

**Minutes of the Environmental Public Hearing Held on 16.01.2017 At 11.00 AM at Zilla Parishad High School, Peddagovindapalli Village, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District for the Proposal for the Proposal for Expansion of Silica Sand Mining Production Capacity from 17,820 TPA To 300000 TPA in the Name & Style of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Pvt Ltd in an Extent of 105.22 Ha of the Land Located at Sy.No. 20 & 38, Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District**

**M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited** has submitted a proposal for expansion to carry out silica sand mining production capacity from 17,820 TPA to 300000 TPA in an extent of 105.22 Ha of land at Sy.No. 20 & 38, Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District with an investment of Rs.375.0 Lakhs. The project proponent submitted an application with mining details duly following the stipulated procedure laid down in the EIA Notification, 2006 to the Ministry of Environmental, Forests & Climate Change, GOI. After scrutiny of the application, the MOEF & CC, GOI has issued letter of Terms of Reference (TORs) to the mining unit proponent and directed A.P. Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Nellore to conduct Environmental Public Hearing (EPH) with regard to the mining of **M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited** and to submit minutes of the proceedings to MOEF & CC, GOI as per procedure in vogue.

In compliance to provisions of EIA, Notification, 2006, the Environmental Engineer (EE), APPCB, RO, Nellore has issued Environmental Public Hearing (EPH) Notification on 14.12.2016, 30 days before the date of conduct of Public Hearing to be held on 16.01.2017 inviting the public to offer their comments, objections, views, clarifications and suggestions, if any, on the proposed silica sand mining production capacity from 17,820 TPA to 300000 TPA at Sy.No.20 & 38, Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District by **M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited**. The Public Hearing Notification was published in Telugu daily newspaper 'Eenadu' and English daily Newspaper in 'The Hans India' on 14.12.2016. As per the date stated in EPH Notification, the present EPH was conducted on 16.01.2017 at 11.00 AM at Zilla Parishad High School, Peddagovindapalli (V), Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District under the Chairmanship of the Joint Collector, Nellore, nominee of the District Collector, SPSR Nellore District & Chairman of Environmental Public Hearing Panel.

**The following members have attended :-**

**PANEL MEMBERS :**

1. Sri A.Md.Imtiaz, IAS Joint Collector, Nellore,  
SPSR Nellore District  
(Nominee of the District Collector  
SPS Nellore District.)
2. Sri M. Pramod Kumar Reddy. Environmental Engineer,  
A.P. Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office,  
SPS Nellore District.

**Special Invitee :**

3. Sri V. Venkatasubbaiah Revenue Divisional Officer,  
Gudur, SPSR Nellore District.

**PROJECT AUTHORITIES :**

1. Sri Santhosh Mendon Executive Director, M/s. Mangalore  
Minerals Private Limited.
2. Sri Pushparaj Shetty Representatives from the Project.
3. Sri A. Mohan
4. Sri U.S. Pandey Representative from M/s. Perfect Enviro  
Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Environment  
Consultancy of the proposed project.

At the outset, the Environmental Engineer, APPCB, RO, Nellore has welcomed the public gathering of the Environmental Public Hearing and explained that **M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited** has submitted a proposal for expansion to carry out silica sand mining production capacity from 17,820 TPA to 300000 TPA in an extent of 105.22 Ha of land at Sy.No. 20 & 38, Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District with an investment of Rs.375.0 Lakhs. The mining activity falls under EIA category of projects, for which Environmental Public Hearing (EPH) is a statutory pre-requisite mandate to be fulfilled to obtain public opinion on the mining activity to issue Environmental Clearance (EC) by MoE&F, GOI. He informed that the District Collector is the

