



INTRODUCTION

In Austric language Roro means barren land because of its soil's characteristics. The area may be barren for agricultural production but rich in mineral reserve. Costly minerals like chromite & asbestos, manganese, magnetite is found there. The Roro Village, Roro River and Roro hills are the integral part of Anjedbera Protected Forest area that comes under Chaibasa Forest Division, West Singhbhum. The nomenclature of Roro area might have been done by the tribal ancestors while their first foot prints put in that area but the said River (locally said as Rorogara) that originated from the southern foot of the Roro Hill is the life



FIGURE 1: THE AERIAL VIEW OF RORO VILLAGE

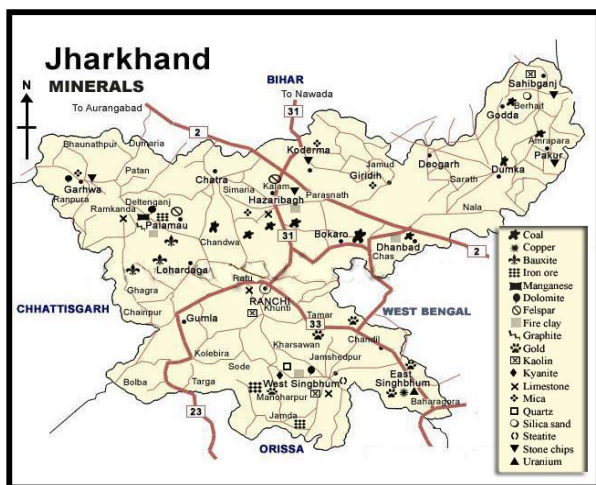


FIGURE 2: MINERAL MAP OF JHARKHAND

line of that area. The said river is the main source of potable water and the same is being used for irrigation and day to day use of the human beings of tribal hamlets since the first infiltration of the Ho tribe of said region of Chotanagpur Plateau. Roro is 20 K M away from its district head quarter Chaibasa, West Singhbhm and has become a hot spot for the national and international researcher and being referred as one of the most polluted places in India and this is the place the mine waste like chromite and asbestos (magnesium silicate) comes down

to destroy agricultural fields and contaminate the river water. Inhalation, drinking and food chains are the pathways of polluted air and contaminated water for the air and water borne diseases while the role of state apparatus is observing these occurrences only.

OVERVIEW OF JHARKHAND MINERAL'S WEALTH

Pre-Cambrian rocks (older than 600 Million Years) underlie nearly three fourth of Jharkhand in a contiguous region with adjoining states. These pre-Cambrian geological formations harbour many metallic and non metallic minerals including coal, iron, chromites, uranium, gold, manganese, bauxite, vanadium, dolomite, china clay, granite, asbestos and many more as basic rocks, intrusive and as hydrothermal deposits. The relatively high proportion of mineral wealth of the state is evident as it has about 80% of the coal & 100% of the coking coal, 50% of the bauxite and epetite, 40% of the iron and 95% of the kainite resources in India. Besides these, the existence of Gondwana sequences in the same region provide for some of the large coal deposits. Thus the energy intensive metal industry thrives with abundant amount fuel resources from adjoining regions. While mineral development took its geological scale of time for the minerals to develop, West Singhbhum is now being seen as a global destination for exploiting its rich iron ore and manganese deposits in a short span of three decades. West Singhbhum contributes nearly 95% of rich iron ore deposits present in the state.

WEST SINGHBHUM DISTRICT PROFILE

West Singhbhum forms a part of northern central plateau with an area of 10736.55 Sq. km (W.S-8012 + S-K- 2724.55 Sq Km). The district is bounded by Ranchi district of Jharkhand in the North, Sundergarh & Keonjhar of Orissa in the South, Gumla, Jharkhand in the West and Seraikella – Kharswan District (after divided into two different districts) of Jharkhand and Mayurbhanj of Orissa in the East. Geographically, the district represents two smaller regions within, the lower West Singhbhum and the upper West Singhbhum. Lower West Singhbhum consists of valleys and low lands, while the upper West Singhbhum comprise of Saranda forest, mountainous highlands, which generally slope from South West to North East of West Singhbhum is a habitat of Ho, Santhal & and other local communities.



FIGURE 3: OLD MAP OF WEST SINGHBHUM

Area	Total Pop	ST Pop & %	SC Pop & %	Total worker %	Main Worker %	Marginal worker%	Non worker%
Toatl	2.082.795	1,111,322 / 53.4%	101,629 / 04.9%	44.1%	25.7%	18.4%	55.9%
Rural	1,731,897	1,042,435 / 60.2%	74,684 / 4.3 %	Cultivator %	Agricultural labor%	Worker in HH Ind. %	Other Worker %
Urban	350,898	68,887 / 19.6 %	26,945 / 7.3%	41.1 %	31.4 %	05.6%	21.9 %

BRIEF HISTORY OF MINING IN WEST SINGHBHUM & RORO

It was known as Singhbhum of Chotanagpur Division of Bengal Presidency under the British colonial rule till divided into three districts. The report of Geological Survey of India under the colonial rule had already revealed the reserve of metallic and non metallic minerals along the Chotanagpur plateau and the contiguous part of the Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar & Sundargarh the present districts of ORISSA. The only asbestos mines of Jharkhand was in Roro, West Singhbhum, and the reserve of asbestos and chromites (usually the presence of these two minerals is observed in together along with peridotite and magnetite. The long stretch of asbestos & chromite are found in different parts of the West & East Singhbhum & Serakella- Kharswan districts of Jharkhand and Asthapahar of Sukinda of Jajpur, Keonjhar and Denkanal districts of Orissa as these districts are the contiguous of the same plateau.

The region has had an active history of mining operations for about seven decades starting with the mining of magnetite. The first major mining operation by Tata Steel began in early of the first decade of 1900 AD in Mayurbhanj & Keonjhar districts of Orissa where mining was done by conventional open pit benching and the mining activities were extended in rich iron and chromites reserve areas of West Singhbhum. Also the commissioning of IISCO in the first decade of 20th century opened up the mining activities in Chiria iron ore mines area of the west part of Singhbhum. Thus these areas were transferred into a hub of mining activities. Roro hills range is contiguous to Jojohatu hills, which is also mineralized with chromite & asbestos and magnetite. The Roro hill is under the Anjadbera protected forest area and highest elevation is approximately 600 meters above the level of the plains where the settlements of Roro and Tilasud village are located. The entire hill range is well wooded. Roro hills were mined for chromite and asbestos by major industrial houses like Tatas and Birlas respectively. Roro witnesses the open cast Chromite mining by TISCO (Tata Steel) up to 1959 and asbestos by Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Products Ltd (Hyderabad Industries Ltd) of Birla Group from 1963 to 1983 after the area abandoned by Tata & Kesri.



FIGURE 4: ABANDONED OPEN CAST CHROMITE MINING PITS OF TISCO

RORO CHROMITE & ASBESTOS MINING AND ITS LETHAL LEGACY



Figure 5: The aerial view of mine waste deposit

The waste dumped of chromites and asbestos, which covers a large portion of the Roro hills area, washes down the agriculture field, forest, and river and near by areas of closed mines and now it has become a regular phenomenon in rainy season. Due to this the growth of the forest has stopped and 20 acres of land have been submerged with the asbestos and chromite dust and now these wastes have been contaminating the main source of drinking water of Roro River. In this case, health risks to human beings and the environment are

CONTAMINATED BY ORPHANED MINE WASTE – THE SORROW OF RORO RIVER -SAMIT KUMAR CARR

far greater because asbestos and chromium are known carcinogens. Moreover, many more people have already died in the past due to asbestosis and mesothelioma. The impact of abandoned waste of chromites & asbestos as lethal legacy of mining, on Anjedbera protected forest and Roro hills areas are clearly visible. The mine wastes have been increasing barren areas and have been destroying the options of livelihood, forest, environment, water ways and human health & lives due to water borne erosion of the same in rainy season and flying during storm in summer.



Figure 6: Farmer shows his affected land



FIGURE 7: Photographs shows the deposit of mine waste in the agricultural fields and on the motorable road

In the last 23 years, nobody-the local administration, the mines and safety department, SPCB and the mining company-initiated to assess the situation caused by dumping of waste improperly and in irresponsible way on top of the Roro hills. Also the surrendered mines are identified as orphaned mines like Roro (abandoned chromite & asbestos mines) as per amendment in MCDR 1988 and MCR 1960 and such mechanism to reclaim & rehabilitate the orphaned sites is in a natal state and yet to be developed to set modalities of functioning by Ministry of Mines to address the issues which is the only way to protect post mining environment, lives & livelihood.

IMPACTS OF MINING AND ITS WASTE ON THE LIVES & LIVELIHOOD:

The said Roro hills and mine waste affected adjoining areas falls under both the Protected and Reserved forest areas of Anjedbera. The population may be tribal were earning their livelihood from agriculture and minor forest produce. In absence of any mechanized irrigation systems they had to depend upon monsoons that merely give them single crop a year. The Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 and its enactment in the form of ban on collection of minor forest produce came as a shock and thus deprived them badly. In this given scenario mining was started without giving any scope of income earning to the habitants of this area. In spite of being in the Vth schedule area no move was taken to give them minimum level of subsistence. The opening up of mining activities did not give them any extra source of income earning rather their role was confined to the daily wage earner, who are identified as non worker actually busy in gathering food and forest wood that give them few rupees to earn their living thus they are bound to live in low calorie food habit. The presence of mine waste posing another threat to their livelihood and this time in a more

dangerous lethal waste contaminating river and pond water. The asbestos and chromites remains out of this mine waste settled thick on their agricultural fields and mixed up with the only source of water ie Roro River. At large the actual owner of the forests is alienated and deprived of their rights to the common natural resources. The ban to the rights over the forest in 1980 in the name of forest conservation and closing of mining activities and abandoning the hazardous mine waste lead them to massive wood cut for their livelihood and compel them to work in informal sector and thus force them to live in low calorie food habit. Displacement from their land & livelihood, environmental degradation, change in food pattern & life style, threat to their culture and religion and the post mining phenomenon especially by the toxic and hazardous mine waste make their lives more miserable and put them in traumatic disorder and ultimately to untimely death.

