

Meeting No: 23

Date: 26/03/2022.

Proceedings of the Special Panchayat Meeting held on 26/03/2022 at 10.00 a.m. in the Office of V.P. Navelim under the Chairmanship of Smt. Bebinda Gonsalves, Sarpanch, V.P. Navelim.

The following members who have signed against their respective names are present:-

Sr. No	Names	Designation	Signature
1.	Smt. Bebinda Gonsalves	Sarpanch	Sd/-
2.	Shri. Paul Pereira	Dy. Sarpanch	Sd/-
3.	Smt. Adelina Fernandes	Member	Sd/-
4.	Smt. Esmeraldina Coelho	Member	Sd/-
5.	Smt. Velinda Dias	Member	Sd/-
6.	Smt. Lina Rebello	Member	Sd/-
7.	----	----	Sd/-
8.	Smt. Aida Cardozo	Member	Sd/-
9.	Smt. Vilma D'silva	Member	Sd/-
10.	Shri. Minguel Cardozo	Member	Sd/-
11.	Shri. Aldrich Coelho	Member	Sd/-

At the outset Dy. Sarpanch, Paul Pereira and Member Lina Rebello sought to know from the Sarpanch the purpose of calling this special Meeting today to which Sarpanch replied that she wanted to discuss about points of agenda of this meeting. Lina Rebello questioned her as to why special meeting of the panchayat was not called by the Sarpanch on the viral videos which are circulated on social media which has tarnished the image of the Panchayat gravely. She re-iterated that the same should have been done first rather than calling this meeting as fortnightly meeting is anyways scheduled on 30th March 2022 where-in just 4 days are remaining. Shri. Paul Pereira participating informed the members that in the viral video against him it is clearly seen that people like Duarte Pires, George Barretto, Alex Rodrigues, Harish Tulaskar, Damu Chavan are to be seen and that among them Ganesh Chavan was literally pouncing on him aggressively. He further informed the members that none of them have their applications filed with the Panchayat to avail benefits of the Circular bearing No. 19/DP/All BDO/2021-22/6270 dated 25/10/2021. He further expressed his displeasure towards the viral video and blamed the Sarpanch that she allowed all this to happen inspite of knowing the fact that they have no applications. He further said that if Sarpanch had not allowed the mob to take a video than the situation like today would never arise. Sarpanch informed the members that she had instructed the mob not to remove video however the video has happened without her knowledge forcefully. Shri. Paul Pereira and Smt. Lina Rebello both sought to know from the Sarpanch whether she has filed any legal action against the trespassers for filming a video in the Cabin of the Sarpanch and releasing the same on social media with pure intention to tarnish the image of the Panchayat. Smt. Lina Rebello & Paul Pereira also sought to know whether action is initiated against the Press report under the heading "Navelim VP under scanner for corruption" which has appeared on page 3 in the English newspaper The Navhind Times on its daily edition on the 21st of March 2022 to which the Sarpanch replied that legal notice has been sent to the Editor, Navhind times in the matter and suggested that the members may take a press conference to address the concern on viral videos. Further the meeting is commenced for deliberation in the matter as per the agenda of this meeting:-

- (1) The secretary read out the circular dated 25/10/2021 on Assessment of tax on unauthorized structure and further intimated that Panchayat resolution no. 4(2) dated 15/11/2021 & 7(9) dated 15/03/2022 adopted by the panchayat in the matter should be treated as Null and Void as the circular has to be implemented as the benefit accruing by virtue of the above referred to circular, memorandum and the law relating to Section 153(1A) of the Goa Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 should ensure to the benefit of the persons for whom it was intended. The Sarpanch informed the members that the decision of implementing the circular is decided after taking legal advice of Adv. Zeller C. de Sousa" should read "The Sarpanch informed the members that the decision of implementing the circular is also decided after taking legal advice of Adv. Zeller C. de Sousa. The Sarpanch informed that the said houses of all the Applicants have to be assessed for house tax and though under the circumstances

