

Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan

A Dossier



Dossier on

Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan

Produced for

National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF)

Ву

Centre for Education and Communication (CEC)

November 2008 New Delhi

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November 2008 New Delhi

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Preface

Centre for Education and Communication (CEC), a labour-support organisation based in Delhi is privileged to be involved in Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan campaign that began from May 1-June 27, 2008 along the coastal belt of India. CEC contributes and engages by providing conceptual and logistical inputs. The compilation towards this Dossier is one such step forward as part of advocacy and campaign. This Dossier charts out the route taken by the Abhiyan through all the coastal states and maps out the media coverage received during this period. It includes press clippings, press releases and photographs from various states.

We sincerely would like to thank Harekrisha Debnath, Chairperson, National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) for his undue support and perseverance, and providing us with the necessary documents for compiling this Dossier. It is to his insistence that we have been successful in bringing out this document as a campaign tool for the ongoing struggle. We would also like to acknowledge the supportive documents and photographs received from Direct Initiatives for Social and Health Action (DISHA), Kolkatta in bringing out this dossier. We hope that this dossier will be useful to various civil society groups, organisations, trade unions, activists alike for strengthened this campaign and others to understand the campaign.

We dedicate this document to all the courageous fisher people who embarked on this ambitious yet proved to be successful campaign. We urge the government to respond by withdrawing the CZM Notification.

November 3, 2008 New Delhi J. John
Executive Director (CEC)

Introduction

The Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan commenced from May 1, 2008 in **Jakhau** in the Kutch region of Gujarat with ceremonial plantation of mangrove by the local fishing community. The Abhiyan traversed and campaigned along 7000 kilometers of coastland passing through the coastal states of Gujarat, Maharastra, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. The main thrust of this campaign is to prevent replacement of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification 1991 with the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) by the Government of India. The Campaign concluded in Kolkata in a citizen's meet on June 27, 2008. This massive mobilisation was made possible with the concerted efforts of National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF), registered as a trade union representing about 3.5 million maritime fishworkers living along the coastline.

The fisher communities contest that such an imposition of the CZM would legitimise the rampant destruction of the marine ecosystem caused by unrestricted capital intensive development and cause massive displacement of the fishers from their natural livelihood systems. 'Save the Coast-Save the Fishers' yatra is an expression of dissent as well as assertion of the livelihood rights of fishers, in the context of the ever increasing external incursions into the coasts in the names of establishment of industries, SEZs, tourist centres, nuclear and petrochemical processing centres, airports etc. Increasing marine pollution, coastal aquaculture, destructive fishing methods used by many, incursions by industrial foreign fishing vessels and lopsided ecology conservation policies that denies access to fishers are other issues that threaten the livelihood rights of marine fishers.

A second and important demand placed by the National FishWorkers' Forum is for a national legislation with the ILO's Work in Fishing Conventions (C 188) that is adopted by the International Labour Conference in June 2007. The Work in Fishing Convention attempts to regulate the working conditions of marine fishers and provides for their occupational health and safety measures as well as social security. The demand raised by NFF on this seeks a comprehensive legislation that includes not just the rights of the marine fishers but also the traditional fishers, engaged in shore based activities, inland fishers and women fishers.

November 3, 2008 New Delhi J. John
Executive Director (CEC)

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SAVE THE COAST: SAVE THE FISHERS
Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan
Kutch - Kanyakumari - Kolkata
1st May - 27th June 2008

Abhiyan Itinerary

The campaign will start from 1st May 2008 and carry on for two months till 27th June 2008. The whole of the Indian coast will witness mass mobilizations with agitations, demonstrations, rallies, reception, public meetings, seminars and press conferences all along its stretch in the months of May and June 2008.

On 1st of May, the international day of labour, the campaign will commence at Jakho in the Run of Kutch in Gujarat and will end in Kolkata in West Bengal on 27th June 2008.

A central campaign team comprising of eminent leaders of National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF), National Coastal Protection Campaign (NCPC), peoples movements and civil society organizations will spearhead the campaign.

The state wise itinerary of the central campaign team is as follows:

State	Dates
Gujarat	1 st to 9 th May
Maharashtra	10 th to 18 th May
Goa	19 th to 20 th May
Karnataka	21 st to 24 th May
Kerala	25 th to 31 st May
TamilNadu+Pondy	1 st June to 9 th June
Andhra	10 th June to 15 th June
Orissa	16 th June to 21 st June
West Bengal	22 nd June to 27 th June

During the course of the campaign there will be state level seminars on ILO Convention on work in fishing sector and national legislation for fishworkers at the following places and dates:

Gujarat: Ahmedabad - 6th May Maharastra; Mumbai - 12th May Nagercoil: 2nd June Tamilnadu: Chennai- 9th June Andhra Pradesh: Ongole- 11th June.

Detail Campaign Plan for Gujarat

Date	Place	Time	Programme
01/05/08	Jakho	10:30 am	Inauguration of the campaign & rally
01/05/08	Mandvi Layja Vill	4:00 pm	Public meeting and interaction
02/05/08	Junabander/ Ujjas	9:00am	Visit hot spot and citizens meet
02/05/08	Bhadreshwar	11:00am	Meeting with social activists, fishers
03/05/08	Dwaraka,	10:00am	Meeting and interaction with fishing
	Rupen Bander		community and civil society leaders
03/05/08	Harshed	4:00pm	Meeting & rally at fish landing centre
04/05/08	Porbander	9:00 am	Meeting at fishing Harbour
04/05/08	Mangrol	3:00 pm	Public meeting at Machhimar Hall
04/05/08	Veraval	7:00 pm	Reception& meeting at community
			hall
05/05/08	Veraval	9.00am	Travel to Ahmedabad
06/05/08	Ahmedabad	10.00am	ILO seminar at Awaj Kunj, Ambavadi
07/05/08	Jambusar	4:00pm	Meeting with fishing Community
08/05/08	Umarsadi	10:00am	Indoor general meeting
08/05/08	Valsad	4:00pm	Mass meeting and press meet
09/05/08	Daman	9:00am	Informal meeting with community
09/05/08	Umargaon	4:00pm	Mass meeting and halt

Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan : Maharastra - Goa itinerary

