DETAIL REPORT OF THE ONLINE PUBLIC HEARING FOR SETTING UP OF COMMON BIO-MEDICAL WASTE TREATMENT FACILITY, TUIRIAL, AIZAWL DISTRICT, MIZORAM

VENUE: Video Conference Hall, O/o Irrigation & Water Resources Department, MINECO
TIME: 30th September 2021; 11:00 A.M
(List of participants is attached)

INTRODUCTION:

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India vide S.O. No. 1142 (E) dated 17.04.2015 notified that all new Bio- Medical Waste Management Facilities (BMWFs) shall now require prior Environmental Clearance. The Bio-Medical Waste Management Facilities (BMEFs) is grouped under Category B1 projects and thus fall under the purview of the Mizoram SEIAA/SEAC.

As mandated by the Rule, initiatives have been taken up by the Government of Mizoram for establishment of Common Bio- Medical Wastes Treatment Facilities (CBMWTFs) at Tuirial, Aizawl. Hence, the Facility must obtain prior Environmental Clearance before the grant of consents under the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 from the State Pollution Control Board.

The Public hearing for the Common Bio-Medical Wastes Treatment Facility (CBMWTF) was conducted online as per the **Memorandum on Conducting Public Hearing during the COVID – 19 pandemic restrictions** issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, G.O.I vide letter F. No. 22-25/2020-IA.III Dt 09.06.2021

Online Public Hearing for the establishment of CBMWTF was held on 30.09.2021(Thursday) at 11:00 AM at Video Conference Hall, Irrigation & Water Resources Department, MINECO, Mizoram. The hearing was conducted under the Chairmanship of Smt. Lalhriatzuali Ralte, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Aizawl, Mizoram. The Chairman first introduced the official present to the participants and brief about the programme. She stated that the state has no disposal facility though the number of bio-medical waste generating health care facilities both government and private, clinics are on rise. As such the State Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation Department under its Aizawl Smart City Project has taken initiative for setting up of CBMWTF in the state which will be beneficial for the state. She further, added that there are a total of 3295 beds in the state each bed generating about 350 gm of bio-medical wastes per day. In order to control the improper treatment and disposal of bio-medical wastes and to mitigate the spread of infectious disease within the community setting up of this facility is of outmost importance.

The facility is proposed to be established at Tuirial, Aizawl and for the same M/s ENPRO, Envirotech (NABET Accredited Environment Consultancy firm) has been carrying out studies on the environmental impact of the project last year. Studies regarding Ambient Air, Water, Noise and soil were carried out and accordingly results were assessed and draft report prepared. Presentation on the studies carried out by the firm will be made in a short while.

She further said that the Public Hearing is conducted not as a decisive tool for establishment of the CBMWTF but as a mean to incorporate the suggestion/ recommendation in the draft EIA Report for preparation of the Final EIA Report. The final report with due incorporation of the suggestion be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Department, SEIAA/SEAC, Mizoram who shall than grant an Environmental Clearance for the said project. She requested the public to speak out their views, comments and suggestions regarding environmental impact of the proposed project.

The Chairperson, than invited Shri. C. Lalduhawma, Member Secretary to deliver a short speech about the hearing.

The Member Secretary, Mizoram Pollution Control Board that not much is there to be spoken about the role of Pollution Control Board regarding the hearing. However, as mandated by the Notification, public notice of the public hearing were publicized. The hearing was notified in two leading Newspapers in Mizo language in English since 27th August 2021 to enable 30 days publicity during which it was informed that comments regarding the draft EIA was welcomed in the o/o the Mizoram PCB. However, no comments /suggestions are received till the time of public hearing. Today's hearing is conducted as the Government is cautious regarding the impact that the development work will have on the people and the environment. This project will be a step towards accurately identifying the treatment and disposal site which as of now could not be properly managed which has till date hindered the monitoring of bio-medical wastes by the Board. The Board appreciates the initiatives taken for setting up of CBMWTF.

He further stressed that the voice of the people is of utmost importance during the hearing today. With the comments of public today, necessary changes will be made in the draft EIA and the final EIA will be prepared and duly approved by the concerned authority ; all other statutory requirements under the Air and Water Act and the BMW Rules shall have to be carried out by the project proponent after grant of the clearance. This project is a step towards the state development and further improvement if required will be discussed in today's hearing.

