

Proceedings of the Environmental Public Hearing held on 14/03/2021 from 10.30 am to 11.30 p.m. at the Government Village Play Ground Navelim, Near Vividha Higher Secondary School, Navelim, Sankhali Goa.

In respect of:

“Proposed Up-gradation of Blast Furnaces (BF) to enhance the production capacity of BF- 1 & 2 from 2,92,000 TPA to 3,50,000 TPA, BF-3 from 5,40,000 TPA to 6,50,000 TPA, setting up of Additional Oxygen Plant, Installation of Ductile Iron Pipe Plant of 3,00,000 TPA capacity, 4 additional Met Coke ovens, setting up of Fe-Si Plant of 5,000 TPA capacity at Amona and Navelim Villages, Bicholim Taluka, North Goa District, Goa”, by M/s. Vedanta Ltd.

Additional Collector III Shri. Mahadev J. Araundekar tried to start the public hearing mentioning the time, however the crowd objected the saying that the location where the hearing is being conducted that is Plot No.51/1 belongs to Shri. Pratap Gauns and that his permission is not taken for conducting the public hearing. For the same the Addl. Collector replied that all the necessary permissions have been taken and this hearing is being conducted in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay at Goa.

The crowd objected unanimously by shouting slogans. The Additional Collector further mentioned that all the objections addressed by the public/speakers will be taken on record and requested to start the public hearing proceedings and explained to the public that permissions have been taken from the Sports Authority of Goa (SAG) to carry out the public hearing at the venue i.e. plot no.51/1. The permission of SAG was displayed to the public on the screen.

Preliminary objections to conduct the Public Hearing were submitted by the participants as under;

Preliminary objection:

Accordingly, the following individuals have raised the issues/gave suggestions which are as under.

Preliminary objections	The People objected to Collector speaking English. People objected to conducting of Public Hearing in the plot belonging to private persons without NOC of the owner. Additional
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	Collector replied that all permissions were taken including Permission from SAG. People objected unanimously. The Additional Collector requested the public to start the proceedings of the Public and Hearing and stated that objections of public shall be noted down. Additional Collector stated that permissions are taken and displayed the same on the screen.
Pratap Gauns	Additional Collector permitted Shri Pratab Gauns Ex –MLA to raise preliminary objections. Pratap raised the objections that this property on which the hearing is being held belongs to Mr. Prabhakar Esso Gauns and presently hearing is pending before the court and after the death of Mr. Prabhakar, the Pratap Gauns being the son of Mr Prabhakar is the legal owner of the said property .The Venue of the Public hearing is in Sy.No.51/1 and no permissions has been taken from the owner of the property for the said hearing .He further states that the Government means “Us” that is of the people ,for the people and by the people and he warned the organisers of the public hearing that he would file case against them for trespassing into his property, if the public hearing is not stopped. He opposed to the project.
	The Additional Collector replied that the property matter shall be resolved in the court
	District Magistrate Mr Ajit Roy (IAS) intervenes and requested the crowd to come forward and place their objections /suggestions so that they can be recorded.
Adv. Vithal Naik	The objectors from the crowd the public asked the Collector why the project proponent officials are sitting next to the panel members as they are not authorised to do the so as per the EIA Notifications. He opposed to the project.
	The District Magistrate Mr.Ajit Roy replied saying that the company officials were given place to sit next to the panel as they have to give a presentation on the proposed project as per EIA Notification. He further state that the Public hearing is to be carried out by the District Administration. He further requested the crowd to be seated and cooperate in conducting the public hearing. The collector was asked to show a provision in the EIA notification allowing him to keep the employees present for the Public hearing which was not shown.
	The Speakers/objectors requested the District Collector to speak in Konkani and accordingly the District Collector spoke in Hindi Language.