SPECIFIC IMPACTS ON SOIL, WATER: AND ENVIRONMENT:

The analyses of soil and water samples were conducted at ESKAPS (India) Private Limited, Calcutta in 2003. Each soil and water samples were collected from Roro and Tilasud villages. The water samples were collected from the Roro River and a pond between Roro and Tilasud village. The following report reveals the deposit of asbestos in the soil of Roro and Tilasud and Roro River water was free from any contamination at that point of time. But the situation is different today and the river water is getting contaminated by the mine waste as said by the villagers and physically observed by us. So, it is apprehended that the percentage of asbestos and chromites would definitely be higher than the test report of 2003. The south east portion of the Roro hills of RH forest (protected forest No. 181) is covered with mine waste that has checked the natural growth of flora and fauna and poisoning & destabilizing the entire bionetwork that goes against the basic principle of forest conservation and environment protection. Environmental accounting and assessment for a comprehensive report is needed to know the actual quantum of degradation of environment as these are not scientifically done till today.

SOIL ANALYSIS REPORT OF 2003 (Note: All results in % by mass)					
LOCATION	SILICA (SiO₂)	MAGNESIUM (MgO)	NICKEL	MANGANESE	CHROMITE (As Cr₂O₃)
SAMPLE 1 AGRICULTURAL FIELD OF RORO	34.53	34.31	0.070	0.065	2.190
SAMPLE 2 AGRICULTURAL FIELD OF TILASUD	46.72	09.62	0.037	0.308	2.710

The results of the water analysis were inconclusive. It showed presence of chromite in the pond water (sample 2).

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT OF 2003				
LOCATION	ASBESTOS	NICKEL	MANGANESE	CHROMITE (Cr₂O₃)
SAMPLE 1 RORO RIVER WATER (EAST OF RORO HILL)	- Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
SAMPLE 2 POND WATER IN BETWEEN RORO AND TILASUD	Nil	Nil	0.06 ppm	0.058 ppm

The map displays the Sahedba Reserved Forest and Anjadbera Protected Forest areas. Key features include:

- Asbestos & Chromites Dumped Site:** Located near the center of the map, indicated by a black box and an arrow.
- Contaminated Roro River:** Located on the right side of the map, indicated by a black box and an arrow.
- Geographical Features:** The map shows various rivers, roads, and settlements. Notable locations include Sahedba, Anjadbera, and Roro.
- Legend:** A legend is located at the bottom left, detailing symbols for roads, rivers, and other features.
- Scale Bar:** A scale bar is located at the bottom right, indicating distances in meters.
- North Arrow:** A north arrow is located at the bottom center of the map.

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SPECIFIC IMPACT ON HEALTH:

Our experiences in the case of Roro asbestos mines through past and present data reveal the impacts on human health and lives are fatal because of asbestosis & mesothelioma (lung cancer). According to a press release by the General Secretary of United Mineral Workers Union (UMWU), 30 workers had died due to asbestosis between January to August 1981. Hundreds of workers have died since this period and more are dying still. UMWU raised the issue of occupational safety and health and launched a mass movement in Roro Asbestos Mines in 1978. The union took the asbestos affected workers to Kolkata (Calcutta) where they were clinically examined by a group of medical professionals. Asbestosis and lung cancer, were diagnosed. The issue was raised in Rajya Sabha, (Upper house of the Indian Parliament) after which an enquiry team visited the Roro asbestos mines area on October 28, 1978. Mr. Robert John Hamilton, Diet controller of I.L.O and B.K. Sen Gupta, Asst. Director, Director's General of Mines & safety, Dhanbad, were the members of the enquiry team. The next medical surveillances of the ex-workers were carried out in 2004 by a Kolkata (Calcutta) based NGO KALYANESWARI. The following ten ex-workers out of fifty X-Rayed were diagnosed as asbestos victims and some of them have already died. No medical surveillances were carried out in between 1978 to 2004. The victims are Mata Doraburu, Golai Doraiburu, Chakro, Lupu Mutkan, Sambhu Boipai, Sona Bansingh, Buran Doraiburu, Surya Doraiburu, Hans Doraiburu & Sarjam Doraiburu. In our information sharing programme at Roro on current health situation of the workers shows that twenty ex-workers out of forty-three have been suffering from obstructive lung diseases TB (or ?) and six from back pain and a list is prepared for X- Ray PA View and Lung Function test. Stomach disorder is common among the ex workers & community residing in said areas. No proper medical surveillance is carried out till date to know the specific reason of the health disorder except asbestosis.

The analysis of the soil samples reveal that both the samples are mainly composed of Magnesium Silicate. The mineral composition of asbestos is also Magnesium Silicate. Therefore it clearly shows that the agriculture fields, from which samples were collected, are contaminated with asbestos and chromites.

DEMOGRAPHIC SCENARIO & IMPACTED POPULATION

The villages Roro and Tilaisud are under the jurisdiction of West Singhbhum Districts with a more density of tribal population in the State of Jharkhand. Jharkhand is one of the mineral rich states in the country and contributes substantially to the country's mineral wealth. The bordering districts sharing state boundaries of Jharkhand, Orissa, Chattisgarh and West Bengal are the part of a common cultural region with significant major tribal population and with other tribal districts. Also the inhabitants in the rural Jharkhand are tribals who alone accounts for 24% of the total population of the state and 53.4% of the total rural population in West Singhbhum. Tribal population around the abandoned Roro asbestos mines in Roro and Tilaisud is 99.7% and 90.3% respectively. Thus it becomes important to understand the dynamics of development through ruthless mining and its processing cast its impacts in terms of hazardous waste on the land, forest and environment and people of Jharkhand in general and Roro and its adjoining areas in particular. The impacted population would be around in several thousand as there are several villages are settled across the river and in and around mines areas. The villages are Anjedbera, Jojohatu, Hesabandh, Pasubera,

Barkela, Baralagia, Bardor, Kabragutu, Jugidaru, Tilasud, Roro (mundasai), Birsinghatu, Purnapani, Perbol, Bandijari,, Gundiposi, garahatu, Hatimanda and Harira.

OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE OF TRIBAL POPULATION						
Name of Villages	Total population / % ST Population	% Engaged in Cultivation / agricultural labour	Total workers	Engaged as main workers	Total Marginal workers	Total Non workers
Roro	350 / 99.7%	97.30% / 02.7%	185	92	093	165
Tilaisud	432 / 90.3%	56.03% / 55.6%	162	51	111	270

SEX RATIO & EDUCATIONAL PROFILE OF TRIBAL POPULATION						
Male/ Female Population	Male/ Female Child (0-6)	Nos. of Literates	Nos. of Illiterates	Literacy Rate	Male Literacy Rate	Female Literacy Rate
160 / 190	039 / 053	033	317	12.8%	23.1%	03.6%
219 / 213	042 / 046	145	287	42.2%	62.1%	21.0

Source: data dissemination wing, Office of the Registrar General, India¹,

THE QUANTUM OF HAZARDOUS MINE WASTES:



No

FIGURE 10: AERIAL IMAGE OF POLLUTED RORO & JOJOHATU HILL STRECHES & Agricultural Fields

scientific study was carried out at Roro to know the quantum of the waste and its impact. Also there is no valid information of production and its ratio of actual produce and its waste. But the aerial image shows that a long stretch of stalled mining activities and overburden spread over across the hills of the forest. The impacts on land, water, environment and forests are the most visible and lasting impacts of mining and its hazardous waste as it is occurring since 1930 and onwards.

SOLUTION

The formation of multi stakeholders committee, its meetings and finally implementation of its decision and continuous follow up for a considerable period to mitigate the problems in a collaborative manner as a part of the activities of tackling one of the polluted places in India

¹ www.censusindia.net

and create an example to promote ethical and eco-friendly production process and safe working condition to save the metabolism of the nature and society..

SOLVING TOWARDS THE PROBLEMS

An initiative by the OSHAJ with the support of Blaksmith Institute,US has been started to form a multi stakeholder's committee in 2006 comprising District Administration, District Mining, Forest, Agricultural, Water & Sanitation Departments and State Pollution Control Board Officials, Village Headman of Roro & Tilaisud and representative of OSHAJ that has been succeeded in sensitizing the district administration, mining and other concerned departments to act solving the problems. But there is still some lacuna as there is no physical existence of the said mining companies in the district, government officials also did not have specific idea from where to start and where to go to reclaim and rehabilitate the mine site, restoration of the environment and compensating the losses of the cultivators. Then OSHAJ raised the point of water pollution by mine waste and so ADC took it as case of "Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules 1989" and accepted by other concerned government officials. This is the brief history of entering stakeholder functioning Process.

METHODOLOGY OF OUR INTERVENTION & OUTCOME OF THE PROCESS:



FIGURE 11: VILLAGE HEADMAN OF TILAISUD & ROROT & EX- WORKERS



The process was started with situation analysis and strategizing the whole activities like identifying of the stakeholders and relationship building with them, preparation of dossiers and media

communication in different time for different stakeholders. The initiative started with the discussions with the Chief Secretary and the Secretaries of different concerned government departments to initiate the process from top level and discussed in details and we received a good responses from the government officials of Jharkhand. The letters detailing the problems were also sent to them and met them. Meetings were also held with the Dy. Chief Minister & Minister In-Charge Environment & Forest. The parallel initiative of the same process was also started from local administration and village level. The meetings and discussions were continued in different



FIGURE 13: EX-WORKERS & WOMAN PARTICIPANTS IN VILLAGE LEVEL MEETING



level of the concerned administrator, government officers of mining, forest, health, SPCBJ

etc as follow-up action till the committee was formed. Simultaneously village level awareness rising meetings were organized, deputation of the villagers met DC with the memorandum (Annexure 1). An information sharing kit was prepared by us for easy communication and to develop a clear understanding of the stakeholders on hazardous mine waste of asbestos and chromites and opening up of process of dialogue to resolve the problems.

