

MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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No. MPCB/ROT/B- 684

Date:- 14 / 01 /2021

To,
Joint Director (WPC),
M. P. C. Board,
Sion, Mumbai-22.

Sub:- Minutes of Public Hearing Conducted on 30.12.2020 in respect of Proposed Jivdani Passenger Funicular System (Ropeway) at proposed by M/s., Shree Jivdani Devi Sansthan, Virar Public Registration No. A/397, Shree Jivdani Marg Virar (East) Tal. Vasai, Dist- Palghar

Sir,

The Public hearing for proposed Jivdani Passenger Funicular System (Ropeway) at proposed by M/s., Shree Jivdani Devi Sansthan, Virar Public Registration No. A/397, Shree Jivdani Marg Virar (East), Tal.- Vasai, Dist- Palghar Maharashtra was conducted on 30.12.2020 via digital platform & public participation.

The Minutes of the Public Hearing proceeding through digital platform & Public participation (Marathi & English) along with video recording (CD), photographs (CD), list of participants & other documents are enclosed.

This is submitted for information and on word submission to MoEF & CC.

Yours faithfully,

(R. A. Rajput)

Regional Officer, Thane

Copy submitted for information to:

1. Member Secretary, M.P.C. Board, Sion, Mumbai-22
2. Sub-Regional Officer, M.P.C. Board, Thane-2.
3. Director, Environment department, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya Mumbai-32.

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED JIVDANI PASSENGER FUNICULAR SYSTEM (ROPE WAY) PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S SHREE JIVDANI DEVI SANSTHAN, VIRAR PUBLIC REGISTRATION NO. A/397, SHREE JIVDANI MARG, VIRAR (EAST), TAL-VASAI, DIST-PALGHAR-401305, MAHARASHTRA

- Ref :
- 1) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi's Notification Dated 14-09-2006 and Amended Notification Dated 01-12-2009
 - 2) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi's Notification Dated 06-01-2011 on Coastal Regulation Zone;
 - 3) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi's Office Memorandum Dated 14-09-2020;
 - 4) Maharashtra Pollution Control Board's directives vide no. B-200917-FTS-0082, Dated 17-09-2020

The public hearing for proposed Jivdani Passenger Funicular System (Rope Way) proposed by Project Proponent M/s Shree Jivdani Devi Sansthan, Virar Public Registration No. A/397, Shree Jivdani Marg, Virar (East), Tal-Vasai, Dist – Palghar – 401 305, Maharashtra was conducted on Wednesday, the 30th December, 2020 at 11.00 a.m. at the Shree Jivdani Devi Sansthan, Jivdani Devi Mangal Karyalaya, 3rd Floor, Jivdani Mandir Road, Virar (East), Virar, Tal – Vasai, Dist – Palghar-401 305.

As per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEF & CC, Gol), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019 & Dated 14-09-2020 (Ref. at Sr.No.1 & 3), Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Office Order No.E-73 of 2020 issued under letter no.BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-201203-FTS-0131, Dated 03-12-2020 as below :-

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------|
| 1) District Magistrate, Palghar
or his representative not below the
rank of an Additional District Magistrate | - | Chairman |
| 2) Regional Officer, MPCB, Thane
(Representative of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board) | - | Member |
| 3) Sub Regional Officer, Thane-2
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Thane | - | Convener |

Shri Ishwar Thakare, Sub Regional Officer, Thane-2, MPCB, Thane and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee while welcoming all informed that as this Virtual Public Hearing is arranged in the background of Covid-19, we all have to follow the directives of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi dated 14-09-2020 [referred at sr. no. (2)] and subsequent Order as issued by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board dated 17-09-2020 [referred at sr. no. (3)] above. Hence, 100 persons are allowed in the meeting hall in a session. If the participants are more, subsequent sessions will continue until all the participants are given opportunities to attend the meeting.

As per the directives, it is requested all the participants to follow strictly guidelines of Covid-19 of Govt. of India. The thermal checking and use of sanitizer were kept at the entrance of the meeting hall and in the meeting hall, it is compulsory to wear mouth mask and follow the social distancing amongst the persons.

