

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF DOLAMITE MINE OF M/S. SRI BALAJI WORKS, SY.No.622, 633, 635, 636/A, 636/b, 636/B, OF KOCHERUVU (V) AND SY.No.695/B, 732/1,2, 733/1,2, 735, 736 & 737 OF MALKAPURAM (V), DHONE (M), KURNOOL DISTRICT HELD ON 06.01.2017 AT 11.00A.M AT GRAMAPANCHAYAT OFFICE, KANAPPAKUNTA (V), DHONE (M), KURNOOL DISTRICT.**

A. THE FOLLOWING PANEL MEMBERS ATTENDED THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS.

1. **Sri C.HARI KIRAN., I.A.S** **Chairman**  
The Joint Collector & Addl. Dist. Magistrate  
Kurnool District.
2. **Dr. P.Prasada Rao., MTech, Ph.D.,** **Member**  
Environmental Engineer,  
A.P. Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Kurnool.

B. Representatives of the Industry

1. Sri M. Subba Reddy Managing Partner, M/s Sri Balaji Works
2. Sri G.Chandramouli B.S.Enviro-Tech Pvt.Ltd. (Environment Consultant)

C. The list of Officers and Public present at the meeting is appended as **Annexure-A**.

At the outset the Environmental Engineer, A.P. Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kurnool, welcomed the Joint Collector & Addl. Dist. Magistrate, Kurnool District, the Chairman of the Public Hearing meeting and the public gathered at the Venue, Media and also the District Officials. The Environmental Engineer informed the gathering that the present public hearing is for the Establishment of Dolomite mine of M/s Sri Balaji works (SBW) i.e., "Malkapuram Dolomite Mine" over an extent of 73.113 Ha with an investment of Rs. 60 Lakhs at Sy.No.622, 633, 635, 636/A, 636/B, 636/B, of Kocheruvu (V) and Sy.No.695/B, 732/1,2, 733/1,2, 735, 736 & 737 of Malkapuram (V) Dhone (M), Kurnool District.

He explained the Salient features of the notification S.O.No.1533 (E), dated 14.09.2006 & its amendments there of issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. He stated that projects listed in

the Schedule – A & B of EIA Notification S.O.No.1533 (E), dated 14.09.2006 are required to obtain the environmental clearance under the provisions of Environment Protection Act, 1986. He also informed that the proposed Dolomite mine of M/s Sri Balaji Works, “Malkapuram Dolomite Mine” requires Environmental Clearance from the MoE&F, Govt. of India, New Delhi and Environmental Public Hearing is mandatory for this project.

He informed that a press notification pertaining to the proposed Public Hearing was published in “Sakshi” and “Hans India” daily newspapers on 06.12.2016 and also the draft EIA / EMP report, Executive Summaries in Telugu and English were displayed at i) Office of the Collector & District Magistrate, Kurnool ii) Zilla Parishad Office, Kurnool District iii) District Industries Centre, Kurnool iv) APPCB, Zonal Office, Kurnool v) Regional Office (South Eastern Zone) MoEF & CC, Govt. Of India, Chennai. vi) Tahsildar Office, Dhone (M), Kurnool Dist and vii) Gram Panchayat Office, Kochcheruvu (V) viii) Gram Panchayat Office, Malkapuram (V) ix) Grampanchayat Office, Kanappakunta (V), Kurnool Dist for information of the public to offer Suggestions, Views, Comments and objections, if any within 30 days from the date of publication.

He also informed that one representation was received from Sri. V. Sunanda Reddy President, “Dharithri Paryavarana Parirakshana Samstha” on the proposed Dolomite Mine. He said that an opportunity will be given to the public attended for the public hearing to express their views, suggestions, comments and objections if any on the proposed project. He informed that the Audio & Video of proceedings of the public Hearing will be recorded and the minutes will be communicated to MoEF & CC, GoI, India for examination of the proposal while issuing Environmental Clearance. He then requested the Joint Collector & Additional District Magistrate, Chairman of the public hearing panel to conduct the proceedings of the meeting.

