

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 117
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026

Public Consultation in Sijimali Mining Project

117. SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of public hearings conducted for the Sijimali Bauxite Mining Project along with the dates and locations;
- (b) the number of objections and representations received from local residents and Gram Sabhas;
- (c) whether all concerns raised during the public consultation process have been addressed before granting approvals; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes an independent review where substantial objections have been raised by local communities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (b) As per the information received from the Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB), the details of the public hearing conducted at two districts falling in the project area in accordance with the procedure prescribed under Appendix IV of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, as amended is furnished as below:

- Rayagada District: 16th October, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. at Trinath Dev High School, Sunger, Kashipur Tehsil, Rayagada District.
- Kalahandi District: 18th October, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. at Kerpai Gram Panchayat Headquarters, Thuamul Rampur Block, Kalahandi District.

A total of 1,832 written representations were received during the public consultation process, comprising 843 representations pertaining to Rayagada District and 989 representations pertaining to Kalahandi District.

(c) to (d) The proceedings of the public consultation, together with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report, Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and other prescribed documents, are duly considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) during appraisal of the proposal and thereafter recommended for grant of Environment Clearance. Based on the EAC recommendations, Environmental Clearance (EC) was accorded on 30th June, 2026 subject to stipulation of environmental safeguards including, inter-alia, the action plan to address the issues raised during public consultation process.