Convener of the Public Hearing Meeting welcomed Hon'ble Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, Member of the Public Hearing Committee, Company Officials, Government Officials and Public who were present in large number and informed that as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEF & CC, GoI) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

He informed that the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application of Project Proponent M/s Shree Jivdani Devi Sansthan, Virar Public Registration No. A/397, Shree Jivdani Marg, Virar (East), Tal-Vasai, Dist – Palghar – 401 305, Maharashtra for their proposed Jivdani Passenger Funicular System (Rope Way).

The Convener further informed that the project is in operation outside of notified industrial area and as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category A – 7 (g) and as per Wild Life Protection Notification, 1972, the project site is 4.4 kilometre (East) away from the Notified Tungareshwar Wild Life Sanctuary and 2.5 kilometre from the Notified Eco-Sensitive Zone of Tungareshwar Wild Life Sanctuary.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation is to make aware, local people who can be

participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of the project.

Project Proponent had sought permission from MoEF & CC, Gol for sanction of Terms of Reference (ToR) and for preparation of Environment Impact Assessment and MoEF & CC, Gol in its 45th meeting kept the proposal and has sanctioned ToR on 03-12-2018.

Shri. Thakare, Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that as this public hearing was arranged on 30-12-2020, 30 days in advance public notice was published as per provisions in the Notification by District Collector- Palghar in local newspaper Daily Loksatta and in national newspaper Daily Indian Express on 26-11-2020.

Also a copy of EIA report and executive summary were made available at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, West-East Division Office, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440 001; District Magistrate Office-Palghar; Additional District Magistrate Office- Palghar; Zilla Parishad Office- Palghar; District Industries Centre-Office, Palghar; Tahsildar, Tahsil Office- Vasai, Dist – Palghar; Sub Regional Office, Thane-2, MPCB, Thane; Regional Office, MPCB, Thane and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai; Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai and on the website of MPCB. The public were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the expansion of above project.

Convener further informed that the local MPCB Thane Office received 01 written suggestions / objections and 26 written letters for supporting the project. They have been informed to attend this public hearing. He informed that an opportunity is given to all raise their suggestions / objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only.

Convener informed that first the Environment Consultant of the Project will give presentation. After presentation, the participants may raise their suggestions, doubts, objections regarding Environment Management Plan. While raising the suggestions, first name and place of residence be informed. He directed Environment Consultant to give presentation in Marathi, an official language of the Maharashtra State.

He appealed Chairman of the Committee to allow to start the proceedings.

With the permission of the Hon'ble Chairman of the meeting, the Environment Consultant appointed by the company has gave the presentation.

Project Environment Consultant informed that in Maharashtra at Satara District, an accident due to stampede occurred at Mandhardevi Religious place. After the incidence, Maharashtra Government has issued certain Orders for all religious places which are located on high hill/mountain.

Project Environment Consultant informed that Jivdani Mandir is located on a hill top/mountain at Virar of Palghar District. The surroundings of the temple are beautiful and there is heavy rush of devotees on the holidays and on the day of the festivals. But to take darshan of the Jivdani Goddess, stiff and straight 900 steps have to be climbed. The journey to the temple is difficult. Hence, Jivdani Devi Trust has planned to make other options for devotees to go to temple for darshan and finalized Passenger Funicular Ropeway System. This project is convenient for the visitors and devotees. The details of the Rope Way is explained by the Consultant.

After the presentation, the participants are appealed to raise their views, suggestions or objections regarding Environment Management Plan.

Followings have participated during the discussions and the Answers given by the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Public Hearing Committee :-

1) Ms. Maya Chaudhari, Resident – Virar, Tal-Vasai, Dist-Palghar:-

Ms. Maya Chaudhari remarked that she thanks officials of the Consulting Firm for giving the good presentation. We, the common people do not know various points and how the study is carried. Here the capacity of the land, present status water level is studied. She said that we stay here since long. This hill / mountainous area was deserted. But this Jivdani Trust has converted it totally and now the deserted mountainous area has become totally green. Here Afforestation is carried every year by spending nearly rupees 30-35 lakhs. We are watching the change. Our Saving Group do take part in afforestation programme every year. While afforesting, we carry it from upward to downside. We have observed that the rain water harvesting system is commissioned due to which saplings will grow fast.

She further informed that every year it is observed that many devotees are overwhelmed to take darshan of the Jivdani Devi/Goddesses. But due to tremendous rush of the devotees, the plastic wrappers and eatables are thrown on the hill/mountain. Due to commissioning of Funicular System (Rope Way), plastic pollution on the mountain will be avoided.