**The Joint collector & Additional District Magistrate** welcomed the farmers, nearby villagers, Media, Tasildar, Dhone, Environmental Engineer, APPCB, Kurnool, and Representatives of the M/s Sri Balaji Works. He informed that M/s Sri Balaji Works is proposing to carryout Dolomite Mining over an extent of about 180 Acres in Malkapuram and Kocheruvu villeges of Dhone Mandal. He has informed that the total mineable Dolomite reserves estimated are about 6.605 Million Tons and unit has proposed to produce dolomite of 4.0 Lakh TPA from this Mine lease Area. He also informed that at the annual production rate of 4.0 lakh Tonnes, the deposit will have a life of about 17 years and informed that the present public hearing is to obtain the suggestions, views, objections of the villagers if any on

the proposed Dolomite mining. He has informed that due to the proposed mining activity nearby villagers, agricultural lands may be affected due to dust if adequate mitigation measures were not taken by the management of the Mine. He informed the gathering that the project proponent will briefly explain the project details, pollution control measures proposed by them to control pollution during operational stage, details of allocation of funds for the development of the surrounding villages.

The **Joint Collector & Additional District Magistrate**, Kurnool District has informed that each and every person gathered at the venue would be granted an opportunity to express their suggestions, views if any on the proposed mining project and the same will be video recorded, which will be submitted to the MoEF, Govt., of India along with minutes for taking suitable decision. The Environmental Engineer, Regional office, Kurnool requested the project proponent to explain in brief the details of the mining activity, environmental impacts and measures proposed by them for mitigation of the impacts of the mine.

**Sri G. Chandramouli, Environment Consultant, (B.S. Enviro-Tech Pvt., Ltd):** welcomed the Joint Collector & Addl. Dist. Magistrate, Kurnool District, Chairman of the Public Hearing meeting and the public gathered at the venue and the District Officials. He informed M/s Sri Balaji Works has proposed to carryout Dolomite mining over an extent of 73.113 Ha with a mining capacity of 04 Lakh TPA with a project cost of 60 Lakhs and proposes to carry out the mining for a period of about 17 years. He also informed that as a part of Environmental Impact Assessment study, base line environmental monitoring was carried out for summer season - 2016 covering the months of March to May, 2016 within the 10 Kms radius of the mine lease area to know present levels of Air, Noise and Water Environment in the vicinity of the mine lease area. He informed that the ambient air quality monitored in the study area was found to be well within the National Ambient Air Quality (NAAQ) standards and also informed that 6 monitoring locations were selected to assess the noise levels in the study area. The noise levels recorded were found to be in the range of 47.3 – 53.1 dB (A) during daytime and in the range of 40.9 – 45.8 dB (A) during night time. Ground water samples were collected from in and around the study area and the parameters thus analyzed were compared with IS - 10500 standards and all the samples were found to be well within the limits. The soil quality was analyzed in the study area and it has been observed that there are no endangered endemic or threatened species with in 10 KM of the mine lease area.

He informed that the mining process consists of four Steps viz., i) Drilling ii) Blasting iii) Loading iv) Transportation and an approximate estimate has been made to know the emissions from each of the above operations of the mining activity. He explained about the air pollution measures proposed by the unit such as wet drilling, regular water sprinkling on blasted heaps and haul roads, covering of the vehicles with tarpaulin sheets, plantations on either side of the road. He also informed they will develop 7.5m width green belt all along the boundary of the mine lease area which will act as a barrier between the mine and nearby habitation. The Baseline concentration of PM10 is  $57.9\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and predicted cumulative ground level concentration of PM10 is  $58.25\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . He also informed that the impact of noise on the villages will be negligible as the villages are located far from the active mine pit.

He also informed that mining operations will be conducted at upper part of the hill, the ground water table is expected to be at 400m MSL and the ultimate workings will reach upto 415m MSL and hence, at any point of level mining operations will not intersect the water table. He has informed that the entire leased area of 73.113 Ha, the unit proposes to develop 6.634 Ha of greenbelt which includes 7.5m width barrier zone and road side plantations.

He has informed the gathering that the proposed mining activity will provide employment to about 21 people directly, about 300 people indirectly and assured that the local villagers will be given priority in the employment opportunities. He also informed that the unit has allocated about Rs. 17.5 Lakhs towards capital cost and 12.2 Lakhs per Annum of recurring cost for carrying out socio economic activities in the nearby villages under CSR programme. He has assured that they will carry out the program as per the needs of the villagers and in consultation with Sarpanch & other public representatives and urged the villagers to support the mining activity.

#### **Views, suggestions & objections raised by the public**

The Environmental Engineer, A.P. Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kurnool, requested the public to elicit their views, suggestions and objections if any, on the proposed mining project. He stated that each and every person gathered at the venue would be granted the opportunity to express their views, suggestions, objections etc., on the proposed mining project.

**Smt.Chinnamma, Kannapakunta (V):** She informed that the majority of the agricultural land in the vicinity belongs to S.C Community and they are dependent on these agricultural lands for their livelihood. She has informed that due to proposed the activity the dust from the

mine during blasting & other activities will fall on their agricultural lands, which may cause damage to their crops and she requested the authorities not to sanction the permission to the mine.

