
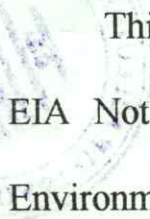


Proceedings of the Environmental Public Hearing held on 18/10/2024 at 10.00

am, onwards at Ravindra Bhavan Sankhali-Goa, Near Govt. College, Sankhali



"In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment 2006; in respect of Block VII Cudnem Mineral Block with area 75.3004 Ha Located in Cudnem Village in Bicholim Taluka and Sonus Vonvoliem and Onda village in Sattari Taluka, North Goa District, for the production of 0.5 MTPA of Iron Ore by M/s. Vedanta Limited."



This Environmental Public Hearing (EPH) is conducted as per the revised EIA Notification dated 14/09/2006 (as amended) issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

Shri. Mahadev Araundekar, Add. Collector I, North Goa and Dr. Shamila Monteiro, Member Secretary of the Goa State Pollution Control Board presided over the hearing.

The hearing commenced at 10.00.A.M. so as to enable the public present to complete formalities of registration as speakers.

At the outset, the Member Secretary of the Goa State Pollution Control Board welcomed the public present for the Public Hearing and explained the procedure to be followed during the Environmental Public Hearing.

The public present was requested to express their views/objections/suggestions if any, after the Project Proponent gave its presentation on the proposed project.

It was informed that the views/objections/suggestions made by the public during the hearing would be recorded and forwarded to the Concerned Authority

for processing and requisite action on application regarding environmental clearance for the proposed project.

The Representatives of the Project Proponent have thereafter made a Power Point presentation concerning the project by explaining the contents thereof in Konkani.

The Member Secretary of the Goa State Pollution Control Board thereafter invited the public present at the Public Hearing to come forward and submit their views on the project.



The Member Secretary of the Goa State Pollution Control Board requested the speakers to try to restrict their submissions to 5 minutes each. He stated that speakers will be called upon to speak sequence wise.

Accordingly, the following individuals have submitted views/ objections/ suggestions, which are indicated as under.

1.	SIDDHESH PADMANATH PARAB, BICHOLIM He states that he is the resident of Bicholim. He states that the said mine was shut for many years. He states that he is in favour and in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd. He requests the Government to start all other mines as early as possible.
2.	ATMARAM TILVE He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd.

3.	<p>SHRIKANT GOPAL DHARGAKAR</p> <p>He states that he fully supports the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka and stated that mining to be started as soon as possible.</p>
4.	<p>PRASAD T. GAWAS, CUDNEM</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Cudnem.</p> <p>He states that he is in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd.</p> <p>He request the GSPCB to start this mine as early as possible</p>
5.	<p>DINESH MAHADEV DIVEKAR, BICHOLIM</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Bicholim.</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He requests the government to start all the surrounding mines as early as possible.</p>
6.	<p>PRIYESH DANGUI, SANKHALI</p> <p>He stated that he is President of Sankhali Market Association. He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka and stated that mining to be started as soon as possible so that the shop owners can resume with their business.</p>

7.

SHIIVNATH KASHINATH GAUNS, NAVELIM

He states that he is the resident of Navelim, Bicholim. He states that mining should start as early as possible. He states that locals should be given first preference for employment.

He states that villagers must be compensated properly. He states that the rate of compensation should be increased from 20 to 100 or 1000 to benefit the locals land users.

He states that the project proponent should provide CSR activities to the locals. He states that company should provide support to locals by providing medicine, education to local villagers etc.

MOHAN GANESH TARI, PALE

He states that he is a resident of Pale.

He states that for the last 12 yrs mines were closed, hence he requests the Project Proponent to employ the Ex-employees of the previous unit. He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII - Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd, however he states that the company cannot do whatever they want when the mine start. they have to listen to the grievances of the villagers and work for the wellbeing of the locals. He also stated that he went to Kalne mine in Maharashtra, but was not employed there as he was a Goan. He requests the Project proponent to employ the Goans and not the non Goans.

He requests the project proponent to help the truck owners as they have to spend 1lakh to start the truck business, hence he requests that the company has to provide the financial assistance or provide them a new truck to resume their business and he also requested the



	government to start the surrounding mines as early as possible.
9.	AVDHUT GAWAS, NAVELIM He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka and requested the GSPCB to give permission to all other mines.
10.	LAXMIKANT PARAB. KOTOMBI He states that he is the resident of Kotambi He states that everyone wants mining to resume. He states that authorities must ensure that the people are properly compensated. He states that subsidy should be provided to the people properly. He states that he fully supports mining.
11.	SHANKAR SAWANT, NAVELIM- ABSENT
12.	HARI BHINGO MALIK, CUDNEM He states that he fully supports the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka and stated that mining to be started as soon as possible.
13.	RAMESH H. SINARI, CUDNEM He states that he is the resident of Cudnem. He states that he is an ex-employee of Vedanta. He states that he is happy with resumption of mining. He states that employment will be generated. He states that unemployment in Goa has affected many people. He states mining is the backbone of the economy of Goa which will benefit many people. He states that he worked for the company for 30 years. He states that

