

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED MANDIWALI BOUXITE BLOCK (ML AREA – 139.05 HECTOR ) WITH BOUXITE PRODUCTION CAPACITY 0.22 MILLION TPA ALONGWITH INSTALLATION OF CRUSHER WITH CAPACITY OF 200.0 TPH AT VILLAGE – MANDIVALI, TALUKA – DAPOLI, DISTRICT – RATNAGIRI, MAHARASHTRA PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT SMT. HANIFA HAROON FAZLANI (HARE KRISHNA METALLICS PVT. LTD)**

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The Environment Public Hearing for proposed Mandiwali Bouxite Block (ML Area – 139.05 hector) with Bouxite Production Capacity 0.22 Million TPA alongwith installation of Crusher with capacity of 200.0 TPH at Village-Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri, Maharashtra proposed by Project Proponent Smt. Hanifa Haroon Fazlani, (Applied for Change of Name HARE KRISHNA METALLICS PVT. LTD.)

was conducted on Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 at 12.00 noon at Village – Mandivali, Gat No.1, Near Bramhanwadi Stop, Mandangad-Kelshi Road, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri, Maharashtra.

Shri Sanjay Jirapure, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chiplun and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri Chandrakant Suryawanshi, Additional District Magistrate, Ratnagiri and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Jagannath Salunkhe, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kolhapur and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists and Company Officials and local people/participants who were present in large number and with permission of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee started the proceedings

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification of Ministry

of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEF& CC, Gol) dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 as amended on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

He informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application from Project Proponent Smt. Hanifa Haroon Fazlanito conduct Environment Public Hearing Meeting for their proposed MandivaliBouxite Block (ML Area – 139.05 hector) with Bouxite Production Capacity 0.22 Million TPA alongwith installation of Crusher with capacity of 200.0 TPH at Village-Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri, Maharashtra.

Convener further informed that proposed Project as per EIA Notification, 2006 falls under Category B-1 (A) (4) which requires to obtain prior Environment Clearance from State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Environment & Climate Change Mantralaya, Maharashtra Government, Mumbai for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory.

Convener informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation is to make aware, local people who can be participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of the unit.

Project Proponent had submitted online prescribed application alongwith pre-feasibility report to the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Environment & Climate Change Mantralaya, Maharashtra Government, Mumbai on 25-05-2023 and it has been considered and given online approval on 26-05-2023.

After sanction of District Collector, Ratnagiri to conduct the Physical Environment Public Hearing on Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 at 12.00 noon, and as per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEF& CC, Gol), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-

2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Board's Office Order No. E- - 69 of 2023 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 23101---FTS—0225, dated 11-10-2023 :-

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|---|-----------------|
| 1) District Magistrate-Ratnagiri<br>or his representative not below<br>the rank of an Additional District<br>Magistrate                                   | <b>Chairman</b> |
| 2) Representative of Maharashtra<br>Pollution Control Board, Mumbai -<br>Regional Officer – Kolhapur,<br>Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,<br>Kolhapur | <b>Member</b>   |
| 3) Sub Regional Officer,<br>Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,<br>Chiplun   | <b>Convener</b> |

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chiplun in the Local Newspaper in Daily Tarun Bharat for Marathi and in National Newspaper Daily Indian Express for English on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2023. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summary were made available in Marathi and in English at various notified Government offices

- 1) Zonal Office, Western-Central Zone, Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department, New Secretarial Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur – 440 0001;

- 2) Hon. District Collector, Collector Office, Ratnagiri,
- 3) General Manager, District Industries Center, Ratnagiri,
- 4) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Ratnagiri,
- 5) Sub Divisional Officer, Dapoli, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri.
- 6) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office, Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri,
- 7) Sarpanch/Gram Sevak, Gram Panchayat Office-Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri,
- 8) Director, Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400 032
- 9) Joint Director (WPC) – Head Office – Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Sion Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Sion (East), Mumbai – 400 022
- 10) Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Udyog Bhavan, District Collector Office, Kolhapur – 416 002
- 11) Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Parkar Complex, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Gala No.224, Behind Nagar Parishad Office, Chiplun, Taluka – Chiplun, Ratnagiri – 415 605
- 12) Website of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai;

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that 10 objections are received against the project.

