



## TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED FOR M/S. OGUN STEEL ROLLING MILLS PVT. LTD, S.F. NO. 450/1A, SELAKKARACHAL VILLAGE, SULUR TALUK, COIMBATORE DISTRICT

Name of the Project	:	M/s. Ogun Steel Rolling Mills Private Ltd (Expansion) S.F. No.450/1A, 1B1, 4, 5 & 2B1, Selakkarachal village, S.N. Palayam Lakshmi Naickenpalayam, Sulur Taluk Coimbatore District
Place of Public Hearing	:	Meeting Hall of the office of Block Development Officer Sultanpet Panchayat Union Sultanpet, Sulur Taluk, Coimbatore District
Date and Time	:	22.09.2010 at 11.00 a.m.

#### PRESENT:

1. Dr. P. Umanath, I.A.S.	:	District Collector Coimbatore District, Coimbatore
2. Thiru.R. Kannan	:	District Environmental Engineer Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board Tiruppur

#### Project Proponent:

Thiru. M. Paramasivam	:	Managing Director M/s. Ogun Steel Rolling Mills Private Ltd (Expansion)
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Number of persons participated in the Public Hearing is 55. The attendance of the public attended public hearing is enclosed in Annexure-I.

The District Environmental Engineer, Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board, Tiruppur has welcomed the District Collector, Coimbatore, Government officers, Directors of M/s. Ogun Steel Rolling Mills Private Ltd, Farmers and public participated in the meeting and explained about the proposed expansion project of M/s. Ogun Steel Rolling Mills Private Ltd as follows:

A draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report has been prepared based on the Potential Environmental Impacts, the mitigation of Impacts and Environmental Management Plan furnished by M/s. Ogun Steel Rolling Mills Private Ltd to this office. The public hearing for the expansion project of the above unit is being conducted today as per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006. The proceedings of the public hearing will be recorded, photographed and videographed and the same will be submitted to the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority, Chennai for necessary action. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared by the project proponent after incorporating the public views expressed in this public hearing. Hence, I request the public to express their views either orally or by giving written petition in this meeting.

Then the District Environmental Engineer, Tiruppur has invited the District Collector to preside over the public hearing.

Then the District Collector, Coimbatore has welcomed the District Environmental Engineer, Tiruppur, Directors of the M/s. Ogun Steel Rolling Mills Private Ltd, Farmers, public and press reportors participated in the meeting and explained as below:

"The District Environmental Engineer, Tiruppur has explained in detail about the need for this present public hearing. He also informed that the public hearing is conducted as per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006. In his address, he explained as below:

"The unit is an existing unit only. There is no addition of new product or new unit in the existing premises. There will be an increase in the production capacity of the existing unit. Since the production capacity exceeds the norms prescribed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, the public hearing is conducted.

The proceedings of the public hearing are recorded, photographs and video will be taken and the same will be submitted to the Government for necessary action."

Then the District Collector has invited the representative of the industry to explain about their expansion project. Also the District Collector has requested the public present to express their views on environmental aspects either orally or by giving written petition in this meeting after the industry's presentation. The District Collector requested the public to co-operate in conducting the meeting peacefully.

Thiru. R. Rajendran, Vimta Labs, Coimbatore, the project consultant of M/s. Ogun Steel Rolling Mills Private Ltd, on behalf of the industry has explained about the unit's expansion project through power point presentation as below:

"The project is one among the MPS family group of companies. This expansion project is proposed in the existing project area (2.43 Hectares) of this unit at Selakkarichal village. No additional land will be purchased for this expansion activities.

The unit is at present manufacturing Steel Rods & Structural Items of 350 MT/Month. The unit has proposed to increase the capacity of the plant to 6000 MT/Month by installing new dual burner (producer gas & furnace oil) fired reheating furnace and rolling mill accessories having capacity of 20-T/hr with estimated capital investment of about Rs.18.0 Crores. Due to expansion, the unit requires 5.5 M<sup>3</sup> of water for domestic (2.5 KLD) and industrial activities (3 KLD).

In the manufacturing process, the temperature of the furnace will be raised to 1000°C and the billets will be heated in the furnace and will be drawn to required small diameters. The heat will be quenched and the rods, angles, squares etc will cut into the required size. 1000 Litres of furnace oil is used as fuel. Adequate wet scrubbing system will be provided to control the emission generated from the pre-heating furnace. There will be a direct employment of 45 technicians in this project. To know the existing status of the environment in the nearby areas, ground water samples were collected in eight locations and analysed, which were found to be within the permissible limits prescribed by the Board. Soil samples were collected and analysed in six locations in nearby areas and were found to be within the prescribed limits. Noise level surveys were conducted in ten locations and were found to be within the standards.