	<p>he has good relation with the management of the company and aware that the company will work for the betterment of the people. He states that locals must benefit from the mining. He states that youth must be provided employment. He states that CSR funds should be used for the welfare of the village and the villagers. He states that he fully supports Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd</p>
14.	<p>JOSHNA RAM GAONKAR, CONQUERIM</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Conquerim.</p> <p>She states that she supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. She requested the government to start the surrounding mines as early as possible.</p>
15.	<p>RAVINDRA SAWANT, CUDNEM</p> <p>He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka.</p>
16.	<p>SURAJ SALGAONKAR,</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Gokulwadi Sanquelim. He states that mining should start as fast as possible. He states that he is in favour of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd</p>
17.	<p>GANESH MALIK,</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem</p>

	Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He requests the government to start the surrounding mines as early as possible
18.	<p>PREMANAND MALIK</p> <p>He states that he fully supports the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka.</p>
19.	<p>MAHESH T. GAONKAR</p> <p>He states that he supports mining activities. He states that Sesa Company is good company & supports CSR activities. He states that other companies should also learn from this company. He states that ITI has been started by this company to provide academic employment to the youth. He states that youth studied here have got employment. He states that since 2012 mining has stopped, mining is the backbone of the Industry along with tourism. He states that since stoppage of mining, trucks are rusted and become scrap. He states that upon resumption of mining Government should provide financial support to the people. He states that Government must support the people to get back into the business in mining related activities. He states that the company provides various facilities to women and children. He states that women football league is started by the company. He states that development of women and children must be continued. He states that problems of the locals must be resolved.</p>
20.	<p>PURSHOTAM MALIK</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of cudnem</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem</p>

	Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He requests the government to start the surrounding mines as early as possible.
21.	<p>LAWRENCE R. BRAGANZA,</p> <p>He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. The resumption of mine will generate employment and business opportunities to the locals.</p>
22.	<p>ANANT GAWADE</p> <p>He states that he is in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd.</p> <p>He states that company must ensure that the property acquired, the owners must be properly compensated. He states that employment must be given to the locals. He states that the locals must be given preference.</p>
23.	<p>TULSHIDAS PHONDEKAR</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He states even after the mines were shut down the mining company has supported the employees and he hopes in the near future they will do the same.</p>
24.	<p>DEVENAND PARAB,</p> <p>He stated that he is the Sarpanch of Village Panchayat Pissurlem. He</p>

	states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He stated that he has a suggestion that the company should think about the locals and the operations should be started by taking the locals into confidence.
25.	<p>VISHNU M. NATEKAR</p> <p>He states that he is come from Surla. He states that the mining is shut down from 2012 to 2024. He states that agricultural activities over the years have been revived. He states that if the mining starts, than it must ensure that the environment and agricultural activities must be protected. He states that the natural resources must not be harmed. He states that the environment will be protected.</p>
26.	<p>ADVOCATE BALAJI MAYEKAR</p> <p>He said he is representing his client Kishore Gaude, Narayan Gaude and others. He states that he is representing the Schedule tribe. He states that we have a huge area in block VII of the Cudnem village .He states that there is a petition which is pending before the civil court and High Court. He requests that this issue may be discussed in the Public hearing. He states that there is a Kuldev temple in the mining lease area and he request the project proponent to protect the same, because sentiments of the villagers are involved.</p> <p>He states that mining company has to upgrade their social economic status and provide them with basic necessities. He states that there is a revenue department notification No.318/77 dtd 1978 which protects the entire community and the same needs to be taken into</p>

consideration.

He states that we cannot by pass any laws. He states that there are issues within department which has to be considered. He requested for protection of the religious sites in the area. He states that there is a Niti Ayog proposal for the state of Goa and the same has to be taken into consideration.

He requests the Project Proponent to give the people a right to voice out their grievances and not act against the people voicing out their grievances under the Human Rights Act. He states that he is submitting 2 submissions.

SUBHASH MALIK


He states that he is ex-employee and a farmer. He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block, Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He states that villagers in Cudnem Village are dependent on farming. He stated that farming used to be encouraged. He stated that CSR funds of 2% should be given to locals/ farmers/ stakeholders. He stated that locals support is required. He stated that Ecosystem is required to be maintained. He stated that village use to be protected, Devasthan to be protected. He stated that workers were restrained by the company.



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Subhash Malik".

28.	DATTARM VITHAL NAIK He states that he is a resident of Cudnem. He states that he is in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd.
29.	SOMNATH KALE-ABSENT
30.	NILESH SHABA PARWAN He stated that he is a Sarpanch of Village Panchayat Dongri. He stated that Sesa Company had granted many facilities to the villagers eg. Sports complex. He requested that the company should continue to help and support the villagers in such ways.
31.	KANTA L. GAWAS- ABSENT
32.	SURESH K. AINKAR He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd.
33.	DIGAMBER A. NAIK, Sarpanch of Navelim He states that he is Ex-Deputy Sarpanch of Navelim. He appreciated that the mining operation is resuming . He stated that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block, Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He stated that after the mining stoped in 2012 most of the hardships were faced by these villagers. He stated that loading will be done in his village and requested that the company should built a




retaining wall. He stated that the company should not let out the polluted water in river Mandovi. He submitted that M/s. Vedanta is in possession of a lot of land and the waste water should be treated within the mining area. He accused Goa State Pollution Control Board for not doing anything towards the protection of the environment. He stated that there are lot of fields that are barren and he submitted that the project proponent should take care that the same should not be repeated after the mines resume. He stated that compensation should be given to the farmers. He stated that there will be heavy traffic vehicles plying on the road which would lead to traffic congestion. He requested the company to keep a security to control this congestion. He stated that transportation of ore will be done through Navelim Village and the company should build a safe road. He requested that a roundabout should be built near the Power station. He requested that the temples should be preserved. He stated that the youth from the village should be given employment. He submitted that he is thankful that there was development in the village and requested that the percentage of the CSR funds utilised towards this should be increased.

