



**Proceedings of the Environmental Public Hearing held on 16/03/2026 at 10.30 am onwards
at Rayindra Bhavan Sankhali-Goa, Near Govt. College, Sankhali Goa.**

In respect of:

“As per Environmental Impact Assessment 2006 with respect to Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block for mining of Iron Ore with production capacity of 1.1 MTPA, OB/Waste 2.59 Million TPA (Total Excavation : 3.69 Million TPA) along with Installation of Wet Beneficiation Plant with throughput Capacity:1.1 MTPA over ML area of 254.51 Ha by M/s. JSW Steel Ltd. located at Villages Surla, Cudnem and Sonus Vonvoliem, Talukas Bicholim & Sattari, District: North Goa (Goa).”

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. Gurudas S. T. Desai, , Add. Collector I, North Goa and Dr. Mohan R. Girap, Scientist ‘C’ of the Goa State Pollution Control Board presided over the hearing.

The hearing commenced at 10.30.A.M. so as to enable the public present to complete formalities of registration as speakers.

At the outset, Dr. Mohan R. Girap, Scientist ‘C’ 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.

PRELIMINARY OBJECTIONS:

1. Uday P. Natekar Surla – He has submitted preliminary objections regarding technical complexity of the EIA report and arbitrary time limits. He states that the EIA reports consist of nearly 700 pages of technical data. He sought detailed answers from the company / consultants during the hearing. He submitted without these clarifications their written submission will remain incomplete. He stated that Imposing the time limit on stake holders violates their fundamental right to freedom of speech. He states that if a time limit is imposed then he demands for a formal ruling on record stating the legal provision for such a restriction. He stated that they had not received any feedback or action taken report for the objections submitted in the last two hearings. He demanded to know the status of these objections before the conclusion of this hearing. He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.

2. Village Panchayat Surla – Surla – It submitted a written representation requesting that the villagers should not be restricted by specific, arbitrary time limits and shall be allowed to place or submit their suggestions on various grounds positively in-order to facilitate fruit full conclusion.

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

The public present at the Public Hearing were requested to come forward and submit their views on the project and also requested the speakers to try to restrict their submissions to 10 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.

<p>1.</p>	<p>Dasharath Bhamaikar- Surla</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Surla happy that the mining is starting. He states that as the mining is important, the same way agriculture is important. He states that they used to work in this mine. He states that the mine was taken over by M/s. Dempos then M/s. Sesa Vedanta and now JSW taken in auction. He states that the workers who were terminated should be provided employment as it was promised. He states that if the conditions are not fulfilled than they will be forced to protest.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Vishnu Mahadev Natekar – Surla</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Surla.</p> <p>He states that the earlier mining operation conducted by companies such as Dempo and Sesa Goa (Vedanta) in Surla – Sonshi region and caused disturbance to natural water system including springs, reservoirs irrigation channels, these activities lowered the natural water table and adversely affected irrigation and agricultural productivity in the region.</p> <p>He states that at present over, 8,00,000 square metres of agricultural land depends on this irrigation system and the these reservoirs. This irrigation network supports 400 to 500 farming families and sustains the livelihood of approximately 4,000 to 5, 000 who are directly dependent on agriculture.</p> <p>He states that the proposed mining activities of M/s. JSW Steel Limited may lead to siltation, dust pollution, overburden dumping and contamination of water sources, which could severely affect irrigation water quality and availability. Any reduction in water level or deterioration in water quality will directly threaten farming and the livelihoods of local communities.</p> <p>He states that the existing mining reservoirs, which are presently functioning as the primary irrigation water resources for the surrounding agricultural lands, must be specifically excluded from the proposed mining lease area, along with a sufficient protective buffer zone. These reservoirs have now become critical public water resources and must be preserved.</p> <p>He states that he is objects to the Grant of EC of the proposed M/s Block IX Surla</p>

	<p>Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. he submitted a written submission which is attached.</p>
3.	<p>Madhusudan K. Volvoikar -Surla</p> <p>He states that he objects to the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. He submits the report of the irrigation department of 2011, which states that there are 150 nullahs in area. There are 26 yrs old nullahs in the area. He states that there is a lot of destruction of the nullahs due to the operations of the said mine. The agricultural fields and the land is destroyed, he questions if the Government is going to destroy the land by giving the Project Proponent further permissions to destroy the land and water resources further. He states that the right to life is under threat. He states that the previous operating mining companies of Salgoankar and Bandekar, Dempo and Timblo have already damaged the environment and the grant of new permissions will further degrade the land and water resources. He states that in the reports they have not mentioned. The report of the Irrigation department states that the navelim Nallah reservoir constructed by the Water Resource Department nor the Dignem spring. He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.</p>
	<p>Tulshidas Fondekar- Surla</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Surla. He states that he is a worker. He states that this was earlier owned by Dempo. He states that Dempo had provided employment to the locals of Village and take care of Agriculture. He states that this company also should provide employment to the locals and also protect the agriculture and provide proper irrigation. He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.</p>
5.	<p>Shashank Marathe- Digne, Surla</p> <p>He states that he is resident of Dignem Surla and supports conditionally to protect the natural resources.</p> <p>He states that the mining pit to pit water be restored.</p> <p>He states that the 1.5 project water requirements and gravity water in pit to pit.</p> <p>He states that the project proponent should fulfil the requirements.</p> <p>He states that no truck will be allowed on the road if demands are not fulfilled.</p>
6.	<p>Tukaram Malik – Kudne</p> <p>He states that, if the mining company starts the unemployed youth will get employment opportunities, he fully supports the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited.</p>

7.	<p>Shyam D. Kundaikar – Kadchal, Surla</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Kadchal Surla. He states that in Surla around 80% of the locals have fallen in trouble. He states that people don't even get their rent. He states that he himself has around 47% land and the same is getting wasted. He inquired whether the same will be continued and make us suffer.</p>
8.	<p>Avinash S. Parodkar – Pale</p> <p>He stated that he is resident of Pale.</p> <p>He states that the mining should be started.</p> <p>He states that employment for pass out should be provided.</p>
9.	<p>Bhomi Kalekar -Surla</p> <p>He states that, if the mining company starts the unemployed youth will get employment opportunities, he fully supports the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. He states that, previously employed 83 workers which were removed by the Vedanta company have to be reinstated by the project proponent. He stated that their job and salary should be secured. He states that there should be sustainable mining operations in the villages.</p>
10.	<p>Vishant Gawde – Palem</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Pale. He states that employment must be provided to the people of their Village.</p>
11.	<p>Sundar N. Naik – Maina, Navelim</p> <p>He states that the he is resident of Maina</p> <p>The truck owner / hotel and the villagers were dependent on the mining companies.</p> <p>He states that the people from seven talukas have to be employed by the Project Proponent. The starting mining company have to start and provide employment to the villagers as it is the backbone of the villagers, trucks, hotels, mechanics depended on the mining.</p> <p>The project proponent should take the people into confidence, consider their issues and start mining by proper mining for the benefit of the people, give justice to the people who are removed. conduct mining activities in a sustainable way.</p>
12.	<p>Anushi Gauns, Sonshi</p> <p>She states that she objects to the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited as there is no benefit to the villagers.</p>
13.	<p>Damodar Kutalkar, Vasco</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Vasco. He states that this particular mine will be operated by JSW. He states that he expects JSW to use best practises to operate mine and use the revenue for the development of the villages.</p>