taking into consideration that such structures/houses are illegally constructed, such houses cannot be given a permanent or a regular house number, but such illegal houses can only be allotted a temporary house number by extending to the said Applicants the benefit of the newly added sub-section (1A) to Section 153 of the Goa Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 read with the circular and memorandum referred to hereinafter and that the illegal / un-authorized structure shall always be referred to as illegal / un-authorized. Shri. Paul Pereira inquired whether there is Panchayat resolution for seeking legal advice in the matter to which Sarpanch replied that legal advice was sought by her considering the sensitivity of the matter inspite of no resolution. Shri. Paul Pereira re-iterated that he is not against implementing the Circular 19/DP/All BDO/2021-22/6270 dated 25/10/2021 however he is against encouraging the benefits of the circular to instances who has done construction in eco-sensitive zones and zones which cannot be converted to settlement particularly land bearing Sy. No. 194/1 which is recorded as eco-sensitive in the PBR prepared by the Navelim Bio-Diversity Management Committee. He informed that his concern is one making business by constructing illegal structures in a property which is in eco-sensitive zone and by doing hill cutting, encroachment in land acquired by Water Resource Dept and cutting of trees in the area for doing un-authorized constructions without approvals. He opined that the same needs to be protested so that atleast V.P. Navelim sets an example that it did not encourage illegalities inspite of all these significant facts. He further stated that the Concerned un-authorized structures in the said Sy. No. 194/1 are illegally constructed by one Mr. Mahadev Chavan who has sold the plots as vendor with the un-authorized constructions and that now the applicants i.e the purchasers of the said plots have applied for temporary house numbers for their un-authorized structures considering the said Circular as an advantage. Shri. Paul Pereira further condemned the business done by Mr. Mahadev Chavan by selling un-authorized structures which is mentioned in the Sale Deeds as existing structure. He further expressed his displeasure that one who is doing a legal process to obtain a proper house number has to go through lot of difficulties by visiting various departments and have to invest time and money for the same however in case of temporary house number it is convenient and simple which itself is an injustice to the ones who follow the legal process for a regular house number. He also informed that for a colony is formed in land Sy. No. 194/1 and has deprived other residents around the area of water supply and electricity which is shared with the said colony as no separate transformer or water pipeline is installed. He further suggested that the other applicants other than ones having un-authorized structures in land Sy. No. 194/1 may be allowed to take benefit as per the Circular. Further, the Sarpanch informed that the power of implementing the concerned Circular is exclusively given to Panchayat Secretary and he need not even place the request before the Panchayat body for approval, however the members unanimously resolved not to allow the Panchayat Secretary to implement the Circular dated 25/10/2021.

(2) In regards to consideration of the applications filed by the applicants before this Panchayat to avail the benefits of the Circular dated 25/10/2021 on Assessment of Tax on Un-Authorized structures issued by The Director of Panchayats; Shri. Paul Pereira opined that the matter of allotting temporary number is sensitive as people may take undue advantage of the circular by constructing un-authorized constructions in Orchard Zones, Fields and other disputed lands by making mini colonies and if such instances happen than it would create problems to residents in enjoying seamless water and electricity. He further suggested that the matter should be reported to higher authorities i.e Block Development Officer, Salcete, Director of Panchayats, Chief Secretary & Secretary to the Panchayats in Goa to take final call on the matter and only than the EHN numbers be allotted to the un-authorized structures in land Sy. No. 194/1 so that the Panchayat is safeguarded from the allegation of supporting illegalities inspite of knowing the fact. The same is unanimously accepted by the members present and decided to write to the higher authorities to guide the panchayat and to keep the files pending until the reply is received by the Panchayat in the matter as sought from the concerned departments. The Sarpanch and the Secretary however informed the members that the aforementioned circular is the law and has to be followed and violation of the same would be considered as insubordination resulting in action by the authorities against the Panchayat and its members.

This special meeting ended at 11.25 a.m. and the members present signed for having read and confirmed the same along with the Sarpanch.

Recorded by:

(Joaquim Rodrigues)
Secretary, V.P. Navelim.

(Bebinda Gonsalves)
Sarpanch, V.P. Navelim.

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