

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED PROJECT OF WINDING OF EXISTING CONTAINER BERTH AT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU PORT (CARGO HANDLING CAPACITY 22.1 MTPA) –**

- A) INCREASE OF CRANE RAIL SPAN FROM 20.0 METER TO 30.50 METER FOR BERTH LENGTH OF 680.0 METER;**
- B) INCREASE OF DECK WIDTH OF THE BERTH BY 15 METER ON LAND SIDE;**
- C) UPGRADATION AND STRENGTHENING OF EXISTING 530 METER BERTH AND 150 METER WHARF**

**AT VILLAGE – NHAVA SHEVA, TALUKA – URAN, DISTRICT – RAIGAD , MAHARASHTRA BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S JAWAHARLAL NEHRU PORT AUTHORITY (JNPA), URAN, MAHARASHTRA**

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The Environment Public Hearing in respect of proposed project of -

- a) Increase of crane rail span from 20.0 meter to 30.50 meter for berth length of 680.0 meter;
- b) Increase of deck width of the berth by 15 meter on land side;
- c) Upgradation and strengthening of existing 530 meter berth and 150 meter wharf.

**At Village – Nhava Sheva, Taluka – Uran, District – Raigad, Maharashtra by Project Proponent M/s Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), Maharashtra was conducted on Friday, the 01<sup>st</sup> December, 2023 at the site of the said industry on 12.00 noon at Bahuuddeshiya Sabhagraha, Sector -02, J.N.P.T. Colony, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, Taluka -Uran, District -Raigad.**

Representative, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Taloja and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri. Sandesh Shirke, Additional District Magistrate, Raigad and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Satish Padwal, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Navi Mumbai and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists, Representative of media channels and Company Officials and local people/participants who were present and with permission of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee started the proceedings.

Representative of 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, GoI) 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 M/s Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra to conduct Environmental Public Hearing for their proposed project of -

- a) Increase of crane rail span from 20.0 meter to 30.50 meter for 680 meters berth length.
- b) Increase of deck width of the berth by 15 meter on land side;
- c) Up gradation and strengthening of existing 530 meter berth and 150 meter wharf.

At Village – Sheva, Taluka – Uran, District – Raigad, Maharashtra.

Representative of Convener further informed as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of proposed project falls under Category A – as Cargo Handling Capacity is >5.0 MTPA – Schedule – 7 (E)- Ports, Harbours, Break Waters, Dredging, which requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory.

Representative of 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 along with pre-feasibility report to obtain ToR to Environment Appraisal Committee, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi and it has been considered and given online approval on 01-09-2023.

After sanction from District Collector, Raigad to conduct the Physical Environment Public Hearing on Friday, the 01<sup>st</sup> December, 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, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,

Mumbai has constituted Environment Public Hearing Committee vide Board's Office Order No. E- 80 of 2023 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 231110 FTS- 0097 dated 10/11/2023 as under:-

- 1) District Magistrate-Raigad  
or his representative not below  
the rank of an Additional District  
Magistrate **Chairman**
- 2) Representative of Maharashtra  
Pollution Control Board, Mumbai -  
Regional Officer – Navi Mumbai,  
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,  
Pune **Member**
- 3) Sub Regional Officer,  
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,  
Taloja **Convener**

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Taloja in the Local Newspaper in Daily Sakal and Krushival for Marathi and in National Newspaper Indian Express for English on 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summery were made available in Marathi and in English at various notified Government offices as under:-

- 1) District Collector Office, Raigad, Alibag.
- 2) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Zonal Office, Western-Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur-440 001;
- 3) General Manager, District Industries Center, Raigad, Alibag,
- 4) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad Office, Raigad, Alibag,
- 5) Sub Divisional Officer, Panvel, District – Raigad;,,
- 6) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office, Uran, Taluka – Uran, District – Raigad;
- 7) Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti – Uran, Taluka – Uran, District – Raigad;
- 8) Chief Officer, Nagar Parishad, Uran, Taluka – Uran, District – Raigad;

- 9) Gram Panchayat Office – Sonari, Jaskhar, Dongari, Funde, Sheva, Hanuman Koliwada, Panje
- 10) Group Gram Panchayat, Gharapuri, Karan, Nhava;
- 11) Director, Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Kama Road, Mumbai – 400 032;
- 12) Joint Director (WPC), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 1<sup>st</sup>,2<sup>nd</sup>,3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai – 400 022;
- 13) Regional Officer, Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sector 11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai – 400 614;
- 14) Sub Regional Officer, Sub Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sector 11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai – 400 614;
- 15) Website, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai;

Representative of Convener informed that 32 suggestions / objections have been received by Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Taloja regarding the proposed project.

