

**MINUTES OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**GODAVARI MARATHWADA  
IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION  
(UPPER PENGANGA PROJECT,  
STAGE-II, SAPLI DAM)**

**MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF GODAVARI MARATHWADA IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AURANGABAD (UPPER PENGANGA PROJECT DIVN. 4, AKHADA BALAPUR) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF UPPER PENGANGA PROJECT STAGE-II SAPLI DAM ON KAYADHU RIVER, TQ. KALAMNURI, DIST HINGOLI CONDUCTED ON 20/12/2008 AT 11.00 A.M. AT TAHSIL OFFICE COMPOUND, KALAMNURI, TQ. KALAMNURI, DIST: HINGOLI.**

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An environmental public hearing in respect of Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation (Upper Penganga Project Divn. 4, Akhada Balapur) for the construction of Upper Penganga Project Stage – II Sapli Dam on Kayadhu River, Tq. Kalamnuri, Dist: Hingoli was conducted on 20/12/2008 at 11.00 a.m. in at Tahsil Office, Kalamnuri, Tq. Kalamnuri, Dist: Hingoli.

Following members were present during the public hearing :

1. Vinita Singhal,  
District Collector, Hingoli,  
Dist: Hingoli. Chairperson.
  
2. Shri D.M. Chaukhande,  
Regional Officer,  
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,  
Aurangabad. Member.

The Project Proponent, i.e. the representative from the Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation) was not present during the Public Hearing. A list of present members and public participants during the public hearing is annexed herewith. **Shri B.P. Kalme**, Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Nanded welcomed the public participants and with the permission of the Chairperson started the public hearing proceedings and stated that as per the Notification dated 27/01/1994 issued by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India (amended on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006), some specific large projects falling under Schedule – ‘A’ & ‘B’ of the said Notification are required to be undergo for the environmental public hearing and hence the environmental public hearing in respect of construction of Sapli Dam on Kayadhu River is being conducted. He requested that if anybody is having any doubt, suggestions, questions, views, etc. about the proposed project, same can be expressed, for which five minutes time will be given to each person. **Shri Kalme** further stated that village-wise names of the public participants will be announced and first of all the residents of village Kasbedhavada shall express their views as per the announcement. The Chairperson, immediately instructed to brief the procedure to be followed for conducting the public hearing, then **Shri Kalme** briefed the procedure to be followed for obtaining environmental clearance from Government of India by explaining the provisions of said Notification of MoEF and stated

that whatever the objections, suggestions, etc. about the project will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, New Delhi. He further stated that the 10 persons from village Kasabedhavada will be announced one after another and they can express their views accordingly. But the public participants wanted to put the views, objections, suggestions, etc. first by **Dr. Vishwambhar Chaudhari**. **Shri Kalme** requested **Dr. Chaudhari** to express his views and after that the public participants will express their views, etc. one by one. Accordingly, the views, suggestions, etc. expressed during the public participants are as follows :

1. **Dr. Vishwambhar Chaudhari**, Environmentalist from Pune & a representative from Narmada Bachav Andolan stated that after getting freedom to India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru quoted to do Agreement with Destiny, but the Agreement with destiny has been set aside and nowadays though the Panchayat Raj is being enforced, the decision for the construction of Sapli Dam take place at Mumbai, which is not fair. He further stated that the present public hearing being conducted is totally illegal as no procedure is followed as per the Notification dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006. He stated that the Project Proponent shall remain present during the public hearing proceedings and as per the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee, the Project Proponent has to follow the detailed procedure like screening, scoping, etc. and shall have to approach the SEAC for TOR, but no sequential procedure has been followed and started the third stage of Public Consultation directly, which is totally wrong. He also stated that whether the MPCB is empowered to accept the EIA? The total process of accepting the EIA, etc. comes under the purview of State Level Expert Appraisal committee of the Government, but why the MPCB accepted the EIA and also why organized the Public Hearing, this is the violation of Government Notification dated 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2006 and hence at first the present public hearing should be cancelled by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. He further stated that the Project Consultant has submitted the EIA of the said project to the Government on 14/04/2007, accordingly the Project Consultant shall have to give the presentation of the project before the public participants, but the Project Consultant is not present during the Public Hearing.

Further, **Dr. Chaudhari** read the EIA report and stated that the Public Hearing process should be as per the Appendix – IV of the EIA Notification, which mainly contains 12 components, which are mandatory, but the same are not being followed. While briefing about the Environment Impact Assessment Study, he stated no scientific study of the same has been carried out and the Summary of the project is also not as per the Appendix-III of the said Notification . Further, he stated that one of the total information about the public hearing shall be made available to the Regional Office, Bhopal and the Ministry of Environment & Forests shall be promptly displayed the summary draft of Environment Impact Assessment Report on its Website and also make the full draft EIA available for reference at a notified place during the normal office hours in the Ministry at Delhi, but same is not followed. And therefore, he suggested to prepare a fresh EIA report after issuance of TOR from the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee so as to conduct the Public Hearing as per the Government Notification dated 14/09/2006.

He stated that the data given in the EIA report is of the year 2004, i.e. four years old and as per the letter issued by the Additional Director, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, after site clearance of the project, the data (EIA) shall be submitted within 18 months period, however, the said EIA report submitted in the year 2007, which indicated that the letter issued by the Government is neglected. He said that the proposed project is of 5138 hectares of land and the EIA report prepared for the same is of only **33** pages, which indicated that the EIA report is not complete. The application form submitted is of the year 1994, which is very old and moreover, the land to be irrigated due to the above project is shown in the EIA report as **600** hectares whereas in the letter issued by the Irrigation Department in the year 2006 (30/10/2006), it is mentioned as **900** hectares, but no proof is given for the same. Likewise, in the said report, it is mentioned that the meager irrigation and domestic use of water is carried through bore wells having the depth of **40** mtr. to **60** mtr. & above, which also indicated that report seems to be incorrect and fabricated. He stated that there are so many leading institutions like Marathwada Agriculture University, Parbhani, Command Area Development Authority, Aurangabad, etc. for carrying out the environmental study, but the Project Proponent has not given any proof for the above data. He also stated that no any duration, season, etc. is mentioned in the report for collection of the said data. Detail break-up of water like quantity of receiving water, utilization of the same for irrigation, agriculture, drinking purpose, evaporation losses, etc. are also not given and only mentioned that the water will not be used for industrial use. It is also not known whether MIDC has issued a letter about the necessity of water for various purposes. Further, **Dr. Chaudhari** stated that as per the EIA report, only three soil samples are collected in one month period during September, 2004, whether they are acceptable? While speaking about the climate condition, he stated that in the EIA report, it is mentioned as the winds are generally light to moderate, but no detail technical information is given. How, the MPCB accepted this report? He suggested that such EIA report shall be returned and a fresh report from renowned organizations like IIE, etc. shall be called and then the process shall be started. He further stated that as per the CPCB/MPCB norms, the air monitoring in the radius of 10 km. of the project shall be carried out twice in a week and atleast **10** locations shall be selected for the monitoring, **240** samples shall be collected during the period of three months, but the project proponent has carried out only one time monitoring, which is not correct. He further stated that a local plant, namely *Shevari* does not occur anywhere in the World except in Kalamnuri Tehsil area, but nothing is mentioned in the EIA report about the said plant. He said that the reptile like Viper does not occur in the area, still it is mentioned in the EIA report about the occurrence of the Viper.

Further, **Dr. Chaudhari** stated that names of various diseases are mentioned in the EIA report, but the name of *Chicken Guniya* is not mentioned, from which it can be seen that how the Consultant or MPCB is serious about the same and also the MPCB has not taken any objection on the same. He stated that the Public Hearing is being conducted about the proposed project of Sapli Dam in Hingoli district whereas the information about the mineral resources mentioned in the EIA report is of Nanded

district, which not correct. He further stated that the Project Consultant has adopted the Check List Method for the preparation of EIA report, which is not correct because such method shall be considered only for small industrial units, but the large projects like Dam, Over-Head Method, etc. shall have to be adopted. Based on the reports of only two water samples from bore well, it is mentioned in the EIA report that the bore well water is found rather unsuitable all over and it is being consumed for drinking purpose without treatment, but no more samples are taken, no analysis is done and no proof is given, said **Dr. Chaudhari**. He also stated that from the report, it is seen that out of two bore wells, the water from one bore well is not suitable for drinking purpose and another bore well water is fit for drinking purpose, i.e. **50%** of water in the area is not suitable and no any contamination or bacteria formation is observed in the bore well water, hence the agencies which are having zero technical knowledge and giving false reports shall be black listed.

**Dr. Chaudhari** asked whether there is any Senior Officer of the Irrigation Department or Project Proponent is present during the Public Hearing and whether it is taken on record? **Shri D.M. Chaukhande**, Panel Member said that the abseny of Project Proponent will be taken on record. **Dr. Chaudhari** further pointed out that the Project Proponent shall have to remain present during the Public Hearing and shall have to give the presentation of their project, then the Chairperson of the Panel, **Vinita Singhal** said that personally she will take note of each and every word of **Dr. Chaudhari** during the course of Public Hearing.

**Dr. Chaudhari** stated that as mentioned in the EIA report there will be considerable air pollution in the form of dust particles and emission of exhaust fumes from engines, but no identification, apprehension, revaluation and monitoring is done. No information is given about the cutting of trees and trees to be cut and he pointed out that the Project Proponent shall have to submit a concrete plan for plantation. He stated that there will be no adverse effect on the migratory birds due to the proposed project, which is not correct. However, it has to mention whether the project comes in the route of migratory birds. He further stated that as far as the loss of wildlife and their migratory routes are concerned, no figures of the same are mentioned in the EIA report and therefore it seems that this EIA report is nothing but a book of jokes. **Dr. Chaudhari** stated that in the said report it is mentioned that the Cotton Ginning & Pressing Units will be developed in the area due to the above project. However, it is the well known fact that no water is required in the Cotton Ginning & Pressing Factory and whatever is mentioned in the EIA report is nothing but a joke. He stated that the roads, schools, dispensaries, holy places, electric installations, houses and public amenities would lost forever and **20** villages in the area will be under submergence due to the above project and still it is mentioned in the report that there will be low negative impact, which is not correct. He also gave an example of earthquake occurred at Latur. He further stated that it is mentioned in the report as “due to the project, there will be increase in use of fertilizers and pesticides, but the adverse effect of the same will be very less”, this seems to be not correct.

**Dr. Chaudhari** stated that the analysis reports of the water, air and soil are mentioned in the EIA report, but no period of monitoring is mentioned, hence these reports are not accepted. Moreover, the reports are from the private laboratory and not either from MPCB or Environment Department recognized laboratory and therefore these reports shall be abolished and ultimately the EIA report shall be rejected. He stated that all of us know that there are the contents of Flouride is more specifically in the Hingoli and Parbhani area, but it is not mentioned anywhere in the EIA report. He also stated that it does not clear whether grab sample or composite sample is taken and again repeated the frequency of sampling is to be carried out as stated above and advised for 24 hours monitoring as per the MPCB norms.

**Dr. Chaudhari** stated that “we do not need to express for the cancellation of the proposed project” as the Project Proponent itself mentioned in the report of this project that it is dangerous to the environment. And therefore, he requested the Chairperson of the Public Hearing Panel and Regional Officer, MPCB to terminate this Public Hearing immediately and advised to prepare a fresh EIA report by following due procedure sequentially by Screening, Scoping, etc. and then the Public Hearing shall be arranged.

2. **Shri Jayaji Paikrao**, Chairman of Society of Social welfare & Member of District Environment Committee said that he will speak only on the natural farming/bio-farming and clarified that how Project Proponent violated the Biodiversity Act, 2002 & Biodiversity Rules, 2004. He briefed about the said Act and stated that the Act provides the protection of Biodiversity, scientific use of resources, production and it is being enforced throughout the country. He stated that biodiversity means the difference in micro organisms, bacteria, environment management, species, etc. He also said that the details of the plant species, bacteria, animals, etc. is not included in the project as well as survey is not conducted and bio-assay test is also not taken. He further clarified that it is very important point that what is mean by local body and defined that a society established under any Act by the people with the permission of Government at Grampanchayat or Municipal Council area is called Local Body and such local bodies are established in every villages. He further stated that these local bodies are having the authority to pass a Resolution to cancel the permission of such project which damaging the natural resources and violating the terms and conditions stipulated by the Government.

Further, **Shri Paikrao** stated that **Dr. S.P. Naik** visited the Kalamnuri area and prepared a report namely Flora & Fauna, in which it is mentioned that there are various types of rare plant species in Kalamnuri area. In his report, he also mentioned that to protect the biodiversity in the Kalamnuri area, the Sapli Dam shall not be constructed and the same report was submitted to the Government (Irrigation Department) for consideration, however, the said report has been misplaced by the Government. After inquiring with **Dr. Naik** about the second copy of the said report, he said that he is having only receipt towards submission of the said report to the Government and not a second copy.

**Shri Paikrao** further stated that thereafter, **Dr. Madhav Gadgil**, Sr. Environmentalist visited the proposed site of Sapli Project in Kalamnuri area in the month of June, 2008, but as there was rain in June, 2008, hence he can not give the authentic report of various plant species at that time and therefore he again visited the area on 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2008 and conducted a detail survey of various plant species in the area specifically Kasbedhawada, Wagherul, Digras, Sodegaon villages and observed that there are about **49** types of various plant species in the area, which will be destroyed due to the construction of the Sapli Dam. **Dr. Gadgil** had also reported that these plant species are only in the Kalamuri area and not anywhere in the World. and if they are destroyed, it ultimately damage the surrounding environment. **Shri Paikrao** further stated that as per the report of **Dr. Gadgil**, very rare species of grass namely Morwel, used as a cattle feed occurs on the banks of Kayadhu river and also the plant species like Shevra, Kudadi, Jondhali, Pokhali, etc. occurs in the area of about **50** to **100** mtrs. of Kayadhu river banks. These plant species are also mentioned in the books published in 1998 (Flora & Fauna) as well as Loss of Marathwada Scientific Publication, Jodhpur in 1980. It is also mentioned in these books that such **49** types of plant species are on the way of destroy.

- Shri Sahebrao Pandharinath Patange**, a resident of village Kondur stated that at the last moment before the death, a prisoner asked about its last ambition, likewise, they have been called during the personal hearing to tell whether the Sapli Dam is to be constructed or otherwise. He further stated that whatever the points raised by **Dr. Vishwambhar Chaudhari** about land, birds, animals, plants, environment, etc. are true and correct, still it is being forced to construct the Dam. He stated that they have approached to the Environment Department at Mumbai before last two-three years for getting the information about the Sapli Dam at that time it was understood that the Environment Department had written a letter to the Irrigation Department that how the dam is being constructed without the permission from the Environment Department. While briefing about the specialty of agriculture land in the area, Shri Patange stated that whenever there is rain in the area, both the crops, i.e. *Kharip & Rabby* are taken on large scale in the area of Kalamnuri Tehsil. He pointed out that Kalamnuri Tehsil comes under the Tribal zone and as per the Schedule-II of the Government Notification, prior to construct any dam in the tribal area, it is necessary to seek the permission of tribal people, but in the present report, the existence of tribal people are not considered, hence the question of seeking permission of the tribal people does not arise. He further stated that as reported above, **Dr. Naik** visited the Kalamnuri area for two days in the past and had quoted that there are six types of grass species (commonly known as Shevga) in which one of the species do not occur anywhere in World except in Sapli Area. **Shri Patange** further stated that likewise there are so many important plant species in the Kalamnuri area and the Government is enforcing various Acts for the protection of such plant species whereas on the other hand efforts are being taken to destroy the same, hence proper attention is required to be given to such things. He again repeated that as Stated by **Dr. Vishwambhar Chaudhari**, the report of the proposed project shall be rechecked and corrected report shall be made available to the public.

4. **Shri Sunil Bhagwanrao Deshmukh**, a resident of village Kasbedhawada stated that there are some mistakes in the report; and till date the people are saying that the construction of the proposed dam is totally wrong and illegal and the Government is forcing for the construction of the same. He stated that till date they were on the road, making agitations and also huger strikes, but due to this public hearing their say will be reach to the Government. He further stated that basically the concept of the construction of the Sapli Dam is based on the figures calculated during the year 1966 and subsequently the permission for the construction of Sapli Dam was also granted in the year 1966 and further amended planning of the construction of the said dam was decided in the year 1992. However, whatever the figures changed during the period from 1992 to 2007 are not considered in the present project report and the process of construction of the said dam is being continued on the basis of the figures of the year 1966. Nowadays there is no rainfall like it was in the past days and therefore the source of receiving the water to the dam is reducing day-by-day, which is also not considered in the present project report. Initially, the height of the dam was considered as **423** mtr. due to which about **3000** hectares of land was be submerged, but in the amended report of the dam, the height of the dam has been raised upto **428** mtr. due to which about **12500** hectares of land will be submerged, hence the reason of increasing of **5** mtr height of the dam is not understood, but the Government has clarified that there is more water into the Kayadhu river basin, therefore the height of the dam is increased and if so, he suggested to carry out the survey of Kayadhu River Area again with reference to the availability of water in the proposed dam. He also suggested to apply the findings/recommendations of Chitale Commission to the proposed project. He further suggested to study the natural and geographical conditions of the area in comparison with the period from 1966 till to date. Survey of the land to be irrigated shall also be carried out and no old data shall be continued. **Shri Deshmukh** stated that about **38** years have been passed as far as the Isapur Dam and Sapli Dam is concerned and whatever the crops and river depends on them, because the study conducted before **38** years has become outdated. He stated that initially it was decided that **40%** of water requires for growing the cotton crops, but nowadays, it is reduced and very less water is required to the cotton crop, likewise, it is mentioned in the report that the crop such as chilly, turmeric, etc. requires 15% of water, but the percentage of taking the crops of chilly and turmeric is very negligible in the area, hence the information given in the report is not correct. He further stated that by adopting the drip irrigation system, the use of water can be reduced for some of the crops like sugarcane, etc. He also stated that **Shri Shankarraoji** Chavan, the Ex. Chief Minister of Maharashtra in the year 1976 by adopting the concept of equal water distribution had planned the use of water for **8** months instead of **12** months and the best example of such scheme is the Bhima Project near Nashik. He further stated that inspite of Isapur Dam is in existence, except the crops like Kharip & Rubby whether there is necessity of construction of Sapli Dam as well as details about various plant species in the area are already briefed by **Dr. Chaudhari & Dr. Naik**, hence it is not necessary to brief these points and further stated that there will be certain changes in the natural as well as geographical conditions in the area due to the construction of Sapli Dam, hence, it is necessary to study to find out the substitute to the Sapli Dam and said that till date the people in

the area are forcing to cancel the Sapli Dam, however, the Government is forcing to construct the said dam. **Shri Deshmukh** stated that the Honourable Minister also directed to re-survey of the area due to which whatever the loopholes are there will come out and therefore, he again requested the Chairperson of the Public Hearing to cancel the above proposed project and to resurvey the area of Sapli Dam. and their say shall be communicated to the Government.

**Shri B.P. Kalme** of MPCB again requested the public participants to express their views within a stipulated times of 5 minutes. **Shri Toshniwal**, Executive Director of Sapli Dharan Sangharsha Samittee also requested the public participants to express their views one by one by telling their names and address.

