

**Proceedings of the Public Hearing conducted on 21.02.2012 at 11.30 a.m. in connection with application filed by Department of Industries & Commerce, Govt. of Punjab, for obtaining environmental clearance under EIA Notification dated 14/9/2006 for the mining site at Village Chak Chimna, Tehsil & District Pathankot.**

The following were present to supervise the proceedings:-

1. Sh. Sibin C., IAS  
Deputy Commissioner,  
Pathankot.
2. Er. Sandeep Bahl,  
Environmental Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur.
3. Er. Ashok Kumar Chalotra,  
Asstt. Environmental Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur.
3. Er. Prem Kamal,  
Asstt. Environmental Engineer,  
Punjab Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur.
5. Sh. Mahavir Singh Saini  
District Forest Officer,  
Pathankot.
6. Sh. Pal Singh  
District Public Relation Officer,  
Pathankot.
7. Sh. Balwinder Pal Singh  
General Manager,  
District Industries Centre-cum-Mining Officer,  
Pathankot.
8. Sh. Satish Kumar Saini,  
Mechanical Engineer,  
Municipal Committee,  
Pathankot.

Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Hoshiarpur welcomed the Supervising-cum-Presiding Officer and people from adjoining Towns/Villages who came to attend the public hearing for mining sites in the revenue estate of **Village Chak Chimna, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot**. He apprised the public about the requirement of conducting the public hearing before grant of environmental clearance under EIA Notification no.1533 (E) dtd.14.9.2006 of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, New Delhi. He also brought into the notice of public that the Department of Industries & Commerce, Govt. of Punjab has submitted copies of draft rapid EIA report alongwith the Executive Summary of the same and a copy of each such document was placed in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Pathankot; Zila Parishad,

Gurdaspur; General Manager District Industries Centre, Pathankot; Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Pathankot, Regional Office of MoEF at Chandigarh and Regional Office, Hoshiarpur of the PPCB for access to the public and other stakeholders. He further brought out that initially a notice of public hearing was published in two prominent newspapers namely, on The Tribune & Daily Ajit **23.12.2011** which was later on postponed due to announcement of Vidhan Sabha Elections and accordingly Public Notice for postponement of hearing was published in The 'Ajit', 'The Tribune' on 13.01.2012 and 'Hindustan Time' on 14.01.2012. A fresh notice was published in 'Hindustan Time' & 'The Tribune' & 'Ajit' on 9.2.2012(**Annexure –A**). 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. He informed that today's Public hearing is being conducted for the mining area of **14 Hectares** located in Village: **Chak Chimna, District: Pathankot** as per application submitted by the Project Proponent i.e. Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh through Mining Officer, Pathankot. District Pathankot.

He further intimated that pursuant to the publication of Public Notice regarding conduct of Public Hearings; an office order was issued by Deputy Commissioner, Pathankot Vide No. 926-27 dated 16.02.2012 (copy enclosed **Annexure-B**) regarding Supervision of Public hearing and direction to concerned area Sub-Divisional Magistrate for conducting Mustri Munadi on a day prior to Public hearing to ensure maximum participation of public for decision making. Certificate issued by Halqua Patwari regarding compliance of directions regarding Conducting Mustri Munadi is enclosed as per **Annexure C**. Further District Public Relation Officer was also requested to give wide publicity in the print & electronic media to ensure maximum participation of the public vide Punjab Pollution Control Board vide letter No. 1278 dated 13.02.2012. Copy of the press clipping are enclosed for perusal please (**Annexure D**). Sarpanch & Chowkidar of the Village **Chak Chimna, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot** has also submitted Certificate regarding conducting of Munadi through Village Chowkidar & Local Gurudwaras/ Mandir as well as through distribution of Pamphlets (**Annexure E**). He also informed that details of khasra Nos. duly signed by Mining Officer alongwith Coloured copies of proposed mining area has been displayed on the Notice Board at the venue of Public hearing for convenience of the public as per **Annexure –F & G**. Proposed Mining site was properly explained by the Halqua Patwari present at the Public Hearing, which has also been video recorded, photographed and forms a part of the proceedings of Public hearing.