Date	Time	Programme
10 May 2008	8.30AM	Zai (Umbergaon) Bordi Chikhla
	10.00AM	Dahanu Port
	11.30AM	Dhakti Dahanu-Gungwada (lunch) Wadhavan-Varore-
		Chinchani-Tarapore-Ghivali- Ucheli.
	2.00PM	Popharan Dandi
	3.30PM	Murbe-Alewadi-Navapur- via- Boisar - Palghar.
	5.00PM	Satpati (Shri Rajendra Meher and Shri Vinode Patil,
		Chairmen Satpati Machhimar and Satpati Fishermen
		Society)-Vadarai - Mahim (Tembhi) - Kelva - Datiwara -via-
		Kore - Edwan - via- Safala.
	7.00PM	Arnal - via - Virar and halt (Arnala Fishermen Society, Shri
		Vaity, Shri Dhaki, Shri Koli, Shri Patil & other colleagues.
11 May 2008	8.30AM	Arnala (Four Machhimar Co-op.Societies) - From Nala to
		Bassi(Pachubandar) - Shri Philip Mastan - Khochiwada-
		Naigaon-via- Bassain Road.
	12.30PM	Uttan-Dongri Chawk- Sri Leo Collaso and others - via-

		Dharavi Pali Marg
	1.30PM	Gorai (participation in NAPM State Convention) - Manori -
	1.5017	Malvani -via- Marve (by boat).
	4.30PM	Madh-Bhati (Shri Kiran Koli and collegues).
	6.00 PM	Varsova (Shri Motiram Bhave and other fishermen leaders
	7.30 PM	Mahim-Sulup - Machhimar Colony - Mahim Mahikavati
	7.50 170	Society, Mahim Machimar Co-op Society & Nakhoa Co-op.
		Sangh, Mahim. Dinner (Shri Dinkar Tandel, Sri Dilip
		Pagdhare and other collegues. Halt.
12 May 2008	9.00 AM	Worli Koliwada - GosfaDevi Sea face via Munbai Central.
12 1110 2000	10.30AM	Bhaucha Dhakka (Kasara port) Shri Karsan Bhai and Shri
	1010014,1	Dilip Pagdhare, Shri Keluskar , Shri Vasant Mahulkar &
		other collegues.
	12.30 PM	Crawford Market - Sasoon Dock: Shri Dattaram Meher, Shri
	12.00 1 111	Keshav Koli, Shri Pradip Nakhwa and others
	1.30PM	Cuffe Parade(Colaba) - Shri Moreswar Patil, Shri Ramesh
		Meher, Shri Raghunath Bohir, Shri Laxman Dhanur &
		others. Machhimar Sarvodaya Sahakari Society, Cuffe
		Parade - Lunch.
	4.00PM	Shivaji Mandir (Dadar) via Trombay - Mahul.
	9.00 PM	Karanja (via Vashi - Uran). Night halt. Dinner: Shri Ravi
		Koli, Karanja.
** 12 May	10.30AM	There will be Seminar on ILO Convention on Work in
2008	- 4.30 PM	Fishing Sector at Rajashri Shahu Sabhagrah, Shivaji
		Mandir, 3rd floor, Dadar, Mumbai Maharstra
		Machimar Kriti Samiti.
13 May 2008	8.30 AM	Karanja- Bodani by boat (Vehicles at Rawas via Karanja-
		Vadkhal in the morning) Shri Datta Hashya Nakhwa, Shri
		Koli & others.
	9.30AM	Bodani -Sasavane-Thal- Navgaon- Varsoli.
	12.30AM	Alibag (Lunch) Shri Ullash Varkate, Shri Ravikant Parekar &
		others: Alibag Machhimar Society.
	2.30PM	Akshi - Revdanda - Bheronda - Korlai- Bolai- Borli-
	7 222	Mandava - Ekdara- Murud.
1111 2000	7.30PM	Murud: Night Halt and Dinner.
14 May 2008	9.00AM	Dighi - Bharat khol - Masala via Shrivardhan (Jivana
	(000)	Bandar) - Lunch. Baghmabdle via Bankot.
	6.00PM	Harnepaj (Harnepaj - Ade - Utambar-Burandi- Public
		Meeting, night halt: Shri Pawesha, Chairman Harnepaj
		Machhimar Sanstha, Shri Chaugule, Shri Narayan Raghuvira
4E M2000	1	and other colleagues.
15 May2008	0.20.444	
	8.30 AM	Harne- Dapoli- Dabhol Khadi (Jangal Jetty) via Ajanvel -
	8.30 AM	Harne- Dapoli- Dabhol Khadi (Jangal Jetty) via Ajanvel - Navanghar- Veldhur-Dhopave- Nari Bandar -Lunch: Shri
		Harne- Dapoli- Dabhol Khadi (Jangal Jetty) via Ajanvel - Navanghar- Veldhur-Dhopave- Nari Bandar -Lunch: Shri Datta Vankar and others.
,	7.30PM	Harne- Dapoli- Dabhol Khadi (Jangal Jetty) via Ajanvel - Navanghar- Veldhur-Dhopave- Nari Bandar -Lunch: Shri Datta Vankar and others. Guhaghar- Night halt
16May 2008		Harne- Dapoli- Dabhol Khadi (Jangal Jetty) via Ajanvel - Navanghar- Veldhur-Dhopave- Nari Bandar -Lunch: Shri Datta Vankar and others. Guhaghar- Night halt Asgoli via Guhaghar - Palshet-Konkarul-Velneswar -Ade
,	7.30PM	Harne- Dapoli- Dabhol Khadi (Jangal Jetty) via Ajanvel - Navanghar- Veldhur-Dhopave- Nari Bandar -Lunch: Shri Datta Vankar and others. Guhaghar- Night halt Asgoli via Guhaghar - Palshet-Konkarul-Velneswar -Ade Agar - Hedavi via Katala-via Navanghar Khadi (Jangal
,	7.30PM	Harne- Dapoli- Dabhol Khadi (Jangal Jetty) via Ajanvel - Navanghar- Veldhur-Dhopave- Nari Bandar -Lunch: Shri Datta Vankar and others. Guhaghar- Night halt Asgoli via Guhaghar - Palshet-Konkarul-Velneswar -Ade

17 May 2008	8.00AM	Karla - Bhata: Shri Nisar Borkar and others
	11.30AM	Mirak khada (Ratnagiri): Lunch: Mirak Khada Adarsha
		Machhimar Co-op. Society. Purnagad via Pawas.
	7.30PM	Sakhari Nate: night halt & dinner: Sakhari Nate Machhimar
		Co-op. Society: Shri Amjad Borkar and other collegues
18May 2008	9.00AM	Vijay Durg
	12.00 AM	Deogarh: Lunch - Deogarh Machimar Society & leaders.
	6.30PM	Malwan : Public meeting - Nathpai Sevangan : Malwan
		Taluka Sramik Machhimar Sangha and Machhimar Sahakari
		Society. Night halt & Dinner: Guruji Shri Jnanesh Deulkarji
		and other collegues.
19 May 2008	8.30 AM	To Panjim via Malwan- Goa Road.
	12.30 PM	Panjim: General Meeting of All Goa Fishworkers' Union.
		Night halt in Panjim: Shri Matanhy Saldanha
20May 2008	9.00 AM	Visit to fishing villages, fishermen socity and ecological
		hotspots: Shri Matanhy Saldanha
	Afternoon	Press Conference: Timings to be finalized by Shri Matanhy
		To Karnataka

