

Proceedings of the Public Hearing conducted on 15.09.2021 in connection with application filed by M/s Mahadev Enclave Pvt. Ltd., H.No. 55-C, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, Pakhowal Road, Ludhiana for obtaining Environmental Clearance as required under EIA Notification dated 14/9/2006 for mining of minor minerals (sand) on agricultural land on bed of River Sutlej in the revenue estate of village Parjian Biharipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana, Punjab.

The following were present to supervise the proceedings:

1. Sh. Rahul Chaba, PCS
Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Ludhiana.
2. Er. Sandeep Kumar,
Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office-3, Ludhiana.
3. Sh. Balwinder Singh Sidhu
Functional Manager,
District Industries Centre,
Ludhiana.
4. Er. Rajpal Gill,
Assistant Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office-3, Ludhiana.

At the outset, Assistant Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office-3, Ludhiana welcomed the Supervising-cum-Presiding Officer and people from adjoining villages, who came to attend the public hearing of this project. He informed that M/s Mahadev Enclave Pvt. Ltd., H.No. 55-C, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, Pakhowal Road, Ludhiana has filed an application in the office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi for getting Environmental Clearance under EIA notification no. 1533 (E) dated 14.9.2006 for development of sand mining project in the revenue estate of village Parjian Biharipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana. After this, he requested the representative of M/s Mahadev Enclave Pvt. Ltd. to give a brief presentation about the project. Sh. Sandeep Garg, Consultant, M/s Mahadev Enclave Pvt. Ltd. brought out the details of the project proposal before the public as under:

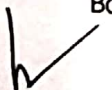
- Total area of the site is 37 Hectare (Ha) and out of this 37 Ha, mining area is 33 Ha.
- Total 16,04,556 Tonnes of mineral sand will be mined in three years i.e. sand mining capacity will be 5,34,852 TPA.
- The Terms of Reference (ToR) for preparation of EIA report was approved by State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA),

Punjab vide letter No. SEIAA/M.S./2020/3226 dated 05 November, 2020. This Public Hearing is being organized in compliance to EIA Notification, 2006 (amended thereof).

- No wild life sanctuary, Archaeological site, reserved/protected forest, site of Historical importance falls near the site.
- Mining will be done through 200 skilled/semi-skilled/un-skilled workers hired from nearby villages. No machinery will be used for mining of sand from the site. Mining will be done manually during day time only.
- Mined sand will be transported through 26 Dumpers of capacity 20 Tonnes each. Water sprinkling on movement area will be done through tractor operated water sprinkling system.
- Total cost of the project is 4.47 crores, out of which 12.85 lacs are reserved for environment related activities.
- Total ground water requirement is 12.5KLD, out of which 3.5 KLD will be used for dust suspension and 9.0 KLD will be used for domestic purposes. Approximately 7.2 KLD of domestic waste water will be generated which will be treated through septic tanks. Treated waste water will be used for dust suppression.
- Ambient Air Quality monitoring has been done at five locations within 10 Km area of the project and value of PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO₂ are found within the limits prescribed under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- Ground Water study of the area has been done and as per this study, no metallic and bacterial contamination has been found in the ground water, however, bacterial contamination has been found in the surface water.

Thereafter, Assistant Environmental Engineer, brought into the notice of public present at the venue of hearing that as per the provisions of EIA notification dated 14.9.2006, the persons present at the venue may seek any information or clarifications on the project from the project promoter. It was also brought into the notice of the persons present there that the information or clarifications sought by them and reply given by the project proponent will be recorded in the proceedings of the hearing, which will be sent to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change Government of India, New Delhi for further consideration. Accordingly, he requested the persons present in the hearing to seek information or clarifications on the project one by one. He also informed that no information / clarifications / comments / views / suggestions / objections on the project have been received from the public in writing by the Board, so far.


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Thereupon, the detail of the information/ clarifications sought by the persons present at the venue of hearing and the reply given by the project proponent is as under:

1. Sh. Gurdial Singh resident of Village Parjlan Biharipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question: Mining in the Village is going on since last 5 years and due to deep mining, his agricultural land got damaged and till date he has not received any compensation. He feared that due to mining his land will further get damaged.

Reply by Project Proponent: No reply in this regard given by the project proponent.

2. Sh. Karnail Singh S/o Sh. Malla Singh, resident of Village Khurshaidpura, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question: Project proponent has done mining in his 10 Acre land and has not given any royalty to him and project proponent is threatening him. He further submitted representation to the Supervisor-cum-Presiding Officer.

Reply by Project Proponent: No reply in this regard given by the project proponent.

3. Dr. Ramandeep Kaur, CHO, Sub-Health Centre, Kanian Hussaini/Parjlan Biharipur.

Question: There is no boundary wall of Sub-Health Centre and due to this stray cattle enter into SHC. Problem of theft of valuable is also there due to absence of boundary wall.

Reply by Project Proponent: Consultant on the behalf of project proponent informed that they have reserved 12.85 lacs as Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) fund and if Panchayat of the village permits, project proponent can arrange funds for the construction of boundary wall of Sub-Health Centre.

4. Sh. Darbara Singh, Ex-Sarpanch Village Kanian Hussaini, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question: Project proponent does not allow residents of nearby villages to lift sand in small quantity for repair of their homes. He requested that the residents of nearby villages must be allowed to take free of cost lifting of sand in small quantities for repair of their houses/small constructions.