Representative of 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.

Representative of Convener asserted that this Committee is only for recording public opinion, views, suggestions, objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only and the Committee 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 Assessment Report of the Project Proponent and minutes of the meeting after approval of Chairperson will be submitted through MPCB Head Office to the Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi after taking note of the video recording of the said meeting, suggestions and objections recorded in the meeting. 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. It is informed that the proposed cost for the proposed project is Rupees 196.82 crores. 6.3 lakh rupees will be spent for environmental management in the project during the implementation phase of the project.

For the said project, during the construction phase, around 360 contractual manpower and 10 regular manpower employment opportunities will be available. After the implementation of the project, 15 regular manpower and 360 contractual manpower will be required. Preference will be given to project affected and local people. Similarly, due to the said project, there will be a huge increase in the indirect business in the area.

After the Presentation, Representative of Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all participants to raise their suggestions, objections in respect of proposed project in environmental angle only. While asking questions, full name and residential address should be informed.

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

**1) Shri Bhushan Patil, Leader of Workers, Representative of Project Affected Persons :-**

Earlier there was a container terminal, it was called Nhava Sheva Port. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) has awarded the existing terminal to Nhava Sheva Free Port Terminal Private Limited to increase crane rail span from 20.0 m to 30.50 m for 680 m berth length, shock deck width 15.0 Meters extension and improvement and strengthening of existing 530.0 meter berth and 150.0 meter wharf is proposed for which public hearing is now conducted.

So one has to study and know what is the socio-economic effects of any project will be. Our city of Uran is the Most Polluted City in the World. Also, Uran city has become Most Accident Prone Zone. Most of the accidents are happening in Uran city. After few days, the container handling capacity will be one crore i.e. ten million per annum.

So what effect it will have on environment, human life and what is expected from JNPA should be noted.

The first effect is that there are many casualties. When we obtained information under Right To Information (RTI), 2005, more than two hundred people died in the year 2020, 2021 and 2022, 2023 only due to accidents. A large number of two-wheeler accidents take place here and no one takes responsibility for it.

Many lives are being lost due to this container transport. So, the important question here is who should rehabilitate the family after the breadwinner of the family leaves. The pollution that occurs here – the Air Quality Index here is the highest. So it is getting difficult to breathe here. By watching the containers, journalists brothers says- containers are Uran's death. Here, responsibility for the accident should be fixed.

Another thing is that the wetlands here will be destroyed due to pollution. Various birds used to come here. They will not come, so indirectly it will affect human life.

Here comes the important question - i.e. the question of rehabilitation. So, in this container terminal which was transferred to Nhava Shewa Free Port Terminal Private Limited, 600 of our workers were working in permanent cadre. There is an investment of 900 crores. If Rupee One Crore is ear-marked for every person, then nine hundred local people affected by the project should get employment in permanent cadre.

A few days ago, JNPA has called applications for the jobs, while applications from 1,200 local and Project Affected People (PAPs) have been received, the list has been prepared by JNPA. This project will be developed in two phases. So, how many PAPs and local people will be employed in regular and contractual service?

Though there are so many projects in Uran Taluka, job opportunities have not been given to the PAPs and local people, the original local people here. However, they should get employment as they used to get regular service earlier. Two villages were displaced. Two villages viz - Navin Sheva and Hanuman Koliwada were displaced. They were not given job opportunities.

Hanuman Koliwada village is still not legally rehabilitated. They say they are still in the transit camp. Both those villages and other project affected villages should be rehabilitated and should be given compensation also. Employment/job

opportunities should be created. We are not against development, but the local people must get employment.

