

**PROCEEDINGS OF PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON 10.06.09 AT 10.30 AM
FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF TAILANGI-A CHROMITE MINES OF
M/S. IDCOL FERROCHROME & ALLOYS LTD. FOR ENHANCEMENT OF
PRODUCTION OF CHROME ORE FROM 0.6 LTPA TO 1.4 LTPA OVER AN
AREA OF 65.683 Ha & BENEFICATION PLANT CAPACITY OF 1.15 LTPA AT
TAILANGI CHROMITE MINES BUILDING, JAJPUR.**

The public hearing in respect of the above project was held as per the schedule and at the venue in accordance with the EIA Notification S.O.1533 (E) dt.14.09.06.

Dr. D. K. Rout, Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Cuttack welcomed the public to the public hearing & briefed about the objectives, processes & procedures followed for conducting such public hearing.

Sri Srikanta Nayak, Additional District Magistrate, Jajpur, presided and supervised the public hearing. He briefed about importance of such hearing and invited the project proponent to make a presentation on the proposed project. Sri Ashok Mishra, Managing Director of M/s. IDCOL FERROCHROME & Alloys limited, gave a brief presentation on the proposed project.

The following is the summary of the public hearing proceedings, reflecting all the views and concerns expressed by the assembled public at the venue. It was recorded by the officials of the Regional Office, State Pollution Control Board, Orissa, Cuttack.

1. Sri Bharat Ch. Dehury, Sarpanch, Kansa, G.P.

He expressed that though the area is likely to be affected by the expansion, but simultaneously the expansion will lead to development in the locality.

He emphasized that the health and communication facilities for the local people need to be developed by the mines.

Further he suggested that the dust pollution in the locality due to mining should be stopped by grass pitching over dumps.

He expressed his apprehension that the mines activities shall lead to ground water depletion in the locality and demanded alternate arrangement to provide drinking water to villages should be done by the mines.

Further, he expressed his concern over the poor educational facilities for the local people and demanded that all mines should come forward to establish a college in the locality.

He welcomed the expansion proposal of the mines.

2. Sri Narendra Kumar Dash, Sarpancha, Ramsola G.P.:

He told that the public hearing should be conducted in public place not inside mines lease area and requested the ADM to cancel the hearing.

He expressed that no development work has been done from 1994 to 2009 in the local seven Panchayat areas.

He told that they were not informed about the hearing and emphasized on conducting hearing outside the mine lease hold area.

He expressed his strong dissatisfaction that no development work has so far been done by M/s. IDC.

3. Sri Jagabandhu Mahanta, Kalarangi :

He supported the views of previous speaker regarding the venue and affected the authority to conduct the hearing at public place.

He urged that the losses made due to mining should be properly compensated.

Expressing the local area as remote one, he emphasized on the development of education in the locality and demanded school facilities for kids at each remote village.

Further he urged that pollution prevention should be done in practice not in paper.

He expressed that at least 10 km radius area should be included in peripheral development programme and emphasized on creation of employment opportunities for women and advocated for minimum 33% for ladies in the mines, for the socio-economic development of children and women in the locality.

He expressed that all should know about the developmental activities carried out in the locality and urged that it should be reviewed periodically, at least once in a month by the district administration and peoples representatives.

4. Sri Gagan Bihari Nayak, B-1, Saruabil:

He expressed his dissatisfaction over the negligence of local administration and blamed it for the backwardness of the locality. He further attributed that, non payment of wages properly to the workers resulted in the degradation of leaving standard of local peoples.

Expressing the development of education as the backbone for local development, he emphasized on more educational facilities for the locals hoped that the expansion of mines would definitely bring about almost development in the locality.

5. Sri Baishnaba Pradhan, Sarpanch, Kaliapani G.P. :

He expressed that they are not aware about any developmental activities under taken by IDC and demanded that IDC should take up developmental activities in surrounding seven Panchayats like OMC.

