

Proceedings of the Public Hearing conducted on 28.10.2022 at Gurudwara Sahib, Village Guara, Tehsil Amargarh and District Malerkotla for the development of 6-Lane Access Controlled Greenfield Highway of Mohali-Sehna from Km Ch. 0+000 to km 135.370 (Total Length - 135.370 Km) in the State of Punjab under Bharatmala Pariyojna Phase-II (Lot-9/Package-1) passing through 6 districts of Punjab namely Mohali, Fatehgarh Sahib, Patiala, Malerkotla, Sangrur & Barnala.

The following were present to supervise the proceedings:-

1. Sh. Sukhpreet Singh Sidhu,
Addl. Deputy Commissioner (General),
Malerkotla
2. Sh. Rajeev Gupta,
Environmental Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Sangrur
3. Sh. Ravinder Dalal,
DGM, Project Implementing Unit,
Phase-II, Urban Estate, Patiala
4. Sh. Simarpreet Singh,
Assistant Environmental Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Sangrur

Sh. Rajeev Gupta, Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Sangrur welcomed the Presiding Officers and people from adjoining towns/villages, who came to attend the public hearing of this project. He informed that National Highways Authority of India 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 the development of 6-Lane Access Controlled Greenfield Highway of Mohali-Sehna from Km Ch. 0+000 to km 135.370 (Total Length - 135.370 Km) in the State of Punjab under Bharatmala Pariyojna Phase-II (Lot-9/Package-1) passing through 6 districts of Punjab namely Mohali, Fatehgarh Sahib, Patiala, Malerkotla, Sangrur & Barnala. He apprised the public present there about the requirement of conducting the public hearing before deciding on the application filed by the NHAI for getting the environment clearance for proposed 6 lane National Highway project. He also brought into the notice of public that the NHAI has submitted copies of draft EIA report alongwith the executive summary of the same and a copy of each such document was placed in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Malerkotla, Zila Parishad, Malerkotla, General Manager, District Industries Centre, Malerkotla, Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Chandigarh and Regional Office, Sangrur of the PPCB for access to the public and other stakeholders. He further brought out that a notice of public hearing was published in two prominent newspapers namely, 'The Tribune (English Daily) and Jagbani (Punjabi Daily)' on 20.10.2022 to make the public aware of the date, time & venue of the public hearing and about the places/offices where the public could access the draft EIA report and its executive summary report before the said hearing. Thereafter, he requested the representative/Environmental Consultant of the NHAI to elaborate about the main features of the project and the draft EIA study report.

Sh. Tarun Chaudary representative of M/s Centre for Envotech & Management Consultancy Pvt. Ltd., Bhubaneswar Environmental consultant of the NHAI brought out the details of the project proposal before the public as under:

- The proposed National Highway is Green field alignment project and proposed for 6 lane Carriageway width with paved shoulders. The proposed project starts from near Mohali (St. Ch. 0+000) and terminates near Sehna (End Ch. 135+370) in the state of Punjab having a total length of 135.370 Kms. The proposed National Highway project has been envisaged through an area which shall have the advantage of simultaneous development as well as shall result in a shorter distance to travel. The project will act as the prime artery for the economic flow to this region. It will enhance economic development, provide employment opportunities to locals, strengthen tourist development, ensure road safety and provide better transportation facilities and other facilities such as way side amenities.
- The Terms of Reference (ToR) for preparation of EIA report was approved by MoEF&CC vide No. 10/45/2021-IA.III (Proposal no. IA/PB/NCP/229099/2021) dated 22.10.2021 and amended vide No. 10/45/2021-IA.III (Proposal no. IA/PB/NCP/245016) dated 31.01.2022. This Public Hearing is being organized in compliance to EIA Notification, 2006 (amended thereof).
- The proposed National Highway Expressway will improve connectivity and development of proposed Section of National Highway will improve the connectivity the districts of Punjab State (viz. Mohali, Fatehgarh Sahib, Patiala, Malerkotla, Sangrur & Barnala).
- The proposed project will provide better, faster & safe connectivity for the passengers of the Punjab State. With improvement in economy, there will be more generation of employment opportunities.
- There are 22 villages & 2 tehsils falling along the project road in Malerkotla District.
- The total area of Land acquisition is about 180.34 Ha out of this land, 177.89 Ha is private land & 2.45 Ha is of Govt. land and forest land. The land area which is to be acquired for the project is 180.34 Ha in District Malerkotla.
- The proposed alignment is not passing through any National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Project alignment is crossing 04 no. nallah / drains.
- About 27,485 trees will be planted as compensatory plantation against 965 trees, which are to be felled during implementation of the project in District Malerkotla.
- The total cost of the project is INR 6332.07 Crore. The budget earmarked for Environmental Management Plan is INR 12.28 crores.