Thanking the Member Secretary, the Chairman then highlighted the provisions of the BMW Rules and the duties of the "occupier". Highlighting that all waste generators must segregate, treat and dispose the wastes safe and securely so as not to hamper the environment and human health. Laboratories must also strictly comply with the guidelines laid down by WHO and NAACO for management of wastes.

The Chairperson then requested the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Aizawl Smart City Projects, Ltd (SIPMIU) and the Project Proponent to make a presentation on the project. The CEO then invited their consultant - ENPRO Enviro Tech & Engineers Pvt Ltd. Mr Rushabh Mevawala, to present how the Common Facility on BMW is to be managed.

Mr Rushabh Mevawala's presentation are reproduced below:

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT:

Bio- Medical waste are wastes generated from diagnosis, treatment, analysis or immunization of people / animal at large .They are required to be treated, disposed as per the Bio-medical Waste management Rules, 2016,

At present, in the state, there are around 116 nos. of health care facilities and 3295 beds generating bio-medical waste of 1153 kg/day. In Aizawl city 2191 nos. of bedded hospitals generate 767 kg per day.

1. NEED FOR PROJECT FACILITY:

The CBMWTF will offer an advantage to all small health care facilities through efficient treatment and disposal of bio-medical waste and through "Economies of scale". Absence of CBMWTF in the state, rising awareness and need for centralized treatment facility in Aizawl, has prompted the establishment of the CBMWTF.

The CBMWTF will consist of the equipment such as incinerators, autoclave, shredder and ETP facilities. It is to be established beside the existing Solid Waste Resource Management Centre. It is to be established as part of LSC No.10301/ PP No. 77 of 2005 and 5000m^2 areas has been allocated.

2. SALIENT FEATURES OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT:

- Mean sea level- 318m
- Annual mean rainfall- 2216mm
- Temperature Max: 24.6℃ and Min : 15.5℃
- Nearest highway- NH 306 which is 690m from the project site
- Nearest village- Tuirial which is at 2.6 km radius
- Nearest water body- Tuirial river which is 740m from the project site
- Nearest airport- Lengpui airport 21 kms from the site
- Nearest railway station- 56.3 km from site
- Nearest forest reserve- Tuirial Reserve Forest in buffer zone
- Seismicity- Zone V
- No state or national boundary within study area.

Out of the total cost of Rs. 10.28 crores, total cost allocated for "Corporate Environment Responsibility "is Rs. 20.76 lakhs. As per CPCB guidelines, 33% is allocated for the plan layout. The layout has dedicated area for incinerator,

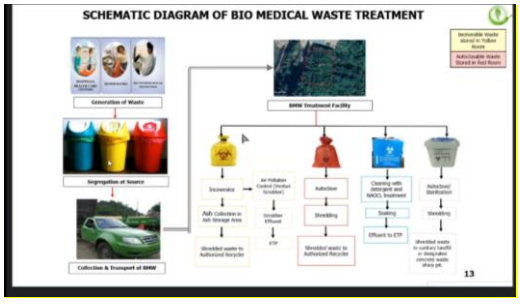
shredder, sterilization room and hazardous waste storage area. A free movement of vehicle is considered in the plan with a dedicated area for Weigh Bridge.

3. HAZARDOUS WASTE GENERATION AND ITS MANAGEMENT:

Type of waste	Source	Quantity generated (kg/day)	Method of disposal
Incineration ash	Incinerator	250	Sent to TSDF for secured landfilling
ETP sludge	ETP	50	Sent to TSDF for secured landfilling
Plastic waste after autoclave and shredding	Shredder	100	Sent to authorized recycler
Glass and metallic body implant	Autoclave	50	Sent to authorized recycler
Metal sharps after autoclave and shredding	Shredder	As generated	Sent to foundry for metal recovery/ TSDF site
Waste oil	From plant and machineries	10	Sent to authorized recycler
Used batteries	-	As generated	Sent to authorized recycler
Sewage sludge	Packaged STP	2.7	Manure in gardening

4. SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF BIO-MEDICAL WASTE TREATMENT:

Segregation of wastes at source was elaborated with the schematic representation of bio-medical waste treatment. Wastes will be treated and disposed and that Color coding will be practiced for segregation and each category of wastes will be stored in designated storage area.