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Reply by Project Proponent: Consultant on the behalf of project proponent informed that sand will be provided to the residents of nearby villages at subsidized rates and cannot be given free of cost.

5. Sh. Gurdial Singh, resident of village Parjian Biharipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question: He gave representation to the Supervisor-cum- Presiding Officer. regarding court case pending in the Hon'ble Punjab & Harayana High Court, Chandigarh

Reply by Project Proponent: No reply in this regard given by the project proponent.

6. Sh. Teja Singh S/o Sh. Karam Singh resident of Village Madhepur, Tehsil Jagron, District Ludhiana.

Question: Due to mining in year 2013 soil erosion took place as mining was more than 50 feet deep. Due to continuous mining in the area, roads got damaged and their children are not able to go to school, dhussi band along River Sutlej got damaged and there is no check on deep mining beyond 1 meter. Mining has been done more than 50 feet deep. He further added that a separate court case has also been pending in the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh in this regard along with the court case filed by Sh. Gurdial Singh. Due to deep mining, ground water of the nearby Villages also got contaminated. Project proponent has excavated sand in large quantity on the pretext of River Cleaning before flood and sand in large quantity has been stored/dumped in form of large heaps near the village. Due to deep mining the flow of River Sutlej also got diverted. Majority of the farmers in this area have small land holdings and project proponent is not allowing them to check the mining site. Project proponent have hired goons/armed persons to keep villagers away from the site. No further mining work should be allotted to the project proponent as mining is always done through machines and labor is not allowed at site.

Reply by the Project Proponent: The Consultant on the behalf of project proponent informed that the sand got accumulated in the River every year and mining is necessary to prevent the flood and is beneficial for nearby villages. No JCB/any other machine will be used for mining and mining will be done manually through labor (200 persons) and Villagers can check the same. The Supervisor-cum-Presiding Officer asked to submit details regarding court case pending in the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court, Chandigarh. Later Sh. Teja Singh

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submitted that CWP No. 7881 of 2017 (O & M) titled as "Gurmeet Singh and Others v/s Union of India and Others" is pending along with the main case CWP No. 17694 of 2016 (O & M) titled as "Gurdial Singh and Anr. v/s Union of India and Others". Other pending cases in the matter are CWP No. 5068 of 2017, CWP No. 20640 of 2015 & CWP No. 14030 of 2016.

7. Sh. Butta Singh S/o Sh. Shingara Singh resident of Village Madhepur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question: Most of the lands in the mining area are ownership lands. As per agreement, royalty is to be given on the basis of the quantity of sand excavated like Rs. 1.00 per cubic feet. However, middlemen hired by the project proponent are giving only Rs. 30,000/- per acre to the farmers. Land holdings in this area are small and unemployment is very high. Correct amount of royalty must be given to the farmers / land owners. Mining is done by the project proponent during night also and has dumped sand in large quantity after mining for 24 hour continuously during previous mining period. There were floods in the area in year 2010 and villagers themselves had saved the bandh along River Sutlej. Presently, the high of bandh has reduced by 3 feet from 2010 levels due to extensive mining in the area. There are about 35-40 villages in the flood catchment area of River Sutlej like Kanian Hussiani, Parjian Biharipur, Bahadurke, Sherewala, kakkar and if flood situation arises, bandh in present situation cannot handle the flow level of year 2010. He further submitted representation to the Supervisor-cum-Presiding Officer.

Reply by the Project Proponent: No reply in this regard given by the project proponent.

8. Sh. Jaswant Singh S/o Sh. Narinder Singh Sandhu resident of Village Parjian Biharipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question: There is an underground thick clay layer at a depth of 35 feet and mining beyond 35 feet is not possible in this area. Repair of bandh along River Sutlej has been done this year only. Mining of sand is necessary for the proper flow of water in the River Sutlej. All roads leading to village Parjian Biharipur must be made 18 feet wide.

Reply by the Project Proponent: No reply in this regard given by the project proponent.

Environmental Engineer, PPCB further requested the persons present at the venue of hearing that if anyone else wants to seek any

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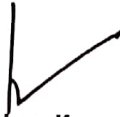
information/ clarification on the proposed expansion project, but no one came forward. After that people were asked to raise their hands that are in favor of this proposed expansion project. 40 Persons (87% of total persons present) raised hands in favor of the project. Six persons raised hand against the project. This public hearing was attended by 46 persons.

Thereafter, the Supervisor-cum-Presiding Officer informed to the persons present at venue that video/audio recording of entire public hearing has been done and requests obtained from the public have been considered. Final report will be sent to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi and views of all the persons, which are either in favor of the project or against the project will be incorporated. The Supervisor-cum-Presiding Officer informed that a separate enquiry will be marked to the concerned departments regarding the illegal mining done at site and action as per the law will be taken.

The hearing ended with vote of thanks to the Supervisor-Cum-Presiding Officer and the public present in the hearing.


(Sh. Balwinder Singh Sidhu)
Functional Manager,
District Industries Centre,
Ludhiana.


(Er. Rajpal Gill)
Asst. Environmental Engineer,
PPCB, Regional Office-3,
Ludhiana


(Er. Sandeep Kumar)
Environmental Engineer,
PPCB, Regional Office-3,
Ludhiana


(Sh. Rahul Chhabra)
Additional Deputy
Commissioner (G)
Ludhiana