There are few people in society who have 'Height Fobia.' Due to installation of Rope Way, they will be able to take darshan of Jidani Devi.

Maya Chaudhari further informed that she is social worker. Hence, she knows that how the Trust has helped the needy people by providing them cooked food in the days of Covid-19. The Anna Dan/Donation of Food programme will be continued forever by the Trust. This project will be beneficial to all. Hence, we support the Funicular Ropeway.

2) Shri Hardik Ravindra Raut, Resident-Virar, Tal-Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

My birth place is Virar. I am watching the various developments carried by the Trust since my childhood. Not a single tree was there on the Jivdani hill/mountain. Now the hill/mountain is converted into greenery. We are experiencing the development of this area by the Jivdani Devi Trust and Local Corporation. I am 35 years old and just as my age is increasing, the greenery is increasing. We have the Morning Walk Group. It gives mental strength when we come here, but there is always heavy rush. The devotees should get the good darshan.

Hence, by commissioning of Funicular System (Rope Way), the large people coming here will get the darshan as not only people from Virar is coming, but devotees from throughout the State of Maharashtra and our country are coming here. The time management of the devotees should be maintained.

Due to Jivdani Trust, the people residing the nearby areas have got various occupations/business opportunities. The tea, flower and garland vendors, rickshaw drivers have got the source of livelihood. The flower and horticulture farmers residing nearby areas have also got a platform to sale. There are local people who prepare and sale the prasad of coconut sweets (Nariyal Barfi).

It is experienced that Jivdani Trust is always ahead in extending help at the time of natural disaster e.g., in flood affected areas, earthquake. In the days of lock down due to pandemic Corona virus, the Trust had provided prepared foods to the needy people since 7-8 months. The coconut sweet (Nariyal Barfi) vendors

are local people only. They have got the source of livelihood. Jivdani Trust is always ahead to help the people in natural disaster period. It may not have happened anywhere else.

As large number of people should get the darshan properly, the Funicular System (Rope Way) is necessary and we all support to commission the same.

All the participants supported by clapping the hands.

3) Advocate Ramakant Waghtaude, Resident – Nalasopara, Dist – Palghar:-

He congratulated Maharashtra Pollution Control Board for arranging public hearing. He informed that though he is from Satara district, he is staying here since many years and observing the social work of Jivdani Devi Trust. He said that he has seen many religious institutes, but the social work carried by Jivdani Devi Trust is remarkable and right and it has set an example to others. Though this Trust is religious, its active part for implementing various programmed for health, education and social is remarkable. The participation of this Trust in various other social welfare programmed is pioneering.

He said that the help and rehabilitating work carried during the natural disaster, flood by the Trust of Jivdani Devi is as per Government only. It has extended helping hand to millions of needy and poor people and gain the confidence of local people. We came here to support the project, we are supporters. This passenger funicular ropeway will be beneficial to many people. The physically and mentally challenged people, senior citizens, school children will be benefited by this passenger funicular ropeway.

Hence, on behalf of the people of Nalasopara and other citizens, I support the project. This is the way of development. Here also one or others may oppose the project due to some or other reasons. It is requested to District Collector and MPCB officials to look into the matter seriously and as construction of passenger funicular ropeway is towards development, it should be approved. He supported the project.

Project consultant thanked him for supporting the project.

4) Advocate N. Jain, Resident – Virar, Tal – Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

He informed that all have come here to support the nice project of Rope Way. Those people who could not come here, they are also supporting the project. Our support is for the development of Virar.

This project is need of the Virar for the development. We were not imagining that we will get the Darshan of Jivdani Devi within three minutes. The presentation is given very nicely. Hence, I request Government to sanction the project. There will no ill-effects on the nature due to this project. The local people will get job opportunities and name of the Virar will be known at national and international level.

I request Pollution Control Board to think seriously about the project and the commissioning work should be started at the earliest. We support the project and many thousands will come to support the project.

Project Environment Consultant thanked for supporting the project.

5) Ms. Swati Marathe, Resident-Virar, Tal-Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

Ms. Marathe informed that she is teacher and stays at Virar since her childhood. This project will help the development of Virar. We bring here school children for the trip. The small children and old persons will be benefited due to this passenger funicular ropeway.

