Minutes Of The Environmental Public Hearing In Respect Of Proposed Expansion of Dighi Port Including The Break Water & Dredging Works To Achieve A Cargo Handling Capacity Of 140.0 MMTPA Proposed By M/s Dighi Port Ltd., Located At Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, Agardanda, Taluka- Murud, District-Raigad, Maharashtra State -

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The Environment Public Hearing (Physical & Online) in respect of Proposed Expansion of Dighi Port Including The Break Water & Dredging Works To Achieve A Cargo Handling Capacity Of 140.0 MMTPA Proposed By M/s Dighi Port Ltd., Located At Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, Agardanda, Taluka- Murud, District-Raigad, Maharashtra State was held on Monday, the 17th August, 2026 at 02.00 noon at Alfa Cricket Club Ground, Near Dighi Fuel Station Petrol Pump (HP), Gat No.208 (Karlas), Village-Karlas, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad – 402 402, Maharashtra.

At the beginning of the meeting, Shri Sandesh Shirke, Additional District Magistrate of Raigad, Alibag and Chairperson of the Environment Public Hearing Committee apologized to all for the slight delay in commencing the meeting.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and clarified that this Committee is constituted in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi and this Committee does not have the authority to approve, reject, or recommend the project.

This Committee is constituted to note the suggestions, views, and objections raised by the local people regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only which are to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and it should be submitted, along with all relevant documents, to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi. An Expert-Committee there takes further decision.

Chairman of the Committee informed Shri Sandeep Tope, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mahad (Addl. charge) and Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee to inform public about proceedings of environment public hearing.

Shri Sandeep Tope, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mahad (Addl. charge) and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri Sandesh Shirke, Additional District Magistrate, Raigad, Alibag and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Sanjay Bhosale, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board- Raigad and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists, Representatives 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.

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 14th September, 2006 as amended on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

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.

Convener further informed that as per EIA Notification No.1533 (E), Dated 14-09-2006 and Amended Notification, the proposed activities fall **under Category A, Schedule 7**

(e) – Ports, Harbors, Break Waters & Dredging Projects, which requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from Ministry Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory.

Project Proponent had submitted online prescribed application on 01-09.2022 along with pre-feasibility report to obtain ToR (Terms of Reference) to Ministry Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi and it has been considered by Government of India and granted online approval on 07-11-2022.

Accordingly, Project Proponent has appointed NABET approved Environment Consultant and through their Environment Consultant had carried detailed Environmental Survey from March, 2025 to May, 2025 in the radius of 10.0 k.m. of the project site to study the proposed impact on environment due to the commissioning of this project and prepared a draft Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report and submitted it.

District Collector, Raigad, Alibag vide letter dated 06.07.2026 directed to conduct Physical & Online Environment Public Hearing on Monday, the 17th August, 2026 at 02.00 noon, and after getting sanction from District Collector, Raigad, Alibag, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai as per the Notification No. S.O. 1533 dated 14-09-2006 and as per Amended Notification S.O. 3067 (E) Dated 01-12-2009 as issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEF & CC, GoI), New Delhi has constituted Environment Public Hearing Committee vide Board's Office Order dated 19-07-2026 as under: -

1) District Magistrate-Raigad, Alibag or his representative not below the rank of Sub Divisional Magistrate	**Chairman**

2) Representative of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai - Regional Officer – Raigad, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor, Sector-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai – 400 614 — **Member**

3) Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mahad — **Convener**

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mahad in the local newspaper in daily Sagar for Marathi and in national newspaper daily Indian Express for English on 11-07-2026. The public was 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)	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Zonal Office, Western- Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur-440 001;
2)	District Collector, Collector Office, Raigad, Alibag
3)	General Manager, District Industries Center, Raigad, Alibag,
4)	Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Raigad, Alibag;
5)	Sub Divisional Officer-Shrivardhan, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad;
6)	Sub Divisional Officer-Shrivardhan, Taluka-Murud, District-Raigad;
7)	Tahsildar, Tahsil Office, Shrivardhan, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad;
8)	Tahsildar, Tahsil Office, Murud, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad;
9)	Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti Office, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad;

10)	Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti Office, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad;
11)	Chief Officer, Shrivardhan Nagar Parishad, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad;
12)	Chief Officer, Murud Nagar Parishad, Taluka-Murud, District-Raigad;
13)	Dy. Conservator of Forests (Territorial) in Roha, Near Tahsil Office, Roha-Chanera Rd., At Post-Tal-Roha, Dist-Raigad, Maharashtra 402 109;
14)	Regional Port Officer, Rajpuri Ports Group, Old Vegetable Market Road, Tal-Alibag, Dist-Raigad – 402 201;
15)	Regional Officer – Raigad, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Raigad Bhavan, 6th Floor, Sector-11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai – 400 614
16)	Joint Director (WPC), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 1st,2nd,3rd, 4th Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai – 400 022;
17)	Director, Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15th Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai – 400 032;
18)	Joint Director, Directorate of Industrial Health & Safety, 6th Floor, Kokan Bhavan Annexe, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai
19)	Joint Chief Controller of Explosives,A-1 & A-2 Wing, 5th Floor, C.G.O.Complex,CBD Belapur,Navi Mumbai;
20)	Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, C.F.C.Bldg., MIDC Area, Tal-Mahad, District-Raigad – 402 309;
21)	**Taluka – Shrivardhan -Grampanchayat Offices-** Dighi;Kudgaon;Sarve;Aadgaon;Harvit;Kudki;Velas; Vadvali;
22)	**Taluka-Mhasala- Grampanchayat Offices-** Kalsuri; Rohini; Turundbadi;
23)	**Taluka-Murud-Grampanchayat Offices-** Aagardanda; Savli; Rajpuri;Ekdara;Amboli;Telvade;
24)	**Taluka-Roha- Grampanchayat Offices-** Bhalgaon;
25)	**Taluka-Tala- Grampanchayat Offices-** Mandad;
26)	Website of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board – Marathi & English Executive Summary made available;

Convener informed that total number of 96 suggestions/objections have been received by Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Mahad regarding the proposed 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.

With permission of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee, Environment Consultant has given detailed presentation regarding Environment Management Plan of the proposed project.

Project Consultant stated that the proposed expansion—referred to as the Master Plan—will take place solely within the area notified by the government. There is no need for land acquisition for proposed expansion consequently, the issue of rehabilitating displaced persons does not arise.

Also, the aerial distance has been considered here. Mangroves do not fall within the project area. A maintenance cost of approximately ₹5.50 crore (five and a half crore rupees) has been earmarked for the period following the commencement of the project.

Environmental Consultant stated that the project would boost various local industries and businesses, support national production and trade, and generate both skilled and unskilled employment.

After the presentation, the participants were appealed to raise their environmental suggestions, views, and objections regarding the proposed project. They were requested to state their full names and the names of their villages before giving their suggestions.

Similarly, it was appealed that those wishing to submit written representations should hand them over to the representative of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, and an acknowledgment of receipt would be provided.