Convener informed that an opportunity is given to all participants to raise any doubts, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle, which can be submitted by orally or in writing also.

Convener asserted that this Committee is only for recording public opinion, suggestions, objections and has no right to approve, reject or

recommend the project. The suggestions/objections raised by the participants in the public hearing will be noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

Similarly, the revised Environmental Impact Assessment Report of the Project Proponent should have to be submitted to SEIAA, Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government Mumbai after taking note of the video recording of the said meeting, suggestions and objections recorded in the meeting after approval of Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee through Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. An Expert Committee there takes further decision regarding the same He requested Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee to inform Project Proponent to start the presentation

With the permission of the Chairman, the Environmental Consultant of the project made a presentation on the entire Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed project

Environment Consultant said that the process of transfer of lease from Hanifa Fazlani to Hare Krishna Metalics, Goa is going on at the government level. He said that the total cost of the said project is Rs 20.6 crore. The capital cost for environmental management is estimated at - Rs 0.50 crore, while the recurring cost is - Rs 0.15 crore. A green belt will be developed around the boundary of the mineral belt, on both sides of the road. Similarly, afforestation will be done on the backfilled pit and in the safety belt to be left 7.5 meters from the border. The project requires 38 persons and all the manpower will be taken from local villages

When the presentation was over, the Anti-Mining Sangarsh Committee march arrived at the meeting place. They gave slogans - Mines Hatao, Mandivali Bhachao.

Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee appealed to all the participants to remain calm and register their environmental views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project. The issues raised by you will be submitted to the Government.

This Committee does not approve, disapprove or support any project. The suggestions and objections raised by you are noted and the Expert Committee of the Environment Department of the Government of Maharashtra takes a decision in this regard. However, you should sit quietly and register your suggestions or objections.

At that time, the anti-project protestors entered in the meeting carrying banners, slogans written on caps - Mandivali Bachav. At that time, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee requested the participants who were shouting anti mines slogans to attend the meeting.

Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee told the participants that District Collector's representative Additional District Magistrate came from Ratnagiri to hear your grievances, suggestions and objections regarding the proposed project. Also Tahsildar Madam and all other Revenue Department staff is present to hear your suggestions and objections.

Member further said that this Committee has been formed for you. No decision is made here. This Committee has no authority to approve, reject or recommend the proposed project. Everyone in the meeting will be given an opportunity to speak. All will be heard. If the attendees want

to give written suggestions / objections, they will also be accepted. Verbal suggestions made by the attendees will be recorded. However, everyone is requested to remain calm and present their thoughts, suggestions, criticisms or objections peacefully.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee repeatedly requested the agitators, sloganeers to maintain peace and be seated themselves in the meeting.

At that time, a protester requested the Environmental Public Hearing Committee that the mining issue is local and belongs to Mandivli village. Many people in the meeting here are from outside. They have already blocked the chairs. However, they should be instructed to leave the meeting, and the locals should be instructed to be seated. He also requested the attendees to do the same. However, those who have issue should be allowed to sit. All the protestors supported the views expressed and were chanting slogans in support of it.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee repeatedly appealed to the participants to remain calm. He said that this meeting has been organized to hear the opinion of all local people. At that time some protestors were also instructing all the protestors to express their opinions peacefully.

Here, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee asked the farmers, laborers to come forward if they want to register their personal opinion, suggestions or objections.

All suggestions and objections will be recorded. Similarly, those who want to submit written statement should submit it. Project Proponent is instructed to reply in writing and it will be submitted to the Government along with the minutes of the meeting. However, one should come and submit a written statement. Also everybody is requested to sit calmly.

**Views, questions, suggestions/objections raised during the Environment Public Hearing and the answers/promises given by the Project Proponent :-**

**1) Shri Lalbahadur Jadhav, Residence-Mumbai (Agitator):-**

It is appealed to the audience that the officers who have come here, came to solve our problems and if we sit and fight among ourselves, it will be of no use. Hence, you are advised to sit where you are standing. After his appeal many people calmed down.