Local people will get job opportunities. The saplings have been planted by the Jivdani Devi Trust. The devotees from Mumbai come every day for the darshan. Hence local people can get job opportunities. The suggestion is already made by the participant to installed the project at the earliest.

6) Shri Sunil Bajaj, Resident-Virar, Tal-Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

Shri Sunil Bajaj informed that that as this project is to the benefit of all, though it is supported by me, I have certain reservations/objections in a manner it is approved and public hearing is called at the background of Covid-19.

He said that he has objected for it and written submission is already given.

7) Shri Jay Desai, Resident – Virar, Tal-Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

He informed that his name is Jay Desai and he is MBA student. He is young and student and desires to raise views for Passenger Funicular Ropeway. If more than 100 devotees are able to go for darshan by Rope Way than the stairs, it will be beneficial to people.

We are aware that due to Covid-19, the tourism industry has come in trouble. Due to this passenger funicular ropeway, the number of tourists will increase. There are many sea shores at Vasai Virar area. Hence, local tourism and income of local people will increase. The trust has carried very dedicated work.

He informed that he is coming in the temple since childhood and his grandfather used to take darshan upto the age of 90 years. Many engineering students will like to come and study this project. Hence, this project should be commissioned at the earliest for the convenience of the public. We support the project.

8) Shri Jagdish Tare, Village is from Saphale Station.

Shri Jagdish Tare informed that Koli communities are habitants in our village. They have faith on the Jivdani Devi. He said that he is coming here since childhood. Without offering/breaking the coconut in the name of Goddess, the boats are not sent into the Sea. We see the temple while boating in the sea. We have faith on the Goddess.

Shri Tare further informed that the development work carried by the Jivdani Devi Trust is definitely praiseworthy.

We believe that the Goddess is blessing from the mountain. In the days of Corona, all the trustees were working very hard for the people. When the prepared food was not getting at most places, trustees used to visit and donated the prepared food. We Koli community salute Jivdani Devi Sanstha. At these critical days, each human being needs another human being. This Jivdani Devi Trust is preserving humanity. We support the project. Best Luck to project.

9) Shri Naresh Jadhav, Resident – Nalasopara, Dist – Palghar:-

Shri Naresh Jadhav said that he extends thanks to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, due to which we gathered here for the cause of environment. He

informed that he stays in this area since last 35 years. The hill/mountains which are now green, the credit goes to Bhiwandi Nijampur Municipal Corporation and Vasai-Virar Municipal Corporation and Jivdani Devi Trust. The 1-2 crores of trees were planted in the area. The Goddesses Jivdani is archaic and not only just devotees from Vasai Virar and Nalasopara area, but from all over Maharashtra and whole country are coming to take darshan. The work carried by the trustees is so good, that the faith of devotees will not be disturbed. In the days of Covid-19, the Trust has served prepared food and vegetables to nearly 70 lakh needy people. This great humanitarian work will be appreciated in our country. Hence, considering the feelings of the people, the passenger funicular ropeway project should be sanctioned.

Project Consultant thanked for extending support.

10) Shri Sandip Sakharam Nadkar, Sainath Nagar, Virar, Tal-Vasai, Dist-Palghar:-

He said that now we are watching green mountains. The credits go to Jivdani Devi Trust for their dedicated hard work. Also, in the days of Covid-19, water and prepared food is served to all needy people. Today, the public hearing is arranged for the commissioning of the Rope Way project. It will be very useful to devotees. The local rickshawalls, flower and garland vendors will get job opportunities. Hence, my request is to sanction the project at the earliest.

Project Environment Consultant thanked for the support.

11) Shri Dhanjay Zha, Resident -Virar, Tal – Vasai, Dist – Palghar :-

I stay here since last 22 years. I am from Bihar and came here for livelihood. I observed the custom here that those who come to stay here, takes the darshan of Jivdani Mata. The mountains which I have seen 22 years back have been totally changed. It is not happened in one day, it is due to hard efforts taken since 20-25 years. I thanks to Jivdani Trust for it. Here 5-6 lakh people used to stay in small houses. Now they are staying in their flats. This is due to blessings of Jivdani Mata only. The social work of Jivdani Trust makes all of us to stay here. We all believe on the Jivdani Devi Trust.

He thanked to Project Consultant for giving informative presentation. He remarked that though this Trust and place is known in Maharashtra, after inception

of the project, it will be known throughout our country. Just as devotees throughout India go to Mata Vaishnavi Devi, they will come here for darshan.