34.

VASUDEV RAMNATH PARAB

He states that he is the resident of Pissurlem. He states that he fully supports mining. He states that people had suffered due to the closing of the mine. He states that there is 750 M2 paddy field in the areas and the same is fully destroyed due to mines in the surrounding. He states that the people were compensated for a while and then the same was stopped. He states that compensation was not fully provided to the people. He states that cashew plantation was also affected. He states


	<p>that Government provides subsidy, however mining destroys plantation. He states that the GSPCB should guide the company. He states that mud is not removed from the pits. He states that locals have given up their property for mining, in hope of employment. He states that people are surrounded by mines. He states that when people have problems they come forward but in turn complaints are initiated against them. He states that having said this entire thing, he supports mining.</p>
<p>35.</p> 	<p>SUBHASH S. FONDEKAR</p> <p>He states that he is the Deputy Sarpach, Surla Panchayat</p> <p>He states that he was an employee of the Vedanta company for 25yrs.</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He states when the mines are in operation, the company gets the profit but farmer loose the business. He states that mining water enters in the fields and the fields get affected. He states When the mines are closed no one looked after the needs of the villagees. He states that the water went in to the pits of mine and they had to requests the company to extract the water from the pits. He stated that there was water shortage in the villages and when the villagers request the company to provide water they provided the same immediately. After mining ban the villagers requested the WRD to provide drinking water because the mining companies have removed the pumps and taken back after mining ban. The chief minister provided 4lakh through District Mineral Funds to have Automation Plant for the relief of the villages. He requests the GSPCB to monitor the mining companies in a proactive manner</p>

	<p>otherwise the mines will become the same as previously being operated and the mines might close.</p> <p>He states that the truck owners follow the specific routes given to them and he request the mining companies to have a sustainable mining operation. He request to employ the youth of the villages and not the outsiders and non Goans. He stated that the existing as well the ex employees are supporting the Project.</p>
36.	<p>VISHRANTI D. SURLAKAR</p> <p>She states that she fully supports to the mining project Block VII- Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. She stated that the other mines should resume as soon as possible. She stated that preference should be given to the earlier employees while granting employment.</p>
37.	<p>NILKHANT JAIRAM GAWAS</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Navelim. He states that he is the member of Akhil Goa Truck Owners Sangathna. He states that he supports this mine. He states that mining was needed by us back then, and will be required in the future as well. He stated that late Mr. Manohar Parrikar said that mining was stopped in 2012 for smooth operation of the same. He states that if mining resumes than the same should not be stopped. He states that separate transport and smooth transport of mining must be ensured. He states that from 2012 to 2024, we suffered, litigations started against them, cases were initiated against them must be withdrawn. He states that compensation must be provided by the company for the loss. He states that the company must ensure that villages and villagers are protected and must work</p>




	for their welfare.
38.	<p>PRASHANT N. DHARGALKAR</p> <p>He states that he is a mine dependent person. He states that he suffered a lot during the mining ban, there was food shortage in the house for 12 years. He states that now when the mines started they were relieved and enjoyed during -the Ganesh celebrations and the markets were full of people because of resumption of the mining activities. He hopes that people are always happy in their life because of the resumption of the mining operations as it provides them with finance. He states that this year Diwali diyas will be lit up with happy tears. He states that once the mining operations resumes the life of people from Sirsaim to Sanvordem will become prosperous. He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd.</p>
39.	<p>VITHAL SHIVA GAWAS</p> <p>He is resident of Navelim. He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He stated that he is the truck owner and mining dependent. He stated that past few years the people had to keep their trucks idle and the state of the trucks has deteriorated. He stated that the Government has implemented the Policy of Scrapping the vehicles after 15 years. He stated that the people cannot afford to buy new trucks. The government should grant at least 10 more years permission for these trucks. He stated that the people cannot afford to buy 10 tyre trucks. He requested the company that there should be</p>

	time to time redressal of the grievances of the locals. He submitted that Vedanta is the only mine which has kept the employees with half pay even after the mining stopped. He requested that the company should have a system where at least 80% staff should be locals. He requested that permission should also be granted to other mines.
40.	UDAY MALIK He states that he supports mining. He states that the Government should start this mine as early as possible.
41.	SANTOSH NAIK He states that he is the Sarpanch of Pale Panchayat. He states that he represents the pale panchayat people. He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He requests the government to start all other surrounding mines as early as possible, as mining activities are the back bone of the villages. He states that the Company should provide the youth with employment and provide educational facilities and develop the surrounding areas. He states that previously the Company didn't provide the necessary facilities to the villagers and no infrastructure development was done and when the villagers requested for the development it was never done or the company washed off their hands. He stated that the Chief Minister has supported the villagers and heard their grievance and provided relief to the villagers.
42.	SHILPESH PARAB, COTTOMBI He stated that the village of Cotombi is fully dependent on mine. He stated that other mining companies like Bandedkar, Bandodkar and

