

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED FOR THE PROPOSED  
EXPANSION OF M/s.THE INDIA CEMENTS LIMITED, VALLUR VILLAGE,  
PONNERI TALUK, TIRUVALLUR DISTRICT**

**Date:** 08.05.2025

**Time:** 10.30 a.m.,

**Venue:** Parking Yard opposite to the factory at Vallur Village, Ponneri Taluk, Tiruvallur District.

**Present:**

1. Thiru A. Rajkumar, District Revenue Officer, Tiruvallur.
2. Thiru P.S. Livingston, District Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Gummidipoondi.

The List of Public and the representatives of the industry attended the Public Hearing is appended with the minutes.

The District Environmental Engineer welcomed everyone and requested District Revenue Officer to preside over the Public Hearing. District Revenue Officer welcomed District Environmental Engineer, Public, all the participants, Ponneri Tahsildar and commenced the meeting, by informing the participants that the presentation about the salient features of the Project would be made by the representative of the Project Proponent and then the Public can express their views on the Project, which would be recorded, including the video recording and

Thiru Udhaya Baskar of M/s. J N Enviro Tech, Hyderabad, the EIA Consultant for the project made the presentation about the salient features of the proposed project on behalf of the industry. He informed that M/s. The India Cements Limited, located at Vallur Village, Ponneri Taluk, Tiruvallur District has proposed for their expansion, for which the Public Hearing is being conducted, for enhancing their production capacity from the present 0.9 Million Metric Tonnes per Annum (MMTPA) to 6.0 MMTPA, in two phases, in the Phase-1 to 3.0 MMTPA and Phase 2 to 6.0 MMTPA by installation of Roller Press in existing cement mill in Phase-I, and installation of additional Cement Mill in Phase-II. He pointed out that the Notices of Public Notices regarding the conduct of Public Hearing were caused in "The New Indian Express", English Daily and "Dhinathanthi" Tamil Daily, in their issue dated 04th April, 2025. He briefed about the background of the company, and informed that

the Application for the Terms of Reference for the proposed Expansion was made on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2025 and that the baseline monitoring and data collection were carried out during Post Monsoon period of 2024 between October 2024 and December 2024, obtained Terms of reference from Tamil Nadu state Environmental Impact assessment Authority on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2025. He briefed the participants about the Plant Site, area of land available, existing and after expansion, location of the plant, environmental settings of study area, plant lay-out, photographs of the Plant-including the Green Belt provided, etc. He informed the public that the Water requirement, for the project, would increase from the existing 55 KLD to 140 KLD which would be met from Ground Water sources, the Power requirement would increase from 6.8 MW to 20.0 MW which would be met from grid of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Company Limited, the man power during the operational phase would increase from the current 127 numbers to 207 numbers. The consultant then informed that the raw material required are Clinker, Gypsum, Fly Ash, Lime and Slag and their sources and then briefly explained the production process and the machineries involved. He also informed of locations of various studies carried out such as micro-meteorology, noise, air quality, water quality, soil studies, and briefed the results of Ambient Air Quality studies, Noise Level Monitoring, Ground water quality, Surface Water Quality and the quality of soil. He informed about the anticipated impact on air quality due to the project, also explained in detail about the various measures that would be undertaken, to manage the air quality. Similarly, the consultant briefed the measures taken/ proposed to maintain noise quality, water quality, solid waste management and hazardous waste management. Elaborating the Green Belt provided/ proposed, the consultant informed that Green Belt would be developed over an additional area of 4.3 hectares, thereby Green Belt of 33% would be maintained. Then he explained in detail the various schemes undertaken by the company under CSR and the expenditure incurred in this regard for the past five years. Then the Public were requested to offer their views.

Thiru Sargunam, Former Ward member, Vallur Village wanted clarification as to why the Public hearing is conducted close to the Factory, for which the District Environmental Engineer informed that the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 specifies that Public hearing is to be conducted at the project site or its close proximity, and accordingly the public hearing is conducting here. Then Thiru Sargunam informed that the Public Hearing is conducted around 20 to 25

persons of local people alone are participating in the Public Hearing, and the rest are outsiders and as to how conduct Public Hearing in such situation, for which it was informed by the District Environmental Engineer that the views expressed by outsiders would not be considered. Thiru Sargunam further informed that the current pollution level of the area is high, more than 100% of permissible levels, and if the expansion of the Plant is carried out, the pollution level would increase and hence the expansion should be stopped.

Thiru.Saman, Vallur Village informed that the village people are not aware of the conduct of Public Hearing, people could not participate if Public Hearing is conducted on working day, and wanted that the Public Hearing to be conducted on Holiday. He stated that most of the crowd present here are only company staff and that the local people should have invited by distributing pamphlets and pointed out that there are more than 5000 people in vallur village and about 8000 people in Athipattu Pudhu Nagar areas, and the nearby villages whereas only about 20 local people are participating in the meeting and as such not willing to express the views. He stated that the News paper Notices would not reach the local people.

