

**Proceeding of Environmental Public Hearing organized by HP State Pollution Control Board Una according to the provisions of EIA Notification No: S.O. 1533 (E) Dated: 14/09/2006 on the proposal submitted by Sh. Ravinder Kumar, Prop: M/s Jagdambay Stone Crusher & Screening Unit, VPO Ghaluwal, Tehsil Haroli, Distt. Una (HP) for extraction of Sand, Stone & Bajri @ 60,000 TPA at Khasra No. 598 falling in Mauza/Mohal Sanjhot, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP) over an area measuring 02-82-77 Hectares (Private Land, Hill Slope), on 20/09/2024 at 11:30 AM at adjoining open ground of Panchayat Ghar of Gram Panchayat Nangal Salangri, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP)**

Environmental Public Hearing on the proposal submitted by Sh. Ravinder Kumar, Prop: M/s Jagdambay Stone Crusher & Screening Unit, VPO Ghaluwal, Tehsil Haroli, Distt. Una (HP) for extraction of Sand, Stone & Bajri @ 60,000 TPA at Khasra No. 598 falling in Mauza/Mohal Sanjhot, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP) over an area measuring 02-82-77 Hectares (Private Land, Hill Slope), was organized by HP State Pollution Control Board, Regional Office Una on 20/09/2024 at 11:30 AM at adjoining open ground of Panchayat Ghar of Gram Panchayat Nangal Salangri, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP). This public Hearing was organized by HP State Pollution Control Board under the Chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner Una cum Chairman of Environmental Public Hearing, according to prescribed process of public Hearing.

In the Public Hearing, Mining Officer Una, Officers/Officials of various Departments of local Administration, Representatives of local Gram Panchayats and residents of local & nearby villages were also present. The attendance sheet of participants in the public hearing is enclosed as **Annex-I**.

First of all, Er. Praveen Kumar, Regional Officer, HP State Pollution Control Board Una, welcomed the Chairman, Officers/Officials of various Departments of local Administration, representative of Local Panchayats, Project Proponent & their consultant and the Public. Thereafter he gave detailed information to the people present regarding organization of the Environmental Public Hearing and started the process of Environmental Public Hearing with the permission of ADC cum Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing.

Thereafter, the Regional Officer, HSPSCB Una requested the Consultant of the Project Proponent from M/s Chandigarh Pollution Testing Laboratory, Mohali (Pb) to provide the detailed information of their proposed project for the extraction/collection of sand, stone & bajri to the public. After the detailed description of various aspects of proposed mining lease project given by the consultant to the public, the Regional Officer, HP State Pollution Control Board Una asked the people present in the Environment Public Hearing to express their views, comments, suggestion and objections on the proposed mining project, without any fear and pressure from any corner.

Videography of the Public hearing was also conducted. Accordingly, the proceeding of the Environmental Public Hearing was recorded and the same is reproduced hereunder:

S. No.	Name and Address	Issues raised/Suggestions submitted	Reply of Issues raised/Suggestions submitted
1.	Sh. Swarn Singh, R/o Gram Panchayat Nangal Salanagri, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP)	He highlighted the problem of dust affecting the residents of the area due to mining activities. He stated that their homes are located near the mining area and roads, and during the summer, when mining activities occur,	The consultant of proposed mining project apprised that this project is still proposed. He assured that in this proposed mining project, mineral transportation will be done in a

dust and dirt fills in their houses, causing them significant problems. He mentioned that there are mining leases for two numbers of stone crushers in the area, and when asked to sprinkle water to suppress the dust, they refuse the responsibility by citing that the material belongs to the other crusher. He further explained that mining activities are also taking place in the flat areas of the region. For this, land adjacent to the fields has been leased for mining, resulting in the creation of 15-foot-deep pits on leased land. These deep pits have increased the risk of flooding in the fields. He asked that if the guidelines provided by the mining project consultant are followed by the leaseholders, the residents would face no issues. However, the reality is that these regulations and laws are not adhered to by the leaseholders.

segregated manner. The transportation of trucks/tippers will be fixed keeping regard of the peak hours of movement of local people. Additionally, for dust control in the proposed mining project, water will be sprinkled four to five times a day using tankers in the summer season, and twice in the winter season.

He further stated that mining will not take place in the riverbed under the proposed mining project; instead, mining is proposed to take place on the hill slope. Mining will be carried out in a bench-wise manner, which will not have any impact on the groundwater level in the area. As a result, there will be no groundwater issues in the fields due to mining.

He informed that no mining will be carried out on 7.5 meters of land in the corridor of the proposed lease area, and it will be left vacant. Furthermore, where agricultural land is adjacent to the mining area, an additional 5 meters of land will be left untouched to prevent the possibility of agricultural land being eroded during the rainy season.

He mentioned that suggestions being provided are being recorded in video and audio format, which will be presented to the State-Level Committee, the competent authority to grant environmental clearance for the proposed mining project. If the proposed mining project receives environmental clearance, all conditions will be mentioned in the approval letter, and this approval letter will also be made available to the general public.