14.	<p>Sanket Matonkar, Bicholim</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Bicholim and a mining engineer.</p> <p>He states that he supports to the M/s Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited, as they would be given employment.</p>
15.	<p>Anand Shiva Fondekar - Surla</p> <p>He questions if the Project Proponent has the knowledge about the springs existing in the mining area. He stated that these springs are submerged under the mine dumps. No compensation was paid to them. He stated that since the mining operations had stopped from 2012 there is good yields and if the mining operations starts there will be a lot of destructions of the nullahs, springs, agricultural land etc. he states that he was working in the Salgaonkar company and there was a lot of destruction caused due to the operation of the mines. he states that the ministers and outsiders will earn profits from the operations of the said company and the village and the villagers will not gain anything and further will also result in the destruction of the environment at large. He stated that if any permission is granted for the operation of mining, the villagers will protest to the same.</p> <p>He stated that mining operation will affect the future generations thereby leading to the destruction of the villages. He objects to the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited.</p>
16.	<p>Prabhakar Y. Hondkar, Surla</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Surla. He questions how will he overcome the loss to his agricultural farms due to the mining activities. He states that earlier the rainwater used to flow down along with the silt and villagers used to desilt the agricultural fields and recover the expenditure towards the same from the M/s. Dempo and Vedanta companies, however after the closure of the mining companies the same are pending and he requests the Project proponent to settle the same. he states that the owner of the land of the said mining lease area and that he has the ownership documents of the same. He requests to resume the mining operations only after properly verifying the ownership documents. He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.</p>
17.	<p>Narayan Sonnaik, Surla - Surla Gram Samittee Secretary</p> <p>He states that the loss they incurred, will never be considered. He states that what benefits will be given to the village. He states that he is an agriculturist of Surla. He states that in his field approx. 2 meters silt has fallen making it difficult to cultivate. He inquired as to what measures will be taken in this situation to remove the silt and make it cultivated. He states that the fields where dumping is carried should be cleared first. He states that the same is mentioned in the report submitted to the High Court. He states that if the permission is granted than what will be done to preserve and protect the fields. He states that the loss in Surla should be considered. He states</p>

	<p>that speaker from Vasco spoke in support of JSW, but was ground reality at Surla considered. He states that he totally objects this mine. He states that the report does not consider the ground reality at Surla. He states that he objects this mining. He states that 80% of the fields are uncultivated due to silt deposition but no reason is given for this. The villages are destroyed. The people who supported mining should come to our village and see for them selves the destruction. When the mine was closed for 12 yrs they could see numerous birds' animals' plants etc. the environment has been restored but now if the mining starts it will again be destroyed.</p>
18.	<p>Balakrishna Ghadi- Cudnem</p> <p>He States that the he resident of Cudnem , Ex- worker of Dempo then I was employed in Vedanta who purchased the block now JSW has blocked IX now they should give job opportunities me.</p> <p>He states that he supports to the Grant of EC of the proposed M/s Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited.</p>
19.	<p>Sameer Amonkar – Surla -</p> <p>He stated that he represents the Surla Sonshi Mines Local Union Committee. He stated that there were 83 workers employed by V.S. Dempo. Who were reinstated by Vedanta. He stated that the services and the salaries were protected. He stated that as JSW has taken over the mining lease from Vedanta he requests that the 83 workers should be reinstated by the PP. He stated that the Vedanta company has removed them and as the workers are between the age group of 40 to 50 years with only experience in the mining field, they will not get any employment elsewhere. He had spoken to the CM and the CEO of the Project Proponent. The company has promised to provide service to them. He stated that block VI and VII operated by JSW has availed the services of contract workers. He stated that if the same is applicable to this block then the object to the grant of this project. He stated that there should be sustainable mining considering protection of the agricultural fields and environment. He states that the services of the employees should be continued with the same scale of salary. He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.</p>
20.	<p>Pradeep Mainekar – Surla</p> <p>He states that he is the resident of Surla. He states that he used to work in JSW and then Vedanta took over it. He states that now again JSW has taken over it. He states that he should be employed on the same post and salary otherwise he opposes this mine.</p>
21.	<p>Vasudeo A. Hajare – Dignem Cudnem</p> <p>Dignem – Cudnem air quality & dust deposition on plantation daily road sweeping, wheel wash, transport safety and compensation must be binding</p> <p>Ground water baseline network excludes Dignem Cudnem – baseline needs to be</p>



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	<p>expanded.</p> <p>High water demand and risky reliance on pit water/ open well- needs village level safeguards</p> <p>And silence zone enforcement required.</p> <p>Monsoon runoff and silt control design is under process. cannot be deferred</p> <p>Forest land involved Forest Clearance (FC) transfer is stated as in progress EC must not processed without verified FC transfer & compliance (also near Madei /Madei ESZ)</p> <p>Traffic assessment likely understated truck movements</p> <p>Cumulative traffic and road carrying capacity not assessed at corridor level</p> <p>Truck fleet size /logistics plan not transparently disclosed.</p> <p>Very high OB/ Waste to ore ratio increases dump footprint, stability and disaster risk.</p> <p>Workforce numbers must include contractors labour influx management required.</p> <p>Blasting /ground vibration risk to houses and structures EIA says no blasting but contradicts itself; binding safe guard and pre- condition survey needed.</p> <p>He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.</p>
<p>22.</p> 	<p>Vithal Shiva Gawas - Navelim</p> <p>He is the owner of the truck. He states that for the past 30 years he is fully dependent on the mining operations hence he is fully supports the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. however, he states that he blindly doesn't support the mining operation and there are some points to be considered before granting the permission to the operation of the mining Company.</p> <p>He stated that there is a nullah flowing from Velguem to Navelim and finally to Mandovi river. He stated that the operations of mining have resulted in the destruction of this nullah and also because of the operations of the previous mining companies, He stated that most of the people objecting to the operation of the mines today have been employed in these companies before. He stated that there was no proper care and justice granted to these people thereby leading them to oppose the mining operations. He stated that sustainable mining with timely resolution of grievances by the Project Proponent.</p>
<p>23.</p>	<p>Pramod Narvekar – Surla</p> <p>He states that he is the Chairman of the Surla Bio-Diversity Management Committee. He states that he is happy that mining is starting, but Government has till now not formulated any mining policies. He states that representations to Panchayat was made that in the village there are nallah, wildlife. He states that letters were made in 2024 to the Collector. He states that 4 reminders were given in 2025. He states that whatever is taken in the Public Hearing, only remains on paper, implementation is never done of the same. He states that why nallahs are not shown in EIA report. He states that he directly blames the Collector; why no reply is given</p>





