mine authorities they are facing vibrations and soil is getting backfilled in the tubewells, from which the ground water level is being reduced. Hence, he is facing lot of water problems and also, lot of stones fall in his agriculture land at the time of blasting activities carried out by the mine authorities.

In continuation to this, he stated that- the recommendation to issue permission for this mining activity has created fear in surrounding farmers. There was no awareness created regarding public hearing which was held and also there was no information displayed on the notice board of Gram Panchayat in this regard. Hence, he requested the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkote not to accord the permissions to the proposed limestone mining project. The said objection letter is enclosed with this proceeding as Annexure-6.

Further, the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkote District has issued letter to the Executive Engineer, KNNL, MBC, Division No. 01, Gaddanakeri, Camp: Bagalkot on 02-06-2022 for submission of detailed report regarding said application filed by the Complainant Shri Anand H Gurajatti of water flow blocking from Ghataprabha canal to complainant's agriculture field by the mining authority. In continuation to this, the Executive Engineer, KNNL, MBC, Division No. 01, Gaddanakeri, Camp: Bagalkot has submitted reply to Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkot District vide letter no. 584, Dated: 30-07-2022 stating that, Shri Anand H Gurajatti of Hebbal village of Mudhol Taluka has submitted objection letter to the Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkote requesting not to accord permissions to the proposed limestone mining project. In this regard the Hebbal minor canal of Timmapur distributory canal of Ghataprabha right bank canal was inspected along with the complainant and it was observed that, the excess rain water which is coming to the Hebbal minor canal is getting stored in mine area. Hence, the mine owner has stopped the excess water coming to the

canal. But, at present there is no mining activity is being carried out at the said location and there is no blockage for flow of water in the canal and also it is directed to the mine owner not to block the canal and also not to stop the flow of water in the said canal.

Further, as per the directions of the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkote the Sy. Nos 73, 76, 79(P) and 80 to 85 of Hebbal village, Mudhol-Tq were visited to verify any blockages and damages of canals and buildings of Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited the inspection was conducted by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, MBC, Division No. 01, Gaddanakeri Camp, Bagalkot along with the Assistant Executive Engineer, KNNL, Sub-Division-12, Lokapur, Mudhol-Tq, Bagalkot-Dist on 10-06-2022 of the Sy. Nos 73, 76, 79(P) and 80 to 85 of Hebbal village, Mudhol-Tq and observed that, the said sy. Nos comes under Ghataprabha right bank canal area and there were no sowings observed in the said agriculture lands.

As per Rule-49, Chapter 8 of the Karnataka Irrigation Act, 1965, the mining activities which carryout blasting activities shall not be established and operated in the 01 KM radius from the irrigation canals and without obtaining the prior the permission in writing from the KNNL Officer. But, the proposed limestone mine land of bearing Sy. No. 73, 74, 75, 80, 81, 84, 85 are located at the distance of more than 01 KM from the Varchagal Distributory canal and they don't have any objection for carryingout mining in the said Sy. Nos. But, Sy. No. 76, 79, 82, 83 are located at the distance of 850 meters from the said canal and the mine owner shall adopt safety measures for carryingout limestone mining and there shall not make any damage to the Varchagal Distributory canal from the said mining activity. With these condition, KNNL don't have any objection for mining. Also, the said lands are located at the tale end of the said canal and the farmers will not face any problems of flow water to their agriculture land. The said letter and the report are enclosed with this proceeding as Annexure-7.

