

Virtual Site Visit at Noakhali Municipality on Municipal Market Construction

Objectives: Visual monitoring of environmental facilities in Noakhali Municipality Municipal Market as agreed in approved Environmental Assessment Report submitted by Noakhali Municipality

Tools used for monitoring: WhatsApp video call, individual discussion with SE-BMDF over mobile phone

Participants: Supervision Engineer (BMDF) and Sub-Assistant Engineer, Noakhali Municipality at site.

Name of Sub-Project	Proposed environmental infrastructure	Present status	Comments
Construction of Municipal Market at Noakhali Municipality	Labor shed (male/female)	There is a labor tin shed rented for Noakhali Municipal Market. The labor shed is not satisfactorily habitable in context of ventilation, space, safe water supply, toilet facilities. There is no female labor engaged for construction works in the site as a result no female labor shed is required or rented for the said sub-project.	As per Environmental Assessment report and EMP, there are fund allocation for labor sheds and basic facilities. But the Contractor of Noakhali Municipal Market did not constructed any separate accommodation/facilities for labors. Hence, only rent amount can be given to the Municipality during final payment during final bill payment.
	PPE Use	Labors at site do not use PPE during construction work.	After several verbal reminder and written instructions from MD-BMDF, labors are very much reluctant to use PPE which is violation of WB compliances. Reimburse of PPE cost should not be paid if they continue to not to use PPE at sites.
	Temperature and Hand Wash	In COVID-19 guideline, it has been instructed to use soap during hand wash. Also suggested for purchase infrared thermo meter for monitoring body temperature.	During virtual site visit, there has not seen any formal arrangement for hand wash facilities. Infrared thermo meter is there but preserved in drawer without monitoring reserved at site office without using at site. Strong instructions have given to follow COVID-19 guidelines as mentioned in the sign boards.

	Safe water supply,(labor shed)	There are municipal water supply line extended up to labor shed. On the other hand, there is a hand tube well installed in front of labor shed as a source of drinking and wash water.	The overall water supply and water distribution method is satisfactory in the rented labor shed.
	Toilet (male/female)(labor shed)	There are no well-made toilet as suggested. The existing toilets are made of corrugated tin sheets and ring slabs. Water supply in the toilets are absent. Water has to collect from drum which is placed at outside of the toilet. Through virtual field visit, it has found that the condition of the toilet is very poor.	The Executive Engineer and the Contractor has been instructed to improve the quality of the toilets.
	Toilet (male/female)(Building)	There are toilets for male, female, and disabled people.	Finishing and marking of gender based and disabled people's toilets have not been finished yet.
	Septic tank	There was an old septic tank which was made considering the volume of waste generated from existing building. No septic tank has been constructed for extended portion.	As user will be increased during full use of the Municipal Market and there are possibility of over flow of waste water from the septic tank. Hence, close monitoring is needed and make it clean with short interval when necessary.
	Soak well	No soak well has been constructed yet.	As per information of SE-BMDF, Noakhali that the waste water from floor cleaning, toilet cleaning will discharge ultimately to storm water drain which is not acceptable from environmental ground. Noakhali Municipality should immediately mitigate this waste water discharge after completion of Market into separate soak well without discharging into municipal drain.

	Disabled toilets	There are provision of disable toilets in the market.	Disable toilet has not been constructed yet.
	Ramp	There is a ramp at ground floor for disabled, elderly people.	The ramp has not been constructed yet.
	Safe water supply (Building)	Municipal water supply already available at the old building, water source will be from the same source of the total building.	Municipal water supply will be provided when the market be completed.
	Washing Point	As per drawing there are washing points at ear marked areas.	Like other work, it is also under completion.
	Janitors closet	Janitor's location not yet settled.	The location will be fixed after completion of all construction and finishing works.
	Fire protection	Provision of fire protections have been designed.	Fire protection equipment will be fixed after finishing of work.
	Solid and Waste water management	As per design and Environmental Management Plan, there will have brick bin outside the building for dumping daily waste generated from each floor.	As the building is under construction, so no brick bin has been constructed.

Environmental threat:

- The labor and relevant persons who are engaged in construction works do not follow safety and COVID-19 directions as recommended from PMU-BMDF. As a result there are every possibilities of health contaminations, injury and life loss.
- The rented labor shed is not fully meet the requirements of Environment Management Plan (EMP).
- After completion of Noakhali Municipal Market, volume of solid waste and waste water generation will increase and worsen the adjacent environment.
- As the Market is under Construction, so comments on fire safety, cleaning procedure, disabled facilities, parking conditions cannot be passed.

Environmental Parameter (Air, Noise) analysis of Municipal Market under Noakhali Municipality

Noakhali Municipal Market and the Kitchen Market are close to each other. As a result environmental parameters like air quality and noise level are similar to each other. There is no big industries, significant number of motorized vehicles and moderate number of construction works in comparison with other big Cities, as a result no environmental parameters have been crossed the Bangladesh standard environmental parameters except PM10. The reason of higher quantity of PM10 may be the construction work's materials like brick breaking, sand screening and further adding kitchen market particulates during market periods. The data collection of completion phase has yet not done. So, this time comparison has been made between baseline and construction phases only. It has to be monitored that the status of environmental parameter after completion of construction works. If the air quality do not return to it's baseline form then mitigation measures like water spray, smoke emissions from vehicle, equipment and solid waste management have to be improved.