to the Sarpanch of Village of Surla. He states that people still say that mining is required. He states that the company that made this EIA report is totally false. He states that they have made a report to validate. He states that 4 hearings have taken place and nothing is done after the submissions. He states that people speak at the hearings but no action is taken. He states that Government should start mining policy. He states that why pension is not given to the mining dependent persons. He states that Surla Village is not shown properly in the EIA report. He states that they oppose because the authorities are neglecting their problems. He states that earlier. He states that in Surla, first Salgaonkar was there from Portuguese time but till now there is no mining policy. He states that mining is only to feed rich people. He states that no development is carried out in Surla Village. He states that it is said that 2% should be spent on Surla but who will take this into account. He states that fields have silted; who will clean it. He states that they don't receive any benefits from mining. He states that EIA report must be re-examined. He states that the forest has been destroyed. He states that the forest clearance has been taken from Dempo from 2009 the same is transferred to this project. He states that 800000sqmtrs of agricultural/ forests land has been damaged by the operations of Vedanta and V.S. Dempo mines. He requests that the EIA report has to be redrafted with the support and inputs from the Bio diversity Board of Surla village. He states that for since mining has stopped from 2012 onwards fresh vegetation has grown in around the mining area. Further now starting these mines will disturb these vegetations. He states that Sy no.178/0 and 179/0 of Surla village in Bicholim taluka has been covered under Government Forests land. He submits that the earlier public hearing in other lease he had submitted a representation to GSPCB and Collectors office however the same facts or objections were not considered in the present EIA reports. Also no reply has been received from GSPCB and Collector office with regards to their representation. He states that study must be of fields, reservoirs as the village is dependent of the same. He states that nallah is not shown in the report. He states that the report is false. He states that huge amount of water is required for the project. He states that from where the water will come from. He states that before sustainable mining was operating but now there is only destruction. He states that he objects this project. He states that there is Government land in Valpoi. He states that 90% of the land belongs to Daman and Diu and only 10% land belongs to Valpoikars. He states that sweet water cannot be utilised for this project. He states that people's grievances are not taken into consideration. He states that Biodiversity representative speak with proof, but the still not answered. He states that on Behalf of the Biodiversity Board he strongly opposes this mine. He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.

24. Mahendra Shirodkar – Surla

The Report submitted by J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd. is a baseless report. For past three hearings, he submitted that they have given objections to Village Panchayat. He

submits that he is fully against the draft EIA Report. He submitted that the water bodies located in the Village of Surla are affected due to the mining activities. The agency M/s. J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd has submitted a false report and it should be sacked. He stated that the Survey should be conducted using the General Applied Sciences Technology and GIS Technique. He stated that the nallah located near the field is showed as a seasonal nallah and there exist another nallah which is omitted from the draft EIA Report. If EIA Study is conducted on ground level, then he sought to know why the said nallah was omitted. The WRD had provided Automated Irrigation System and that is also omitted from the draft EIA. He states that he formally objects the grant of EC to the Project Proponent. He stated that this EIA report is incomplete as it has ignored the hydrological study. He stated that 4.364 hectares of land is a natural sponge area. This area filters the ground water. He further submitted that Excavation of ore will break the laterite gap. By allowing mining, the locality will be physically destroyed. He stated that the Arecanut plantation and Coconut plantation located in the area will be destroyed which is the backbone of their economy. He stated that the speakers who spoke today claimed to be the employees of the mining companies, however, it may be noted that they also own orchard plantation which has been their survival in the difficult times. He submitted that these orchard plantations are existing from the Portuguese era. He stated that the orchard plantation is relying on the natural springs. He stated that the Research study has confirmed that the iron ore is located in the Bicholim Formation which is a primary aquaform which is the source of water. Mining will puncture the aquaform and will divert the source of the springs. He stated that a 50 meters buffer zone is a joke. He stated that with 100 meters again the orchard plantation is stating. He stated that JSW will not be able to revive that dry water beds. I sought to know from WRD, whether the exaction from the mining pit will lead to the destruction/depletion of natural springs which will in turn damage the orchard plantation. He sought to know the way that the department will identify of damage caused to the ground water. The mining pit can be restored by refilling however; the damage caused to the natural springs cannot be restored. He sought to know whether the Board has conducted the Hydrological Study before conducting the present public hearing. He wanted assurance from the GSPCB that it will conduct a Hydrological Audit. He stated that the 4 core Automated Irrigation plant is not been reported in the Draft EIA Report. He stated that the Hydrological Study mentioned is only of 3 months. He stated that the Hydrological study should be done from a reputed institution and not from the small institution who prepares the report only by sitting in the office. He stated that they collected a sample from Bicholim River but not collected from Surla Nallah. He stated that villagers are dependent on these two springs and he sought to how the agency forgets to collect the samples from these two springs.

He stated that the EIA report is false and misleading which is used to avail the



Environmental Clearance.

The EIA report mentioned the depth of the mine however, the ground water impact modeling is not mentioned. He stated that the pit was existing from the Dempo Company tenure. He sought to know the threshold of the depth of the pit. He stated that once the depth of the mine reaches beyond threshold, the orchard plantation will be destroyed. He sought to know how the process was initiated without mentioning the depth of the threshold. He sought to know how this report is acceptable to WRD and GSPCB. He stated that at the first instance, this report should not have been placed for this Public hearing. He stated that the WRD should know the permissible limit and that the mining pit cannot go beyond this level.