3. The District Manager, Dr. B R Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd, Bagalkot has submitted a letter to the Deputy Director, Mines and Geology Department, Bagalkot vide No. 4316, Dated: 05-10-2020 with a copy to the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkote office on 30-05-2022 stating that,

Shri Shrikant B Tolamatti of Yadahalli, Mudhol-Tq, Bagalkot-District is land owner of land bearing Sy. No. 75/1 of Ingalagi village, Mudhol-Tq of total area of 4-12 acres has submitted application regarding selling of his land to Dr. B R Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd. Hence, on 29-07-2020 in the rate fixation meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner, Bagalkote, it was decided to purchase the said land and same proposal was also submitted to Dr. B R Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd, Bangalore. Further, Shri S M Modi had submitted an objection letter to Dr. B R Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd, Bagalkot District on 17-08-2020 with request not to purchase the land bearing Sy. No. 85 of Hebbal village as he has got lease for 50 years. In continuation to this, the beneficiary has submitted objection letter on 21-09-2020 to Dr. B R Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd, Bagalkot District stating that, Shri S M Modi has submitted proposal for taking land on lease bearing Sy. No. 85 not 75/1 of Ingalagi



village, Mudhol-Tq. Hence, Dr. B R Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd, Bagalkot have requested the Deputy Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Bagalkot to clarify regarding the purchasing of land bearing Sy. No. 75/1 by them. Copy of the letter is enclosed as **Annexure-8**. The Director, Mines and Geology Department, Bangalore has issued a notice vide No. 5019 and 5022 on 30-09-2021 to Shri. Subhaschandra Mahantappa Modi, owner of said mine stating that, he is carrying out mining activity in the said mine area since year 1995 without purchasing nor taking necessary permissions from the said land owner and also Shri S M Modi has requested Department of Mines & Geology to not to accord permission for selling of land to Dr. B R Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd, Bagalkot District as the limestone mineral available in the said land. If the said land is being sold to Dr. B R Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd, Bagalkot District, it will be loss of income to Mineral fund of Karnataka State. Considering the above facts, Director, Mines and Geology Department in his letter No. ಗಬೋಇ/ಗಗವ-2195/2020-21, dated: 30-09-2021 has directed the mine owner i.e. Subhaschandra Mahantappa Modi to purchase or to take the necessary permission from land owners of the lands bearing Sy. No. 75/1, 85, 84, 83, 82, 81, 80, 79, 76, 75, 74 and 73 of Hebbal village within 15 days from the date of receipt of his letter, failing to do so, the proposal for cancellation of the mining lease will be submitted to Government of Karnataka. The copies of letters from The Director, Mines and Geology Department, Bangalore issued to Mine owner are enclosed as **Annexure-9**. The said land has not been purchased or not taken the necessary permissions from the land owner by the mine owner Shri Subhaschandra Mahantappa Modi within the given time. It is evident from the letter written to the Director, Mines and Geology Department, Bangalore by the mine owner on 10th June 2022. He has requested in his letter that, the authorities can deduct the survey no. which he has not purchased. Copy of the letter is enclosed as **Annexure-10**. Recently, Karnataka Adijambava Development Corporation (A Govt of Karnataka Enterprise) has given sanction to purchase land bearing Sy. No. 75/1 of Hebbal village in the revised order dated: 05-08-2022 for distribution of land for landless people. The copy of the same has been enclosed as **Annexure-11**.


Finally, Shri Mahadev A Muragi, the Additional Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, Bagalkote District addressed the public hearing as follows:

- Already the Environmental Consultant Sri Sai Manasa Nature Tech Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad 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.
- He directed the Project Proponent to take all precautionary measures during the establishment of project by following guidelines/ norms/ conditions/ directions/ standards stipulated by competent authorities and shall take 05 rows of plantations so that, the dust emissions generated from the mining activity shall not fall in adjacent lands.



- The mine authorities should take care of road safety and maintain speed limit of vehicles in the village area and the mine authorities should take all the care that, the surrounding villagers should not face any problems from the proposed mining project.
- The mine authorities should provide all the necessary safety/ precautionary measures to the workers of the proposed mine.
- The appeals, suggestions & opinions 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.

The public hearing was concluded with vote of thanks.


(Shri Mahadev A Muragi)
Additional Deputy Commissioner & Chairman,
Environmental Public Hearing Committee,
Bagalkote, Karnataka.

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