East Coast States' Itinerary: Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan

Date	Place	District
Tamilnadu		
01.6.08	Nirodi	Kanyakumari
	Marthandamthurai	Kanyakumari
	Velupillai	Kanyakumari
	Eravi Puthenthurai	Kanyakumari
	Chinnathurai	Kanyakumari
	Thoothoor	Kanyakumari
	Eramanthurai	Kanyakumari
	Mulirthurai	Kanyakumari
	Enam puthenthurai	Kanyakumari
	Helen Colony	Kanyakumari
	Kurunpanai	Kanyakumari
	Vaniakudi	Kanyakumari
	Colachel	Kanyakumari
	Kottilpadu	Kanyakumari
	Periavillai	Kanyakumari
	Manvalakurichi	Kanyakumari
02.6.08	Wadia-Muttam	Kanyakumari
	Rajakamangalthurai	Kanyakumari
	Puthenthurai	Kanyakumari
	Pallam	Kanyakumari
	Malamankudi	Kanyakumari
	Kepamanakudi	Kanyakumari
	New Kanyakumari	Kanyakumari
	Kanyakumari	Kanyakumari
03 .6.08	Uvari	Tuticorin
	Periathurai	Tuticorin

	Periathalai	Tuticorin
	Allanthalai	Tuticorin
	Amlinagar	Tuticorin
	Punyakayal	Tuticorin
	Teracepuram	Tuticorin
04.6.08	Kilakarai- Public meeting	Ramanathapuram
	Ramnad RFTU office (Press meet)	Ramanathapuram
	Dargavalasai — group meeting	Ramanathapuram
	Thangachimadam - Hail meeting	Ramanathapuram
	Rameswaram - Public meeting	Ramanathapuram
05 .6.08	Jagadapatnam	Pudukottai
	Manalmelkudi	Pudukottai
	Sethu Chettunam	Pudukottai
06 .6.08	Nagapattinam	Nagapattinam
	Seretoor	Nagapattinam
	Karaikal	Nagapattinam
	Kilinjalmedu	Nagapattinam
	NambiarNagar	Nagapattinam
07.6.08	Killai	Cuddalore
	Cuddalore town (press meet)	Cuddalore
	Putchikuppam	Cuddalore
Pondicherry		
07.6.08	Naramanill	Pondicherry
	Gingev Salai- Public Meeting	Pondicherry
08.06.08	Pondicherry Press Club (Press Meet)	Pondicherry
Tamilnadu		
08.6.08	Nedu Kupam	Villipuram
	Anumanthai	Villipuram
	Kadapu pakkam Kuppam	Kanchipuram
	Cuddalore Peria Kuppam	Kanchipuram
	Mahabalipuram	Kanchipuram
	Ualikuppam	Kanchipuram
	Kannathuradi Kuppam	Kanchipuram
09.6.08	ICSA, Chennai. ILO Convention Seminar	Chennai
10.6.08	Pazavarkadu (Pulicut)	Thiruvallur
Andhra Pradesh		
10.6.08	Ramalingapuram	Nellore
11.6.08	Ongole (ILO seminar)	Praksham
12.6.08		Dualtahana
12.0.00	Wadarevu (Press & public meet)	Praksham
12.0.00	` .	Guntur Guntur

	Zone visit)		
13.6.08	Vishakhapatnam(Press meet and agitation at the collectorate)	Vishakhapatnam	
14.6.08	Vizianagaram Coleectorate March and public meeting at Krishi Bhavan	Vizianagaram	
15.6.08	Bhavani peta and Srikakulam	Srikakulam	
Orissa			
15.6.08	Enter Orissa and halt at Chatrapur	Ganjam	
16.6.08 r -Do-	Mass rally and Dharna before the collector Press meet at Berhampur (4.00 pm)	Ganjam	
17.6.08	Nairi (Chilika) village meeting	Khurda	
18.6.08	Puri Durga Bari - Fishers meet	Puri	
18.6.08	Bhubaneswar Red Cross Bhavan Press meet	BBSR	
19.6.08	Chandra Bhaga, Konark	Puri	
	Paradeep - 5.00 pm	Jagatsingpur	
20.6.08	Kharinashi (public meeting)	Kendrapara	
	Rajnagar	Do	
21.6.08	Bideipur	Bhadrak	
	Dhamra		
West Bengal			
22 .6 .08	Sonakhali (Sundarban)	South 24 Parganas	
	Jharkhali Public meeting and halt	South 24 Parganas	
23.6.68	Mass dharna at Canning tiger reserve office	South 24 Parganas	
24 .6.08	Kakdwip — Hall meeting	South 24 Parganas	
25.6.08	Digha	East Midnapore	
	Chewasuli — Public meeting	East Midnapore	
	Dadanpatrabar — reception and meeting	East Midnapore	
26.6.08	Public meeting and civic reception at Contai	East Midnapore	
27.6.08	Citizens meet and reception in Kolkata	Kolkata	
	Concluding meet in Kolkata	Kolkata	

Delhi Chalo, Sansad Chalo: November 2008

ABHIYAN ROUTE

Gujarat 1st to 9th May

Maharashtra 10th to 18th May

Goa 19th to 20th May

Karnataka 21st to 24th May

Kerala 25th to 31st May

Tamil Nadu 1st to 7th June

Pondicherry 7th & 8th June

Andhra Pradesh 10th to 15th June

Orissa 16th to 21st June

West Bengal 22nd to 27th June



Jakao



Jakho
Mandvi Layja Vill
Junabander/ Ujjas
Bhadreshwar
Dwaraka
Harshed
Porbander
Mangrol
Veraval
Ahmedabad
Jambusar
Umarsadi
Valsad
Daman
Umargaon

Gujarat

- Large-scale destruction of mangroves
- > Scarcity of drinking water
- > Establishment of SEZs, cement factories, thermal power plants, salt pans, private board and real estate development
- Pollution of the coastal borders and River Daman Ganga caused by ash and waste-water from these factories
- > Drastic fall in total marine catch
- Imprisonment of Indian fishers and capture of Indian boats by Pakistan naval agencies were the major concerns during this campaign
- Campaign spearheaded by Machhimar Adhikar Sangharsh Samiti (MASS), Akhil Gujarat Machhimar Mahamandal (AGMM) and Gujarat NFF jointly
- > State level seminar on ILO Convention of Work in Fishing was held in Ahmedabad on May 6, 2008