6. Sri Nrusingha Charan Pahi, General secretary, Ferrochrome workers union, Jajpur :

He informed that the IDC mines is the captive mine of ferrochrome plant at Jajpur road that directly provides job for 1500 peoples and indirectly benefited

10,000 peoples. He appreciated the different developmental steps taken up by IDC and demanded that IDC should continue its support for development of education, prevention of pollution and supply of drinking water and health facilities for local ST peoples and take steps for the overall development of Jajpur district. He emphasized on proper treatment of mines water and appeals the public for their co-operation, for expansion of the mines for the overall development of Sukinda areas.

7. Sri Surendra Mahanta, Bandhagaon :

He opined that the project expansion will not pollute the area more. He appreciated the developmental activities like construction of bridge over Damasala River, provision of teachers in schools etc. done by IDC. He hoped that the expansion will provide jobs to additional 500 – 600 peoples in the locality.

8. Sri Dambarudhar Mohanta, Tailangi :

He expressed his satisfaction over the steps taken by the mines for treating the mines water, provision made for supply of drinking water to village Tailangi and Ostapal and plantation done in the locality.

9. Sri Basanta Kumar Mohanta, Bandhagaon:

He expressed that functioning of mines definitely has enhanced the leaving standard of local peoples and emphasized that proper steps be taken to prevent pollution. He welcomed the expansion proposal hoping for overall development of the locality.

10. Sri Gauranga Charana Sahu, Saruabil.

He hoped that expansion will provide more employment and emphasized on proper plantation and adequate steps to be taken to prevent dust nuisance.

He urged that all mines should co-operate in establishing a college and school for development of education in the locality. He demanded for a minimum wage of Rs. 400 per day wages for labourers for their overall development. Further he stated that all including him will co-operate in the expansion proposal if the mine authority take measures to provide all facilities in the surrounding villages in 20 km radius which are otherwise not yet been given importance by the Government.

He suggested that mines water should be diverted through cultivated fields of local villagers irrigation proposal so that the water shall be desilted prior to mix in Damasala river.

11. Sri Pratap Mahanta, Bandhagaon:

He informed that local people depend on the mines after losing their land. He suggested for plantation of fruit bearing trees in stead of Akasia etc and

expressed his concern on the entry of wash water in agricultural field from OB dump and urged the mine authorities to prevent such washing.

He demanded for provision of schools, health and lift irrigation facilities for the villagers by the mines. Further he expressed that this is the right place for conducting the public hearing as most of the villagers of the surrounding villages could participate in the hearing and requested the ADM not to cancel the hearing. He requested to restart the 4 closed mines in the locality and stop the mechanization process of mining for the safeguard of employment of local people.

12. Smt. Samari Alada, Ostapal :

She expressed that those who are not engaged in mines are facing significant loss. She demanded for college in the areas for education of their children and good communication facilities. She also expressed her deep dissatisfaction over the provision of job opportunities for one member of a family instead of all the members of the family who loses land.

13. Smt. Nilabati Dehury, Ostapal :

She expressed her concern over water scarcity for their cultivable field due to ground water depletion by mining, she demanded for the provision of teachers for Ostapal School.

The summary of the proceedings and the reply by the project proponent to various issues raised by the public were read over to the audience at the end of the hearing explaining the contents in Oriya.

The issues raised by the public and corresponding comments of the applicant were prepared in Oriya and English and it is annexed to the proceedings as Annexure- I & II respectively, list of participants is annexed as Annexure –III.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Agreed