He further informed to the audience that being a Category 'A' projects the EAC / SEAC has determined detailed and comprehensive TOR (Terms of Reference) addressing all relevant environmental concerns for the preparation by an EIA report in respect of mining project for which prior environmental clearance is sought of Department of Industries & Commerce through Mining Officer, Pathankot. Copy of the TOR (Terms of Reference) enclosed as per **Annexure-H**. He apprised the audience of some of the following important points of Terms of the Reference (TOR), which are part of Draft EIA report submitted by the Project Proponent.

- The terms and conditions imposed, if any, by the Competent Authority in the State Government while granting mining lease/ permit/ contract should be built into the mine plan (Eco friendly Mine Plan) as well as the EIA report. It may inter-alia include; area of working (length and breadth of the river stretch), mode of working, working shift, transportation of mineral, restriction, if any imposed for working etc.
- Involvement of the forest land, if any, in the project and status of forestry clearance should be given.
- The study area will comprise of 10 km zone around the mine lease from lease periphery and the data contained in the EIA such as waste generation etc should be for the life of the mine/ lease period.
- Land use of the study area delineating forest area, agricultural land, grazing land, wildlife sanctuary and national park, migratory routes of fauna, water bodies, human settlements and other ecological features.
- Land use plan of the mine lease area should be prepared to encompass preoperational, operational and post operational phases.
- Impact of the project on the wildlife in the surrounding and any other protected area and accordingly detailed mitigate measures required should be worked out with cost implications.
- The vegetation in the RF/PF in the study area, if any.
- A study shall be got done to ascertain the impact of the mining project on wildlife of the area including on the elephant population.
- Location of National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Tiger/Elephant Reserves (existing as well as proposed) within 10 KM of the mine lease should be clearly indicated.
- A detailed biological study for the study area [core zone and buffer zone (10 KM radius of the periphery of the mine lease)] including the aquatic fauna in the riverine system shall be carried out.
- Impact on topography, drainage, agricultural fields, wildlife, water logging leading to water borne diseases, if any. It may also be shown whether it will lead to change of water course of the river. Modeling exercise should also be carried out through an expert agency to show the change in river flow dynamics, if any.
- Collection of one season (non-monsoon) primary baseline data on ambient air quality (PM10, SO2, and NOx), water quality, noise level, soil and flora and fauna.
- Air quality modeling should be carried out for prediction of impact of the project on the air quality of the area.
- Impact of the project on the water quality should be assessed and necessary safeguard measures, if any required should be provided.
- Information on site elevation, working depth, groundwater table should be provided both in AMSL and bgl. A schematic diagram may also be provided for the same.
- Quantity of solid waste generation, if any, to be estimated and details for its disposal and management be provided.
- Impact on local transport infrastructure due to the project, Projected increase in truck traffic as a result of the project in the present road network (including those outside the project area) and whether it is capable of handling the increased load. Arrangement for improving the infrastructure, if contemplated including action to be taken by other agencies such as State Government, if any, should be covered.
- Details of the infrastructure facilities to be provided for the mine workers.
- Phase-wise plan of greenbelt development, plantation and compensatory afforestation clearly indicating the area to be covered under plantation and the species to be planted.
- Occupational health impact of project should be anticipated and prevention measures initiated. Details in this regard should be provided.
- Details of pre-placement medical examination and periodical medical examination schedules and medical facilities proposed to be provided should be incorporated in the EMP.
- Measures of socio economic influence to the local community proposed to be provided by project proponent. As far as possible, quantitative dimension to be given.
- Detailed environmental management plan to mitigate the environmental impacts. Specific safeguard measures to control PM10 as well as pollution due to transportation should be given.