Chairman of the Public Hearing panel as per EIA Notification 2006. The Joint Collector, Nellore, Nominee of the Collector & District Magistrate, SPSR Nellore District will preside over today's EPH proceedings. In compliance to provisions of EIA, Notification, 2006, the Environmental Engineer, APPCB, RO, Nellore has issued Environmental Public Hearing (EPH) Notification on 14.12.2016, 30 days before the date of conduct of Public Hearing to be held on 16.01.2017 inviting the public to offer their comments, objections, views, clarifications and suggestions if any, on the project proposal. The public are invited to freely express their views, as stated in the paper advertisements, which were published 30 days back. He also informed that whatever the opinion expressed by the public would be recorded in the form of video in addition to the written documentary evidence i.e. minutes of the public hearing proceedings and same would be submitted to MOEF & CC, GOI for consideration. It was also emphasized by the Environmental Engineer to the public that the EPH panel is not empowered to take any decision on the issue of permission to the mining activity in this public hearing meeting. He further informed that one representation was received so far in response to the Environmental Public Hearing advertised in the Newspapers and he also requested the public to submit the representations during the public hearing, who are not able to express their views orally and the same would be forwarded to MoEF&CC for consideration.

After that he invited the Joint Collector, Nellore, Nominee of the District Collector, SPS Nellore District to chair the proceedings of the public hearing and to address the gathering.

**Sri A.Md.Imtiaz, IAS, Joint Collector, Nellore, Nominee of the District Collector** and the Chairman of the Environmental Public Hearing panel has welcomed the public Hearing gathering and informed that the Project Proponent obtained prior clearance from various Government Departments required for the operation of the silica sand mine and same is operated since 2003. The proponent of the project has now applied for expansion project with increased production capacity from 17820 to 30000 MTPA, for which conducting of Environmental Public Hearing is a statutorily mandated process as laid down in

the procedure mentioned in EIA Notification, 2006 issued by MOEF & CC, GOI to obtain public opinion from the surrounding villagers on the proposed expansion project of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited. He further informed that any mining project, which engage large machinery has its own merits and demerits. Merits are for the growth of Industrial sector in the local area and demerits are its adverse impact on the surrounding Environment. Sustainable Development would certainly addresses both merits and demerits of the proposed expansion project Viz., Adequate pollution control measures to be taken employment avenues to be provided to the locals and infrastructure developmental programmes to be undertaken under CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility). Finally, he requested the public to freely express their opinion i.e. objections, apprehensions, suggestions etc. on the project.

Then the Joint Collector, SPSR Nellore District has requested the Project proponent to present technical details of the proposed project to the public for information.

**Sri A. Mohan, Representative from M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited** informed the details of the project stating that the project proponent has three plants in Gujarath, Kamataka in addition to a plant in Andhra Pradesh. The total land extent proposed under expansion project is 105.22 Ha in Sy No.2D & 2B of Siddavaram Village, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District. In the meantime, the public have started shouting to stop the presentation given by the representative of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited and hence the technical presentation from the representative was stopped with affect of public agitation.

**Then the Joint Collector, Nellore, Nominee of the District Collector and the Chairman of the Environmental Public Hearing panel** has invited public to express their opinion personally on the proposed project and informed that whatever their views, suggestions, apprehensions, objections and clarifications etc. if any, on the proposed project which would be recorded Audio, visually and in the form of written minutes of the proceedings of the Public Hearing and same would be sent to the Competent Authority for consideration while processing the EC application of the project proponent.

**Sri Rayapu Surendra, MPTC, Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District** – while speaking, he informed that their village having about 500 families are solely dependent on rain-fed crops viz., Ground Nut, Casurina & Cashew plantation etc. for their livelihoods. The project proponent though he obtained prior licenses, he requested to restore the land to the local farmers by issuing pattas to their cultivating lands and further requested the District Administration to stop issuing licenses not only to the proposed expansion project, but also to all silica sand mines, as they have been severely affected.

**Sri Rayapu Nagaraju, R/o. Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District** – He informed that there are about 400 families belongs to SC, ST and BC communities in their village, which have been cultivating 400 Acres of land from the past many years. He expressed his concern on the loss of livelihood, resulting in the migration of their villagers, depletion of Ground Water levels. He demanded for restoration of 400 Acres coming under the proposed project area. He opposed the expansion proposal of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited located at Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District, brought to the notice of the District Administration that their villagers earlier made a representation signed by about 500 persons and requested to take measures for shifting villages. He opposed the proposed project of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited.