Gujarat 14



Gujarat 15

Maharashtra 10th to 18th May

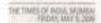
Maharashtra



Drakti Daharu-Gingwada, Wadhavan, Varore, Crinthari Tarapore Otivali, Utheli Robertan Dand, Murbe, Alexad, Navapur, Boisar, Palghar Satpati, Vadarai, Mahim (Tembri), Kelva, Datiwara, Kore Edwan, Safala, Amal, Virar, Amala, Nala, Bassi (Pachubandar) Khodriwada, Naigaon, Bassain Road Utan, Dongi Chavk, Dharavi Pali Marg Garai, Manori, Malvari, Marve (by boat) Mach, Bhati, Varsova, Mahim, Sulup Worli Kolivada, CosfaDevi Seaface, Mumbai Central Breutha Drakka (Kasarapot), Clawford Market, Sason Dook Cuffe Parade (Colaba), Stivaii Mandr (Dadar), Trombay, Mahul Karanja (via Vesti-Uran), Karanja, Bodani by boet Bodani, Sasavane, Thal, Navgaon, Varsdi, Alibag Akshi, Paccarda, Bheronda, Korlai, Bolai, Borli, Mandava, Ekdara Murud, Dighi, Bharat Khol, Hamepaj, Hame, Dapodi Dathd Kned (Jangal Jatty), Ajanvel, Navanghar Ghegher, Asodi, Palshet, Korkarul, Velnesver Ade Agar, Hedavi, Katala Navarghar Kredi (Jangal Jatty), Clinch Banclar, Varvocla Garapatipule, Karla – Brata, Mirak khada (Patnagiri), Purrapad Pavas Sakhari Nate Vijay Durg, Deogath, Malwan

Zi (Umbergeon), Bord, Cikhla, Dehenu Port

- Enormous depletion of coastal environment
- Setting up of industries (particularly Container Port Project of Reliance in Raigarh)
- Captive Jelly Project in Alewadi, Taluk Palghat in Thane district to affect more than 40,000 fisher people
- > Sharp depletion of fish stock along the coast due to discharge of industrial affluence
- Large scale sand-mining for the construction industry seriously affects the ornamental fishes in the Creek
- > Declared SEZs (covering Gorai, Uttan and Manori) threaten to displace more than one lakh people including fishermen, adivasis, artisans and farmers
- > State level seminar on ILO Convention of Work in Fishing was held in Mumbai on May 12, 2008
- Maharashtra Machhimar Kriti Samiti organised this campaign successfully



Centre bows to greens on CRZ norms

Restricts Construction Activity Close To The Shore By Redefining The Setback Line

Spore Bhancha | 100

Mumber After recovering raised by exclusive our year, the Oxfor electromen ministry has counted the proposed that norththe settack line.
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For Visitation CME I will be dedescribe displacement. One on the year enlogicely sen-ference and the objections ultimates and all articles will be the sourced side of the settack has

The addressy has given 80 days.





















'New coastal rules may hinder development'

Agencies may it restricts the use of additional FSI, which may stall major projects

THE STATE OF PERSONS ASSESSED. Management Extra 10 hd i) territorios de NAME OF THE OWNERS OF TAXABLE PARTY NAMED IN Different Street Street Agencies 1035-5585

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MMRDA to protest against CMZ draft plan

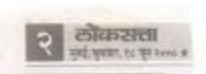
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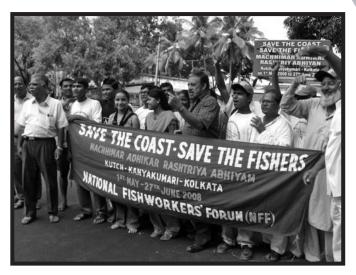






Goa 19th to 20th May

Goa — Karnataka Border



Panjim — Goa



Parjimvia Matwen-Goa Road Parjim General Meeting of All Goa Fishworkers' Urion Night halt in Parjim Shri Matarhy Saldarha

Goa

- Successfully fought against the imposition of eight SEZs in the state
- > The fisher communities here strongly object to the imposition of the CZM notification
- Goenchea Rampar Karancho Ekvot organised the campaign events in Goa
- Campaign received tremendous support in Panjim and other places

Goa 30

HE TIMES OF INDIA, GIGA WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2001

NFF to oppose CMZ notification

Around 50,000 Activists To Meet In Delhi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Penaji: The lishing and coastal constraints of Radia will insert to the Parliament during the morpoon sension of July 2008 to oppose the Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) notification and to press for the implementation of the Coastal Regulation

& FISHERMEN

Seperartification of 1991.

"We expect more then \$6,000 people to converge on Delhi to oppose the CME and to demand the CRE sotification. The new CME sotification is designed to condere all violations of the CRE and incomedate the so-called development like SEZs and STRs, and Blorekrishas Hiremath, theirman of the National Historical Addressed a press

conference have an Tuesday along with Mathauy Saldanha, president of the Georgias Ramponkanauchs Eksutt and former cabinet minister.

Hiromath arrived in Gos on Tuesday as part of the "Machhimar" Adhikar Rashtriya Abbiyan" with the sloggas "Save the Coast, Save the Fishers." The march startod from Kutch, Gujarat on May 1, 2008 and covered the entire constinue of Onjarat, Maharashtra and entered Gos yesterday

Hiremath soil the constal communities, environmental activists and all others apprehend that the new CML notification will facilitate destructive activities along the const. It will popurdite natural resources and breakhaod of the fisherfolk and other constal communities. Ultimately, this will result in a crimic of food and nutritional security of the masses, Hiremath sail.

The SIFF has a long list of demands recognise the rights of flahermen over coastal lends and waters; provide far natural growth of flahermen in coastal areas for residencies not for commercial purposes; protect the coasts by doallowing SECs and other jeduting projects; prevent deputation of managerees and eract legislation for conservation of coastal and marine broothyersity

The NFF also demands stopping foreign vessels from fishing in their waters, waiving all debts of poor fishermen, along with furmers, and a total ban of trawling and purpoining from fishing within 10 to 20 kilometrya from the shore along east and west. coast accordingly. Said Hiremath, "The gort is auctioning our coastline. It has failed minorably to protect our lively, bood. Notification of the Gorat SEE has existed. 10,000. people."