Ecological survey conducted around the unit's area implies that there are no protected areas, no endangered, threatened plant and animal species present in 10 km radius from this unit. No tree will be cut for this project. Expansion project will be implemented in the existing land itself. Air impact is analysed by ISCM model. The present concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> are observed to be well within the standards prescribed by Central Pollution Control Board for rural/residential zone. The raw water requirement of 5.5 KLD and will be obtained from the local Panchayat. Due to the expansion of this project a marginal increase of pollutant like SPM, SO<sub>2</sub> will be there, which will be well within the standards prescribed by Central Pollution Control Board. Accoustic enclosure will be provided for the Diesel Generator set. There will be no impact on noise pollution. Additional Electricity connections will be obtained from the Tamilnadu Electricity Board.

The cut rods generated from this unit will be reused in the nearby melting units. The ash generated from the producer gas plant will be disposed as manure. Adequate green belt will be developed in 2 acres of land by the unit. About 45 direct employments and 50 indirect employments will be generated due to this project.

Proper implementation of the pollution control and mitigation measures will make the proposed expansion project a beneficial project to the society and also will help to reduce the demand - supply gap of steel rods. The industry has assured to provide necessary infrastructure facilities the nearby schools and uniform to the students. The socio-economic status of the unit will be uplifted."

Then the District Environmental Engineer, Tiruppur has invited the public to express their views.

**PUBLIC OPINION:**

In the public hearing 8 persons have expressed their opinion as given below: The explanation given by the Project consultants in response to the public views are also furnished as below:

**1. Thiru.Rajagopal, President, District Milk Producers Association, Sultanpet:**

"In Sultanpet area, particularly in Selakkarichal, Pappampatti and in Appanaickenpalayam villages, more steel industries and stone crushers are already under operation. Hence if a new industry is proposed in this area, whether the pollution will be increased?. Many industries are shifted from the urban area to the Kallapalayam village, this activity has to be controlled.

Water scarcity already exists in our areas. Whether the project will receive water supply from local Panchayat?. How the TWAD Board will supply water to this unit since there is already scarcity."

The District collector, Coimbatore responded as below:

"Only one industrial cluster is developed in Kallapalayam. Other industrial clusters are shifted to Arasur and in Manickampalayam area. The project requires very little quantity of water i.e. 5.5 KLD only; out of this 2.5 KLD will be used for domestic purposes, the remaining 3 KLD will be used for industrial purposes."

**2. Thiru. Velusamy, President, Thalakkurai Panchayat:**

"Already water scarcity is there in our area, hence a separate scheme shall be implemented for supplying the water to the project."

The District collector, Coimbatore responded as below:

"Pillur water supply Scheme II is under implementation. Another water supply scheme is also under proposal. Hence after implementation of the above water supply schemes there will be no water scarcity in the local area."

**3. Thiru. Kandasamy, Ex-President, Vathambacheri Panchayat:**

"Expansion of the project by increasing the existing projection to 10 times, will damage the environment. The industry should prove that there will be no pollution while increasing the production. It has to be clarified whether we can supply water to the other industries from the Village Panchayat".

The District collector, Coimbatore responded in this way:

"The issue of water supply to the project will be decided by the local Panchayat. If surplus water is not available in the local Panchayat, the Panchayat need not supply water to the industries. As per as water supply is concerned, first preference will be given to the needs of public and then to the commercial activities. This project requires only less quantity of water for their process. If the Village Panchayat is not in a position to supply water to the industry, the industry in their own should arrange an alternate source for water requirements.

Heat generation in the industry will be controlled by implementing necessary control measures. The emission will be controlled by implementing wet scrubber and other pollution control measures. The Pollution Control Board will continuously monitor the industry by conducting Air Quality survey, if the emission exceeds the norms prescribed by the Board, suitable action will be initiated against the by the Pollution Control Board. We hope if the Air Pollution Control measures are implemented properly during the operation of the plant the emissions will be within the standards prescribed. During the power point presentation it was informed that due to the expansion of this project the expected pollution load will be within the prescribed standards."

Reply of Thiru.M. Paramasivam, Managing Director of the Project:

"The water requirement to the project is only very less quantity. The water used in the process will be recirculated continuously in the process. A minimum quantity of fresh water will be required as make up quantity. If the local Panchayat could not afford the required water, we will arrange water from the other sources.