Thereafter, Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Sangrur brought into the notice of public present at the venue of hearing that as per the provisions of EIA notification dated 14.9.2006, as amended from time to time, the persons present at the venue may seek any information or clarifications on environment related issues of the project from the NHAI. 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 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.

Thereupon, the detail of the information/ clarifications sought by the persons

present at the venue of hearing and the reply given by the project authority is as under:

Sr. No	Name and address of the person	Detail of query / statement / information / clarification sought by the person present at the venue of hearing	Reply of the query / statement / information / clarification given by the project proponent
1.	Sh. Gurinderjit Singh, Malerkotla, Tehsil & District Malerkotla	<p>The service road is required to provided alongwith the highway passing through the village.</p> <p>The Highway is to be elevated upto the height of 3.5 mtr to 5.5 mtr. For the construction of this elevated road, soil will be procured from the nearby land area at very low cost. Due to which, there is threat that nearby land will become inhabitant. It is therefore, requested to construct elevated roads for the highway.</p> <p>Rate fixation must be done according to the losses to be made with the construction of highway.</p> <p>Due to the construction of such a high road, there is a risk of flooding of fields with rainwater during rainy season. Therefore, drainage of rainwater shall be properly taken care off.</p> <p>There will be use of large quantity of water during the construction phase of the road. Therefore, it is requested to use the waste water of the villages for the construction of the road.</p> <p>If, there is crossing of highway in the land of one person, he shall be given the permission for installation of second borewell in the separated land.</p> <p>The acquisition of land shall be carried out in such a way that agriculture land should be saved for the construction of highway. The land which get</p>	<p>This issue is not relevant to hearing but representative of NHA I informed that there is no provision of providing service road alongwith the highway till now.</p> <p>The project proponent will try to utilize the other sources of soil and other materials for the construction of the Highway. The cost of high elevated roads is about 3 to 4 times the cost of normal roads, therefore, the same is not feasible for this project.</p> <p>This issue is not relevant to hearing but representative of NHA I informed that the issue will be considered at the time of fixation of rates for the acquired land as per the relevant provisions/LA Act by CALA.</p> <p>The proper designed drainage system will be provided to avoid flooding in fields during rains.</p> <p>The work for completion of STP Malerkotla is likely to be completed by 31/12/2022 and the possibility to utilize treated waste water in the construction phase will be explored.</p> <p>The representative of NHA I informed that at the time of preparation of award the matter can be put up before</p>