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

1) **Advocate Ramchandra Kanu Mendadkar, At Post – Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, Taluka-Raigad-**

It is evident that the project has not been just presented; instead, the entire area and the Koli community/Fishing community are set to be adversely affected. This project has raised the question of our life and death. I request Project Proponent to mention ToR of 2022. They should see the letter again. Now the year 2026 is going on. Convener should inquire about my character, work. I have not bowed down to anyone.

ToR received by Project Proponent has been violated. The project-Dighi Port received the TOR on 07-11-2022. As per Clause No. IV of the ToR, it is directed to make the EIA report in local language here in Marathi thirty days before the Environment Public Hearing. He asked all attendees if they had received the Marathi copy. The reply given collectively by all participants is No. Advocate Mendadkar said that therefore, this environment public hearing meeting itself is illegal. Because we must get the EIA report in Marathi. It must be received at the Gram Panchayat office/s in all the project affected areas thirty days in advance. It has not been done. Also, the present EIA report translated into Marathi must be received by the villagers. It has not been received. It has not been received. It means that this public consultation is a farce. Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee has come late for the public hearing. Even though it is mandatory for the government officials to follow the protocol, they came late. It is important for you to follow the principles first.

We do not oppose for the sake of opposition only. The first alarm bell signaling 'devastation'—disguised as 'development'—was sounded on 3rd September 2005. It outlines specific terms and conditions, which are as follows:-

Condition No.1: Providing free drinking water to all: So me, Chintamani and Kamalkar Kandekar, we filed the PIL in 2009. When asked if the Dighi Port had given at least one of the terms and conditions to the villagers before filing the PIL, all of them shouted NO. Has anyone amongst you been provided with free drinking water? All those present collectively answered in the negative.

Project Proponent is just eye-washing here.

Capitalists kept prominent lawyers against me, but I did not yield. The Dighi Port management could not provide even simple drinking water. Also, the villagers do not get water. So Dighi Port reported to the government that the wells of Dighi drink water.

According to the ToR, unless the Dighi area is fully supplied with electricity and water supply, the directives of ToR are completely violated. Villagers of the Dighi area here are drinking water from the well.

Project Proponent promised that electricity will be provided, which has not been given. Advocate Mendadkar asked whether the Dighi Port management has provided free electricity to the villages in the Dighi Port area. All the participants have collectively refused.

Also, according to the terms and conditions of the ToR of 30-09-2005, the youth-young boys and girls of the Dighi area who have passed the 10th/12th standard should be trained. Adv. Mendadkar asked in the meeting that whether anybody has been trained? All the attendees said that no one has been trained.

Second Condition is that training related to fisheries should be given. He again asked whether all the attendees were given training related to fisheries. All the attendees refused.

Advocate Mendalkar objected that the terms and conditions are only on paper. It means, the terms and conditions dated 3-09-2005 have been violated.

Now, after the ToR dated 30.09.2005, two corrigenda have been issued.

Earlier, Dighi Port applied as a Minor Port. Now efforts are being made to develop the world's largest port. It is sad to tell the people here that even though this project is completed, Dighi Port will be the largest port in the world, but nothing can be said whether the local villages and local fishermen will survive or not.

Although not shown in the presentation, a jetty extending 1,950 meters—or 2.0 km—outward from Dighi Port is planned. Excavation will have to be carried while filling up, hence fish there will die. Total capital dredging will be 60.0 million cubic meters, that is , a total of 114.0 million cubic meters of dredging will be done. Dredging is your death bell. Also, the water requirement for dredging will be 50.0 MLD. For this, water will

be taken from your area. The filling for the proposed project will be 304.0 hectares and the total filling will be 584.5 hectares.

I have registered 28 pages of objections in writing on behalf of the villagers. It also mentions the ill-effects of the proposed project. Some of the points are:-

a)	The report on the proposed project is one-sided,
b)	Explosions will have to be done for dredging. Therefore, the nearby Murud-Janjira forts, which are 0.16 km away, will develop cracks.
c)	Project Proponents will not study as they are capitalists. But the consultant of the project, Aditya Environmental Services Pvt. Ltd., does not even seem to have read the Maharashtra Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1981. This law has been abandoned.
d)	In the proposed expansion project, a multi-purpose berth will be developed on the north side of Agardanda – 1950.0 meters and a multi-purpose berth on the south side (Dighi side) – 425.0 meters. On the other hand, the role should be clarified whether you will go to the crematorium or lighthouse on the south side.
e)	Dredging will destroy the eggs of the fish. So how the fish will be produced? 78% of the different types of fish here have been destroyed. This project will lead to environmental degradation.
f)	We are totally opposing the project. Project Affected Persons (PAPs) will not even take compensation also.
g)	It was stated that the project land was given by Hon. Barrister Antulay Saheb for the fishermen's jetty. It was later informed that it was not for fishermen, but for SICOM. Then the proposal came to give land to Mazgaon Dock. Later the land is given to Dighi Port.
h)	Constitution of India has given us Right to Live under Article 21. But this Adani project will not allow you to live.
i)	This project is a threat to the environment as well as to the Janjira fort. Also, the sea is our right, the right of the boat to go and go will be violated.
j)	This project is a project of environmental degradation. Yes, it is a project that is a threat to the environment. That's why we don't want this project.

This public outcry should be recorded in the public hearing on the environment. The question of our existence and identity has arisen here. This sea is our farm, we will not give it to Adani.

2) **Shri Sanket Gite, Residence-Turumbadi Social Worker, A Loyal Koli of the Koli Community:**

In Turungwadi village, 97.27% belong to the Scheduled Caste tribes and belongs to the Koli (Fishing) community. It means we are tribals. Turumbadi is a tribal, a fisherman village. All of them are my brothers, we all belong to the tribal community.

Under the PESA Act, Tribal Act, it is mandatory that Chairperson of the Meeting should be a Divisional Commissioner (here Konkan Division) here, but he is not present. According to Articles 21, 46, 48A, 51AG of the Constitution of India, these are our areas. The simple, unsophisticated people who were in the meeting were complaining that they could not see the presentation at all. So how do these tribal people know what kind of project is coming up here? I earnestly request that if we don't have land, then what we have is the Sea. If they take it away from us, what will we do?

Since I am a social worker, I will write what I say on paper and whatever you want to say, I should give it on paper. Because this fight is not easy.

Here Project Proponent say that there will be no problem to the houses here. There will be no harm to the environment here. However, the Adani company should give it in writing and the government administration should issue a circular accordingly. Government should give an administrative letter that our houses, our environment will not be disturbed. Our fight is for all the fishermen. If the government does not cancel this project in the next fifteen days, then I will sit on a hunger strike unto death in front of the collector's office. Even if I die, it will be fine. If I die, it will be for the fishermen, if I live, it will be for the fishermen.

Now I feel sad that those who have been elected by us, where are those people's representatives? Where are the MPs and MLAs whom we have voted? I am not speaking in favour of any party. I am talking about my community. However, the government should report on this. Otherwise, I will give a public comment regarding my fast.

This fight belongs to all our Koli community. I therefore urge my brothers not to fall prey to anyone's false promises or misleading claims.

We will continue all the battles. If we fight unitedly, unity will win. However, we should be prepared for the next battle.

3) **Advocate Chintamani Bangoji, Residence-Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad**

I am son of Dighi and a fisherman by birth. So I am saying a few words to you about the proposed project. Project Environment Consultant made a presentation. He just spoke as if he had come back. He made the presentation without thinking whether people knew it or not.