Effective measures must be taken to control the pollution caused by the project. Also, the jobs which are available in contractual cadres should be given exclusively to local people and PAPs.

However, it is our humble request that these demands should be considered by the Environmental Public Hearing Committee.

## **2) Shri. Manoj Koli, Residence – Gavhan village, Taluka – Panvel, District – Raigad :-**

Despite being an affected village, the name of Gavhan village is not in the list of project affected gram panchayats. However, this point should be noted. Gavhan village is a village of Koli community. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board published a public hearing a notice in vernacular language (here Marathi) and one in national newspaper for English. There is no mention of the name of Gavhan Gram Panchayat. However, this should be clarified, then only I will raise my suggestions.

Because 1,035 people of Gavhan village have received compensation from JNPA. So, it should be informed why Gavhan village was neglected, because you will take any decision without our knowledge.

Project Proponent said that thirty days prior to the public hearing day, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board had published a public notice in a vernacular newspaper (here in Marathi) and in a national newspaper in English for the information of the public. So. we assume that it reached to the local people.

We welcome your arrival. However, if you have any environmental suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project, you can raise them.

JNPT was started in 1978. There was no mention of Gavhan village at that time. Gavhan village is "Project Affected Village". So when we demanded to give a certificate as "Project Affected Persons (PAPs)", we said that only those whose land was acquired will be given "project affected certificate." So why this is?

Why person is not considered as PAP, whose trees are acquired? Won't you give him a job? When we apply for jobs in JNPA, a question is asked whether there is a project affected certificate. Hence, whom should we ask for a certificate?

I turn forty, I won't have a job, but what will our next generation do? Whom should fishermen contact for a PAP certificate? There are 1,035 natives fishermen in

our village, why are they not given project affected certificates? So, the explanation should be given immediately.

If the land is acquired for the project, he is the victim of the project, then if the fishing of the fishermen is lost due to the project, then why are they are not considered as Project Affected Persons? So, we should be informed about who will declare us as PAP.

The next point is our Gavhan village creek will be affected. So how many channels are going to be kept for boats to go there? Many of our boats have sunk. Similarly, the silt there has also not been removed by the Project Proponent – JNPA. Fertilization of fish does not take place without removal of sediment. We have to write complaints to the Konkan Commissioner.

Our boats hit the rocks there. Till date, our demands have not been considered. The silt in our Gavhan Creek is not removed. Just like Kalamboli Creek, the water there smells because of not removing the silt. People do not eat the crabs there. Hence, here also it will happen.

Hence, the residents of Gavhan should get the “project affected certificate”, the people of Gavhan should get priority in the jobs and by which method the project affected persons will be granted certificate, it should be informed. Also the affidavit which is taken from residents of Gavhan should be returned back to us. Project Proponent should be compensation to us.

The houses of Hanuman Koliwada have been infested with termites. They are also our brothers. When they will be rehabilitated? Copy of minutes of this meeting should be made available at each project affected grampanchayats.

### **3) Shri. Paramanand Deo Koli, Sarpanch, Grampanchayat Hanuman Koliwada:-**

My question to the Project Proponent – JNPA is Whether Rehabilitation first or Project first? He requested Environmental Public Hearing Committee to give an answer in this regard.

Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee informed that Project Proponent proposes to develop project in existing project only. Hence, here nobody will be affected. And this is Environment Public Hearing for the proposed project.

At that time Shri. Parmanand Koli objected that Sheva and Koliwada Gavthan was totally acquired for the second phase of JNPA. In 1985 it was acquired. Now there

is no project. Later many new projects have been started here. Since last 38 years, we are fighting for rehabilitation.

Project Proponent do not implement rehabilitation work. So many projects have come up here, they are not giving jobs to the local people and to the PAPs. Hon. Collector-Raigad, Alibag had informed that on yesterday i.e. 29th November, 2023 that the public hearing would be postponed. But today the public hearing is going on here, which means that everything is going to be done by keeping the local people in the dark.

At that time, Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee inform that as per EIA Notification, 2006, thirty days prior to the public hearing, public notice was published by MPCB in a local newspaper in Marathi and in a national newspaper in English for the information of the public. Similarly, environmental documents about the proposed project were made available in Marathi and English at Gram Panchayat Offices in project affected villages.

