

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED 30 KLPD MOLASSES/GRAIN BASED DISTILLERY OF M/S. PRAKASH DISTILLERY & CHEMICAL CO. PVT. LTD. AT MOUZA-CHIKU, P.S.-KHARIBARI, DIST.-DARJEELING, WEST BENGAL, HELD ON 17.07.2007 AT BINNABARI GRAM PANCHAYAT, P.S.-KHARIBARI, DIST.-DARJEELING, WEST BENGAL**

M/s. Prakash Distillery & Chemical Co. Pvt. Ltd. submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed 30 KLPD molasses/grain based distillery at Mouza-Chiku, P.S.-Kharibari, Dist.-Darjeeling, West Bengal. 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 conducting the Public Hearing.

Accordingly, WBPCB after observing all formalities, held a Public Hearing on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2007 at 11.30 Hrs at Binnabari Gram Panchayat, P.S.-Kharibari, Dist.-Darjeeling, West Bengal. All the Panel Members were present in the Hearing. A considerable gathering was also present in the Hearing. List of the panel members and the others present in the Public Hearing is enclosed.

The Hearing started with a welcome note by Mrs. P. Zimba, Additional District Magistrate, Siliguri, Dist.-Darjeeling 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. Additional District Magistrate then requested the Project Proponent to explain the details about the proposed Project for the benefit of the panel members and other participants present in the Hearing.

Project Proponent (PP) then explained about the project through a PowerPoint presentation, 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 project which are noted below:

Sri Sankar Kar and Sri Gopal De of Paschimbanga Vigyan Mancha, Darjeeling District Committee, a NGO welcome the proposed project. However, they have requested the PP to look into the following issues.

- Provision of rain water harvesting.
- No disposal of waste water in nearby river without treatment.
- Adequate arrangements for fire protection.
- Adequate height of the stacks.
- Provision of adequate green belt.
- Provision of sanitation, water supply, clean fuel, health check up camp during construction and operational phase for both the temporary and permanent employees.
- Local level monitoring committee.

In this regard they have also submitted their observation in writing which is enclosed.

Sri Sashimohan Barman, Pradhan, Binnabari Gram Panchayat welcome the proposed unit. He has also expressed that the PP should take adequate measures for disposal of floor wash, storm water maintaining the pollution control norms. He has also appreciated the proposal for concept of zero discharge of spent wash and its utilization as fuel for steam generation in the boiler.

Sri Prasanna Kumar Ghosh and Sri Sudarshan Bala of local villages welcome such project. They have requested the PP to take all kind of pollution control measures particularly the waste water treatment management, solid waste management and greeneries.

On behalf of the project proponent Shri Ajit Saha, Director has appreciated the concern expressed by different participants in the Hearing and welcomed the suggestions. He indicated that project proponent will address all the above stated issues while finalizing the Environmental Management Plan.

Additional District Magistrate, Siliguri, Dist.-Darjeeling 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, incorporating the issues mentioned above by the Project Proponent.

Sd/-  
Dr. T. K. Gupta  
Sr. Environmental Engineer &  
In-charge – Consent Cell, WBPCB

Sd/-  
Mrs. P. Zimba  
Additional District Magistrate  
Siliguri, Dist.-Darjeeling