	<p>VMS should resume. He stated that Cotombi is the birth place of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa. He submitted that the villagers are dependent on mining since 1952. He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He submitted that the livelihood of locals is dependent on mining. He stated that the mining operation should start as soon as possible. He requested that the Government should not allow any person to intervene and try to stop mining. He requested that the local youth should be given employment. The company should start systematic mining by taking the people into confident.</p>
<p>43.</p> 	<p>AMIT G. SHIRODKAR</p> <p>He states that he is the ex-employee of Vedanta. He states that he is the Sarpanch and considers the people as his family. He states that the company must provide employment to the local youth. He states that every business is dependent on mining. He states that it is a good thing that mining is starting. He states that mining will help in development of small scale industries and in generating revenue. He states that all Goa mining blocks must be started. He states that CSR activity must be utilised and benefits must be provided to the locals. He states that villages coming within the radius of 10 kms must definitely get the benefit of the CSR. He states that he is in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd.</p>
<p>44.</p>	<p>PRAMOD NARVEKAR</p> <p>He states that he is a chair person of the Goa bio diversity. He states that when there was mining ban we were unemployed and no one asked or looked at us. He states that there is a heritage site within 2,5</p>




	<p>km in the mining lease area. He stated that there are 50 types of medicinal plants in the same, however, only 16 are mentioned in the draft EIA report. There are temples, protective sites, and other sites like Siddeshwar temple, etc. which are not mentioned in the EIA draft notification. Hence he requests to conduct the survey of the villages once again. He stated that there are 10 types of creepers, out of which only 4 are mentioned in the draft EIA report. He states that there were natural resources which have not been mentioned, he states that the fields were not shown in the EIA draft. He fears that the fields will be damaged. He states that the nullahs, the water table details were not mentioned in the EIA draft. He once again request to re carryout the survey in the surla village since it is 2.5 km away from the block VII. He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd.</p>
45.	<p>SHIVDAS SALKAR, CUDNEM</p> <p>He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII- Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka.</p>
46.	<p>GURUDAS C. GAWAS- ABSENT</p>
47.	<p>ATCHUT C. GAWADE</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. However he requests the mining units to give a proper rate as compensation for houses and land which are affected from the mining operations and not to consider the Government rates.</p>

48.	<p>NAGESH GOPI MALIK</p> <p>He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka.He stated that there are paddy fields in the villages of Cudnem, Amona, Navelim, Pissurlem, Palem. He stated that compensation should be given to farmers. He stated that the Project proponent should implement whatever they have claimed in the EIA report, then only people will fully support the mine.</p>
49.	<p>MAHESH GANPAT RAO MUKUND-ABSENT</p>
	<p>ASHOK NAIK-</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Pissurlem.</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He states that the mines were closed for 12 years and hence a people of the villagers suffered a lot and a lot of things have happened in 12 yrs. He further stated that in 2005 they were small business men and continued till 2012 because of mining activity, but because of mining ban business stopped. He requests the government to start the other mining blocks as soon as possible. He states that during the Covid times Vedanta supported the villages by providing the villagers with food and necessary items and also constructed Anganwadies, when the mines were stopped the people were affected as water supply stopped and the educations facilities were affected, the youth were unemployed. Hence, he pleads the Government to start all the remaining mining</p>

	blocks as soon as possible.
51.	<p>NARAYAN M. GAWANDE</p> <p>He stated that there are a lot of fields, farms in the locality and no proper survey is provided. He requested for a resurvey to verify the same. He stated that the natural nallah mentioned in the EIA is wrongly mentioned as seasonal nallah and the same should be rectified. He stated that jobs should be granted to local youth. He requested that the houses and farmers affected by mining should be compensated. He accused M/s. Vedanta to be a liar. He submitted that for the past 15 years there is no water supply in the village.</p>
	<p>SAJON WADKAR</p> <p>He states that he is the Zilla Member. He states that he worked in the company for 32 years. He states that earlier the company's name was Sesa and now Vedanta. He states that he supports mining, but when it comes to agriculture around 90 acres of land, has been destroyed due to mining. He states that around 58 agriculturists have suffered, they must be compensated. He states that once mining resumes, it must be ensured that the people are protected and looked after. He states that if we go to meet any of the employee's of Vedanta, they don't know us, this should not happen. He states that the company Vedanta must ensure welfare of the people and the village. He states that mining should resume or else the situation will get worse.</p>
53.	<p>PRAVIN DWARKANTH BHAGAN</p> <p>He states that everyone wants that the mining operations resume and</p>

	<p>the Cudnem people are lucky as the same is being done. He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He states that the Vedanta company is a master in the operation in the Beneficiation Plant. He states that if the beneficiation takes place in Cudnem then the tailing pond water shall be discharged into the nullah which has to be checked by the GSPCB so that the silt water is not discharged into the nallah. As previously the tailing water was directly let out in the Mandovi river by the Fomento mines. He states that de-silting has to be conducted frequently and there should be monitoring done of the tailing pond. He states that the jetties which belong to the private owners and the private owners don't allow the new mining owners to use their jetty for loading and unloading activity. He requests the government of Goa to pass a legislation to use the nearby jetties of the private owners as the shortest route for transportation as the same will control the pollution and will minimize the damage to the environment.</p>
54.	ANAND B. KANEKAR, ABSENT
55.	<p>ULHAS D. BETIKAR</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Sanquelim, Bicholim. He states that he is in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd. He states that this block should start as early as possible.</p>
56.	<p>DASHARATH K. BHAMAIKAR</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Surla. He states that the mines were closed for 12 years and hence people of the villages suffered a lot. He</p>