Thiru. Deepan of Vallur Village informed that the Advertisements in the News Papers are not reaching Public, and asked how it is possible to conduct this meeting with outsiders and the 1.5 Km Road stretch is highly damaged and if the plant is expanded to 6 times, then it will result in increased pollution levels and thereby people will be affected, and hence the villagers are opposing the expansion of the Plant.

Thiru. Dinakaran of Vallur Village stated that the Public Hearing is conducted confidentially said that no proper information to the villagers about this meeting and added that the Public Hearing held in August 2017 was defeated and hence the project was dropped, and the proposal is again brought in and added that they opposed even when the proposal from 0.9 MMTPA to 1.8 MMTPA was opposed and hence expanding to 6.0 MMTPA is not at all acceptable. He informed that the dust below 2.5-micron size would affect the health of the people, the project will end up increase in dust levels, all the information in the report is false, that Green Belt is not available to the level of 33%, that it is stated that there is no eco-sensitive zone; but people are living nearby and the project will be affected by the Plant them. He wanted that the opinion welcoming the project should not be considered.

Thiru.A.P.Samy of Vallur Village informed that many people of the area died and many born with disabilities after the Plant is established, and if expanded, the entire surrounding villages will be affected, and therefore, the plant should be prohibited. He added that they are fighting for 2 and a half years, and the factory is not providing any employment opportunities to locals, no compensation given to the people to the people who lost their lands for the Plant.

Thiru.Samraj of Vallur Village informed that in 2017, a meeting was held for the expansion of Chettinad Cement, that they are suffering a lot due to pollution, dust spreads on water and white surfaces, the village is sandwiched between India Cements and Zuari Cements, they avoided Chettinad Cement expansion, and similarly the expansion of this plant should also be halted.

Thiru Prem Kumar of Villaur Village informed that the Pollution Levels of the area could be viewed by standing in the Athipattu Pudhu Nagar Bridge and added that Gypsum is stored openly and they cover with tarpaulin only when officials visit, air quality monitoring devices are not installed, the water quality of the area is affected, his child's health is affected, with skin irritation, rashes, ailments to respiratory system etc., and many children are affected similarly. He added that because of the Plant, the nearby villages are not at all benefitted, the road condition is very bad, the Green Belt in the NTECL Quarters alone preventing the spreading of dust. He further added Public Hearing should not be conducted only with 100 people and the same should be conducted in the village and that if the proposed expansion is permitted, the villages would be affected, operation of the plant is causing spreading of dust during night, and asked as to why the company is not conducting any health camps and asked if the people are affected whether company would bear the cost. He also indicated that the people of nearby areas like Vellivoyal Chavadi, Athipattu are not at all participated in the Public Hearing and also added that Ponneri Constituency area is becoming unfit to live, and asked why the general public should suffer for the financial benefit of one individual, that the Public Hearing should not become imposing views on Public, and that he do not want the expansion project.

Thiru Diwakar of Vallur informed that when the public is informed about meeting then it is public hearing when it is conducted in secret manner then it is like imposing the views on public and asked about how many peoples participated from the nearby villages and showing them, he informed that they do not need the expansion.

Thiru Ajith Kumar of Vallur informed that there is pollution in villages not only because of India Cements but also due to other industries also, they are not against the project and added that if the conduct of Public Hearing is properly intimated by announcements or through distribution of pamphlets, there would be more participation, and asked as the expansion is for the enhancement of existing product or for adding any new product. He desired that the company shall conduct medical camps and added that the support extended by the company is not reaching the people properly. He wanted that community hall shall be built by the company.

Thiru Raju of Vallur Village informed that the conduct of Public Hearing is not known to many of the people, and that they are affected by the Plant, his children affected by dust allergy and hence they do not want the expansion of the Plant.

Thiru.Baskaran informed that there are 2500 people in our village and all of them having vote, today morning only received the message about conducting a public hearing meeting, there is no information about the public hearing meeting to his villagers, already peoples are affected due to 4 Thermal Plants, and that they will not allow for expansion due to pollution.

Thiru Muruganatham, Anti-Corruption General Secretary, Tiruvallur District informed that the air is highly polluted and the plants & trees around the area are deposited with ash and medical camps were not in their villages, so that they can get to know the health issues of the public due to this industry and also requested that the information provided in the display board outside the event hall may be distributed as a catalogue so that they may get know the detailed information about the project and he is not willing for the project expansion and requested to consider his views.

Thiru Devaraj, Farmers Association, Vallur informed that the intimation about the conduct of Public Hearing was not given, the expansion be carried out after implementing the demands of people, the local villagers are not given employment in the company, the village needs Hospital, the company should bear the medical expenses of the people, the village needs good quality drinking water, waste water should be treated and used for green belt development. He informed that the demands of the people may be addressed first and later they may consider for expansion.