1ST STAKEHOLDERS MEETING & ITS OUTCOME:

The first stake stakeholders meeting was organized by district administration on “Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules 1989 (see annexure – IV- letter of invitation) and Chaired by the Deputy Commissioners, West Singhbhum. Actually key role of organizing the meeting was played by the Additional Deputy Commissioner who is very serious and concerned on environment for the human beings. Few excerpts from the proceedings are as follows:

The Additional D. C narrated the provisions of “Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules 1989”. He opined that since different streams and water ways were contaminated rapidly due to the rapid mining and industrialisation activities that were going on in the District, time has come to take initiative to control the situation. In the present circumstances, contamination of water is the prime issue to all concerned besides other problems as discussed earlier. He also stated that the pollution– must be checked by concerned departments. He cautioned that unless appropriate steps were taken, rapid destruction of environment might lead us to the global warming that has become the prime concern of world community today. Hence, we must be cautious and must take necessary steps to check the menace (Annexure 3.1 – 3.5 official proceedings of the meetings).

Remarkably the engineer, water & sanitation department of the West Singhbhum has accepted in the meeting that there is contamination of water with asbestos fiber and also said lime stone mining also contaminating water ways and cautioned of depleting of water level in said areas because of ruthless lime stone mining and stone quarrying. (Annexure – 3.1 – 3.5).

THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE FIRST STAKEHOLDERS MEETING WAS AS FOLLOWS:

- The soil and water of Roro and surrounding areas has to be tested.
- Correspondences have to be started with Indian Bureau of Mines regarding contamination of water and pollution of environment by the asbestos and chromites Waste
- Correspondences have to be started with the state mines & geology Department as regards to the problems discussed.
- Information has to be collected about Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Product Ltd for correspondences.

HINDI DAILY COVER THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

THE D.C IS SERIOUS ABOUT THE POLLUTION OF RORO VILLAGE & RIVER

BEREFT OF LIVELIHOOD DUE TO THE MINE WASTE OF CLOSED MINES, DC TO SEND MISSIVE TO IBM



FIGURE 15: FIRST MEETING OF THE STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE

A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr Mahes Prasad Sinha, Deputy Commissioner, West Singhbhum, followed by a serious discussion over the pollution caused by the abandoned asbestos mine waste and its impact on the community of Roro village and river itself. The officers attended in the meeting apprised the DC about the mines of Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Products Ltd. of Birla group and is closed since 1983. *The dumped mine waste spreading through winds in the village at the same time mixing up with the Roro River water.* A thick layer of asbestos found deposited on twenty acres of land and affecting the livelihood of the twenty families who had been facing problem to eke out a living. The DC advised after having the information to start communication with the Indian Bureau of Mines in this regard and suggested for soil and water test of the Roro & Rororiver by an expert panel. Concrete steps would be taken after collecting all the necessary information of the closed mines. Europe has banned asbestos because of its hazardous effect on human health. The river water is being contaminated whenever the winds blow in that area. The meeting was attended by the Mr Khursid Anawar, ADC Anwar, District Mining Officer, Dr B K Pandit representative of Civil Surgeon, Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Department, Divisional Forest Officer, Southern Region, Chaibasa and District Agricultural Officer, Mr. Gajendra Doraiburu (Ex-service man), village headman and Mr Samit Kumar Carr, secretary general, OSHAJ. (Scanned copy of Hindi Daily Dainik Jagaran of 26.06.07. (Attached as annexure 3)

THE LIST OF THE AFFECTED FARMERS:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Paikira Sundi | S/o Surya Sundi |
| 2. Sukhmohan Sundi | S/o Late Laukan Sundi |
| 3. Manaki Sundi | S/o Sodan Sundi |
| 4. Narayan Sundi | S/o Late Nitu Sundi |
| 5. Bijay Singh Sundi | S/o Durua Sundi |
| 6. Bijay Singh Sundi | S/o Sodan Sundi |
| 7. Manaki Sundi | S/o Late Kishm sundi |
| 8. Ramray Sundi | S/o Late Manale Sundi |
| 9. Duka Sundi | S/o Late Chotunath Sundi |
| 10. Mughi Sundi | S /o Late Manaki Sundi |
| 11. Sinu Sundi | S/o Late Goro Sundi |
| 12. Mukund Sundi | S/o Late Bijay Sundi |
| 13. Nonga Sundi | |
| 14. Late Pandu Sundi | |
| 15. Late kushnu Sundi | |

ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS:

This way several meetings were arranged and similar decisions were taken. After the first meeting The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) wrote to M/s HACP Ltd on 21.07.07(annexure 4) requesting them to clean the mine site on the contrary legal action would be taken against the company. But no reply from HACP Ltd reaches to them.

The District Mining Officer (DMO) discussed the issue in their monthly meeting of mining & geology department and the department accepted the points raised in stakeholders meetings and have taken some steps to identify and catch the polluters.

After the second meeting on 28.07.07 the DMO wrote a letter (annexure 6) to Registrar of Companies, Andhra Pradesh to know the status of M/s HACP Ltd. But the said officer remained unanswered.

Finally OSHAJ wrote to Ministry of Corporate Affairs through RTI and received the information on March 08 (annexure XII) that the said company has merged with Hyderabad Industries limited with same CIN 99999AP1955PLC000656.

Indian Bureau of Mines has agreed to be part of the stakeholder committee and while the district administration was tightening the belt to take on the pollutant companies all the district officials were transferred to some other districts.

THE KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

All the stakeholders have come closer. Also these issues have been brought to the notice of concerned state and central government offices like Mines & Geology, Forest & Env., SPCBJ, Dy. Chief Minister, Health & Drinking Water & Sanitation Department, Jharkhand, and Indian Bureau of Mines Ministry of Mines, Central Mines Research Institute, Dhanbad & ISMU

The community of Roro and Tilaisud have come forward as one of the conscious stakeholders and sharing views with the government officers and proposing the method of reclamation of the abandoned mine waste.

The issue was discussed in a departmental meeting of state mines & geology; presided by the Secretary, Mines & Geology, Jharkhand government. The specific notice was served to the trainee staffs, who were supposed to visit to Hyderabad for training purposes, to find out the whereabouts of the polluters like Ltd.

All the stakeholders have accepted the root cause of the problems and have found out the possible solution. The changes in situation like opening up of dialogue among the stakeholders and correspondences with the company, Ministry of Company Affairs and other concerned department have become possible because of sensitization of the stakeholders and moving towards a common understanding of mine site remediation.

The stake holders meetings had concluded with some important decisions. The district administration, the district mining officer and others are found desperate to find out the way

to solve the problems and for which they are tracing out the mining companies for cleaning and reclamation and in case of non existence of the company they would recommend to their departmental heads for fund allocation for cleaning up of the hazardous waste site which is the only solution of tackling the polluted places across the Roro hills area if the polluters are not caught legally for mine site reclamation. The process got a jolt at this point of time because of political instability in Jharkhand and massive transfer and posting of the officers.

CONSTRAINTS

Frequent changes in ministry and in government followed by transfer & posting of the administrative officials put the barrier in our entire effort and the new officers do not bother to accept all these complicated and non revenue generating issues as they do not know of their tenure of service in said districts. The said process is still suspended due to not having a stable government in Jharkhand. Notably the Jharkhand witnessed five chief ministers in nine years of formation of Jharkhand as a separate state.

LESSON LEARNT

Suspension of the stakeholders' committee process due to the following reasons:

- Political unrest and lack of a stable government in the state.
- Reshuffling in the Govt. departments after formation of new Government and frequent transfer and posting as and when required by the political leaders and vested interest groups.
- The different government officials wish to extend their co-operation but due to their busy schedule and protocol they are helpless.
- As the relationship among the different government officials is based on certain protocol, there is less scope of comprehensive thinking and practice. The situation remains unchanged if they are not carefully handled by the concerned NGO or ordered from their top officials.

FUTURE STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

- Continuation of RTI process to know who will be accountable for orphaned mine site cleaning and reclamation.
- Soil & Water test and environment assessment to be carried out.
- Community intervention through forest protection committee also.
- Rising of question in assembly & parliament on the issue by the people's representatives.
- Continuation of the discussions and correspondence with other officials of govt. departments and scientist of mining institutions as done earlier.
- Medical surveillance of the ex-workers and the community living around the abandoned mines site.
- Detail study on quantum of waste and its impact and abandoned mine site remediation.
- Find out support system for a reasonable period to finish the pending work like mine site cleaning and reclamation mobilizing workers and community.

ANNEXURE I

दिनांक : 3 जनवरी 2007

सेवा में,

उपायुक्त महोदय
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम
झारखण्ड।

विषय : बंद पड़े रोरो एस्बेस्टस एवं कोमाईट खदान के कचड़े से ग्रामीणों के जमीन क्षतिग्रस्त होने तथा रोरो नदी का पानी प्रदूषित होने सम्बन्धित विषय पर समाधान हेतु कार्यवाही के सम्बन्ध में।

महाशय,

हम अधोहस्ताक्षरिगण उपरोक्त विषयों पर आपका ध्यान आकर्षण एवं तत्काल कार्यवाही हेतु यह स्मार पत्र प्रदान कर रहे हैं। महाशय आज से लगभग 23 वर्ष पहले बंद हो चुके वर्णित खदानों का कचड़ा (जो अव्यवस्थित ढंग से परित्याग किया गया है) से अबतक 20 एकड़ से भी ज्यादा जमीन प्रभावित हो चुका है। प्रभावित होने वाले सभी जमीनों के मालिक स्थानीय आदिवासी हैं। अब स्थिति ऐसी हो गयी है कि बरसात के पानी से कोमाईट एवं एस्बेस्टस का कचड़ा प्रतिवर्ष अन्य खेतों को अपने आगोश में ले रहा है। यहां तक कि यह कचड़ा रोरो नदी में भी पहुंच चुका है। खेतों एवं नदी को प्रभावित करने वाले यह कचड़े अभी भी धूल-कण के रूप में हैं। कहीं-कहीं एस्बेस्टस का फाईबर भी आ चुका है। अगर यह एस्बेस्टस का फाईबर ज्यादा मात्रा में खेतों एवं नदी के पानी में पहुंच जाता है तब स्थिति आज से भी कहीं अधिक भयावह हो जायेगी। एस्बेस्टस एवं कोमाईट जो स्वास्थ्य संकट पैदा करेगा उससे निजात पाना असम्भव साबित होगा। यह सर्व विदित है कि 1 जनवरी 2005 से युरोप के सभी देशों ने एस्बेस्टस के उत्पादन एवं व्यवहार पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया है जिसका मुख्य कारण स्वास्थ्य पर पड़ने वाले कुप्रभाव ही है। इससे एस्बेस्टोसिस एवं मेसोथेलेमा नामक फेफड़े का कैंसर होता है जो लाईलाज बिमारी है।

