

Proceedings of Ordinary Gram Sabha Meeting held on 28/03/2021 at 10.00 am in the premises of Panchayat Hall, Buticas Navelim, This meeting is presided over by the Sarpanch Smt. Bebinda Gonsalves.

The signatures of the members present are taken on the attendance register where in 57 members are present. Earlier this meeting is adjourned by half an hour after waiting for 15 minutes and the same started at 10.45 am.

At the outset the Sarpanch welcomed the members present and extended her warm greetings and called upon them to co-operate with the chair, to conduct this meeting in a cordial atmosphere and requested to limit the discussion to developmental matters for Navelim Village. She thanked the members in anticipation for their Co-operation. She further informed the Gram Sabha members that Panchayat Member Shri. Jose Santarita Coelho is expired; she requested the Gram Sabha members to observe 1 minute silence in his memory. She further welcomed Shri. Aldrich Coelho for being elected as ward member for the ward of Sinquetim-II. Smt. Succorin D'costa, V.P. Clerk, V.P. Dramapur-Sirlim nominated Officer of the Block Development Office, Salcete Block, Margao was present.

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

Harold Pinto	Proposer
Siddharth Karapurkar	Secunder

Proceedings of the previous Ordinary Gram Sabha Meeting held on 09/02/2020, is read. Also the action taken report of the said meeting is placed before the members. During review the following interrogations were raised:-

- (1-1) Shri. Harold Pinto informed that for the last Gram Sabha Meeting Shri. Claudio Colaco had suggested that the mobile towers be erected in his property or else he is ready to suggest the alternate land for the erection of Mobile tower at Nagmodem and that the same is not recorded in the minutes of the previous Gram Sabha. To this the Chair informed that the selection of site for cell tower is done by the network company as per their feasibility and that the panchayat has not suggested any location to them. She further informed Shri. Harold Pinto to inform Shri. Claudio Colaco visit the Panchayat office for more information regarding erection of Mobile Network Tower in his property.
- (1-2) Shri. Joe Gracias inquired as to why Gram Sabha Meetings are not held by Village Panchayat Navelim, Salcete last Gram Sabha Meeting i.e 09/02/2021, to this the chair informed that the Gram Sabha meetings were not conducted due to Sec. 144 imposed by the Govt. in order to contain the spread of Covid-19 virus.
- (1-3) Shri. Bishut Themudo inquired regarding Gram Sabha Res. No. 2(d) to which the Gram Sabha Member Smt. Celly Quadros explained that She had raised concern related to the salinity of the tributary of River Sal at Mandopa and had requested the Chair to request the Concerned Authorities to re-verify its salinity as she opined that the water of the said tributary of River Sal is half salty and half fresh

and that she has the reports of the tests conducted by National Institute of Oceanography. Further Shri. Antonio Alvares participating suggested that any construction near the Bank of the river; NOC from the Goa Coastal Regulation Zone Authority should be obtained.

After the above discussion the minutes of previous Ordinary Gram Sabha Meeting held on 09/02/2020 are unanimously confirmed.

2) To Approve Budget Estimates for 2021-22

Harold Pinto	Proposer
Eleuterio Carneiro	Secunder

The Budget Estimates for 2020-21 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. 3,65,00,650/-** and expenditure of **Rs. 2,53,88,505/-** thereby saving and amount of **Rs. 1,11,12,145/-**.

Before the confirming the same the following interrogations were raised by the Gram Sabha Members:-

- (i) Shri. Harold Pinto suggested that a provision for collection of Dog Tax be made in the Panchayat Budget. He further requested the Chair to have a kind of the centre in Navelim to take care of stray animals to handle the stray animals who get injured on the road and to vaccinate them time to time and for the purpose the Panchayat may sign an MOU with the Goa Animal Welfare Trust (GAWT).
- (ii) Smt. Celly Quadros requested the Chair to impose Garbage Tax so that the nuisance is curbed however Shri. Eleuterio Carneiro participating informed that according to him the garbage menace will not get stopped if Garbage Tax is imposed. He suggested that the public should treat the waste as per the Goa Waste Management Rules and guidelines. i.e Wet garbage should be treated at their own site.

3) To discuss about the Coastal Draft Management Plan.