The said public hearing is an Environmental Public Hearing for the proposed project. Rehabilitation is a completely different subject. A rehabilitation meeting will be arranged soon. Shri Koli objected that we are fighting for rehabilitation since last 38 years.

Shri Koli inquired whether joint site inspection of the proposed project was carried? He alleged that there was no joint inspection. A joint site inspection of the proposed project was required to be carried by the District Administration, other related government departments, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board along with the fishermen.

He alleged that the government is working in favor of the project keeping the local people, fishermen in the dark. However, joint site inspection should be done first, then further action should be taken.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee directed to record the suggestions raised by Shri Koli.

**4) Shri. Lakhapati Asharam Patil, Sarpanch Panje Villge Grampanchayat, Taluka-Panvel, District-Raigad**

JNPA has developed a port as new terminal of BMCTPL. My village is next to it. JNPA has given a notice to our village that we should not carry fishing activities. Our village lives on the fishing. Even the people of our village have not been given jobs yet in the project.

Young boys and girls of our village has not been included in any project. If the fish is going extinct, how can we live? We have to remain starve. This should be explained.

**5) Shri. Dasharath Sitaram Magar, Residence – Vashi village, Navi Mumbai, Taluka – Thane, , District – Thane :-**

I have already submitted my application. According to the Environmental Public Hearing Notice, the environmental impact of this project will be on Raigad District, Thane District and Mumbai District. There are three districts, many talukas, many villages near this project. There are many industrial estates. A large community living in this area lives on fishing. Hence, they owns the water, forest, land. Be it in the creek or in the forest.

Then providing Environmental No Objection Certificate to the proposed project, these villages are indigenous tribes as per Land Acquisition Act as well as Forest Rights Act, 2006. Their livelihood rights are on water, land, forest. Therefore, before conducting this public hearing, it is necessary to study the social impact that is going to be caused by the proposed project through the Collector's office according to the above laws.

However, according to the above laws, the Collector is expected to call the Gram Sabha of the affected villages and inform about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report in the gram sabha.

Also, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board should have pasted the EIA report at the entrance of each village informing about the effects of the proposed project on all the natural elements i.e. sea water, fish, silt as well as on the surrounding vegetation, human beings and birds.

Further Municipal Councils and Municipal Corporations which falls in the affected area of the project, it is necessary to them to fulfill the guidelines by keeping the EIA report in their General Body Meetings to approve it.

Hence, my objection is that the directives of various laws have not been followed by the Project Proponent. Further the Municipal Corporation and Municipal Councils discharges its untreated sewage into the sea. It was necessary to call them in this meeting.

However, we object that the first Environmental Impact Assessment report should have made available to the local people.

District Collector has the guardianship of the district. Hence, Hon'ble Collector is requested to cancel this environmental public hearing first.

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has published a notice thirty days before the meeting. Thirty days should be official working days. Because if the five days of Diwali holiday and other holidays are calculated/considered, people get fewer days. Hence, it was necessary to give prior sixty working days public notice in the newspaper prior to the of public hearing on environment. We think there is some conspiracy here.

We are not against the development, but it is necessary to create public awareness about the deadline for public notices and environmental public hearings in the circular. A Gramsabha was required to be held regarding the EIA report. Hence, it should be noted that process of this public hearing is incomplete.

Similarly, public awareness has not been done in villages, so process of this public hearing is incomplete.

Also, Project Proponent i.e. JNPA and the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board should inform the local people about how much oxygen in the water will decrease due to this project, how much fish will die due to it, air quality, its effect on people, crops, plants, and then planning ahead. Because expert agency here is MPCB.

Awareness has not been created about this, so the process of this public hearing is incomplete. So, I object to this public hearing. Also, information about the number of fishermen who will be affected and how much they will be compensated must be told in the public hearing meeting. It is necessary to inform the local people about the amount of sludge that will accumulate and how it will be disposed of.

At this time, some of the participants suggested the concerned person to talk briefly and give others the opportunity to speak.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing informed concerned participant to present their suggestions and objections in brief.