He stated that he is tired of writing letters to the GSPCB. He stated that M/s. Dempo and M/s. Sesa has already reached to the significant depth as the department has conducted a preliminary Impact assessment test. The concerned department should conduct a deep study on the current dept and ascertain the permissible depth that will not affect the Orchard Plantation. He sought to know if JSW continues to excavate more water will there be sufficient water available for orchard plantation. He states that his orchard plantation is listed in the Eco Sensitive Zone I. He states that upon complaint the scarcity of water then the resource team will be teach them on how to manage water utilization. He states that the tailing pond is proposed to be located near the agricultural field where in the perennial nallah is existing. He states that water from the nullah is utilized for irrigation of Rabbi crops which is cultivated during the summer season which proves that there exists a natural water resource which is not shown in the draft EIA report. He requested the Collector to conduct a site survey to locate all the natural springs. He stated that the report has been prepared without referring to any of the Government Document. He states that the agency must have referred to Portuguese era troposheet which mentions only 2-3 wards whereas there exist 11 wards in Surla. He states that the agency did not come to his village for any study, they only went to Bicholim. Demand for the liner integrity guarantee and the Disaster Management Plan for tailing point which is during the monsoon. The EIA says that the this is a seasonal area however, the plan record which proves that Survey no. 172 sub-division 33 is a perennial well planned. The Proponent misleads that the water system is 60 years. He states that the system is well more than 100 years old. He stated that by doing mining in Sy no. 174, you are essentially truing off the tap for 300 hectors of Surla which is not a sustainable mining but an ecological suicide. He stated that 200 hectors of orchard plantation and paddy fields are dependent on perennial nallah. The WRD report says that the aquaforum is already depleted due to mining and because of this they have planted the Automated irrigation system. He stated that the GSPCB is not relying on the legal topography sheet. He sought to know if the Panel will conduct a geographical survey before excavation of ore. He sought to know why FIR was not filed on the previous owners. He states that the official records show that there is a nullah and



	<p>the present EIA report is not mentioning the same. He stated the action should be taken before the grant of EC for misleading. FIR should be filed on the company who is responsible for burying this nullah. Permission is required to be taken if the nullah exist and the said permission is not within the purview of the State Government and the same has to be taken from the Central Government. He stated that the nullahs that are visible are not mentioned in the Draft EIA. He sought to know whether the JSW and Agency file a legal affidavit that the report is factually complete. Automated plant worth Rs. 4 crore is omitted from the report. He sought to know how this can happen. He stated that the report should be resubmitted and a fresh hearing should be conducted. He stated that they have already mentioned that the Nullah is not mentioned in the EIA reports during the previous hearing conducted however, the same mistakes are repeated with this EIA Report also. He sought to know how without verifying the document, the report is prepared. He stated that the resolutions taken at the Gram Sabha which were submitted are not mentioned in the Report. A resolution was passed during the gram Sabha that this fact should be brought to the notice of the authority. He stated that if mining resumes that it should be sustainable mining. He states that all the transportation will be done through Surla village. He stated that there will be 1 lakh trips plying in a span of 8 months. He states that there should be some calculation for transportation of ore. The lease is taken by JSW for 50 years. He states that all the profits will be taken by JSW and the villagers will not gain anything. He states that the project proponent had assured that they will generate employment to 130 workers out of which approx. 40 villagers from Surla will be granted employment that also depends on the qualification. M/s . Dempo was only excavating 30% of the current proposed ore wherein they generated employment to 230 worker. He sought to know from the retrenched workers as to whether they will be reinstated on the same scale and they did not any answer to this. He concluded that this is a false report and has been conducted without any ground survey and solely by sitting in an AC room. He mentions about the peer-reviewed scientific study from 2018 titled "Groundwater potential and artificial recharge zone mapping in surla watersheds" by Kupusany Etal; which proved that this present EIA of JSW is technically incomplete.</p>
<p>25.</p>	<p>Uday Natekar - Surla</p> <p>He requests for the answers of the questions raised by him during the start of the hearing. He questions what is the role of the GSPCB in the public hearing. the additional collector said that the competent authority is not competent to answer the same. He questions what are the bases of the study on which the Environment Impact Assessment report is prepared. He sought to know the person/ agency answerable to the queries to be raised by him on the EIA report. He states that the ground water study plan is not shown to the public in the EIA. He states if his questions are not answered what is the use of this public hearing as with these</p>

answers only he would be able to go ahead with the representation. The additional Collector again stated that the competent authority is not competent to answer the same.

He states that there is no explanation given on the old mining plan and the impact on the surrounding villages. He questions as to why these reports are excluded and he sought to know what are the bases for the preparation of the present Draft EIA. He states that he sought to know the study plan as to why the ground water study is not present in the draft EIA. He states that the same should be shown to the public. He states that all the speakers, whether objecting or supporting have mentioned that there should be no further destruction of the environment which is evident that mining is caused severe destruction of the environment. He states that they have incurred an expenditure of Rs.26lakhs towards the filing of supreme court petitions. He states that any lay person will not be able to file the writ petitions towards their grievances. He sought to know who will guarantee that the process of grant of the EC will not be granted. If no proper answers are provided by the project proponent towards the representations made today then how EC can be granted. He stated that public hearing procedure was conducted before the grant of EC to Sesa and Dempo companies. He states that the google maps of 2010 till date shows the destruction caused by the mining operations. He states that he survives on his traditional homestead farms present in the vicinity. He showed the google image of 2010 which showed the flow of nullah which not shown in the present Draft EIA.

*He submitted his grievances in the form of questions as below:

- He questions if the public hearing is only to hear the grievances of the public but not to answer the queries raised.
- He also requested an explanation about the status of implementation of the old mining plan by old mining lease holders and what is the new mining plan proposed. There is no comparison or status provided in the EIA report.
- He questioned about the top soil status as the earlier mining lease holders has not stored the top soil and neither the EIA report mentions about the top soil storage. In the present EIA report the JSW has mentioned that there is no top soil. He questions that how the JSW will ensure plantation and use the Top soil.
- Ground water study plan should be shown to the public which is not shown to the public.
- The original topography and the present topography should be mentioned in the EIA.
- Dump handling and the rehabilitation of the mining pit to be explained.
- He sought to know the period considered as the bases for the study and preparation of the EIA report.
- He states the there is no mention of the Hydrological data in the EIA.
- He sought to know the details of plantation carried out by the Sesa company



[Handwritten signatures]

	<p>and also the details of the proposed plantation to be carried out by the JSW.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He sought to know which department the hydrological study is proposed to be conducted by the Project Proponent. • He sought to know the number of mining pits in the present lease. • He sought to know the period of sustainability of the water reservoir present in the lease area. • He states that he wants to file a claim on the officer / department responsible for the unmet grievances. • He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.
26.	<p>Budho Khodginkar – Surla</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Surla Village. He states that his property is located next to this pit. He states there is a perineal nallah, previous generations have survived on that nallah. He states that through transportation route there are schools, fields. He states that no benefits were given to the residents of Surla Village. He states that the fields are almost filled and damaged. He states that irrigation facilities are not provided. He states that some say they require mining because they don't face the consequences. He states that people are suffering. He states the Pollution Control Board takes hearing but no one considers ground reality. He states the he fully opposes this mining.</p>
27.	<p>Sarvesh Gaonkar – Valpoi</p> <p>He states that he is resident of Valpoi</p> <p>He states that the I am mining engineer and many mining engineer are unemployed and this is the new mine starting all near villagers should get the job government should have considered all the environment norms and should start sustainable mining.</p>
28.	<p>Pravin Dhume – Dignem - Absent</p>
29.	<p>Devanand Parab – Pissurlem</p> <p>He states that he is fully supports the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. He requests the Project proponent to provide the villagers benefit of the mining operations, and to provide employment to the villagers and truck owners. He requests to clear any backlogs with the previous company. He stated that mining be resumed after taking the villagers into confidence.</p>
30.	<p>Dinesh Usgaonkar – Surla</p> <p>He states that he is resident of Surla.</p> <p>He states that strongly oppose the EC report of automation WRD plant he did not showed in the report.</p> <p>He states rudrashwar temple is showed in the report</p>