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	<p>One person from the crowd raised questions to the District Magistrate to provide EIA Notification under which District Administration is empowered to permit project proponent to sit on the dais.</p>
	<p>The Public at large stated that after waiting for more than 3 hrs and the Collector failed to produce any permission, nor NOC nor give a satisfactory reply to the questions raised by the public, the people gathered decided to leave the premises to avoid any further prosecution from the land owner for trespassing. They also stated that GSPCB should get all the permission from the required authorities for the conduct of the Public Hearing and then conduct the same, therefore they requested to cancel/postpone the Public Hearing considering the objections raised by the public. The written submissions regard to the same is also submitted. A total of 167 numbers have filed written submission who were present for the Public hearing, calling for cancellation of the Public Hearing apprehending criminal trespass, A specific Email complaint forwarded to GSPCB and the collector to initiate criminal proceeding for trespass against villagers who were present for Public Hearing.</p>
	<p>The presentation started at 2.30 p.m. by Project Proponent. The Additional Collector called out the first speaker's name.</p>
<p>Vishwamber Datta Gauns</p>	<p>He gave his objections in writing. He stated he was a resident of Navelim. He has a representation addressed to 4 Departments. He stated that acknowledgment be given on behalf of all 4 departments. The Additional Collector stated that he can give the representation before 22nd March 2021. The speaker stated that he was an employee of M/s. Sesa. There was a dispute regarding land and there was suspension of the employment. In 1982-1983 as a beneficiation plant was started. After the same year the area was environmentally affected. In the year 1996 in 420000 sq land was acquired by Government and given to Sesa Goa. The State Government has illegally encroached the land of the IDC. There was a big conflict in 2012 and all 100 people went to the gates of the company and objected. He also stated that the project proponent said that the raw material will be taken from the resources from Goa. The mining companies / leases are closed. Hence from where will the ore taken.</p> <p>There is an environmental pollution and expansion will cause more environmental pollution and health hazard to the people.</p>

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	He opposed to the project.
Pratap Gauns	<p>He stated that the GSPCB has taken open hearing on his land and had to take his permission and hence it is illegal.</p> <p>The land at Navelim and Amona is Comunidade land and the same is in dispute. He queries that when there is dispute how they can conduct public hearing in survey no.42/1 and 43/1. The land is Comunidade land. These two villages are called Revenue Villages. This zone was considered as green zone till today. Green zone is cultivated. When currently there is already pollution then how can a permission can be granted to a new project when it will make cause pollution. All objections regarding land has to be dealt with first and then only can public hearing be conducted. A survey has to be done properly and illegalities have to be removed. The peoples point of view has to be taken into consideration. There is air pollution being caused due to the operation of Company unit. The people in the unit on contract are forced to speak for the company. He opposed to the project.</p>
Ramesh Sinari	<p>He states that he is the <u>General Secretary of Sesa Goa</u>- where the Pig plant was in operation after 2-4 years a BF II Plant was in operation. A lot of profit and production has increased. He states that with the help of the people the production will increase and there will be a lot of employment to the people. All people started objecting and started throwing chairs at the speaker. The people objecting and asked for withdrawal of the statement of Ramesh Sinari.</p>
Nilkant Gauns	<p>He stated that the organisers are troubling the participants attending the public Hearing. The public hearing didn't follow democratic process. The comunidade land is a Portuguese concept. The village belongs to original inhabitant Gaonkars. The collector has no right on the comunidade of the village. There is defamation of the comunidade. The goa govt cannot acquire comunidade land. The IDC cannot give the land of the comunidade to Vedanta. He displayed the village map of Navelim. He questioned the collector regarding the encroachment in the comunidade land by Vedanta. The Vedanta has to pay Rs. 73crores to the comunidade of Navelim as compensation towards land used by the company. He accused the govt officials of taking bribes from Vedanta company. He seeks to know from the collector the amount compensation paid by the government to the comunidade for</p>



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	<p>acquiring its land. He states the Portuguese would never destroy the comunidade but the govt of goa is destroying it. He objects to the collector limiting his time to speak. He says that the SOP of the Collector is not as per law. He questioned the urgency to conduct the Public hearing during the covid pandemic. He demands that the company should pay the correct amount of compensation to the villagers. He seeks to know how Vedanta company has altered the boundary between Amona and Navelim. With respect to GSPCB, he states that the PCB is acting as a rubber stamp and not acting as a regulatory authority for which it is established. Its job is to see if the company is following the pollution control laws. He stated that the company has no roads within its premises. Lots of people have died within the company during working hours. He seeks to know from the Member secretary the definition of pollution. There is no action taken or reports on pollution and no action on pollution. 100% utilization of land is used for business purpose. The company has not provided any open space and no residential area for the company employees, and not maintained any green zone. He opposed to the project.</p>
Nilesh Babuso Naik	<p>He stated that he is an employee of the company. He has registered to speak with the GSPCB. He states that there is a lot of un-satisfaction among the people due to the expansion of the unit as there are a lot of illegalities done by the project proponent. He states that the expansion of the unit is good if benefits are given to the people of the area like providing jobs, transport and education. The people have to benefit in return of the expansion done by the unit. He opposed to the project.</p>
Shyamsundar Naik	<p>He submitted his written objection to the GSPCB. The unit has caused pollution which has destroyed agricultural fields and they are facing water shortages. He opposed to the project.</p>
Dipesh Gauns	<p>He states that AAQM machines were installed in front of his house. Within one day the machines went off. He states that he questioned the pollution Board staff on duty the machines stops when they leave the stop. The Pollution Control officials informed him that the machines starts when they come. He stated that light/ electricity from his house will be taken to operate the AAQM machines, however the officials refused. He states operation of the factory causes pollution and health</p>