But one thing that was overlooked was that for the proposed project, a breakwater wall has to be built, the ships will be carrying cargo, it will have toxic chemicals, and after it arrives, it will be unloaded, if it falls down or if it is stored in the godown, then it will not get seawater.

But there is no mention in the report about the business of small fishermen who have been living here for generations. There is no provision for the protection of the business of small fishermen. The company's strategy is to do nothing initially, then, after securing some concessions, acquire the entire area; the idea is that the small-scale fishermen will eventually leave on their own, leaving the whole territory to the company.

Now there is mention in the project report. But as you know, there are two stages in the project. One is at the Agardanda side and one is at the Dighi side. The project will be set up at Agardanda in the north and Dighi in the south.

In its report dated 23rd February 2022, project promoter has specified the total quay length of terminal.

However, in the environmental permission dated 23rd February 23, 2026 does not mention that there will be terminal anywhere. But how did it come out in your report? Project Proponents are expected to respond to this. Local people demand that if there is no permission in the ToR, then how can the project authorities build the terminal.

In the presentation, it is mentioned that Janjira fort is 0.16 km from project site. Hence, special permission is required from the Competent-Authority, whether prior permission is obtained? This is not mentioned in the report. Also, if the Janjira fort is damaged, who will take responsibility for it?

In the report, it is clearly stated in serial number 1.8.9 that – maintenance & dredging will affect marine ecological quality, marine water quality will deteriorate due to ship travel, Additionally, the ocean will be affected by the spilled cargo and oil leakage - yet will you support the project – All participants unanimously said No.

Also, due to the dredging that is going to be done in the project, the eggs and mussels of fish will be destroyed forever. Small fishermen community will be destroyed forever. Therefore, I oppose this project and we should also oppose it unanimously.

In the report, it is stated that ₹ 139.79 lakh was spent on public health in 2024-25 for CSR activities. At the same time, ₹ 32.60 lakh has been spent on education. He asked all participants whether Project Proponent had spent so much in their village/s. Everyone refused collectively.

Then Project management has given this false information in the report. The company has written that in 2024-25, ₹ 139.79 lakhs have been spent on public health in the area. There is not a single ambulance in our village. It means that this report is being written falsely, incorrectly and the local people are being deliberately misled. Fishing is important, but even though nothing has been done for the village, the report says that they have done it.

Environmental Clearance dated 23rd February 2026 does not mention that there will be any terminal on the Dighi side. However, in the presentation and in the company's report, it has been mentioned that Agardanda and Dighi side, there will be terminal. If there is no government approval, why are they imposing it on the local people?

We are sons of the soil and we have rights, but Dighi Port has not given job opportunities to the sons of the soil. They only say that the locals have been given jobs in the project.

Hence, the project is opposed by all the villagers.

4) **Advocate Kamlakar Kandekar,Residence- Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad:-**

I just want to point out the discrepancies in the EIA report. The report does not inform the truth and the true situation of the tribal community. Therefore, the present EIA report should be rejected.

Now this environmental public hearing is being held for Dighi Port Limited's proposed breakwater and dredging work for the cargo handling of 140.0 MMTGA expansion project. This means that this project will be bigger than JNPT.

Dighi Port Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with 13 (thirteen) Koliwadas/Fishermen Colonies in 2008. The terms

and conditions of that MoU have not been fulfilled yet. My name is on the judgment passed by the Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai.

Adv. Kandekar requested to note suggestions/objections as raised by him.

At that time, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee clarified that as per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 of the Government of India, video recording of whole public hearing proceedings is done. Also, the suggestions/objections raised are noted.

Advocate Kandekar read out some of the points on page 72 of the judgment passed by the Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai.

Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai has ordered that unless the terms and conditions are fulfilled, Project Proponent (Dighi Port Limited) cannot take any further step. It shows that Judgement & Order passed by the Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai has not been fulfilled.

However, I want to ask the government administration here whether the government has inquired whether the Orders of the High Court have been fulfilled or not? Also, the machinery used by the project officer to carry out further work is also illegal.

Advocate Kandekar said that we will not allow them to carry out any further work until Project Proponent complies with the court's orders."

Advocate Kandekar objected that Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report is prepared by Aditya Environmental Services Pvt. Ltd.,Mumbai a NABET accredited company. Mumbai. This report was prepared on April 2026. However, NABET is a completely different organization. For this project, the Coastal & Offshore Engineering Laboratory of the Government of India's Central Water and Power Research Station was expected to carry detailed study and submit a report. Because, what do Aditya Environment Company knows about biodiversity and corals? We do not accept this report. They prepared this report during the Covid period, submitted it in April and have held a public hearing in August, 2026.

It is written in the report that the nearest airport from here is the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. These errors have not been corrected. National Data is not considered, not provided and nor it is considered meticulously.

a) While considering the quality, the EIA report page no. 15, the direct and secondary data that has been collected, but not has been disclosed.

b) Page no.19 - Details of handling in cargo storage

c) Page No.22 – details of litigation pending against the project

d)Your answer is – there is no litigation pending - This is false information.

e) Page no. 23 – The recommendations of MCZM shall be noted and submitted . How did you write this before, so did you already know what MCZM is going to say this?

f) Page No. 26 – Para of EIA Report

g) Public Consultation - Paragraph of EIA Report

h)High Court order – Why was it not fulfilled? – These are people from the tribal community. They are downtrodden and oppressed.

i) Page no. 62 – Water Supply – It is written that as per the agreement with the Maharashtra Jeevan Adhikari, 0.6 MLD water will be supplied to nearby villages – Dighi, Haravit, Kudgaon.

When Advocate Kandekar questioned all participants, they collectively told that no such water supply was provided.

j)As per the Judgment & Order of the Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai, it is mandatory to supply hundred tankers water supply to Dighi village daily, but the project promoter did not supply water. The agitation will continue until the orders of the High Court are followed.

k) WhyCorporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds – not spent in Dighi village – it was diverted. No social development scheme has been implemented in Dighi village.

l)Page No. 270 – 2016 Census Data – You have written that 37% of the people live below the poverty line. But nothing has been written about the people living above the poverty line.

j)Page No. 304 – No verification of truth in the report

The government has guaranteed social justice.

But we will not allow this to happen. We do not accept the survey conducted by the project promoters/consultant, the bio-diversity survey . This is our objection.

k) During the Covid period, the EIA report was prepared in 2022, four years later it was submitted in 2026, the project consultant gave such a report–EIA to mentally harass our tribal communities. We do not agree with it.

l) Here we are informing you about a decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India - In the Matter of Jagannath v/s Union of India

The decision was informed to the participants.

In the above petition, as per the Order passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, we are completely opposing the proposed project.

Advocate Kandekar asserted that Hon'ble Chairman said at the beginning of the meeting that this is environment public hearing is for the local people to seek environmental suggestions/objections about the proposed project. The suggestions and objections raised in the meeting will be noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. Minutes of the meeting alongwith the written suggestions/objections received will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi through Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai. An Expert Committee will take further decision in this regard.

Hence, you should convey to the Government of India the sentiments of the local people who are completely opposing to grant Environmental Clearance (EC) to the proposed project.