महाशय, उपरोक्त समस्याओं पर आपका ध्यान आकर्षण हेतु श्री समित कुमार कार, महासचिव, ऑकुपेशनल सेफ्टि एण्ड हेल्थ एसोसिएशन ऑफ झारखण्ड की ओर से आपको लिखे गये पत्र में उल्लेखित विषयों तथा समस्याओं का स्थाई समाधान हेतु सम्बन्धित विभिन्न सराकरी विभागों के साथ मिलकर समस्याओं के निदान हेतु विचार-विमर्श कर समाधान का रास्ता ढूँढने हेतु स्टेकहोल्डर कमिटी गठन करने का प्रस्ताव रखा है, जिसे हम सही पहल के रूप में देखते हुए आपसे आग्रह करता हूँ कि आप इन समस्याओं एवं समिति गठन के बिन्दु पर गम्भीरता पूर्वक विचार करते हुए उचित कारवाई करेंगे।

महाशय, उनके पत्र में क्षतिग्रस्त जमीन के मुआवजे के बारे में कुछ भी जिक्र नहीं है। लेकिन हम अधोहस्ताक्षरीगण आपसे पुनः अनुरोध करते हैं कि आप अपने विभागों से क्षतिग्रस्त जमीनों का आकलन के पश्चात उचित मुआवजा प्रदान करेंगे तथा समस्या का स्थाई समाधान हेतु उक्त परित्यक्त खदान क्षेत्र के पुनरुद्धार एवं पुनर्व्यवस्थित करने तथा लोगों के स्वास्थ्य पर एस्बेस्टस के कचड़े से पड़ने वाले प्रभाव का आकलन हेतु स्वास्थ्य जांच करने की दिशा में एक समिति का गठन करने का पहल करने की कृपा करेंगे।

प्रतिलिपि : श्री फुलर हेम्ब्रम,

विचारक-चाईवाहा
प. सिंहभूम

जन प्रमोशन पदाधिकारी
चाईवाहा, दक्षिण प्रमोशन
प. सिंहभूम

आपका विश्वासीगण,

(Signature)
Gyanendra Debbarma
Mundakulaypur
गगनदेव देवबरम
(मुन्दा कुलायपुर)

(Signature)
प्राप्तांक
प. सिंहभूम, कारवाहा
प. सिंहभूम
3/1/07

A team of delegation of the villages Roro and Tilaisud headed by the village headmen had visited to DC office on 3rd January 2007 with a memorandum to draw the attention of DC on contamination of Roro River water and destruction of their agricultural land by the mine waste like asbestos and chromite. They have also raised the demand for their destroyed land and formation of stakeholders committee for discussion and decide upon possible solution. A copy of the memorandum was also handed over to local MLA (public representative) to raise the issue in Jharkhand Legislative Assembly.

ANNEXURE 2

उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, पश्चिम सिंहभूम, चाईबासा
(राजस्व शाखा)

पत्रांक - 551 /रा.

दिनांक 20/6/07

प्रेषक :

अपर उपायुक्त,
प० सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

सेवा में,

जिला खनन पदाधिकारी,
प. सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

कारखाना निरीक्षक,
चाईबासा।

वन प्रमंडल पदाधिकारी,
द. क्षेत्र, चाईबासा।

क्षेत्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पदाधिकारी,
जमेशदपुर।

असैनिक शल्य चिकित्सक सह
मुख्य चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी,
प. सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

जिला कृषि पदाधिकारी,
चाईबासा।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग,
प. सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

असैनिक मेक्रोबाईलोजिस्ट,
चाईबासा।

विशेष पदाधिकारी,
चाईबासा नगरपालिका।

विषय : Hardious Water (Management & Handling Rules 1989) अधिनियम के नियम 6 के अधीन जिला स्तरीय बैठक में भाग लेने के सम्बंध में।

महाशय,

उपर्युक्त विषय पर उपायुक्त सह अध्यक्ष, प० सिंहभूम, चाईबासा की अध्यक्षता में दिनांक 25.06.07 के 3 बजे अपराह्न उपायुक्त महोदय के कार्यालय कक्ष (प्रकोष्ठ) में Hardious Water (Management & Handling) से सम्बंधित बैठक का आयोजन किया गया है।

अनुरोध है कि उक्त बैठक में निर्धारित स्थान, तिथि एवं समय पर भाग लेने की कृपा की जाय।

विश्वासभाजन

अपर उपायुक्त
प० सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

आपाक 551 B/रा
प्रतिलिपि - CHAS जमेशदपुर को भेजना
ख मेक्रोबाईलोजिस्ट को

The letter of intimation by the ADC, West Singhbhum for the meeting of 25th June 2007

ANNEXURE 3

रोरो गांव व नदी के प्रदूषण पर डीसी गंभीर

बंद खदान के कचड़े से छिनी 20 परिवारों की रोजी-रोटी, उपायुक्त भेजेगे इंडियन ब्यूरो आफ माइंस को पत्र



बैठक में उपस्थित उपायुक्त व अन्य

जागरण

जागरण कार्यालय, चाईबासा : उपायुक्त महेश प्रसाद सिन्हा की अध्यक्षता में सोमवार को हुई बैठक में रोरो गांव स्थित बंद पड़ी खान के एस्वेस्ट्स से प्रदूषित हो रही रोरो नदी व गांव की स्थिति पर गंभीरता से विचार-विमर्श किया गया। बैठक में डीसी को मातहत पदाधिकारियों द्वारा अवगत कराया गया कि रोरो गांव में बिड़ला ग्रुप की हैदराबाद एस्वेस्ट्स सीमेंट प्रोडक्ट लिमिटेड की खदान है जो 1983 से बंद है।

खान के डंप किये गये कचड़े के अवशेष हवा के माध्यम से गांव में फैल रहे हैं। साथ ही पानी के माध्यम से रोरो नदी में मिल जाते हैं। इस कारण 20 एकड़ जमीन पर एस्वेस्ट्स के कणों की मोटी परत जम गयी है। इसके चलते 15-20 परिवार प्रभावित हो रहे हैं। इन परिवारों के सामने जीविकोपार्जन की समस्या उत्पन्न हो गयी है। उपायुक्त ने गांव की समस्याओं को सुनने के बाद निर्देश दिया कि

इंडियन ब्यूरो आफ माइंस को पत्र लिखकर कचड़ा हटाने के लिए सूचित किया जायेगा। गांव में पानी व मिट्टी की जांच विशेषज्ञों द्वारा करायी जायेगी।

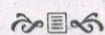
कंपनी के बारे में जानकारी एकत्र कर बंद पड़ी खान के विषय में ठोस कदम उठाया जायेगा। गौरतलब हो कि यूरोपीय देशों में एस्वेस्ट्स के दुष्प्रभाव को देखते हुए उसे प्रतिबंधित कर दिया गया है। इस तत्व से शरीर की क्षमता पर बहुत बुरा असर पड़ता है। हवा होने के कारण सीधे कपड़ों पर असर डालते हैं जिसके कारण रोरो नदी का पानी काफी दूषित हो गया है। बैठक में अपर उपायुक्त खुशीद अनवर, जिला खनन पदाधिकारी, सीएस के प्रतिनिधि डा. वीके पंडित, वन प्रमंडल पदाधिकारी दक्षिण क्षेत्र, जिला कृषि पदाधिकारी व ग्रामीण मुंडा गजेंद्र खंडाईत, ओएसहज के महासचिव समीत कुमार कर उपस्थित थे।

26 June 2007 दैनिक जागरण

ANNEXURE 3.1

PROCEEDINGS OF THE STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

दिनांक 25-06-2007 उपायुक्त महोदय के सभागार कक्ष में प्रदूषण सम्बन्धी बैठक की कार्यवाही



उपस्थिति :

- 1 उपायुक्त, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा ।
- 2 अपर उपायुक्त, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा ।
- 3 जिला खनन पदाधिकारी, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा
- 4 वन प्रमण्डल पदाधिकारी, द. प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा ।
- 5 अरसैनिक शल्य चिकित्सक पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा के प्रतिनिधि ।
- 6 जिला कृषि पदाधिकारी, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा ।
- 7 कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, चाईबासा ।
- 8 विशेष पदाधिकारी, चाईबासा नगरपालिका ।
- 9 महासचिव, ऑकुपेसनाल सेपटी एण्ड हो एसोशियसन आफ झारखण्ड
- 10 मुण्डा, तिलईसुद ।

1. Hazardous Water (Management and Handling Rules 1989) विषयक इस बैठक में उपायुक्त महोदय के द्वारा ओसाज के महासचिव को विषय प्रवेश करने हेतु आदेश दिया गया।

(OSHAJ) ओसाज के महासचिव द्वारा विषय प्रवेश करते हुए बंद पड़ा रोड़ो खदान के परित्यक्त एजवेस्टस एवं क्रोमाईट का कचड़ा से नदी का पानी प्रदुषित होने पर पर्यावरण नष्ट होने, जनसमुदाय पर हो रहा हानिकारक प्रभाव का जिक्र किया गया तथा इन समस्याओं पर विचार विमर्श कर समस्याओं का समाधान ढूँढ निकालने का आग्रह किया गया साथ ही एजवेस्टस के प्रभाव सम्बन्धी दस्तावेज को भी वितरित किया गया । एजवेस्टस से बीमार सम्बन्धी विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन की टिप्पणी एवं भारत सरकार द्वारा स्वीकृत Emission Standards for Asbestos का प्रभाव के सम्बंध में इन्होंने बताया कि उक्त कचड़ा में एजवेस्टस का मात्रा फैक्ट्री 1948 के द्वारा स्वीकृत F.C.C तथा वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय द्वारा प्राभावित मात्रा 0.1A/cc से काफी अधिक है, जो हवा में उड़कर पानी के साथ बाहर लोगों के स्वास्थ्य, जीवन जीविका पानी एवं पर्यावरण नष्ट कर रहा है ।