At that time, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed to the participants that just as the myke was given to Shri Lal Bahadur Jadhav, similarly it will be given to all. However, we should come alternately and present our thoughts and suggestions fearlessly. Not a single word will be changed. Take as much time as you want. Suggestions and objections raised by you will be recorded.

**2) Shri Arun Chincharkar, At Post – Kavadaligaon, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri :-**

I want to tell everyone on behalf of the local people here that people should remain calm. We have come to oppose this mining project. If our opposition is 100%, we don't want this public hearing. However, we request Government to cancel this public hearing immediately and stop this public hearing meeting immediately.

**3) Shri Arun Patil, At Post – Taluka Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri :-**

He demanded that the persons on the stage should introduce themselves.

As per the demand in the meeting by the attendees, Environmental Public Hearing Committee on stage gave their introduction. Shri Sanjay Jirapure gave introduction as SubRegional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chiplun and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee.



Shri Jagannath S. Salunkhe, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee gave his introduction as Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kolhapur and informed that Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee Shri Chandrakant Suryawanshi, Additional District Magistrate came here from Ratnagiri to solve the issues of the local people. Also Tahsildar madam, Revenue officers and officials came here to meet and hear your grievances. Nobody will oppose you. We request all participants to raise their views, suggestions or objections in respect of proposed project in environmental angle only.

**4) Shri Bhavesh Karekar, Residence –Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri :-**

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report prepared by the company's Environmental Consultant is 250 pages and is available in English. Controversy ensued among participants, with one group saying the project would not involve blasting in production. During the presentation, it is informed that machinery will be required here, but in the EIA report, it is mentioned that blasting is going to happen here.

In the EIA report, survey says that –

**methodology and preliminary and secondary data collection studyarea -**

The answer is given as - satellite data.

What does it include?

Survey of India and the data is collected from jio.

If we get information, we will take it. The report mentions that blasting is about to take place.

The report also states that noise pollution caused by blasting. It means that blasting is going to happen in the project, but wrong and misleading information is being deliberately spread in the surrounding villages that blasting will not happen here, and noise pollution will not happen.

We demand that the entire Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report should be made available in the official language of the State of Maharashtra i.e. Marathi, which is local language. Environmental Public Hearing meeting should be reconvened only after the complete Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report is made available in Marathi. This demand is supported by all the participants with supporting slogans.

Shri Bhavesh Karekar remarked that I am not at all at anyone's side. It is mentioned in the report that –

**however there are some water bodies, nalla, canal within the study area which may be impacted due to mining –**

This means that the report says that the water in our area will be polluted by the project.

There will be broken area in the form of access roads, pits, stack temporary and surface water alongwith this area will be get affected -

That is, the report itself mentions that the water will be polluted. We don't want polluted water.

It may carry tiny particles alongwith this water will join the seasonal water flowing at low level, the quality of water will be affected. - This is mentioned in your report.

Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee advised Shri Bavesh Karekar that he is raising questions and issues properly and that he should keep asking them.

**Direct Impact; Indirect Impact –**

**Loss of fallow filled and agriculture land –**

So the report itself is saying that the project will cause loss of agricultural land.

### **Fragmented Habitants –**

The dust deposition on the vegetation –

This means that the dust from the project will have an adverse effect on the plants and crops in the area.

**Vegetations damage due to industrial pollutants may have secondary effects on associated faunalized insects, birds – It means -**

plant damage caused by industrial pollutants can have secondary effects on related faunal insects, birds-

### **Gasses – Impact on Air Environment**

Gasses emissions will be generated from HEMMS & transportation of vehicles on Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) –

#### **It means -**

Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) वर HEMMS &

**Emissions from vehicular traffic** – this has been noted in the EIA report by the project consultant itself.

Shri Bhavesh Karekar further said that in this EIA report a report of Forest Department has been attached. The letter is dated July, 2023, but the report attached to it is dated 2009 (i.e. 14 years ago report). This means that this report is out of date. If the Gat book map for government works does not take more than six months, then here is an outdated report of fourteen years ago. Bilal Hakim Mohammad, Shri Mahmood

Hakim Muqadam along with other people, they did not get people from our wadi for Panchanama?