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	hazards to the local villages. He states that the company has done huge construction activities in the area earmarked as Green Zone. He opposed to the project.
Kemlo Sawant	Did not speak
Uday Pandurang Natekar	He stated that the company has not spoken about pollution in Surla village. The reports by the company are also silent on the issue. GSPCB should verify this aspect. Trees have died due to pollution caused by operation of the plant Banana plantation also are affected. He strongly objected to the project. He opposed to the project.
Hari Sone Gauns	Did not speak
Milind Naik	He stated that he is the resident of Sankhali Viridi. He also stated that the people are affected by pollution caused by the company. The Bandhara at Viridi, is constructed by the WRD. Sesa Company stated that they will borrow water from the Bandhara at Viridi. This is a coalition between WRD and the Sesa company to built a Bandhara in 2011-2012 at Viridi. However, he states the Bandhara was of no use to the public and would only be used by Sesa Goa company. He states that the company proposed to use 15 lakhs liters of water for daily use. He further states that there is already severe shortage of water. Construction of the Bandh by WRD needs to be inquired into. There is severe graphite pollution at Viridi and the area around the company. Graphite is harmful to humans and animals. The company allowed to release waste oil in water bodies' which is illegal. Migrants workers of the company are causing law and order problems in the village. He opposed to the project.
Sanjyot Borker	He specifically stated that he is the employee of Vedanta. He states that he resides around Vedanta. He states that during the Covid Pandemic the company provided lot of help to the locals. He states that the company has carried out lot of pollution control measures at the factory to satisfaction of the GSPCB. He supports the project.
Sidhesh Naguesh Gawas	He advises the public to file an RTI seeking the authority of Collector to conduct the Public hearing. He states that the EIA reports submitted by the company should have been explained



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	to the people at village as directed by Hon'ble High Court. He states awareness regarding public hearing is not done. He states that authorities have failed in their duties. He states that a petition filed by Mr. Pravin Phadte since 2008 is pending. He states GSPCB is aware of pollution by the company yet it is conducting a public hearing for expansion and troubling common people. He states there are serious effects on public health due to the operation of the company. He states the public hearing is only from the public to explain the objection. He states that the public hearing done in a hurry in the covid-19 situation. He feels bribes have been taken by the officials to conduct public hearing in question. He opposed to the project.
Narayan Gawas	Narayan raised the objections that this property on which the hearing is being held belongs to Mr. Prabhakar Ezzo Gauns and presently there are disputes going on between Mr Prabhakar Ezzo Gauns and Comunidade of Navelim and after the death of Mr. Prabhakar, the Pratap Gauns being the son of Mr Prabhakar is the legal owner of the said property. The Venue of the Public hearing is in Sy.No.51/1 and no permissions has been taken from the owner of the property for the said hearing. He further stated that a joint objections filed by the public on the aspect of illegal hearing and trespassing on this land is submitted in writing during the Public Hearing. He states that the Inspection Report of GSPCB conducted in May 2020 indicates pollution in the Village. He states that there is no reason to conduct the public hearing. He states that if pollution exists at present capacity as per GSPCB report then how should public hearing be held for expansion of the said project. He states that the company officials should live in the village to experience pollution due to operation of the factory. He states that the AC filters of local residents are filled with black dust. He opposed to the project.
Shantaram Ghadi	He seeks explanation from GSPCB as to why public hearing starts at 2.30 p.m. while the timing was given at 9.30 p.m. He states public has been kept hungry from 9.30 a.m. without food and water. He states that till he is given food and water he will not leave the dais. He states that speakers have insulted him. He opposes the project.
Nyaneshwar	Opposed Project Completely