	<p>GSPCB should not accepted this report</p> <p>How many years you will get job?</p> <p>They have said that they will give job for 10 years</p> <p>JSW will finished this mine and nothing will be kept for future generation</p> <p>Our fertile land will be barren.</p> <p>If this report you reply our future generation will be over.</p> <p>Sesa have removed from this job.</p> <p>How many generations will get the job because of the mine.</p> <p>Because of World war Air pollution is occurred it may be noted that we can only live below the trees.</p> <p>This EIA report no one explain us and 90% people cannot understand.</p> <p>He states that he is objects to the Grant of EC of the proposed M/s Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited</p>
31.	Samir Ghadi- Surla - Absent
	Aakash Ghadi- Surla - Absent
	<p>Arun Mallik – Cundnem</p> <p>He states that there are agricultural fields in his village which are at the lower level due to which the mining activities have caused the silt to flow and settle down in these fields. He states that earlier there was a reservoir adjacent to these fields where in water was collected and used for agriculture. He states that over a period of time the mining activities have resulted in the pollution / destruction of this reservoir. He submitted that before the grant of any permission the reservoir should be de-silted and checked for the feasibility.</p>
34.	<p>Mahendra Kalangutkar – Sonshi</p> <p>He states that he fully opposes this mining. He states that villagers were never given any opportunity. He states that they met the company and the company said they people don't have any say. He states that they were arrested because they obstructed the transportation. He states that they were imprisoned for 10 days. He states that they never committed any crime but were still put into prison for 10 days. He states that nobody supported them. He states that they were never given in writing what will be provided to the locals and the village. He states that they have trucks; but nobody gave them any facility. He states that for all the above reason he oppose mining.</p>

35.	<p>Pramod Gaude - Sonshi</p> <p>He states that he is resident of Sonshi</p> <p>He strongly object the EC.</p> <p>We don't want mine company have troubled us there are many cases going on previous mine</p> <p>Dust is generated and because of this cashew plantation will be finished.</p> <p>He states that he strongly objects</p> <p>I am submitting the objection letter.</p>
36.	<p>Vaman Gaude - Sonshi</p> <p>He states that he objects to the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited, as there is no benefit to the villagers.</p>
37.	<p>Mahesh Gaude - Sonshi</p> <p>He states that they have faced problems in the Sonshi; when mining was there. He states that Sonshi side mining was not started. He states that when mining was there, the area was utilised and destroyed. He states that for all the above reasons he oppose mining.</p>
38.	<p>Devanand Gaude - Soliyem, Onda</p> <p>He states that he is resident of Saliye Honda</p> <p>He states that he is objects to the Grant of EC of the proposed M/s Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited.</p> <p>He stated that the health issue will be started and air pollution will be occurred the dust came into our house and again previous condition will be occurred. Because of dust breathing problem like asthma will occur.</p> <p>He stated the diesel which is used in trucks causes air pollution and brain stroke heart attack will happen.</p> <p>He states that because of mine there will be water pollution</p> <p>He states that they plant crops near the nallah we cannot do it now because the nallah are destroyed</p> <p>He stated that they are not getting tap water properly</p> <p>He states that the sound pollution we cannot sleep at night</p> <p>He states that there our nallah will be destroyed.</p>
39.	<p>Ravindra Naik – Maina Navelim - Absent</p>
40.	<p>Uddesh Gawade- Sonshi</p> <p>He states that he objects to the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited, as there would be a lot of sound, air and noise pollution due to the operation of the mining activities.</p>
41.	<p>Prakash Gawas- Sonshi</p> <p>He states that he doesn't want to refer anything to Pollution Control Board. He states that he only wants to address to the Collector. He requests that the Collector to</p>

	<p>schedule another hearing after taking into account submission made. He states that only workers are taken into account in the said report so at least public should be taken into account. He states that that why no comma is put after Sonus and before Vonvoliem. He states that there was a spring earlier in the village before and that is not there now. He states that roads which were earlier are not there now. He states that because of no road they have to go through 2-3 villages to go to Vonvoliem village. He states that Sonshi Village has 8-9 villages surrounding it. He states that there is a lot of pollution. He states that the Collector has to look into this aspect and make arrangement to address the same. He states that in Sonshi Village maximum people have died due to pollution. He states that no road facility is there. He states that people have obstructed to ore transportation and hence they were arrested. He states that there were many women and youngsters, yet no action was taken. He states therefore Collector must consider all the above facts and resolve it.</p>
42.	<p>Digambar A. Naik – Maina</p> <p>He stated that he is resident of Maina</p> <p>He states that my first question is regarding applicability of JSW for auction of the said Block IX?</p> <p>He states that they don't have any infrastructure and how they were awarded the Block IX.</p> <p>He states that Goa Government say that there will be a sustainable mining and legal mining but we cannot see that in reality.</p> <p>He states that they are giving EC but what is the criteria and situation is the same like before.</p> <p>He states that there is no retention wall constructed.</p> <p>He states that presently water is going directly into Mandovi river and 7 to 8 lakh square meters plantation will get destroyed.</p> <p>He states that previously 1 crore was spent to remove the silt from the settling ponds and 50 lakhs were suffered previously</p> <p>No one is thinking of previous workers and now new workers will be employed. He communicated that the GSPCB gives EC and keep quiet thereafter, they should do a site inspection also start the mine with proper precaution without affecting the agricultural property.</p>
43.	<p>Damodar S. Pethkar – Cudnem</p> <p>He states that he is the Sarpanch of the village panchayat Cudnem. He states that the agricultural fields have been destroyed by the mining operations in the village of Surla. He requests to consider sustainable mining operations. He states that, previously employed workers which were removed be reinstated and be given the first preference by the project proponent. He states that the forest land and the wild animals present today have to be protected within the lease area. He states that the bio-diversity should be protected. He states that prior to the commencement of</p>