We know that the public will have some apprehensions if a new project is proposed in their area. Our unit of M/s. Paragan Steels located in Kerala is awarded as the best unit in implementing Pollution Control measures. The unit was started in 1989 and is running without causing any problem to the public and as well as to the environment. Though 3000 houses are located around this unit at Kerala no disturbances are caused to the public living in this area. Hence, we think that expanding our existing project will improve the socio economic status of the local public. We assure you all that we will give due respect to the feeling of the local public; we will sincerely and honestly implement the pollution control measures effectively to avoid any damage to the environment." Further, the project proponent assured all sort of assistances to the local public.

**4. Thiru.S.A. Manimohan, Ex-President, Selakkarachal Panchayat Union:**

"There is already water scarcity in this area. Due to the expansion of this industry for more than 10 times enormous heat emission will be there and it will spoil the agricultural lands and the health of the public. Hence they have to ensure the safe health

of the public." He also made complaint about M/s. Santha Alloys, an existing nearby industry about smoke pollution.

**5. Thiru.Rangaraj, Member of Selakkarachal Village Panchayat :**

"Water required for this project can be drawn from Sular Tank and also be supplied to many other industries. Due to emission from a nearby industry M/s. Santha Alloys (P) Limited, the trees are affected. However, the management of M/s. Madurai Meenakshi Amman Steel Re-rolling Mills when informed about the smoke pollution emitted from their industry they immediately attended to control it. Pollution Control Board should control the emission from M/s. Santha Alloys (P) Limited of Selakkarachal Village. The industries in this area should control the air pollution to ensure that the atmospheric air around this area is pollutant free. These industries emission should be well within the Pollution Control Board norms."

The District collector, Coimbatore responded as below:

"If the emission of the industry exceeds the prescribed norms, the industry will be instructed to install additional air pollution control measures to curb the excess emission beyond the tolerance limit. About the complaint made against the existing industry, the Pollution Control Board will take immediate action."

Reply of Thiru.M. Paramasivam, Managing Director of the Project:

"We are very helpful to the local community and we assure that we will extend our full support to the public in environmental related issues."

**6. Thiru.Swaminathan, Vice President, Selakkarachal Panchayat:**

"This area has not received sufficient rains for the past 10 years. No adequate water supply is provided to the public of this area. Most of the public are migrating to the nearby areas like Coimbatore in search of employment. If these kinds of industries are allowed in this area and preference is given to the local public in employment, this area will socially and economically will improve, provided the industry does not spoil the environment. Selakkarachal Panchayat people should be recruited in various cadets in this industry. Hence, I welcome this project, since the project will boost the living status of the local people."

The District collector, Coimbatore responded as below:

"The industry will be instructed to preferably recruit people from the local area based on their skills. If skilled persons are available in the nearby villages, the industry will be advised to give preferences in recruiting these people."

**7. Thiru.S. Premkumar, Coimbatore:**

"Instead of availing power from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, the industries can harness renewable energy like solar energy and Wind energy for their industry."

8. Thiru. Angamuthu Gounder, Farmer, Lakshminaickenpalayam:

"The industry can employ people from the local community. Request the Managing Director to employ more people from the nearby villages in this industry."

No other persons have aired their views after this; at this juncture the District Environmental Engineer has requested the gathering for any other views. No one spoke after this.


Finally the District Collector, Coimbatore has requested the public for any further views and opinion. However no public came forward to express their views further. Hence the District Collector, Coimbatore before concluding the public hearing has informed that "it is the duty of the Government in general and Pollution Control Board in particular to clear the doubts raised by the local people about the environmental pollution likely to be caused by this unit. In this connection, the monitoring of the industry will be taken care by Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board. The proceedings of this meetings and the recording will be sent to the Government as per the procedure. He also informed the public to inform him if any grievances is there during the operation of the industry. Finally the District Collector, Coimbatore thanked the public for conducting public hearing very peacefully. The public hearing came to an end at 1.00 p.m.

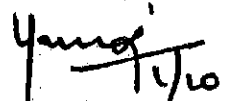
The soft copy of the video recording of the public hearing proceedings is enclosed in the form of compact disc.

The attendance of the 55 public participated in the public hearing is enclosed in Annexure-I.

Some of the public submitted written complaints on the existing industry of M/s. Santha Alloys (P) Limited. Since these complaints are pertaining to M/s. Santha Alloys (P) Limited, the Pollution Control Board is investigating the complaints.

The translated tamil version of the above proceedings is enclosed vide annexure-II.

  
District Environmental Engineer  
TNPC Board, Tiruppur

  
District Collector  
Coimbatore District

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