- Public hearing points raised and commitment of the project proponent on the same along with time bound action plan to implement the same should be provided.
- Details of litigation pending against the project, if any, with direction/ order passed by any Court of Law against the project should be given.
- The cost of the project (capital cost and recurring cost) as well as the cost towards implementation of EMP should clearly be spelt out.
- All documents to be properly referenced with index, page numbers and continuous page numbering.
- Where data are presented in the report especially in tables, the period in which the data were collected and the sources should be indicated.
- Where the documents provided in a language other than English, an English translation should be provided.
- The questionnaire for environmental appraisal of mining projects as devised earlier by the ministry shall also be filled and submitted.
- Approved mine plan along with copy of the approval letter for the proposed capacity should also be submitted.
- While preparing the EIA report, the instructions for the proponents and instructions for the consultants issued by MoEF vide O.M. No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 4<sup>th</sup> August , 2009, which are available on the website of this ministry should also be followed.

Environmental Engineer further apprised the audience of the fact that mining has to be carried out as per Environmental Impact Assessment Guidance Manual for Mining of Minerals as published by Ministry of Environment Forests, New Delhi through Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad which includes some of the additional points to be taken into consideration for Environment friendly mining, in addition to some of the points already raised in Term of Reference;

- The mining has to be carried out only upto 3 mtrs. (BGL) Below Ground Level and Mining has to start after date of opening of Mining Activities i.e. after grant of Environmental Clearance.
- Whether there is involvement of any Forests land in proposed area of Mining.
- Whether there is any Wild Life Sanctuary within 10 Kms. from the area of proposed mining project.
- There will not be any quarry operation within the distance of 75 m from railway line / 50 m from reservoir tank, canal, public road, building and in-habitat sites etc.
- Whether there is any Defence establishment near by the area of proposed mining project.
- Mining will not be allowed below water the table.
- The mining should be prohibited to distance of 500 m on upstream and downstream from the high level bridge and 250 m form the other bridges on upstream and down stream

He also pointed out that project proponent is legally bound to get all necessary approvals from other departments like Forest Department & Ground Water Board under relevant Acts & Rules for the Proposed Mining Projects. He further informed that around 65 persons are present in the Public hearing out of which 32 have signed the attendance register.

Thereafter, he requested the Project Proponent i.e. Mining Officer, Pathankot to elaborate the main features about the project and the draft EIA study report, who in turn invited Sh. Kuldeep Singh Representative of M/s Grass Roots Research & Creation India (P) Ltd, Noida, Consultant of Department of Industries & Commerce to elaborate about the main features of the project and the draft EIA study report.

**Sh. Kuldeep Singh** of M/s Grass Roots Research & Creation India (P) Ltd, Noida engaged by Department of Industries & Commerce, for conducting the EIA study for this project brought out the details of the project before the public as under:-

- 1) The development of the infrastructure is based upon the building materials such as sand and gravel for which controlled mining at the source is required. Govt. of Punjab has to allot / earmark the various sites from which the mining of minerals has to be undertaken. Accordingly, this site is also one of such site from where mining is to be carried out, hence the environmental clearance is required.
- 2) **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**  
  
As per the Eco-friendly Mining Plan, it is a proposed project to mine Sand/Gravel and the estimated project cost is **70 Lacs** . Department of Industries and Commerce, Chandigarh (Punjab), though has not yet notified the mining lease of Sand/Gravel in the name of **Chak Chimna, Taluka: Pathankot**, Punjab. The mining lease / proposed project area falls in Survey of India Toposheet No. **43P/12**. The mine lease area is located between **32°08' 25.48" to 32°08' 40.71"N Latitude and 75°36' 49.07" to 75°37' 06.73" E Longitude**. The River bed is having **14.00** Hectare area which with approx.**5 Lakh** MT of Sand/Gravel deposit in it, which is replenishable due to sediment Inflow.
- 3) The land of the mining site will be with the State Government on lease. There will be approx. **5 Lakh MT** of sand mining with UNFC code 111. The mining will be carried out by excavator of 1.1 cubic meter capacity. No drilling or blasting will be carried out at the site and the mining will be with simplest procedure of lifting the material and loading to the vehicles mechanically. The mining will be done upto working depth of 3 m BGL only.
- 4) Baseline data has been collected with respect to land, water, air, ecological and noise in the area of 10 km radius surrounding the site.