Shri Dashrath Magar objected that I am speaking for all. He said I myself a fisherman and have carried fishing activities. I myself have experienced how much damage is done and how the government misguides it.

**6) Shri. Sandip Patil, Residence – Mukutban, District – Raigad :-**

Maharashtra has a very beautiful sea shore of 720 km. It has a beautiful beaches. JNPA has developed Ports 1, 2, 3, 4. But the development of this port has greatly affected the traditional fishing techniques and livelihood of the fishing

community, whose life is on this coast. Land has 7/12 certificate, but fishing area/ground does not have 7/12 certificate. Just as a farmer grows grain on his farm, a fisherman does not.

Farmers get compensation from the government in case of loss of crops due to drought or flood, but fishermen do not.

The main thing to say here that there is tragic situation of the fishing communities at Hanuman Koliwada, Belpada village, Gavhan village, which has been presented by their representatives. There were thousands of traditional fishermen here. The creeks which have formed from the sea are also being buried in the name of development. So, it has a serious effect on the livelihood of fishing communities living there.

We are not against development. But traditional fishing communities should not be destroyed in the name of development. However, our only demand in this public hearing is that those who are doing traditional fishing should be considered and properly rehabilitated.

Now considering the environment, now traditional fish is getting rare. Earlier 64 types of fish were available. It is also requested that the coast should be made safe for traditional fishermen and a permanent plan should be made for the rehabilitation of traditional fishermen.

#### **7) Shri. Kamalakar Patil, Residence – Sheva, District – Raigad :-**

The entire Seva village is affected and displaced for JNPA. No my question to JNPA and government officials as well. Let me answer whether our Sheva is 100% affected or not. At that time, Project Proponent replied that Sheva is totally affected and displaced.

At that time, Shri Kamlakar Patil said that our Koli community has been cheated. We were given 33.64 hectares of land for Sheva. We were cheated that our village is built in 10 hectares and remaining land of 23 hectares is in the possession of JNPA. An answer should be given that when we will get that land back and we will be rehabilitated.

Project Proponent- said that the land acquisition was originally done by CIDCO. So it would be appropriate to ask this question to CIDCO. If CIDCO hands over the land, the JNPA administration will definitely consider the further course of action.

At that time Mr. Kamlakar Patil said that our village was displaced for JNPA, the money was given by JNPA, then it would be right for JNPA to ask CIDCO. So, we should also get the answer to the first question. In this regard, we should get from both administrations i.e. CIDCO and JNPA.

Second Question, Our Sheva was 100% fishing community village and import-exporter. Also, if other villages got compensation, why didn't Sheva get compensation? Why didn't you want to fill the form from us? Also we are not given priority in recruitment. We had given the land for the project of JNPA. It was not given for a private project. JNPA and District Administration are cheating us again, because the land is going to be used for a private project of JNPA. Also, not a single project victim has been given a job, instead people from other States have been recruited.

Sheva is 100% affected and 35% of our Sheva land has been lost in the project. We are 100% displaced and we have also been denied employment contract in the project.

However, we are completely against this proposed project and if the efforts are made to start the project, we will protest against any attempt to start the project. An answer should be given as to why we are not given justice

**8) Shri. Pradip Mhatre, Residence-Jaskhar, District- Raigad:-**

I am saying for the first time that we are against this project. Jaskhar village is the nearest village to the project. Project Proponent is completely inactive regarding the safety of our village. For the last three years, Jaskhar village has been flooded during monsoons. Every house gets water, houses and domestic articles are getting damaged. No one pays attention to this.

JNPA administration for the last three years only promises that the canal will be widened, the road will be constructed. But we are being cheated.

Next Question JNPA has installed a garbage project in Jaskhar village limits. I don't know what its capacity is, but in that project, the waste is completely coming from the Uran. It is not handled by them. Every night, JNPA sets fire to garbage, and our village suffers because of it. 100-200 people in our village are sick with this cough.