5. PROCESS DESCRIPTION AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION OF EQUIPMENTS:

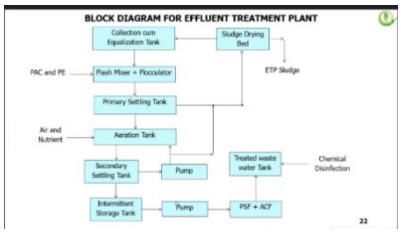
The following equipment are proposed:

1. Incinerator- 1unit of 75kg/hr capacity. With diesel as fuel, waste will be burned in fully automatic burner having two chambers and retention time of 2 sec will be maintained. Primary chamber will operate at a temperature 850℃ ±50℃ while secondary chamber 1050℃ ±50℃. Air Pollution Control Device like Venturi Scrubber, Packed Bed Scrubber, ID Fan, Combustion Fan will be provided and a stack height of 30m with diameter of 200mm will be maintained.
2. Autoclave: To decontaminate and sterilize wastes, a horizontal high speed steam sterilizer having a capacity of 150ltrs/batch operating at 121℃ under 15φ pressure is proposed.
3. Shredder: Medium series twin shaft shredder running at 20HP, 15 Kw which is provided with five blades (3 movable blades and 2 fixed blades) will be used to cut segregated disinfected wastes into 10-25mm of plastic, agro wastes or paper in appropriate size as per pollution norms.
4. Diesel Generator Set: 150KVA DG set will be installed for emergency supply. The set will be provided with a stack height of 12m and diameter of 155mm.
5. CAAQMS: To ensure the ambient air norms, Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring System (CAAQMS) to be provided. Parameters like SPM, HCl, NOx etc. will be continuously monitored.
6. Emission standards as prescribed Common BMW Treatment and disposal guidelines will be achieved

7. WATER CONSUMPTION, GENERATION AND WATER POLLUTION:

Total water requirement in the plant is about 20KLD. About 10.6 KLD wastes water will be generated from process and treated in ETP. About 7KLD of effluent will be recycled to meet the water consumption. Waste water generated from domestic use will be treated in Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and about 3.5 KLD from STP will also be recycled. With these, fresh water requirement for the whole plant will be reduced to 9.5KLD.

The block diagram of ETP and STP is represented as below:



8. EIA STUDY AND BASELINE MONITORING:

As the proposed project falls under Category B project activity 7(da) as per the EIA Notification 2006, the Terms of Reference as per the EIA was obtained from the State Expert Impact Assessment Authority vide letter No. B16012/6/2019-SEAC/166

dated 19.03.2020. EIA study was carried out by M/s ENPRO Enviro Tech and Engineers Pvt. Ltd. and baseline monitoring was carried out during 1.12.2020 to 28.02.2020 by NABL accredited M/s Quallisure Laboratory Services.

A. AMBIENT AIR QUALITY MONITORING AND ITS MITIGATION:

Ambient air quality parameters such as SPM, $PM_{2.5}$, So_x , NO_x, HC, NH_3,Co, PAH, VOCs were monitored twice a week at six location namely area near the Project site, Thingsulthliah village, Sesawng village, Tuirial village, Aizawl city And Muthi village. All the parameters monitored during the study were found to be well below the limit as per the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

The mitigation measures are to be adopted for air pollutants and to control the impacts of pollutants such as dust particles, HCl and NOx .These are:

- Incinerator proposed to be designed as per CPCB guidelines with best available technology.
- Air Pollution Control Device to be installed in incinerator.
- Maintain proper stack height as per norms.
- Caustic to be injected in the incinerator to neutralize acidic gases and organic constituents.
- For removal of particulate matter and acidic constituents, gas quencher, high pressure drop venture scrubber and packed back scrubber will be utilized.
- Carbon injection system to be provided for elimination of rare mercury vapor, hydrocarbons, dioxins and furan contents in incineration flue gas.
- Estimation or study when the facility is in operation is also carried out. The incremental ground level concentration (GLC) was estimated to be as: TSPM:1.22µg/m3, HCL:1.22 µg/m3, NOx:10.22µg/m3 based on which the total concentration due to the project activity was found to be below the prescribed standard as given in CPCB in all monitoring stations.

B. WATER QUALITY MONITORING AND MITIGATION:

For monitoring of water quality two surface water source namely Tuirial and Chite rivers and four ground water source, namely tubewells from Thingsulthiah and Sesawng village and hand pumps from Tuirial village and Aizawl city.

