

Date. 19/11/2009

Report of Sub-Committee of Hon'ble Ministers vide report of expert committee on representations made against the proposed Cement Project of M/s. Nirma Ltd..

An expert Committee was constituted vide Government Resolution No.Misc.-102009-MLA-1-D dated 29/5/09 under the Chairmanship of Shri S.K. Shelat for submitting report after examining representations of Hon'ble MLA Shri Dr. Kanubhai Kalsariya and others against the proposed cement plant of M/s. Nirma Ltd. at village Padhiyarka, Taluka Mahuva, District Bhavnagar. The expert committee was to submit its report on or before 20/8/09. Accordingly, the report is submitted to the Government on 4/8/09.

A sub-committee comprising of following Hon'ble Ministers was constituted under the Government Resolution No.Misc.-102009-MLA-1-D dated 12/8/09 of Industries and Mines Department for considering the report of expert Committee.

- (1) Hon'ble Shri Vajubhai Vala, Minister (Finance, Labour & Employment)
 - (2) Hon'ble Shri Nitinbhai Patel, Minister (Water Resources, Water Supply and Urban Development)
 - (3) Hon'ble Shri Saurabhbhai Patel, State Minister (Industries & Mines)
 - (4) Hon'ble Shri Amitbhai Shah, State Minister (Home,
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Transportation, Law and Justice)

First meeting of the sub-committee of Hon'ble Ministers met on 24/8/09 in which besides Hon'ble Ministers Shri S.K. Shelat, Principal Secretary (Industries and Mines), Secretary (Narmada Water Resources and Water Supply Department), Commissioner (Industries), Commissioner (Geology and Minerals) and Director, Agriculture remained present. In this meeting primary discussions on report of expert committee were made.

Second meeting of the sub-committee of Hon'ble Ministers met on 15/9/09 at 11.00 hours in Committee Room No.-2, Block No.-1, 4th Floor, Sachivalay, Gandhinagar under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister (Finance), in which Hon'ble Shri Nitinbhai Patel (Minister, Water Resources and Water Supply and Urban Development) as well as Shri S.K. Shelat, Principal Secretary (Industries & Mines), Secretary (Narmada Water Resources and Water Supply Department), Commissioner (Industries), Commissioner (Geology and Minerals) and Director, Agriculture remained present.

The report of Expert Committee was discussed by the sub-committee of Hon'ble Ministers. 54 hectares of the plant area and 62 hectares from other than plant area were considered as alternative of 100 hectares of sub-merged area allotted for the plant. The recharge

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canal as well as spreading canal to be made for irrigation purpose were also discussed with the irrigation secretary and following details were obtained.

Prior to giving consent, the Irrigation Department has prepared a plan of approach channel and link channel for the water coming from catchment area and deepen certain area to replace loss of 21 million cubic foot of water due to allotment of 222 hectares of land of Samadhiyala water body. The Indian Government Institution 'Wapcos Ltd.' was given the job for technical examination of this scheme. According to the report of 'Wapcos', if digging was limited upto 2.40 meters, there will be no increase in the salinity of the water and storing capacity will increase to the tune of further 21.23 million cubic foot, which is more than the loss in basic storing capacity.

In these circumstances, a fear presumed by Hon'ble MLA and public that by replacing water storage capacity by digging in dam, will increase salinity in sweet water of dam does not get support technically. As per the technical opinion of 'Wapcos Limited', there is no possibility of increase in salinity in dam. Thus, as per the technical opinion given by Wapcos to the Committee earlier headed by Shri S.K. Shelat, deepening of 62 hectares area out of the total 75 hectares area was suggested. As a result the storing capacity of the dam will

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increase to the tune of 21.23 million cubic foot which is the basic storing capacity.

The sub-committee of Ministers had discussed the above stated report in the meeting met on 19-11-2009. During the discussion, it was decided to get back the 54 hectares of land, which was allotted to M/s. Nirma Ltd. It was also examined whether water storage capacity can be increased after deepening of 54 hectares of land. The proposed area of 75 hectares of land as discussed in the sub-committee of the Ministers and 54 hectares of land to be deepened later on with the contour are shown in the map of Wapcos attached herewith. Out of 54 hectares of land leaving the periphery, approximately 40 hectares will remain for deepening. If the level of land is deepened from 6 meters to 2.82 meters, then there will be an increase of about 14.12 cubic foot volume for storage, which will be over and above the 21.23 million cubic foot of storage capacity.

Thus, $75 + 54 = 129$ hectares land is available for water storage in dam, out of this, 62 hectares and 40 hectares area will be deepened respectively and rest of the area will remain as periphery. The water storage capacity will also increase from 21 million cubic foot upto $21.23 + 14.12 = 35.35$ million cubic foot, which will be 22.7% more than the 62.61 million cubic foot i.e. the basic storage capacity of the

dam. In this area the base of digging being kept at height of 2.82 meters, as previously examined by Wapcos, there is no possibility of saline water coming into the land. On the contrary, due to increase in the storage of sweet water upto 22.7% the land irrigation will increase by recharging and lifting.

Looking to the industrial investments coming to Gujarat due to success of Vibrant Gujarat Investors Summit, the State Government has made a policy to protect the interests of the farmers and to boost the investment in the industries. To raise the employment by industry as well as ancilliary industries is also part of the policy of the State. It is also important part of the policy of the State to use maximum available natural resources in the State for development of the country. Looking to the industrial development in this area, the availability of employment to the youths as well as to decrease the salinity and to increase the availability of water for irrigation, the Committee has come to following conclusions.

- (1) As decided by the Committee, Company has to give back 54 hectar of area to the Government in which the area required to dig is 40 hectar. Thus, as against the 100 hectar of submerged area of dam going in company's plant, water will be collected in total 102 hectar (62 + 40) area. As a result of which there will

be 22.7% increase in water storage area as well as in the capacity of water storage. For this, Nirma Company has to do necessary procedure on its own cost under the guidance of Irrigation Department in 40 hectare area and after on set of plant, all requirements of farmers of this area will be satisfied.

- (2) With reference to issue – 1, for demarcating the water storage area and for excluding the 100 hectares area from submerged area, Irrigation Department will have to do the needful.
- (3) The arrangement for making recharge canal and spreading canal for incoming of water in dam area will have to be done by Irrigation Department. The committee resolves that its entire cost will have to be borne by the Company.

As per the aforesaid procedure, M/s. Nirma Ltd. - Company shall arrange cement plant in 214 hectares area after deducting 54 hectares out of the total granted 268 hectares of land for plant and Nirma Ltd. has to give necessary consent to the State Government in this regard. It is resolved by the Committee that after getting consent from Nirma, Company can be allowed for the construct of the plant.

Sd/-
(Vajubhai Wala)

Sd/-
(Nitinbhai Patel)

Sd/-
(Amitbhai Shah)

Sd/-
(Saurabhai Patel)