

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION PROJECT OF M/s. STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LIMITED, IISCO STEEL PLANT AT BURNPUR, DIST.-BURDWAN, W.B. HELD ON 20.02.2007 AT BHARATI BHAVAN, BURNPUR**

M/s. Steel Authority of India Limited, IISCO Steel Plant, Burnpur submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board on 05.01.2007 for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed expansion of production capacity of their plant at Burnpur, Dist. Burdwan, W.B. from 0.55 MTPA to 2.5 MTPA crude steel. As per the EIA notification S.O. 1533 dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 of the MoEF, Govt. of India, environmental clearance of the said project is required to be obtained from the MoEF, Govt. of India after having public hearing.

Accordingly, WBPCB after observing all formalities, held a public hearing on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2007 at 12.00 Hrs. All the panel members were present in the hearing. A large gathering was also present in the hearing. List of the panel members and the others present in the public hearing are enclosed.

The hearing started with welcome note from Sri N. S. Nigam, IAS, Additional District Magistrate, Asansol who presided over the hearing. Dr. T. K. Gupta, Senior Environmental Engineer and Incharge – Consent Cell, WBPCB explained about the provisions of the above stated MoEF notification. ADM requested the Project Proponent to explain the details about the proposed expansion project for the benefit of the panel members and other public present in the hearing.

Project Proponent then explained about the project, the likely environmental impacts arising out of the same as well as the proposed pollution abatement measures to be taken by them.

During the discussion the panel members and the others present in the public hearing made queries / suggestions with respect to the proposed expansion / modernization of the project which are noted below:

**Sri Sajjan Singh Randhawa, Chairman Asansol Municipal Corporation**

On behalf of the Asansol Municipal Corporation he welcome the proposed expansion / modernization of the plant. He has emphasized that the project proponent should consider the supply of potable water not only within their industrial township but also in the neighbouring areas as a part of the corporate social responsibilities.

**Sri Amitava Mukherjee, M.L.A., Hirapur Constituency, West Bengal** stressed upon the issues related with better water management, greenery developments in the Asansol-Burnpur region, participation of stake holders in formulation and implementation of proposed different peripheral development programme and environmental management issues.

**Sri Lakshan Thakur, Councillor, Asansol Municipal Corporation** has pointed out that local water bodies can be improved not only for recreation purposes but also for

pisciculture. He has also mentioned that some vaccination programme can be initiated for prevention of hydrophobia, hepatitis B and other prevalent diseases. The project proponent may take some programme in consultation with local bodies for modernization of the existing crematorium.

**Sri P.C. Pan, General Secretary, IISCO Officers Association** welcome the proposal for modernization with observation that the project proponent should look after the environmental issues during the construction phase particularly relating to the accommodation of the outside workers. He has also requested to the project proponent to identify and initiate the plantation programme immediately.

The representative of Sara Bharat Krishak Sabha has mentioned that project proponent should look into the aspect of availability of water, siltation issues in river Damodar.

**Sri Sukanta Ghosh** suggested that during the modernization process adequate rain water harvesting structure may be constructed. Re-use and recirculation of waste water can be considered. He has further requested that project proponent may consider the programme for the minimization of green house gas emission.

**Miss Sharmistha Majumdar**, representative of student union welcome the modernization programme of M/s. IISCO Steel Plant, Burnpur and requested the project proponent to look into the possibilities for participation of local women folk.

**Sri Alope Singh, representative of INTUC** requested the project proponent to consider the contractual labourers for intermittent health check-up and medical campaigns. He has also requested to initiate the tree-plantation programme immediately prior to commencement of construction work.

**Sri R. N. Yadav, Chairman, Asansol Chamber of Commerce** mentioned that during the process of modernization the project proponent may constitute Joint Plant Committee following the national norms for development of small scale entrepreneurs. He has stressed upon the need of the development of ancillary units for local area development. He has also suggested that project proponent may identify the nodal officer for co-ordination of such activities.

The public representative and other people present during the public hearing process has requested for formulating a project monitoring team from IISCO Steel Plant to monitor the completion of the project in schedule time.

On behalf of the project proponent Sri Balaram Bhattacharya, AGM (E.C.D), Sri M. K. Rout, DGM (GA), Sri Desh Paul, GM (Modernisation) & Sri Pranab Kr. Dutta, Executive Director (MM) have appreciated the concern expressed by different participants and welcome the suggestions. They have indicated that they will address all the above stated issues while finalizing the environmental management plan and wherever possible they will consider the issues immediately.

Additional District Magistrate, Asansol emphasized that all possible measures should be ensured by the project proponent towards the mitigation of all environmental hazards and

various points raised by the public present in the hearing. In general the public present in the hearing welcomed the project with all the pollution control measures proposed by the Project Proponent.

Sd/-  
**(Dr. T. K. Gupta)**  
**Senior Environmental Engineer &**  
**Incharge – Consent Cell, WBPCB**

Sd/-  
**(Narayan Swaroop Nigam, IAS)**  
**Additional District Magistrate**  
**Asansol**