2. अपर उपायुक्त ने इस Hazardous Water (Management and Handling Rules 1989) सम्बन्धी नियमों का विस्तृत रूप से विचार प्रकट किया तथा बताया कि जिस तेजी के साथ पानी को विभिन्न स्रोत प्रदुषित हो रहा है इसका गम्भीर परिणाम सामने आने के पहले ही इन समस्याओं की समाधान के दिशाओं में आगे बढ़ना हो। जल प्रदुषण का प्रश्न ही आज का चर्चा का मुख्य विषय है तथा उपरोक्त विषयों से भी सम्बंधित है।

ANNEXURE 3.2

PROCEEDINGS OF THE STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

3. जिला खनन पदाधिकारी द्वारा उपरोक्त जन समस्याओं के जड़ में उक्त कचड़ा का अस्तित्व को ही चिन्तित किया गया है तथा उक्त कचड़ा की सफाई एवं बंद पड़े खदान क्षेत्र के सृजन तथा पूर्णवास (Reclamation and Rehabilitation) पर बल दिये, लेकिन यह भी सवाल उठाए कि ये किनके द्वारा किये जायगा। साथ ही यह बताए कि Mine closure (खनन बंदी) विषय को एम.सी.डी. आर. के संशोधन के पश्चात 2003 में बाध्यतामूलक किया गया है। साथ यह भी बताए कि खनन कार्य संस्था आपनी लीज छोड़कर चले गये। अब समस्या यह है कि कचड़ा सफाई काम कौन करें, उन्होंने यह सुझाव भी दिया कि वर्णित समस्याओं के सम्बंध में इंडियन व्यूरो ऑफ माईंस के साथ पत्राचार शुरू करना चाहिए। उन्होंने और बताया कि बंद पड़े खदानों इंडियन व्यूरो ऑफ माईंस के दायरे में ही है तथा भारत सरकार द्वारा ऐसे खदानों के साफ-सफाई, पुनः सृजन एवं पुनरुद्धार हेतु राशि आवंटित की गई है। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि चूंकि, उक्त क्षेत्र में कई खदान चालू करने के लिए आवेदन पत्र जमा है अतः राज्य के खनन एवं भू-तत्व विभाग को भी उक्त समस्याओं के सम्बंध में सूचित करना चाहिए। खदान के कचड़ों से प्रभावित किसानों को मूवावजा के लिए उक्त समस्या को दूढ़ निकालना होगा, क्योंकि कानूनन यह प्रावधान है कि खनन कार्य संस्थाओं को इस तरह का क्षतिपूर्ति मूवावजा के रूप में करना है, जितनी राशि सरकार तैय करती है।

4. ओसाज के महासचिव ने Miniral Concession rule 1960 का हावाला देते हुए बताया कि Mine Cosure कानून के तहत यह खदान प्लान से सम्बंधित विषय है, जिससे खदान क्षेत्र को पुनः सृजन, पुनरुद्धार एवं पूर्णनिर्माण के विषय भी शामिल है। अर्थात् उस समय उक्त नियमों का अनुपालन नहीं हुआ है, उन्हें भूतपूर्व श्रमिकों का स्वास्थ्य जाँच कराने सम्बंधी प्रस्ताव रखें। मुख्य चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी का कहना है कि चूंकि सदर अस्पताल में एक्स-रे मशीन की सुविधा नहीं है अतः भूतपूर्व श्रमिकों का स्वास्थ्य जाँच तत्काल सम्भव नहीं है।

5. कार्यपालक अभियंता पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग ने बताया कि पानी में एजवेस्ट्स फाईंस देखा गया है। उन्होंने यह भी बताया है कि चाईबासा एवं इसके ईर्द-गिर्द इलाके में खनन के कारण (विशेष कर चूना पत्थर खदान) जल प्रदूषित हो रहा है तथा भू-जल स्तर नीचे चला जा रहा है।

उपरोक्त सभी समस्याओं की जानकारी के पश्चात् उपायुक्त सह अध्यक्ष ने निर्देश दिया कि सर्वप्रथम रोरों खदान क्षेत्र का पानी एवं मिट्टी जाँच करना आवश्यक एवं प्रथमिक कर्तव्य है। उन्होंने यह भी मंतव्य दिया कि विभिन्न परियोजनाओं के कारण पशु तथा मानव स्वास्थ्य पर पड़ने वाली प्रभाव का आंकलन भी जरूरी है। इस सम्बंध में प्रदूषण नियंत्रण परिषद् के अधिकारियों को और भी तत्पर्य एवं जिम्मेदार होना होगा।

अपर उपायुक्त ने बताया कि जिला में खनन से हो रहे प्रदूषण को रोकने की कार्रवाई विभागीय स्तर से करनी है, नहीं तो जिस रफ्तार से पर्यावरण दूषित हो रहा है और परिणाम स्वरूप भू मण्डल

ANNEXURE 3.3

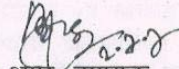
PROCEEDINGS OF THE STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

में तापमात्रा लगातार बढ़ता जा रहा है, जो विश्व के तमाम लोगों कि चिन्ता का विषय बना हुआ है, क्योंकि पूरे मानव समाज एक विध्वंसकारी प्रलय का शिकार बन सकता है। अतः हमें सचेत होना है और जरूरी पहल करना भी आवश्यक है।


बैठक में निम्नलिखित प्रस्ताव उपरोक्त समस्याओं के आलोक में पारित किये गये—

1. रोरु क्षेत्र में पानी एवं मिट्टी की जाँच कराना।
2. एजवेस्टस एवं क्रोमाईट कचड़ा से हो रहा जल प्रदूषण एवं पर्यावरण प्रदूषित होने के सम्बंध में इण्डियन व्यूरो ऑफ माईस के साथ प्रत्राचार शुरू करना।
3. खनन एवं भू तत्व विभाग के राज्य इकाई को भी उक्त समस्याओं के सम्बंध में सूचित करते हुए इस सम्बंध में पत्र लिखना।
4. हैदराबाद एजवेस्टस सिमेंट प्रोडक्ट लि. के सम्बंध में जानकारी हासिल करना।

उरोक्त प्रस्ताव पारित करने के पश्चात् अगली बैठक माह जुलाई के अंत में आयोजित किया जाएगा। इसके साथ ही आज की बैठक सधन्यवाद समाप्त की गई। प्रदूषण एवं पर्यावरण विभाग के संस्थानों के अनुपस्थिति पर खेद व्यक्त किया गया।


अपर उपायुक्त

प० सिंहभूम, चाईबासा


उपायुक्त

पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

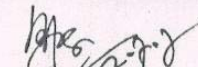
ज्ञापांक: / 119(A)/रा०

दिनांक 12-07-2007

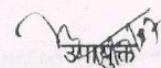
प्रतिलिपि प्रधान सचिव, वन एवं पर्यावरण विभाग, झारखण्ड, रांची / प्रधान सचिव, राजस्व एवं भूमि सुधार विभाग, झारखण्ड, रांची / सचिव, प्रदूषण नियंत्रण परिषद्, 1-इंजिनियर्स होस्टल, धुर्वा रांची / प्रमण्डलीय आयुक्त, सिंहभूम, (कोल्हान) प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा को सादर सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।

प्रतिलिपि जिला खनन पदाधिकारी, प० सिंहभूम, चाईबासा / जिला कृषि पदाधिकारी, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा / असैनिक शल्य चिकित्सक सह मुख्य चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा / कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा / विशेष पदाधिकारी, चाईबासा नगरपालिका सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्रवाई हेतु प्रेषित।

प्रतिलिपि श्री समीत कुमार कर, ओसाज, फ्लैट नं 1011, सतलुजा, सोनारी, जमशेदपुर / मानकी एवं मुण्डा, रोरु, चाईबासा को सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।


अपर उपायुक्त

प० सिंहभूम, चाईबासा


उपायुक्त

प० सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

ANNEXURE 3.5

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING

PROCEEDINGS OF MULTI STAKEHOLDERS MEETING ON 25.06.07

A meeting was held to discuss the issue on Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules 1989 in the Office of the District Commissioner, West Singhbhum on 25th June 2007.

The meeting was presided over by the District Commissioner, West Singhbhum. The following dignitaries as well as office bearers of OSHAJ attended in the meeting.

- Additional Deputy Commissioner, West Singhbhum, Chaibasa
- District Mining Officer, West Singhbhum, Chaibasa
- Divisional Forest Officer, South Region, Chaibasa
- Civil Surgeon and Chief Medical Officer, Chaibasa
- District Agriculture Officer, West Singhbhum, Chaibasa
- Executive Engineer, Drinking Water and sanitation, West Singhbhum Chaibasa
- Special Officer, Chaibasa,
- Munda, Roro & Tilasud, Chaibasa &
- Secretary General, Occupational Safety and Health Association of Jharkhand.

The Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner invited the Secretary General, OSHAJ to place the subject matter before the House.

Having introduced the matter in the House, the Secretary General, OSHAJ drew attention to the problems arisen due to the abandoned asbestos waste of closed Roro Asbestos Mines of M/s H A C P Ltd and the contamination of Roro river water causing threat to human health and the environment.