Goa 31



Goa 32



Goa 33

Mangalore- Jagadapatnam



Karnataka 21st to 24th May



- Mega tourist project in Uttar Kannada coast
- Various defence installations in the coastal zones
- And real estate developments are major environmental concerns of the coastal zones
- Siltation, drazing of the creeks and the approach channels of major fishing harbours has been a long standing demand of the fishing communities.
- Abhiyan received tremendous support and participation of fisher people in Karwar, Tadari and other places
- Akhil Karnataka Fishermen Parishad organised this campaign















Sethusamudram project poses threat to biodiversity in Gulf of Mannar: expert

Parrylal Correspondent

sistings. The proposed representative and advanced to the second se one (CMFRO), N.G.R. Pilla.

Mr. Pills no investeding a second of the country of the country of the country of the country and appearing the country an Secretary of Chicago of Chicago on Theology, the sent that Full had 0,000 spectra, to-realize 200 spectra that seem meterals to the engion.

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CREATING AWARENESS: N.G.A. Piller, Down Control Murine Finberses Bosearch Institute, Euchs. releasing a CD or biodiserolly at a national assumer on Bindiversity rigition emerging challenges and opportunities' to Marquines as Thursday. - PROTO R. ESBANDAJ

He saids study by the Warkl. To per sent in the most items. Water Fund had revealed that a decades, he said. Provying lack quarter of weights had been of political will in interview that street when 1970 and the many effectively, he regressed that han was espected in Steelington agently regime (20) per cost). The photocommunic of wiselesting wildfull had proched

effectively, he regretted that materioresest of many regula-tions but much to be desired. The only regulation addition to was behing buildings of 47 to 50 days. Although densing ment activities could not be. alterating proportions, he said. No days. Although density United Style Systellations were ment activities could not be unitered. Single-resity Ions done sway with, proper advice would result a single-ring of to be policy maken had to be given

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Hind May En 4



TIMES CITY SATUMONY, MAY 24, 2008 Team visits fishing villages in Uttara Kannada THESE WEWS NETWORK Dilupt: A hours of the National Flahworkers' Forunt has visited several fighing villages in the Uthers Kennsts coast, to study the problems of the Dilument in the district. The 30 member teers, under the programmes Machhimar Adhikar Rasteriya Abhiyan', with a razeto 'Save she Coust, Save Phihermen', visitof Majell, Karwa, Thadari, Hunnavar and Bhartosi, before arciving Odopt on Priday. Marikrishna Debunash, chatrograss of NFF stong with N D Koli, general secretary, Akhilis. Kernataka Flahermon Partabad, after Interacting with the flabor folk in the district, enhancedly criticized the authorities' move to replace the CRE notification of 1991 with a new CMZ nooth-Addressing reporters, Deburants and Kolf sold that in the opinion of the Oshermen, the new CASE notification was designed to conduce all viobstains of the CRZ and to accommodate SEDs and STUA. Debanath said if the intention of the auchurthin is increight, they abouild publish the draft notification in newspapers and direct the stamgovernments to dissembaste it at ponelymenterels. Appreciate to him, siltuition of the channels. Manket ban on Balling due to military exercise and the mage reaction project of a yeal extans Issuinanc house are senong the most sertous probseem dazed by the dishermen. The tours which started on May 1 from Jukhau in Kotch, Dalarst, will now travel towards.

THE TIMES OF INDIA, MANGALORE

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Withdraw CMZ draft notification: NFF DH Mows Street NEF DEMANDS MANUSCOURCE RUBINST SIGNARY Deedge all silted flabung harbours National Philippeters, Po-■ Implement of CRZ sportration I'm: russ DIFFI has sarped the * Philipsophere should not be made victima of mur-District Ministry of Epoleontrims burntsey disputes ment and Forest (Motor) to · Water all debts of poor flaber men willshow its Constal Managreement Zome 205025 draft # Provide sufficient cheaper fael # Stop Import of finit Addressing journations Refere morine fishing requisitors Acts here so hengther, Fernis Chargerson Himberships ■ No SEZE, muchus plants, intensive agramitues, és Debriath strongly critics set strattion of mangrows on our coast. the government's move to replace the Constat Regulalaw Zoor HIRD Notificagile within proceptive sunlana. I heavily allow become to retion of 1981, with the new nipoletive appearch". Mr. posted socidents and boat Debnath said the governcorputation. CMSL stating that the new ment has put up the draft. notification, weight lacquire The mega tearties projton the natural re-occesmotification on the Inverted seri proposed for Uttara in order to collect oboveand Intelliged of the finiter-Kaymada coust is also a potions and comments from tential threat, he observed. folk and other quartal cresthe public, in a spinston inutrities, if implemented. The fishing corporate Hir said lifer people across Where suportly of the fishties will nerry out a Parita-

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4 THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS THURSDAY, MAY 29 | 2008 | MADURAL

MOYE TO REPLACE CRZ

NFF to launch campaign against Coastal Zone Management

Captive ports would put country boats and fibreglass boats out of work

Espress Hess Service Hadorsi, Hay 28

The National Piols Workers' Forum (NFF) is organismy in tendity mempings in the county flatteriets of Tunal Nado seeking to protect the rights of the Osberston Units June 1.

Addressing a joint press meet organized by the Countal Action Network (CASI) and the NFF here on Wednesday, CNN State economic Jacob call that the computer was alseed at protecting the proposed move to replace the existing finite cost Gracelly Countal Engelsmon Zone - 1960 (CRZ) with the Countal Zone Minney ment (CZM) and applied the Sethousmodeses Ship Conal Project (SSCP).

The move to implement the CEM was to bring the entire constal region under the meetral of the Union Ministry of Popula and Environment from the purview of the traditional fishermes community so that 'developmental projects' like beach existry, batela and infinitriot could be started in countain areas, probabled by the CRZ.

Expressing apprehension about the construction of small raptive parts and priwate fishing harbours under the CZM, the executive committee mersion of NFF. T Procedus, and that these harbour projects were streed at molong Toking a part based industry.

The transmission around 60,000 country beats see values plus have the given breats to Tamil Nada would go out of the flathing industry. This would no versely affect the harvesting of fish as 10 percent of catch in the State non-resolventy ashers by country craft, validates and fibroglass boars.

These leaders were also disappointed over the intraoxigence of political perties as rome come forward to igness in their forcur. According to Peterlan, o criminal consider the fisher tees consmanity as a weak vote bank.

The compaign starts from Managonial counts in Kanyakomari (dutric) on June 1 and pass through the counts districts of Tirmelevia, Theodynkode, Hammatian parame, Padulostia, Therefore, Thirvenous, Napopartiment, Econolis, Combine Perfections, Kancineparam, Villaparam and Chemica.