states that he is a mining dependent person. He congratulates the Project proponent and Government for resumption of the mining operation. He also thanked the Vedanta company for keeping the employee on payment role and giving them the salary till now. He states that the GSPCB plays an important role in the resumption of the operations and also during the mining activity. He requests that the company should retain the existing employees and equally should look after the agriculture and CSR activities in the villages. The surrounding temples and religious places need to be protected. He states that the company always states that the employees are their families, similarly they have to see the surrounding villagers as their family. He requests project proponent to consider the villagers of the surrounding villages as well and provide employment to them. He states that the mining activities is like the heart of the villagers and it is the back bone of the state of Goa and hence mining resumption is required. He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII - Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd.

57.

SANDEEP T. PARAB

He states that he fully supports the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He stated that he is thankful to the Chief Minister of Goa for initiating steps towards resumption of mining as per Supreme Court Guidelines. He submitted that he is the Resident of All Goa Machineries Owners Association. He requested that the use of Goan owned machinery should be given preference. He submitted that he had participated in lot of protest and


	<p>also was lathi charged and he is happy that the mines are resuming. He stated that the tender of machinery is granted to an outsider. The Government should try to grant opportunities to local machinery owners. He also submitted that the fields in the locality should be preserved.</p>
58.	<p>SANDANAND U. MALIK</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Cudnem. He states that he is the former MLA & Minister. He states that he heard all speakers and as he was the Minister, he understands the people's difficulties. He states that there was a committee set up to look after the problems and he was the member of that committee. He states that there was negligence on the part of the authorities as far as my village is concerned. He states that his village is heritage village. He states that his village is an eco-sensitive village. He states that for the last 12 years Government never did anything to repair the damage. He states that Comunidade land is a village republic. He states that entire village Cudnem is private village governed under the Goenkary form of governance and Goenkar are absolute owners of entire village and does not vest in the Government. Therefore the government has no jurisdiction to allow mining activity in the Village without consent of Comunidade. As per available record of the year 1852, 1856, holders of land still continue to pay foro to Comunidade evidencing that they hold the land. Further, the Government of Goa has brought in circulation the record of right giving occupancy rights to these holders of land in this village when such records of rights can be brought in circulation for the grants made by the Government for Government</p>



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	<p>land. Therefore, the records of Rights are fake and fraudulently created. The land in Goa does not vest in Central Government under any statute so Goa cannot be said to be a revenue district to be headed by the District Collector.</p> <p>He states that he had served 2 notices to the Department of Mines on 17/08/2014 and in 2018 to the Union Government, asking for Director of Mines that the Government does not have the right over the land and only Comunidade are the grantor of land. He states that when legal notice is issued no response was received by him. He questioned the further course of action. He states that Government of India and Goa are on different footings about the land.</p> <p>He states that after abolition of property of Daman and Diu was passed, Collector post came into force. He stated that in 1965 Judgement given by Supreme Court said that in Goa most of the land are under Comunidade and they are the grantors. He stated that even the position of Collector is questionable in Goa and that Goa Land Revenue code, 1968 came into force to accommodate the post. He states that from 1962 royalty and fund must be provided. He states that there is misuse of power by the government. He states that Cudnem is a heritage. He states that he is not in favour of leasing of land by the Government to the Company. He states that he is not supporting leases given by the Government.</p>
59.	<p>UDAY NATEKAR</p> <p>He states that the GSPCB is fully responsible for the damages / pollution done to the environment by the operation of the mines. He states that the draft EIA notification is falsely prepared and he stated</p>

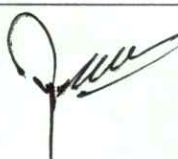


that he wants the definition and clarification on the word “Seasonal Nallahs”. He states that the consultant who has prepared the draft EIA report has to be present during the Public Hearing. He stated that the questions were not answered by the Authorities present on the Dias. He questions the Company as to why the previous employees were sacked out and payments not continued. He states that when Dempo were operating the mines there were no adverse effects of the mining activities on the villages and when Vedanta took over the mining activities stopped. Because of mining activities conducted by Vedanta company has affected the agricultural activities. He states that the golden temple, Kandil flower which lies in the Surla village is not mentioned in the Draft EIA notification.

Previously when Fomento and Sesa was operating there was water supply continuously and sought to know why the water provided and other facilities stopped when the mines were closed. He questioned in such cases how he can support the mining activities. He states that both the DMG and GSPCB are responsible for pollution. He states that when Dempo were operating the mines there were no adverse effects of the mining activities on the villages and when Vedanta took over the mining activities.