In the presentation, it was said that there are small and big trees at the project site. Among them are Ain, Kinjal, Kudkudi, Haral, Phela, Jambhul, Umbershet, which means they are not small trees but nature has given them before generations.

However, the entire Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report should be made available to the local people in Marathi only. The report/annexures attached with the information should be recent/latest.

He further said that we do not know the village map in the report which was shown in the presentation. There is no Technical Expert here who can make us aware. However, according to the Swift survey, information will be required. According to that, we will know how far our house, wadi is.

Shri Bhavesh Karekar said that the report of Collector, Ratnagiri for the year 2017 submitted to the present Collector, Ratnagiri, Environment Department, Government of Maharashtra, reciting 2-3 lines of it –

What has happened between Rollway and Umbershet – the former Collector, Ratnagiri has submitted to Bombay High Court. Nothing has changed since 2017

Shri Bhavesh Karekar said that Mandivali and its surroundings have been affected due to both side of mines. Mandivali village is not taken into consideration while reporting Umbershet. The entire transport of mines in Umbershet is from Mandivali village itself. The EIA of the

proposed project should be prepared keeping in mind both the previous mine reports and the current proposed project

Because as per the opinion of Collector, Ratnagiri – Ashapura Mines found to be chronic defaulter, which is inserted in inspection report.

Hence, I request the concerned departments to inspect both the operational mines immediately. They should be checked for compliance with the terms and conditions prescribed, as according to local information, both the respective mines have violated the terms and conditions. Presenting evidence for the same. Both those mines have not developed green belt as passed – As per satellite photo both mines have not developed green belt anywhere in the project area.

He read out the information from the inspection reports of both the companies –

The main reason for this road to be in the bad shape in the moment of foray carrying trucks weighing upto 10 Tons.

But trucks carry more weight than stipulated. The roads are completely damaged and we do not want such roads. This report is from 2017. Even though we were not actively working for two years due to Corona, the dumpers were still running. If so, who investigates and takes further action? The conclusion is that no one is inspecting both the working mines.

Hence, on behalf of Mandivali Village, I am requesting that Rowale should be inspected first. The impact on the environment should be investigated. Only rivers are shown in the EIA report. But there is no mention of other water sources. Today, Baitwadi receives water from Parturspring/stream. After

the water from that spring runs out, people from Rowale mine come on my well to take the water in April-May.

However, the entire Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report should be made available in Marathi to the local people.

It is also second request that the Environment consultant who prepared the said Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report is from Gurugram. However, this report should be prepared by the local Environmental Consultant of Maharashtra and made available in Marathi.

Hence, recent correspondence and references should be considered and inserted while preparing New EIA. A wildlife report cannot be prepared in a day. Hence, as per the demand, EIA report should be made available in local language which is official language of Maharashtra i.e. in Marathi and then public hearing should be recalled again.

Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee opined that the views expressed by Mr. Bhavesh Sir in the meeting are very suitable for environmental public hearing and to record such suggestions and objections, an environmental public hearing has been organized here. Hence, the participants should raise environmental suggestions and objections about the proposed project.

**5) Shri Chandrashekar Vedpathak, At Post- Mandivali Village, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri –**

Welcome to the Environmental Public Hearing Committee and appeal to all to live peacefully. All the points raised by Shri Bhavesh Karekar on behalf of our Mandivli village are correct. Local people

themselves do not know where and how the survey was conducted while preparing this EIA report.

Now comes the question of industry – it is said that the local people will get job opportunities. Then come with us to Rowla Umbershet, see the present situation in that village today, the school in the village has been closed. All the participants here supported the issue he raised. If mining provides employment, why did villages and villagers leave? The schools of Rowle and Umbershet have been closed. If there are industries in that village, where did the people go? People from Mandivli village and Panchkroshi have come to the meeting here. People from a radius of 10 km from the project site have come here. They also have a right here. We are totally against this project as they will also suffer from this project.