Advocate Kandekar further objected that the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report prepared by the environmental consultant about the proposed project is completely incorrect, misleading. It is much more wrong than the reality. It is not acceptable to us. Hence. We all local people are objecting to this Environment Public Hearing on this wrong report.

Here, Shri Shelar, local person appealed to all the attendees to present their views briefly and to the point. Every representative of thirteen villages is present here and alongwith them, the local people have to raise their suggestions/objections.

5) <u>Shri Nathuram Babu Mali, Residence-Tokekhar, Post-Savli, Taluka-Murud, District-Raigad:-</u>

We did not get the notice of this environment public hearing at the Gram Panchayat office thirty days' before. We got that information in the Tehsildar's office. We are affected by the project i.e. (PAPs). All the

speakers who spoke before me have thoroughly dissected this Environmental Impact Assessment report.

They have presented all the legal issues very well.

Here, Indapur-Agardanda National Highway is completed – (548B). At that time, the farmers whose land was going to be acquired, without giving notice to the project affected people, actual work of the road was started. When we started the Jan Andolan, then Government stopped the work and issued a notice after seventeen days. Notices were sent to only four people there. After we did Jan Andolan and correspondence, notices were sent to 169 people. Still they have not received compensation from MSRDC. If we meet the District Collector, he tells us to meet the Sub Divisional Magistrate.

We are not against development. But the government cannot abandon poor people like us to our fate.

Also, the work on the Rewas-Redi highway is going on. There land acquisition process is still going on. We are tired of sending letters and correspondence.

I do social work. The Roha-Agardanda highway is under construction. There too, the government is not following the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 2013. However, this public hearing should be canceled first and justice should be given to the farmers. Adani Company has given an affidavit to the Agardanda Gram Panchayat on 18th March 2010. Whether it has been fulfilled? It has been sixteen years and nothing has been fulfilled till todate. Also, the Chief Minister's Green Project, which is called Revas-Redi Project, the farmers have not yet received compensation, but government has allotted the work to the contractors. The process of land acquisition is still not complete. If you are doing development work by harassing our poor people, then we publicly condemn it. Also, the Rewas-Redi Railway Line project should be completed immediately.

There is a railway line project, for which an alignment was made in Agardanda. Here, religious places, residential vastis/localities, Coconut and areca nut trees garden will be acquired. Our e-pencil records should be cancelled and the project should be completed soon.

6) **Shri Ramesh Khargaonkar, Residence- Kudgaon, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad:-**

There is no information in the report about how much land reclamation will be carried for the project, how much land reclamation in meters, how many kilometre, land reclamation will be carried on both sides? How many mangroves will be destroyed? How many fish breeding grounds/places will be destroyed? Dredging will destroy the breeding grounds of fish, due to which the fish will be destroyed, due to the destruction of mangros, the water flow here will increase. As a result, agriculture fields will also be destroyed. Due to the shrinking of the creek, the biodiversity here will be affected. This project will destroy the Koli community's means of livelihood. Therefore, we will have to leave the village. Our existence will be end here.

This Adani project is slow poisoning. But we do not want this project. Even if we lose our lives, this project will not be allowed to commission. We appeal to all the attendees that all of them will fight against the project unitedly. He appealed all to keep their remarks brief and to submit their suggestions or objections in writing.

7) **Advocate Bhalchandra Nagya Kandekar, resident of Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad**

Today is Shravani Monday and it is the special day to worship Lord Shiva. Just as Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj took an oath in front of Shiva Linga to fight injustice and to establish Swaraj, let us take a pledge to oppose this project completely. I thank all the brothers and sisters who have come here that we have come together for the right to justice by putting aside our daily work. We are law abiding. All of us and local women are present here in large numbers because we all are concerned about the agriculture, business and care/passion of our area here.

I am a Dighi Koli. All our Dighi Koli community is against this project. Because our creek is going to be lost. Because Dighi Koli is a traditional fishing community. Our livelihood is completely dependent on fishing. Our local brothers and sisters are co-operating in the agitation. The dredging for this project will destroy the fisheries here. Therefore, it will have a very serious impact on this fishing community. Therefore, we are opposing this project.

I support the suggestions and objections raised by Advocate Mendalkar, Advocate Chintaman Badguji and Advocate Kandekar and others in the meeting. I agree with the objection raised by them.

Earlier it was a Dighi Port Limited company. Later it was taken over by Adani. But both the companies have not given any concession to our local

people. No social development scheme has been implemented here. In 2007, there was an agitation, dredging was done for Dighi Port, since then fishing has also decreased. The environmental impact assessment report said that there will be no noise pollution, water pollution, air pollution by the proposed project. But our objection is that there will be noise pollution, water pollution, air pollution, marine pollution.

The benefit of this project is said to be infrastructure and connectivity. So what kind of connectivity will be provided to the locals by this project? Also, the villagers of the affected villages here have not been given job opportunities in the project.

He read out some paragraphs from the EIA report. He said that this EIA report is completely wrong, in favour of the project and misleading. This erroneous EIA report has created a stir in the meeting. However, I and the farmers here are protesting against this EIA report and public hearing.

8) **I am speaking through Pravin Tandel, Raigad District Koli Samaj Secretary, Alibaug.**

The Jaitapur nuclear plant was to be a chemical plant in Raigad district. It was going to be set up in Roha. At that time, the Raigad district Koli community protested. The work of demolishing Shah Rukh Khan's bungalow at Thal has been done by our Koli community by going to the Supreme Court. A written statement has been submitted against this Dighi port. The main points in it are:

The main reasons for cancellation of the project are :

a) In the EIA report of the project, instead of bringing the proposed SPM tanker very close to the conventional berg, it stops away from the shore. The project will be located in the existing fishing area.
b) The fisheries here will be destroyed. Due to this, the fishermen community will be destroyed. Traditional fishing will be affected.
c) For this project, the land reclamation will be permanently dumped and for using permanently. As a result, the bio-diversity and fish breeding there will be destroyed forever.
d) The ten objections of the fishermen have been submitted in writing.
e) You give the order – the agitation of all the villagers of Uran Shrivardhan will be held.

9) **Shri Ijad Havaldar, Resident-Kudgaon, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad:-**

The project was set up on 144 acres of land on gat numbers 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 61, 62, 63, 64. However, the Koli brothers/Fishing Brothers say that more than 144 acres of land has been acquired by Adani . Why did District Administration not enquire about it?

On 17th July 2010, as per Judgment and Order of the Hon'ble High Court,Mumbai, according to the agreement with the Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran, the proposal of Rs 7 crore to supply 0.6 MLD water to Kudgaon, Harvit and Dighi villages started. The water line was laid upto Wadavali. Later it was stopped.

Adani has said in the affidavit in the court that roads and water will be provided. I will give water for sixteen hours to Kudgaon, Dighi and Harvit. Water has not been given even for sixteen minutes. Even after twenty-one years, we have not been given any civic facility that we want. Injustice has been done to us. At the same time, water was given to Dighi, Wadavali and Kalsuri villages. But since Harvit is a Muslim village, water was not given. It is a matter for everyone to think about whether this is discrimination. Injustice has been done to us. We are with the society and will be with the society till the end.