5. **Shri Manoj Patange**, a nearby resident of village Golegaon stated that in the Area of proposed Sapli Dam, for taking the bore at a depth of about **80** ft., it is required to provide the casein at the bore, then how is it possible to construct the dam at a depth of **100** ft? He also stated that though matter will be referred either to the Mumbai or Delhi, the Sapli Dam shall not be constructed.
6. **Shri Bapuji Haran**, a nearby farmer stated that there is such types of agriculture land which gives more yield during the less rain water also for the kharip & ruby crops and the said land is also going to be submerged due to the construction of the proposed Sapli Dam. Moreover, about **20** villages will also be submerged and since 1966, most of the losses are occurred on account of the proposed dam project. He further stated that the loss occurred since 1966 on account of the construction of the proposed Sapli dam is very severe and therefore why there is the necessity for construction of such non-beneficial dam whenever there is no any provision in the Act for fulfilling the losses, rehabilitation, etc. and thereby he strongly opposed for the construction of Sapli Dam.
7. **Shri Sudhir Patange**, a resident of village Golegaon said that it does not understand how to brief within a period of five minutes as stipulated by the authority for defeating the battle of existence. He stated that he has been taught in the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Class that **71%** of water and **29%** of land is available on the earth and still we are thinking about to get water. He further stated that do not try to stop (challenge) the nature because if the nature annoyed, one can not bear it. He also stated that if you want to stop, then stop the wrong people or the negative (wrong) thoughts, but not the nature. He also gave the example of the earthquake occurred in the year 1993 at Killari, Nanded still we demand for the water. He further stated that how many dams shall be there in one district and pointed out that there are Isapur, Siddheshwar, Yeldari and now the Sapli dam in only one district of Hingoli, why? as it is a tribal district or the people in the district are not having any sense, then why this injustice and further said that as reported earlier by **Dr. Chaudhari** and **Shri Paikrao**, the decision taken is totally wrong, which will not be bear. He also stated that as reported by **Dr. Chaudhari**, the Sapli Dam is totally wrong, but it is also against the nature and if it is not stopped, as they are the inheritors of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, they will fight by adopting any system for stopping the construction of Sapli Dam and

therefore he advised to think about any alternative scheme other than the construction of Sapli Dam. He also stated that during the year 2003, Honourable Minister, **Dr. Padmasinh Patil** during a meeting had also stated to think about any alternative scheme to the Sapli Dam. He further asked that when there was no environmental permission for the Sapli Project, then how the tenders/bids are called? Then **Shri Chaukhande**, Regional Officer reported that the public hearing is being conducted for that only. He again stressed on the point and stated whether it is correct to call the bids even if there is no environmental permission for the Sapli Dam, say Yes or No. Then, **Shri Chaukhande** clarified that this is not the issue of question/answers and further suggested to express his views. **Shri Sudhir Patange** said that this is the important point and it shall be noted, then Shri Chaukhande reported that the point is noted down. **Shri Patange** further stated that there is Isapur Dam near to the Kalamnuri Tehsil in which there is lot of water storage about 78 Cusecs out of which only 28 Cusecs of water is being utilized and remaining water can be utilized for the Kalamnuri area, i.e. the water from Isapur Dam is available round the year for Kalamnuri area. He also stated that 30 years have been passed after construction of Isapur Dam, but still the Landlord/landholder in the area are in beggar condition. He said that he not briefing about the bad situation of the Isapur Dam affected persons because it is known to everybody, but if the same situation will be there due to the construction of Sapli Dam, then they will not allow to construct the Sapli Dam at all. He further briefed a very important point which is to be recorded that discussion is carried out on all the points, but, whether, there shall be first Dam or Rehabilitation or Death? It means that the authority is giving them the death and he again stated that as stated earlier by **Dr. Chaudhari** and **Shri Paikrao**, this public hearing is totally illegal and shall be cancelled.

8. **Shri Devikantrao Patange**, a resident of village Killewadgaon stated that at first the survey of the proposed project of Sapli Dam was started during the period of Nizam Government and thereafter the five districts included in the newly formed Government of Maharashtra and after 1955, the survey of the proposed Sapli Dam again started, at that time after completing the survey of the said project, the expected expenditure was Rs. 24 Crores. He further stated that the survey of the dams in Marathwada region like Jaikwadi, Yeldari, Siddheshwar are carried out after 1955 and the work of the said dams also completed during the scheduled period, then why the work of Sapli Dam kept behind? He stated at that time there was no awareness in the people and therefore the people were not opposing for the construction of the Sapli Dam, it means there were some technical problems. But the Irrigation Department is hiding the truth and now the efforts are being taken to continue the work of Sapli Dam due to the pressure from some political persons. He also pointed out that due to the delay in construction of the Sapli Dam by the Irrigation Department, the project cost of the dam increased upto Rs. 300 Crores, which is nothing but a loss of public property.

He further stated that if the construction work of the Sapli Dam had started before 35 years at that time there would be no oppose from the public as at that time the cost of the land was less and the farmers would have made their own arrangement from the

compensation received from the Government. He stated that nowadays the rates of the land (agriculture) have been increased upto the extent possible and therefore the farmer can't survive in the competition of land purchase, this is nothing but the way of destroying the life of the farmers. He said that it is the question of their existence and nobody think it carefully. He further gave the example that the farmers in the Vidarbha area are under the burden of loan and due to infertility of land they are choosing the way of suicide. Moreover, inspite of giving the package/incentives to the farmers, the farmers are not stopping to suicide. Likewise, this situation will also occur in the area of Sapli Dam. He further said that at one side the Government announces for destroying the poverty whereas on the other hand, it is planning to develop the poverty, what is this? It does not understand.

**Shri Devikantrao Patange** further stated that the children of the farmers in the area are having higher educational qualification, but still they are unemployed and there is no possibility to get employment to them, however, they are surviving upon the farming, but the Government is also not consider for the same. It is being told that rehabilitation will be done and therefore what is the definition of rehabilitation and only residence, drinking water arrangement, roads, light, school, etc. does not mean the rehabilitation, but whenever the sources of survival are not available, then how to survive? He further stated that rehabilitation means the sources of the survival shall be made available to the dam affected farmers, the additional land of the farmers under command area shall be distributed in certain ratio into the affected farmers by acquisition, the process of land acquisition shall have to be started immediately after the completion of survey for which it was necessary to stop the business of purchase-sale of land under the command area, but it is totally neglected. And therefore the farmers under the command area have divided their land into parts and recorded minimum land by their name instead of maximum land due to which now the Government can not acquire the additional land, but the affected farmers can not survive without farming, in this way efforts are being taken to destroy the life of farmers in the area. He further stated that efforts are being continued forcibly for the construction of Sapli Dam by violating all the rules related to the dam. He also stated that the efforts for starting the construction work of Sapli Dam is being continued without obtaining any permission from Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, New Delhi. He stated that before this, Honourable **Shri V. Ramani Saheb**, the then Divisional Commissioner, Aurangabad during his tenure had arranged a meeting with the dam affected farmers at Hingoli during which the officials from Irrigation Department were also present. At that time during the discussion, doubts were raised about the storage of dam water because there is very much difference in the survey carried at that time and at present also.

**Shri Devikantrao Patange** stated that in the old days, the frequency of monsoon was more and there was also flood to the river kayadhu and also the river was perennial, but nowadays there is no such condition and monsoon is also very less. Likewise, so many .works are completed in the submerged area such as water conservation, minor & medium projects, cement projects (dam), nalla bunding, C.C.T, etc. and it was also pointed out that due to the completion of above types of

work, the expected water storage will not be made available into the proposed dam. He stated that taking into consideration the suggestion made by **Shri Patange**, Honourable Divisional Commissioner had issued directions to the officials of Irrigation Department to resurvey of the area. But the officials from Irrigation Department has not carried out resurvey of the area and again submitted report of old survey. From this, it clears that the officials from Irrigation Department and Contractors are bound with economical relations.

He further stated that he has worked for about 18 years in the Soil Conservation Department of the Government of Maharashtra and carried the gat-wise survey of rain fall in the districts of Parbhani, Hingoli, Nanded, Osmanabad and Latur of Marathwada region, but there is no such land observed in comparison with the land located on the bank of river Kayadhu. He said that in their language, this land comes under Class-I and there is no any problem due to the said land. The land is of well depth, having water storage capacity and fertile and also during the suitable rain, two types of rubby crops can be taken and what will they get due to the submergence of such fertile land? He pointed out their demand that instead of construction of major dam on kayadhu river, maximum **5 to 6** major barrages shall be constructed water storage and it will be beneficial for the surrounding farmers by means of lift irrigation scheme and therefore the expenditure to be occurred towards construction of dam as well as rehabilitation will be saved. He further stated that he is submitting a report of **20** villages which are going to be submerged due to the proposed Sapli Dam alongwith this representation, which is reproduced as below :

Report on soil testing of the land to be submerged due to proposed Sapli Dam.

In the proposed Sapli dam, total **20** villages will be submerged, out of which **12** villages are totally affected and remaining **8** villages will affected partly. The land under the affected area is fertile and out of total **14080.44** hectare of area, **5138** hectares of land will be submerged. The said land is made from the Besalt rock and contains the mineral named Mont Moro Light at a large scale and due to the availability Mont Moro Light the said land is having the capacity of expansion and reduction and due to this quality, the land is having more capacity to store the water as compared with the other land. Simultaneously, the land is also having the percolation capacity due to which the land is having more depth, fertile and is taking dual crops. Such land does not respond for irrigation continuously for **12** months.

He said that the above mentioned villages falls under catchment area of PPG.6, PPG.8 and PPG.11. He further given the results of survey carried out by the Soil Conservation Department of the Government of Maharashtra

Depth-wise area of 20 villages :

1. 1571 Hectares
2. 1774 Hectares
3. 1110 Hectares

4. 196 Hectares
5. 8298 Hectares.

Classification land area of 20 villages :

Class-I	8494 Hectares
Class-III	1104 Hectares
Class-IV	1874 Hectares
Class-V	1471 Hectares.

From the above table, it is seen that out of total area 10298 hectares area is of more depth and total **10142** hectares area included in Cass-I & Class-III. The (samu) of the land is in the range of **7.5** to **8.3** and the ratio of E.C. mineral is **0.15** to **1.00%** due to which the land does not comes under the mineral containing land. This land is well fertile and it is useful for growing the crops and also having the good production capacity. In this land the crops like cotton, jowar (Kharip & Rubby), toor, soyabean, sugarcane, turmeric, wheat, sunflower yellow gram, etc. can be taken on a large scale.

M/s. D.D. Associates, Pune has carried out the environmental survey at Sapli village area out of **20** villages and taken only three soil samples and submitted the report alongwith conclusion. Actually, the soil samples from all the villages under the submerged area shall have to be taken and then the report shall have to be submitted, but the soil testing report of only one village can not be the representative report, which indicates that they have deceived the Government.

M/s. D.D. Associates, Pune in their report at Point No. 33.1.8 clarified about the marshy land as well as minerals (salt) and as per the survey carried by them the results of three bore-wells reported the contents of E.C. minerals (salt) as **44.1** mm/cm. and also results of the two water samples which contains the E.C. mineral **856** to **1018** ml.m/cm. due to which the possibility of increase in the minerals in water and soil is indicated and suggested to take care so as to avoid further bad impact.

The Right Canal of Upper Penganga River from the area of Pimpri (Bk) and Kanhegaon has been made by filling the banking and the land along both sides of the said canal has become infertile and useless and also the water is not discharged into the said canal at full capacity. The work of said canal is not good and is of very low level and therefore the proposal for discharging of water from Sapli Dam to the said canal seems to be deceiving.

Lastly, he said that anybody is not having any authority to destroy them by means of submerging their villages, land, etc. The people will not bear this and for which they are ready at any cost. He said that they will get the justice by considering their feelings sympathetically.

9. **Shri Pankaj S. Wadgaonkar**, a resident of nearby village Killewadgaon, Tq. Kalamnuri, Dist: Hingoli stated that he is having certain objections about the proposed Sapli Dam which are read point-wise in public hearing as follows :

- (1) He strongly object for the Executive Summary EIA report of the proposed project which contains only thirteen pages out of which 6 pages are about Executive Summary whereas 7 pages are about the description of the proposed project. It means that the Executive Summary report is not even the INDEX of the main EIA report and so also, one can not study the said report. While briefing about the environmental aspects, he stated that this dam will trap not only river but the contents of the river. The load of nutrient rich silt and sediments picked up and deposited by the river as it flows over lands. This build up sediment behind the dam can not only interfere with the dam's function (by decreasing the level of useful water in the reservoir as sediment builds up on it's bed) but also the deprive the river below the dam of silt, thus lessening the fertility of agricultural lands down stream. This is nothing but is a high negative impact.
- (2) Dam can also affect the quality of the river water both above and below the dam. They can concentrate pollutants, deplete or increase oxygen levels, alter the river's temperature. All of these impacts alter the lives of human beings, animals, plants, etc., which is also the high negative impact.
- (3) Regulated stream flow (flood control) – (a) Dams were supposed to be very good flood control structure, but studies reveal that it is very wrong, for example, as per one survey, in the year 1952, km. of dams in Bihar and area covered by flood was 25 lacs hectares. Now, in Bihar, there are 3430 km. of dams in Bihar and flood area is 69 lacs hectares, i.e. number of dams have increased but still flood area is also being increased. (b) Dams can stop regular annual floods but often fail to hold back large flood, if area gets – Low rainfall – No need of dam, Medium rainfall – River can manage the rainfall & High rainfall – Dam can't hold back large flood but it can increase the effect of flood. This indicate that the dams give people a false sense of security. (c) When large floods occur, damages caused are often greater than they would have been, e.g. flood in Bihar in 2008 because of dam on “Kosi River”, so, this is the high positive impact remarks is. false, but this is the high negative impact.
- (4) EIA report has not stated properly any reliable data on Kayadhu's sediment risk.
- (5) **Changes of ground water table** – In the catchment area of Yeldari and Isapur dam, so many years have been passed but there is no increase in ground water level due to the project. So, this is high positive impact remark is also false.

- (6) **Increased wetness of soils in nearby area** – Heavy irrigation of the land surrounding a dam causes the movement of land based pollutants into surface water of estuary. Here they build up as the flow is regulated by the dam and so prevents flushing, inland wells and ground water resources then become contaminated, so this is the high negative impact.
- (7) The regime and biota of estuaries is aggravated by the impact of dams, water storage and water conveyance facilities. These systematically deplete the amount of river run off input required for coastal estuarine deltaic ecosystems to function normally which may cause climate change, so this is also high negative impact.
- (8) **Impact on air and noise quality** – During the time of construction activities, as per EIA report only **250** workers are required that is project requires more and more machineries which will definitely cause strong noise and air pollution problems for long period, so this is also high negative impact.

### **Impact on Biological Aspects :**

- (1) **Biodiversity** – This submergence area has more biodiversity because of high water level, nearby mountains and river. Villagers also try to increase this biodiversity, so this will be the high negative impact.
- (2) **Forest Land** – As per the map of project, nearby **5** hectares of forest land is going to be submerged and without informing the Forest Department, Irrigation Department is trying to implement this project without permission.
- (3) **The Flora & Fauna** – This area is very special for flora and fauna. This submergence area contains various medicinal and herbal plants, the names of which in Marathi and Sanskrit language are *Adulsa, Ajgandha, Ajmoda, Amba, Ale, Awalkathi, Umbar, Erand, erandel, Kawandal, Kadu Nimb, Shashti, Katwand, Chirbilb, Kash, Jalaj, Brahami, Geru, Dantimul, Suvarna Bhabij, Nagarmodha, Nivdung, Pimpal, Parpat, Pimpali, Pushkarmul, Babhul, Balhirda, Bibba, Belphal, Bidlon, Behda, Bhuikohala Rui, Katrun, Lakh, Shevga, Sarate, Hirada, Kuchala, Kalath, Kavach Beej, Rambhdal, Khadir (Khair), Gunj, Gokharu, Chinch, Jatamasi, Jaloka, Jambhul, Jesthamadh, Dalimb, Teel, Tulas, Dashmule, Wad, Wala, Wawding, Hingul*, etc. The residents of the area also do not know rest of the names of medicinal plants. These medicinal plants are going under submergence, which is the high negative impact and it is not mentioned in the EIA report.

About wild life because of biodiversity, the area is habitat of many wild species such as Wolf, Jackle, Deer, Peacock, etc and the area is important habitant for snakes also. Different types of snakes are living here, s relating to wild life, reptiles, this is the high negative impact.

### **Impact on Socio Cultural Aspects :**

**Displacement of Live Stock** – The live stock population will be shifted to new gaothans. As per the study, the residents affected by Yeldari and Isapur dams have not got proper gaothan after 20 years passed, so this is only a politically correct remark but socially it will be high negative impact. It is hard to imagine just how enormous the social cultural impact of the proposed Sapli Dam will be. The dam will force the involuntary resettlement of more than 25000 people including Adivasis, ab-rigins. The project promoters do not have actually have any prompt figure about how many villages the dam will displace. All maps and surveys are nothing but presumption, because as height of dam will increase the number of affected villages will also increase.

It is cleared that the construction of Sapli Dam is nothing but the destruction, because it will destroy the lives of people. Even if resettlement or compensation are produced, they will be inadequate for whom those hearts and homes die in the rural villages where they lived for generations. The fate of most will be the poverty and social upheaval, their culture desecrated and heir lives in tatters.

### **Health Situation :**

When dams are built the spreading of certain diseases are almost inevitable consequences, Maleria, Schistomiasis and river blindness are the most common, changes in the ecosystem are responsible for the increase in diseases.

### **Developments :**

- Availability of irrigation and command area development
- Water source for upper reacher
- Domestic and industrial water supply.

There are already two dams namely Isapur dam and Yeldari dam, giving benefit to same command area and there are several water supply schemes to supply water to villages and industries such as Gaon Yojana, etc. As there are two big alternatives for Sapli dam which are completed, and therefore there is no use to environment so this is the high negative impact.

### **Environment Management Plan and Environment Monitoring Plan :**

These two plans are nothing but two carrots which are put here for Environment & Forest Ministry and for people since 1947. He request the MoEF to investigate the implementation of these two plans in Maharashtra only.

### **Global Warming :**

Dams may be one of the single most important contributors to global warming because of millions tones of methane produced every year.

## **Research by Brazil's National Institute for Space Research :**

The world's dams contributes more than **4%** global warming impact. Dam reservoirs are the large containers of methane emission. This research has also produced the first published estimates of methane emissions from dam level in Brazil, China and India. These estimates show dams in Brazil and India are reported fifth of this countries of total global warming impact.

**Researcher** : Ivan Lima, National Institute of Space Research, Brazil.

So this is also very high negative impact on environment

EIA Report has not provided any data on Global Warming :

**Safety** – Today, the biggest dam safety challenge is climate change. The world's more than **45000**, existing large dams have not been built to allow for rapidly intensifying hydrological circle. In this sense, all dams should now be considered unsafe while the climatic future is filled with uncertainties. Climato logists almost universally agree that they will see more extreme storms, earth quakes and increasingly severe floods, which will have major implications for dam safety. Relating earth quake, it is important to note here that (as per the study of earth quake research centre, SRTMU, Nanded) earth quake point is near Wapti village, which is hardly **8 – 10** km. away from the centre of Sapli Dan. So these are also very high negative impact.

**EIA Report has not provided any data about safety of dam :**

Lastly, he stated that considering all the above aspects and manipulated EIA report, the Sapli Dam is fit to Cancel.