Here, people from far away from 50.0 k.m. are brought. We will not listen to them. Why did the people of Rowla Umbershet the village? After the meeting, government officials should come with us, we will conduct a survey - study how many people in the village got employment, how many people benefited from the industry, how many people left the village, home. Respect the demands and thoughts of the local people. No oppression of the government will be tolerated. The government should note that there will be a stronger agitation against the project.

**6) Shri Manoj Kelkar, At Post – Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri :-**

Now the mining of Rowle and Umbershet is going on, it is going on in our village. When mining starts, the first question to the government officials is why they give permission first and then public

hearing? If it came to the government first, why Government keep the local people in confusion and in the dark? Bhaveshsar showed photos in the meeting, there is forest in 139 hectares. Is anyone from forest department present here? Only the stones are shown here.

There is also place, in rural language it is called "Sadya," it is also part of the forest, there also animals stay as per Schedule 1. What about their habitation? At present, their habitation at Rowale and Umbershet is completely destroyed? This Mandivali project should not be approved and after enquiry, visit and inspection both the mines at Rowale and Umbershet should be stopped immediately.

There have been many accidents due to company vehicles on the roads here. The roads here are very narrow and how can a 40 tonne dumper pass through this road?

The management of the proposed mining company is spreading the word in all the villages that everyone will get employment here. That is false. Village politicians are big, holding them hand in hand and closing the mouth of the entire village. Rowley and Umbershet environmental report was written while sitting in a hotel in Chiplun, similarly the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report of this proposed project was written and it is not acceptable to us.

No one comes here for 8-10 days. Next time you all will come to give false promises. Then only and only local people have to suffer. No one comes to help. Then we will have to go to government offices for justice, there first give an application and then answer is given that it will be submitted to higher-ups.

Now all the government officials and project officials nod and give assurances, then no one comes to our side. However, 139 hectares is



forest. Let it be a forest. At least it is giving oxygen. My point is that the mining here is for bauxite ie aluminum.

So we don't need aluminum. If you walk on the streets, millions of tons of aluminum cans, syrup cans and materials are lying around. So why harm the environment and extract aluminum from the mine? And there is 139 hectares of forest, it is giving us life gas. No mine gives oxygen. So keep this mine closed without permission and keeping public sentiments in mind keep it closed and closed.

**7) Shri Tanaji Ramchandra Shigwan, Residence – Mandivali-Sawantwadi, Taluka-Dapoli, Distarict – Ratnagiri:-**

Petition is being given that we, Mandivali-Sawantwadi Gram Vikas Mandal, Mumbai, are opposing to the mining project coming up in our village. Such a project is affecting the natural water source of our village. Therefore, the ground water level is going down.

Also, due to the soil particles flying in the air, fruit cultivation is being affected. We are already facing this problem due to the mining projects in Rowla and Umbershet in the surrounding area. Due to the soil filling trucks, soil particles are flying, thus affecting our health. Many times, the fleet of loaded cars also get into accidents, thus endangering our lives.

Our Vastis-localities are situated at the foot hills. If mining activities are started, there will be threat to all these localitiess. Situation that happened at Irshalwadi may happen in future in Mandivali and surrounding villages.

Already our villages are devastated by nature and small storms and we are opposing this project which destroys the environment. However, we request you to consider this application carefully.

8) **Ershadwadi Person –**

Our village is also at the foot of the hill. How these accidents happened? After asking experts in various fields, they gave the correct answer that they pointed to the report of the Gadgil Commission and if the government had accepted the Gadgil report, this time would not have come today.

Well - the government rule is five lakhs for the dead and fifty thousand for the injured. So our five lakhs have been deposited? Give fifty thousand to those who remain. Think, the traffic in these vehicles is so terrible, people told that truck drivers who come here in the project drive vehicles recklessly. However, we humbly request that justice be given to us.

9) **Shri Ashok Bait, Secretary, Sangarsha Samiti, Mumbai –**

Earlier, Mandivali-Savantwadi people have written a letter to the Collector, Ratnagiri, similarly we have also submitted a letter to the Collector, Ratnagiri and Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, that - People's opposition to bauxite mining in Mandivali. Bauxite mining will be done by Hanifa Harun Fazlani at Mandivali.