**Sri E. Chinna Ramanaiah, R/o. Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District** – while opposing the proposed project, he stated that the proposed mining expansion project leads the depletion of Ground Water levels, increase in soil salinity, dry-up of crops because of water scarcity, thereby effecting their livelihoods. Allotted mining area of about 400 Acres, which has been under cultivation of their villagers in which they are growing up Ground nut, Cashew and casuarina plantation, will deprive them of their livelihoods and requested the District Administration to restore 400 Acres of land under compassionate grounds and hence, he opposed the proposed project.

**Sri E. Ram Mohan, R/o. Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District** – he spoke on the occasion stating that the proposed silica sand mining project of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited would deprive them of Ground water and large scale Environmental damage. He reminded that though they could construct houses by working in SEZ, the present project proposal is going to disturb their lives and demanded the Government to drop the establishment of the project and hence, he opposed the project proposal by saying that this is not only his personal opinion, but, it is the opinion of all their villagers.

**Sri Vijaya Reddy, Environmental activist, NGO, Nalgonda, Telangana state** – he has opined and suggested as follows on the proposed project of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited :-

- a) Lack of effective system in place causing damage to the public trust.
- b) Lack of transparency in the maintenance of Revenue records reflecting actual position of the land in which the project is proposed to be established.
- c) No proper field survey has been conducted so far to ascertain land details.
- d) No thorough social survey in project study area has been conducted and same has to be conducted within a fixed time frame and same may be submitted for public information.
- e) Baseline data particulars such as that of Flora & Fauna and Bio-diversity details have not been furnished.
- f) Sand dunes are nature resources, which act as filter bed converting saline waters into potable water, which are to be preserved.
- g) Industrial development should not be done at the cost of Environment as silica is also required which find its prominent applications in industrial sectors like Glass, foundries, Electrical and Electronics etc.

**Sri Y. Chenna Kesava Reddy, NGO, Environmental Activist, Yerragunta Village, Kadapa District** – He expressed his opinion regarding the proposed expansion project is as follows :-

- The land allotted for the proposed project is <sup>to</sup> be ascertained whether ~~its of~~ Private or Government land. No mine lease should be issued if the land belongs to the Government.
- The District Administration should assess compliance status of the project proponent with regard to the existing mining activity whether the project proponent complied with all stipulated Rules & Regulations.
- Land oustees should be adequately compensated.


**Sri E. Nagaraju, R/o. Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District** – He demanded for the verification of lands allotted to the proposed project under whose possession they have been so far, before taking up the project.

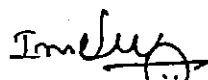
**Sri Rayapu Murali, R/o. Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District** – He objected <sup>on</sup> the presence of outsiders, who are not at all connected with management of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited and sought clarification from the project proponent for such ill-motive acts.

During the meeting, none of the surrounding villagers, who participated in the Environmental Public Hearing meeting except those who spoke upon the occasion, have not consented to sign in the Attendance Register.

Finally, the Environmental Engineer, APPCB, RO, Nellore has informed that the public participated in the meeting have expressed their opinion without any reservations on the project proposal of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited and the other public participants, who could not expressed their opinion out of fear may give written complaints at Regional Office, APPCB, Nellore and same would be forwarded to the Competent Authority for taking necessary action.

Finally, the Joint Collector, SPSR Nellore District & Nominee of the District Collector and Chairman of Environmental Public Hearing panel has informed that they received some written representations from the public and same would be forwarded to the Competent Authority along with the proceedings of the public opinion expressed in the Environmental Public Hearing in the form of Audio & visual recordings and also along with the written minutes of the public hearing would be forwarded to the Competent Authority for taking necessary action on the proposed expansion project of M/s. Mangalore Minerals Private Limited at Siddavaram Grampanchayat, Kota Mandal, SPSR Nellore District.

  
Environmental Engineer  
A.P. Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Nellore  
NELLORE.

  
Joint Collector, SPSR Nellore District  
Nominee of the District Collector,  
SPSR Nellore District