10. **Shri Bhimrao Laxman Nirmale**, a nearby resident stated that as reported by **Dr. Chaudhari** raised some technical points and he feel that so many technical mistakes have been made in the proposed project. He further stated that during the period of **1966-67**, the permission was granted for the construction of seven dams in the State of Maharashtra out of which six dams are already constructed and it was also reported that the seventh dam, i.e. the construction of Sapli Dam is not suitable from the technical point of view. Because in the area of proposed Sapli Dam, upto the depth of 60ft. under the ground there is only soil and no rock is there and whatever the flowing concentration (*vahati*) was there has been reduced and this change has been occurred during the period of 10 years only. He said that likewise so many technical points are there, but you are not in a position to hear the same, because a time schedule has been fixed for expressing the views. He further stated that the people having the land below **18** acres can get the land under the command area (submerged area), but if you will see that in the said command area, the people are become very less land holder (*ati alpa bhudharak*) and still the Irrigation Department is saying that the

rehabilitation has been done, but he said that not in the State of Maharashtra, India, but the rehabilitation has been done in Pakistan. He further stated that as reported by Mr. Bapurao Maharaj about the marriage problem of their son, then he asked whether their sons have to make like Atal Bihari Bajpayee? He further stated that the Government is saying that don't be landless and inspite of giving almost all the proofs there is injustice upon the people in the area. Then, how to bear the injustice, yes or no? asked by **Shri Nirmale**. He said that there are **50,000** people and it is the well known fact that what the **10** Nos. of Pakistani has done recently and what **50,000** people will do? He said that what are the technical points are there, are well known by them. But there are only three types of persons involved in this process of construction of Sapli Dam, which are getting the benefit, i.e. Leader, *Lutera* & Engineer. He further stated that there is only one say of the people that whenever the Sapli dam is not suitable from the technical point of view, then Executive Engineer was supposed to not to submit the report to the Government and he further stated that the Collector Madam also visited the area and seen the rare types of plant species, likewise **Shri Nirmale** stated that there are lakhs in numbers of such plant species in the area. He also suggested to visit the Sapli dam area, it will find that what types of villages are living, their roads, houses, and still the Government are making them to come on the road. He further stated the rates of land during the period of **1967 to 1970-80** was @ Rs. **700/-** per acre upto Patnapur village when the Isapur dam affected persons have purchased the land at that time and now the rates of the land has been increased upto @ Rs. **40** Lakh per acre. **Shri Nirmale** also stated that as the construction of proposed Sapli Dam is totally wrong, still if it is inclined for the same, they people will decide what to do and if not inclined then they will congratulate. He said that since **35** years are fighting for same issue and lastly he said that whatever the technical points reported by **Dr. Chaudhari** shall be considered otherwise, they will decide what to do.

11. **Shri Digambar Harji Kadam**, a resident of village Salegaon & member of Panchayat Samitee, Kalamnuri stated that he is working since **13** years in relation with the construction of the Sapli Dam. He pointed out one important thing that the Government of Maharashtra has delegated some powers to the Gram Sabha in rural areas and whenever a Gram Sabha of **20** villages passes a one line Resolution that the construction of proposed Sapli Dam shall be cancelled and submitted to the Government, then if it comes under the purview of Act, then the construction of the proposed Sapli Dam shall be cancelled, otherwise, the powers delegated to the Gram Sabha throughout the State of Maharashtra shall be withdrawn. He also stated that the Government of India has delegated separate powers (authority) to the Kashmir likewise, the Government of Maharashtra such separate Act shall be made applicable to the **20** villages in Kalamnuri Tehsil in the State of Maharashtra. He further stated that the land in the Kalamnuri area is very good, in his own village there are about **110** *krushi* pumps, **55** bore wells and there is no any complaint about the water or land. He further stated that he has passed the Resolution in Panchayat Samitee about the cancellation of Sapli Dam. He again stated that the land available in the area is very good, employment is also available in the area, people in the area are also educated, but the Government has made them as *Ghonsai* He also stated that the area

is having good infrastructure like schools, culture, etc. and also due to the production of various activities, the district get the revenue of about Rs. 5 to 7 Lakh from his village. He reported that they will not allow to construct the proposed Sapli Dam at all. He also stated that till date, they have made the agitations politely, but henceforth no guarantee will be given that what types of agitations will be in the future. He again briefed about the importance of their land and area and said that the Sapli Dam shall be cancelled.

12. **Sulochanabai Motiramji Chandravanshi**, a resident of village Salegaon stated that she is Isapur dam affected person, her son has passed the XIIth class and still he is unemployed. Likewise situation will also be arise to the Sapli Dam affected people. She further stated that no rehabilitation is done for the Isapur dam affected people so far and also they have not provided the basic needs, such situation will definitely arise on the people in the Sapli area. She said that already she is Isapur dam affected person and came to Sapli for her survival, but, if Sapli dam is constructed, then what will be her future?
13. **Shri Haribhau Ganoji Zakalwade**, a resident of village Salegaon & Member of Sant Dudhadhari Pani Vapar Sanstha Maryadit, Kalamnuri stated that about **750** hectares of land is being irrigated from the water from Kalamnuri Talav through the said Sanstha and about **250** hectares due to the construction of the proposed Sapli Dam, about **750** hectares of land will be submerged due to the construction of Sapli dam. This is totally against the rule and the Government has no any authority that such irrigated land shall be submerged under the Sapli dam. Secondly, he stated that basically the permission was granted for the construction of proposed Sapli dam in the year **1965** and today **42** years have been passed, whether the Government has slept? He further stated that if the dam is to complete, it should have been completed in the year **1982**, i.e. before **42** years, basically the Sapli dam is totally wrong. He also stated that since last **42** years, what is the state of minds of the dam affected people, people coming to the area, may be asked. He further stated that the people have given their reports that shall be studied, resurvey of the area shall be conducted and if it is found suitable as per the rules, then and then only the dam shall be constructed. Further he also stated that if the dam is to be constructed, employment shall be given to the every family member, the land about **5** acres under the command area shall be given to the dam affected people He further stated that total rehabilitation shall be done, all the infrastructural facilities shall be provided, otherwise the dam shall not be constructed and this should be brought to the notice of the Government.
14. **Ku. Komal Digambarrao Kadam**, a resident of village Salegaon and student of IXth Class stated that in her village` there are good school, houses, buildings, black soil. She said that the farmers in the village survive their lives by taking various crops like cotton, jowar, wheat, etc. In such a situation, the Sapli dam has been stood as a danger. She further stated that there is **71%** of water whereas only **29%** of land is available on the earth and population is increasing day by day but the land is as it is and there is no increase in the land. She further stated that there are so many

advanced technologies are available in our country and therefore she requested to find out the substitute to the Sapli dam by adopting such advanced technologies. She also stated that instead of construction of Sapli dam and if the water storages made on Kayadhu river, the people in the area will not to destroy their lives and if the dam is constructed, then there will no any other substitute to them than to suicide. She further stated that the cost of land in which her father works is about Rs. 3 to 4 Lakh per acre. She also stated the problems of water shall be solved by the Government by adopting various means like to take water from nearby talav, Vishnupuri dam and by constructing Kolhapuri Bandhare, etc. and also think about the environment. She also requested to cancel the Sapli dam. Lastly, she said that still the construction work of Sapli dam is not stopped, then there will be no any alternatives to the students like them to make strong agitations, etc.

15. **Tarabai Gutte**, a resident of village Salegaon stated that they have worked in various parties and their person **Mr. Naik Saheb** has been passed away during fighting against the construction of Sapli Dam, hence, they will not allow to construct the Sapli Dam at all and also said that either they will die or to kill the others. As reported earlier, she said that now the rates of land are so increased, the dam was to be constructed earlier, also now the land is not available and the reports given for the construction of Sapli Dam are totally wrong., She further stated that they are the labour and Government is not thinking about the people under the poverty line for their better living and also there is question of rehabilitation, hence she again stated that they will not allow to construct the Sapli Dam and the ladies will also fight for the same.
16. **Shri Ashok Kisanrao Kadam**, a resident of village Salegaon stated that the proposed Sapli Dam is totally wrong and still the Government has called the tenders of Rs. 155 Crores upon it. He stated that generally 75% of land is under water and again the Government is trying to submerge the land by means of construction of Sapli Dam. He further stated that in their land the cotton crop yield is about 20 quintal per acre and considering the prevailing prices towards the cotton crop, one farmer can earn about Rs. 60000/- per acre and can survive very well. He further read a Marathi poem against the construction of Sapli Dam and concluded his speech saying that he will not die alone, but will take somebody with him.
17. **Shri Sheshrao Patange**, a resident of village Dhardhawada stated that he will be speak about one or two points with respect to the construction of Sapli Dam, same shall be noted down and further stated that a survey has already been conducted from his village Dhardhawada to Kasbedhawada, but during the said survey no rock is observed and the Government has not recorded this thing. He further stated that he has personally at the dam site and observed that no rock is observed in the area and therefore he asked what is the use of construction of dam when there is only soil.
18. **The Sarpanch** of nearby dam affected village stated that whatever the survey is conducted and whatever the reports are submitted about the construction of Sapli Dam are totally false, which is known to everybody and therefore it shall be noted

that they will not allow for the construction of proposed Sapli Dam. He further stated that why the surveying officers not visited his village site and further pointed out that there are some authorities to Gram Sabha, Renowned Citizens in the area, but there is no any signature on the reports of such personalities. He further stated that the villagers of 20 affected villages shall not be raped and this sentence shall be brought to the notice of the Government. While briefing about the problems of affected 20 villages, he said that the youngsters are unemployed and they are also facing the marriage problems. He further gave the example of terrorists and stated that due to 10 terrorists of Pakistani what happened in Mumbai is well known by everybody, then if all the Sapli Dam affected persons turned into terrorists, what will happen?

19. **Shaikh Pashu Shaikh Haji**, a resident of village Sandas stated that there is a Isapur Dam, which is already in existence and there is lot of water into the Isapur dam however, the balance water from this Isapur dam is sufficient for all the 20 affected villages including Sapli area also, which shall be noted and requested to provide the water from Sapli Dam. He further suggested that the river water from their district of Hingoli shall not be given to the other area and their water shall be permitted to their district only, this also shall be noted.
20. **Shri Maruti Vaman Shinde**, a resident of village Sandas stated that he is having 4 acres of irrigated land which is going to be submerged due to the construction of Sapli Dam and whenever there is the water above as well as under the land then what is the use of construction of such dam? He further stated that he is having 4 daughters out of which two daughters are married, two are remained to be married. He said that if decide to arrange marriage of his third daughter, then the proposed son-in-law says that the father-in-law is not having the home, land then how the marriage shall be done? **Shri Shinde** further stated that if he desires to sale his own land, but there is nobody ready to purchase it, then how his family will survive. He further stated that if the Sapli Dam is to be constructed, first of all he shall be given proper compensation, rehabilitation of all the affected persons shall be done and then and then the Sapli Dam shall be constructed otherwise the Sapli Dam shall not be constructed.
21. **Dr. Premendra Shantilal Bothra**, a resident of village Potra stated that today the construction of proposed Sapli Dam on Kayadhu river has created doubts. Due to the political pressure, the valuable natural sources are being destroyed due to which it is the fear of everybody's mind that the pains facing the existing generation will be faced in future by the next generation. He further said that when the basic need of farming come into existence, till date people of number of generations have survived, but if it is only thought that the Life 'Without Farming', then nothing will be seen in the future. Since the ancient days, though the land under the Kayadhu river bed is having greenery, but it contains biodiversity and it is very difficult to see all these things by the officers who are concluding the survey within one day only. He stated that the God has gifted a land, which has been protected and used by their ancient people (*Purvaj*), there will be definitely absorption of the same by the politicians and officers. He also gave the example of cow and the survival of its calf. He further

stated that due to the flowing water, the area has become fertile and there are so many examples of destroying the land due to the non-flowing of water. Generally the Kayadhu river flows only for two months during the year and still efforts are being taken to construct the dam on Kayadhu river, which is surprising and annoying. He stated that due to the construction of Sapli dam, villages will be affected, lives will be destroyed and due to such inhumanity decision, no more period will be required to turn the area of Kayadhu river into reddish. He stated that due to proper use of water by the ancient people, today also, the rivers are seen flowing and as the black soil requires less water, fertility is there.

**Dr. Bothra** further stated that the land of the Kayadhu river area transferred by the Government under the construction of Sapli Dam will be submerged, but it is not possible at all. The life of the proposed Sapli Dam to be constructed due to the efforts and pressure from politician will not be more than **10** years because the soil in the area of Kayadhu river is in form of silt (*Gal*) due which the dam will be ineffective. He further stated that though due to increase in the height of dam, no problem will be solved, then why the political pressure is there? This is the common question, still it does not bear in the minds of politicians and officers, this shows their illiteracy or they are the opportunists?

He further stated that land means the survival arrangement forever and the politicians are doing the sin of taking the piece of food from one's mouth and giving to the others. Their district comes in the range of illiteracy and tribal, the people are able to survive and the officers and politicians are taking the benefit of their illiteracy, by crushing their bed under the foot, they will erect the forest of money. But when the last fish will be caught, last tree will be cut and last river will be destroy, then they will know that money can not be eaten.

Fruther, **Dr. Bothra** is having some objections against the construction of proposed Sapli Dam. The said objections read by him are reproduced as below :

#### **Objection No. 1 :**

Kayadhu is the only one flowing river in the district. The land in the surrounding area of river falls under medium type. Out of total 8 class of land, the Class-I land is in the State of Punjab and Hariyana, only whereas in the State of Maharashtra the Class-II & Class-III land is in existence and therefore, in the Kayadhu river area, some land having high quality i.e. Class-II and some land of Class-III, i.e. medium type is in existence. The specialty of both the land is that apart from the rain water the land requires less water. If the water is used at a proper proportionate this land will give the production like Class-I land. Though this year the rain-fall is less, the capacity of this land is to yield the production of Yellow Gram at the rate of **10** Quintal per acre (without use of external water). If the available water used in a proper proportionate under the suitable guidance, the area will definitely become self-sufficient. All these facts are known to the Government, then why the dam is necessary? This is the question. The Government shall have to take efforts for

saving such type of land. In future, such type of soil will not be seen and no such type of technology is available through which such type of soil can be developed. It is the prime duty of the Government that whenever in the whole India such developing lands are transferred by different reasons, to take efforts for saving of such land. There is no land of Grade-I/II in the Western Maharashtra, but the norms for the use of stored water are also not applicable to every type of land and due to the application of these norms, the land in the Parbhani/Jalna districts are become marshy. The politicians and officers of the foregoing generation have made the bad work of making such land as widower and the results of which are being seen to the today's officers due to their selfishness, this is nothing but the bad luck of the people in the area and good luck of the politicians and officers.

**Result :**

Since the farmer depends upon the nature like farming will be finished. Today also the fertile soil can not be prepared in the laboratory, then, if the available fertile land will not be in existence, what type of crop production will be there? Here only the wine from the distilleries owned by the Ministers will be sold. Whether the Government will give the alternative land having same quality. The officers are not having the power of telling about the land sample like the land available in the Kayadhu area. The life can not be survived on the money getting from the compensation. Due to the proposed dam, it is seen that it is the planning of the Government to make the society useless by finishing the working capacity.

**Objection No. 2 :**

The length of the river Kayadhu is only 80 km. and it is also having very less width as well depth and if the dam is constructed, it will require about **15** years to fill it completely. After increasing the height of the dam, the quantity of water will not be increased. As the river flows for the period of two months during the year and it is the less possibility that whatever the officers tell that quantity of water can not be stored in the dam. As the soil on the bank of the river is black soil, hence the dam will be filled up by soil and whatever the approximation drawn by the officers on paper, instead of filling up of the dam with water, it will definitely be filled-up with soil and silt, these things are necessary to be considered. Whether this filled up soil can be lifted to another place by mechanical source? And whether, it is reasonable for the Government. As per one of the surveys, this river is also not suitable for Kolhapuri Bandhare, then how such major dam will be preserved and the question of giving the water to the others does not arise when the water is insufficient for two months also for self use.

**Result :**

Due to the filling of dam by silt, only the crop of *Besharam* will be developed. If silt is stored in the dam instead of water storage, what will happen about the land

acquired by the Government? And if this dam is failed, definitely, it is impossible to reproduce the land.

### **Objection No. 3 :**

Due to the construction of the proposed Sapli Dam about 2 crores of small and big trees will be cut (Basically the forest area of Hingoli district is only 3%). Every year, the trees of Babhul, Anjan, etc. grows on the bank of river Kayadhu (A tree of Babhul grows upto 15 – 18 ft. every year on the bank of river Kayadhu) and it is a major question whether the Government will plant about 2 crores of trees in exchange of the cutting of trees and whether the Government Resolution will be possible for the Forest Department which carry the tree plantation programme at every year in only and only one place and if the Government is doing so, then how many hectares of land has been acquired for the same, this shall be clarified by the Government. For this, if the reply of the Government will be that the trees will grow in the talav, then the farmers working with the nature regularly since a long back (generation-by-generation) will definitely tell that “this does not happen in the nature”.

### **Result :**

The trees on the bank of the river grows very fastly. These trees are used as residence for lot of various birds. Agricultural equipments of the farmers are made from these trees. They can make the planning of their expenditure. Though the farmer use to avail the natural source, but as he having some limits, still it is seen that there is 100% existence of trees on both the banks of the river. The tree once cut due to the construction of proposed Sapli Dam, will not give birth to the new plant. Seed will be there, but, if the land is not available, then how the plants will grow?

### **Objection No. 4 :**

The Eastern part towards Sadegaon area of river Kayadhu is totally grassed area. Especially, the important grass species like Sorghum (*Jondhali*), Alisicarpus (*Sshevra*) are included in this grass, the Panisetum type of grass also occurs. There are about 40 types of various grass species. The seven types of grass species of Alisicarpus grass occur in the area only and not anywhere in the world. Generally the Alisicarpus grows upto 3 to 4 ft. But as per the survey conducted by Bhandarkar Institute, Pune, Alisicarpus grows upto 12 ft. The local people are using this grass regularly for increasing the milk of animals since a long back. Pithondi type of cattle feed for the goat is available in the area on a large scale. A rare grass species of Alisicarpus Saplinus occurs only in the area of Sapli throughout the world, hence it is necessary to mention its name. Always the news are published through newspapers about the nature of the Sapli area. Whether the Government has taken care of it? If not, then what steps are taken by the Government for the protection of grass species in the grassed area prior to the construction of the dam. If the Government is thinking that these things are not valuable, then no more period will be required for becoming the desert of the area.

## **Result :**

The grass species on both the banks of river Kayadhu growing at a considerable height will be destroyed completely. Due to the construction of Sapli Dam, in India about **150** Nos. of various plant and grass species will be destroyed. After due study about the various grass species whether the Government is having any scheme for their protection, this shall be clarified.

The officers and Government are doing the work of affecting the milk business which is being developed due to this grass belt in the area. The answer of the Government for this will be that if the land will not be available, then what is the use of cattle, which will not be wrong. The grass species like *Alisicarpus Saplinus* will not be seen on this earth *Jondhali* will also be destroyed from the area. There is future of tomorrow in this old jowar. When the crops will be destroyed due to insects, various diseases, then the basic species of jowar will be source of food, this shall be considered by the Government. Though there is the regular use of such grass, still it is in existence. Due to the sensitive mind of human beings, illiteracy of farmers, the officers of Government can not say them illiterate, this shall also be minded.

## **Objection No. 5 :**

Since a long back the impact on the animals, birds, etc. in the area of Kayadhu river is the subject of study. Whatever the period river Kayadhu contains water and during that period, the dependents upon the water born creatures, insects, etc. like, Tital, Peacock, Iwis, Tibukali, Kinker, Kingfisher (**3** species), Pankawala, Titavi, Khar and specially the Lal Muniya living into the nest in the nearby grass area, rare species of Hornwil occurring on the trees at the bank of river, 3 species of Surva Bird, Black & White Crab, Snake, various types of Ants, Insects, Chatur, various of types of Fish, Migratory Birds, etc. and other animal nature will be destroyed. Whether the Government has planned any scheme for the protection of the above creatures?