Similarly, there will be a 200 Ton per hour mining system. If this project is installed, its adverse effects which is as follows.

At present, Mandivali village gets its drinking water from Shaurya river. If this project takes place, it will affect drinking water. Because the mining dumper traffic will be passing through the same area, the water pipes are likely to break easily.

In the Baitwadi area, where the mining belt is indicated, Baitwadi gets drinking water. If mining takes place, the aquifer is likely to be lost.

Mangoes, cashew nuts, kokum, karavande and other fruit trees are feared to become extinct due to mining. Mining will destroy the habitats of the wildlife, so it is likely to become polluted. Their descendants will be rare.

Asthma, respiratory diseases are likely to occur due to continuous mining traffic and exposure to dust. We believe that deforestation for mining will affect the environment and reduce rainfall, which will affect crops.

We feel that mining will destroy living water sources. Due to the continuous movement of mining, the houses and settlements in the area are suffering from dust and the lives of school children are in danger.

Due to overloading of the mining dumper, the carrying capacity of the bridge is not enough, hence there is possibility of the bridge collapsing.

However, bauxite mining should not be done, so the people of the vicinity are against mining. This opposition will continue. However, it is requested to consider our application and cancel Mining of bauxite.

Such an application has been made.

The report said that those who are educated will be given employment. While giving employment contracts to the local people, the jobs of running restaurants, running toilets, cleaning will be given to the local people. If the local people are being insulted, should the local people do the same work? This EIA report is supportive of mining projects, supporting mining. However, we reject this EIA report and we are firmly opposing the mining project.

10) Kavita Chandorkar, Residence – Rowale, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri :-

Rowale is my home, my goshala/cow shed is there. What is the biggest problem of this mining, I have seen it closely. My words will seem dirty to you because of small things. When mining is going on, if a person is tied up and food is forced into the mouth, it is called coercion or rape. You (company contractor) do it on the land, the land from which our Sita Mauli came.

There are many bird's eggs on it, cows, wild boars, we drive them away, for what, to extract bauxite. We can use it for good – we can do Aamrai -Mango Garden there, Cultivation of cashew nutsthere, cow grazing forest (Gai ran).

Another thing is when these mining dumpers come, it has been reported many times in front of my house, half-naked men walk around. Women ashamed to look up, four times my husband scolded them, but in vain

Similarly, all these are migrants. They do open defecation and mouth washing on the small roads. Local people have to walk around with a handkerchief on the nose. Girls, women are ashamed to walk or go on bicycle, two wheelers on the small road. Hence, I request Environment Public Hearing Committee and Government to visit Rowale village and Umbershet village immediately.

Vijaywadi is near Rowle village. If there is a heavy rain, the whole of Vijayawadi will go under a heap of mud. Nobody will not know that Vijayawadi was there. Another thing is that there was heavy rain, water has accumulated at Kelashi village. Because contractors have

broken our hills. Rain water cannot percolate. It goes directly at Kelshi village. When there was Nisarg storm, the report is submitted that now sea water has become hot. Why sea water became hot? Because we brake hills and mountains, cutting the trees, we are putting concrete pevarblocks in the sea, we are building jetties. How we can face such storms? I came here after leaving my Yoga teacher profession at Mumbai to do natural farming and to give local people guidance of natural farming. But here I have been vindicated. Our voice is being completely suppressed.

Secondly, the personnel and drivers who bring water tankers, dumpers talk very harsh and arrogantly. Twice, I have accident. My scooter is hit by vehicle .This should not happen. We will make Konkan beautiful.If you don't, we will, but don't ruin Konkan with mining projects.

**11) Shri Rupesh Bangali, Residence – Mandivali Village, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri :-**

I am a resident of Konkan. Our land is there, where the proposed project is to be commissioned. Many people came to purchase it by saying that why you want so much land. I answered them that I, work hard, I sweat and earn my daily bread. My plot was surveyed, polls were erected, nobody was knowing it. When I asked the local people, they informed that they also do not know who did it. They just give unreliable answers.