- For surface water, qualities were found to conform to the CPCB-1979 and Bureau of Indian Standard limits but the BOD level was relatively higher thus requiring conventional treatment of water followed by disinfection incase water is to be used for drinking.
- For ground water samples, presence of coliform was found in Tuirial handpump sample and E.coli in samples collected from Sesawng tubewell and Aizawl city hand pump. Boiling, chlorination, disinfection or UV treatment of water is thus suggested before drinking.

- However, there will be no impact on the water body due to project activity. The main source of water will be through the government water supply from Solid Waste Resource Management. Centre. No waste water will be discharged outside the premises.

C. NOISE LEVEL MONITORING AND MITIGATION:

Ambient noise monitoring was done for six locations which were found to be within prescribed limit.

For mitigation of the impact of noise level the following measures were proposed to be followed:

- Proper and timely maintenance of machineries and restricted movement of vehicles during late evening and night time.
- Equipments such as fans , blowers and shredder will be selected such that the noise level is less than 85dBwhen nose level is measured from 1m from the equipment.
- High noise generating equipments will be installed in closed room to reduce noise level.
- Workers will be provided with earplugs and ear muffs.
- Greenbelt development within the boundary and along the road of the project site.
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D. SOIL QUALITY MONITORING AND MITIGATION:

Soil samples were collected from the study area and interpreted referring to the book “Interpreting Soil Test Results”. Based on the samples collected the following interpretation was made. The pH of the soil was moderately acidic to neutral. The texture was predominantly sandy clay loam and the soil was found to be low in calcium.

For the mitigation the following method is to be adopted

- Contaminated soil from spillage/ leakage or dropping of the bio-medical or hazardous wastes will be recovered from the ground. Packed, stored and sent as hazardous waste for disposal in TSDF.
- All reusable and recyclable waste will be reused or recycled within the premises.
- All bio-medical wastes shall be unloaded in a designated area and stored category wise in designated storage area and hazardous wastes viz. incineration ash and ETP sludge will be stored separately as hazardous wastes.
- Leachate from the storage area will be sent to ETP.
- Monitoring of the soil will be done as per Environmental Monitoring Plan.

E. ECOLOGY AND BIOBIVERSITY STUDY:

The proposed project site consists of dense vegetative cover and consists of dense bamboo patches with teak trees near the boundary of the site. Few weeds and shrubs were also found. The site also consists of good number of native trees

mentioned in EIA Report which will be retained in maximum possible way. No rare, endangered, endemic or threatened (REET) plant in the core zone. Tuirial Reserve Forest was found within 10 km of the study area which however is mentioned in the official website of the Mizoram Forest Department and not in the topo- sheet and survey of the India map.

No major faunal species and none of the terrestrial species were listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 as amended in 1991.

9. PROPOSED CER ACTIVITIES:

Rs. 20.76 lakhs has been allocated for CER Plan which is to be carried out by the project proponent and a five year plan is proposed. The funds will be allocated for health care schemes, Community RO Plant, Sanitation campaign, vocational skill development and concrete road development.

10. ACTION FOR GREEN BELT DEVELOPMENT:

Out of the total area 1655m2 (33%) is provided for green belt development. A total of Rs. 16 lakh financial budget for five years is proposed to develop the habitat.

11. COST PROVISION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES

A Capital cost of Rs. 80.5 lakhs with a recurring cost of Rs. 39.65 lakhs have been allocated for Environmental Pollution Control and monitoring as well as to ensure occupational health of the workers.

12. ESTIMATED MAN POWER REQUIREMENT AND BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT:

The consultant highlighted the following points:

- Sixty (60) temporary workers are to be employed during construction phase.
- Sixty five (65) including 15 unskilled, 30 semi-skilled and 20 skilled workers to be employed once the plant is in operation.

The following are the benefits of the project:

- Improvement of rural infrastructure, skill development and overall quality of life.
- Sustainable development of the area including further physical infrastructural development.
- Improve disposal and reduced generation of bio- medical waste in the district thus leading to hygienic condition.
- Provision of direct and indirect job opportunities to the local people.

The Chairman thanked the consultant for the presentation and invited Er Lalrothanga, Project Director, SIPMIU and CEO Aizawl Smart City Ltd to give a gist of the presentation in Mizo.