	mining activities the grievances of the villagers of the Cudnem and Surla should be redressed.
44.	Anand Gaude- Honda
45.	Gajanan Natekar - Surla
46.	Yogita Uday Haldankar – Velguem She states that she is the Sarpanch of Velguem Village. She states that mining is good thing to start and support it. She states that their fields should be protected and people views should be considered.
47.	Santosh Mavalinkar- Surla He states that he is resident of Surla and he is a farmer. He states that their ancestors were doing natural plantation and after many years farming stopped because we got job in mining. He states that if we calculate the money earned in job and the money we would have got by doing farming, the farmers will be rich. He states that the Government has not given any facility to the farmers due to mining / Paddy and orchard plantation were destroyed. He states that if JSW mine started how many people will be benefited? He states that only 4 people will get the benefit and common people wont get the benefit. He states that the crores of income had gone to the Government and mining owners, but no infrastructure is developed in a nearby village. He states that when will be village developed? He states that the proper planning should be done and all problem should be solved. He states that the trees which are planted on over burden are of no use at all and one is getting benefit from it. He states that now jungle is formed on the dump and now animals are living there. He states that after mine will start these animals will go in farms and destroy the crops. He states that if mining starts these animals will not survive. He states that what is the impact on mining on the farms. He states that has anyone done study on this aspect? He states that the farmers are not profitized. He states that the no upgraded equipment's are given to farmers and other side, Government is saying that they are developing the farmers. He states that the Mining income should be spent on villages and farms. He states that if you don't think then peoples conditions will become worse.

	<p>He states that if people staying in affected areas get something, we don't want mining.</p> <p>He states that our people receive all the pollution.</p> <p>He states that what package they are given? Anyone think about it?</p> <p>He states that water pollution is also an issue in our village.</p> <p>He states that the poor people problem if not getting solved, then we don't want mining.</p>
48.	<p>Vasant Kalekar – Surla</p> <p>He states that he is the owner of paddy field located in sy. No.168 and 169, adjacent to the lease area and is at a distance of only 10mts away. He states that for generations their occupation has been farming. He states that 17 farmers occupied an agricultural land admeasuring 50000 sqms. He states that due to mining activities for the past 12 years, this land has been barren. He states that the water required for the farming was earlier used from the natural springs which have now been destroyed. He states that these natural springs flowing to the lease area has been stopped and diverted into the mining pit by Sesa company. He states that there a scarcity of water because of this diversion. He states that in spite of approaching the company with this grievance, the water was not released to the villages thereby making the fields barren. He states that for the past 2 years, they have resumed farming in these fields due to the supply of water from the automation project. He states that if the mining operations resume the fields and water resources will get covered with silt. He requests to consider his objection prior to the resumption of mining and thereby helping him to take further the occupation of farming.</p>
49.	<p>Suraj Malik – Cudnem</p> <p>He states that he objects to the grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. He states that initially 45 people, then 7, then 99 were taken into custody for agitating against mining operation. He states that despite theses people of having adverse medical conditions (Kidney failure) they are forced to appear before the competent authority/ court in the cases which are still pending. He states that for the past 13 years the loans have not been cleared. He states that if the people buy trucks on loans and if the mining stops in the near future, he sought to know how this debt will be cleared. He states that the workers that have been retrenched earlier have still remain unemployed and struggled for their survival. He desired to know where the CSR funds were utilized after the mining was stopped. He states that as of now, the people have already learned to sustain their selves without mining, he sought to know what benefits will the villagers get by the resumption of the mining activities. He states that due to the closure of mining activities, a waterfall with clear water has emerged in the village. He states that there are so many mining pits that if the water is released from these pits, the villages will be submerged. He states that if the mining is to be resumed the benefits to the villagers should be considered first. He states that these mining</p>



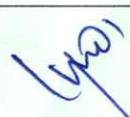
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	activities don't benefit the poor. He requests the officials to visit the house in villages to know the actual severity of the damage caused to the environment and the villages.
50.	Prasad Mhaiskar _ Sonshi -Absent
51.	Gurusdas malik – Navelim -Absent
52.	Dasharath A. Naik – Cudnem He states and supports Block IX Surla Sonshi Bloch. He states that there are agriculturists in Surla and Cudnem Village. He states that fields are silted. He states that mine owners should support them. He states that ancestors have worked in the fields. He states that it is now their duty to continue and for this their require support.
53.	Dipika D. Naik – Cudnem She states that she is resident of Cudnem she states that she supports the Grant of EC of the proposed M/s Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. She states that the Farmers grievances should be considered and start the mining.
54.	Santosh R. Gawade- Sonshi He states that he objects to the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited.
55.	Sachin R. Gawade- Sonshi He states that he fully oppose this mine as there is no benefits arising from this mine.
56.	Sukdo . P. Gawade- Navelim -Absent
57.	Rupesh Naik – Sonshi -Absent
58.	Gopi N. Malik – Cudem He states that he is a resident of Kudnem. He states that he supports to the Grant of EC of the proposed M/s Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited and Villagers should get the jobs All previous workers who are working under Dempo and Sesa should be employed and I support the mining.



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59.	Aniraj A. Gawas- Sonshi
60.	<p>Gaurish Karpe – Valpoi</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Valpoi.</p> <p>He states that he is a mining engineer.</p> <p>He states that he supports to the Grant of EC of the proposed M/s Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited.</p> <p>He states that all Surla people demand should be considered and all previous workers demand should be considered and start the mining.</p>
61.	<p>Kalidas Gawas – Navelim</p> <p>He states that he supports the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited.</p> <p>He requests for a sustainable mining operation. He states that he is a farmer with 25 acres of cashew plantation and 5 acres of paddy fields. He states that as a society, justice to be granted to all the people. He stated that the company should keep the profit margins low while taking into consideration the environment and the villagers.</p> <p>He states that when there was an expansion of Sesa, employment was granted to the locals however, during Covid these employees did not face difficulties. Similarly, the villagers objected to the installation of reliance mobile tower in the village. However, during Covid the people begged for installation of mobile towers as students faced difficulties in attending online classes. He states the mining operations should not create problems for the villagers and the environment. The development and environment should go ahead side by side. He requested that the economically weaker sections of affected villages should not be neglected. The company and the Government should consider the grievance of the affected villagers and go ahead with the mining operations.</p>
62.	<p>Rajan Falkar – Cudnem</p> <p>He states that mining should start in the sustainable manner. He states that there is a nallah that flows through Surla that was used for irrigation. He states that villagers are totally dependent on the agriculture. He states that now nallah is vanished. He states that the same needs to be restored and agriculture should start. He states that harmony in Surla has been affected, so agriculture should start in Surla, Cudnem. He states that mining should start, at the same time the most affected people should be taken into consideration for their livelihood. He states that there are temples of Ganesh, Vithal Rukmini, which should be protected. He states that in survey no. 152/0 there is a Government Forest land and falls in Cudnem Village. He states that wildlife was spotted, so even they must be protected. He states that around 300 families will be given benefits from this mining. He states that trucks must be allotted familywise otherwise there will be under utilised. He states that</p>