10) Shri Vijay Gidhi, Rajapuri, Taluka-Murud, District-Raigad:-

All the speakers before me have raised many issues of the affected people. Therefore, I will not repeat them. I have only one point - we are also affected by the project, we are PAPs- Project Affected Persons. Yet no hospital has been built here. The hospital here has been taken to Roha. If Hospital is taken to Roha, then take this project to Roha.

I have written 10-15 letters for this issue. Not a single one has been replied by the Adani management.

Now let me tell Dighi Port – remember that no work on the project can be started without our permission. We are completely opposed to Dighi Port.

Here **Mr. Pravin Tandel, Raigad District Koli Samaj Secretary, Alibaug requested the** company administration that it has been a long time since people have come. If anyone wants to take afternoon tablets, arrangements should be made to provide drinking water to all.

11) Shri Devidas Chandrakant Kawle, Shrivardhan Panchayat Samiti, Former Chairman, District-Raigad

All the advocates present in the meeting have presented our case very well. Other speakers have also given information about the problems caused by this project.

All the reports that have been submitted by M/s Aditya Environment for Project Proponent-Adani are false and misleading. They have mentioned about breakwater, dredging in the report but the damage to be caused is not given.

Ill-effects of dredging that will occur has not been mentioned in the EIA report. Also, the wall that will be built for water breaking will be built in the same area to put a doli on the low tide and a doli on the high tide. Fishing will be destroyed due to the breaking wall. The small fish found near the shore will also be destroyed. We are opposing this project. I expressed my anguish.

12) Shri- Name not informed :-

The falsehood in the EIA report that was prepared is such that 5-6 villages have been excluded from the Koli organization of 13 villages. These include Mendadi, Kharsai, Khargaon, Pabra and Vashi. Because there are plenty of mangros in the area. Therefore, it is the policy of the government to keep the respective village deprived. Because this Rajpuri creek is named Laxmi creek. The Koli community organizations of thirteen villages are associated with that creek. If there are shells, crabs and other fish species in that creek, then the poor widow women of the village live on it. Due to the proposed Adani project, oil layers will settle on the creek. This will destroy their means of livelihood.

However, we all the Koli organizations of Thirteen villages completely oppose the proposed project.

13) Mr. Pandurang Patil, Chairman of Mandad Tera Gaon, Mumbaikar Mandal President:-

He asked all participants that if everyone would oppose the proposed project. All of them answered in the affirmative.

The speakers here gave the reasons for opposing the project. In this, the lawyer of the Mumbai High Court, Shri R. K. Mendadkar Saheb It was mentioned that P.I.L. in the High Court No. 42/2009 had demanded drinking water and water supply in our village. Even after the High Court's order, Dighi Port Limited could not provide simple drinking water supply scheme, will the then Kalantri, then Dighi Port and now Adani accept their

demands? Also, all the lawyers have torn apart the environmental impact assessment report. If we tell It has been dissected. Everyone about the ill effects of the project, we don't want the project.

All the public has become aware and are spreading misleading lies in the EIA report. They say that one crore rupees were spent in our villages, where did that go? Where is the ambulance?

However, I request all the villagers brothers and sisters not to fall prey to these lies.

Our lawyer Mr. Chandekar Saheb said that in 2022, the whole world went into Covid. During that Covid period, the environmental consultant prepared the EIA report. The EIA report is in favour of the company.

I request the lawyers to file a Contempt of Court petition against this company as it is not complying with the orders of the High Court.

He appealed to all the participants if they are ready to oppose the project. All of them replied in the affirmative.

14) Shri Ramesh Lonkar, Residing ----------,Taluka----------,District-Raigad:

The local participants have expressed their anguish with a lot of heart. This is "our creek". This is our creek and we put a doli in that creek. Don't destroy our fishing business for this project. We are against this project. All thirteen villages are opposed. Opposition means opposition.

15) Shri Haridas Ganpat Patil, resident of Dighi Koliwada village Patil, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad:

This Environment Public Hearing is being held for the development of the proposed master plan/plan for the expansion of Dighi port. The present master plan is not for development but for the sake of destruction. Let me briefly state the reasons for this-

a) While developing the port, it will have to be reclaimed. This will destroy the natural habitat of fish;
b) Fishermen who do carry traditional fishing, fishermen are going to be ruined. Because the reclamation/dumping of landfill will destroy the traditional fishing grounds,
c) Dredging changes the structure of the sea bed. The natural habitat of fish near the coast will be destroyed, due to which the production

of fish will decrease. It affects our fishing. It has been wrongly mentioned in the report that only crabs are found here. All fish, big and small, are available here.

d) Due to dredging, the production of fish decreases due to the sediment of the sea. Therefore, we are opposing the proposed project.

e) One and a half kilometers from the light house, reclamation/filling up of the berth will be done in the proposed project. This will reduce the current of water during the high tides. This will also reduce our fishing.

All our lawyers have presented our case very well. Therefore, this project will not develop us, but we will be ruined. Therefore, we oppose this project.

16) <u>Shri Laxman Mendankar, Chairman, Ekvira Fishermen Co-operative Society:-</u>

Actually, there is nothing left to say now. All the speakers and lawyers before me have said all the points against the project. But I am pointing out some points, the basic problems. All the Nakhwa people, sailors and fishermen have come here.

"Only six villages have received notices, but we have doubts as to why other coastal villages have not received notices.

I will talk about two points. There is the issue of the Nirim reservoir. Now the climate has changed. The big ships that will come from abroad will release water to balance it, dirt, sewage and oil will be released into the sea. As a result, the coast will be polluted, due to which, small fish will die. Fish and small fish near the coast will be destroyed. Also, due to the change in climate, 100% fish production will be reduced.

Also, a modular desalination project will be implemented to meet the additional water requirement of 50.0 MLD for the project. The salts that will be generated while converting saline water into fresh water will be released back into saline water. As a result, the oxygen of the sea water/saline water will be destroyed. Fishing near the coast will also be destroyed. Today is Monday and our fishermen are fasting. Yet all of them are sitting here hungry. Because it is a matter of their life and death. They all have come to oppose the project.

He asked all participants if they were opposed to the project, all of them unanimously agreed.

17) **Shri Naresh Apine,Residence-Khamde Koliwada, District-Raigad:-**

I thank my community for giving me the opportunity to speak. People are speaking here. They should speak briefly so that everyone can speak. All the three lawyers of our community, Mr. Mendalkarsaheb, Mr. Chintamani Badguji Saheb, Mr. Chandekarsaheb, have presented our case very well. We will fight till the end. Here women are present in majority. They will also fight till the end.

We have a livelihood on our hands. We do not have an engine boat, we have a wet boat. The wall that is going to be built for this project will affect our fisheries. We are completely opposed to the project. If this project is completed, our people will have to beg on the streets. We will oppose it till the end.

18) **Shri Iqbal Ghazali, resident of Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad**

Everyone here has expressed their opposition. The history of the jetty tells us. The foundation stone of this jetty was laid in 1972. Later the land was given to SICOM. In 2006, it was taken over by Kalandri. They did illegal excavation. Now Adani has come. Later, only a handful of people are doing business on this Adani jetty. But they were telling us that fifty thousand people will work. Now the wall is going to be built, which will affect the fishing. The water here will be spoiled due to filtered water. The poor fishermen and the people here will face starvation.