He states that there was clear water in the wells previously and now because of mining activities it has become turbid. He states that There is no hydro geological study carried out. He states that the Panchayat has provided the copy of the draft EIA notification just before 2 days, hence it becomes difficult to study the report. He states

	<p>that no farmers were taken into consideration while preparing the draft EIA notification. He states that people have diverted to the agricultural activities during the mining ban, however once the resumption of the mines it may again affect the agricultural activity and will again make the villagers dependent on the mining activities. He states that he will challenge the report if no clarification is provided to the questions raised by him. He states that the fields, agricultural lands and other sites are not considered while preparing the draft EIA notification. He states that the GSPCB has to study the draft EIA notification and check if it is correctly prepared. He states that that mining ban was due to the GSPCB</p> <p>He states that he objects the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He states that till the previous grievances of the villagers are not solved he will not allow the resumption of this project.</p>
<p>60.</p>	<p>BUDHO KHODGINKAR</p> <p>He is resident of Surla. He stated that he resides within 1 km from the mine. He stated that there were so many mining companies in the village but after mining stopped, none of them helped the locals. He stated that there are no schools and colleges in the village. He stated that the students had to suffer from dust pollution. He also objects to the mention of seasonal nallah in the EIA. He agrees with the submissions made by Uday Natekar. He stated that the EIA report is fake. He stated that the Police do not entertain the complaints about dust pollution. He stated that the fields are barren and filled with silt.</p>

	He stated that he has no objection for the mine to resume , however the Government should conduct a proper survey.
61.	AKSHAY SHELWADE He states that he is the resident of Dignem. He states that mine is situated behind his house around 2 minutes away. He states he has no objection for resumption of mining. He states that the working of mining is not known by him. He states that the road which joins the mining is accident prone. He states that safety of the locals must be first taken into consideration. He states that if business activities start, it will help in economy generation. He states that there are 4 to 5 houses near the mines which must be protected. He states that the locals must be given first preference for employment.
62.	SANDEEP PARAB-ABSENT
63.	DAMODAR P.MALIK He stated he is a resident of Cudnem. He stated that he is a teacher. He stated that as per the EIA mining will be carried on for 20 years. He stated that there is no mention about environment. He stated that there no mentioned of heritage sites, temples, in the locality. He stated that people should not thank and appraise Vedanta for the development and other facilities as it is a give and take business. He stated that the Government should implement proper clause for the mining process. He stated that he submitted mining is required but also sought to know what will happen after the 20 years lease is expired. He sought to know what are the ways that the company will preserve the heritage sites , temples etc. He sought to know what will happen to farmers after the mine resumes. He stated that he has suffered a loss of lakhs

	<p>of rupees. He stated that it is very difficult to approach the company with any grievance as the Head office is located far away. He submitted a detailed written submission.</p>
64.	<p>UDAY SAWANT</p> <p>He states that he is in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd. He states that once mining resumes, benefits will be many, various businesses will flourish, economy will grow. He states that before the rate of interest to get loan was low, but now the same has been increased. He states that this block should start as early as possible. He states that profits of the company must be used for the welfare of the people. He states that mines are located in their area and facilities like educational institutions, etc are constructed in other areas. He states that benefits and facilities must be provided in their villages. He states that mining company must provide support to the villagers specially the youth who are well educated. He states that environment and other resources must be protected, only then they will support mining. He states that economic benefits must be given to the villages. He states that funds should be utilised for the benefits of the locals. He states that Maushi Panchayat, Mollem Panchayat too comes under the aerial distance of mining and these villages must also get benefit from these mining.</p>
65.	<p>YESHWANT PARAB</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Amona. He states that he is the Employee of the Vedanta company. He states that there no hike in the salary since mining ban and hopes if mining resumes there will be hike in salary. He requests that the locals be given employment and</p>

	given first preference. He requests the government and the GSPCB to start all other surrounding mines as early as possible.
66.	PRAKASH GAWAS He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He stated that all the mines should start as soon as possible. He stated that some speakers raised concerns about the draft EIA. The mining Department should consider these views. He appreciated the villagers of Cudnem for supporting the mining. He requested the company to support the locals.
67.	UDAY SHIVRAM MALIK-ABSENT
68.	B.D MOTE, HONDA-ABSENT
69.	GOKULDAS A. MALIK, ABSENT
70.	ARJUN A MALIK, KUDNEM He states that he is the resident of Cudnem and also a member of Dev Kudneshwar Devasthan. He states that is in favour of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd. He states that once mining resumes, it should continue operating. He states that some mines have resumed but objections are raised on them. Why is that?. He states that it is due to the issues of property owners (lease agreement) which have still not been solved for last 12 years. He states that he is also a lease owner, and his issues are also not sorted out. He states that these issues should be sorted out first. He states that


	<p>safety of the people should be taken into consideration. He states that transport activities must be monitored. He states that environment must be protected and GSPCB should ensure the same. He states that Cudnem Kalsapath was not mentioned in the EIA report. He states that all these issues must be resolved and then the mines should start to ensure it continue.</p>
71.	<p>PRAMOD GAWADE</p> <p>He states that he is the Panch of Surla sonshi. He states that District mineral funds needs to be provided for the villages.</p> <p>He states that employment should be provided to the youth from the villages. He states that the company facilities shall be provided to the villages.</p>
72.	<p>ASHOK R. GAWADE, ABSENT</p>
73.	<p>UDAY SINGH RANE</p> <p>He states that is in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd. He states that health sector, educational sector and agricultural sector must be taken into consideration. He states that all these sectors have to be taken care and mining should be resumed.</p>
74.	<p>SUNDAR M. NAIK, ABSENT</p>
75.	<p>MANGALDAS K. GAWAS, ABSENT</p>
76.	<p>VITHAL L. GAWAS, ABSENT</p>