MIT concurre committee member Paulicanny and CNN continuous and co

TIK BOYOU A FRIDAY, MAY SO, 19100.

Withdraw notification on coastal zone: fishermen

Perchal Limmapowinst

MASURAL Representatives of festermen organisations have railed to the withdrawel of the Constal Management Zone Natification, 2008, as it storesteemed the levelihood of facts atolic.

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mant district described the the ten
2008 notification as an of front if
tempt to marginalise small alleged
Rabetmen, who owned comtry bosts and cutamarisms sparses.
The new categorisation of the
shore would make it a dumping yard as building solvists mil Propwould be allowed.

M. Jeeva of Matural soul that the rotification facilities ad asserte tourism and indepented activity, making the assettors influential interests. It also sought to legalise off tilego constructions along the court. The construction of private harboors, he felt, would manifold their small fishermen for their

The 'estimate line' proposed by the sotification, to be drawn on the bosts of a scientific study, would push the fighermen already affected by

the transmit further even book the storm. My leaves alleged

A. Pauliorety of flarmanthaparate called for the withdrawal of the Settamannolium Maje Channal Project as it exceld turber add to the problems of fisher man who had been ellering as absing for the had been ellering for the plant of the trust. Any new alignment on the project would contain a matter Lie, in whitel

Campalgo from June 1

The Tanul Pada log of the National Compagn for the terring Fisher People Bullet that salls for withdrates of the 2008 residualities will be gin from Kanyskerner on June 10 other passing through the county destroys of Tanul Natural Publishers







Kerala 25th to 31st May

- > Sand-mining
- Foreign fishing vessels off-shores waters
- Discrepancy in tsunami relief measures
- Fish-bending women's problems were important concerns during the seven day long campaign from Kasargod to Trivandrum
- Massive demonstration of fishworkers in front of the AG's office, Trivandrum on May 31st 2008
- > This demonstration was the historic culmination of the Abhiyan in Kerala
- Kerala Swatanthra Matsya Thozhilali Union was responsible for the campaign in Kerala









Fish workers oppose reforms

Special Correspondent

Special Correspondent

THESVARANTHAPORAM: Hundreds of fish workers took out a march to the office of the Accountant General here on Saturday in protest against the proposed reforms in the fisheries sector and the government's move to replace the Coastal Regulation Zone policy with the Coastal Zone Management policy.

The stir was organised as part of a nation-wide campaign by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF) urglag the Central and State governments to take steps to ensure the livelihood security of fisherfolk. Imagurating the march, Pannian Ravin-

dran, MP, said the government had a responsibility to protect coastal and marine resources.

NFF leaders alleged that the proposed reforms in the fisheries sector would expose traditional fisheruses to unhealthy competition from malitizational companies and lead to plunder of marine resources. They said the Coastal Zone Management policy and the decision to permit the operation of foreign travilers would affect the levelthood of traditional fisheremen all over the country.

NFF leaders Harekrishma Debnath and Matanby Saldashu, State president of Kerala Swathantra Matsys



















Chennai, ILO Convention



Tamil Nadu 1st to 7th June





Nirodi Marthandamthurai Velupillai Eravi Puthenthurai Chinnathurai Thoothoor Eramanthurai Mulirthurai Enam puthenthurai Helen Colony Kurunpanai Vaniakudi Colachel Kottilpadu Periavillai Manvalakurichi

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Allanthalai
Amlinagar
Punyakayal
Teracepuram

Kilakarai

Ramnad
Dargavalasai
Thangachimadam
Rameshwaram
Jagadapatnam
Manalmelkudi
Sethu Chettunam
Nagapattinam
Seretoor
Karaikal
Kilinjalmedu
Nambiar Nagar
Killai
Cuddalore Town
Putchikuppam

- > Tourism
- > Sand-mining
- Deficiency of tsunami relief
- Nuclear and thermal power plants
- Commercial ports and harbour, the Seeth Samudram Shipping Canal Project
- ➤ And ban on shark, sea cucumber and sea weed harvesting were important concerns in the 10 day long campaign
- > State level seminar on ILO Convention in Fishing held in June 9, 2008, Chennai
- > Tamil Nadu Fishworkers' Union (TUF), Ramnad District Fishworkers' Trade Union (RFTU) and Vangakadal Meen Thozilalar Union (VMTU) organised the campaign

DHINA THANTHI 04.08.2008

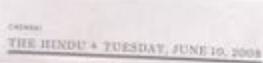












"New coastal management plan jeopardises livelihood of fishermer

Special Chrysgophess

OSENNAL India's S.116-km coastline and the livelihood of 3.5 million people who dopend on hilling in its waters. will be threatened if the goverroment presses about with the plan to replace the protective recourse of the coastal regulation laws of 1993 with a new municipality majorpt, the National Fishmorkers Foroots Non sold.

The Courtel Management Zone druft cotification, which is posted on the unbeits of the Ministry of Environment and Ferrett for public comment. till June 29, splitz posetal some leto four categories reelogically remittive, of purticular concern (population done or economically and strategically agraficant), open areas Decreating water) and island areas such as Asdeinin and Lebshadweep.

The new plan gives too much power to the State satherritors to wrote the rights of

futuress and hand over special lend star water to log. Biselences Interests regaged in tourism, inspiculture, minerat mining, adopting, energy processing and defence-relat-Delmath, chairman of the forion, said here on Thursday.

Forthermore, he said, the plan would legalize thousands of violations that took place under the 1991 coastal. regulation ages notification. many of which were pending in court.

"Facing erisis"

"Opr coastal gone is facing a crisis. In all States, fisherfolk are expertuncing a droxtic reduction in their catch. owing to pollution, the destruction of mangroves and industrial efficients," he said. Yet, the debetter sector con-India's gross national product for little or no preestment from the government.

Planked by representatives

from Gajarat, Makarashtra. Tamil Nada and Andrea Pradesh who are limiting a finherfolk yetre that has moved through two-thirds of livilio's coustline from the Starm of and projects. Harskrichma Xutch to Obennui through Kanyakumeri, he demanded that the government withdraw the dreft management notification and implement the 1991 notification until comprehensive legislation that takes into scorner the perspectives of all parties is in place.

The Machineur Adhibat Rashtriye Abbiyan, which will move on from Chrunai up the east coast to Kolketa, is calling for a National Day of Action on June 20 to easitiv the faherfulk to voice their concerns and periton the Envicconment Ministry.

In the absence of any reinhated Re20,000 crere to sponse thousands of fatherfolk may go to Delto on the opening day of Parliament on July 22 for an indefinite right actions.