Thiru Rayal informed his wife was former Panchayat Vice President, Vallur informed that the Panchayat has not given any resolution for the Proposed Project,

that the company is located in the agricultural lands of village people, demanded residential lay-out for the people, the court also issued favourable Judgment, the village needs community hall and asked how Public Hearing could be conducted without Panchayat Resolution, for which District Revenue Officer clarified that Environmental Clearance is the first process and panchayat approvals and other approvals would arise only if Environmental Clearance is granted.

Thiru Vetri Selvan, Thiru Dhanraj, Tmt. Shanthi Public from Vallur village and Tmt. Pramila, from Athipattu welcomed the project.

Thiru Ananth of Vallur village informed that those who working in the company would only support the project, and if the plant is expanded to 6 MMTPA Capacity, the village would become a grave yard, already more than 10 persons are affected by cancer and hence opposing the project on behalf of the villagers.

Thiru Guru of Vallur village informed that the views of the people who welcomed the project should not be considered since those people maybe close to the industry and they should not discuss or to make efforts for expanding this project.

Thiru Ashok of Vallur Village informed that no one from the village is interested in the proposed project. Thiru Samath, Thiru Vignesh, Thiru Jayakandhan and Thiru Samuel, all Public of Vallur Village opposed the expansion project.

Thiru Lokesh of Vallur village informed that the lives of the villagers are affected after the establishment of the Plant and the village would be completely affected if the expansion project is carried out, and hence they do not want the project.

Thiru Anthony former ward member of Vallur Village Panchayat informed that only a few people are participating in the Public Hearing and hence any decision should be taken only by conducting another Public Hearing.

Thiru Ravindra Prasad of Vallur Village wanted that the Public Hearing to be conducted in the village.

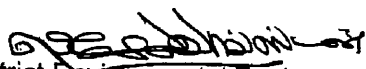
Thiru S P T Durai of Vallur Village informed that because of the Plant, health and standard of living of the people are affected, healthy environment is needed for the peaceful living of people, dust found in water, the plant is not required for the village, village people migrated to other areas because of the ailments, and hence the expansion of the project should not be done.

Thiru Seethapathi of Vallur village that due to the expansion of the project, 25 to 30 people would be benefitted, and hence welcomed the Project.

Thiru Sekar of Vallur Village stated that even though there is pollution in this area, the same could not be attributed to this plant alone, and the Project shall be implemented with implementing the required measures for the control of pollution

The District Environmental Engineer summed up the proceedings of the meeting to the participants and thanked every-one for their co-operation for the smooth conduct of the Public Hearing.

The meeting came to an end.

  
District Environmental Engineer,  
TamilNadu Pollution Control Board,  
Gummidipoondi.

  
District Revenue Officer,  
Tiruvallur,

To

The Member Secretary,  
State Environmental Impact Assessment  
Authority for Tamil Nadu (SEIAA-TN),  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Panagal Maligai,  
No.: 1, Jennis Road, Saidapet,  
Chennai – 600 015.



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**STATEMENT OF ISSUES RAISED AND RESPONSE OF THE PROJECT  
PROPONENT IN THE PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED FOR THE PROPOSED  
EXPANSION OF M/s. THE INDIA CEMENTS LIMITED LOCATED AT VALLUR  
VILLAGE, PONNERI TALUK, TIRUVALLUR DISTRICT ON 08.05.2025.**

| S.<br>No. | Issues raised                                                                                                                                          | Response |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1         | When there is pollution in the current level of production of 0.9 MMTPA, the pollution level will increase due to the proposed expansion to 6.0 MMTPA. | —        |

  
District Environmental Engineer,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Gummidipoondi.

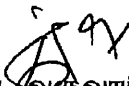
  
District Revenue Officer,  
Tiruvallur.



திருவள்ளூர் மாவட்டம், பொன்னேரி வட்டம், வல்லூர் கிராமத்தில் அமைந்துள்ள தி/ள்.தி இந்தியா சிமெண்ட் லிமிடெட் தொழிற்சாலையின் விரிவாக்கம் குறித்து 08.05.2025 அன்று நடைபெற்ற பொதுமக்கள் கருத்து கேட்பு கூட்டத்தில் எழுப்பப்பட்ட பிரச்சனைகள் மற்றும் அதற்கான விளக்கங்கள்

| வ. எண். | எழுப்பப்பட்ட பிரச்சனை                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | விளக்கம் |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1       | தொழிற்சாலையின் உற்பத்தி திறனானது ஆண்டிற்கு 0.9 மில்லியன் மெட்ரிக் டன் இருக்கும் பொழுதே மாசு பாதிப்பு இருக்கும் நிலையில் அதன் உற்பத்தி திறனை ஆண்டிற்கு 6.0 மில்லியன் மெட்ரிக் டன்னாக உயர்த்தும் பட்சத்தில் பொதுமக்களுக்கு அதிக அளவு பாதிப்பு ஏற்படும் . | —        |

  
மாவட்ட சுற்றுச் சூழல் பொறியாளர்,  
தமிழ்நாடு மாசு கட்டுப்பாடு வாரியம்,  
கும்மிடிப்பூண்டி.

  
மாவட்ட வருவாய் அலுவலர்,  
திருவள்ளூர்