	Biodiversity, Panchayat should demarcate the property and let them know their rights. He states that he supports mining but only if heritage of Surla, Cudnem, Navelim must be preserved.
63.	Bholanath Gosavi – Bicholim He states that he is a resident of Bicholim. He states that he fully supports to the Grant of EC of the proposed M/s Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. He states and urges to a sustainable mining and direct and indirect people to get benefit with sustainable mining, I support the block.
64.	Anshi V. Naik - Navelim She states that she is a Panch Member of the Navelim Village Panchayat. She requests for sustainable mining operations. She states that the grievances of the villagers should be resolved prior to the resumption of the operation of the mining activities. She states that she supports the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited.
65.	Rutika R. Gaude – Navelim She states that she is the Panch member of Navelim. She supports mining but only if the submissions made by the Surla speakers are fulfilled. She states that her husband is dependent on mining. She states that workers taken by Dempo must be given preference. She states that locals must be given employment.
66.	Manoj A. Kolamkar – Cudnem He states that he is a resident of Cudnem. He states that he fully supports to the Grant of EC of the proposed M/s Block IX Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. He states that all Surla villagers' problems should be solved. Air and noise pollution should be controlled and start the mining.
67.	Vijay Navanath Gosavi – Bicholim He states that he supports the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. He requests to have sustainable mining operations and the benefit from these operations be utilized for the maximum development of the affected villages.
68.	Narayan Gawas – Navelim He states that he is the Sarpanch of V.P Navelim. He states that he fully supports mining. He states jobs must be given to the people who were laid off earlier. He states that agricultural land should be protected, villagers must be given benefits. He states that Navelim Panchayat has sent a resolution, supporting the agriculturists in Navelim area. He states that CSR activities must be carried out in Surla, Navelim, Sonshi, Cudnem Villages. He states that Hon'ble Chief Minister should support this

	block and the villages must be allowed to reap the benefits.
69.	Nandakumar V. Navelkar – Dignem - Absent
70.	<p>Aniket Fondekar – Surla</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Surla.</p> <p>He respectfully submits the following objections regarding the proposed Block IX Surla Sonshi Iron Ore Mining Projects during the public hearing conducted for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the project. I request the authorities to kindly record these objections in the official proceedings of this public hearing.</p> <p>He states that before the commencement of mining activities in this region, agriculture was completely dependent on a natural perennial water resources which supplied water to kulagars and farmland throughout the year However, when large scale mining activities began, excavation was carried out very close to this natural water flow. As a result, mining pits were formed near the original water channel heavy siltation occurred in agricultural fields, and the natural water pathway was disturbed and blocked. Consequently, water that once flowed naturally to farms began collecting in mining pits, effectively diverting the natural water flow away from agricultural land.</p> <p>He states that further as mentioned in the EIA report (ref page 198), it is stated that only one seasonal nallah, namely Sonshi Nallah, passes through the lease area and that no perennial water body exists within the mining lease However, Toposheet 48 I/2 clearly shows a “stream with truck in bed” entering the mining lease area. This stream historically supplied water to Kulgars and agricultural land throughout the year lease area. This stream historically supplied water to Kulagars and agricultural land throughout the year before mining began. I am therefore placing this evidence on record and request the authorities to note this discrepancy in the hearing proceedings. I also request that a fresh survey be conducted with the involvement of local farmers and concerned authorities and that the EIA report be corrected accordingly.</p> <p>He states that the local farmers have repeatedly demanded restoration of the original natural water flow, instead water from mining pits is presently being mechanically pumped to agricultural fields by the WRD department and an automatic irrigation system has been installed with the Government support. These proposals are temporary. He states that earlier there was a perennial water resource which was destroyed due to mining pit / excessive mining operations. earlier perennial sources were though gravity and there was no pumping required. This is present / shown in the toposheet 48 I/2. The earlier mining has resulted in heavy siltation in the nullahs and in our agricultural fields which is one of the reasons. Farmers have repeatedly</p>



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demanded restoration of the original natural water flow and till today water from mining pit is mechanically pumped to agricultural fields by the WRD departments. Additionally, as an alternative an automatic irrigation system has been installed by the government of Goa. Both these systems require approximately 1000kld water. So however, this is only artificial and temporary solution and not the restoration of the original eco system.

He submits that until and unless these perineal sources of water are not restored back EC should not be given to the JSW. The proposed wet beneficiation plant in the EIA report is near the automatic irrigation system pump house which requires approx. 660kld of water. As he said earlier before the agriculture requirement is approx. 1000kld of water, so this means pumping water for beneficiation plant will cause shortage of water for irrigation and Kulaghar farms. He places the evidence before the authority showing both the locations overlapping. Refence page 105 of the EIA report. Therefore, he respectfully requests the authority to scrap the proposed wet beneficiation plant.

He states that the serious concern whether it is environmentally justified to disturb vegetation, forest cover, and natural water resources merely to extract around 30% usable iron ore while generating such a large quantity of waste.

He states that the EIA report further indicates that at a production capacity of 1.1 million tonnes per year the mine life based on mineable reserves is approx. 10 years while only 103 employment opportunities are expected to be generated. This raises concern about whether short term employment benefits justify the long-term environmental impacts on land water resources and ecosystem.

The proposed, mining project requires approx. 860 KLD water which will be extracted from ground water sources and mining pits.

Therefore, extraction of water from mining pits for the beneficiary plant may directly water availability for Kulgars and farmland.

It is also important to note that this region is ecologically sensitive. Within a 10 kilo meter radius surveys have recorded 32 protected species under Schedule –I of the Wildlife Protection Act.

He states that he respectfully requests the authorities to carefully examine the discrepancies in the EIA report, verify the environmental and hydrological impacts on local agriculture and water resources and take an informed and responsible decision in the interest of local community's agriculture and environmental protection. He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.

71. Prakash Sagun Fondekar – Surla

He states that he objects to the Grant of EC for the proposed Block IX of Surla Sonshi Mineral Block of JSW Steel Limited. He stated that he is a farmer and since 2012, he has been sustaining on the traditional homestead plantation. He stated that the installation of beneficiation plant will destroy the water resources, hence he opposes the project.



72.