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DHINA MALAR 20.06-2008

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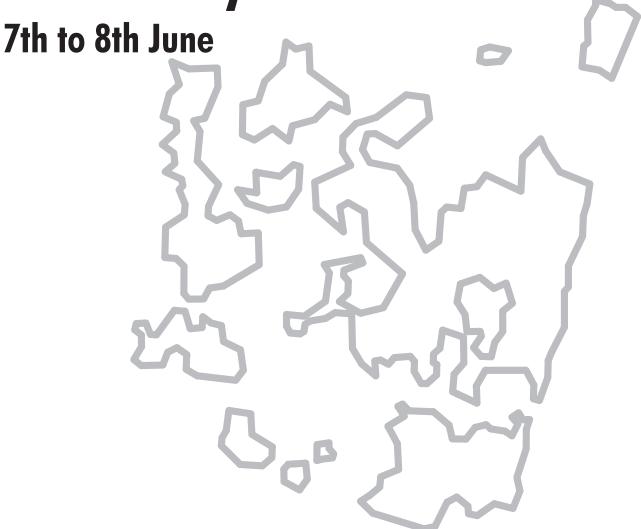














Naramaniii Gingev Salai Pondicherry Press Club

- > Abhiyan was accorded a grand civic reception by the Pondicherry Fishermen Joint Action Committee
- > Fisher communities here vehemently opposed the imposition of the CZM Notification
- Campaign in Pondicherry was brief but highly participatory and sensational
- > The campaign was organised by United Fishermen Action Committee







DINA MALAR - Pandicherry - 9-6-2008

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10th to 15th June

Ramalingapuram

Ongole

Wadarevu

Ramnagar

Surya Lanka

V is hakhapat nam

Vizianagaram

Bhavani peta and Srikakulam



- Gross degradation of coastal and environment ecology
- Growth of various polluting industries
- ➤ Large number of aqua-culture farms and tourism establishments, ship-breaking yards, commercial harbours etc
- > Apprehension among the fisher communities of the proposed Coastal Corridor
- > Coastal areas of Nellore, Prakasam, Kakinad, Vishakapatnam and Srikakulum appear to be the most hazardous zone
- > Samudra Teer Matsya Karmikula Union (STMKU) and Andhra Pradesh Traditional Fishworkers' Union (APTFU) jointly led the campaign



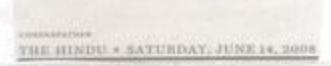




Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan







Call to withdraw CMZ notification

Special Correspondent

WILLIAM PARKET FISHER fish will observe 'entioned day of action' on June 20 to protect against the Coastal Management Zene (CMZ) notification by organising picketing at the nearest government office in fishing villages and by staging tharm, rusts roke and other forms of agitation.

March to Parliament

Announcing this at a results conference here on Friday, chairperson of the National Fishscorkers' Forum (NPF) Resolvisions Deboarts and that if there was no response to the agradion, the fisher community would morch to the Farliament on July 22 during the moreoon session and continue the agilation in Debt indefinitely till the arithdrawal of CMZ rottification and resilination of their demands.

Charter of demands

Besides withdrawni of CMZ notification, the charter of demands included an endin pollution in the constal region and stopping of eviction of fishermen from their livelihood by commercial harlature, ship-breaking units, SEZs, thermal power plants, tourism industry, sand

Fishermen to observe 'national day of action' by picketing offices on June 20

mining etc., concellation of latter of permits given to foreign fishing vessels and stopping diversion of toursels reliabilitation fund to other projects.

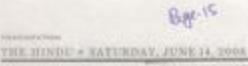
The NFF champerson was in the city leading a jatha, which began its 8,000 km issuracy from Kutch in Golural on May 1. "So far, we covered Gujarst, Moharschira, Goa, Karnstaka, Kerala, Tamil Nada, Pondleherry and entered Audhra Pradesh on June 10. This morning we orrived in Vissa," he said.

Public meeting

Mr Debradh was accompanied by other NFF leaders P. Ramalingam (Andhro Prodesh), Ramash Dhuri (Malarashtm), K. Alleya (Orisea), Debashia Shyumal (West Bongal), Richard (Tamil Nado), Sasanka Dev and Oussan Gani Sourashia (Gujarat). He later addressed a joblic meeting may the Collectorate NFF district lender T.E. Reliman also spoke.







Coastal zone notification will ruin livelihood: fishermen

Special Corresponding

NEW SCIAN. The National Fishworkers Forces has segal the Centre to inspecialtely withdraw the "W-conserved draft Coastal Rose Management (COM) northering.

For, it will not only adverncy impact the tragile cooling hal system and marine life but give lake every the means of limitation from the 83-edilium fathing community, representatives of the foremtally a press conference here on Freday.

"The future of rections of Saberfolk is at stake as the Centre, in league with the governments of county States, plans to being up high commercial property storing the \$13th loss long countries."

The forum said the new druft experienced the 1991 Countal Registation Zone petification of 1991, but this was druke without countring the facing community, main stakeholder.

Divining alteriors to a sisterial rally of fishermen, which started on blay 1, the heron said if would extratate on June 17 after savering various parts of the occurry to concern seveness of their lease.

Call to withdraw CMZ notification

Special Cyremposiers

VERNIAPATRAN: Picture Aria will observe 'national day of actions on June 20 to protest against the Created Management Zone (CMZ) notification by organizing platering of the scattering villages and be staging 'dhieran, Yasia reke and other forms of agitature.

March to Partispent

Reconnecting that at a medical conference have on Prinley, charperson of the Sulposal Followethers Foreign (NPF) Barelevishner Switzsch and that if there was no response to the agitation, the followether to summarity would merch to the Furthermott on John III during the mostocom require and continue the agitation in Dwitz indefinitely till the bettlebrown of CMT, notification, and realizations of their demands.

Charter of demands

Besides withdrawed of ChEZ motification, the charter of demands included as and to pollution in the countal region and stopping of evertices of finhermon from Year Invollicod by unanternial hasbours, ship-breaking units, 1882s, theretal power plants, traction industry, and

Fishermen to observe 'national day of action' by picketing offices on June 20

flue-3

mining cits, contribution of letter of permute given to hosign liability vessels and stuping deveators of trainant rehabilitation final to other process.

The NFF chairperium was in the city leading a julia, which leagus its 8,000 km just and May I. To far, we covered the following Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamii Nada, Ponticiberty and entered Analitis Praduct on June 10, This magning we arrived in Vinag," he said.