77.	<p>SEBASTIAO A. RODRIGUES</p> <p>He seeks clarifications on the para of 3.3 of the Draft EIA notification regarding the seasonal nallahs and other there are several water bodies. He also seeks clarification on para 4.7.2 regarding the ground water table and major pumping of water from the mining pit. He seeks clarification w.r.t. para 4.8.5 regarding wetland areas. He states that there will be Impacts on the wet lands, water pollution degradation of land flora and fauna, the bird migration, reduction of wild growing plant, effects the pollution in the buffer zone. He states that the Cudnem river was adversely polluted and there were major health effect, skin diseases due to dust pollution, agricultural land was polluted. He states that the company requires 95000lts / day of water. He questions how we can afford to supply the water. The rivers are full of Silt. Hence, he states that there is an increasing level of danger to humans. He states that Human Impact Assessment is not done. He states that he objects to the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd.</p>
78.	<p>MAHENDRA N. EKAWADE</p> <p>He stated that he is speaking in behalf of the villagers of Cudnem. He stated that for the last many years the villagers are depended on mining. He stated that when mining first commenced, agriculture was stopped and all the people were depended on mining. He stated that there should a reasonable representation made for the employment. He stated that the truck owners should be given preference. He stated that the fields are full with silt and he requested that proper process should</p>

	<p>be initiated to desilt these fields. He stated that the river in Cudnem village is also filled with silt and he requested that proper process should be initiated to desilt this river. He referred to a speaker stating that the river is referred to as a nallah in the EIA and the same should be rectified. He stated that the Panchayats in the mining belts like Velguem, Surla, Kudnem, Palem are financially down because of lack of revenue from Octroi Tax and mining. He stated that the utilisation of CSR funds for the village is a lengthy process and he requested that a percent of these funds should be granted to the local Panchayats for the development of the village. He stated that some workers from the village were retrenched by Sesa and the company should solve the issue and give preference to these workers while granting employment. He requested that the truck owners should be given initial subsidy to resume their business. He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He also appreciates the Government for initiating steps to resume mining.</p>
79.	PARESH NAIK, ABSENT
80.	SRIKANT SHIRGAONKAR, ABSENT
81.	<p>DILIP N. SHIRODKAR</p> <p>He is resident of Surla. He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He is worker in the Sesa company Surla-Sonshi mine. He stated that are 114 workers in the said mine and the company intends to retrench these workers. He requests the company to engage these</p>

	employees in Block VII. He stated that the fields and farms in the locality should be preserved.
82.	<p>BOMI P. KALEKAR</p> <p>He states that he is dependent on mining. He states that he is in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd. He states that existing workers should be given first preference and sustainable mining should start.</p>
83.	<p>SANTOSH BHAGAT</p> <p>He states that he is the President of Sanquelim Housing Board.</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He requests the government to start the surrounding mines as early as possible. He states that a lot of youth are unemployed due to the mining ban, even the markets are shut as business is affected. Till 2012 mining was the backbone of Goa. He states that the company has to carry out the mining operations in a sustainable way. He states that the Vedanta company carries out the CSR activities regularly. He states that the GSPCB has to monitor the activities of the mining company. He states that the dredging activities have to be conducted regularly and such activity is done by the Vedanta company.</p>
84.	<p>RAJAN FALKAR, PANCH MEMBER OF CUDNEM.</p> <p>He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block, Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He agrees with the submissions made by Mahendra N. Ekawade. He stated that there</p>

	<p>is a forest area within the mining block and also there are many wild animals in the forest. He requested that the proper survey should be conducted and the same should be preserved. The company should do afforestation. He stated that the plantation should be done on rejected silt. He stated that the same forest land should be restored. He stated that the Pollution Control Board should take measures to control the pollution. He stated that the mine affected people should be compensated. He stated that the temples, schools, anganwadis are not mentioned in the EIA and the same should be rectified. He stated that after 2012 after the mine stopped, Vedanta had continued to give employment to its workers and also had granted payments etc. and he is thankful for that. He is also thankful to Hon'ble Chief Minister for initiating steps to resume mining. He stated that wild animals like bisons, leopards were spotted in the locality and he requests that proper measures should be taken to protect them.</p>
<p>85.</p>	<p>DIPIKA NAIK,</p> <p>She states that she is the Deputy Sarpanch of Village Panchayat Cudnem. She states that truck owners should be supported. She states that agriculture & houses in the area should be protected after the start of mining. She states that she is in support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd.</p>
<p>86.</p>	<p>DAMODAR PETKAR</p> <p>He states that he is Panch of the Cudnem village.</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem</p>

	Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He requests the Project Proponent to take the locals into consideration during employment and be given first preference. The grazing activities are carried out in the mining lease, however when the mining will start the dairy activities will be affected hence he request the PP to provide assistance to the dairy farmers.
87.	RAMNATH G. DANGUI - ABSENT
88.	DEVANAND PARAB - ABSENT
89.	DASHRATH A. NAIK He states that he is the Ex- Dy. Sarpanch and the Ex-employee of the Vedanta company. He states that the houses located within 1km of the mining lease area needs to be protected and the GSPCB has to monitor the mining activities of the company. He states that when the mines were shut for 12 years people of the villagers suffered a lot. Hence, he requests the Project Proponent take all the measures to protect the environment. He requests the Project Proponent has to consider the grievances of the villages. He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd.
90.	RIYAS KHAN, SANKHALIM - ABSENT
91.	SAMEER AMONKAR, SURLA He states that he is resident of Surla. He states that he support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd. He states that 114