**Sri Gopal, Kannapakunta (V):** He informed that the mining activity will damage the bore wells in their agricultural lands and also will cause damage to their crops due to the dust fall from the mine. He urged the authorities to consider these issues while granting permission to the mine.

**Sri Ram Mohan, Kannapakunta (V):** He has informed that the agricultural lands nearer to the proposed mine lease area belongs to S.C Community and they have laid about 10 bore wells in their agricultural lands under Indira Jala Prabha Water Scheme. He informed that the proposed mining activity will cause damage to their bore wells and requested the authorities not to sanction permission to the mine.

**Sri Maddaiah, Kannapakunta (V):** He has informed that he is a farmer and has earlier lost his agricultural land due to mining. Also, he has informed that he is not ready to lose his agricultural land again due to the proposed mine of Sri Balaji Works and requested the authorities to stop the mine.

**Sri Gana Maddileti, Kannapakunta (V):** He informed that the agricultural lands near the proposed mine belongs to S.C Community and the 10 bore wells laid by the S.C Corporation in their lands is being damaged due to the mining activity. Now, they have laid new bore wells and urged the authorities not to sanction permission to the mine as it will spoil their bore wells.

**Sri Narayana, Kannapakunta (V):** He has informed that due to the blasting activity the water table in the area has fallen drastically causing scarcity of the water in the area. He also informed that proposed mine will further deplete the ground water resources and will cause severe scarcity of the water for the crops in the agricultural lands and requested authorities not to permit the mine.

**Sri Vijay Reddy (NGO):** He has emphasized that industrialization plays a key role in the development of the country and the exploration of Dolomite Mineral is very much essential as it is being used as a raw material. He informed that the proposed mine lease is a waste land and the exploration of dolomite mineral from this waste land will help the industrialization. He urged the management to take all possible measures to control pollution problems to the surrounding Villagers due to the mining activities. He has requested management to allocate

CSR budget to rain water harvesting systems to increase water table in the area and also urged the government to spend the royalty collected from the mines for the developmental activities in the effected villages.

**Sri Sunanda Reddy, NGO,** He appreciated Consultant for carrying study on air, water and noise pollution levels in the area and has suggested the consultant to carry out the study of health status, crop production and ground water availability in the area in the EIA report. He has suggested the management to construct rain water harvesting structures, develop the greenbelt in more than 33% of the total area, to consider planting medicinal plants & fruit bearing plants while developing the greenbelt. He has requested the authorities to utilize the mining cess collected by district administration for the construction of rain water harvesting structures, development of greenbelt which will be helpful to the villagers and also requested the authorities to recommend the MoEF & CC, Govt of India to issue approval to the mine.

**Sri Maddaiah, Kamalapuram (V):** He informed that the proposed mine lease area is abutting his agricultural land and informed that the mining activity will cause damage to their bore wells. He has requested the management to buy their agricultural lands near to the mine lease area also by paying Rs. 10 to 20 lakhs per acre and he has expressed his willingness to sell their lands to the Management.

**Sri Rangaswamy, Kamalapuram (V):** He has informed that he is having agricultural land nearer to the mine and the management has applied to the government for sanction of lease to them including their agricultural land without their knowledge and requested to authorities to take action.

**Sri Raju, Villager:** He informed that he is having agricultural lands adjacent to the mining area and his bore well is being damaged due to the mining activities. He has also informed that the agricultural labours are not willing to work in his agricultural lands due to the blasting, and dust fall from the mines. He has requested authorities to take action and also requested not to permit the mine.

**Sri H. Madhu Babu (NGO):** He informed that M/s Balaji works has proposed to carry out mining of 4.0 Lakh tons per annum of dolomite mine over extent of area of 180 Acres, and the present public hearing is to obtain the environmental clearance under the provisions MoEF, GoI, India for which it is mandatory to obtain the suggestions, views, objections of the villagers. He has informed that in EIA report consultant briefly explained about the objectives of the project, the base line data in the 10 km radius of the mine and also predicted impact to the water, air, noise environment due to the proposed mining activity. He requested

project proponent to strictly follow the mitigation measures proposed in the EIA report to control pollution problems from the mining activities and also requested the management to give priority in employment opportunities to the nearby affected people.

**Sri Madhusudhan Reddy, Kannapakunta (V):** He informed that villagers viz., Chinnamma, Maddaiah, Ram Mohan, Sudhakar etc., who expressed their views prior are having their lands on other side of the proposed mine lease area and the proposed mining activity will not cause any damage to their agricultural lands. He urged the management to provide employment opportunities to the local villagers as there are many educated youth in their village and also requested management to pay compensation in case of any damage to villagers.