He said that I extend my thanks to Jivdani Trustee for taking in hand the Rope way project. Due to this, the time for darshan of the devotees will be saved. He informed that many people left the staying place, as they did not get food in the days of Corona, but from Virar, nobody left as Trustees took tremendous efforts for providing cooked food in the days of Corona to people in the area. The Trust also donated cooked food, medicines and extended full security. I request Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to sanction the Rope way project.

Environment Consultant thanked for the support.

12) Shri Shirish Krishna Raut, Resident – Virar, Tal – Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

I am staying here since last 60 years. Since childhood, I am watching this hill/mountain. It was totally desert. There were not a single tree on the road. There was a high road to the temple above. The devotees, people and other visitors used to slip. Now the hill / mountain is converted into lush green cover. It is due to tireless efforts of Jivdani Trust and Mahanagar Palika. This Rope way will be beneficial to all people residing in the area. The time, money and unnecessary trouble will be saved. There will not be any environment degradation due to this passenger funicular ropeway. There will not be any smoke. The speakers here already raised the suggestions. Hence, I request Public Hearing Committee to sanction the project.

Environment Consultant expressed thanks for the support.

13) Mrs. Kanchan Zha, Social Worker, Resident-Virar, Tal – Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

Mrs. Zha informed that in Maharashtra the people are well connected by cultural relations. Many people do worship Goddess by Vrat / Vow. Just as Mumbaikars do worship Mumbadevi, here at Virar we worship Jivdani Devi. Due to Rope Way, all the sections of society will be benefitted. As expressed earlier, there are huge scope for tourism industries. The small children also can get darshan after following security. There will boost to our cultural heritages. We support the project.

Environment Consultant expressed thanks for the support.

14) Shri Vivek Madan Patil, Resident-Sopara Gaon, Dist-Palghar:-

I am local person. We came here since our childhood. In the young age, we used to come by walk. But as the age is increasing, we middle aged people require Rope Way.

Secondly, regarding Environment. It is understood that this project will run on solar energy. It will be operated on electricity. Hence, there will not be any smoke.

This project will be beneficial to the people. The people have to take rest at 2-3 places while going by stairs. After eating the biscuits, the people keep the plastic covers and plastic bottles there only. The plastic pollution on the hill/mountains will be avoided and the time will be saved. I personally appeal to other Trusts to imitate the Trust of Jivdani Devi for the activities in social, educational, medical and at emergency situation. It is observed by me that, there is increase in the numbers of monkey. It shows the nourishment of nature.

Environment consultant thanked for the support.

15) Shri Chandrakant Shankar Katare, Residnet-Virar, Tal – Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

I have retired in 2011. Now I am carrying the work at Jivdani Goddess Mountain. Since last year, I am extending the support to Jivdani Devi Trust as an Environmentalist.

Since last year, I am working near the Funicular Systems. The 60 meters green drive is carried at both sides. There will be fogging and drip system in two stages. This project will bring happiest moments to all. Due to this project, old persons, daughters and daughter-in-law, small children will get the darshan of the Mata.

He further informed that he is submitting written suggestions. He read the suggestions and objections which are as under:-

- a) The kitchen is used for preparation of Prasad for many thousand devotees. The domestic effluent/sewage is treated in Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), which is installed by the Trust and the treated domestic effluent/sewage is reused for toilet and green belt development;

- b) I have seen the workings of the Trust very closely during the Corona period. The Trust has donated cooked foods and vegetables to nearly 25 lakh needy people. The whole Taluka is indebted for this generous act.
- c) I am staying at the foot of the goddess since last 50 years. I have written a book on Jivdani Goddess as "Jivdani Gatha." It is in Marathi and in Hindi. At that time, my wishes were mentioned in the book that when there will be stoppage of sacrifice of animals, it will be golden day. Now, the Trust has already banned the method of sacrificing the animals.
- d) The Jivdani Hill/ Mountain is of black stone. It is difficult challenge to sow the tree. Now there are trees, which is of years. The trees have been kept alive. The Environment Consultant thanks for giving support.

