

**Proceedings of Ordinary Gram Sabha Meeting held on 24/04/2016** at 11.00 am in the Panchayat hall, Second Floor, Buticas Navelim, under the chairmanship of Sarpanch Shri. Frank Fernandes.

The signatures of the members present are taken on the attendance register where in 104 members are present. Earlier this meeting is adjourned by half an hour after waiting for 15 minutes and the same started at 11.45 am.

**1) To read and confirm the proceedings of previous meeting:-**

Benedicto Themudo	Proposer
Filomena Coutinho	Secunder

Proceedings of the previous Ordinary Gram Sabha Meeting held on 07/02/2016 are read and unanimously confirmed. Also the action taken report of the said meeting is unanimously confirmed.

**2) Oath – Panchayat Raj Day – Celebration of Gram Uday se Bharat Uday Abhiyan.:-**

The Gram Sabha members were accorded warm welcome with brass band and offering of floral tributes, being a Panchayat day, the Gram Sabha began on a different note as above and continued with other programmes as below:-

- i) The National Anthem was played with members in attention and respect.
- ii) A song on Panchayat day composed by Smt. Adelina Fernandes is sung by Smt. Stael Albuquerque and Smt. Adelina Fernandes with the accompaniment of Brass Band.
- iii) Felicitation of 10 Gram Sabha members for their active participation in the Panchayati Raj System, namely Smt. Ana Carneiro and Smt. Luiza Dias for being the First Lady Sarpanch and Dy. Sarpanch, respectively; Shri. Antonio Mascarenhas and Smt. Faustina Soares being Senior Most Gram Sabha Members present (Male and Female); Shri. Benedicto Themudo and Smt. Filomena Coutinho being Ex-Panchayat Members, being active gram sabha members; Shri. Harold Pinto and Smt. Filomena Coutinho being more consistent in attending the Gram Sabha meetings; Smt. Beverly Dias and Shri. Ajay Panicker being the junior most Gram Sabha members present (Female & Male); further all the 6 staff members were felicitated with due appreciation for their contribution to the Panchayat.
- iv) Ration Cards were distributed at the hands of Shri. Avertano Furtado, Hon'ble minister for Labour & Employment and Fisheries and NRI affairs and MLA Navelim Constituency.

Shri. Benedicto Themudo, Shri. Siddarth Karapurkar, and Shri. Cruz Rodrigues spoke on the occasion of Panchayat day and shared their experiences. Shri. Benedicto Themudo recalled the supreme sacrifices of the previous Panchayats starting with its First Sarpanch Late Shri. Jose Bento Furtado. He explained how eventually the Panchayat rose from occupying a small shanty type rental premises to a three storey building.

The Hon'ble minister addressing the members on the Panchayat Raj Day congratulated the Panchayat for organizing this Panchayat day in all together on a different note and

called upon them to continue their efforts in improvement of services for welfare of the citizens of Navelim.

The Sarpanch extended his greetings for the Panchayat day and thanked all the Gram Sabha Members and the staff for their active participation and informed that it is for the first time that the Gram Sabha is conducted through Visual Aid of a projector and a screen. The Sarpanch further informed that all efforts were made to make this day a memorable one and hence all the difference could be felt in this meeting and called upon them to put in their suggestion and ideas before the Panchayat for a vibrant and a transparent Navelim Village Panchayat. He further informed that Gram Swaraj Abhiyan – Gram Uday to Bharath Uday Abhiyan Celebration commenced on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016 with the celebration of Ambedkar Jayanti; followed by Social Events programmes on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2016; meeting with officers of Social Welfare, DRDA and ICDS and 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016; meeting with officers of Zonal Agriculture Office and Animal Husbandary which has culminated into this grand celebration today.

Thereafter the Sarpanch called upon the members to stand up and participate in an Oath taking ceremony.

The following Oath is taken by the members present which is displayed on the screen through a projector.

“On this National Panchayati Raj Day, we resolve to do our best for the development of our Panchayat, State and the Nation. We resolve to ensure social justice to Women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and differently abled and the aged.

We also resolve that we will together plan for the all round inclusive development of our Panchayat through people’s participation, convergence of available resources and hearing all voices.”

**3) To place before the Gram Sabha the Annual Statement of Accounts of the previous Financial Year 2015-16**

Filomena Coutinho	Proposer
Luiza Dias	Secunder

The annual statement of accounts for 2015-16 is read out by the Secretary for information of the members which is aided through visual media i.e projector & Screen and the same is unanimously approved. However the members sought to know the reasons for EPF expenditure which is explained as being part of remuneration and retirement benefit to be paid to the Panchayat Staff and the same is accepted by the members present.

**4) To Place before the Gram Sabha the Administration Report of the year 2015-16.**

Agnel D’costa	Proposer
Harold Pinto	Secunder

The Administrative report for 2016-17 is placed before the members and informed that the Panchayat has increased the income of the Panchayat by Rs. 30,93, 880/-. It is also informed that the Panchayat has issued bills to all the households numbering 4572 in the village. It is further informed that the Panchayat proceedings, Gram Sabha proceedings, Inward / Outward, Form 7, Form 8, Form 10, Form 11 and other day to

day registers are maintained in a Digital Form. Also Births & Deaths data is digitalized.

After discussion the same is unanimously approved.