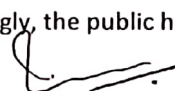
		separated into two parts. CALA for payment of should get higher compensation. Public should also be made aware of the process to be followed for distribution of compensation.	CALA for payment of compensation for pipe line. While identifying land for the construction of the Highway, due care was taken to minimise the loss of agriculture land. Further, regarding higher compensation, the matter is within the powers of CALA to decide.
2.	Sh. Bhupinder Singh, Village Bahadurgarh Be Chirag, Tehsil & District Malerkotla	While acquiring the land, our village has not been enlisted by the authorities.	This issue is not relevant to hearing but representative of NHAI informed that but the representative of the NHAI informed that while 3-A plan was prepared, the details of the land belonging to this village were not available. Now, 3-A plan will be prepared again and details of the village will be mentioned accordingly.
3.	Sh. Mahinder Singh Sohi, Village Mahorana, Tehsil & District Malerkotla	Sweeping arrangements should be provided properly while constructing the Highway.	The presiding officer informed that activities like sprinkling of water and sweeping of roads will be done to control the dust pollution in the area, during the construction phase of the road.
4.	Sh. Joginder Singh, Village Mahorana, Tehsil & District Malerkotla	The service road is required to provided alongwith the highway passing through the village.	This issue is not relevant to hearing but the representative of NHAI informed that there is no provision of providing service road alongwith the highway till now.
5.	Sh. Rupinder Singh, Village Chaunda, Tehsil & District Malerkotla	The count of no. of trees given by NHAI to be provided after construction of the road are not clear as two different values are mentioned in the presentation, kindly elaborate. 600 KLD of water is to be used for the construction of the road. But, the area has been declared as dark zone and abstraction of the ground water is not allowed. Can NHAI explore to use the other source of water for the construction of roads?	The survey has been made in the area to be covered for the construction of the Highway. The required no. of trees as per the bye-laws of NHAI will be provided along the road. The NHAI will obtain prior permission from the Punjab Water Regulation & Development Authority before extracting ground water for the construction of highway. Also, if STP of Malerkotla becomes operational during the construction phase, the Project Proponent will also make use of treated waste water for the construction of highway.



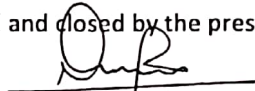
		<p>Can Canal water also be used for construction purpose?</p> <p>The Project Proponent will make use of fly ash of Thermal Power Plant for the construction of proposed road, which will cause nuisance in the area. Please clarify</p> <p>Pathway of 07 meters was given to the villages situated on construction of Highway. Same can also be provided in our villages.</p> <p>Taksim was done through performa provided by the District Administration in District Mohali and compensation was given accordingly.</p> <p>In common khewat land areas, benefit shall be given to the person who is holding possession of the said land at the site.</p>	<p>The canal water cannot be used for construction purpose as the same is meant for irrigation purpose. The NHAI will obtain prior permission from the Punjab Water Regulation & Development Authority before abstracting ground water for the construction of highway. Also, if STP of Malerkotla become operational during the construction phase, the Project Proponent will also make use of treated waste water for the construction of highway.</p> <p>It was clarified that it is mandatory on the part of the Project Proponent to use certain percentage of fly ash in soil for the construction of roads from the Thermal Power Plant existing in the nearby area. It was also clarified that use of fly ash will be made as per the provisions of notification issued by MoEF/CPCB in this regard.</p> <p>There is no provision of providing service road alongwith the highway till now. However, no. of culverts has already been increased and if required more no. of culverts will be provided.</p> <p>The representative of the NHAI present during public hearing informed that this is not within the powers of NHAI. This is an issue that concern the revenue department.</p> <p>The representative of the NHAI informed that, this is not within the powers of NHAI. This is an issue that concern the CALA.</p>
6.	Sh. Narinderpal Singh, Village Sangali, Tehsil & District Malerkotla	The farmers will start minor mining in the nearby area for use of the same for land filling purpose, which will cause damage to the adjoining fields.	No mining will be allowed without permission of the competent authority.

Also, Sirhind-Sehna road protest committee has submitted objections/ suggestions in writing w.r.t. the construction of the proposed road project and same is annexed as Annexure-I for kind perusal. The objections/ suggestions mentioned in the said representations have already been addressed above as serial no. 1.

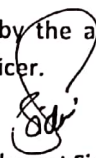
No other environment related question / query was asked by the attendees. Accordingly, the public hearing was concluded and closed by the presiding officer.



(Simarpreet Singh)
Asstt. Environmental Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Sangrur



(Rajeev Gupta)
Environmental Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Sangrur



(Sh. Sukhpreet Singh Sidhu)
Addl. Deputy Commissioner (G)
Malerkotla