**9) Mrs. Pranayi Kishor Mhatre, Dy.Sarpanch, Jaskhar village, Taluka – Panvel, District – Raigad :-**

As Pradeep Mhatre raised the issue of solid waste management, JNPA says that such a big project is coming and we are going to take responsibility of the surrounding villages. So the first question is to JNPA whether JNPA really takes responsibility. So our experience is that JNPA does nothing after project completion.

Now the JNPA sets the garbage on fire, causing great distress to the elderly people of our village. No. People have increased, who suffer respiratory diseases. We are frequently sending letters, videos to JNPA. If they complain, they deny setting the fire and take the name of the garbage cleaning person. So if they can't handle the waste now, how will they handle the waste after the project is expanded? If the pending issues of our village are not resolved for the past several years, we will not give consent to their new project.

**10) Sarpanch, Gharapuri Grampanchayat, District -**

Today our Gharapuri village is surrounded on all sides. You are blasting in the sea. The village has Elephanta Cave. If it collapses, what do we do? We have a boat route. But there is no road to the village. Due to JNPA blasting, the houses of our village have developed cracks.

People of Nhava-Sheva are going to get money, but we have not received anything even though we are within calling distance. Although the boys and girls of Gharapuri are educated, no one from our village has been recruited in such projects.

There are many fishermen in our village, there is also plenty of fishing, but you have banned fishing.

Hence, we should be given justice.

**11) Female Person from Hanuman Koliwada, Native Village – Sheva Koliwada**

For one, our rehabilitation has gone wrong. These new companies come in, they dump right into our fishing grounds. So where we should go for fishing? If they do not give us jobs, what will we do, our livelihood is affected and hence our survival has become a problem.

Yesterday on 29-11-2023, there was a meeting with Hon. District Collector and he said that this public hearing will not be held. So how the hearing was started by defying the Order of District Collector, Raigad, Alibag, though Additional Collector and

Tahsildar were present in that meeting, how is this public hearing going on? Our village is totally opposing this project and until all villages are rehabilitated, we will not allow any new project.

**12) Shri. Hanuman, President, Fishermen Society:-**

Whether the project site has been inspected for which this environment public hearing is conducted. Give the answer.

Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee answered that the project is currently operational and the site where the project is to be carried out has been inspected. At that time, some of the attendees raised objections.

At that time, Shri Kishore Mhatre said that what percentage of jobs will be given to the fishermen there?

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that the JNPA administration will give answer regarding job opportunities.

Officials of the Project Proponent said that the suggestions and objections raised in the meeting are being recorded and will be discussed with the management of JNPA.

Shri Hanumant and others present objected to this and said that the same answer was given in the last public hearing and they are not giving job opportunities to the local people in the project. Although, yesterday on 29-11-2023 Hon. District Collector, Raigad, Alibag said that there will be no public hearing, public hearing is going on here. That is, everything is going on keeping the public in the dark.

At that time, one of the participants asked a question to Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee that he was also present in yesterday's meeting and had said that he would not be present.

At that time, Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee said that I am attending the meeting on the Order of the Collector and after coming, I sent an SMS to him that I am here in the meeting. Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that the said public hearing is an environmental public hearing and we have come to record the thoughts, suggestions or objections about the proposed project.

Some participants questioned that on 29-11-2023 Collector, Raigad, Alibag had told us that they do not want to hold public hearing. You are cheating us. Government has been cheating the locals for 38 years. However, this public hearing should be cancelled. The President said that this is a public hearing to hear your views.

Some of the men and women present together demanded that permission should not be granted until complete rehabilitation was achieved. Many of the participants were calling for the public hearing to be illegal and to call it off.

A woman was saying that our life is boring. They say that there will be no public hearing in the collector's office, but a public hearing is held here. Some said that here we have a conflict with the government.

Shri Parmanand Koli, Sarpach, Gram Panchayat Hanuman Koliwada reiterated the demand of the project only after the first rehabilitation and suggested to cancel the meeting. Many participants were shouting in union to make their point.

Some of the participants were shouting that many such hearings and meetings have been going on for the last 38 years, but we have not been rehabilitated.

Some of those present shouted back that you are the District Magistrate, and if you are the one who is cheating, then who should the people believe. We will bring this matter to the attention of the government.