**5) To Consider the Budget Estimates for the year 2016-17**

Luiza Dias	Proposer
Agnel D'costa	Seconder

The Budget Estimates for 2016-17 are read out by the V.P. Secretary for information of the members and the same is unanimously approved with the projected receipts of Rs. 1,69,97,450/- and expenditure of Rs. 1,58,19,000/- thereby saving an amount of Rs. 11,78,450/-

**6) To approve List of Works to be undertaken in 2016-17.**

Filomena Coutinho	Proposer
Siddharth Karapurkar	Seconder

The following works are approved to be taken up in the current financial year. Also the annual development plan along with works to be undertaken under XIVth Finance Commission Grants are placed before the members and are unanimously approved.

1. Compositing Machine.
2. Hand Tractor & Implements.
3. Work Under XIV Finance Commission Grants.
4. Guarding of garbage prone dumping sites.
5. Computer library with at least 5 Computers in Panchayat Complex.
6. Gateway for Internet Banking.
7. A/C for Panchayat Office.
8. A/C for Panchayat hall.
9. Provision of Lift & Generator.

**7) To finalize Rental Assessment Tax**

Melwyn Pereira	Proposer
Salvador Mascarenhas	Seconder

The list of Assessment of Rental Tax is placed before the Gram Sabha Members. Shri. Melwyn Pereira participating informed that the owners of houses renting out premises are confused and have still not filled their declarations as to the renting of the premises and sought at least another 30 days' time for finalizing the Rental Tax. Shri. Harold Pinto Participating informed that sufficient debate has taken place on levy of rental tax on owners of tenants and a minimum of at least Rs. 1,500/- should be paid as rental tax annually. He stressed that the tenants are creating a pressure on the infrastructure, thereby depriving the normal citizens of electricity, water, education etc. Shri. Salvador Mascarenhas participating informed that he was initially paying a rental tax which has been converted to house tax when the same was being revised and now he feels that it will be burden to pay both the taxes. After discussions, it is unanimously resolved to keep the assessment of Rental Tax open for receipt of claims, objections and suggestions; for a further period of 30 days.

**8) To finalize the imposition of 3% fine on Tax Arrears.**

Cruz Rodrigues	Proposer
Inacio Vas	Seconder

The matter of finalization of imposition of 3% fine on tax arrears is placed before the Gram Sabha Members and the same is approved. Shri. Cruz Rodrigues proposing the same informed that the generous citizens are paying their dues in time and there is no penalty for defaulters as a result a huge sum is accumulated as arrears. He further stressed that this shall at least make the tax payer punctual in payment so as to avoid penalty. Shri. Harold Pinto informed that the Panchayat should refrain from levy of fine until such time the rental tax is enforced. However the general opinion prevailed that fine should be levied on arrears of house Tax and Light Tax with effect from April 2016 and is resolved to adopt the same.

**9) To consider the proposals / suggestions received from the Gram Sabha Members, if any.**

It is unanimously confirmed that not a single proposal is received to take up for discussion for this Gram Sabha meeting.

**10) Any other subject, with the prior permission of the Chairman.****10(1) Supervision of Sewage works**

Brazinha Gomes	Proposer
Cruz Rodrigues	Seconder

Smt. Brazinha Gomes desired to know the govt. authority who is supposed to supervise the ongoing sewerage works as she complained of low quality and substandard work. Shri. Cruz Rodrigues supporting her contention informed that at some places the sewage wells dug are cracked as there have been no curing and there is apprehension that the ground water shall be polluted. After discussion it is unanimously resolved to refer the matter to Principal Chief Engineer, PWD, Panaji and seek a reply in the matter.

**10(2) Identification of Water Bodies.**

Cruz Rodrigues	Proposer
----------------	----------

Shri. Cruz Rodrigues suggested identifying the water bodies in Navelim village as they need to be protected. It is suggested to desilt them as they turn out to be chargers for ground water level.

**10(3) Western Bypass – to be scrapped.**

Harold Pinto	Proposer
Siddharth Karapurkar	Seconder

Shri. Siddharth Karapurkar informed the members that the distance from the center line was 23 meters, a few months and now if a plan is proposed, the center line distance at Nagmodem is 40 mts thus robbing the people of Navelim of their valuable land and even worse making the said land, plots unfit for construction.

He further explained that highway should proceed from hinter land and not through densely populated areas. Shri. Harold Pinto sought scrapping of the said Western bypass and sought removal of all mud dumped in the paddy field as the monsoon is fast approaching which will leave the paddy fields in a disastrous state wherein the fields will be left uncultivable. Also the mud will flow in river Sal and will effect the marine life. After discussion the members unanimously resolved to request the authorities to scrap the Western Bypass and clear all the mud dumped in the paddy fields before the monsoons.

**10(4) Construction of 10 mts wide road near Damodar Gas.**

Brazinha Gomes	Proposer
----------------	----------

Smt. Brazinha Gomes suggested constructing a 10mts wide road with drain near Damodar Gas, Moddi. The Sarpanch informed that the same will be taken up with the concerned developer.

**10(5) Opposition to include Navelim in Margao Municipal Council.**

Inacio Vas	Proposer
Joao Mergulhao	Secunder

Unanimously resolved to oppose any move by the Govt. to include Navelim Village in Margao Municipal Council now or at any point of time. Shri. Joao Mergulhao participating informed whether it is an information spreading campaign on a Renault Sign Board reading as 'Renault Margao'; that Navelim will soon be part of Margao.

As there being no other matter, this meeting ended at 01:30 p.m.; with a vote of thanks by Smt. Belinda Dias, Dy, Sarpanch.

*Recorded by:*

(Mario J. J. Viegas)  
Secretary, V.P. Navelim.

(Frank Fernandes)  
Sarpanch, V.P. Navelim