A survey of the area was conducted before 10 years and it was understood that only sparrows and crows are occur in the area, then how the birds mentioned above are in existing in the area in such a abnormal condition also? Whether the Government has planned some scheme for the protection of above mentioned birds, insects, etc., if so, details of the same shall be provided by the Government.

## **Result :**

The life chain of the insects depend upon the grass, the birds depend upon insects, the snakes depend upon birds, the birds like *Bahirsasana* depend upon snakes, etc. still is in existence. This life chain will be destroyed, The birds like *Tol* will destroy the crops and at that time there will be no any dependent. And therefore, there will be always danger of the dam to such attractive birds. If the reply from the Government will be that the birds will survive on the dam water, though this will be the answer,

but when there will be no place available for building the nests, no trees will be available, then where the birds will survive?

### **Objection No. 6 : Destroying of Biodiversity :**

There are so many trees are in existence since a long back in the area of Kayadhu river due to the land like golde. Various medicinal plants are also in existence. The plants used for the treatment on heart like *Arjun*, *Sugnadhi*, *Arjun Saroda*, *Isab Sagicha*, *White Pangara*, *Gulabi Babhul*, *Durangi Babhul*, *Khair*, *Chinch*, *Mango*, *Ber*, *Kateshevari*, *Biba*, *Korphad*, *Sagwan*, *Ranjambhul*, and also *Purnanava*, *Bhuiranjani*, *Bhuiambar*, *Bhuiawali*, *Bhuilimb*, *Laghukandan*, etc. important species will be destroyed. Whether the Government is having any policy for the re-plantation of such plant species which are in existence in the area since a long back? This shall be cleared. If the Government will plant foreign tree instead of the existing plant species, such existing plant species will be destroyed and the changes in the environment will be observed frequently. Due to the construction of this dam, there will be danger to the insects and birds. The monkeys which lives on the taller trees, are also in existence in the area since a long back. It has to see that what steps will be taken by the Government for the protection and existence of above mentioned plants, monkeys, etc. It will be the major mistake of the Government if it is destroying the plant species and monkeys by means of construction of dam as bearing in mind that the plant species are useless and monkeys are troublesome.

### **Result :**

Each and every animal is related with each other. We all are depending upon each other. If honey bees will not be there on the crop in the farm, the crop yield will be very less. It should be minded by the Government that no any thing is useless in the world.

### **Objection No. 7 : Destroying the Culture :**

River is the biggest source of culture. From the bank of Nile river to Godavari, Ganga so many cultures have taken birth and cities, villages are also resided on the banks of said rivers. Sant Namdev born on the bank of river Kayadhu river, likewise Guru Govind Singh on the Godavari river. The Temple of Aundha is also a gift of Kayadhu culture. It is a legend of Kayadhu that due to its water, the bones are also turn into water and it has also made famous personalities like Mandasbaba, Khadeshwar Baba, Khakibaba and the politicians and their co-operative officers taking half benefits are going to destroy of such Kayadhu which is flowing in the district alone. Definitely, the life of human beings, thoughts of people, working capacity of people, farming life related with this river will be destroyed. It will be very dangerous that there are two dams in one district. Due to the above reasons, the social system of Kalamnuri will be destroyed. It is also feared that the tribal community is now developing, but due to the construction of the dam, they will be go again back at their original living standard. The coming generations of youngsters

will be destroyed step by step. The people will be seen on the road along with their household kits on their head like the backward class people. Due to getting the less compensation, the people will become beggar/destroyed and the officers will get silver whereas the politicians will get the gold. The compensation against the prevailing market rates of Rs. 30 Lakh is only Rs. 3 Lakh, the Landlord having the 10 acres of land will not be in a position to purchase the seed for one acre also. In such a situation, what is the culture and what type of social life, only the people free society will be remained for the politicians.

### **Objection No. 8 Why the pressure for major dam?**

It does not know that such a major type of Sapli dam is going to be constructed on such a small river. Government itself agree for the concept of development through public co-operation. But due to the construction of such dam, more people will be affected. If they are not having home to live, no farming then what will they do? It is also not possible to the children of the farmers to open *kirana* stores. It is the policy of the Government that the irrigation shall be done by protecting the environment by means of providing farming talav, soil bandhara, sarfe bandhara, vanrai bandhara, kolhapuri Bandhara, gabian bandhara, etc. without destroying the natural source of water and so also the Government itself deciding that the schemes planned by the Government are wrong, this is nothing but the bad luck of India. The rehabilitation work of any project is not satisfactory. At this stage more than 5000 fights of the affected people against the rehabilitation are in progress throughout the country and one more fight for the Sapli dam affected people will also be added in it.

It has been told by the economist, Mr. Amartya Sen that the poverty and draught of any area occurs due to reducing the working capacity of the people in that area. Likewise, it will be invitation to the poverty in case of proposed Sapli dam affected people and nobody can survive in very less amount of compensation. The basic facilities shall be made available to encourage the working capacity of the people in the area, which is important.

Flowing is the Life and stoppage is the death. It is the true that the dam is representing the earlier death of the people.

After reading all his points against the Proposed Sapli Dam, he advised the people in the area to fight against the construction of proposed Sapli Dam and oppose it and there is no alternate than to fight for the same.

22. **Shri Shrikant Mulgir**, a nearby resident stated that he is working against the construction of Sapli Dam since last nineteen years and he reported that he has changed his name as Sapli and the Sirname as Sangharsh due to the proposed Sapli Dam. He further stated that if his land is affected due to the Sapli dam, then how will he survive? He further stated that the land is their life, pride, heart, beauty and freedom. He stated that the freedom is their right, religion and duty. He further reported that Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar has quoted in the Constitution of India to fight

for the rights and therefore **Shri Mulgir** further reported that they will adopt any process like fights, etc. for the protection of their mother land (Black soil). Lastly he concluded his speech by saying that to fight against the construction of the proposed Sapli dam will be continued.

23. **Shri S.S. Narwade**, a resident of village Sapli stated that he has worked as a labour for some period during the construction of proposed Sapli dam site and after digging the pits of 40 x 40 m having the depth of 10 m, it was observed that there was no rock in existence under the ground at Sapli area. He further stated that he has also worked on the bore machine at the Sapli site and observed that at one side of the river Kayadhu towards Sapli area there is totally black soil containing silt and sand. After taking bore in the area, the bore machines was jammed due to the silt and sand, as no rock is found upto the depth of **60** ft. in the said area of Sapli. He further reported that a person has brought a piece of stone from outside and fixed into the bore as no rock was there in the underground as stated, but he has not reported the name of such person. He further briefed his next experience and reported that at that time **Shri N.K. Tayade Saheb** from Irrigation Department was Overseer he surveyed the river bed and told to bring the flood water in a bottle. And therefore Shri Narwade taken the flood water into the one litre bottle from Kayadhu river and handed over the same to the officials of Irrigation Department (Quality Control Section). After asking by Shri Narwade about the contents of water and silt in the said flood water, then it is reported by the officials of Irrigation Department that the said flood water contains the silt and water as **10%** and **90%** respectively. After asking by **Shri Narwade** about the capacity of proposed dam, then it is reported by the officials of Irrigation Department as its capacity is only upto the period for **10** years. Then, Shri Narwade stated that as the capacity of proposed dam is only 10 years period, then what is the use of expending such vast amount on the construction of such major project of Sapli Dam, it means all the public money is being destroyed in the water only. He further stated that the Sapli is nothing but a dead animal and those people are thinking that how many part of it will get to them. He again reported that the land in the area of Sapli is a black cotton soil and shall not be submerged. He further reported that the Divisional Commissioner, Shri Dilip Band Saheb had visited the Sapli Area at that time Shri Narwade pointed him about the black soil, dug pit, and non-availability of rock under the ground and after that the Divisional Commissioner Saheb reported that he had come to Sapli from the point of view of construction of Sapli Dam. But, after visiting the area, he reported that there will be no any use by constructing the Sapli Dam. Shri Narwade, secondly stated that somebody are thinking for the construction of the proposed Sapli Dam as they will get some share (money). He also gave the example of a cow, which attracts towards the green feed and also stated that Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar has given a Constitution to us, Acts are there, do not violate the Acts and also do not attract towards the money. He further reported to not to destroy the Dalit People, Poor People and also challenged that they are live things and they will die (*Taru Kinva Maru*) but will cancel the proposed Sapli Dam. He further stated that there was earthquakes at Nanded, Killari, etc. but the effect of the same has also reached to the Sapli and if such earthquake occurred at Nanded, etc. in future, then the Sapli Dam definitely destroyed. But the Government is not thinking for such

heavy losses. He further stated that they will fight till the last drop of their blood against the construction of the proposed Sapli Dam and again expressed his strong feelings and said that they people will not allow for the construction of the proposed Sapli Dam.

24. **Shri Hiranman Mahadu Sable**, a resident of village Sapli stated that he is having very less land (that will be placed on the point of the needle) and he is engaged in the business of pet animals. He further stated that the land belongs to their village is of the best quality. He further briefed his experience and stated that two bores were taken in the said land at Sapli area and observed that at depth of **250 ft.**, there was no rock in the ground, which also indicates that the land is totally black cotton soil. He further stated that if there is less rain, they get well yield from various crops in the area. He stated that though there was only one rain-fall in the area during the monsoon period, but due to the natural co-operation and as their land is of high quality, the crop yield like Yellow Gram was upto the mark. He further pointed out that if such high quality of land is submerged due to the construction of proposed Sapli Dam, then how the people in the area like him will survive. He further given the example of Isapur dam affected people and likewise the condition of the people in the Sapli area will also be the same, this should be noted. He also stated that they will make another Mahabharat like Kaurav-Pandav and further submitted a representation on the said issue.
25. **Ku. Sangita Vilasrao**, a near resident in Kalamnuri Tehsil as stated earlier by Ku. Komal D. Kadam repeated her representation and she also humbly requested for the cancellation of proposed Sapli Dam.
26. **Dr. Vishal Raosaheb Patange**, Lect. In Politicval Science, B.S. College, Basmath, Dist: Hingoli stated that they have determined to resist proposed Sapli Project. When they oppose this project, administration considers it is to be a move against development. In fact, they are not against the development rather they are demanding sustainable development through their resistance. Sustainable development in fact is a doctrine of Gandhian principles. Unfortunately, this nation never follow the Gandhian principles although it calls Gandhi, the father of the nation. Gandhi had proposed decentralization of power, political, economic, etc. and power leads to exploitation. Water is also a kind of power and dams provide this power to particular areas. History and records of various evils to centralization of this water power like exploitation, provincial imbalance as well as environmental problems.

They also resist Sapli Project and proposed construction of Kolhapuri Bandhare (K.T. Wares) on Kayadhu river which is in accordance with Gandhian principle of decentralization of water power **38.6** lakh hectares irrigation capacity has been expected in Maharashtra through State level irrigation project till June, **2003**, however actual irrigation is **32%** of the proposed, in fact in Marathwada region, this is only **14%**. From the economical point of view this is a grave matter since **30** thousand crores have been spent on the production of **38.60** Lakhs hectares irrigation capacity in Maharashtra. However, actual irrigation is just **12** to **13** Lakhs hectares. On the

other hand wells have covered more area for irrigation which is a sign of water power decentralization. Through self-expenditure and labour and partially aided by Government the farmers have irrigated **19.31** Lakhs hectares area through the medium of wells. There are various other advantages of irrigation through wells. There is no maintenance cost, no administrative problems, etc.

However, there are various disadvantages of dams, the most serious one is the sedimentation which is responsible for a decrease in water storage capacity. Especially the dams constructed in Marathwada are on the land which is flat and suitable for agriculture. This is the reason behind a rapid sedimentation in dams of this region. Manjra dam in Latur district can be cited as an example which was being completed in **1980**. In **1996**, Maharashtra Engineering Research Institute (MERI), Nashik has surveyed sediment with the help of eco-sounding technology. That survey observed **37** M.cub.meter sediment in Manjra dam, in dead storage it was **24** M.cub.meter and usable storage has **13** M.cub.meter. The survey of **2002** again revealed a **6** M.cub.meter sedimentation increase which means in Manjra dam having capacity of **250** M.cub.meter (dead storage **77** M.cub.meter) **43** M.cub.meter sedimentation in **22** years. Before the construction it was assumed that the sedimentation will be at the rate of **0.46** A/F/Sq. mile/year but both the surveys observed that the percentage of sedimentation was **5%** more than expected. This rate was **2.35** in **1996**. **2.45** A/F/Sq. mile/year in **2002**, which decreases the life of a dam by **40** years which was assumed **100** years at the time of construction. **Mr. Nandkishor Toshniwal** has enquired under the Right to Information Act and has received the information that Upper Penganga Project Unit 4 office at Akhada Balapur outward No. UPPR-4/TB/1/1352, through this letter the rate of sedimentation is **652.46** cub/Sq.Km./year. The land in Kayadhu river area is deeper than that of Manjra river area hence the rate of sedimentation will be greater in Sapli Dam and the dam will be useless very soon. Hence, the development through proposed Sapli Dam will be temporary and not a long term one.

All the above arguments make it clear that the development through the medium of dam is faulty, temporary and expensive one and more than that it will be leading towards destruction via development. Hence, they unitedly, state their demand to cancel the proposed Sapli Dam Project and to declare this region as the “Special Gandhian Zone”, so that this region may achieve its development by the means of Gandhian methods and principles. He advised that Kolhapuri (K.T. wears) should be constructed on Kayadhu from its origin to Penganga Sangam in Hadgaon Tq. Also there should be water sustenance implementation on the hills of the area, percolation tanks should be created on proper places. Of course the people of the region will actively contribute in the form of manual labour. There are various dams constructed in Maharashtra as an exceptional and experimental case the proposed Sapli Dam Project should be cancelled by creating “Special Gandhian Zone” so as not to displace a single person. The whole amount of the proposed project should be spent on sustainable development, so as to create a kind of sustained development/long lasting development. In fact, this kind of experiment is successful at Hiware Bazar in Ahmednagar District through the active participation of the people. Hence, they

appeal to undertake this experiment/task through the joint efforts of the Government and the people of the area for the development.

27. **Shri Uttam Laxmanrao Vaidya**, Sarpanch, Grampanchayat, Rupur, stated that this Public Hearing being conducted for the construction of proposed Sapli Dam is totally wrong. Because, the officers were not known about conducting the Public Hearing at either Sapli or Rupur, but same has not been happened. He further stated that the people in the Sapli area visited Aurangabad and during the meeting with the Divisional Commissioner, it was reported that whatever the problems are there, will be solved. But after raising the questions one by one, by the people of Sapli area, none of the officers from Irrigation Department have replied for the said questions. He pointed out that the Divisional Commissioner also reported that he will visit the Sapli area and then either decision will be taken. He further reported that so many meetings have been called till date, no decision is taken, likewise, same situation will be there about the present meeting (Public Hearing). He stated that it is the well known fact that all of us including the Government also knows that the concept of the construction of the Proposed Sapli Dam is totally wrong, still the Government is forcing for the construction of the same, then how it shall be constructed? He further requested the leaders like Smt. Rajnitai Satav, other officers, etc. whether the construction of the proposed Sapli Dam is as per the rule or not and also requested to give proper attention personally so that there shall not be any injustice on the people in the area. He also stated that the construction of the proposed Sapli Dam shall be cancelled.
28. **Shri Sadashiv Chauthmal**, a resident of village Chafnath stated that when the permission was granted to the Isapur and Sapli Dam, at that time, it was mentioned that the land to be irrigated will be about **1,25,000** hectares, whereas in the year 2000, it was mentioned that the land to be irrigated will be around **1,09,000** hectares and the reason stated behind this was that the water source receiving to the Kayadhu river has been reduced. He further pointed out that at first the height of the Sapli dam mentioned was **423** mtr., whereas further it has been increased upto **428** mtr., then why such difference is there? And he further stated that geographically the distance between the two river is hardly **40** to **50** km. and the capacity of irrigation in one area is more whereas in the other area, it is very less, why this difference is there? The water source from the river flows within the jurisdiction of three districts namely, Buldhana, Akola and Hingoli is less and the river totally flows for a distance of **75** km. only then how the source of its water is more, it does not understand. He further feel that it is nothing but the misguidance of the officers. At first it was mentioned that **5138** hectares of land will be submerged due to the construction of proposed Sapli dam and also stated that till date no water is used for the *kharip* crop. About **4306** hectares area will be of silt He further stated that **5580** hectares area will be under irrigation through lift irrigation of remaining area will be about **832** hectares out of which about **5580** hectares area will be under irrigation and therefore he stated that considering the above facts of area of irrigation and the area to be submerged, how the water from the Sapli dam will be used for irrigation, is a question and therefore this is nothing but the misguidance of given by the officers and no actuality

was told by them.. By giving the reference of newspaper Daily Deshonnati published in May, 2007 (11-31), he further stated that in co-operation of some officials, where the dam shall not be constructed, the pressure shall be applied for the construction of dam at that place and by showing the note prepared by the Irrigation Department, he stated that how the flood of money will reach in their home, this policy is being adopted by the concerned, and therefore he requested that this shall be stopped.

29. **Shri Madhavrao Chauthmal**, a resident of village Chafnath stated that he is one of the Sapli dam affected persons. He stated that about the persons from 20 affected villages are come here, but it does not understand why this public hearing is being conducted at Kalamnuri. The people in the area has come here from a distance of about **40 km.** to attend the public hearing, but from the point of view of protection, this public hearing is being conducted at Kalamnuri. He further reported that if the public hearing shall have been conducted in the Sapli Dam area, then what bad thing would have been happened and therefore it is his objection for the venue of the public hearing, which shall be noted. He further pointed out that if the public hearing shall be conducted at Sapli area, then the more people from more villages in the nearby alongwith their children would have come for the said public hearing. He further stated that the land in the area is nothing but it is their mother (black soil) and it is their representation that the said land should be saved. He further stated that likewise, you (Government officials) shall save their mother (land), this shall be noted. He further stated that they have taken total **20 + 10 = 30** quintals of cotton production from their land and as per the prevailing rates of about Rs. **3000/-** per acre works about Rs. **70 to 80** thousand and the compensation decided by the Government is only Rs. **7,000/-** for their land on paper, which is not agreed. In their **20** villages **60 to 70** transformers of MSEB and about **1350 to 1400** Nos are electrical pumps and these pumps are used in their farms for well, bore, etc. and with the help of these electrical pumps they can irrigate about **60000** acres of land and **200** hectares of land will be irrigated due to the construction of proposed Sapli Dam and thus the total land for which they have struggled, worked and made a considerable expenditure will be submerged, for which he is having objection. He further stated that availability of water due to the construction of the dam, and if there is no need, about **34** Nos. of dams are constructed in the State of Maharashtra. He also stated that it has been opened whether there will be the storage of water or not in the dam, but the flood of money shall be there in their houses and for this concept only, it has been decided to construct the dam. He also pointed out that there is the information that the officials from Irrigation Department are in puzzle about the officers granting permission for the construction of proposed dam without considering the technical aspects. He further stated that most of the dams are constructed in the State of Maharashtra only and if it is opened that out of said dams how many dams are constructed without considering the technical aspects, definitely it will be the dis-honour of the concerned. He further pointed that prior to construct any dam, it is necessary to study about the geographical features of the area, technical/engineering aspects, availability of water, etc. shall have to be considered, detailed survey shall have to be conducted and environmental permission will have to be obtained. He further briefed the process to be adopted for the construction of dam and stated that the Irrigation Department shall

have to conduct the survey of the area with the renowned agency like Maharashtra Engineering Research Institute (MERI) for geographical condition of the area, land use pattern, yearly rain-fall, submergence area, etc. and then only the No Objection Certificate shall have to be issued. He further stated that almost all the dams in the State of Maharashtra fills upto 30 to 40% only and likewise the situation will also arise about the proposed Sapli dam. He further pointed out that after asking about the construction of the proposed Sapli dam to the authority concerned, it has been reported that the permission granted to the Sapli dam has been given to the Isapur dam and hence the permission for the construction of Sapli dam has been cancelled automatically at that time in the year **1982**. He again pointed out that whenever the permission for the Sapli dam is cancelled, the Government said to try once again for the construction of the said dam and the Government is also trying to construct the dam in any condition, by sending reports, etc. and therefore this public hearing is being conducted, for which **Shri Chauthmal** is having objection.