He further informed that as mentioned in Draft EIA item No. 1.2 as well as in TOR (Terms of Reference), the mining area has not been notified by Department of Industries Govt. of Punjab.

- 5) Mitigation measures for different Environment parameters:
  - A) **Air Environment:** The dust emitting will only be possible from the movement of the vehicles for which water spraying will be carried out on the road. Overloading of vehicles will not be allowed.
  - B) **Water Environment:**
    - There will be no degradation of water quality, only natural flow of the river will be maintained.
  - C) **Soil Environment:**
    - The mining will not effect in any way the quality of the soil as the level of the area lowered by the mining will be compensated by the flowing river, during rainy season.
  - D) **Noise Environment:**

- There will be no heavy machinery to be used in the mining, the possible noise will be from movement of vehicles only.
- The movement of vehicles will be restricted to the day time only with minimum use of horns.

**E) Social Aspects**

- River channel will be controlled and protection of banks will lead to safety of adjoining agricultural land.
- Employment will be generated hence improvement of socio-economic aspects of the area.

6) Budget for Implementation of Environmental Management Plan

**Cost of EMP**

S. No	Description	Cost to be incurred (in lakhs/annum)
1	Air Quality a) Monitoring in the vicinity of the mine b) Monitoring in the vicinity of the transportation network c) Cost of dust suppression	1.17
2	Water Quality a) Water quality of surface and groundwater around the site b) Drinking water must conform to drinking water standards	0.83
3	Ambient Noise Level	0.25
4	Soil Quality	0.4
5	Socio-economic condition of local, population, physical survey	0.18
6	Man power cost for environmental cell	0.67
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.5</b>

Thereafter, Deputy Commissioner, Pathankot brought into the notice of public present at the venue of hearing that as per the provision of EIA notification dated 14.9.2006 as amended from time to time, requested the persons present at the venue may seek information or clarifications on the mining site from the project promoter/consultant. 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 promoter will be recorded in the proceeding of the hearing and will also be videographed, which will be sent to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, for further consideration. Accordingly, he requested the persons present in the hearing to seek information or clarifications on the project one by one without any fear, pressure or favour.

Thereupon, the detail of the information/ clarifications raised by the persons present at the venue of hearing and the reply given by the consultant of the industry / project proponent is as under:

S.	Name of the	Questions/ query / statements of the	Reply / clarification given
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No	person	person	by the company/ panel member
1	Rakesh Pawar, Sarpanch, Vill. Pawar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excess mining upto 40-60 feet has already been carried out in the area which has led to erosion of banks of Chaki putting into danger 3300KVA Tower &amp; Gharota bridge and Forest land lying between banks of UBDC and Chaki River.</li> </ul>	The issue per se relates to Village Powar and is not related to mining site of 14 Hectares in the revenue estate of Village Chak Chimna for which Public hearing is being conducted.
2.	Capt. Nirmal Singh, Vill. Naushehra, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mining has already been carried out in the area deep upto more than 30' which has lowered the water table from earlier 40' to 210' . He conveyed his apprehension of loss of cultivable land of Village Chak Chimna.</li> <li>He specifically emphasized that some of the Khasra Nos. as announced by the Project Proponent are owned by him and is a private land under agriculture which he clearly informed that it cannot be given / leased for mining.</li> <li>He also appealed to D.C. that Mining the proposed area of the Mining of Village Chak Chimna be specified in terms of Khasra Nos. &amp; the ownership.</li> </ul>	D.C., Pathankot ordered that Revenue Authorities and B.D.O. of the concerned areas shall ensure that the list of Khasra Nos. must be announced in the village through Sarpanch atleast 48 hrs. He also ordered that G.M. Mining shall demarcate the sites through Revenue Authority and by involving Panchayati Raj institutions and photographs of the Mining site must be recorded before hearing.
3.	Sh. Vinay Kumar (Zee News), Pathankot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>He mentioned that there is need to properly implement the conditions imposed during Environmental clearance given to the Project Proponent and should not remain papers only.</li> </ul>	The consultant of the Project Proponent assured that all these conditions will be translated into reality.
4.	Smt. Kirshna Devi Sarpanch, Vill. Chak Chimna, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed project of mining will bring employment to the residents of the village and also ensure material for construction purposes</li> </ul>	Comments/Suggestions/ Views /objections, were well recorded.
5.	Smt. Madhuwala, Vice President , Mahila Morcha, Vill. Chak Chimna, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>She gave her assent to the proposed mining project in the Village Chak Chimna and wanted to get positive feedback of other residents participating in Public Hearing regarding proposed mining project of Village Chak Chimna which was opposed by some section of the audience.</li> </ul>	She was asked by panel members to give her individual comments & other people from audience were encouraged to give their individual views/comments.
6.	Sh. Darshan Singh Village, Nala, Near	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Already mining upto depth more than 30' has been carried out near forest areas. He also said</li> </ul>	Project Proponent & their Consultant informed the audience that they don't

	Village Chak Chimna owning his land in Revenue Estate village Chak Chimna, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot.	that Private land where agriculture is being carried out, shall not be included in mining lease and the proposed area of mining should be earmarked by providing permanent land marks.	want to say anything regarding the illegal mining which has been already carried out and are here with the environmental management plant for the proposed mining project in the Village Chak Chimna.
7.	Sh. Bharat Bhushan, Land in Village Chak Chimna, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mining is required for developments but there is problem regarding implementation of environment management plans. He emphasized there should not illegal mining so that there is no damage to cultivation land and present water table. He said that already water table has gone down to 350'</li> </ul>	Comments/Suggestions/ Views /objections, were well recorded.
8.	Sh Fateh Singh, Village Ghandran, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whether some royalty is being given to village Panchayat whose land is taken on lease of mining.</li> <li>• Khasra Nos. of proposed mining project should be clearly spelt out for taking proper decision.</li> </ul>	G.M. Mining informed that royalty to the villages is given as per Govt. Policy. Comments/Suggestions/ Views /objections, were well recorded.
9.	Smt. Darshna Devi, Panch village Chak Chimna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He asked about the details of the land covered in proposed mining project of Village Chak Chimna and wanted to know the money which should come the Village Panchayat.</li> </ul>	G.M. Mining informed that royalty to the villages is given as per Govt. Policy.
10.	Sh. Kishan Chand, Ex-Sarpanch, Village Chak Chimna, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Panchayat has not got any royalty so far.</li> </ul>	D.C. Pathankot immediately took up matter with G.M. Mining. He informed that royalty to the villages is given as per Govt. Policy.
11.	Sh. Chaman Ram, Village Chak Chimna, Tehsil & Distt. Pathankot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Khasra Nos. of the proposed mining project in Village Chak Chimna should be made clear</li> <li>• The ownership of these khasra nos. should be made clear.</li> </ul>	Comments/Suggestions/ Views /objections, were well recorded.
12.	<b>Sh. Mahavir Singh Saini, Divisional Forest Officer, Tehsil &amp; Distt. Pathankot.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is 20' to 30' deep mining already been carried out in private land adjoining the protected forest of village Mirthal Bela in vicinity of Chak Chimna, there by causing damage to the forest land.</li> <li>• There should restriction on mining activities to be carried out with in 500 mtrs. From the forest area. There should be demarcation of mining area by erecting 8' land marks to continuously gauge the status of mining in that area.</li> </ul>	Comments/Suggestions/ Views /objections, were well recorded.