	workers must be given back their employment.
92.	<p>SANDEEP GHADI, NAVELIM</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd.</p>
93.	<p>MANGALDAS NAIK, CUDNEM</p> <p>He states that he fully supports to the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. He stated that recently he came to know that trucks from Rajasthan are used for mining and transportation of ore in Bicholim Block. He stated that the local people are the affected people and the ones who sacrifice. However the company is not looking towards the betterment of locals. He requested that EC should be granted with a condition that locals will be granted employment. He stated that company should consider and compensate the people in the core-zone.</p>
94.	<p>SHIVDAS MADKAR, HONDA</p> <p>He states that he is the Sarpanch of Honda Village Panchayat. He states that he support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd.</p> <p>He states that mining was shut due to Goa State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB). He states that in 2012 people made complaint to the GSPCB and the Magistrate about the pollution, but no action was taken by the authorities in turn the company complained against the people of Sonshi village and they were arrested and kept in custody for 12-13 days. He states that GSPCB conducts the Public Hearing but does not follow anything. He states an NGO took notice of pollution</p>



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	<p>and approached the court and finally the mines were closed. He states that GSPCB should form a committee to ensure that no pollution takes place after the resumption of mining. He states that locals must be given employment and he further states that only 10 tyre and 6 tyre trucks must be allowed as stated in the report by the company.</p>
95.	<p>ROHIDAS H. KANSEKAR, NAVELIM</p> <p>He states that he is the Sarpanch of the Navelim Panchayat. He congratulated the Vedanta company.</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He states that when the mines were shut for 12 years people of the villagers suffered a lot. The Navelim village is only 5km away from the mining lease area and hence the locals from the Navelim village are more affected and more dependent on the mining activity hence they have to be considered and given first preference while granting EC. He states that for 12 yrs the operation of the trucks was suspended and as the government has the 15 yr policy for scrapping of the vehicles, he requests the government not to apply the policy for these mining trucks as they were not operational for many yrs and they should be allowed to operate for 10yrs. He states that the locals should be given priority before granting EC.</p>
96.	<p>RUITKA GAWADE, NAVELIM</p> <p>She states that she fully supports the mining project Block VII-Cudnem Mineral Block , Bicholim and Sattari Taluka. She stated that job opportunities should be given to the locals. She requested that the pollution should be controlled.</p>

97.	RAMAKANT V. ZALME, SANQUELIM - ABSENT
98.	<p>BABLI SAWANT, CUDNEM</p> <p>He states that he was an employee of the mining company.</p> <p>He states that he supports the operation of the Block VII -Cudnem Mineral Block to be operated by M/s. Vedanta Ltd. He states that when the mines were shut for 12 years people of the villagers and their families suffered a lot. There was no medical camps nor other facilities were provided. There was no development done previously in the villages. He states that the water supply to the villages was stopped. No activity was done as per the agreement signed in 1969. He states that EC clearance should be given but the locals have to be given first preference.</p>
99.	RAYA PARSEKAR, SANQUELIM - ABSENT
100.	<p>ANSHI NAIK, NAVELIM</p> <p>She states that she is the Panch of Navelim Village Panchayat. She states that she supports mining. She states that locals should be provided permanent employment. She states that the removed workers must be recruited again. She states that he support of Block-VII-Cudnem Mineral Block of Vedanta Ltd.</p>
101.	KALPANA GAWAS, NAVELIM - ABSENT

Clarification regarding the seasonal Nallaha given by Project Proponent.

It was submitted that the study was conducted in the month of December. There was no water hence, was assumed that it was a seasonal nallah. However, now we understood that it is not a seasonal nallah and accordingly same will be rectified while preparing final EIA report.

With regard to the Publicity of the Environmental Public Hearing, the Presiding Officer informed that the GSPCB has issued public notices in the newspapers namely; The Goan Everyday (English), Gomantak (Marathi), Bhangar Bhuim (Konkani), The Free Press Journal, Mumbai (English) informing the general public regarding the date, time, venue, submissions of objections, suggestions, views, placement of EIA reports for reference, etc. The GSPCB has also issued advertisements on local Television/radio channels continuously for 3 days informing general public of the Public Hearing. The local Authorities such as Village Panchayats and Municipalities were requested to give wide publicity of the Public Hearing within their Jurisdiction. Poster/banners were pasted at prominent places and Public were informed through public address system. Thus, enough publicity was given.

Shri. Mahadev Araundekar, Add. Collector I, North Goa requested the people present that if they so desire they may file their written objection/suggestion/views within 2 days from today 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/explained to the public in Konkani and subsequently after receiving suggestions and as agreed were signed by Shri. Mahadev Araundekar, Add. Collector I, North Goa, and Dr. Shamila Monteiro, Member Secretary of Goa State Pollution Control Board

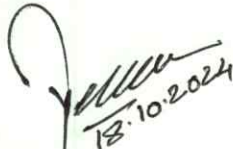
A total of 303 numbers of persons present for the public hearing and have signed the enclosed attendance sheet.

As informed by the Goa State Pollution Control Board, a total of 505 written submissions received in favour of the project.

13 written objection have been received.

The hearing ended at 5.30 pm.

On this 18th day of October, 2024.



Shri. Mahadev Araundekar,

Add. Collector I, North Goa



Dr. Shamila Monteiro,

Member Secretary

Goa State Pollution Control Board