Siddharth Karapurkar	Proposer
All Gram Sabha Members	Secunder

The Sarpanch brought to the notice of the Members that the Draft Coastal Zone Management Plan has been received by this Panchayat. She further requested Gram Sabha Member Shri. Siddharth Karapurkar to explain the same in detail to the Gram Sabha Members. He informed that draft Coastal Management Plan for Village Panchayat Navelim was prepared with the experts and with the inputs of the Villagers and that the same was forwarded to the Govt. for review. He further informed that the same is not being considered by the Govt. as the changes and suggestions does not reflect in the Draft Plan received from the Govt. He further said that if the said draft plan of the Govt. is approved that the Rivers will come under the MPT and that the Panchayat will not have its control over the

area on the Banks of the river as the same would be under MPT control. After prolonged discussion the Gram Sabha Members unanimously resolved to reject the Draft Plan of the Govt. further the Gram Sabha Members unanimously resolved to request the Govt. to consider and accept the Draft Plan prepared by the Villagers of Navelim, Salcete as submitted by V.P. Navelim, Salcete in the year 2019.

4) To discuss about the western bypass passing through Navelim Village.

Inacio Vas	Proposer
All Gram Sabha Members	Secunder

- (i) The Sarpanch placed before the Gram Sabha Members correspondence made by this Panchayat to the Office of Executive Engineer, PWD, Works Division XIV(NH), Fatorda - Margao in respect to Western Bypass and informed about the joint meeting held at the site of Western Bypass near Tulsi House, Sinquetim Road intersection with the concerned officials along with the Hon'ble MLA of Navelim, Shri Luizinho Faleiro to discuss about the height of the bridge. She informed that the concerned officials have informed that increasing the height is not possible now, instead the underground road may be dug to maintain the sufficient height. To this Ex-Sarpanch, V.P Navelim Shri Bishut Themudo raised an apprehension that the same might result in water logging during the rains and cited the example of the existing over bridge of the western bypass at Coldem and Margao Comba Railway subway, which is similarly constructed and water gets logged in the rains at the site causing inconvenience to the vehicular traffic and pedestrians. Shri. Inacio Vas inquired if the resolutions of the Gram Sabha Meetings in respect to Western Bypass are communicated to the Concerned Authorities to which the Chair replied that all the relevant resolutions are communicated and that the concerned department has not replied to any letter nor even to the stop work notice of this Panchayat. Further the Chair informed the members that Hon'ble MLA Shri Luizinho Faleiro has provided a draft plan to the Panchayat in respect to the said western bypass and that the same is for reference purpose only as it is not approved by the Competent Authorities. Shri. Inacio Vas expressed his displeasure towards inconsideration of the Authorities to various correspondence and suggestions and inputs provided through the meetings held in respect to the said western bypass. He further informed that land filling has been done by the Authorities for construction of Western Bypass in the Saipem Lake which has destroyed Biodiversity of the said area, irreparable damage to the cultivable land and that the Saipem Lake would get affected due to said land filling which would also result in water logging preventing the free flow of rain water, hence an over bridge over stilts is the only solution. He suggested that the Authorities be requested to demolish the entire bridge stretch constructed by land filling with side RCC panels/ slabs without stilt and be asked to submit new plans to construct the