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Naik	
Vithal Naik	<p>He requested the organization to record his submissions they are made and to transit them to MOEF the same way. He states that covid-19 cases are on rise in the country and conducting of the public hearing contempt of order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and High Court. He states that MEH guidelines do not permit senior citizen to participate in Public hearing. He states that Public hearing has kept a large section of public out of public hearing process. He requests that public hearing should be conducted again. He States that vide publicity should be given as per a EIA notification. He states has not been done. He states publicity should have been done at village level. Public hearing without awareness has no meaning and states that GSPCB should act as an independent agency. He states company and its existing capacity causing pollution. He questioned the fact that GSPCB is conducting a public hearing for expansion in spite of numerous complaints and Court cases regarding pollution by the company and in spite of the fact that EIA report of the company is silent on the expect of pollution caused by existing company on temple wells, fields and properties. When there is pending litigation on the existing plant including on land issues with the comunidade. How can an expansion exercise be done by the company? He questions the agency trying to expand the company. He states that the NEERI Report done in 2008 prescribed 20 measures which has not yet been done. Member Secretary GSPCB has not yet filed a report in the High Court matter of 2017 which is pending till date. GSPCB has conducted site inspection and the reports dated 16/12/2020 and January 2021 that the company has already expanded the blast furnace. The Brahma temple at Harvalem cave are excluded in the EIA Report. The EIA mentions 960 MT of water which will be used by the plant. However, it does not mention the impact on locals. He states that due to discharge of slag from the company during the monsoons is not mentioned in the EIA Report. The company claims Air pollution is not caused by the company. He states that this is false and no health assessment is given to the local villagers is not done by the company or mentioned in the EIA report. He opposed to the project.</p>
Premanand Naik	<p>He states that he is the Resident of Maina .Today's Public hearing is essential as the proposed project effects two</p>



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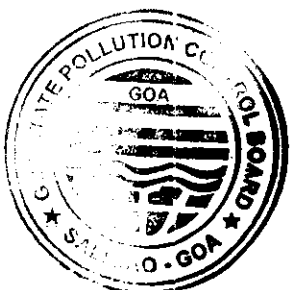
	<p>Municipal area and thirty villages. He stated that 1.5 to 2 lakhs people will be affected (as per 2011 census). The expansion project to be rejected. Public hearing is being conducted to cheat the public. Public has no knowledge of the proposed expansion of the plant as such public cannot speak on the project. He states that the public should not be troubled by conducting the public hearing. He states that if the Government cares for the public the public hearing should be stopped. He states that he will make his submissions under protest. The existing plant is a demon surrounding areas have been destroyed by this company. The primary school, high school, higher secondary school exists at an ariel distance of 200 meters from the existing plant. Betqui , Amona, Marcel villages have schools at an ariel distance of 500 meters from the existence plant. Students mental and physical health is affected due to pollution caused by the company as they have to sit in polluted environment for 5 to 6 hours. Infact today's public hearing is adjutant to a ground i.e. is used by children whose physical health is affected by pollution caused due to the company. The main occupation of the local people is agriculture and this occupation has been destroyed by the pollution caused by the company. He opposed to the project.</p>
<p>Pandurang Naik</p>	<p>He states that the Board does not control on its own functioning, then how can they control the pollution caused by the company. He strongly objects to the expansion of the company. He states that when he drives a two wheeler there is a lot of pollution caused which is highly effecting them. He states that the company has to be closed down. He opposed to the project.</p>
<p>Digambar Ankush Naik</p>	<p>He states that the GSPCB has no right to conduct the public Hearing and they are responsible for all the pollution. He states that in 1982 the Sesa Goa started in Amona beneficiation plant was set up and saline water was released also mud was saturated in 5 lakh area hence the areas were destroyed and mangroves are grown near the people's houses. There was no compensation given to the people affected. He states that the Company was not ready to solve the water shortages. He questioned who gave them the permission to dig ponds. He stated that no Community service activities were provided to</p>