30. **Shri Patange**, a resident of village Kondur stated that his main subject is to cancel the Sapli dam. He further stated that on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2008, under the leadership of the Senior Socialist (social servant) & the Leader of the Narmada Bachav Andolan, **Smt. Medha Patkar**, representatives from Sapli Dharan Sangharsha Samitee, farmers of Sapli area, a meeting was organized at Environment Department, Government of India at New Delhi and during the meeting it was told by the officials that there is no necessity of constructing the proposed Sapli dam because the water in Isapur dam is sufficient. He also briefed the details about the Upper Penganga basin in relation to the rain fall, availability of black soil, etc. and requested that the proposed Sapli dam shall be cancelled.
31. **Shri Achyuttrao Patange**, a nearby resident stated some points which are as (1) There is no support of anybody like, people in the submerged area, farmers, persons, various businessmen, etc. to the proposed Sapli dam. (2) Then he stated that Dr. Chaudhari has told about 68 lacunas in the report about the proposed dam, after that Keshv Kaka has also told some lacunas, likewise so many lacunas are there about the proposed Sapli dam. (3) Most of the people residing in the surrounding area of river Kayadhu survive by means of various business like milkman, etc. (4) He told that he is having the land at S.No. 141 of about **3.3** acres and his neighbours, Mr. Tukaram - **6.6** acres, Bapurao – **6.6** acres and further his another neighbour's land is **5** acres. He further said that in the said land they take various crops, vegetables, etc. by digging well into the said river, then he asked whether this is the irrigation or not? And what is the need of another irrigation? He further stated that **5138** hectares of land is going to be submerged and **6000** hectares of land is to be irrigated. He further pointed out that a farmer in the area earns upto Rs. **90,000/-** per year, then if one's life is calculated as **50** years, then Rs. **90,000 X 50 = Rs. 45,00,000/-**, whether the Government will pay such amount (compensation), and the answer of the same is 'No'. He further stated that instead of constructing the Sapli dam, Kolhapuri Bandhare shall be constructed by expending only **10%** of the cost of the Sapli dam and avoid the agitations, etc. by canceling the proposed Sapli Dam.

32. **Shri G.B. Patange**, a resident of Kondur would like to express some points so as not to construct the proposed Sapli dam and he stated that nobody desires to leave its mother land (*Karmabhumi*). He stated that they love on the mother land and therefore they treat it as their mother so they will not leave the same in any condition. He further stated that the Government shall clarify them whether it develop or destroy the area. He also stated that the Government is destroying them and said that they will not allow to construct the proposed Sapli Dam at all.
33. **Shri Baburao Vikramji Deshmukh**, a resident of village Kondur stated that he resided in the area throughout of his life, the land in the area is his mother and he will not go anywhere by leaving such land. He requested that considering all the aspects the proposed Sapli dam shall have to be cancelled. He further stated almost all the people in the area have expressed their views and same are heard by the authority concerned and pointed out that at the time of construction of Isapur dam, it was assured by the Government that 40% of water from the total storage of Isapur dam will be given to affected persons, but whether the Government has given such water to them from Isapur Dam? And whether the adjacent land has brought under the irrigation? He further requested that the water from Isapur dam shall be discharged into the Kayadhu river through Sandas Talav by means of which the said river will contain the water at all the time. He further stated that if the water from the Isapur dam as stated above shall be given to them then it is not necessary to construct the proposed Sapli dam and also the expenditure to be done on the construction of proposed Sapli dam will be saved as well as the fertile land in the area which is going to be submerged will also be saved. He stated that Government can not produce the land, he also can not produce the land, he only produce the man. He further stated that out of total available land, some land is used for township, road construction, SEZ and some of it will be submerged due to the construction of proposed Sapli dam, then how much land will be remained. He further stated that the God has created the land and water on the earth in the ratio of **29 : 71** and still we are thinking about more water, this is not correct. He stated that the construction of proposed Sapli dam will be correct as per the opinion of Government , but it is not correct as per their opinion. He further pointed out that though the Government will pay the compensation against their land @ Rs. **1 Lakh, 10 Lakh**, but they are having the tin aged children, how they will survive for their whole life and moreover, the Government instead of giving the money, it will take from them. He further requested Government to allow them to suicide so that they will not go away from their land. He further stated that nobody is hearing them, they went to Delhi, Mumbai, Nagpur and when Yashvantrao Chavan was Chief Minister of the Government of Maharashtra at that time they people went to Nagpur and discussed the matter pertaining to the Sapli dam with him. It was reported by Shri Chavan that they will not affect the people in the area. **Shri Deshmukh** further pointed that the Government will provide the facilities like houses, roads, etc. to the affected villagers, but what about food? And whether one can survive without the food? He further asked the officials that they will pay Rs. **20 Lakh** towards leaving the services, whether the officials are agree for this? He further stated that they people come to Sapli area from Western Maharashtra and about two to three generations of them have been survived in the area and made available all the

infrastructural facilities. He also stated that the officers are not leaving the service, then how they will leave the area, i.e. houses, properties, etc.? He further stated that he had visited the Sapli area alongwith the Honourable Chief Minister of the Maharashtra, pointed out all the things pertaining to the construction of the proposed Sapli dam and asked to consider about the same.

34. **Shri Khanduji Murmure**, a nearby resident stated that their land is going to be submerged due to the construction of Sapli dam, but the name of their village is not mentioned anywhere in the report. He stated that he is illiterate and from tribal community and the land of about **50** acres will be submerged due to the above project in which his own land is only **3** acres, it will also be submerged. He further stated that they will not allow to construct the proposed Sapli dam at all.
35. **Dr. Vasantrao Deshmukh**, President of Sapli Dharan Sangharsh Samitee first of given thanks to the Collector Madam and stated that each and every person in Sapli area knows about the Sapli dam like how many hectares of land will be submerged and how many people will be affected and as far as study about the Sapli dam is concerned, Sapli dam can not be overtaken by anybody. He stated that Sapli Dharan Sangharsh Samitee and people in the area have studied very deeply and in various meetings with the higher officials have also not replied correctly about the issues related to the Sapli dam. He stated that it is not necessary to speak more on the issue of today's public hearing because **Dr. Chaudhari** has already pointed out so many mistakes in the environmental report submitted for conducting the public hearing and though the report contains the considerable mistakes, still it is pressurized for the construction of Sapli dam, hence he feels that it is not possible without any powers behind this work. He knows that progress is not possible without interest, but when the interest will be destroying, then what is the use of such progress? While speaking about the report/process about the public hearing, he stated that report shall contain the information about how to construct the dam, reasons, benefits, etc. of the project, whether good or bad, but noting is to be included in it and further stated that after observing the information placed for the people, it felt that the report will be of about **250** pages, but as reported by **Dr. Chaudhari** that in such vast **250 – 300** paged report contains only **33** important pages and remaining material is nothing but like a compost manure and different types of mind diverting figures. Other than this, the note on environmental prepared on the above said project in English is of only **14** pages, whereas the Marathi note is of only **12** pages. This indicates that the description in Marathi of about **20** villages and about **14000** to **15000** acres of land is done in only **12** pages. He asked whether these **12** pages are known to the villagers of **20** villages and whether the officers have visited those **20** villages. The authority concerned does contact with the public in the area, the suspense of the proposed Sapli dam will be remained as Hindi cinema. He said that whenever there is doubt in their mind then it happens bad things. He asked that when the officers are honest, Government is honest, then why they fear for public contact. He further asked that if the public hearing was to be conducted, then why the venue of the public hearing is not decided at the command area or at those **20** villages? He further stated that now they are the farmers and till date they have not done any adverse things (*tamasha*) and

whatever they are having the property, like land, homes, cattle, etc. are from their hereditary and they have preserved it. And till date they did not need to do any adverse things as far as the issue of construction of Sapli dam is concerned. Then why the public hearing is not decided to be conducted in the public at Sapli dam area. He further stated that so many officers, Hon'ble Ministers, etc. came in the area, visited the area and also will come in future, such people reported that the Sapli dam is a challengeable job and if we ask them about the actuality in person, that why is this so? then they will have no any answer. Because out of our people having the chair in Mumbai, having high designation, some them (senior persons) meet those officials/Ministers and advise that this shall be done and this shall not be done. But they do not hear/care for the same. He further stated that the officers will only implement the policies or make it operational, but whatever the developmental or any other works will be there, same will be done with the signatures of they people only (people in the area), and therefore, actually, they people are guilty, people/officers in the Government are guilty, politicians are guilty But where are the people, which are actually guilty and where are such people which are supporting for the construction of dam? He stated that environmental hearing is conducted and another hearing will also be conducted and again the issue of the construction of the proposed dam will be postponed. But due to the conviction by some of the officers (without announcing their names), the process of conducting the public hearing is being continued upto very small extent. And therefore, he stated that they will not open their soft corners, powered places, etc. in relation with this public hearing. He also pointed out that a note containing **12** pages was kept at Zilla :Parishad, Collector Office, Hingoli, then why did not placed at Kalamnuri Tehsil, which is at a distance of **40** km. from their village whereas Hingoli district is about **60** km. from their villages. And the note submitted in English and Marathi is not a report and just it is a note. He further stated that they require the complete report and as the issue of the construction of Sapli dam is in the State of Maharashtra, then the report shall also be in Marathi language only in the State of Maharashtra because it shall be read by all the people concerned in a very easiest manner and in the **12** paged note in Marathi about **50 to 60%** English words are used and also wherever there is confusion, the English word is used at that place. It is mentioned in the report that at the once side of the river the land having rock whereas on the other side of river have *chopan* land but **Shri Deshmukh** stated that in the **20** villages on both the banks of the river from Nandapur to Sapli, there is a black cotton soil. Further he pointed out that the percentage of irrigation in the area is only **4.8%**. However, there is lot of water in the area of river Kayadhu and the people in the area survive on the same and if the some of the land is submerged, then the land remained will be of no use He further pointed out that a tree of *Babhul* grows at a very high height and it is only due to that the land in the area is fertile. He further pointed that in the note, it is mentioned that the agriculture land in the area is about **91.8%**, then how the construction work of the dam is to be continued. It is further pointed by **Shri Deshmukh** that there is no protected animals in the area and it is a common thinking that whenever **91%** of the available total land is a agriculture then how the protected animals let live there. He further stated that in the reports, it is mentioned as various diseases occur in the area like, diarrhea, malaria, brain tumor, etc. But how many people has been affected due to such diseases and therefore it

seems that it is being tried to deceive the people in the area. He also pointed out that the project proponent has not given the complete report. He also gave the example about writing a letter to our relatives likewise. It is only a small note instead of a complete report. He further stated that the report submitted by the project proponent is not correct scientifically. He also pointed out that as mentioned in the report beautiful birds will come to the Sapli dam after its completion and it will become a tourist place and the people in the area will survive their lives from the earnings of tourism activities. He said that beautiful birds are not being seen by them, but they are thinking that how the five quintals of soyabean production will get. In short, he said that the authority concerned is deceiving the people in the area by means of above mentioned things in the report. He further stated that he is not telling, how the dam is wrong like it has been told by about 50 people, but the report submitted by the project proponent is totally wrong and must be cancelled by themselves by passing a resolution and the public participants have also agreed for the same. He further stated that if the Government desires to construct dam then the officers shall visit the Sapli area, people in the area also to understand their feeling and also stated that the officers to visit the Isapur dam area. He also showed the Rubby crops to the Chairperson of the public hearing as well as the public, which are grown in a well condition without any rain water.

36. **Shri Dilip Chavan**, President of Municipal Council, Hingoli, (President, Sapli Dharan Sangharsha Samitee) stated that this public hearing is totally wrong because he had told that the first of all the venue of the public hearing was decided at Hingoli and after opposing by them, the venue of the said public hearing was decided at Kalamnuri. He stated that the public hearing shall have to be conducted at village Rupur at the project site, but still the venue of public hearing is decided at Kalamnuri. He further stated that as reported by the earlier speakers on which basis the 12 paged report has been prepared without visit of single officer visited to the proposed dam site area and also the people in the area has not allowed one officer to that area for survey, the company which has been allotted the work of survey of proposed dam site also not visited the villages in the area, although it is mentioned in the said report that there are such and such plant species, etc, then all this record is prepared by sitting at Nanded in A.C. office and again he stated that nobody visited the area for survey and we people raise such and such points in this public hearing. He further stated that **Dr. Chaudhari** has cleared all the points very correctly and further stated that when the permission was granted to Isapur dam at that time, permission was also granted for the construction of proposed Sapli dam. **Shri Chavan** reported that after construction of the Isapur dam, whatever the environmental points were to be complied out of which not a single point is complied till date and no rehabilitation is done, likewise situation will arise due to the construction of proposed Sapli dam. He further stated that three dams namely, Siddheshwar, Isapur and Yeldari are already constructed in the district of Hingoli and the conditions of the farmers even having the 100 acres of land which is submerged under the above said dams is very bad and Kalamnuri Tehsil the farmers are having the land of about only in the range of 10 – 12 acres then how their condition will be in future due to the construction of proposed Sapli dam. He further stated that about 30 to 40 villages are affected due to the construction of

Isapur dam and here also 14 to 15 villages will be affected and land of 5 to 7 villages will be submerged due to the construction of proposed Sapli dam and therefore the situation will be created that the existence of the Kalamnuri Taluk will be there or not? He further stated that the businessmen came at Kalamnuri city their business will also be affected. However, the people in the Kalamnuri area has already given land for the construction of dams also, but the benefit of this dam will get Nanded district. The water from the proposed Sapli dam will also go the Nanded district and he also stated that their own water also not beneficial to them. He stated that their demand is for getting the water from Isapur dam, lift irrigation system shall have to be provided, but same is also not fulfilled and pointed out that dams are in their own land, but the water goes to Nanded district, this issue was also raised in various meetings, but no any authorized officer has replied for the same. He further pointed out that capacity of Isapur dam is 78 Cusecs. He also met to the Divisional Commissioner regarding this issue. He stated that if some water from Isapur dam is taken to Sapli area, it will be sufficient and beneficial. What is the need to construct of the Sapli dam? He further that they have requested many times for cancellation of proposed Sapi dam, which do not have environmental permission and the order of the Honourable High Court is also against the said proposed dam. He further stated that if efforts will be taken for the construction of such illegal dam, then the people in the area will not allow for the construction of the said dam at all. He further pointed out that the land in Kalamnuri Taluka and Hingoli district is black cotton soil, having high quality with a water table at a depth of 70 to 80 ft. After raising the issue of construction of proposed Sapli Dam by one of the public participants, **Shri Chavan** explained that he himself will not allow to construct the proposed Sapli Dam and since last 10 years he is making various agitations against the Sapli dam and also provided necessary sources to the agitators, he also pointed out that that he has gathered about 15 to 20000 people at a time for making agitations against the proposed Sapli dam. He strongly opposed and stated that they will not allow to construct the proposed Sapli dam at all and also asked simply conducting the public hearing, whether the dam will be constructed? He further stated that when **Dr. Bothra** visited the Sapli area at that time about 200 people in the area opposed him (*Gherao*) considering that he came for survey of the area, then **Dr. Bothra** phoned to **Shri Chavan** and told that he has come for study purpose for various plant species in the area and then he was allowed him. **Shri Chavan** further stated that if the illegal dam will going to be constructed or the efforts for construction of illegal dam will be taken by the authority concerned, then they will not allow to construct the said dam. He also stated that the feelings of the children to senior persons in the area are totally against the construction of said dam. He further stated that when the Irrigation Department has called the tenders and given the work order to a private company at that time he had a written letter for opposing the same. He again pointed out that this hearing was to be conducted at Sapli area, but it is proved that the hearing being conducted here at Kalamnuri is totally illegal. Further he pointed out that all the people in the area is having awareness about the Sapli dam. He stated that the Leader of Narmada Bachav Andolan, **Medha Patkar** visited the area and he pointed that they people in the area stops the cars of the Honourable Chief Minister, Dy. Chief Minister, of the Government of Maharashtra reported that the proposed Sapli Dam

shall not be constructed. He also stated that this public hearing being conducted here shall have to be cancelled by them. He further stated that they do not want the dam, then why forcing for construction of dam and stated that he will not allow any officer in the area. He demanded that a copy of the report to be prepared on this public hearing shall be given to them and if the dam is to be constructed, **Shri Chavan** stated to visit the site and survey all the villages like Sadegaon, Spli, etc., to get the views of the people in the area and to conduct the public hearing at Sapli area. Lastly, he again stated that this hearing is totally illegal and they oppose (*Nishedh*) this public hearing.

37. **Shri Nandkishor Toshniwal**, Executive President of Sapli Dharan Sangharsh Samitee stated the Collector Madam instead of sitting on dais, she sat aside and he do not know about the officers sat on the dais, whether they are from MPCB or Collectorate or otherwise and requested for introduction. Accordingly, MPCB officials given introduction to the public participant. He stated that he will not speak on the technical points and whatever the wrong information, mistakes from the legal point of view therein the EIA report expressed by **Dr. Chaudhari**, a representative of **Medha Patkar**, Narmada Bachav Andolan and will speak about the water, availability of water, etc.

Necessity of Project - In the EIA report at Page No. 44, **Shri Toshniwal** read his written representation on the necessity of the project and reported that while pressing about the necessity of the project, taking into consideration the Krishna-Godavari Commission, for controlling the draught, for development of backward area, for control of flood, etc. have been mentioned in the EIA report. Actually, for the use of water from Godavari river basin by making agreement on **19/12/1975**, the Maharashtra State shall permit to use freely about **300 TMC** water from Pochmad dam towards down stream through the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra & Orisa and in exchange of this **41 TMC** water shall be given to Upper Penganga, a copy of the letter about such agreement is enclosed herewith. But the Government of Maharashtra by violating the said agreement **41TMC** of water stored (*advile*) only in Isapur dam and as per the planning of the year **2008**, only **8 TMC** water will be stored in the proposed Sapli dam. He further stated that by violating the agreement of five States, the excess **8 TMC** water will be used for which there is no permission from the Central Water Commission and Planning Commission of the Government of India till date. Still, the Government of Maharashtra and Irrigation Department by granting administrative approval for Rs. **21627** Lakh about Rs. **66,792.40** Lakh are expend on the proposed Sapli dam till the end of March, **2005** (copy of letter enclosed). The planning of the Sapli dam was done before 1968 and permission for the same was also granted in the year **1968** at that time the planning for the availability of **280** cusecs. (*D.L.G.M.*) , i.e. **75%** water and **9** villages and **3603** hectares of land will be under the submergence was done, but further instead of starting the construction of Sapli dam, it was mentioned that availability of water will be about **258** cus., **14** villages and 6 villages partly, totally **20** villages will be affected and **5,138** hectares of land will be submerged.