same with stilts. Further the Gram Sabha member Shri. Herald Pinto informed that the bridge pillars are constructed either side of the Navelim – Sinquetim road without keeping proper set back and no proper distance is maintained for easy movement of the vehicles and that the same are in setback area of the road. He further informed that the Public Works Department still has the authority to take required decision in the matter i.e to alter / make changes if any, to the existing plans of the project (Western Bypass) before handing over the project to the Central Govt. He further suggested that a court case should be filed against the Contractor / Authorities of the Western Bypass if they do not comply with the suggestions / inputs provided by the Gram Sabha of Village Panchayat Navelim which are necessary for the proper planning of development works for the betterment of the villagers. He further suggested that the expenditure towards the case should be borne by the Panchayat. The said suggestion is unanimously approved by the Gram Sabha Members. Further Shri. Antonio Alvares informed that footpath is to be constructed on the sides of the western bypass however the present construction has not even kept any provision for the footpath. He suggested that the Panchayat should issue show cause notice to the Authorities. Shri Anastasio Eleuterio Carneiro informed that till date it is heard that the meetings in respect to Western Bypass were held however no Minutes are on record. He suggested that henceforth any joint meetings in respect to Western Bypass to be held with the officials should be conducted by the Panchayat so that at least the minutes would get recorded which provide great assistance in future reference and correspondence. Ex-Sarpanch, V.P Navelim Shri. Shubert Furtado informed that before commencement of the work of Western Bypass, there was a meeting held at District Library at Navelim along with Ex-MLA Shri. Avertano Furtado, Ex-Sarpanch, V.P. Navelim along with Elected Members, Officials of PWD and Gram Sabha Members etc. where-in it was assured that the height of the over bridges of the western bypass passing through Navelim would be 6 mtrs and that there would be stilt bridge at Saipem lake of the same height of 6 mtrs. He anticipated that the Panchayat should have the required Plans of the Western Bypass as the said meeting was held in the presence of Ex-MLA Navelim Constituency Shri. Avertano Furtado and other officials. To this the Chair clarified that no such plan is on record with the Panchayat. Shri. Anastasio E. Carneiro, Gram Sabha member further participated in the discussion. He said that during the Inauguration of Sewage Treatment Plant at Shirvodem, Navelim on 29 June 2017, Ex. PWD Minister Shri. Sudin Dhavlikar while addressing the people said that the bridge on western bypass passing through Salpem Lake in Navelim will be constructed on Stilts and same is recorded and uploaded on the Government of Goa web site of which Carneiro submitted the extracts to the chair. He further informed that said Saipem Lake is the water catchment area where in the monsoons rain water was harvested by closing the sluice gates at the Toleaband, Nagmodem, which has to recharge our ground water tables. This traditional way of rain water harvesting was practiced by our ancestors since many decades and same water was used for the cultivation of crops and fishy culture. The Gram

Sabha Members were aggrieved that the same is not implemented and lamented the concerned Western Bypass Authorities for the same as the work is carried out by keeping the Villagers of Navelim into dark as nothing is being complied yet the work is carried out in full swing as felt good by the Western Bypass Authorities. Gram Sabha member Shri. Herald Pinto brought to the notice of the Chair that at Calvaddo- Belem junction where Western bypass intersects the National Highway PWD is planning to construct traffic island as ring road. He suggest that it would be better if flyover bridge is constructed at that junction where the traffic from Western Bypass can move directly without making any hindrance to the vehicular traffic moving on the road from Navelim Church to Fradilem stretch. If ring road junction is created than the same can lead to frequent accidents causing death traps to the human life and property. Such ring road junction will cause heavy traffic jams similar to Margao Colva circle signals and Arlem Pepsi ring road junction. The Gram Sabha Members expressed their disappointment as the plans sought about the bypass are not yet submitted to the Panchayat as requested. After lengthy discussion the Gram Sabha Members unanimously resolved to **“stop the ongoing work of Western Bypass and also resolved to inform all the concerned Authorities that present work carried out on the stretch in the middle of the Saipem Lake by land filling which have caused environmental damage should be scrapped and remove entire land filled stretch restoring the land back to its original position and re-start the work of the bridge stretch with stilt as per the suggestions/objections and inputs provided by the villagers. Gram Sabha Members also resolved to request the PWD to raise the over bridge on Navelim – Sinquetim road at Tulsi House intersection junction to sufficient height where in emergency fire brigade, ambulance or any other heavy vehicles can pass easily during traffic diversion due to any accident on the main western bypass road. The Gram Sabha Members also resolved to write to the PWD to construct overhead flyover bridge at Calvaddo- Belem junction instead of ring road junction. Further the Gram Sabha Members resolved to file a case before the appropriate court of law if the Gram Sabha suggestions/ objections are not considered for the restoring the land back to its original by constructing the bridge on stilts in the Saipem Lake stretch of water catchment area in the fields.”**

Further the Gram Sabha Members unanimously resolved to hold a joint meeting with the Hon. MLA of Navelim, ZP Member of Navelim, Principal Chief Engineer - PWD, Altinho, Panaji, Executive Engineer – PWD, Fatorda, Sarpanchas and Elected Members of V.P Navelim and V.P. Telaulim along with the Ex-MLA of Navelim, Shri. Avertano Furtado to discuss in the matter as discussed in this resolution in respect to the said western bypass passing through Navelim Village Panchayat jurisdiction.