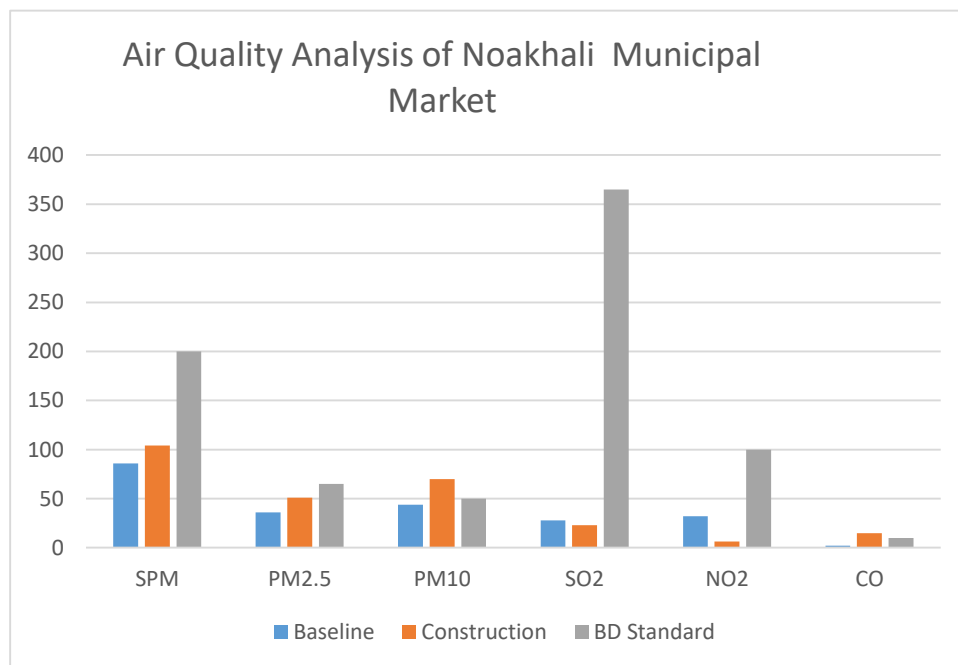


Figure: 1

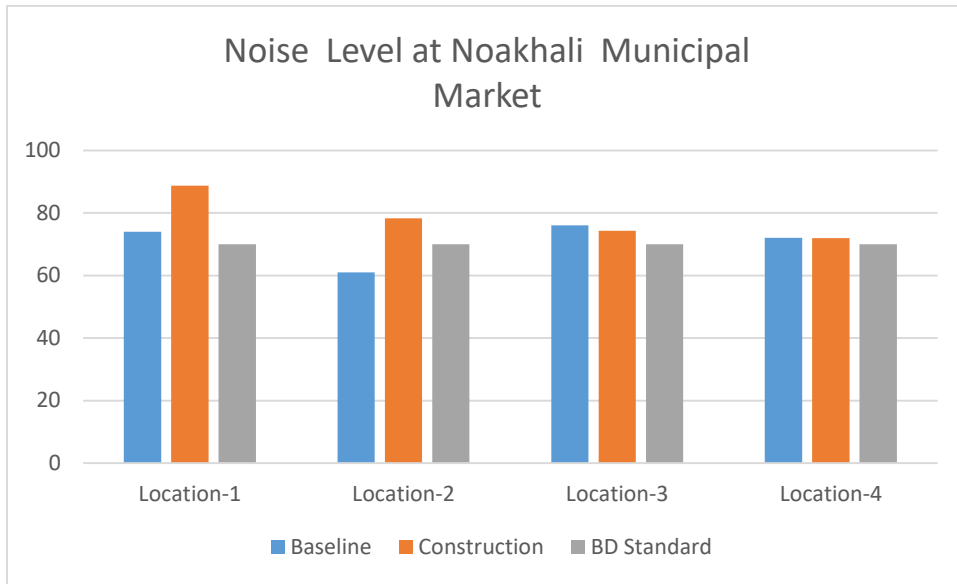


Figure: 2

The above figure shows the comparison between baseline and construction phase noise level at site. There are four locations at four corners of the municipal market. Except at location 2, noise level data in all other remaining locations are higher at baseline phase than the Bangladesh Standard noise level parameter. Construction phase noise level data in all locations are higher than the Bangladesh Standard noise level parameter. Possible reasons for crossing Bangladesh standard noise levels for gathering of visitors, construction materials and motorized vehicles etc. If noise level data cross the Bangladesh Standard after construction period then the noise should be controlled which are creating from vehicles, mechanized and non-mechanized vehicles, unplanned parking systems. In addition through awareness, engaging community police and fixing signboards at strategic points in front of the Market.

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