He further pointed out that till date the survey of availability of water as well as construction of the dam is not conducted. It is also not known to the authority concerned that how many houses and their property is to be affected and the composite survey of a single village is also not done, which clearly indicates that the budgetary provision made is also by estimation (approximation) only. It is totally wrong that the flood is controlled due to the construction of dam is totally wrong, which has been decided by the nature and it has been proved during some last period. Due to the discharge of water from Isapur dam (by opening the gate of dam) resulted into the increase in water level of river Penganda and the bad effects of which have been seen by everybody. If the study of river Kayadhu is carried, it is seen that the river Kayadhu does not flow for more than **12** hours except the heavy rain fall for one or two years period is neglected. The Kayadhu river flows totally dry except the three months of monsoon period not considered, then how the water will be stored into the dam and how draught will be controlled. The dam water will not be allowed to use in the draught prone area because the irrigation area and catchment/command area of the villages in Hingoli district like Dongrgaon, Krishnapur, Pimpri (Bk), Akhada Balapur, Pimpri (Kh), Shevala, etc. is already irrigating under the Isapur dam. It means, the Irrigation Department is diverting the minds by giving the false reports that the land under the Isapur dam will going to be irrigated under the Sapli dam and due to Sapli dam, the water will get to Hingoli district., but actually, the about 28000 hectares of area including villages of complete Nanded district comes under this catchment area. But where there is draught area in the Nanded district. Then how the draught of the Hingoli district and Kalamnuri Taluka will be controlled, how this area will be developed, if the farming is to develop, it is necessary to use the water of river Kayadhu in this district and in this taluka only. He further reported that the development of the area by submerging the area of **5138** hectares, **20** villages, by affecting about more than **20,000** people and also by submerging the black and high quality soil in Kalamnuri will not be possible. Only destruction will be there. By avoiding all these things, an alternative scheme has prepared by the Minor Irrigation Department of Government during the meeting held on **05/11/2003** with the then Cabinet Minister for Department of Irrigation, Shri Padmasinhji Patil and it was submitted to the Government by the Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Department, Nanded through Chief Engineer, Irrigation Department, Aurangabad on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2004.

**Shri Toshniwal** further stated that a map (Brahat Arakhada) Marthwada **2020** has been prepared and the details of availability of water from Kayadhu river basin upto the scheme of Sapli project are as below :

1) Completed Scheme (13)	-	24.903 cusex.
2) Schemes under progress (2)	-	02.37 cusex.
3) Scheme under future planning (65)		
Minor Irrigation + 4 Kolhapuri Bandhare	-	156.04 cusex
Total schemes (87)	-	184.213 cusex.

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation submitted a report after survey that a chain of **18** Nos. of Kolhapuri Bandhare and **2** Nos. Minor Irrigation schemes can be proposed on Kayadhu river due to which approximately **35** Cusecs water can be made available, hence the total availability of water will be as follows :

As per Map Marathwada 2020	-	184.213 cusecs.
New proposed Kolhapuri Bandhare	-	035.000 cusecs
Total	-	219.21 cusecs.

The use of Sapli dam water is **259** Cusecs whereas the use of water from Minor Irrigation Schemes is **219.21** Cusecs and there is use of **84%** of water of Sapli dam. If the Sapli dam is cancelled the balance water will be **40** Cusecs and this will be fulfilled by increasing height of the existing schemes and proposed schemes. Such type of report is already submitted to the Government. It is reported by one of the Irrigation Department that if the Government accepts this report, without any rehabilitation, without any land acquisition, the water of the capacity of Sapli dam can be used.

Page No. 46-47 of EIA) - **Shri Toshniwal** further stated that they are having objection on the EIA report. He stated one important thing that there is very difference in the EIA report and the salient features submitted from time to time. He stated that whatever the Government and Planning Commission of India has planned a proposal, there is no any authority to either Executive Engineer or Superintending Engineer to change the same, still some changes are made in the said planning. As reported earlier By **Dr. Chaudhari** that these mistakes are of criminal offence. **Shri Toshniwal** further stated that the salient features of Sapli dam are given in the EIA report. While granting permission to the basic project (Mul Prakalp) in the year **1968**, the Planning Commission has granted permission in the year **1976**. The figures mentioned are different while granting the permission by the Government of Maharashtra in the year **2000**. Such types of different figures, like the information given on **26/07/2000** by the Executive Engineer, Division No. 4, information given during the meeting called by the District Collector, Hingoli on 03/03/2003, information given during the meeting held with the Irrigation Minister and now the information given in the EIA report is given by including different figures. While granting permission in the year **1968** the water receiving from catchment area of **1593** sq.km. **75%** successful receiving, **280** Cusecs of complete level of water considering **423.34** m. was decided due to which **9** villages and **3603** hectares of land will be submerged, but due to such changes, instead of **9** villages, **20** villages will be affected and **5138** hectares of land will be submerged.

He further stated that it is the planning to use the water from Sapli dam during the Kharip and Kharip over during the month of October. The Penganga river basin definitely falls under the rain falling area and this area during the monsoon period, now water is required for the Kharip, this is also proved from the water discharged from Isapur dam. Because during the period of **10** years, only in one year **375**

hectares water has been discharged for the Kharip, which is negligent. The water from the Sapli dam will be used in the Kharip is total the water from the Sapli dam will be used in the Kharip is totally wrong and mind diverting. When water will not be discharged during the Kharip, water will be stored in Sapli dam and no land will be available for coming the silt in the dam. It is the planning of Sapli dam that till that period, the water from Sapli dam will be totally used for Kharip and the water from Rubby will be used from Isapur dam. The Irrigation Department says that water can not be stored (*advine*) due to the minor irrigation projects. Those minor irrigation schemes are studied, from such catchment area the flood water can be given to the Sapli dam, hence it is totally wrong that the water can not be stored. The water from minor irrigation project will be stored during the monsoon during Kharip. It is the general planning to use the water from minor irrigation project for the Rubby crop and if so, it is totally incorrect and mind diverting that the water from the minor irrigation projects will not received by means of which the Government will be deceived by expending crores of rupees on Sapli dam. And therefore when there is no necessity of Sapli dam, the minor irrigation schemes shall be implemented. The water of about **131** Cusecs from Sapli dam will already be used during Kharip towards upstream and for such schemes the Irrigation Department has already granted permission. He further stated that the figures indicating the storage of water at respective water storage are given in his representation, he will not read it and continued to read his representation further. He stated that from the **127** Cusecs water, **600** hectares Feeder Canal + **28000** hectares from R.B.C. and now the from the new Lift Irrigation System will be from Sapli dam, from which there is planning to irrigate the land of about **13320** hectares which is saved from submergence. (**600 + 28000 + 13320** hectares), then how the land of **41920** hectares will be irrigated from **127** Cusecs of water is the false and mind diverting information.

He stated that the study of receiving water is only upto **1991**. So many natural changes are occurred in the atmosphere upto **2008** due to which the frequency of rain fall has been reduced. The flow of water has also been reduced after **1991** due to the work of water conservation, bore, wells, etc. Due to the concept of water store and use (*Pani Adva Pani Jirwa*) there is no water into the river Kayadhu, then how the water will receive to the dam. It is agreed by the concerned department in the EIA report at Page No. 5 that the Kalamnuri Taluka in Hingoli district is the area of less rain fall. The average rain fall during the last 4 years is very less. But the said EIA has been prepared in the year **2007**, hence it is agreed that since last 4 years, i.e. from **2003**, the rain fall has been reduced. This will affect the Sapli dam for the storage of water definitely, because the study of receiving water is carried out only upto **1991**. Therefore it is necessary to restudy on the receiving water for the planning of Sapli dam. He further stated that in the report the dead water storage is shown as **58** cusecs, for which a letter is enclosed.

While granting the permission, the Planning Commission of India, the height of dam **18.9** meter, length of canal **17** km. and for irrigating the **1250** hectares of Sapli dam area **280** Cusecs water, **75%** successful live water stock **61.28** cusecs, dead water storage **58.41** cusecs, total level of water **426.22** meter was decided and further it was

increased in the report as **428** meter due to which there is increase in the submergence area as well as number of villages affected. (letter enclosed) The Executive Engineer, division No. 4 while submitting the information alongwith salient features to their seniors on **26/07/2000**, it is mentioned as **75%** successful **280** cusecs, i.e. increased water storage has been shown. Further, by mentioning the height of the dam as **19** meter, length of canal as **8** km. and area to be irrigated about **975** hectares about **16300** people in the area will be affected, when the 14 villages will be submerged, total storage level **428** meter is mentioned and due to which **5138** hectares agriculture land and 3 hectares of forest land will also be submerged and the live water stock mentioned is as **223.10** cusecs. During the meeting called by the District Collector, Hingoli on **03/03/2003**, it was noted that **280** Cusecs water **75%** successful water will be received and the live water stock will be **199** Cusecs and **985** hectares of land will be irrigated through the canal of **6** km. due to which **14** villages will be submerged and the height of the dam will be **20.795** meter and hence the complete water level considered as **428** meter.

He further stated that some salient features are mentioned in the note finalized during the meeting held with the Honourable Irrigation Minister and Divisional Commissioner in the year **2008**, in which it is mentioned that especially **241** Cusecs water will be stored/collected and the live water stock will be **191** Cusecs and such **20.80** meter height dam having the irrigation capacity of **28000** hectares **14** villages, **5138** hectares of land will be submerged and about **14300** people in the area will be affected. He further stated that as per the EIA report prepared by M/s. D.D. Associates, Pune, in which it is mentioned that today it is **75** successful **228** cusecs, live water stock, **198.78** Cusecs, the total water level **428** Cusecs and **5138** hectares of land and **14** villages will be submerged and about **15137** people will be affected and the length of the canal will be 6 km. (letter enclosed).

After observing the above seven salient features, it does not understand which is correct and which is wrong. Though the report has been prepared by the well educated and expert Engineers considering the catchment area of **1593** sq.m., the different figures are given. This is happening due to inclusion of desired figures by the Irrigation Department (Now, GMID). Basically, when the project was granted in the year **1968**, further planning shall have to be done without any change in it. But every time, the officers have made desired changed. While granting the permission originally in the year **1968**, the planning was to store **280** cusecs, but same has been worked out to **258** Cusecs today. In the year **1968**, **9** villages and **3603** hectares of land had to be submerged, but now, **14** villages completely and the land of **6** villages partially, i.e. **20** villages will be affected when the water storage has worked out from **280** Cusecs to **258** Cusecs and it is not decided that the height of dam will be increased from **18.9** meter to **20,795** meter. As far as the height of the dam is concerned, the Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development corporation states the height of the dam as **20.80** whereas the Technical Consultant of the project M/s. D.D. Associates says it as **20.795** meter, then which is correct? Due to the increase in the height of the dam, the villages and area to be submerged have been increased. At one side the proposal of increasing the height of Isapur dam by **0.50** meter is under

consideration. In this respect, correspondence was made and it was informed in writing that as the frequency of receiving water has become less, there is no use of increasing the height of Isapur dam, because water storage will not be increased. As it was proved in the year **1991** that the frequency of receiving water into the Isapur and Sapli dam is less, then why the height of Sapli dam upto **20.80** meter is decided to be increased. The authority concerned also does not know that how many people will be affected due to increase in the height of Sapli dam. Because M/s. D.D. Associates have prepared the EIA report by sitting in the office, hence they do not know the actual figures. Every time different figures of people to be affected are given like in the year **2000, 16300** people, in the year **2008, 14300** whereas in the EIA report, **15137**, and at page No. 38 of the EIA report, it is mentioned that **17536** people from 14 villages will be affected and these total figures are still not correct. The above figures collected from various Government offices are based on the census **2001**. Considering the velocity of increase in the population as **19.96%**, the figure from **17536** will be increased upto **21044**.

Hence, it is cleared that there is a great difference in the figures of the above information prepared by the related department. The officers from the Irrigation Department have changed all the figures in the report as desired by them since 1968. The Engineers having technical knowledge by using technology and giving the false, mind diverting and deceiving figures for construction of dam on paper and they are taking the efforts to use such figures in practical on field.

While briefing about the availability of water, **Shri Toshniwal** read his representation, which is enclosed herewith and reproduced as under :

As mentioned in the EIA report at Page No. 48, it is planned to irrigate the **600** hectares of land through feeder canal and **28000** hectares of land through right canal from Sapli dam. But from the correspondence made by the Irrigation Department, the figures seems to wrong and mind diverting. The Planning Commission of India on **02/02/1976** had granted permission for irrigating the land of **12950** hectares at that time the receiving water of **280** Cusecs was considered by **75%** confident. In the year 2004, the Madhyavarti Chitra Sankalpana, Nashik carried advanced equality study and observed that the receiving water has been reduced as below :

	Total Water Outcome ( <i>Nishpati</i> )	Use of Water at Upper side	Receiving Water for Irrigation	Area to be Irrigated in H.
Isapur	576.69	233.08	343.61	64872
Sapli	260.24	36.61	223.63	42219
Total	836.93	269.69	567.24	107091

The Executive Engineer, GMIDC, Aurangabad written a letter to the Principal Secretary, *Jalsampnda* Department dated **16/01/2000** from which it clears that only **4872** hectares of land can be irrigated due to Isapur dam whereas **42219** hectares of

land will not be irrigated if the Sapli dam is not constructed. The Executive Engineer, U.P.P. Divn. 4, Akhada Balapur has written a letter dated **08/01/2007** in which it is mentioned that the Ministry of Environment, Government of India vide the letter dated **13/03/1995** granted permission for making available the irrigation area under Upper Penganga Project Stage-I Isapur Right Canal **177 km.** and Isapur Left Canal **85 km. (105190 + 19320) = 124510.** Now, the permission is to be seek for the U.P.P State-II Sapli Dam and Kayadhu Supplementary Canal of **6 km.** length for making available the irrigation area of **600** hectares, for which as per the MoEF Notification dated **14/09/2006** Form-I and proposal has been submitted on **08/12/2006.** It means that about **600** hectares of land will be irrigated due to the Sapli dam and Kayadhu Supplementary Canal.

The Chief Engineer & Administration, GMIDC, Aurangabad vide letter dated **30/10/2006** informed to the MoEF that the Sapli dam having submergence area of **5545** hectares, water storage capacity of **260** Cusecs dam and the canal of **6 km.** length straight way irrigation area of **900** hectares falls under B-1 Category. It means that total **900** irrigation area will be made available.

From the above wrong figures, it can be seen that the Irrigation Department and Jalsampada Department are trying to seek the permission from MoEF. The Planning Commission of India has finalized the irrigation area of **12950** hectares due to the construction of Sapli dam and as reported above the Madhyavarti Chitra Sankalpana, Nashik has stated that **42219** hectares of land will not be under the irrigation area, if the Sapli dam is not constructed. It is seen from the letter written by the Executive Engineer, U.P.P. Divn. 4, Akhada Balapur that due to the construction of Sapli dam about **600** hectares of land can be irrigated, whereas from the letter written by the Chief Engineer & Administrator of GMIDC, Aurangabad it clears that about **900** hectares of land will be irrigated due to the Sapli dam. From this contradictory statement, it clears that the concerned departments can not tell that how many land will be irrigated due to Sapli dam.

The Ministry of Jalsampada Department vide the letter dated **31/03/2006** granted a permission to use **131** Cusecs water from Sapli dam from Kharip balance water. **Shri Mendhgire**, Chief Engineer, Water Science Project, Jalsampada Department, Nashik informed to the Executive Engineer, GMIDC, Aurangabad vide the letter dated **03/01/2008** that after carrying the equality (*Samrupta*) study in the year **2004** due to reducing **75%** confident, length of canal and irrigation area is required to be curtailed. It is the planning to use the water from Sapli dam for Kharip and when the use of water from Sapli dam for Kharip is **109.96** cusecs, then how the new proposed schemes will be finalized from the Kharip balance water of **131** cusecs. The capacity of completed irrigation schemes will definitely be affected if the new schemes at upper area started in operation and the expenditure to be occurred on Sapli dam will be useless. This clearly indicates that by **75%** confident from **258** Cusecs water of Sapli dam, **131** Cusecs water will definitely be reduced and the area of **28000** hectares + **600** hectares will not be irrigated from the remaining **(258-131) = 127** Cusecs of water, which is true as sun light. Because the department which plans for

the water and dam, the same department reports that the expenditure to be occurred on Sapli dam will be useless due to the use of **131** Cusecs water at upper side. From this, it clearly indicated that the figures mentioned in the EIA report are false and mind diverting.

Further, he stated that out of total water storage in Isapur dam, the dead water storage was **315** cusecs, whereas the live water storage was **964** cusecs. When the frequency of receiving water is reduced into Isapur dam and after equality study by **75%** confident, about **576.69** Cusecs water instead of **964** Cusecs is being stored from which the dead storage (assuming the reduction by 25%), if **141.75** Cusecs water is curtailed, **425.75** Cusecs water will be balanced. The storage of Sapli dam was **280** cusecs, from which by reducing after equality study and by **75%** confident, the storage of water remains as **241**. cusecs. If the dead storage of **18.42** Cusecs left, **222.58** Cusecs live water stock remains.

	Total Water Storage	Dead Storage	Live Water Storage	Use of Water at Upper side	Available water for Irrigation
Isapur	576.69	144.18	432.51	233.08	199.43
Sapli	241.00	18.42	222.58	36.61	185.87

Total availability of water for irrigation of both the dams – 385.00

As per the letter dated **02/09/2008** of the Executive Engineer, U.P.P. Divn. 4, Akhada Balapur, the rate of irrigation of land per Cusecs is **133** hectares and therefore **385.30** cusecs x **133** hectares = **51,244.9** hectares of land will be irrigated.

M/s. Lendal Mills Associates, Landon, Technical Consultant appointed by the World Bank in the year **1991** had submitted a report after carrying the equality study in which it was mentioned that in the month June, **1991**, the receiving water has become less. Further in the year **1991** and October, **2004**, C.D.O., Nashik after carrying the advanced water sources (*Jalnishpatti*) study, a report has been submitted. In the year **1991**, it is proved that water in Isapur dam has been reduced upto maximum extent. The report was submitted was that he water storage in Isapur dam of **576.69** Cusecs may be there by **75%** confident and this is based on the factual position. Because C.D.O., Nashik has proved this and if so, the following record of reduction in water storage is reproduced hereunder :

Year	Maximum Water Storage
1996-97	619.77
1998-99	964.10
1999-2000	964.10
2001-2002	960.27
2002-2003	877.83

The above figures indicate that it is nothing but deceiving.

The submergence and catchment area of Isapur dam is **9510** hectares and **4636** Sq.km. respectively. The river Penganga flows through Buldhana, Vashim and Hingoli districts and water was discharged from Isapur dam in the year **1983** and due to providing a gate at Sandva, the Isapur dam was filled up at its total capacity. During the period of **8** years from the date of storing the water into the Isapur dam, instead of **1279** Cusecs water only **576.69** Cusecs water is being stored in Isapur dam, in which the live water stock is **425.75** cusecs. But the location of Sapli dam is only **73** km. from the origin of Kayadhu river, catchment area is also very less and without storing the water **241** Cusecs water will be get, which is totally incorrect and mind diverting.