Er. Lalrothanga stated that there is a dire need to deal with the bio- medical waste generated in the state as such the Government of India has taken keen interest in the treatment and disposal of the bio-medical wastes. All Bio- Medical wastes in the facility will be managed as per the Bio- Medical Waste Management Rule,2016 which are as follows:

- Common Bio- Medical Waste Treatment is to be established with 150km radius area. Hence, the facility will be utilized for Aizawl, Kolasib, Mamit and Serchhip district.
- As per the record from the Mizoram Pollution Control Board Health care facilities generate four different categories of waste which needs to be treated and disposed accordingly. Hence, initiative is taken for setting up of a CBMWTF for management of wastes as per their categories is initiated.
- Color coded segregation of different categories of bio-medical wastes will be done and stored in designated area. These segregated wastes will then be transported to CBMWTF, Tuirial.

For treatment and disposal of bio-medical wastes the following process are to be adopted in the facility:

1. Incinerator: All yellow category mainly human anatomical wastes will be incinerated at 1050℃ temperature in the incinerator. The wastes mainly consist of anatomical wastes. Small quantity of ash produced will be collected, stored and disposed in TSDF as per norms. The flu gas will be cleaned by the scrubber.
2. Autoclave: Red category wastes which are mainly recyclable and plastic wastes will be sterilized. A pressure of 15φ at a temperature of 121℃ will be applied for decontamination and elimination all infectious micro organisms.
3. Shredder: This machine will be used for shredding or cutting of the bio-medical wastes. Recyclable wastes will first be disinfected before shredding and handing over to authorized recycler. Shredding is done to decrease the volume of wastes generated.
4. Effluent Treatment Plant: Effluent discharge from the facility will be treated in the ETP before its final discharge.

All wastes generated within the facility will be disposed as per the Hazardous Waste Management Rules, 2016.

The Project Director stated that as per the notification, Environment Impact Assessment was carried out to study the impact of the project in the environment. Studies were carried out for three month with 10km radius of the proposed project site. The studies may be broadly classified into 4 parameters namely; monitoring of ambient air quality, water quality, ambient noise quality and soil quality.

As per the studies of all the above four parameters, it was found that the analysis result were all within prescribed limit and in some cases due to the low reading instruments used for measuring these parameters could not detect any reading.

Based on the above study made a draft EIA Report was prepared and submitted to SEIAA/SEAC, Mizoram for grant of Environmental Clearance.

The following benefits were interpreted from the study:

- Create a healthy environment for the community and the state. Huge reduction in the quantity of Bio-medical wastes.
- Source of livelihood for young generation.

Thanking the project proponent, the Chairman than invited the participants to raise comments, views and suggestions about the Hearing. The details issues raised and clarification from the project proponent were mentioned below:-

Query 1: Dr. Laldinpuia-

As mentioned earlier, landfill will be required for disposal of wastes and wastes such as incineration ash, ETP sludge, batteries and shredded plastic etc will be send to authorized recycler. Will the recycler be outside the state or is there any recycler in Mizoram? Are there any plans made before hand for usage of ETP and sewage sludge for gardening?

After due study of the draft EIA report, I , being a geologist noticed a surprising fact i.e. that absence of ground water mentioned in the report, which suggest that Core Bore drilling was not done. If interference is made regarding the absence of ground water I am of the opinion that the data regarding Core Bore drilling be incorporated in the report. As it is a draft report will excluding such data be applicable?

Also, as the project comprise of big infrastructural development data regarding SPT value and soil bearing capacity should be highlighted in the report. Though the report is regarding environmental assessment and as the state is a seismic vulnerable area, can such study data be subsume in the report. To my knowledge such data are also being incorporated in the report.

Besides the above, are there any advance plan made for landfilling?

Replies: Pu R. Lalrothanga, CEO, ASCL

"Thank You Mrs Chairman. It appreciated that the report are thoroughly gone through. This project on bio medical wastes management project requires that 30% of the whole plot be made greens. As such, minimum 5000 Sq m is earmarked as per the guidelines. It is known that Sludge and other wastes which could be used as manure can be used for gardening."

"Regarding report as absence of ground water may probably be a typing mistake. What was meant in the report was absence of ground water extraction tube well around the area. Sampling of ground water was therefore conducted just adjacent to the site."