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		<p>the affected people. He stated that there is graphite pollution everywhere and on all plantation and the houses are become black and the chilly plantation are affected. He stated that the company has only employed 2 numbers of people in the village. He strongly objects to the Project. He stated that there needs to be a study on the health of the school students, they are not given any scholarships, no compensation to people, no water supply. There is no clearance to the project from the HPCC. There is seepage of waste water in the ponds, even the cattle do not go in the water. He stated that there is no control on graphite pollution. He opposed to the project.</p>
Mahendra Narayan Gauns		Not present
Siddharth Ramesh Guans		<p>He stated that he is resident of Navelim last 30 yrs. He states that average life span of residents of the village was 80 yrs. Now it appears a lifespan of 50 yrs, due to pollution caused by the company. His house is 500 metres from the company Graphite, coal and dust continuously falls within is house and is unbearable. Today's public hearing is illegal. He states if permission is granted to the company for expansion and if people die will government official will be responsible. He blamed the official for keeping the public hungry and thirsty for so long. He opposed to the project.</p>
Pradeep Gauns		<p>He states that he is a Resident of Navelim and employee of vedanta. His house is located 500 mtrs from Vedanta Company. He says every issue has two sides good and bad. He says the issue of pollution by the company is one side of the issue. He agrees the company causes pollution. However, this is not a continuous issue. He says that company acts on complaints of pollution. He states that the company has taken lot of measures to control pollution. He states that the company has done a lot of CSR activity. He states that if the company gives direct employment and controls the pollution. He supports the project.</p>
Shivanand Vithal Naik		<p>He states that he's Resident of Maina Village. He opposed the establishment and operation of this company since 2002. He does supply of milk. He says company operation has caused serious health hazards to the people. He says the company has polluted water source in the village. He opposes the project.</p>
Narayan	S	He submits that GSPCB has illegal public hearing without



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Gauns	consent of the owner. He states that existing plant causes pollution an exercise of graphite and coal dust. Hence the plant should not be allowed to expand. GSPCB should take action against the company of pollution. He opposed to the project.
Vishnu V. Naik	Explosion by Vedanta Company has caused changed to is house. Company has taken no action. Water sources are polluted due to company operation. He says expansion of the plant will destroy the village. He opposed to the project.
Pratik Naik	Every year due to heavy rain his house is flooded due to company in activities. He says, if the company couldn't control flooding, will it be able to control pollution he questioned. He opposed to the project.
Hemant Bharat Naik	He opposes expansion of the plant as the current plant is causing excess pollution
Ashok Vithal Naik	He stated that factory is 20mtrs from his house. He suffers from Noise pollution continuously due to operation of the factory. He fully opposes of the expansion of the factory. He seeks as immediate sites inspection of is house to confirm the noise pollution. He states that he and is family is suffering from skin rashes due to pollution caused by the company. He fully opposes plant expansion.
Mayuri Mahadev Gawas	The GSPCB should have information of the amount of pollution by the company. The GSPCB has done no owner survey for the Public Hearing. Awareness at the local level and at village level should have been done regarding the project. She states that she strongly opposes the expansion of the project.
Kushali Naik	He demands the GSPCB and collector should inspect the village. He objects to the expansion of the project. He has submitted his written objection to the expansion of the project to the collector and the village panchayat. He opposed to the project.
Ranjit V. Gawas	not spoken
Rohit R. Gawas	not spoken
Pundalik T. Gawas	not spoken



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Pritesh N. Gawas	not spoken
Nanda Gawas	She requested the GSPCB to set up a local office to keep track of the amount of pollution caused by the Company.
Govind Gawas	He states that the GSPCB is not able to control the existing pollution caused by the company yet is conducting the Public Hearing / or expansion of the Company. The Public hearing is conducted illegally. He states that the GSPCB does not care for the local people but cares for the company. He states that Vedanta is an irresponsible company. He states that some people at the public hearing are forced to support the Public Hearing on account of being employed by the company. He objects to the expansion of the project.
Viraj Shivnath Gauns	Not spoken
Sidharth Gawas	Not spoken
Pritesh Deelip Gauns	He opposes expansion by company. He states that the company is causing dust pollution in Navelim Village. He states that expansion will destroy the village totally .He states that the company is red category and should be located 10 kilometers away from the village but is situated less than 200 mtrs from the village. He opposed to the project.
Kamlakant Gauns	Not spoken
Deelip Gauns	Not spoken
Laxman Gauns	He stated that public hearing is illegal .He opposes the company expansion. He states GSPCB is pollution promotion Board. Company started an expansion of Amona project in 2008. In 2009 EC for the project was given by the MoEF without public hearing as it was stated that the company was in an industrial area. However there is no public hearing for industrial area in Navelim area. He opposed to the project.
Shivnath Gauns	Not spoken
Minala Manohar Gauns	Not spoken
Suhas Minikar	Not spoken
Dharmesh	Not spoken