**Sri Balachandrudu, Kamalapuram (V):** He informed that all agricultural lands around proposed mine leased area belongs to S.C&S.T Community and have been taken by M/s Balaji Works management on lease basis. He has informed that the mining activity will cause damage to their bore wells, cause scarcity of the water, crop damage due to dust from mine and requested authorities to take action.

**Sri Rajesh, Kamalapuram (V):** He informed that their village roads are being damaged due to movement of trucks with heavy loads from the mines and he also informed that though the proposed mine are is located on other side of the village the mining activity will cause damage to the bore wells, will cause, cracks to their houses due to blasting and also crop damage due to due to dust pollution from the mines.

**Sri Manohar Goud, Kamalapuram (V):** He informed that he has completed his engineering graduation in the year 2015 and requested the management to provide the employment opportunities in their mine. He also requested the management to take all safety and pollution control measures to avoid dust pollution to the surrounding agricultural lands and also to the village. He also informed that there are many educated youth in their village and requested the management to provide employment opportunities to the local villagers.

**Sri Y.Chennakesawa Reddy (NGO):** He informed that in the EIA report it was mentioned that the proposed mine lease area is a government land and is a barren land not suitable for agricultural purpose. He has requested the management to provide compensation to the farmers in case of any damage to their bore wells due to blasting or drilling activities in the mine lease area. Also, he has requested the management to display the timings of the blasting in the village for their knowledge and to take safety measures. He has urged the management to develop massive plantation along the mine lease area to avoid noise pollution to the

villagers and requested the management to provide the employment opportunities to the local eligible villagers. He has also requested the management to follow the guidelines of CPCB and to spend the allocated funds under CSR activity to the effected nearby villagers rather than spending in far away villages.

**Sri Hussain Naidu (NGO):** He informed that management has proposed to carryout Semi Mechanized method of mining and requested the management to utilize the top soil of 2 mts for the development of greenbelt in the buffer zone. He also requested the management to utilize delay detonators and also to use rubber mats to control noise levels during blasting. He also informed that they have carried out a survey around the mine lease area and informed that there are no extinguished tree species, reserved forests nearby the mine lease area. He has requested the management to develop greenbelt in the buffer zone with species such as Malabar vepa, desavali vepa etc., to control dust and noise pollution from the mine lease area. He has also requested the management to recruit 'A' - Grade licensed Mining manager and to implement all the safety measures to avoid disturbance to the villagers. He has requested the management to avoid overloading of the trucks and to give importance to the local villagers in the employment opportunities. He also requested to spend the CSR funds for the development of nearby effected villages by lying roads, drinking water facilities etc.,

**Sri Gana Maddileti Kannapakunta (V):** He informed that the roads in their village are being damaged due to the moment of heavy trucks and also the villagers more particularly children are facing health problems due to the dust from the mines. He has requested the sarpanch to implement the developmental activities and also to take action against these mines.

**Sri Maddaiah, Kannapakunta (V):** He has informed that the proposed mining activity will cause damage to the bore wells and also informed the mines in their village have not given employment opportunity to the villagers till now.

**Sri Lakshmi devi, Kannapakunta (V):** She has informed that they are having 3 Acres of land and income from their agricultural land is only source for their livelihood. She has informed that the management has taken their land and requested the authorities to verify the issue.

**Sri Shehan Shah, Kamalapuram (V):** He informed that industrialization is very much needed to provide employment opportunities to the villages and at the same time he has requested the management to solve the concerns of the farmers. He has informed that the villagers are facing pollution problems due to the movement of the trucks with heavy loads



and requested the management to avoid overloading of the trucks and to take all possible measures to control problems to the villagers.

**Sri Ramesh, NGO:** He requested the management to solve the issues raised by the villagers on their mining activity and also requested the management to allocate CSR funds to development of nearby effected villages only. He has urged the management to form committee in effected villages for implementation of development activities and to solve their problems. He has requested the management to development skill programs for the youth for and to provide employment opportunities to the local villagers to the extent possible in their mine. He welcomed the establishment of the mine and requested the authorities to recommend to MoE & F, Govt. of India, New Delhi for issue of clearance.