- (ii) Further the Chair read out the letter dated 22/01/2021 received by the Panchayat in respect to NOC regarding construction of Bridge across river Sal between Sinquetim & Benaullim from Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority. She informed that the said bridge is

approved from CRZ angle and was referred to Goa SEAC (Goa State Expert Appraisal Committee) for its consideration where-in the Secretary, Goa SEAC vide his letter dated 10/08/2011 has informed that the proposal does not come under the purview of the Environment Impact Assessment and has laid additional conditions for carrying out the work of the said bridge. Shri. Antonio Alvares informed that a joint petition has been filed in respect to the said bridge with the NGT and that none of the joint petitioners are informed about the commencement of the work. He inquired status of the same to which the Chair informed that the Panchayat has

placed the said letter for information of the Gram Sabha Members. Shri. Eleuterio Carneiro informed Sinquetim Bridge is unrequired as already the Western-Bypass is passing through the jurisdiction of Navelim which anyways gets connected to Benaulim jurisdiction so if the purpose of Sinquetim Bridge is to connect Navelim to Benaulim than the same could be achieved with Western Bypass. Shri. Schubert Furtado participating informed that the said bridge would cause hardships to the residents as the road is narrow and if in future the work of extension of road is undertaken than the houses would have to be demolished. He further informed that NGT has granted a stay on the said Bridge of which he shall provide a copy if required. Shri. Joe Gracias participating informed that as per his knowledge almost 90% of the work of the said bridge is complete and halting the work at this stage would seem to be pointless. Shri. Antonio Alvares informed that the work is done illegally hence it has to be opposed which is seconded by Shri. Inacio Vas to avoid putting the residents into inconvenience as expressed by him. After discussion the Gram Sabha Members unanimously resolved to oppose the said bridge and forward this resolution to the Concerned Authorities for needful action.

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

5(1) Proposal from Joao Souza.

Joao Souza	Proposer
Melwin Pereira	Seconder

With reference to the proposals received from the Gram Sabha member Shri. Joao Sousa, the following are taken up point wise:-

1. Resolution for rumbler strips on roads touching NH-66 at Mandopa, Buticas – II, Buticas – III, as precautionary measure.

Shri. Joao Sousa informed that there are accidents happening on the highway. He proposed that installing rumblers would be beneficial as a measure of safety. Shri. Melwin Pereira participating informed that there are aftereffects of installation of rumblers as it affects one's back and that in one of the Gram Sabha Meetings he had proposed removal of the rumblers. Shri. Joao Sousa informed that rumblers should be installed on atleast the internal roads which connect with the highway. After discussion it is unanimously resolved to forward the said resolution to PWD (Roads), Dept, Margao to install rumblers in a scientific way without causing Ny harm to the lumbar region of the spine of the users.

2. Development of existing drain along NH-66 as pedestrians footpath with railings.

Shri. Joao Sousa informed that due to works carried out by sewerage dept. NH-66 has been damaged and the road is become un-safe for the pedestrians to walk being un-even. After discussion it is unanimously resolved to forward the proposal to PWD (Roads), Dept, Margao.

3. Cleaning of storm water drain connecting Ravora with River Sal.

Shri. Joao Sousa informed that the nullah at Cairo Nagar needs to be desilted also the other drains in the jurisdiction of Navelim has to be cleared before the onset of monsoon in order to avoid waterlogging. The Chair informed that the Panchayat follows the cleaning of drains before monsoons as pre-monsoon preparedness.

The Chair invited the Gram Sabha members to put forth their suggestions if any relating to development in the village and the following suggestions are discussed:-

- a) Shri. Antonio Alvares expressed his condolences towards the departed soul of Ex-Panchayat Member Shri. Jose Santarita Coelho. The same is seconded by all the Gram Sabha Members. Further the Gram Sabha members unanimously passed a congratulatory motion to the newly elected Panchayat member Shri. Aldrich Coelho.
- b) Shri. Antonio Alvares requested the chair to write to the MLA and ZP Member for Navelim Constituency to attend the Gram Sabha meetings as it is an integral part of Development of the village.

As there being no other matter to be discussed, this meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all those present by Smt. Lina Rebello, V.P. Member, at 01.15 p.m.

Recorded by:-

Sd/-
(Joaquim Rodrigues)
Secretary, V.P. Navelim.

Sd/-
(Bebinda Gonsalves)
Sarpanch, V.P. Navelim.