However, my family and I are completely opposed to this project. Also, I will fully support my Koli community.

19) **Shri Kiran Kandekar, resident of Dighi Koliwada, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad**

There is opposition to this project. The project report states that reclamation will affect the marine environment here and destroy the lifestyle. If the fish are destroyed, what will we eat?

It has been mentioned in the report that in our creeks, shrimp and fish species are found in the sea. It has not been mentioned in the report. It should be explained why it was not done. Moreover, the report mentions dredging. If dredging is underway within 360 meters, how will nearby boats pass through? The bio-diversity here will be destroyed. Fishing is stopped during the monsoon. The government also stops fishing for three months, because the fish can breed.

The government stops fishing for three months, because the fish should be breeded. But due to this project, big boats, ships will come and the breeding of fish here will be destroyed. Due to this, the quantity of fish will be destroyed. However, it should be noted.

We are opposed to the project.

20) Alka Munar, social worker, Rajpuri Koliwada, Raigad district:

When my father was fishing, we used to get a lot of fish in Rajpuri creek. Now the fish of the creek is extinct.

Now the fish found on the seashore will be destroyed due to this project. That is, due to the removal of siltation, the transportation of ships, the fish is being affected. That is, our fishing business will be destroyed, so in return they will give CSR funds to our village. This is not acceptable to us. The CSR fund is not our means of livelihood. The sea is ours, not anyone's father's. The Rajpuri creek is ours. We should get it. We do not accept this project. We are completely opposed to the Adani project.

21) Shri Anand Lokhande, Deputy Sarpanch, Mandad Gram Panchayat, District-Raigad:-

There is a large number of women power present here. Congratulations to them. If Nari Shakti erupts, it will not take any time for Adani's empire to be destroyed. I am a Buddhist by caste, but by profession we are fishermen. All the fishermen here earn their livelihood from fishing. After returning from school, I used to catch crabs in the nearby Mandad Creek. All of us fishermen have come to oppose this project. It is a matter of life and death for us.

As the Deputy Sarpanch, I request District Collector that the Indapur-Agardanda road, which has become a bridge from Mandad to Khajni, has been stalled for many years. Accidents can happen there. Last time, the school bus overturned. However, your office should pay attention.

We are completely opposing this project. Jai Koli Samaj.

22) Shri Umesh Harichandra Karanje, resident of Mandad village, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad:-

The people present here and the legal experts have presented all the points. Now there is nothing left to present. I am a resident of Mandad village and there is a creek in Mandad village. Our village

belongs to fishermen. We earn our livelihood by cultivating paddy and fishing. This project will destroy our fisheries. I belong to the Kunbi community, but my profession is fishing. Therefore, we do not want this project. In a previous survey, it was wrongly concluded that there is no fishermen community here. This is the collective fight of our Kunbi and Koli community. We will fight shoulder to shoulder against this project.

The second point is that the training you are going to give has not been given so far. The project officials are offering this lure.

The Adani project is trying to grab our land on the coast. We all are going to fight the Kunbi community and the Koli community together. Also, my point regarding the survey which wrongly concluded that there is no fishing community in Mandad village should be noted in the minutes of the meeting.

23) Shri Jagannath Govind Khargaonkar, Former President of Akhand Kudgaon Koli Samaj, Member, Kudgaon Gram Panchayat

Bharat Ratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar said: Educate, Organize and Agitate. Under his guidance, we learned, got organized and are fighting this struggle.

NOC was given in 2005 for this port project. At that time, Harvit and Kudgaon villages were included. Other villages – Dighi, Nanavali, Karlas and other villages get water, but Kudgaon, Harvit do not get water. We all have to fight together. Our community has started this fight, I support it. We are completely opposed to this destructive project.

24) Shri Rajendra Ghosalkar, Sarpanch, Kalsuri Gram Panchayat, Taluka-Mhasala, District-Raigad

I want information regarding the notice you have sent to gram Panchayat of Dighi Port. Here in Kalsuri village, there are fishermen, there is a creek belt, and there is a lot of agricultural land. There are animals and birds. They should not be destroyed.

I appeal as the Sarpanch of Kalsuri village that if the Koli brothers/Fishermen of thirteen villages are opposing this project and if this project is disastrous, then I publicly state that Kalsuri village is also supporting the local people for opposition of the project.

25) Shri Dwarkanath Dharma Patil, Former President, Khargaon Koli Samaj and Tera Gaon Koli Samaj Advisor:

Objections raised by those present here about the proposed project were Sagarputra and Sagarkanya, we are grateful. This Dighi creek is from Dighi to Mhasla end. This creek is "our Mother. The Sea is the "Father" of the fishermen, while the creek is the mother. Dredging will have to be done for the jetty, which will destroy the entire fish. Fish go to the bottom of the mangros to breed. If the fish is not reproduced, the fish will not be born. Therefore, the entire Koli community across our thirteen villages is strongly opposed to this project.

We will sacrifice our lives, but we will not allow this project to commission.

26) Shri Ganesh Munnak, resident of Rajpuri, Taluka-Murud, District-Raigad:-

I bow down to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Mother Goddess Ekviradevi, the deity of Maharashtra, and say two words. So far, only injustice has been done to the Koli community. Every time, the project officer has shown lure. The company and every government have done injustice to the Koli community. The Koli community is peace-loving. However, it should be noted that once ignited, they flare up completely.

27) Shri Shashikant Ramesh Bedekar, At Post-Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad:-

All the points have been raised by our lawyers. I would like to ask that as mentioned in the report, the project promoters have spent ₹ 32.60 lakh on education in 2024-25 and ₹ 139.79 lakh on public health. A copy of the information about where and how the expenditure was made should be made available immediately. It is important to know where this expenditure was made or whether it is gone in whose throat?

Also, the environmental consultant would have carried the survey of the project 2-3 years back. However, it is written on the report as April, 2026. He said the population here was 3,500. However, the census is of 2011. It means that all the information/data in the EIA report is wrong.

It is written in the report that the socio-economic study conducted by the environmental consultant in the project periphery shows a significant decline in the child population (0-6 years) due to the trend of migration. It was shown to be 24.14%. But migration can also be for education. If there is a significant decline in the child population (0-6 years). If it is shown to

be 24.14%, would such a large society have survived here And would all the tents have been filled here? The data given is completely wrong and the promises are wrong.

We are openly oppose this proposed project.

28) Mrs. Vasanti Mangesh Gunaji, Member, Zilla Parishad-Raigad:-

As Member, Zilla Parishad-Raigad, I am opposed, opposed and opposed to this project. Women have shown a significant presence here, so I thank to them. If any lady wants to speak, they should come here and speak. This is your right. I appeal to the women who have come here to come and say two words here.

29) Mrs. Mukta Madhukar Khopatkar:-

I am speaking as an ordinary woman and an ordinary citizen. The proposed Adani project is like cutting a throat by hair. We publicly condemn this project. It is a project that destroys our fishermen. We oppose the project. The fishermen are condemned, no one remembers the fishermen.