**The Joint Collector & Additional District Magistrate, Kurnool** has summarized the issue raised by the public as i) Ownership of the proposed mine lease area i.e., whether it is Govt., Waste land (AW lands) or Patta land being used by anybody for cultivation. ii) Damage to the surrounding bore wells due to mining and control measures proposed. iii) Dust pollution due to blasting and overloading of trucks for transportation and their mitigation measures iv) Measures proposed to control noise pollution and v) Employment opportunities to the villagers and requested the management to briefly clarify to the public on the above issues.

#### **RESPONSE OF THE MANAGEMENT:**

**Sri Subbareddy (Project Proponent):** He informed that they have applied for lease 10 years back and it is a Govt., Assessed Waste land at that time. The mine lease area falls partly in the revenue limits of kochcheruvu and partly falls in revenue limits of Malkapuram and the Tahsildar has issued NOC to them stipulating condition that management shall pay compensation to the farmers in case of any damage during the operation of the mine. He requested the Environment consultant to clarify the other issues raised by the villagers.

**Sri G.Chandramouli, Environment Consultant, (B.S. Enviro-Tech Pvt., Ltd):** He has informed that they will provide water sprinklers for dust suppression and also will develop green belt to control the dust pollution from the mine. Also, he has informed that the management allocated separate budget for implementation of the pollution control measures. He has assured that blasting is being done by using latest technology, latest equipments, and Low level explosives to avoid noise pollution to the surrounding. He also informed that the mined material will be transported by covering with tarpaulin sheet and will avoid over loading of the trucks by transporting the quantity as per license. He has assured that the proposed mine will provide direct employment to 21 members and indirect employment to

about 300 members and the assured that 80 to 90% of the employment will be given to local people only.

**Joint Collector & Additional District Magistrate, Kurnool** has informed that the Environmental consultant has clarified most of the issues raised by the villagers and instructed the villagers to submit the representation to the district authorities along with the complete details of their land such as survey No, land passbook etc., in the prajadarbar programme. He has informed the gathering that they will verify the distance of the agricultural lands to the proposed mine lease area and suitable conditions will be stipulated to the mine to control the damage to the nearby agricultural lands. He has also informed that the management has informed that they will carry mining only in core zone and will develop greenbelt of 7.5 mts width in the buffer zone to control pollution to the surroundings. The Public were informed that proceedings of the public hearing and issues raised are recorded in minutes and shall be sent to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt., of India, New Delhi for further necessary action. He has assured that the Govt., will cancel the license issued to the management in case of non compliance of the conditions. He also requested the villagers to submit representation to the district authorities along with photographs / videos of the trucks moving with heavy loads and assured that notices will be issued to the mine owners for violations.

One representation was received within 30 days of paper notification and six representations were received during the Public Hearing on the project. The copies are enclosed.

During public hearing , some villagers of Kamalapuram hamlet of Dhone Mandal having lands in Kocheruvu (V) and Mallkapuram (V) of Dhone, where the mining activity is proposed have represented that they are cultivating in the lands proposed for mining and hence the agency should not be allowed to carry out mining. Hence, Tahsildar of Dhone Mandal had been directed to submit report in this regard after due verification of revenue records and field verification.

The Tahsildar in his report vide B/13/2017, Dated:16/01/2017 had submitted that the proposed land in both Kocheruvu and Malkapuram Villages of Dhone Mandal are originally classified as Assessed Waste Dry Land (Dotted Land) and was subdivided and assigned to the depressed class people long back. But out of the total extent of 180 Acres which was proposed for Mining through this office reference D.Dis/51/2007, Dt: 15/12/2007, an extent of 15 Acres in Sy.No.622 of Kocheruvu Village and 4.50 Acres in Sy.No.737 of

Malkapuram Village are under cultivation since long time and the remaining land is kept waste even today. But as per Record, there are Pattadars to the remaining extent also. He also submitted that villagers of Kamalapuram hamlet of Malkapuram village have stated in their representation that they were issued land passbooks, obtained crop loans and have also done repayment of loan and if the land is allotted for mining, they will lose the benefit. Tahsildar further reported that land was assigned to depressed class people previously and the present land was proposed for grant of mining lease by ignoring that fact.

Tahsildar, Dhone had been directed to submit detailed report with reference to all the land holders as per records and also on ground.

*MBC*  
*P. Prasadhu*  
Environmental Engineer  
Regional office, APPCB,  
Kurnool

*[Signature]*  
21/02/17  
Joint Collector & Additional District Magistrate,  
Kurnool District

**Enclosures:**

- (i) C.D for the videography of the proceedings of the Public Hearing Meeting.
- (ii) Nos. of written representations received on the proposed project.
- (iii) Report of Tahsildar, Dhone vide Rc.B/13/2017 dt: 16/01/2017.