Page No. 48 of EIA - **Shri Toshniwal** further read his representation and stated that Penganga river is the sub-basin of Godavari river basin in the State of Maharashtra on which Isapur dam at village Isapur, Tq. Pusad, Dist: Yavatmal has been constructed. The first stage of Upper Penganga is Isapur and the second stage is the Sapli dam which is going to be constructed on river Kayadhu which is the major tributary of river Penganga. When basic permission was granted in the year **1968**, the water storage planned was **1,25,495** hectares and the Planning Commission has granted permission on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, **1976** for annual irrigation of total **1,11,511** hectares. The construction of Isapur dam was completed in the year **1982** and actual irrigation was started in the year **1984**, but due to providing get to the dam, at first water was completed stored in the dam in the year **1993**. As reported above, the Technical Consultant M/s. Lendal Mills Associates, London has studied about the Penganga Project in the year **1991** and recommended to increase the height of the Sapli dam. In the year **1991**, C.D.O., Nashik carried the advanced study (*Jalnishpatti*) and submitted report to the Government from which is seen that water from Isapur dam from 804 Cusecs to **545** Cusecs and from Sapli dam from **284** Cusecs to **258** Cusecs has been reduced and also suggested not to do any work in further area of **115** km. of right canal. Due to which the irrigation area has also been reduced upto **1,07,090** hectares. He again repeated about the permission granted for the projects by various authorities as well as reducing of irrigation area and stated that while submitting the proposal of dam, the draft was prepared without visiting the actual field area, because while carrying the equality study, after carrying the study of rain fall and receiving water, the availability of water was decided only for the period from **1968** to **1988**. But while submitting the proposal about the construction of dam only table work has been done due to which the irrigation area is not available as per the original proposal.

After complete construction of Isapur dam, at first in the year **1984**, water was given into the R.B.C. of canal. When the flowing capacity of R.B.C. of the canal was **78.40** cusecs, from the year **1985-86** to **1991-92**, water was not discharged from more than **28** cusecs. In June, **1993** after providing the gate to the *Sandva*, during the period

from **1995-96 & 1999-2000**, even having the total storage capacity of Isapur dam, water was not discharged and then, after **2000-01** more than **30** Cusecs of water was not discharged through R.B.C. During the period of five year (**1984 – 1989**) after discharging the water into the canal, further due to damage (*nikrusht*) to the canal, the water from the right canal of Isapur dam can not be discharged more than **17** Cusecs and this is observed, then a Committee under the Chairmanship of **Shri Ranade** was appointed for the inquiry of the same. **Shri Ranade** during his report, it was reported that more than **25%** capacity of R.B.C. the water can be discharged through R.B.C. In spite of complete capacity of Isapur dam, till date, no irrigation is done at full capacity. It is agreed by the Jalsampada Department that after June, **2007** only **79787** hectares of irrigation area has been made available. When water was available in Isapur dam, about **47225** hectares of irrigation could be done during the year **2007-08**, the record of which is available at the Executive Engineer, Divn. No. 1. After having the irrigation capacity of **89787** hectares at the end of June, **2007** only **47225** hectares of area is irrigated. It means the land of **32562** hectares could not be irrigated even though the sufficient water is available in Isapur dam and therefore the irrigation area can not be made available even water is available in the right canal of the dam. The water from Sapli dam will also go through feeder canal and it is planned to irrigate **28000** hectares of land, how it is possible, when proposed area could not be irrigated from first stage of Isapur dam. Only it is a play of figures on the paper by means of which it is a plan to waste the money of Government as well as public. The total cost as per the budgetary provision of both the dams of Upper Penganga Project after granting the administrative approval for third time, the total cost worked out was Rs. **86,747** Lakh in the year **1999** and considering the increase by **10%** every year, the said cost was Rs. **1,17,062/-**, and when the cost of the project considered at the rate of **15%**, then it is necessary to seek the permission of the Central Water Commission as well as Planning Commission of the India. But the Jalsampada Department has called the bids without obtaining the advanced permission. However, the orders for the construction of the dam are also issued, which is totally illegal. As per the Condition No. 3 of the approval given by the MoEF, when the implementation authority changes, then it is mandatory to seek the permission by the new implementing authority, but such thing is not happened and no any new proposal was submitted.

Page No. 49 of EIA (Land Use Pattern) - Further, while briefing about the land use availability, **Shri Toshniwal** stated that the land of about **124** hectares, which is under irrigation, will be submerged. Actually, the total land of about **704** hectares of land from villages Sandas, Salegaon, Sodegaon, etc. comes under irrigation due to Kalamkonda Minor Irrigation Dam, out of which **272** hectares of land comes under the submergence area of Sapli dam.

About **1750** hectares of land comes under irrigation still due to the bore, wells, etc. from **20** villages in the dam area. This frequency increases by **25%** during the Rubby (**1750 + 272** hectares) = **2022** hectares of land under the irrigation comes under submergence area and it is the concept that the land of **124** hectares under irrigation comes under submergence area is totally wrong and mind diverting. The perennial

crops like sugarcane, groundnut, turmeric, etc. are taken during Kharip & Rubby. It is recorded that about **1319** agriculture pumps authorized by MSEB are in operation in **20** villages on the submergence area of **5138** and the raby as well as perennial crops are taken with the help of these pumps. If it is considered that one agriculture pump is equal to **2** hectares of irrigating land, i.e. **2600** hectares of land comes under the irrigation. The details given about the submergence are due to the Sapli dam are also not correct, because it is shown that some Gat Numbers submerge under the dam and some of non-submerging Gat Numbers are also comes under the submergence area. e.g. the Gat numbers from village Yelki 423, 434, 435, Belghar 158 to 181, Dharwhawada 175, 17, 20, Kondur 205 & 206, Bibdhar 10, Grassland Kharvi 28, Potra 200, 206, Sandan 29, 32, 33, 40, 34, 28/2, Yehlegaon 21, Nandapur 267, Chafnath 56 to 76, etc. are under the submergence area, but not shown, however, the Gat No. from village Potra 1,2,3,4,5, 203, Rupur 72, Killewadgaon 66, 69, 55, 57, 20, etc. non-submerging, but comes under the submergence area is shown in the map. But, Tava- 174, 173, 142, 7, Chichoti 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 24 to 29 is under the submergence area of Sapli dam, but it is not cleared that till date how many land will be under submergence is not shown in the map. mentioned any where in the map. The land of village Sapli is submerging, but the land from village like Chinchodi, Kumbharwadi, Harwadi, etc. though comes under the submergence area, but not shown in the map.

Page No. 50 of EIA (Railway Line) - Further, **Shri Toshniwal** stated that the Railway Line is not passing nearby the dam as pointed out by the U.P.P. Jalsampada Department, but the back water of dam reaches to Railway Line upto Nandapur village and Nandapur village will be affected totally. The Gat No. 267, 271, 272, 273 where there is the Central Railway Line and the Railway employees reside in that area and the area adjacent to them falls under the submergence area. The Railway line is also in the water. But as the permission from Railway Department will not get, and it is pointed out that the Railway Line will not be submerged. The Railway passes from the nearby Gat Numbers 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26 & 29 and these Gat numbers comes under the back water of dam, then how the Railway Line will be there?

Forest Land - It is totally wrong that the Jalsampada Department is saying that the forest land will not be submerged, but the Gat No.s 72, 73, 74, 75, 34, 39, 40, 33, 32, 31, 36/2 adjacent to the forest on Gat No. 46 & 47 of village Digras, Tq. Kalamnuri are totally submerging and the flood line also passes through the adjacent forest area, which is shown in the map clearly. But to avoid the permission of Forest Department, it is being said that the forest land does not submerge. The Jalsampada Department has not taken any measure so as not to destroy the forest land due to the storage of dam water (back water). The maps, design, expected expenditure for the same is not mentioned anywhere in the report. The back water will be in the 10 hectares of forest land and about 3 hectares of forest land will be submerged. It is also cleared in the letter dated **28/05/2005** issued by the Additional Director of MoEF, then how this technical point has been changed?

Page No. 51 of EIA (Benefit Cost Ratio) - While telling about the Benefit Cost Ratio, **Shri Toshniwal** stated that the Government of Maharashtra has given administrative approval for the U.P.P. I & II stage for third time. The cost of the project on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 1999 was Rs. **86746** Lakhs and considering the average increase of **10%** on it during the period of **9** years from **1999** to **2008**, the amount worked out to be Rs. **1,72,062** Crores and from this, it does not found beneficial as per the benefit ratio. The work of Isapur dam has completed in the year **1996**, this is also wrong as per the report of Shri Ranade. The work of U.P.P. – I of Isapur dam is completed in **1993** now the work of U.P.P. – II of Sapli dam is to be completed for which Rs. **1,72,062** Crores will be expend, then how the B.C. Ratio applies.

It is mentioned in the EIA report on Page No. 51 that the water supply will be provided for the drinking and industrialization purposes. At present, the water from Isapur is being supply to the Kalamnuri city and after supplying the water for Kharip from Sapli dam, very less water storage will be remained, i.e. only dead water storage will be there and the water from dead water storage can not be used. It is totally wrong to say that there will be development in MIDC Area Kalamnuri and Hingoli due to supplying of water because the MIDC Area Hingoli is at a distance of **15** km. from the back water of dam and if water is provided to Kharip, then only dead water stock will be remained, then how the water can be used. Further, while conducting the equality study, the C.D.O., Nashik in their report of the year **2004** cleared that there is no permission for drinking water from Sapli dam. As suggested by the Zonal Officer **0.867** Cusecs water will be reserved for drinking purpose and there will be no provision for the use of water for industrial purpose. Further, in the note prepared by GMIDC Divn. No. 4, Balapur, it is mentioned that as per the Circular issued by the Jalsampada Department from the live water stock from **198** Cusecs **15** Cusecs water for drinking purpose, i.e. **29.7** Cusecs & at the rate of **10%**, **19.8** Cusecs water can be used for industrial purpose. Totally after deducting **29.5** Cusecs water, **148.5** Cusecs water can be used for irrigation. This means that the figures given in the EIA report is false.

**Shri Toshniwal** reported that about slit and soil testing, the earlier speakers have given the information and therefore he will not speak about the same.

In the EIA report at Page No. A5, the information about affected categories (caste) is given, which is also false.

*Kahar* caste is shown in Scheduled Caste, *Pardhi*, *Banjara* and *Lamhani* in S.T. and *Gujar*, *Thakur*, etc. in Others. But the above category of people are not available in **20** villages of submergence area. However, **921** persons from blind tribal category out **14** villages from **9** villages will be dam affected, but it is not included in the EIA report. This means that it is to point out that the blind tribal category people are not in the submergence area. Because the Central and State Government have banned by enforcing various Acts for acquisition as well as sale and purchase of their land. He also stated that the details about above category of people to be affected are mentioned in the EIA report at Page No. 38. The details are enclosed.

EIA report Page No. 59 – The preparation work of EIA report was given to M/s. D.D. Associates and they have to study about the living standards, social and cultural lifestyle of the people in the area, but the said agency has not carried such study as there was oppose to them by the people area, this is totally incorrect and mind diverting, even though the said agency has given the information about the houses, quality of land, quality of water, population, creatures, grass, trees, bushes, etc. in the EIA report, which is incorrect. He further pointed out that the said agency namely, M/s. D.D. Associates informed to the Irrigation Department, Divn. No. 4 vide their letter dated **17/12/2008** that their officers are not allowed to conduct the social economic survey and therefore they can not prepare the Environment Impact Assessment Study 6210 families in the area without proper study. And therefore **Shri Toshniwal** stated that on which basis the EIA report has been prepared, this shall be noted.

**Shri Toshniwal** further read his representation on certain points mentioned in the EIA report at Page No. 65 to 78 as below :

### **Impact on Geographical/Physical Aspects :**

**Change in Topography** : Due to the construction of major dam by diverting the flow of river, the flow of river will be stopped forever. And also no flow will be at down stream, hence this change will be forever, i.e. major negative impact will be there.

**Pollution of Land** : During the construction phase 7 hectares of land will be required for mining due to which minerals will be destroyed, this is the major negative impact.

**Changes in Natural Nallas** : In the submergence area of **5138** hectares of Sapli dam so many nallas are there, such nallas/streams will be destroyed. In the catchment area also there are some natural nallas. Due to the drying of rivers, the changes to be occurred will not be recoverable and hence this is the major negative impact.

**Flood Control** : It is proved by the nature that by constructing of dams, flood can not be controlled. In India, there are so many examples of discharging the water from dams during the period of monsoon due to which losses are occurred, hence this is the medium negative impact.

**Silt storage** : In the catchment area and submergence area of Sapli dam, the land available is black, plane and of less forestry, hence there will be substantial increase in the silt in Sapli dam as compared with the other dams. It is a record with the Jalsampada Department that the silt has been increased more than the quantity of assumption in many dams and therefore the life of the dams have been reduced. If the silt quantity in the dams like Jaikwadi, Manjra, etc. from Marathwada is considered, then in the coming years there will be only silt dams, hence this is the total long life negative impact.

**Change in the Ground Water Level** : In some area, the level of ground water will be increased due to construction of dam, hence this will be the lifelong positive impact.

**Marshy & Salty Land** : The Kayadhu river basin is in the black soil and water does not percolate from the black soil, it holds the water. Due to the storage of water the land at the down stream of the dam will be marshy and due to storage of water in that land regularly, the said land will be salty and further it will be infertile, hence this will be the medium negative impact.

**Air & Noise Pollution** : The impact will be minor negative.

**Impact on Water Quality** : In the short note in EIA report, it is mentioned that 250 workers and the water required may pollute the river water and other sources. Actually, the water receives to the dam from the catchment area, which contains waste water, contents of chemical fertilizers, domestic waste water, this will affect the quality of dam water and due to which it will affect the health due to various diseases, hence this change will be long life negative impact.

**Shri Toshniwal** further stated that the points about Biodiversity. Forest Land, Wild Animal & their disturbance in the way, Scope for Fish Production, Aquatic Life and their disturbances, Impact of Water Plants due submergence, etc. are already briefed by earlier participants.

**Social Condition & Standard of Living** : M/s. D.D. Associates in their report it is mentioned that they have not visited door to door in the area due to oppose from the people, which is correct. Actually, the representatives from the said Society not visited the home to home, but they are now allowed in the area by the people and therefore the reports indicated in the EIA as stated above, as well as study of 20 villages is nothing but a table work, for which the information is collected various offices concerned. This clearly indicated that the information is prepared on paper only by giving the false information so as to divert the mind diverting one of the Environment Department, Government of India, thence the impact will be totally negative for a long term priod.

**Migration of creatures** : The migration of the creatures will be forever, and it is true that the pet animals will survive with the project, but the due to the submergence area of about 5138 hectares the cattle feed will also be submerged, hence this will be the minor negative impact.

**Impact on Economic situation due to submergence of land** : As the changes will be permanent, this will be the long life negative impact.

**Primary facilities will be destroyed forever due to submergence area** : The primary facilities will be destroyed forever due to the submergence area which includes, roads, schools, hospital, buildings, electricity, holy places, etc. Though

there is no any State Highway in the area of Sapli project, but the roads joining to the villags, nallas, streams, etc. within the area of **5138** hectares will be destroyed forever. Further the village Nandapur will be submerged completely and its rehabilitation will also be done, but the Purna – Akola Broad gauze Railway line passing through the said village will not be affected, this report is totally surprising. The survey number in which the water of dam will be entered, the Railway line passes through the said survey number, but the Railway Department will not allow for the construction of the dam, hence, the Railway line will not be submerged, such type of report has been prepared. Likewise, the area which is being irrigated due to Kalamkonda Minor Irrigation Project will also be submerged, still the work of repairing of canals of the said project is in progress by expending Rs. **1.70** Crores. Further, by expending about crores of rupees for providing the water supply schemes for the villages like Kondur, Digras, Salegaon, Chafnath, Rupur, etc., such villages will also be submerged. About Rs. **20** crores will be useless of the MSEB in the State of Maharashtra only, but the valuation of the Government property is done, it will be more and more crores, hence this change will be life long negative impact.

**Public Health** : It is mentioned that only the health centres will be submerged, but the study is not conducted about the effect of the dam on the health of people residing at the dam side as well as rehabilitated people. So many diseases will be spread in the marshy area due to the storage of water at the dam side, no residence will be available for the wild animal due to submergence area. The animals especially snake, jackal, wolf, wild pig, tiger, deer. etc. which gathers at the dam site and then take shelter in residential area like homes, stables, etc. From the record, it will be seen that the incidence of snake bite is more in the dam side area and this is the permanent change, hence, it impact will be negative for life long.

**Availability of Water for Irrigation and Command Area Development** : Basically, the planning of Sapli dam is for Kharip. Due to the monsoon during the Kharip, water does not require for agriculture and during the Kharip he water will be discharged into the Isapur dam through Kayadhu Fidder Canal by right canal. In which area the water will be discharged, today also water gets from Isapur dam in the said area. This is nothing but a kind of that the person who has already taken his meal, again to give him a meal. (*Pot Bharlelyana Punha Jevan Dene*), i.e. due to excess water the land will be affected. Hence, this will be the long life negative impact.

**Water sources for the people residing at upstream of the dam** : After filling of the dam completely, about **28000** hectares of land in the Nanded area will be irrigated through right canal and during the monsoon, if the water discharged, only dead water stock will be available and the said dead water stock can not be used, hence, this is the negative thing.

**Water for domestic industries** : As it is planned to use the water during the Kharip, the dam will be empty during the Kharip. During the period of Winter and Summer, if the water is discharged into the Kharip, the area will be dried, but in the monsoon,

it will be filled up. Whether the wells, pumping machinery, etc. will be provided at the centre of the dam for supplying the water. During the monsoon, all these things will be in the water, hence the dam will not be sued for supplying the water. But, after carrying the equality study, it is decided not to use the water for industrialization and the ratio for the drinking water has also been decided. Further, the MIDC area Kalamnuri & Hingoli is provided with water from Siddheshwar and Isapur dam at present, hence, the industrialists will not be benefited from Sapli dam, hence this will be the long life negative impact.

**Electricity Generation** : As no electricity will be generated, there is no necessity to know the impact.

**Tourism** : By submerging the **20** villages, there will be a beautiful place, this is nothing but insulting of the people who have died (*balidan*) under the submergence area and it is necessary to study about the Isapur dam for how many use of it is being done for the tourism. Hence, this will be long life negative impact.

**Environmental Management** : The environmental management will be limited to put on the paper only. **Shri Toshniwal** stated that there are two stages of dam, i.e Ist stage is Isapur dam and IInd stage is Sapli dam. He further stated that one of the Isapur dam affected person (Bhagini) reported that about **30** years have been passed from the construction of the Isapur dam, but still the rehabilitation is not done. Further, whatever the terms and conditions imposed by the Environment Department are not complied so far. Hence, the impact on the above things will be totally negative. The agency preparing the EIA report, i.e. M/s. D.D. Associates have also given the negative and positive marks in the report and after doing the addition and subtraction, negative marks are given to Sapli dam. This means that the Sapli dam does not fulfill any criteria.

**Rehabilitation of Affected** : There are two stages of Upper Penganga Project, i.e. Ist Stage is Isapur dam and IInd stage is Sapli dam. **30** years have been passed for the rehabilitation of the Isapur dam affected persons. And after acquiring the land for the dam **30** years have been passed, but as per the Clause 10 of the said Notification, the required infrastructure has not been provided to the dam affected people, due to which the Isapur dam affected people is living in a very bad condition. They are also away from the services of roads, water, electricity, health services, etc. In the Isapur dam about **24** villages and land from Kalamnuri taluka and Hingoli district are submerged and the affected people have not received the compensation against their land till date. In this context, the above problems are mentioned in the survey conducted by ORG Group. While constructing the Isapur dam, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, has imposed about **16** conditions, but after passing of **30** years, the concerned department has not complied with a single condition. This is the crime and the concerned shall be punished for this crime

The proposal submitted to the Environment Ministry for process of **11,145** hectares of watery (*Panwal*) area having the approximate cost of Rs. **608.45** Lakh shall be implemented, likewise, as per the programme in the second stage for the process on the hard (*avghad*) degraded area of 1,11,979 hectares shall also be implemented. As per the advice of the Department of Environment, Government of Maharashtra the watery area process shall also be done on the prohibited and reserved forest area. The budgeted estimate of Rs. **3787/-** Lakhs for the process of degraded forest area shall be modified, for which the authority concerned says that follow-up is being taken.