Environmental Engineer requested the public if any one else want to ask any question about the proposed project, but no one came forward.

Due to prevailing confusion regarding proposed area of mining arising out of different mining areas mentioned in TOR, Draft EIA Report & actual available at ground, the representative of the Project Proponent i.e. Mining Officer, Pathankot asked to clarify and furnish details of Khasra Nos. of Village Chak Chimna for which Environmental Clearance is sought so as to put to rest the confusion regarding the actual mining area. Consequently, **Sh. Balwinder Pal Singh, Mining Officer, Pathankot clarified that the proposed mining area as recorded in TOR issued to them is 14.4 Hectares. But erroneously, Draft EIA report has prepared for 14 Hectares and the actual mining area is 35.6 Hectares.** He submitted duly signed copies of the actual proposed mining area falling in Khasra Nos. 3/25 (2-4) , 21 (6-0), 22 (6-18), 23 (8-11), 24 (8-0), 25 (6-16), 5/11 (4-9), 12 (7-9), 21 (6-13), 22(6-13), 17/1 (8-0), 2 (8-0), 3 (8-0), 8 (8-0), 10 (8-0), 11 (8-0), 12 (8-0), 13 (8-0), 19 (2-14), 20 (7-11), 18/1 (8-0), 2 (8-0), 3 (8-0), 4 (8-0), 5(6-16), 6 (6-16), 7 (8-0), 8 (8-0), 9 (8-0), 10 (8-0), 11 (8-0), 12 (8-0), 13 (8-0), 14(8-0), 15 (6-16), 16 (6-13), 17 (6-13), 18 (6-13), 19 (6-13), 20 (6-13), 21 (8-0), 22 (8-0), 23 (8-0), 24 (5-14), 25 (3-9), 19/18/2 (4-0), 23/1 (4-0), 5/6 (6-4), 7 (4-2), 8 (2-2), 13 (8-0), 14 (8-0), 15 (8-0), 16 (8-0), 17 (8-0), 18 (8-0), 23 (6-13, 24 (6-13), 25 (6-13), 6/9 (6-15), 10 (8-4), 11 (8-0), 12 (8-0), 13 (8-0), 19 (8-0), 20 (8-0), 21 (5-10), 22 (6-13), 16/1 (8-0), 2 (8-0), 9 (8-0), 10 (8-0), 11 (3-18), 12 (4-18), 17/4 (8-0), 5 (8-0), 6 (8-0), 14 (6-1), 15 (3-4), 5/19 (8-0), 20 (8-0), 4/16 (7-0), 6/7 (7-4), 14 (3-0), 17 (8-0), 25 (6-13), 16/13 (2-14), 6/6 (6-0), 8 (6-16) of the Village Chak Chimna which is attached herewith as per **Annexure-I**. He also clarified that total proposed mining land as indicated in Draft EIA Report has been shown as Govt. waste land however it also includes some portions of private land.

The public hearing ended with vote of thanks to Presiding Officer-cum-Supervisor and the public present in the hearing.

Copies of DVD's of video recording and still photography of the Public Hearing are enclosed which may please be considered as a part of the proceedings.

**(Sibin C., IAS),**  
Deputy Commissioner,  
Pathankot

**(Er. Sandeep Bahl)**  
Environmental Engineer,  
Pb. Pollution Control Board,  
Regional Office, Hoshiarpur.

**(Er. Ashok Kumar Chalotra)**  
AEE  
Punjab Pollution Control  
Board, Regional Office,  
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**(Er. Prem Kamal)**  
AEE  
Punjab Pollution Control  
Board, Regional Office,  
Hoshiarpur