Some women were shouting together that they are against the project. Later, the majority of those present were chanting "We are opposing, we are opposing." Some were saying that the administration and the company must have decided something. He again demanded Chairman to cancel the public hearing..

Some said that now we will go to the channel and inform about it. He again requested to cancel the public hearing.

At that time, many fishing community members/Kolibandhus of Hanumankoli villlage walked out of the hall in protest.

### **13) Ex. Sarpanch, Dongari -**

My wife was Sarpanch of Dongrigaon, now my son is the Deputy Sarpanch. He said why our lands at Panje and Dongri have been taken by the Government of India, Government of Maharashtra for the project. But here the project officials lie so much that we feel they are getting paid to lie.

I have been in politics for 32 years. There are 2-3 subjects. We do not get any tax from the project. So the civic facilities cannot be given to people. Our drinking water lines in villages Panje. Dongar have been cut for JNPA compound wall. Wrote a letter to BPCL regarding this, they are not taking any notice. Local people are not given priority in employment in the project. Natives have no place in employment. However, the administration should take notice of this, otherwise we are against the project.

**14) Shri. Harshal Thakur, Jaskhargaon –**

For the last five years, rain and tide water has been accumulating in our Daskhar village. So there are 250-300 houses in the village that get water 4-5 times in their houses, so they are suffering a lot. We have informed all District Administration about this. JNPA is also followed up.

JNPA road is passing 50 feet from our village. There, a road has been made cutting the mangroves and by filling the materials. The road has passed 50 feet from the house in our village, hence houses in Daskar village are cracked. The temples and houses there are on the verge of collapse.

Despite repeatedly telling the JNPA, they have given a false report to the government and constructed the road. We have surveyed every house in our village and every house is cracked. However, at present the road should be withdrawn from where it passed. Also, the project should give compensation for the loss that has been incurred for so many years. Only then will the project be approved.

At that time Executive Director of the Project Proponent started to answer, at that time Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested that the suggestions and objections raised by the participants should be recorded, but you should not answer.

At that time Mrs. Pranayi Kishore Mhatre, Dy. Sarpanch, Jassar Village, Taluka-Panvel, District-Raigad objected back that JNPA does not take any responsibility after the completion of the project.

**15) Shri. Rajesh Mhatre, Dy. Sarpanch, Nhava, Taluka – Panvel, District – Raigad**

Nhava village has not received anything from the CSR fund of the project.

Another thing is that now the people's representatives of all the villages have expressed their grief that in the recruitment of workers, the locals are not being given employment contracts. Locals and project victims should be given priority in recruitment.

No one is paying attention to the removal of the silt. This creates obstacles in fishing and other matters. However, the question should be resolved.

Some of the participants brought a statement on behalf of the village to Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee, requested him to accept it and went on stage to present a written statement to him.

Mr. Vishvnath Gharat, DGM, J.N.P.A answered the questions raised by the persons which are present in the hearing. He reported that, issue of rehabilitation and land will be sorted out. Regarding employment they will discuss issue with higher authority and resolved the problem raised by villagers.

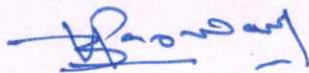
Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee said that many local people have registered their thoughts, suggestions and objections in the public hearing. If anyone still wants to register suggestions, objections, they can submit them in written form. This public hearing is for the potential environmental impacts of the proposed expansion project.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that the suggestions, objections as raised by the participants have been noted and it will be included in the minutes of meeting and minutes of meeting alongwith Revised EIA, written suggestions and objections after approval of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee will be submitted through Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee there will be take further decision.

Convener said many participants have raised suggestions and objections in respect of rehabilitation, job opportunities to local and PAPs. They have been noted and will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee thanked all and on behalf of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee declared that the meeting is concluded.

Meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair. Enclosed 32 written suggestions, objections as received.



**(Satish Padwal)**  
Member,  
Environment Public Hearing Committee  
And  
Regional Officer,  
Maharashtra Pollution  
Control Board,  
Navi Mumbai



**(Sandesh Shirke )**  
Chairman,  
Environment Public Hearing Committee  
And  
Additional District Magistrate, Raigad,  
District – Raigad