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Saglani	
Shubham Gauns	Not spoken
Premanand Gauns	Not spoken
Viraj Madhurkar Naik	<p>He states that he has a full story of 400 pages and requested to give 5 minutes to give video presentation and 5 minutes to speak. He states that plant is totally illegal and as a result Ramchandra Naik filed a petition before NGT and NGT has directed that MoEF should submit a report on the issue of expansion of the plant. MoEF had come and given report. Mr Pravin Phadke and Mr Viraj Naik had intervene MOEF had given reports that this is not new Plant. The Blast furnace III the MoEF states that it looks like a different unit just because at road in between which they said it was an industrial road. Further the MoEF tsaid that the plant is owned by the same management and same owner that's the reason he called it same unit of BF I and BF II. Further he also stated that the water from the plant is directly comes inot the fields, river and with that water slag and saturated graphite particale settles in the fields and lakes thereby loosing the fertility of those lands. Pollution Control Board also stated that there is no presence of graphite. In Writ Petition No. 243/2008, Board has filed affidavit wherein they have mention that there is presence of graphite particulate matters. It is stated that shine particulates were also present in temples, houses an nearby places. He stated that he has of photo/Video of graphite and black dust which he can show to the public hearing if the collector permits. He stated that the Writ Petition No.881/17 is pending before the hon'ble high court with regard to graphite pollution by the Vedanta. He also raised the questions why he should face the pollution because only few villagers are getting employment in Sesa Goa and now Sesa Goa has promised 50 jobs in proposed plant and it will destroy 30 villages. This present plant is proposed on mountains and all water is presently coming in the villages. We have 4 times cancelled this public hearing. This hearing is done by the authorities to only to support the Vedanta and am against the plant. Public hearing is for the benefit of the company that to during covid-19 only to favour Vedanta. Public hearing is conducted in the property of Pratap Gauns without any permissions which itself</p>



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	is illegal. He states that Mr. Pratap Gauns had stated that he will file the case against trespassers if his place is not vacated as a reason public went from the public hearing. He said the said hearing stands unsuccessful. He opposed to the project.
Saiesh P Naik	He states that the company has installed a Yellow colour pipe line installed for processing gas. The gas has no smell but harmful. It has an alarm system, if the gas out put increases and the alarm rings which they control immediately. He states that it the gas leaks there will be a blasts all will die. He opposed the expansion.
Arjun Malik	Not spoken
Laxmikant Gauns	Not spoken
Sharad Dhaktu Naik	He states that he was Ex worker of the plant. He states that when the company realises GSPCB is coming for site inspection they keep the factory in good condition. He states that some one from GSPCB informs the company officials regarding the said inspection. He opposed to the project.
Manguirish Gauns	Not spoken
Milind Gauns	Public hearing is mismanaged. As public hearing conduct was delayed lot of people left the venue .He request the MS of GSPCB to conduct a surprise site inspection of the village to see the pollution being caused by the unit. He further states that the companies present operation is causing air and water pollution and hence the plant should not be allowed to expand its activities. He states that the local people should approach the Chief Minister to inform him the regarding their opposition to the plant. He opposed to the project.
Pramod Narvekar	He stated that he is a resident of Surla village. He is a contract worker at Sesa. He opposes expansion of the project. He states that the water of Surla water bodies are polluted due to company's operation. He states that GSPCB and Biodiversity Board has not taken cognisance of his complaints. People also suffer from health impacts due to pollution caused by the company activities. He requests the Board to conduct site inspection of his village to verify the impact of the pollution by the company. GSPCB is not acting to control pollution.