			<p>After this, the mining activities will be monitored by the relevant departments every six months to ensure that all conditions specified in the approval letter are being followed.</p> <p>The Additional Deputy Commissioner and Chairman directed the Mining Officer Una and the officials of the Pollution Control Board Una to ensure that dust does not enter the village or homes of people.</p>
2.	Sh. Piara Singh, R/o Gram Panchayat Nangal Salanagri, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP)	<p>He mentioned that due to the mining activities in the area, rainwater can enter in their homes and fields, which may cause them damage. He stated that he is poor and have barely constructed his house. He asked who would be responsible if their house or land is damaged by water/flood.</p> <p>He requested the administration to ensure that the local people do not have to face the problem of waterlogging due to mining activities.</p>	The Additional Deputy Commissioner and Chairman directed the Mining Officer to ensure that no rural resident's house or land is damaged due to mining activities.
3.	Sh. Jaswinder Singh, R/o Gram Panchayat Nangal Salanagri, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP)	<p>He raised the issue of trees being cut by the leaseholders and said that on one hand, the Government is advocating for planting trees, while on the other hand, mining activities are being carried out. He requested the administration to conduct an on-site inspection of the mining areas and observe the deteriorating conditions in the region caused by mining. Additionally, he expressed concern over potential waterlogging in the houses of the village due to mining activities. He also highlighted the issue of dust arising from the movement of tippers on the unpaved roads and pointed out that water sprinkling is not done properly, leading to significant dust problems for the villagers.</p>	The Additional Deputy Commissioner and the Chairman once again instructed the Mining Officer and the Assistant Environment Engineer of Una to ensure that the leaseholders carry out periodic water sprinkling and that there are no dust problems in the village due to mining activities.
4.	Sh. Yogesh Aery, VPO Nangal Salangri, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP)	<p>He mentioned that both types of mining, riverbed and hill slope, have been carried out in our village for the past 10-15 years. He stated that mining</p>	

		<p>is essential because it enables the construction of good roads and buildings in villages and cities. However, hill slope mining alters the topography of the area. But after mining, people are earning their livelihood by planting trees like white mulberry and poplar in the vacant spaces left behind. Mining activities are creating employment opportunities in the village, and today many boys from our village are earning their livelihood by operating JCBs, tippers, and tractors.</p> <p>Subsequently, he raised the issue of depositing ten rupees for every ton of mineral mined under the District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT). He mentioned that there is a provision for allocating a percentage of this fund to the construction of projects, roads, or other social works in the affected village or panchayat. He estimated that, as a result of mining activities in their panchayat over the last 15 years, millions, or approximately one crore rupees, would have accumulated in this fund. He demanded that this amount should be spent in their panchayat or the village of Sanjhot, with the funds being used for the reconstruction and maintenance of the village roads, which are deteriorating due to the movement of vehicles involved in mining activities. He emphasized that this fund should be used only in the affected area, not for development works in other locations.</p>	
5.	<p>Sh. Sumit Kumar Sharma, Vice Chairman BDC Una, Gram Panchayat Nangal Salangri, Tehsil &amp; Distt. Una (HP)</p>	<p>He stated that the residents of the Panchayat demand assistance from the crusher owners for social and religious events occurring in the village. Vehicles transporting mineral materials should be adequately covered. He also demanded that water sprinkling should be carried out properly and regularly to prevent dust rising along the roadsides.</p> <p>Additionally, he informed that this Panchayat was formed by combining the villages of Nangal Salangadi and Sanjhot, and that the proposed mining lease, along with other leases, is</p>	


		<p>located solely within Sanjhot village. He requested that the maximum utilization of funds under the DMFT scheme be directed towards Sanjhot village to compensate for the damages incurred due to mining activities in the village.</p> <p>He also stated that few roads need to be constructed in Sanjhot village, and it was suggested that these roads should also be developed using the DMFT funds.</p>	
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During the proceedings of the public hearing, three representations were received from local residents/Gram Panchayat Dhamandari concerning the proposed mining projects. These representations are enclosed as **Annexure-II** and are as follows:

1. Proposal No. 9 dated 28/07/2024 from Gram Panchayat Dhamandari regarding the imposition of various conditions on the proposed mining project.
2. Application received from Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma, R/o VPO Nangal Salangri, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP), regarding his dissent to the establishment of the proposed mining project and other industries near their residential areas.
3. Application received from Sh. Balbir Singh and other local residents of R/o Gram Panchayat Nangal Salangri, Tehsil & Distt. Una (HP), opposing the establishment of the proposed mining project.

As per the opinion of the local public, present in the Env. Public Hearing Programme, maximum people are in favour of the proposed mining project.

In the end, Er. Praveen Kumar, Regional Officer, Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, Una thanked the Chairman and all other participants for participating in this environmental public hearing.

  
**Mahendra Pal Gurjar (I.A.S)**  
**Additional Deputy Commissioner**  
**Una, Distt. Una (HP)**