Keshav Kelkar - Surla

He states that he strictly objects the mine. He states that the reason behind the same is that there are Surla and Pissurlem mountain which serves as a reservoir and spring, nallah flows through it. He states that due to mining activities, the natural resources have depleted. He states that since last 10 - 12 years, as the mining has stopped, the resources has been restored. He states that more than 800000 sqmtrs land is used for cultivation. He states that if 15-20 people get employed at the cost of 5000 people who are dependent on agriculture. He states reservoir is a source of water and the same will be affected due to mining. He states that he has number of letters to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Pollution Control Board, Panchayats. He states that there are number of defects in the EIA report, such as at page 1 and 117 of the report, study is conducted for only one season, making the study scientifically incomplete. He states that on pages 224 to 228, there is a mention of cone of depletion, accepting that water level will be affected, generic hydrological study is done. He states that next to the plant there is automation irrigation centre which is not mentioned in the report. Also, lakes, bandharas, canals, schools, temples are not mentioned in the report. He states that the land he has been staying in for the last 12 generations of his family is not mentioned in the report. He states that on page 159, non-compliance with biodiversity heritage site and the same is not mentioned in the report, footprints of Betal, Purvatali rai has not been found mentioned in the report, report is based on secondary data, primary data has not been considered. He states that the same is the first bio-diversity site in goa. However, the specific conservation plan for the same is not mentioned. He states that he is been staying at this location since 12 generation, the same is a 500 to 600yrs old Aagad at kadchal which is not mentioned. He states that Pandav Gufa, Pajji Pir at jetty point which are archaeological sites are not mentioned in the report. He states that 164 meters deep pit will cause destruction, mining pit lowers regional water table. He requested the Board to conduct another public hearing before granting permission to the mine. He states that vide Writ Petition No. 403 of 2004, Hon'ble High Court had given instructions to check the destructions caused around 1.5 to 2 meters silt was found in the fields, people still suffer out of it. He states that study should be conducted in the monsoon season as well. He states 8 lakh 60 thousand litres water will be utilised by the mine, which will seriously affect the water resources. He states that the automated irrigation project uses 10lakh litres of water per day and the traditional water canal uses 15 to 16 lakh litres of water per day, which is pulled out of that reservoir. He states that reservoir should be 250 hectares outside the lease area and that re-study should be done. He states that agriculturist have been found one to make 30 lakhs profit, employees working in the mine will not earn that much. He



	states that people supporting this mine should consider the consequences. He states siltation in Kulagar must be removed.
73.	<p>Ashwek Fondekar – Surla</p> <p>He states that he is a resident of Surla</p> <p>He states that in EIA report the ward Baili fatt, Kadchal is not mentioned wherein approx. 500 people staying in the wards without considering them. People are dependent on the WRD irrigation plant.</p> <p>All this outside people come and say that they want mining.</p> <p>Accordingly, he requests them to come and stay in our village only for 4 days and then say if you are supporting mining.</p> <p>This EIA report is baseless and he strongly objects to this project as there is no ground reality in this report.</p> <p>He requests to re-do this report by taking all village people in consideration and not to consider this report and do this public hearing again. He has submitted a written submission which is taken on record.</p>
74.	Ankush Gaonkar – Sonshi - Absent
	Kalpna K Gawas – Navelim - Absent
76.	<p>Shivdas S. Madkar – Honda</p> <p>He states that he is a Sarpanch Village panchayat Honda. He states that a major part of the mining will be conducted in the Sonshi Vonvoliem village. He states that there are lot of tribal people in the said village which are mainly dependent on traditional farming. When mining activities emerged, their villagers had to depend on mining as they have no other option. He stated that when mining was stopped in 2012 and restarted in 2016, the locals agitated as there was illegal mining. He states that the police authority, based on a complaint, arrested people and kept in the Covale jail for 10 days. He stated that after a few days, it was proved that the mining was carried out illegally and hence the same was stopped due to the efforts of Mr. Claude Alvares. However, till date the cases filed against the villagers have not given justice. He states that when the Government is resuming mining operations, which was once proved to be illegal, then the justice and the cases against should be withdrawn against whom these cases were filed and are still pending. He requests for sustainable mining after taking into consideration the environment and the grievances of the villagers. He requests for a present study to be re-conducted and the natural environment to be sustained before the resumption of the mining operations and he requests to provide employment opportunities and maximum benefits to the villagers. He states that the villages of Sonshi will be affected directly as it is situated at a lower level. He requests to resolve the demands</p>

	and grievances of the people and the villages who have presented their representation today's hearing only, then they will feel that this hearing was effective. He states that the mining should resume taking into confidence the villagers.
77.	Krishna R. Gaonkar – Honda - Absent
78.	<p>Gajanand Amonkar – Surla</p> <p>He states that he requests the Board to study of the main nallah that is available in the area and to include it in the EIA report.</p> <p>He states that the 900 pages EIA report cannot be studied by common people, that there is no expertise available and the mention of various studies such as Ecological, Hydrological, cannot be understood by poor people. He states that, the Company that has made this EIA report are not aware about the seasons in Goa for all three seasons. He states that the study should have been conducted by the authorities in Goa. He states that, the schools, nallah, in Surla should be included in the report. He states that, he considers the authorities as a fatherly figure and that the people are his children, whom you should protect and it was requested that the main nallah should be included in the report. He states that there are 3 pits and that in no way the sweet water should be utilised by the mines. If that is done, then it will cause destruction of natural resources. Pollution Control Board and Water Resource Department must personally consider the view put forth by the speakers. He states that the report is false and is only for the benefit of mine owners and not the villagers. He states that Environmental Clearance must not be granted to the mine.</p>



Shri. Gurudas S.T. Desai, Add. Collector I, North Goa requested the people present that if they so desire they may file their written objection/suggestion/views within 5 working days from today to the office of 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. Gurudas S.T. Desai, Add. Collector I, North Goa, and Dr. Mohan R. Girap, Scientist 'C' of Goa State Pollution Control Board

The GSPCB has issued public notices in the newspapers namely; O Heraldo (English), Lokmat (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.

A total of 149 numbers of persons present for the public hearing and have signed the enclosed attendance sheet.

A total of 20 written objections/suggestions have been received.

A total of 1323 written supporting have been received

Peoples apprehension regarding the supporting letters received during the process of the Public Hearing.

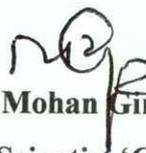
May verify who has given the supporting letters. The Company can give such letters from any person from anywhere who may not be affected at all so as to process the grant of EC and give more weightage to this project. Hence, he requested the Authorities to verify the authenticity of the supporting letters.

The hearing ended at 10.30 p.m.

On this 16th day of March, 2026.



Shri. Gurudas S.T. Desai,
Add. Collector I, North Goa



Dr. Mohan Girap,
Scientist 'C'

Goa State Pollution Control Board