16) Shri Anupra singh, Resident – Virar, Tal – Vasai, Dist–Palghar-

I am from Uttar Pradesh and staying at Virar since last 17 years. We go to take darshan of Jivdani Devi every Tuesday. Here in Public Hearing on Environment, I am telling 2-3 examples how the Trust is carrying good work:-

- a) For the protection and preservation of Environment, the green belt development, tree plantation is carried. The Trust protects all the planted trees and total forest area;
- b) The Trust has already banned the use of plastic on the Jivdani Devi Mountain.
- c) We support the project.

17) Shri Parag Kamble, Resident – Nalasopara, Dist – Palghar:-

I stay at Nalasopara. All the participants have expressed their suggestions. The Jivdani Devi Trust is implementing various social welfare projects. My family deity Renuka Devi is at Karnataka. But now I believe Jivdani as Family Deity and take darshan at every year.

Last year my age-old mother and father cannot taken darshan.

Hence, I request to complete the project at the earliest, so that my father and mother can be brought to take the darshan. On behalf of Nalasopara, I request to complete the project at the earliest.

18) Shri Gajendra Kayekar, Resident – Virar, Tal – Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

I request Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to sanction this project at the earliest. There is no word how the Jivdani Devi Trust has helped the needy and poor people donated cooked food & medicines in the days of Corona. Due to this project, local people will get the job opportunities. Hence, the Government should give sanction at the earliest.

19) Shri Amol Chaudhari, Resident-Virar, Tal-Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

I am from Bihar, but staying here since last 19 years. I have become devotee of Jivdani Mata. In the days of lockdown, the Trust has provided cooked food to more than 50-60 thousand. Also the doctors and ambulance are also provided. Needy students have been provided books. Hence, those who want to oppose, may think first the social work of the Trust and then support. We support the project.

Environment Consultant thanked for the support.

20) Shri L.N.Gosavi, Resident – Nalasopara, Dist – Palghar:-

It is understood by me that 90% work of Funicular System is completed and only 10% is remained. The Jivdani Devi Trust do implement various social programmed at various villages. The free medication is provided. I am from Khandesh Region and came here in 1973. My whole life is spent at Vasai, Virar and Nallasopara. I was Head Master at Secondary School. I here desires to inform the participants that with blessings of Jivdani Mandir, this project will be completed.

21) Shri Balkrishna Shttety, Ranga Senior Citizen Sanstha, Virar, Tal-Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

We are senior citizens and we have 360 members. It is very difficult to seniors to climb by the stairs. Hence, we are not able to take darshan. Hence, MPCB should sanction the project at the earliest.

22) Shri Prafulla Sane, Resident – Virar, Tal – Vasai, Dist – Palghar:-

When I was one year old, my parents came to Virar. I am watching the Mandir since my childhood. Previously, there was very small temple. Afterwards stairs were built. Then the rope way was prepared. Few last years back, the population and devotees has increased tremendously. As per the need of the time, the Trust has given various facilities. The facility of drinking water system is definitely good.

The Trust is carrying various social welfare schemes. The medical help is provided at rural areas by the Trust. This place is developed as pilgrim place. Now the school is started and there are 3,000 students studying in the school. As Mumbai and Thane districts are near, this area should be developed as Tourist Spots. Hence, Rope Way is essential.

Hence, all members of Jivdani Trusts who have attended the meeting are thanked and MPCB is requested to sanction the project.

Project Environment Consultant thanked for supporting the project.

Here Project Environment Consultant informed that in the meeting, all have supported for the project. One objection is received for the technical reason.

Environment Public Hearing Committee here appealed all to raise any views, suggestions or objections. There was no response in the meeting. At this moment, Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the suggestions, objections raised during the meeting are noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The writing suggestions, objections, Final Environment Impact Assessment Report and minutes of the meeting will be submitted to an Expert Committee, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee will take further decision accordingly.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee thanked all local people for attending the meeting and raising their views, suggestions, objections, project officials and government officials and on behalf of Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee declared that the meeting is completed.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

In the meeting 27 suggestions have been received.

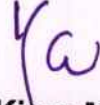
Total 26 suggestions are received for supporting the project. One objection is received for the technical reason. All the letters are enclosed herewith for consideration.



(Ishwar Thakare)
Convener,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
Sub Regional Officer, Thane-2,
MPCB, Thane



(Dr. Rajendra Rajput)
Member,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
Regional Officer, MPCB, Thane



(Dr. Kiran Mahajan),
Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Additional District Magistrate, Palghar,
District – Palghar