"In the project site, neither heavy structures nor high rise building or multi storey building will be constructed. Just one building of single storey will be required for construction. SPT reading and soil bearing capacity or Seismic vulnerability test may be therefore not required. Soil exploration, however will be conducted for this

lone building when design details are available. Besides, we have been following IS code, be it SPT or all laboratory testing requirements in all our projects and such studies are being carried out at 6 or 7 locations in Aizawl."

"Regarding plastic recycler, huge quantities of wastes from plastic and multi layered plastic (MLP) are being transported outside the State to Dalmia Cement plant from Tuirial. This plant is equipped with furnace and scrubber for plastic wastes burning and has valid consent. For the issue regarding authorized / unauthorized dealer the issue will be raised with concerned authority i.e. AMC or any such society. Any waste that is generated from the facility will be harmless. Also as presented earlier, any liquid effluent discharged from the facility, will not be disposed freely into surface or ground water. Waste water quality from ETP will also be maintained within prescribed limit. All these and the incinerator will be monitored real time using SCADA."

After this, the Chairman excused herself as she had to attend an important meeting and invited the Additional Deputy Commissioner to take over the hearing.

Query No 2: Dr. Laldinpuia:

"Detail geological data was not provided in the EIA report or Summary but just a brief account of it was reflected. Are the geologists in the Directorate of Geology & Mineral Resources Department not consulted? Report on rock formation was not exactly true. Though it is not directly related to the project, I suggest that report on geology part may be made more systematic in the final EIA Report."

"Bio- medical wastes are to be incinerated and at times, some plastic wastes may be incinerated too. Would the smoke emissions be safe or harmful? Could you elaborate on the degree of safety of the discharge after treatment and how effective are the pollution control devices?"

Replies: Pu R. Lalrothanga, CEO, ASCL

"Gaseous emissions from the incinerator would be controlled effectively by prescribed pollution control devices. Besides, the Mizoram Pollution Control Board would not permit use of substandard equipment or operate with ambient air quality above permissible limits. Equipment conforming to prescribed design criteria which are time tested and being used in other parts of India for bio medical wastes management would be installed. It is therefore expected that the emissions would not be harmful to not only human but also to the surrounding environment."

Pu R. Vanrengpuia Addl. Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of the meeting express gratitude to Dr Laldinpuia for his valuable suggestion and queries which are noted down.

Query No 3: Shri Lalventluanga":

"The Project seems to be very promising but I have two queries on management plan. As the facility is to be jointly utilized by other districts for disposal

of bio-medical wastes apart from Aizawl district, how is transportation of BMWs from other districts arranged? Is any plan evolved?''

"The second one is that there are several hospitals. Could there be chances of 'open dumping'' due to inadequate disposal place? Are the workers to be imparted with training or awareness?"

Replies: Pu R. Lalrothanga, CEO, ASCL

"This project envisages transportation form other districts. All districts will be provided with 2 Nos of Stainless steel (SS 304) covered vehicles which will ply interchangeably back and forth."

"As for open incidental dumping, GPS tracking system are to be installed in these vehicles to ensure timely and safe delivery of bio-medical waste in the facility and that no wastes are littered halfway."

"Regarding training, there are no workers yet as the project is not developed or initiated. We are in the process where the project is to be approved or not. If approved, it will definitely be ensured that all workers will be trained as this project requires skills and utmost care. Further, occupational health of the employees will also be ensured for which a society is under formation which will take care of the matter."

The Chairman again encouraged the participants to forward their views and recommendation. He added that the summary of the proceedings is under preparation which will be read at the end of the program.

Suggestion: Dr Laldinpuia.

"In the Draft Executive Summary (Mizo), 'Shell' was translated as 'lungkelha' and 'silt stone' as 'Lung chang ve deuh' which are not exactly true. Correction may be made in the Report for 'Shell' as 'tlak lung' and 'silt stone' as 'lungkelha' respectively. Sand stone may also be translated as kha balu /balu lung."

After a brief pause, the Chairman thanked the participants for their positive feedback and sparing their time for the hearing. He then invited the Er Lalrothanga to deliver vote of thanks.

In his vote of thanks, the project proponent thanked all the dignitaries present in the hearing. He further conveyed his heartfelt gratitude to the State Government, Committees, as well as the public and participants for their participation and making the hearing possible.