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Pratik Naik.	He states that he is the resident of Usgao village. He states that the operation of the plant causes pollution and affects the school children due to smell. He states that the plant cannot control pollution at existing level, how will it control pollution after expansion. The villagers had come to speak and due to the faulty procedures of the public hearing they could not speak and had to go back. He opposed to the project.
Mahendra Shirodkar	He states that he is a resident of Surla village and he states that the existing plant is causing pollution in the village and the hearing should be done at a village level. Major greeneries have vanished and he stated that in the future whatever greenery remaining will also vanish. The GSPCB should have done a village wise presentation of the project. The company has employed only 500 employees and in return they have destructed the whole village due to continuous pollution. The Surla Gram Sabha had passed a Resolution objecting to the said project. He states that the mechanism of the GSPCB has to be investigated as to the regards to its functioning. He opposed to the project.
Ramchandra Waman Naik	<p>He states that he is a resident of Navelim and is a dairy farmer. He states that in their area there is a lake which was beautiful and now the condition is very bad. The water is become salty as per the report of the Pollution Control Board there is pollution of the same. He approached the Mamlatdar with the matter and requested to stop compensation and rectify the fields so that they can start the agriculture for their next generation and the company is supplying drinking water with tankers. He stopped the construction of the compound wall and objected to the expansion.</p> <p>They have send the objection letter to the Chief Minister and there was objections in the Gram Sabha regarding the project. He states that his family can't eat the produce of the fields since there are spoiled. He states that he went to the High Court and the High Court decided against them and hence they went to the Supreme Court and then to NGT. Now the MOEF has decided in their favour. NOCs are given to the project illegally without taking any resolution by the village Panchayat. He states that he wants agriculture and good health of his family and hence objects to this expansion.</p>



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Anil Gawas	He states that the registration done by the GSPCB is totally illegally and this public hearing conducted in an illegal manner and the public is not given enough opportunity to speak . He states that the company started the beneficiation plant without conducting the public hearing. By going ahead with the public hearing the authorities are only diverting the mind of the people and favoring the company. If there is existing pollution caused how permissions are granted for expansion. He objected to the project due to ill health of the people. There is a lot of graphite and slag and people suffer from the diseases like cancer etc. The health of the women deteriorating due to the said pollution caused by the company. He opposed to the project.
Chandrakant Ghadi	He stated that the expansion proposed by the company will destroy the village. The present operation of the company is causing uncontrollable pollution. He requests GSPCB not to just grant permission for expansion but verify the pollution. However, non Goans companies are looting Goa. He states that the company releasing carbon monoxide gas in the vicinity. He strongly opposes the expansion of the project.
Shivaraj Gauns	He states that the existing plant is already causing air and water pollution and this expansion project will increase the pollution level in the vicinity. He states that his business is with Vedanta but still oppose the plant. He encounters carbon monoxide gas and if it is inhaled it causes death. He strongly opposes the project.
Harshada Gauns	As per the SOP for the Public hearing, 100 no.of participants were to be maintained, however there are more than 100 participants present for the hearing. Biodiversity Committee of Navelim village was not conducted while preparing the EIA Report. She seeks details from Vedanta regarding future employment to the local villagers. Biodiversity Management is not being done by the Company. She accused the company management for emotionally blackmailing her. He opposed to the project.

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14.03



Publicity of Environmental Public Hearing

The GSPCB issued public notices in the newspapers namely O Herald (English), GoanVarta (Marathi), Business Standards (Western Edition) (English), BhangarBhuim (Konkani). Informing the general public regarding the date, time venue, submissions of objections, suggestions, views, placement of EIA reports for reference, etc. GSPCB issued advertisement on local Television/radio channels continuously for 2 days informing general public of the Public Hearing. The local Authorities such as Village Panchayats and Municipalities was requested to give wide publicity of the Public Hearing within their Jurisdiction. The Publicity given is adequate. It was also informed to affected person to participate through virtual digital hearing should submit email address name and mobile number to GSPCB. The link for virtual hearing was sent on their email ID by the project proponent.

Chairman/Additional Collector requested the people present that if they so desire they may file their written objection/suggestion/views by 22nd March 2021 to the GSPCB. The same will be part of the hearing and accordingly it would be forwarded to the concerned Regulatory Authority.


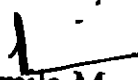
The recorded minutes were accordingly read out to the public in English and Konkani and subsequently after receiving suggestions and as agreed were signed by Additional Collector III Shri. Mahadev J. Araundekar and Dr. Shamila Monteiro, Member Secretary, GSPCB.

A total of 309 virtual and physical participants which have registered with the Board were present for the public hearing.

A total of 138 speakers were registered with the Board.

A total number of 126 written objections received by the Board as on 14/03/2021.

A total of 1871 supporting letters representations have been received. On this 14th day of March, 2021.

 Shri. Mahadev J. Araundekar Additional Collector III, North	 Dr. Shamila Monteiro, Member Secretary, GSPCB
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