Umbershet mining traffic goes from our Anantwadi. First, six tyre dumper was running, then they started a fifteen tyre dumper. After complaints and objections were registered by the local people, dumpers of ten tires were started.

When asked how much cargo he would carry, he said 40-45 tonnes of cargo. But in the EIA report, it is written that more than ten tons of goods will not go.

Hence, I appeal all to fight, struggle to avoid mining activities. I am ready to sleep in front of mining vehicles.

**12) Shri Ajit Anant Velankar, Residence-Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri :-**

Due to this mining, respiratory and asthma diseases have increased among the locals. If a chicken goes under the dumper, the factory owners pay five to six thousand to shut the mouth of the affected people. I am against this mining project.

**13) Shri Asifbhai Mukadam, Residence – Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri -**

Namaskar. Whether to start this project or not is 100% a matter here. But before that we are all the people of the village, we must remain one. We can resolve the issues without fighting among ourselves. Those who want the project will give 100% effort, while those who don't want will also give 100% effort. The important thing here is that the relations of our village people should not become strenuous. If we are supporting project, we should not think that non-supporters are our enemies, and those who don't want are not our enemies either.

He said that the thoughts and issues raised by Shri Bhavesh Karekar about the project in the meeting are not wrong, because he may have given some suggestions to avoid any crisis in the village.

Here, all the participants collectively shouted/demanded to speak only whether they support the project or they are against the project, and nobody is allowed to speak other issues.

**On this occasion, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed participants not to disturb anyone or make**

any hurdles while anybody is raising the issues. Everyone should present their thoughts, opinions, suggestions or objections. Do not disturb it. The participants should present their environmental suggestions, objections regarding the proposed project.

**14) Gitanjali Vedpathank -**

All those present in the meeting are requested that whatever they have to say, they should say it quietly, nothing will be gained by shouting. Those who wants to speak in favor of the company should also be given an opportunity to speak.

Here, the participants collectively started raising slogans against the project. Some people were objecting to the group that the company had brought outsiders in the meeting and they are not aware of the problems here, they should be thrown out of the meeting.

At that time, Chairman and Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee stood up and appealed to all participants to remain calm.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed to all participants to remain calm and said that so far few participants have registered verbal objections to the proposed project. Similarly, written statements have also been received in the meeting.

As stated by the Convener at the beginning of the meeting, this Committee does not approve the project, does not reject the project, and also does not recommend the project. This committee has been formed to record your environmental views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The minutes will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai.

An Expert Committee there will take appropriate decision regarding the project.

We are acting as an Mediator between local people and Project Proponent. However, the participants should raise their suggestions and objections peacefully. If there are 100 people in the meeting, then all of them should give a collective written statement or each of them should give oral suggestions and/or objections. Every matter will be recorded. Instead of personal disputes, quarrels, opposing each other in the village, everyone should make suggestions about the environmental aspects of the proposed project. Minutes of the meeting will be noted and submitted to the Government.

So far five written statements have been received in the meeting and as many people who want to submit written statements should do so. Similarly, those who want to give verbal suggestions or objections should do so. Someone will speak in favour of the company or someone will against the company. Do not interrupt each other. What you are going to say, it will be noted.

**15) Shri Asifbhai Mukadam, Residence – Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri :-**

I have been working in mining sector for many years. I don't deny that you are opposed, because you know a lot about mining, and also not a lot about, say, blasting. During the discussions regarding mining in Rowla and Ubershe, the topic of blasting came up in the meeting. So, the answer is that last 4-5 years - maybe seven years ago, the Government had given blasting permission for mining at Rowla and Ubershe. There is no more blasting, but all material is removed by breaking.



He further said that we have no opposition to anyone, no opposition to the demands of the Sangharsh Samiti. We need to take a coordinating role and lead the way. The direction can be decided by sitting together and discussing it.