The socio-economic report on the ORG project affected **29** villages shall be submitted upto 1995. The assurances given by the Irrigation Department of Government of Maharashtra vide the letter No. UPP/1094/3139(505/94) MP-2, dated 23/12/1994 and the Action Plan for improvement in the living standard of the dam affected people as suggested by the Study Group shall be implemented immediately. For implementing this Action :Plan, modified provision shall be made in the budget estimate. **Shri Toshniwal** stated that the authority concerned have submitted only proposal and no concrete action in the matter is taken so far. He also thanked to the Collector Madam that she has looked into the matter personally and taken necessary follow up.

Care shall be taken so as not to become the land marshy under the command area as follows :

The required water shall be given to the crops. The canal shall be provided with inside concrete layer. The water storage available in the land shall be used. Appropriate scheme shall be adopted for the percolation of marshy land and only required water shall be provided. For the measurement of the possible damage due to the surface irrigation, the satellite shall be used for photography at the time of preparing the maps of land under the Penganga Project. Proper attention shall be given for the quality of surface and ground water with reference to the use of chemical fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides, etc. for the agriculture. The Irrigation Department shall provide required amount of money (*nidhi*) to the Forest Department of State Government for providing the sanctuary in the area of Isapur Dam.

**Shri Toshniwal** further read his representation and stated that till date the concerned department has not made any financial provision due to which the dam affected people become beggars. Environment and wild animals, etc. are being destroyed. It was mandatory to rehabilitate the project affected people to implement the Section 11(1) of 1986 Act of the Government of Maharashtra, but inspite of passing of **30** year, no action is taken for the Stage-I. Now, a notice under Section 13(1) of the said notification has also issued. The details of the people from project affected Grampanchayat, report of Commissioner, Tehsildar, etc. are enclosed.

The Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 1985 from the permission granted to State-I, Isapur Dam, the Sapli dam, forests and environment will be destroyed on a large scale, the area of submergence land, benefit,

submergence villages and due which the project affected families, the expenditure to be occurred on Sapli dam and the benefit thereof, by thinking all these things, environmental certificate has been issued by deleting the Sapli dam.

Till date the certificate for the State-II of Isapur Dam, i.e. Sapli dam is not yet issued by the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India. Still, under the pressure of politicians, the tender/bids of Rs. **155** Crores are called for the construction of Sapli dam, which is illegal and the process is against the Rule.

The land of the people has been acquired for the Upper Penganga Stage-I, but under Section 10 of the Maharashtra Project Affected Person Rehabilitation Notification 1986, the projected affected families are still away from getting the benefit after completing **30** years from the construction of said dam. Then, the Sapli dam is the part of this dam. stage-II, for which the Notification issued as per Section 11(1) & 13 (1) is against the rule and illegal. Because the Sapli dam is one part of Upper Penganga Project and to issue the Notification twice for one dam is wrong.

It is mentioned in the Resolution dated **14/09/2004** issued by the Department of Environment & Forests, Government of Maharashtra that after granting the permission by the Irrigation Department to a Project, for the acquisition of land under the submergence area of the project and the land, houses to be submerged, there is a provision for the rehabilitation of such project affected people by step by step as per Section 11(1) & Section 13(1) of the Maharashtra Project Affected Person Rehabilitation Notification 1999. Due to deficiency of amount required for rehabilitation, problems of forest land, map/draft of the total work of rehabilitation, no continuity is there in the rehabilitation work. Due to the issuance of notice for the rehabilitation under Section 11(1) of the said Notification, the land sale-purchase as well as transfer of land are prohibited and if there is no planning for the above, such prohibition remains in force for year and year. More and more complicated problems arise. And therefore or continuity in the rehabilitation work, the Government of Maharashtra by amending the Maharashtra Project Affected Person Rehabilitation Notification 1999 on 01/04/2002 Act has been enforced as “First Rehabilitation then Dam” (*Adhi Punarvasan Mag Dharan*). As per the Section 11(1) of the said Notification, the Divisional Commissioner has specified a procedure prior to issuance a notice in which it most important that the total map/draft about the rehabilitation of the projected affected persons shall be submitted by the concerned department to the Divisional Commissioner, which includes total projected villages, total number of project affected families, details about the new villages (*gavthan*) to be established for them, details of civil services, infrastructures, expenditure required for providing such facilities, time table of the rehabilitation work, the land to be allotted to the projected people in exchange of their land, place of such land which type of land the Government will give, etc. But the agency constructing the Sapli dam has not done such things as stated above and the Hon.ble Divisional Commissioner also without knowing about the completion of above aspects issued a notice under Section 11(1) & 13(1). The Revenue & Forest Department of the Government of Maharashtra vide the Circular dated 17/03/2006 issued orders in which it was directed to form a

separate Rehabilitation Cell, but the Divisional Commissioner has also not followed the said directions while issuing the notice as stated above.

It is necessary to carry the composite measurement of each village, houses, farming, area of the houses, but till date the composite measurement is not carried out due to which today also there is no actual area is available with the concerned authority, then on which basis the compensation will be given to the projected people, i.e. houses, farms, etc. and as the record/map/draft of this is not available with the concerned authority, it is also not cleared that how many amount will have to be spared for the same. Whatever the figures communicated to the Government are the figures based on the approximation. About **11** villages alongwith their gavthan and **3** villages partly will be submerged due to the construction of sapli Dam and the land of about 6 villages will also be submerged. Then where the rehabilitation of such **20** villages will be done, what infrastructures will be given to them and the draft of the same has not been prepared till date. Further, the orders are also issued for taking suitable action at divisional level in the subject matter. As per the circular cited above, a detail proposal shall be prepared about the project affected people and their rehabilitation therof and same shall be submitted to the Divisional Officer, but both same has also not been happened. Moreover, the District Level Administration has not studied on the subject matter and also not carried out the detailed survey of the area

After preparation of the draft for rehabilitation, it is obligatory s per the said circular to publish the said draft so as to make it available to the project affected as well as people of submergence area, but it is not done on the district level due to which the project affected people do not know that how and where their rehabilitation will be done so also they can not oppose for the same. The objections accepted by the Sub-Divisional Engineer, Upper Penganga Project No. 4 vide their letter dated 16/09/2006 is enclosed herewith, which is very important.

Whatever the proposed land will be acquired for the construction of proposed Sapli dam is of farmers/kastkar which are very less land holder, below the poverty line, and in the category of SC/ST and due to acquisition of their land, they will be landless people (*Bhumihin*) and due to this adverse effect, the question of their survival will arise and thereby the frequency of suicide by them can be increased.

Till date, no any type of land is available for the rehabilitation and after acquisition of the land of the affected people other than the compensation of the acquired land at least **50**% of the acquired land is necessary to be made available to them. As per the Government Notification, the principle of First Rehabilitation then Dam is not complied thereby the notice issued by the Hon.ble Commissioner under Section 11(1) & 13(1) of the said Notification is totally incorrect and also issued under the political pressure and the hearing of which is not conducted inspite of lapse of more than **27** months period.

**Shri Toshniwal** stated that the Honourable Collector has also visited the area and thought about what types of infrastructures shall be made available in the area. **Shri Toshniwal** requested that this report shall be read carefully and shall be submitted to the Central Government because what the Collector specified and how the authority concerned replied too wrongly, all these things are included in the said report.

Further, **Shri Toshniwal** stated that M/s. D.D. Associates which has prepared the EIA report, as agreed by them that due to oppose of the people, they have not carried out the actual survey of the area and the total report has been prepared only by sitting on the table due to which certain difference in the number of houses in the area is seen. e.g. Salegaon, **589** houses are mentioned whereas actual houses are **656**, Chafnath **164** houses are written, actually **229** houses are there, Kasbe Dhawada **359** houses are mentioned, whereas actually there are **498** houses can be submerged. Likewise, the numbers of various categories are shown very less and therefore the compensation and infrastructures will be not get to the people who has not mentioned in the report. The detail representation of **Shri Toshniwal** alongwith necessary enclosures is enclosed herewith in the form of booklet, i.e. Part-I & Part-II, separately.

Further, **Shri Toshniwal** after reading all the above points related with the EIA report, again read a separate written representation and said that this representation is related with the Public Hearing being conducted today on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 at Kalamnuri, Dist: Hingoli for the construction of proposed Sapli dam. This is being submitted on behalf of the Sapli Dharan Sangharsh Samitte. Sapli Sangharsh Samitte as well as the people of **20** affected villages through which the feelings of affected villagers, their views, problems, suggestions, complaints, etc. shall have to be submitted to the Government. He also advised to the public participants not leave the place of public hearing till completion of the total proceedings as the process of Public Hearing was started at **11.00** a.m. and ended at **07.00** p.m. on the day. Almost all the points written in the said representation are repetitive in nature, hence same is enclosed herewith separately.

38. **Shri Vilas Gundewar**, Ex. M.P., Hingoli stated that the Sapli dam should not be constructed in any condition. Before, this when Mr. Vilasrao Deshmukh was Chief Minister, various meetings were conducted with him as well as Jayantrao Patil, Ajit Pawar, but in those meetings, the Honourable Ministers could not reply the questions, problems raised by the representatives of Sapli Dharan Sangharsh Samitee. He further stated that the land about 5138 hectares, which is fertile, having very good quality will be submerged due to the construction of Sapli dam and as per the report of the experts, the life of the dam will not be more than **10** years, hence it will not be of any use. He stated that many points/alternatives were put for consideration like barrages, Kolhapure Bandhare, etc. but same are not considered. He also pointed out that the Isapur dam affected people who were having the land of about **100** acres are now in a very bad condition, they are doing various tinny jobs for their survival because their rehabilitation is not done so far. While speaking about the valuation of the houses, agricultural land, **Shri Gundewar** stated that the valuation decided by the Government is very less, hence if the dam will not constructed then question of

valuation of property will not arise at all. He further stated that either they will die or to kill to others, but will not allow to construct the proposed Sapli dam, hence, the Government shall think this issue very carefully. He stated that till date whatever the questions are asked, whatever the lacunas are pointed, but the Government has not replied the same satisfactorily. The tenders/bids called by the authority concerned were also high rates and same are also not published anywhere. There shall not be injustice on the farmers, poor people in the area and lastly he said that the construction of the dam will not be allowed at all.

39. **Rajnitai Satav**, Chairperson, Maharashtra Rajya Mahila Ayog stated that the Public Hearing is to be conducted since 11 O'Clock in the morning and till this time not a single person has left the premises from which the importance of the issue can be considered. She further stated that the Public Hearing is being conducted and only the officials from the MPCB are present, the officials from Irrigation Department should have to remain present because the proposed project is related with them, the Principal Secretary who is the important officer of this department should have to remain present during this Public Hearing and they have to take care of this issue. However, she said that today the people in the Sapli area have got the dais, because since last 25 years, *shuklkast* is chasing them. Since last 25 – 30 years the people are fighting and the people have expressed their views, problems, etc. in a very panic (*pot tidkine*) manner and there were the children, educated/uneducated persons, senior citizens, i.e. the people from all the sections have expressed their views, problems, etc. from which it can be seen that this is nothing but like a chronic disease. Still last 25-30 years, the people in the area are under tension. It has also been reported that their sons are facing the marriage problems, etc. She pointed out that some of their people said that they will become terrorists, it does not understand that why such hard stand (*tokachi bhumika*) is being taken by them? She further pointed out that post mortem of the EIA report is done by **Dr. Chaudhari**, that there are about 70-80 mistakes are there in the report. She stated that some less, i.e. 5 – 10 mistakes can be considered but such a report containing about 70-80 mistakes can not be accepted. She further stated that they met to the Ministers, officers, it seem that it is nothing but the planning (*Shadyantra*) of the officers and contractors for construction of Sapli dam and also it is nothing but the sketch (*sapla*) of Sapli. She stated that the issue of construction of the same is being raised in every six months/month and only the authority concerned think that how the dam will be constructed only. She further stated that when the Isapur dam was constructed at that time 25 villages were submerged thereby the right hand/leg of the people in the area has been lost and they became handicapped. She also stated that 25 years have been passed but the rehabilitation of the Isapur dam affected people is not done so far, then again the authority concerned trying to construct the Sapli dam, due to which 20 villages will be affected, it means that the existence of the Kalamnuri taluka will not be there. The people in the area will devote for the Sapli dam and the benefit of the water will get to the Nanded, Yavatmal districts. She further stated they will make strong agitation and will not allow to construct the Sapli dam. Since 5 to 7 hours the people in the area including children, youngsters, senior citizens, etc. are expressing their views,

problems, which should be considered by the Government. She stated all political people will fight jointly against the construction of Sapli dam.

40. **Shri Gajanan Ghuge**, MLA, Kalamnuri stated that water is already available in the area, it is not to use, then what is the purpose to construct the Sapli dam and if it is constructed, then the people will to eat the soil? He further stated that permission is not obtained for the construction of the said dam, then, how is it being constructed, how the bids are open? tenders are called? how some bills are also paid? He stated that if the situation of the Sapli dam is seen, it will find that there is totally black cotton soil in the area and in such situation when the dam is constructed, it will be destroyed totally within a period of **10** years. He further stated in the area of Sapli after taking bore, it is found that there is sand, black soil under the ground and no rock is there in the area. As stated above, **Shri Ghuge** reported that one of the worker worked on the dam site told that somebody has brought a rock from outside so as to prove that there is rock under the ground. He stated that when the dash of earthquake occurred, then what will happen about the dam, this aspect is not considered. He again said that the land which is going to be submerged is fertile and having good quality. The crops like, cotton, soyabean, toor, udid, yellow gram, etc. are taken. In the area, this year the rain fall was very less still in the Kharip the crop yield is very good by means of various sources of irrigation, like well, bore wells, etc. He further stated that by canceling this Sapli dam alternatives shall be find out. In the year 2003, the alternatives decided for the Sapli dam were small percolation dams, Kolhauri Bandhare, etc. by means of which sufficient water storage will be in the area for a period upto **5** years without constructing the Sapli dam and the expenditure to be occurred for construction of such small water storages will be around Rs. **20** Crores and the expenditure estimated for the Sapli dam is Rs. **300** Crores and even the black soil, high quality land, *Shevari* type plant, which is not anywhere in the country except in Sapli area, which will be affected due to the construction of Sapli dam. Hence, construction of Sapli dam is nothing but a very purpose of the Government to destroy the farmers in the area. It also means that the Government Rules are at one side and we people behave on the other side. He further stated that the Government has delegated powers to the local bodies, when **20** villages are going to be affected due to the construction of Sapli dam, the Gramsabha of many of the villages and local bodies in the area have passed the Resolution that the Sapli Dam should not be constructed, but why such Resolution is not being implemented? He stated one important thing is that till date the Government has not acquired the land, still tenders are being called, bills are being paid and efforts are being taken for the construction of Sapli dam, first of rehabilitation should be done, public hearing is to be conducted, but, the above act is nothing bud mind diverting of the Government. In the report submitted that the water from Sapli will be given first, but **Shri Ghuge** stated why Sapli water first, the water is already available in Isapur dam, the said water shall be given first then think for the Sapli water. He also stated that if the water from Sapli will be used, then what will be done by storing the water into the Isapur dam. He stated that the water from Isapur dam shall be given to the Sapli area which is going to be affected due to which the area will be developed by all means viz. greenery, etc. (*sujlam suflam*) for the people in the area. He also stated that during the last year the

yield of soyabin crop was massive in the Hingoli district only in the State of Maharashtra. He further stated that whatever the lacunas are discussed in the public hearing, shall be rectified and if it is pressurized for the construction of the Sapli dam without any rectification, it will be injustice upon the farmers/people in the area. He requested not to allow for the construction of Sapli dam, but if it is decided to construct the same, then the people in the area which are calm till date will adopt any process as reported by the earlier speakers like strong agitations, terrorism, etc. **Shri Ghuge** further briefed the problems of Isapur dam affected people in which he stated that infrastructural facilities like drinking water, houses, schools, hospitals, roads, employment to the local people, etc. are provided to them, and when such situation will arise due to the construction of Sapli dam, then the people will not be mum. He stated that they will request the Government politely by all means for the cancellation of the Sapli dam and if the Sapli dam is not cancelled, then they will be ready to fight by all means.

41. **Shri Toshniwal** lastly requested the Chairperson of the Public Hearing that as per the MoEF Notification dated 14/09/2006, the proceeding of this public hearing shall be read before the public participants. Then, **Vinita Singhal**, Chairperson of the Public Hearing & District Collector, Hingoli stated that total proceeding is recorded in the C.D. and it will require some time for the preparation of the same, however, within a very short period, it will be given to the concerned. Thereafter, **Shri Toshniwal** again requested to allow him to read a short Resolution decided by them and stated that there is a unanimously demand (*ekmukhi magni*) by all the people in **20** villages is that the construction of Sapli dam will be unofficial and destroying the human kind, hence by canceling the construction of Sapli dam, the water available in Isapur dam, which is the right of Marathwada shall be discharged into Kayadhu river, due to which the by constructing the small dams like Kolhapuri Bandhare on the river water will be stored and thereby the river will be perennial. The river Kayadhu river is the only one flowing river in Hingoli district and its water will not be allowed to go outside the area at all. He further stated that if every public participant opines for canceling the construction of Sapli dam, then they may raise their hands and accordingly all the participants have raised their hands in support of cancellation of Sapli dam and lastly the public participants given the slogan in Marathi, '*Sapli Dharan Radda Jhalech Pahije*'.
42. **Vinita Singhal**, Chairperson of the Public Hearing & District Collector, Hingoli during the concluding session stated that prior to conducting the public hearing two major responsibilities were there, i.e. (1) the public hearing shall have to be conducted in a very safe and peaceful manner & (2) all the public participants related with the proposed project either directly or indirectly should be given opportunity to express their views. She again requested that even after **7** hours are passed, still if anybody desires to express their views, same can be expressed. Once again she invited the public participants to express, their views, if desire, but nobody further expressed any view, objection, etc. If no, then she stated that during the last **8** hours, whatever the views, opinion expressed by the public participants are noted and recorded in C.D. as well as in writing. Now, the responsibility lies on her that

whatever the views, points, etc. expressed by the public participants, either technical, personal, social, psychological or environmental are noted and a detail report of the same will be prepared and one copy of the said report will be submitted to the Chairperson, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Government of Maharashtra and one copy to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, New Delhi. As stated earlier, the proceeding will be prepared in soft and hard copy (C.D.) both in English & Marathi language and same will be made available to the public within a period of 8 days. One copy of the said proceeding will also be placed in the office of Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Department. Lastly, she said that all the public participants have expressed their views, opinion, etc. but she personally stated that not a single person has desired for the construction of proposed Sapli project. She stated that near about 30 to 35 people have expressed their views, in which some technical points as well as personal issues are also raised and she has taken the note of same. She stated that she is already knowing the feelings of the people in the area and since last two years during various meetings different types of issues/points raised are already submitted at the Government level and today also whatever the detailed discussion is carried will be submitted to the Government. After that she stated that as nobody is having any doubt in their minds, then, with the permission of the public participants, she concluded the public hearing.

Lastly, the Public Hearing ended with a vote of thanks to Chair.

(D.M. Chaukhande)  
Member.

(Vinita Singhal)  
Chairperson.