Again, he drew attention to the hazardous effects on the populace due to the menace of pollution and urged to discuss on the issues to find out the ways to solving the problems. He distributed a dossier on "effects of asbestos" to the participants. To substantiate this, he produced a report by W. H. O. on "diseases resulting from use of asbestos" and recognised norms of Govt. of India regarding emission standards for asbestos. He cited that the asbestos contain in abandoned waste -materials were more than the standard level set by The Factory Act 1948 i.e., 0.1F/c.c. and 0.2F/c.c. by the Ministry of Environment & Forest. These excess waste-materials mix in the air and water – causing threat to the health & lives, agricultural land and over & above to the entire environment.

The Additional D. C narrated the provisions of "Hazardous Waste (Management & Hazardous) Rules 1989. He opined that since different streams and water ways were contaminated rapidly, time has come to take initiative to control the situation. In the present circumstance, contamination of water is the prime issue to all concerned besides other problems as discussed earlier.

Deliberating on the issue, the Dist. Mining Officer identified that the root cause of the problem was dumping of waste-materials in the Roro hills and forest area and stressed for cleaning, reclamation and rehabilitation of surrendered mines area and of waste-materials. He raised the questions that who would take the responsibility to undertake these responsibilities and accountable for the responsibility? He added that the matter of mines closure plan had been affected after having amended of the Mineral Conservation & Development Rules (Amendment) 2003 in the year 2003. But the M/s HACP Ltd (mining company) had left the mines site many years back, so how the waste-materials had to be cleaned. He suggested that a committee in this regard be formed and to start correspondence with Indian Bureau of Mines & Mines & Geology department of Jharkhand at the earliest.

He further informed that the surrendered mines were under the control of Indian Bureau of Mines and suggested that appeal should be made to the Indian Central Govt. for releasing of fund for cleaning, reclamation and rehabilitation of the mine sites. He further informed that – since various applications have been submitted to open the new mines, the State Mining and Geological Dept., should take initiative and we will have to write a letter to them in this regard. The said company left the state 24 years back– must be traced out for compensating the affected farmers and also for cleaning for the mine site as land of the law is still exist. The legal provision is that the mining agencies must compensate for the damaged cost by their activities – ascertained by the Govt.

Citing the provisions of Mineral Concession Rule (M.C.R) 1960, The Secretary General, OSHAJ told that the matter related to surrender of mining lease comes under the purview of this act, particularly, it is related to mine plan. After amendment in 2003 this act provides for reclamation, recovery and rehabilitation of closed mines, which is integral part and statutory provision of mine plan. Hence these provisions were not implemented during the surrender of Roro asbestos mines as there was no mine closure plan like part of the mine plan with statute obligation. But there was Proposing the medical examination of the ex-workers, he informed that the Chief Medical Officer had informed him that since there was no facility of X'Ray in the Sadar Hospital, it was not possible to undergo health examination right now.

The Chief Executive Engineer, P.H.E.D. informed that fibre of asbestos was detected in the water. He had also informed that – rapid mining, specially, of lime stone and stone-chips were going on in and around Chaibasa – which caused water pollution and decrease of ground water level.

After having discussed all the issues referred above, the Deputy Commissioner suggested that the soil and water of Roro Mines should be tested on top priority basis.

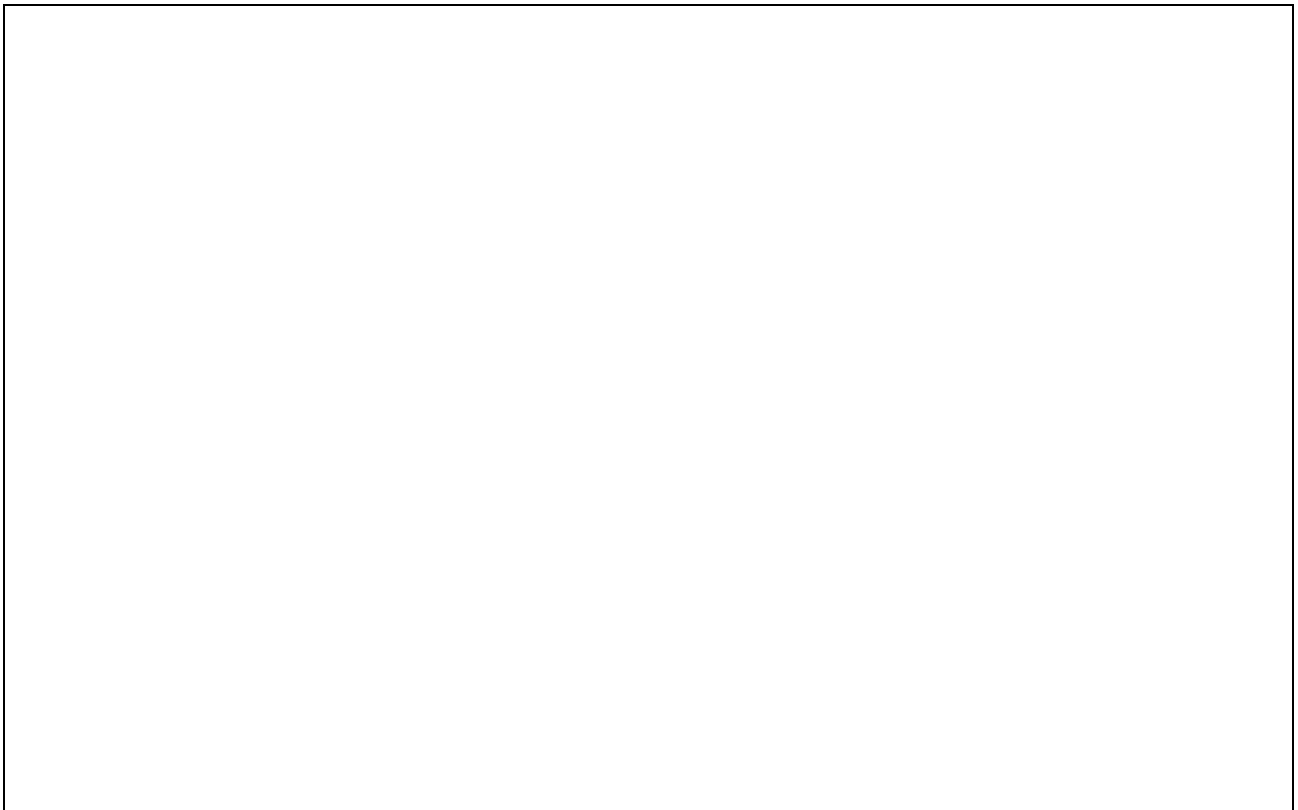
Further, he viewed that effects on environment and human health due to the various schemes – must be studied. He also suggested that the role of Pollution Control Board should be more effective and prompt in this regard.

The Additional D.C. had opined that the pollution due to the rapid mining and industrialisation activities that were going on in the District – must be checked by concerned departments. He cautioned that unless appropriate steps were taken, rapid destruction of environment might lead us to the global warming that as become the prime concern of world community. Hence, we must be cautious and must take necessary steps to check the menace.

The House passed the following resolutions in the matter –

1. The soil and water of Roro and surrounding areas has to be tested.
2. Correspondences have to be started with Indian Bureau of Mines regarding the contamination of water and pollution to the environment due to the waste-materials of asbestos and chromites.
3. Correspondences have to be started with the state mines & geology department as regards to the problems discussed.
4. Information has to be collected about Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Product Limited to write them letter.

It was also decided that – the next meeting would be arranged in the month of July 2007 and the meeting concluded with delivering vote of thanks.



ANNEXURE 4

Registered Post

**Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
West Singhbhum, Chaibasa**
(Revenue Section)

पत्रांक: /रा० दिनांक: -7-2007

From: Additional. Deputy Commissioner,
West Singhbhum, Chaibasa

To: M/s Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Products Ltd.
Sanatnagar
Hyderabad 500 018
A.P.

*Reg: Meeting dated 25-6-2007 on the Hazardous
Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules 1989*

Sir,

As per information given by the District Mining Officer, West Singhbhum, Chaibasa and decession taken by the Deputy Commissioner, West Singhbhum in the meeting held on the 25th June, 2007 regarding Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 you are hereby informed that in village RORO, Circle Khuntpani, Distt. West Singhbhum, where you have left the mining remains opened and the hazardous wastes of asbestos is ruring the air and water of surroundings which is cognizable u/s 15 of Enviorenment Protection Act 1986.

Therefore you are requested to look into the matter at the earliest possible time to check the hazardous wastes which are making nuicense to public health.

You are also requested to cover the mines as early as possible to avoid the legal proceeding against you.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

