

Proceedings of the public hearing conducted for proposed Sand mining project 'Patna Punpun-1, Unit Balu Ghat Mining Project (Riverbed of Punpun River)' by Shri Rakesh Kumar Singh, Defence Colony Shahpur, Patna.

VENUE: Panchyat Sarkar Bhawan, Sigodi, P.S.—Sigodi, District- Patna (Bihar).

Date & Time: 30th September, 2020; At: 10.30 a.m.

The following officials attended the Public Hearing:

1. Sri Vinayak Mishra, ADM, Patna; and
2. Sri Anil Kumar, Environmental Engineer, BSPCB, Patna,

The following proponents/officials/representatives of Shri Rakesh Kumar Singh attended the public hearing:

1. Shri Manish Kumar, Representative of Shri Rakesh Kumar Singh, Naubatpur, Patna; and
2. Sri Pravin Kumar Sinha , Environmental Consultant of the Project.

Number of persons participated in the Public Hearing was 67 and their list is enclosed as Annexure-I.

Sri Anil Kumar, Environmental Engineer, BSPCB, Patna welcome the public, project proponent and other participants in the public hearing and initiated with introduction about the project. He stated that this public hearing is being conducted as per the EIA notification dated 2006. The proposed sand mining project requires prior Environmental Clearance. The public hearing is conducted to ascertain the view of the local people. Thereafter, Sri Vinayak Mishra, ADM, Patna, welcome the representatives of project proponent, public and other participants in the public hearing and stated that we all are aware about the sand mining activities. He also highlighted the importance of public hearing for Environmental Clearance of the proposed project. Then, he invited the consultant of the project to explain about the project from environment point of views which were as follows:

Sri Pravin Kumar Sinha, Environmental Consultant of the project delivered a presentation and highlighted the following components.

1. Explained about project background, location and its importance to the region and State.
2. Described about the project salient features.
3. Described about CSR and greenbelt development scheme of the project.



4. Explained the likely impact on environment and its mitigation measures.
5. He stated that regular water sprinkling will be done to suppress the dust emission on haul road, covered trucks and tractor will be used for transportation of minerals and PUC certified vehicle will only be used in the project to overcome the air pollution.
6. He also stated that employment will be generated due to the project in which preference will be given to local people.

Response of Public & their opinion:

In the public hearing 8 persons have expressed their views/opinions as given below:

1. **Sri Ravi Yadav**, Village- Bahadurganj, Sigodi asked that 2% of project cost has to be spent on the welfare activities of the village under CSR provision. Who will do and by whom activities will be carried out; project proponent or the government?

Explanation by the Consultant: CSR activities will be done by project proponent. Detail of CSR activities have been spelt out in Draft EIA report. If any suggestion comes during public hearing it will be included in the CSR activities.

2. **Sri Chandan Kumar**, Village-Sigodi asked-how illegal mining through the cycle in our village shall be stopped?

Explanation by the Consultant: When environmental clearance for the above project will be granted, it will automatically leads to prevention of illegal mining. As project will follow all the guide line stipulated by SEIAA Bihar and mining department.

3. **Sri Chanda Sanjay Kumar**, Village-Pansari, Bhagwanpur Masaudi asked-plantation should be done as a compensation of mining done at the riverbed of our village.

Explanation by the Consultant: plantation will be done along the road side of the project. It will reduce air/water pollution.

4. **Sri Mahesh Kumar**, Village Sigodi asked-mining in our village adversely affect on fields, roads, schools and villagers as well because of the pollution.

Explanation by the Consultant: Road will be made pucca and it will be maintained by project proponent. A separate environment management plan has been setup for pollution control. A separate fund has also been allocated for pollution control. Water sprinkling for dust suppression will be done twice a day.

5. **Sri Kameshwar Prasad**, Village-Narauli asked about management to control soil erosion at the riverbed.

Explanation by the Consultant: The project consultant told that present project will not affect any grazing land of the area. The project is site specific and devoid of any vegetation or grazing land. The area of interest is the government land and there is only deposition of sand.

6. **Sri Ankur Kumar**, Village –Sigodi asked Chikasi village is very near to the lease, in spite of that there is no facilities of hand pump.

Explanation by the Consultant: Hand pump will be installed in this village.

7. **Sri Ankur Kumar**, Village-Sigodi also asked-what could be done for erosion caused at our land due to mining activity.

Explanation by the Consultant: the present project will not affect any grazing land of the area. The project is site specific and devoid of any vegetation or grazing land. The area of interest is the government land and there is only deposition of sand.

8. **Sri Mahesh Prasad**, Village–Chikasi asked-2% CSR amount which is supposed to be spent on the welfare and development activities must be spent in our village only.

Explanation by the Consultant: Most of the fund has been allocated to the nearby village area.

9. **Sri Deelip Kumar**, Village Chikasi asked about the benefits of project to villagers and how project can be beneficial for them.

Explanation by the Consultant: The project consultant stated that the project is very beneficial; it will provide employment opportunities to the local villagers. It will uplift the economic and financial status of the people living nearby. The project will generate revenue to the state, which is very essential for development of the state. He also said that plantation will be done around the lease area and social welfare activities will also be done under CSR programme.

Shri Vinayak Mishra, ADM, Patna, expressed his views and said that proponent will plant trees along haul road and around lease boundary, covered trucks/tractors will be used and no overloading shall be done.