**16) Shri Shailesh Karekar, Residence – Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri :-**

The repressed struggle of the people of Mandivali can be seen here. The eye of the human devil is set on a scenic village called Mandivli. This is where Mandivali nature's laughter started. Seeing how this human devil built a Mandivli mountain, some people sold for a handful of money, because of them some people are suffering now. The struggle will not end here. Mandivali hill will disappear in no time, a Mandivali village will not appear on the map. So we are against mines.

One says that royalty will come here. So how much royalty was spent in the villages where the mines are located. How much money did that village get from that royalty? I am against mines.

**17) Radhakrishna Jadhav, At Post – Mandivali, Taluka – Dapoli, District – Ratnagiri -**

Asks direct questions regarding the subject. We have heard that all has been fulfilled. Permission has been given to the mining contractor. They have distributed money to those who say they want mining in the meeting. My plot is also in the mining area.

I can fight personally. 90% of people here are against mining. If you say keep quiet, how can we understand the opposition to mining? We are ready to fight, we will fight till the end. The company's agent is moving from house to house. Pressure is being put on the local people.

18) Shri Aadesh Kene, Former Sabhapati, Mandangan,  
Vidhan Sabha Area Pramukh,

Understand the subject first. Support and opposition for mining will be there. In two of our talukas – be it Khed, Dapoli or Mandangad, there is no job opportunities in these three talukas. Therefore, the population of our three talukas is decreasing by two thousand each year. The population of my taluka was 70,000-75,000 1980, Now it is 55,000. Employment must come, employment must exist, new company must come.

Here, the participants coming in group started slogan of Mining Hataav (Remove Mining). There was only confusion. Most of the participants were waving their hands saying no to mining i.e. No Mining, No Mining. At that time Shri Keni was shouting learn to listen.

At that time, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee stood up and appealed all the participants to sit quietly. Still the audience was making a lot of noise.

Chairman, Environment PublicHearing Committee said that Environment Public HearingCommittee had repeatedly called upon the participants to register their views, objections, suggestions regarding the environmental aspects of the proposed project three times.

Chairman further said that in the public hearing, it was repeatedly suggested not to talk to each other about disputes and quarrels in the village.Written comments have also been received in the meeting. Similarly, 17 people have registered suggestions and objections about the proposed project. Attendees are repeatedly arguing their differences. That is not the purpose of this public hearing. However, they are trying to

bring out individual grievances in the public hearing. However, this public hearing is now being stopped here.

**19) Shri Rajesh Gujar, Dapoli Taluka Panchayat Samiti, Former Sabhapati, Former Umsabhapati:-**

My village is mungis, but I have attended this public hearing to understand the sentiments of the people. We have come to tell the Environment Public Hearing Committee about the proposed project and we are going to submit our views to the Government. Among the issues raised by Bhavesh sir and others in the meeting, the EIA report was demanded. It is not understood by common people. The entire EIA report should be made available in official language of Maharashtra Marathi.

However, today's public hearing should be postponed instead of cancelled. At that time, all the participants started to make slogans. Almost all started to give slogans of the abolition of mining i.e. Mining Hataav, MandivaliBachao.

Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee said that 18 people have registered their suggestions and objections in the meeting and written comments have been received in the meeting.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee declared that the public hearing is concluded.

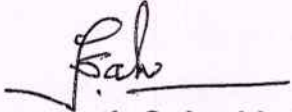
After the conclusion of Environment Public Hearing, an officer from the Police Administration came on the stage and appealed to the public that the Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee has announced that the public hearing is concluded. However, all citizens are hereby informed that they should go to their homes and follow law and order rules.

Enclosed 10 written suggestions/objections received.



(Sanjay Jirapure)

Convener,  
Environment Public Hearing  
Committee  
And  
Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra  
Pollution Control Board,  
Chiplun,



(Jagannath Salunkhe)

Member,  
Environment Public Hearing  
Committee  
And  
Regional Officer, Maharashtra  
Pollution Control Board,  
Kolhapur,



(Chandrakant Suryawanshi)

Chairman,  
Environment Public Hearing Committee  
And  
Additional District Magistrate, Ratnagiri,  
District – Ratnagiri