[Signature]
Addl. Deputy Commissioner,
West Singhbhum, Chaibasa

Memo No. 623/Rev. Dated 3.7.07

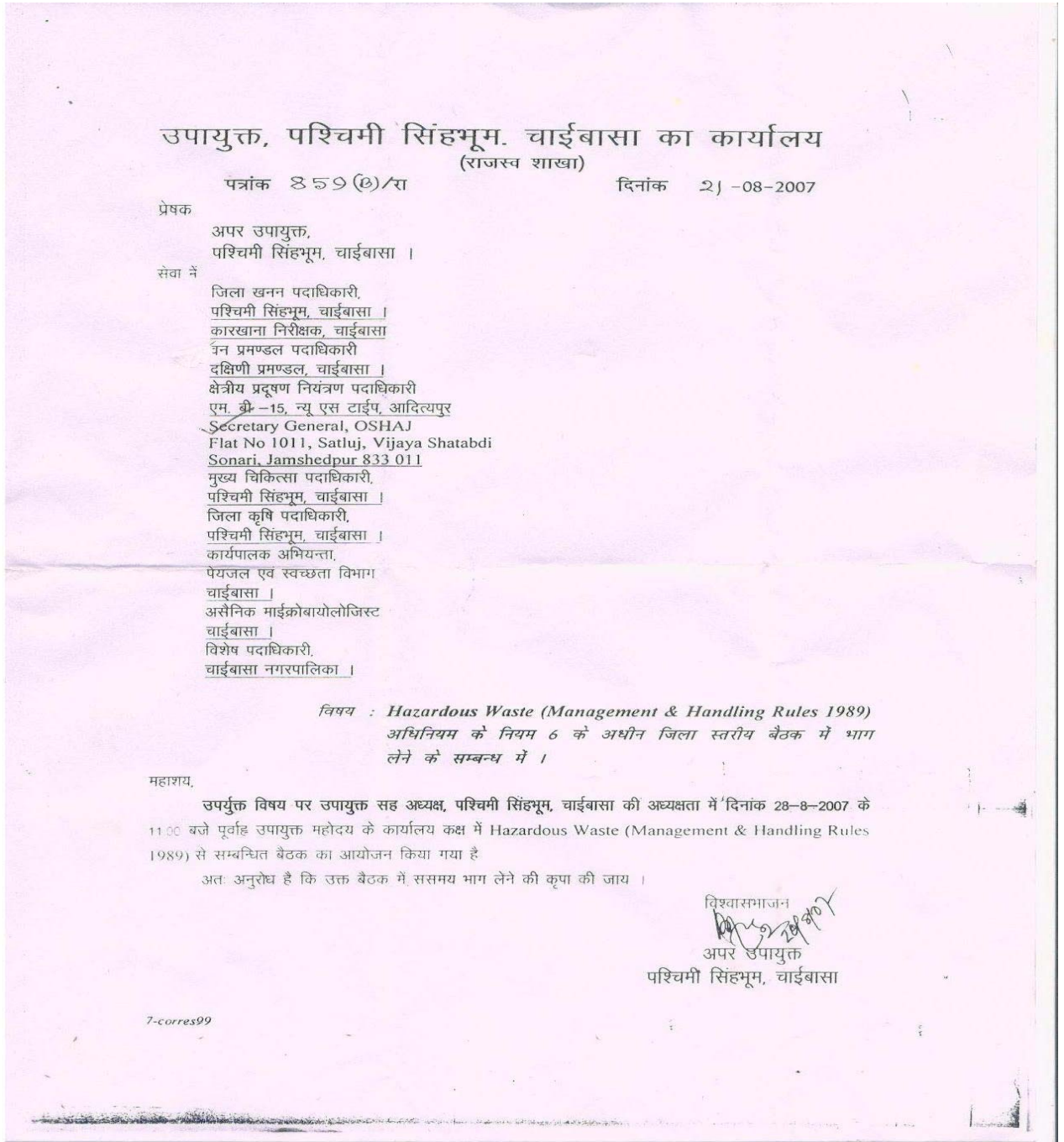
Copy for information and n/a to the Distt. Mining Officer, W. Singhbhum, Chaibasa

✓ Copy to Sri Samit Kr. Carr, Gen. Secy, OSHAJ, Flat No. 1011, Satluj, Vijaya Shatabdi, Sonari, Jamshedpur 831 100 for information.

[Signature]
Addl. Deputy Commissioner,
West Singhbhum, Chaibasa

The above letter was issued to H A CP Ltd by the ADC after the stakeholders meeting

ANNEXURE 5



The second invitation letter from Additional Deputy Commissioner for the meeting on 28th August 2007

Agenda of the Meeting:

Section 6 of Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules 1989

ANNEXURE 6

Office of the District Mining Officer Chaibasa

Singhbhum (West)

Memo No. 1592/MDated 17.09.2007

From,

District Mining Officer

Chaibasa.

To,

Registrar of Companies

Andhra Pradesh

2nd, floor, CPWD Building

Kendriya Sadan, Sultan Bazar Koti

Hyderabad-500195

Sub :- Information regarding **Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Products Ltd.**

Sir,

I am to request you to give following information regarding **Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Product Ltd.** for urgent Government purpose.

- i) Present Status of the company whether liquidated, acquired, merged, dead, or alive.
- ii) If the company is alive, then its present address, phone/Fax No., of the Company and its current list of Board of Directors with full address.
- iii) If merged with other company, then the name of the new entity and its present address, phone/Fax No., of the Company and its current list of Board of Directors with full address.
- iv) If its name has been changed, then the name of the new entity and its present address, phone/Fax No., of the Company and its current list of Board of Directors with full address.
- v) If liquidated then the company/authority who will bear the liabilities of it?
- vi) Its relation with Hyderabad Industries Ltd. CIN L99999AP1955PLC000656 if any?

Yours Faithfully,

Sd/-

District Mining Officer

Chaibasa

Memo No. 1592 /M. dt 17.09.07.....

Copy to:

- 1) Director Mines, Department of Mines & Geology for information
- 2) Sri Samit Kumar Carr, Secretary General, Occupational Safety & Health Association of Jharkhand Flat No. 1011, Satluj Shatabdi, Sonari, Jamshedpur for information and necessary action

Sd/-District Mining Officer, Chaibasa, West Singhbhum

ANNEXURE 7

उपायुक्त, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम. चाईबासा का कार्यालय
(राजस्व शाखा)

पत्रांक XII-29/ /बी/रा दिनांक -09-2007


प्रेषक
अपर उपायुक्त
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा ।

सेवा में
जिला खनन पदाधिकारी,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा ।

**विषय : Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling Rules 1989) के
तहत प्रदूषण सम्बन्धी बैठक - दिनांक 28-8-07 ।**

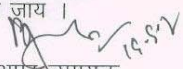
महाशय,

उपर्युक्त विषय से सम्बन्धित श्री समित कुमार कर, महासचिव, ओसाज का पत्र संख्या 25 दिनांक 7-9-07 सानुलग्नक भेजते हुए इस पर कार्रवाई करने का अनुरोध किया जाता है ।
आपके स्तर से इस पर की गई कार्रवाई से अधोहस्ताक्षरी को सूचित करने का कष्ट किया जाय ।

विश्वासभाजन

अपर उपायुक्त,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

ज्ञापांक 1005 /बी/रा दिनांक 19-09-2007

प्रतिलिपि श्री समित कुमार कर, महासचिव, ओसाज, फ्लैट संख्या 1011, शतलज, बिजया शताब्दी सोनारी जमशेदपुर 831 011 को सूचनार्थ प्रेषित । अनुरोध है कि इस सम्बन्ध जिला खनन पदाधिकारी, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा के साथ सम्पर्क स्थापित कर कार्रवाई करने का कष्ट किया जाय ।


अपर उपायुक्त,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा


7-corres101

ADC wrote a letter to DMO with a copy to Samit Kumar Carr, Secretary General, OSHAJ to take necessary action as per discussion in the meeting on 28.07.07 and in the context of M.r Carr's Letter dated 7.09.07. And ADC should be apprised of the action taken by the DMO. Mr. Carr is also requested to keep in touch with DMO for necessary action.

ANNEXURE 8

RPAD

E-mail: roc-hyd@sb.nic.in **PHONES:** 24656114(OFF)
GRAMS: COMPANY REG. 24652807(FAX)
Website: <http://rochyderabad.ap.nic.in/rochyd>


GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES, ANDHRA PRADESH
2ND FLOOR, KENDRIYA SADAN, SULTAN BAZAR, HYDERABAD-500 195.


Ref.No.RAP/AP/DROC(P)/RTI/2008 / 9328 **12-02-2008**
To

Sri Samit Kumar Carr,
Secretary General,
Occupational Safety & Health
Association of Jharkhad (OSHAJ),
1011, Satluj, Vijaya's Shatabdi,
Sonari,
JAMSHEDPUR.
Sir,

Sub:- Information regarding Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Products Limited
under the Right to Information Act, 2005.
Ref:- letter dated 17-12-2007 received in this office on 31-12-2007.
Your application dated 17-12-2007 forwarded by the Ministry of Corporate
Affairs, New Delhi, vide its letter No.2/2/2008-MC(RTI), dated 14-01-2008
received in this office on 7-2-2008.

With reference to the subject cited, I have to state that the Ministry of Corporate
Affairs, New Delhi, vide reference cited above, forwarded your application dated 17-12-
2007 u/s 6(3) of RTI Act, 2005, advising this office to furnish requisite information to
you. In this regard, your attention is drawn to this office letter
No.RAP/AP/DROC(P)/RTI/2008, dated 3-1-2008, wherein the requisite information
furnished to you in respect of M/s.Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Products Ltd. under the
provisions of Right to Information Act, 2005. A copy of the said letter is enclosed for
your ready reference.

As the information sought by you vide your application dated 17-12-2007, made
to this office, I am herewith returning the demand draft No.513734 dated 26-12-2007 for
Rs.10/-.

Yours faithfully,

(D.VIJAYA BHASKAR)
DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES &
CENTRAL PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
ANDHRA PRADESH, HYDERABAD


Encls: as above.

ANNEXURE 9

RPAD ✓

E-mail: roc-hyd@sb.nic.in
GRAMS: COMPANY REG.
Website: <http://rochyderabad.ap.nic.in/rochyd>

PHONES: 24656114(OFF)
24652807(FAX)


सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES, ANDHRA PRADESH
2ND FLOOR, KENDRIYA SADAN, SULTAN BAZAR, HYDERABAD-500 195.

Ref.No.RAP/AP/DROC(P)/RTI/2008 / 9102 03-01-2008

To

Sri Samit Kumar Carr,
Secretary General,
Occupational Safety & Health
Association of Jharkhad (OSHAJ),
1011, Satluj, Vijaya's Shatabdi,
Sonari,
JAMSHEDPUR.

Sir,

Sub:- Information regarding Hyderabad Asbestos Cement Products Limited
under the Right to Information Act, 2005.
Ref:- letter dated 17-12-2007 received in this office on 31-12-2007.

I am to refer to the subject cited and to furnish below the reply in respect of the
items specified in your letter cited under refer under :

i) The subject company was originally incorporated with the name Hyderabad
Asbestos Cement Products Limited vide CIN No.L99999AP1955PLC000656
and subsequently changed its name to M/s.Hyderabad Industries Limited and
the present status of the company is Active.

ii) With the introduction of MCA-21 system in the O/o. Registrar of Companies,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, w.e.f. 20-04-2006, the Ministry of Corporate
Affairs has disseminated entire information relating to the companies
registered under the Companies Act, 1956 on the Ministry's website
www.mca.gov.in. In view of the above, the information sought by such as
present address, phone/ Fax Number and list of Board of Directors with
addresses, may be obtained online from the above said website by remitting a
sum of Rs.50/- online either through Credit Card/ Bank Challan towards

Contd.....2

ANNEXURE 9.1

- 2 -

inspection fee for verification/ inspection of the documents u/s 610 of the Companies Act, 1956. The Ministry has also advised this office that any information available on the website need not be furnished as per the order of the Hon'ble Central Information Commission, New Delhi. Hence, you obtain the requisite information specified under item No.(ii) from the website.