30) Shri Chandrakant Chavan, resident of Rajpuri, Taluka-Murud, District Raigad:-

I am an activist of Rajpuri village and a representative of thirteen villages. I am narrating my pain.

Due to the project established in Dighi village, ships began arriving at night, leading to an increase in marshy silt in the creek; consequently, the fish population in the creek has been wiped out.

We have been living on this creek for generations.

We will strongly oppose any attempt to destroy the creek by dredging here and destruction of the Koli brothers for this project, as well as the Janjira fort in Murud, which is remembered for our Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj.

31) Mrs. Yamuna Kishore Mendadkar, Resident- Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad:-

We are the fishermen of Dighi village. We don't get enough water. We were told that a hundred tankers will come every day, but not even ten tankers come. We have to struggle for water. We brothers and sisters are fighting unitedly. Projects should not work here. It affects our business.

32) **Mrs. Nirmala Jaipal Kandekar, Group Gram Panchayat Member, Dighi Taluka - Shrivardhan, District - Raigad -**

As mentioned in the discussion, the focus is only on the bell cart. Photos were shown in the presentation. So in the Marathi school, only one class has been painted for the "Speaker class". The rest nine classrooms are kept as they are. Only the bell cart was given. Its rent has to be paid to the Gram Panchayat.

We are opposed to this project thrice.

33) **Shri Prakash Mahadev Gowari, resident of Dighi Koliwada, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad**

Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report submitted by the project consultant Aditya Environment, Mumbai, is not known to any person here as to when they conducted the survey in the project periphery.

Project Consultant Aditya Environment, Mumbai had held a meeting in Group Gram Panchayat Dighi in 2022. At that time, Group Gram Panchayat Dighi outrightly refused their proposal.

However, this Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report was prepared without taking the group gram panchayat Dighi into confidence or without taking into confidence the fishermen's societies in thirteen villages which are the autonomous body of Dighi. I do not know when they conducted the survey in the project periphery, they have prepared the report in their AC office. This report is wrong and misleading to the locals. There are a lot of discrepancies in the report and it has been done in favour of the company.

In the report, the distance from the project location to the nearest airport Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport is shown as 90.0 km. If you look at the mobile distance, it comes to 167.0 km.

The nearest archaeological site to the project, the Janjira Fort in Murud, is 0.16 km. It is at a distance. No prior permission has been obtained from the Archaeological Department for this.

Also, after the completion of the port, the garbage from the ships will come here. Question arises where to dump it. There is no explanation about the scientific disposal on it. Since this report is wrong, the public hearing based on the report is also wrong. The garbage in Dighi Port is expected to be disposed of by Dighi Port. However, the Gram Panchayat's Ghanta

Gadi carries the garbage. This means that the Port has not set up a garbage disposal system.

However, there is complete opposition and opposition to this project.

34) <u>Shri Balkrishna Turumbadkar, President of Akhand Kudgaon Koli Samaj, Mumbai and Secretary of Tera Gaon Koli Samaj, Mumbai</u>

Just as the ocean never abandons its nature of being a sustainer, the Koli community never abandons its sense of unity. Our fishermen and community are capable of fighting administrative, social or judicial struggle against this project. We have to keep this unity forever. He read out his written statement. He objected that the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report was not made available to the locals in the local language Marathi.

Due to the dredging of this project, the natural habitat of the fish here will be destroyed. This will kill the fish. A written memorandum was submitted. Various points have been given in it. The distance between the Dighi Agardanda seems wrong, it has not been taken properly. If the project is started, then we will not get our Kharab, Palak.

35) <u>Shri Kumar Vipul Ramesh Gorwale, Sarpanch & Administrator, Group Gram Panchayat, Dighi:-</u>

Everyone has expressed their opposition. The sea is our agriculture. If a company is running a JCB on farming, will we tolerate if someone snatches the farm or spoils our farm? All the attendees unanimously said NO.

As the Group Gram Panchayat Sarpanch, he said that he was opposed to the project. All of us are with the thirteen village Koli community. As a sarpanch, I am also against and against this project.

36) <u>Shri Nikesh Chandrakant Tandel, newly elected worker of Nanavali village:</u>

Environmental consultant Aditya Environment, Mumbai, wrote in the report that only crab is found here. He asked the community whether this was true? Everyone unanimously said No. He asked where the Bombay duck and other fish went with the crab?

Also, why has the port not been built yet? Also, why was the EIA report not made available in Marathi language for the information of the local people?

What was shown the presentation of the project, the local people did not understand. Only the figures were seen. When people asked, the police were telling them to keep quiet.

Nanavali village is completely oppose this project.

37) Shri Govind Gunaji:-

The dredging which is going to be carried is about 60 million cubic meters. It will take about three and a half years to de-silt. So where dredged silt going to be dumped? If it is going to take five and a half years, then whether fishing should be carried there or not?

Secondly, they are going to remove 14 million cubic meters of silt every year for maintenance, then does Adani Company say that people should not carry fishing?

I oppose this project.

38) Shri Janardan Pandurang Basmat, Secretary of Chargaon Koli Samaj, former Sarpanch and husband of the present Sarpanch:

After the date of this public hearing was published, a meeting was held in the Gram Sabha for this project. At that time, the entire community has opposed the proposed project in the Gram Sabha. Similarly, the Gram Panchayats of my village, i.e. Nigdi, Khargaon, Deoghar, have also opposed it. Fishing will be destroyed by this project. Not only the fishermen, but other sections of the society who depend on the fishermen community, as well as all the brothers of the society, who buy and sell fish. Their livelihood is on it. There will be a crisis on them. Food, clothing and shelter are to be provided by the government. We will provide it through the Gram Panchayat, there is no need of Adani.

There is opposition and only opposition to this project.

39) Karsai Koli Samaj President Bhanji Nangegune,

I am completely with the organization of Thirteen villages. However, my village is completely opposed to the project.

40) Shri Name not Informed

First of all, greetings to my brothers. If for the selfish interests of the capitalists, if they are destroying our ancestral traditional creek, occupying our villages, and doing direct injustice to us, then shame to them. Ram is in everyone, when Ram is gone, everything is gone. We are opposed and opposed to the proposed project by the Thirteen Gaon Sanghatana.

41) **Shri Anant Jagannath Patil, resident of Dighi Koliwada, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad**

a) An example of how the government administration does injustice to the Koli community is the construction of breakwater near Zanjeera Fort. It is built on such a large scale that if a boat or launch is to be put there, then 125 meters of breakwater has been built for it. Due to this, the fishermen there are suffering. This should be noted.

b) The Koli community of thirteen villages do fishing in this creek. Everyone's boundary is fixed. If breakwater is built there, then the fishermen of thirteen villages will be deprived of fishing.

c) Dighi Port was limited, now it will go to the national level. There have been public hearings for this location in the past. Veritos has had a public hearing. The hazardous substances of the company are still there. This project can ruin our creek.

d) The previous project was locked. The same will be done with this project. Also, due to big ships, the natural habitat of fish near the coast will be destroyed. Due to this, the production of fish will be reduced. All the fishermen of these thirteen villages are fishing here. Their livelihood will be affected.

However, Thirteen villages are totally against this disastrous project.