**Sri Srikanta Nayak
Additional District Magistrate, Jajpur**

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC AND COMMENTS OF THE APPLICANT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON 10.06.2009 AT 10.30 AM, FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT TALANGI-A CHROMITE MINES OF M/S. IDCOL FERROCHROME & ALLOYS LTD. FOR ENHANCEMENT OF PRODUCTION OF CHROME ORE FROM 0.6 LTPA TO 1.4 LTPA OVER AN AREA OF 65.683 Ha & BENEFICATION PLANT CAPACITY OF 1.15 LTPA AT TALANGI CHROMITE MINES BULDING, JAJPUR.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC	RESPONSE OF THE PROJECT PROPONENT
<p>The issues raised at the public hearing meeting were as follows;</p> <p>1.Issues concerning environmental problems and their adverse effect on health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ∅ Prevention of Dust pollution in surrounding areas by grass pitching over OB dumps. ∅ Ground water depletion due to mining. ∅ Proper treatment of mines water. 	<p>There had been two nos. dumps in Talangi-A Chromite Mine area, out of which Dump-I has already been afforested. In Dump-II, further dumping of waste has been stopped. Steps are being taken to cover the dump by plantation. Hence, Dust Pollution in surrounding areas due to OB dumps is totally out of question. Further waste dumping would be carried out after backfilling of Quarry-I.</p> <p>A study on possibility of ground water depletion due to mining has been carried out. The study has indicated that stage of ground water development is 6.4% including water being discharged from Talangi Mine. This indicates that Talangi A Mine will not affect the ground water table.</p> <p>A mine water treatment plant is functioning in Talangi Mine to treat quarry discharge water. Reports are being submitted regularly to Orissa State Pollution Control Board. The reports indicate that the water which is finally discharged from the mines meets the norms specified by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India.</p>

<p>∅ Diversion of mines water through cultivable fields for desiltation & irrigation.</p> <p>∅ Prevention of entry of wash water in agricultural field from OB dumps.</p> <p>∅ Plantation of fruit bearing trees and other indigenous species instead of Akashia etc.</p>	<p>The mine water, after treatment, flows by gravity to adjoining Damsal nallah. Water can be drawn from Damsal nallah for irrigation.</p> <p>We have also taken up a water supply scheme for supplying water to nearby villages. After completion of the scheme, there would be sufficient surplus of water which will be meant for irrigation purpose.</p> <p>Garland drains and retaining walls have been constructed between the OB dumps and agricultural fields. The garland drains shall collect the wash water and divert the same away from the adjacent agricultural fields.</p> <p>The mine authorities propose to plant fruit bearing trees such as Mahua, Mango, Baheda, Jambo, Panas, Harida, Aonla in large numbers. 37,000 trees (5000 in 2009) will be planted in phases. The villagers shall be involved in selection of the species to be planted.</p>
<p>2. Issues concerning employment and peripheral development.</p>	
<p>∅ Establishment of schools for kids, College by IDCOL.</p>	<p>IFCAL will provide material help(school building, furniture, books etc.) to any such institution set up in the nearby villages by the Government.</p>
<p>∅ Provision of teachers in Ostapal School.</p>	<p>IFCAL pays salary of one teacher of Talangi Primary School, which is around Rs.3,000/- per month. Similar assistance to schools of nearby villages shall be considered depending on the strength of the students and teachers.</p>
<p>∅ Additional employment opportunity for local youth.</p>	<p>At present, the mine employs 637 people of whom 90% are local villagers. On increase of production, further 50 -100 number of workers will be required which will be met from the local villages.</p>

<p>Ø Health facility, drinking water supply, Road communication and development in education facilities in the area.</p>	<p>There is a dispensary at the mine office. IFCAL's doctor attends the dispensary every morning. Local villagers are given free access to this dispensary. The mine's ambulance is also available free of cost for local villagers' use. IFCAL's doctors hold free health camps periodically in nearby villages.</p> <p>IFCAL has drilled 20 community tubewells in nearby villages. Additional such tubewells will be drilled in consultation with local villagers. IFCAL supplies drinking water in tankers to Talangi, Saruabil and Ostapal villages in times of drinking water scarcity. A drinking water supply scheme for Talangi, Saruabil and Ostapal villages has been planned and approved.</p>
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