- iii) & iv) On verification of the information available on the website www.mca.gov.in, the subject company has not been amalgamated with any other company. However, one company registered in the state of Kerala has got merged with M/s. Hyderabad Industries Limited. The details of the company are given under and which may also be verified from the website.

M/s.Malabar Building Pvt. Ltd.
XXCII/307, Khembukavu Road, Trichur, Kerala – 680 020.
CIN No.L51432KL1982PLC003546 (merged w.e.f. 6-3-2006)

- v) Not applicable
- vi) Information furnished vide Item Nos. (iii) & (iv).

This is for your information.

Yours faithfully,



(D.VIJAYA BHASKAR)
DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES &
CENTRAL PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
ANDHRA PRADESH, HYDERABAD

ANNEXURE 10

Sl No	Ministry/ Dept.	Office & Post	Office & Post	Office & Post	Office & Post	Office & Post
01	Ministers & Public representative	CM & Minister In- Charge Mines	Dy. CM & Minister In- Charge Environment & Forest Industry	Local MLA, Chaibasa		
02	Secretaries & District Administrator	Chief Secretaries & secretaries	Secretary, Mines & Geology	Secretary, Environment & Forest	Secretary, Forest	Secretary, Health
03	Local Administration	Deputy Commissioner	Addl. Deputy Commissioner			
04	Mines & Geology Dept, Jharkhand	Director	Dy. director	Asst Director	District Mining Officer	
05	State Pollution Control Board of Jharkhand	Member Secretary SPCBJ	Regional officer			
06	Other Govt. Departments	Divisional Forest Officer	Agricultural Officer	Drinking Water & Sanitation	Civil Surgeon, Public Health	
07	Indian Bureau of Mines	Controller of Mines, IBM, Ministry of Mines, India	Dy.. Controller of Mines, IBM, EZ, Ministry of Mines	Regional Controller, IBM, Ministry of Mines		
08	Indian school of Mines	Scientist & Associated Professor, Environment				
09	Central Mines Research Institution	Dy. Director				
10	Village Representatives	Village Headman, Roro	Village Headman, Tilaisud			

The list of stakeholders whom we met & discussed

एस्वेस्टस से रोरो में पर्यावरण का बंटाधार

सुनील कुमार सिन्हा

चाईबासा। रोरो के ग्रामीणों के लिये एक बुरी खबर है। आशंका व्यक्त की जा रही है कि अगले 20 वर्षों बाद गांव में जीव जंतु के दर्शन दुर्लभ हो जायेंगे। गांव में फैला एस्वेस्टस पर्यावरण को काफी नुकसान पहुंचा रहा है। इसीका नतीजा है कि यहां अब छिपकली की प्रजाति विलुप्त प्रायः है। वहीं पंछियों के चहचहाहट न के बराबर खेतों में पड़ीं दराहें, हरियाली खत्म होने के कगार पर है और खेतों में दराहें पड़ गयी हैं। कुएं और तालाब का पानी इतना प्रदूषित हो गया है कि कुछ ग्रामीणों को छोड़ प्रायः हर कोई हड्डी कैंसर, टीबी और फेफड़ा रोग से ग्रसित है। गरीबों की वजह से मरीज अपना समुचित इलाज भी नहीं करा पा रहे हैं। अपर उपायुक्त खुर्शीद अनवर ने आशंका जतायी कि अगर यही स्थिति रही तो अगले 20 वर्षों के बाद गांव का एक भी ग्रामीण

छिपकली की प्रजाति विलुप्त प्रायः पंछियों की चहचहाहट न के बराबर खेतों में पड़ीं दराहें, हरियाली खत्म



रोरो में एकत्रित एस्वेस्टस एवं क्रोमाइट के कचरे के ढेर की सेटेलाइट से ली गयी तस्वीर।

जिंदा नहीं बच पायेगा। उन्होंने बताया कि जिला प्रशासन गांव की इस भयावह स्थिति को लेकर काफी चिंतित है। ग्रामीणों को इस परेशानी से उबारने के लिये 25 जून 2007 को उपायुक्त की अध्यक्षता में प्रदूषण संबंधी बैठक भी आयोजित की गयी है। बैठक में ऑकुपेशनल सेफ्टी एंड हो एसोसिएशन ऑफ झारखंड (ओशाज) के महासचिव समित कुमार कर ने बताया कि बंद पड़ी रोरो खदान के परित्यक्त एस्वेस्टस एवं क्रोमाइट का कचड़ा नदी के पानी को प्रदूषित कर रहा है, जिससे पर्यावरण को नुकसान पहुंच रहा है। इससे जन समुदाय पर हानिकारक प्रभाव पड़ रहा है। इधर, एस्वेस्टस से बीमारी संबंधी स्वास्थ्य संगठन की टिप्पणी एवं भारत सरकार द्वारा स्वीकृत एमिशन स्टैंडर्ड फोर एस्वेस्टस के प्रभाव के संबंध में ओशाज की ओर से बताया गया है कि उक्त कचड़े में एस्वेस्टस की मात्रा फ़ैक्ट्री 1948 द्वारा स्वीकृत एफसीसी तथा वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय द्वारा निर्धारित मात्रा 01.1ए/सीसी से काफी अधिक है, जो हवा में उड़कर पानी (शेष पेज 19 पर)

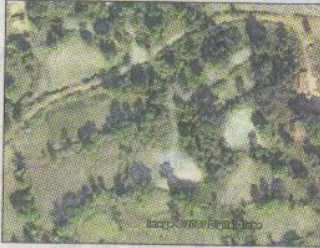
एस्वेस्टस से रोरो ...

के साथ बाहर के लोगों के स्वास्थ्य, जीवन, जीविका, पानी एवं पर्यावरण को नष्ट कर रहा है। अपर उपायुक्त ने बताया कि जिस तेजी के साथ पानी का विभिन्न स्रोत प्रदूषित हो रहे हैं, इसके गंभीर परिणाम सामने आने के पहले ही इस समस्या का समाधान कर लेना होगा। जिला खनन पदाधिकारी द्वारा भी रोरो के ग्रामीणों की समस्याओं को जड़ कचड़े को चिह्नित तो किया गया है। खनन विभाग ने एस्वेस्टस की सफाई के लिये इंडियन ब्यूरो ऑफ माइंस के साथ पत्राचार शुरू करने का निर्णय लिया है। इसका खनन करने वाली कंपनी स्थान छोड़कर चली गयी है। 1959 में टाटा द्वारा एजवेस्टस का खनन किया गया था, जबकि 1965 से 1983 तक हैदराबाद की एक कंपनी द्वारा यह काम किया गया। नियमतः इस कचड़े को ढंक देना था, लेकिन जिस स्थान पर खनन किया गया था, उसे खुला छोड़ दिया गया है।

‘अभिशाप’ बने रोरो के क्रोमाइट व एस्बेस्टस

राजीव नयनम्/सुनील कुमार सिन्हा

चाईबासा। कभी जिले की अर्थव्यवस्था के लिये वरदान साबित होने वाला रोरो गांव के क्रोमाइट और एस्बेस्टस अब ग्रामीणों के लिये अभिशाप बन चुके हैं। प्रारंभ में इसी क्रोमाइट एवं एस्बेस्टस की वजह से बाजार में रौनक रहती थी। रोरो एवं तिलयसुद के खान मजदूरों के घर में चहल-पहल हुआ करती थी। मंगलवार के दिन जब इन्हें मजदूरी का भुगतान मिलता था



रोरो में क्रोमाइट एवं एस्बेस्टस से प्रभावित खेतों की गुगल अर्थ एवं ओसाज माईंस वाच द्वारा उपलब्ध करायी गयी तस्वीर।

तो उस दिन उत्सव का माहौल होता था। इनके यहां बनने वाले लजीज व्यंजन का लुत्फ उठाने के लिये रिश्तेदारों का आना-जाना भी लगा रहता था, लेकिन अब स्थिति बिल्कुल बदल गयी है। अब कुछ ही घर ऐसे हैं, जहां दोनों समय चूल्हे जलते हैं। रिश्तेदारों का आना-जाना तो मानो नहीं के बराबर है। इस क्रोमाइट और एस्बेस्टस की (शेष पेज 19 पर)

‘अभिशाप’ बने रोरो ...

वजह से अब तक दर्जनों ग्रामीणों की मौत की हो चुकी है। एक गैर सरकारी संस्था की ओर से बताया गया है कि सन् 1981 में जनवरी से अगस्त माह के बीच कुल 30 लोगों की मौत एस्बेस्टस की खदान की वजह से हुयी है। वहीं एक सौ से भी अधिक लोग ऐसे हैं, जिनका गांव में अता-पता नहीं चल सका है। लिहाजा यह अंदाजा लगाया जा रहा है कि इससे मरने वालों की संख्या 150-200 तक रही होगी। गांव के पास एस्बेस्टस की खुली खदान से 60 फीसदी ग्रामीण एजवेस्टोसिस रोग से ग्रस्त हैं। वहीं खुली खदान के एस्बेस्टस ने 25 एकड़ खेतों को इस कदर ढक दिया है मानो इस पर एस्बेस्टस की चादर बिछायी गयी हो। जिन ग्रामीणों के खेत एस्बेस्टस की वजह से बंजर हो गये हैं, उनमें पायकेरा सुंडी, सुख मोहन सुंडी, मनाकी सुंडी, नारायण सुंडी, विजय सिंह सुंडी-एक, विजय सिंह सुंडी-दो, मानकी सुंडी-2, रामरो सुंडी, डुका सुंडी, मुगी सुंडी, सिनू सुंडी, मुकुंद सुंडी, नामगा सुंडी, पांडू सुंडी एवं कुशनू सुंडी शामिल हैं।