42) **Shri Jagannath Mallari Waghre, Chairman, Maheshwari Society, Deputy Sarpanch, Ekdara Gram Panchayat, District-Raigad:-**

We tell Adani, if you start dredging work, then we will hurdle it by putting horizontal boats in front of you. We will come together and will not allow the reclamation.

Ekdara village opposes the project.

43) **Shri Anant Rakhma Patil, President of Turungiwadi Village, Secretary of Tera Gaon Koli Sanghatana-**

Rajpuri creek is a holy creek from the time of Shiva. No one has encroached on this creek. But since 2007, this creek has been tarnished.

This Rajpuri creek is livelihood of all the Koli community here. It is also source of livelihood of other communities. Thirteen villages here feed their daily bread from this creek. We do not have land, but our Satbara is our creek.

Hence, on behalf of my Turungiwadi village and on behalf of all thirteen villages of the Koli community organization, there is opposition to the Adani project.

44) Shri Gopal Mahadev Mendadkar, Administrator, Deputy Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Dighi

Before me, the people of my village had opposed the project. A 1, 600 meter breakwater wall is going to be built at the place of our electric house. The livelihood of our fishermen is depend on low tide and high tide. Due to breakwater wall, current will be reduced. Fish will be available in very small quantity. The natural habitat of fish will be destroyed due to the breakwater wall. Fish will be destroyed due to this project. The fishermen will starve.

There is complete opposition to the project.

45) Shri Jagannath Dnyandev Tandel, former Sarpanch, Vashivali, Chairman, Vashivali Koli Samaj

Our lawyers presented our case very well. But as a young man, I am sharing some thoughts –

I am also a young fisherman. Along with crabs and mussels, other fish species are also found in abundance. Many species of fish are found in this sea.

Not a single youth in our village goes to work and does fishing. We don't need Adani or Ambani.

There is opposition to the project.

46) Shri Name not informed: -

In 2003-2004, a Rapid EIA was prepared by NEERI for Dighi Port. In 2005, they got Environmental Clearance (EC). A similar report was given by Aditya Environmental in 2022. There has been a lot of discrepancy in a period of 20 years. The fishermen have suffered a lot of financial losses in it. However, my objection should be registered.

The project is opposed by the Koli community of Rajpuri creek.

47) Shri -Member, Raigad Zilla Parishad, Chairman, Chargaon Sanghatana, Vice-President, Tera Gaon Koli Sanghatana:-

Even though today is Nag Panchami, the day to worship Nag Devta, the presence of women among all the villagers who have

come to oppose the project is significant. We have got the support of all the villagers of 13 villages.

Thirteen of our villages are opposed to this public hearing and the proposed project. Along with the Koli community, other communities are also with us. Because the farming (fishing) of other communities will also be lost. Thanks to the police administration for their co-operation.

48) Shri Gopinath Ghanshyam Chavan, At Post-Turungiwadi, Tera Gaon Koli Sanghatana Associate Member:-

Through this Environment Public Hearing, I request the office bearers of the village office bearers of the Teragaon Koli organization that it is necessary for everyone to be united and united only. Adani will show lure, do not fall prey to it.

Opposition to the project.

49) Shri Anant C. Mendadkar, resident of Dighi, Taluka, Shrivardhan, District Raigad:-

This public hearing revealed that all the villagers in the project affected villages here are opposed to the project.

We are protesting because we are being cheated, we are going to suffer losses and we will be starving. This creek feed daily bread to these thirteen villages.

We are giving tax (Khutva) to Maharashtra Maritime Board i.e. MMB. Every year we fill the tax (Khutva) for fishing. Fishing spots are allotted to every village in the Creek. 700 meters trench is reclaimed in a 1,700-meter trench from Dighi to Agardanda, and now this project is going to reclaim on both sides. So, what will be left in 1000 meters?

According to the suggestion raised in the meeting, the water is released to balance the ship, due to which the aquatic animals there will die. There are methods of fishermen while fishing, they have not been studied here. There is no mention of Falati and Mendhi methods. There is no mention of rapani - planting. Why a hospital is shifted and built at Roha, when the project affected area is here.

We, totally oppose this project.

50) Janardan Gowari, resident of Dighi, Taluka-Shrivardhan, District-Raigad-

An Environment Public Hearing on the proposed project is going on. There were 2,500 chairs here, but our mothers and sisters came three times more than that. Congratulations to the Thirteen Gaon Koli Association for this.

It is a matter of fishermen. The 1,500 meter wall that we are going to build will change the tides. Rainwater will enter from Roha in Tera villages/Thirteen villages. Therefore, salt water and rainwater will mix and enter every house. Houses will be destroyed. Thirteen village Koli community opposes this project,

51) **Shri Shelar said that:-**

The lawyers who came and argued for all the thirteen village Koli organizations against the project are informed that the resolution you make in 2026 will be acceptable to all. Just as the project was locked in 2017, the Adani project should be locked in 2026.

He requested the lawyers to take further steps as to how the project will not get a No-objection certificate and Environmental Clearance (EC).

It is submitted to Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee that the villagers from all the villages have opposed the project.

52) **Advocate Kandekar**

Hon'ble Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee is requested that a policy decision needs to be taken in this regard. There is a decision regarding the Mariai Fishermen's Activities Committee.

Also, the Government of Maharashtra has taken a policy decision to compensate the project victims.

At that time, all the participants collectively expressed the opinion and shouted loudly that there was no question of compensation as we do not want project.

Advocate Kandekar requested Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee to conclude the meeting

53) **Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee directed** that a memorandum be made regarding the suggestions and objections raised by the Environment Consultant.

54) **Environment Consultant said that** the proposed project was presented. After this, the suggestions, objections raised by the participants have been recorded. Project Proponent and Environmental Consultant will give written replies to the written suggestions, objections which have been submitted.

55) While concluding the meeting, **Chairman, Environment Public Hearing** Committee said that some of the issues raised during the discussions were as follows:-

a)	There is a historical place near the project - Janjira Fort at Murud. No Objection Certificate (NOC) has not been obtained before the project is carried out.
b)	Dighi Port Limited has not utilized CSR funds for social activities in Project Affected Villages,
c)	The report did not give any information about Dighi Jetty,
d)	Dighi Port Limited signed MoU in 2008 with Koliwadas. The terms and conditions of that MoU have not been fulfilled yet.
e)	As per Judgment & Order in PIL No. 42/2009 passed by Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai, Project Proponent has not supplied water to Dighi village even though it is mandatory to supply a hundred tankers per day as per the Order.Thus High Court Order is violated.
f)	Prior permission of the High Court is required for cutting mangroves, which has not been obtained.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that we are not in favor of anyone. We are here to organize this public hearing on behalf of the Government and to register the environmental suggestions/objections raised by you regarding the proposed project. The minutes of the meeting along with the written suggestions/objections will be submitted after approval of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi through Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai. An Expert-Committee there takes further decision in this regard. He thanked everyone and declared that Environment Public Hearing is concluded.

Meeting ended extending thanks to Chair.

Written total number of 96 Suggestions/objections received are enclosed herewith.

(Sandeep Tope)
Convener,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Sub Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Mahad,
(Addl. charge)

(Sanjay Bhosale)
Member,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Raigad,
Navi Mumbai

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