Public meeting

Mr Debrath was accomputed by other NFF leaders P. Romaingum (Andrea Prodest), Ramenh Dhuri (Malumenhtra), K. Alleys (Oriesa), Debratic Shpartal (Wast Rengell, Richard (Tund Nader), Secretalia (Organi), Historia (Organi), NFF district leader V.S. Rebrana also spuke.





Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan





Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan



Orissa 16th to 21st June

Ganjam, Orissa



Ganjam, Orissa



Chatrapur

Press meet at Behrampur

Nairi (Chillika)

Puri Durga Bari

Bhubaneswar

Chandra Bhaga, Konark

Paradeep

Kharinashi

Rajnagar

Bideipur

Dhamra

Orissa

- > Armament testing range
- > Tourism
- > Rare-earth, sand-mining
- Mega projects like the POSCO and Dhamra ports
- Wholesale displacement of more than 10,000 people due to blanket ban on fishing in Gahirmatha
- Coastal zones of Ganjam, Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara and Balasore districts seriously under threat
- Orissa Traditional Fishworkers' Union (OTFU) led this campaign

Orrisa 102









Marine fishermen oppose CMZ notification

Staff Reporter

opinion of Traditional reries district organized a raily demanding introducts withdrawal of the new Coastal Management Zone (CMX) votification at Chalrague on Monday.

The raily olso welcomed the chaleperson of the National Fish Workers Forum (NFP), Harvieridas Debnuth, Into Oriana

Mr. Debroth reached Orions on Montaly from Andhra Pradesh By blooding a unopeign of the NFF to create public awareness smora fathermess on India's contine against the CMZ, which started from Kutch in Gapared on May I.

The assurances company and live of NFF will end at Rostal in armen.

West Pengul on June 27. To:

Public most

CPI MLA N. Narayan Reddy, Congram chaleperson of Chatragur NAC, R.C. Behers, president of finherweissen's regardation. Sampling, R. Chittana and precess occutary of the Oriou, Traditional Fash Workers Union (OTF-WU), K. Allays led the rolly against CMZ sutification. A public meeting was also held in front of the office of the Collector.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Debroth sold strict (mplementation of the Constal Regulation Zone (CRX) notification was the only mean to proceet constal approximant

and livelihood of marine fishermen.

"To satisfy a few corporate giants, the government is dilating whole correcpt of contal matrictions through the CMZ notification which is put to be discussed in local punchayats. State Assembles or Parliament although it would hamper limithood of over 60 take population depending on marine fishing," he said.

Mr. Deceath will start coastal areas of Chillian lake, Part. Chandrabbags, Paradosp, Obamera and Balascore during this week to create awareness against the CMX.

On June 20, the nutries fishermen of the country would observe their National Day against CMZ.

2 Bhobaneswar Wednesday (lune 18 | 2008

'CMZ to deprive 17 lakh fishermen of livelihood'

Pipeeer News Service | Bertumpur

The proposed Costal Management Zone (CZM) Act by the UPA Government would deprive the livelihood of at least 20 lishs people, including the 17 laids fishermen across the country, stated chairperson of the National Fisherchiers' Forum (NFF) HK Deveath.

The fishermen commuoity as a part of their nationwide protest movement, agetated in front of the Gasparn district Collectorate at Chhairapar demanding withdrawol of the GDM and enforcement of the Gustal Regulment Sone of 1901 in the interest of lights of people depending on this zero investment sector-fishery across the country

The fishermen being in 10 countal States have begun their nationwide protest since blay from Kochs, which would end in Rodurta and soloc-quently there would be a protest rally in frost of the Parliament. In these countal States at least 20 lakh people are cogaged in the fisheries sector and due to the act of the Central Government lish production has already decreased by around 40 per cent.

Deviath alleged that the UNA Government is encouraging the industrial houses to extablish the Special Economic Zenes (SEZs) by



providing thousands of screet of land along the sea. The Amilian's base proposed to establish as mony as 10 000 first stalls across the country and solustraint Vijay Mallys has proposed to establish 30 water sports centre in the country along the country along the country.

Devaith used the fishery sector is doing a business of more than 33,000 crore defiam and earns around Rs 8,000 crore in foreign exchange for the country. Yet the Concernment is advanced in enacting such a law affecting the sector serietally. He altered that the Ministry of Laurenment his already three an amount of 107 million.

dollars from the World Pauli, to modify this Act in favour of the big industrial boures.

To lodge their protest, they are organising exections in the countal States and they are sending at least 10-tekh postcards each having teaaignatures to the Central Government demanding withdrawal of CZM and enforcement of CRZ of 1991. They are absenting June 20 as the Nutional Day of Action against CMZ notification demanding Lifting of the bas on fishing by traditional fishermen in Orissa's Colsinautha region and payment of adequate corepresation to fishers for loss of work. Deveath said.

Sonakhali (Sundarban)

Jharkali

Kakdwip

Digha

Chewasuli

Dadanpatrabar

Contai

Kolkata

West Bengal 22nd to 27th June

West Bengal

- Proliferation of tourism in Mangamani
- > Proposed nuclear power plant at Haripur
- > Deep sea port in SagarIsland
- Mega chemical hub in Nayachar
- > Eviction of 10,000 fisher people from Jambudeep
- ➤ and embargo restriction in Sunderbans Tiger Reserve are the major concerns for the fishing community in West Bengal.
- > The Campaign concluded in Kolkata in a citizen's meet on June 27, 2008
- > Dakshin Bango Matsajibi Forum organised the state campaign

West Bengal 110

Protest against N-power plant after rural poll

THE RECEIPT AND LINES.

Hildmapoor: Even av chivil minotery fordelleded Minote to berjo leeps berging in Europe too be to the first too be to be

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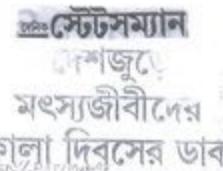
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"The task of the parties will being on the stand they take on the plant," such Blooman. On May 1, 1975/73, hosbors will be found by the May 1, 1975/73, hosbors will be found by the Markinson Abbryon will block off the area the conict campulage. It will evolv know 1986/200 on 1975 on 19



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West Bengal 111

The Statesman

KOLKATA SATURDAY 28 JUNE 2008

Fishworkers forum to demonstrate before Parliament

Statesman News Service.

structure, have 27. To protest against the Union econoccurrent and lovest emissionly's sleeped attempt to replace the Leural Beg-slatter. Zone 6 HZ North-cation by a reside cosposite framelly Constal Management Zone, of AAZ North-cation, magnifers, of the National Fullyworkers. For um (NFF) will demonstrate in front of the Parlament.

NIT will also submit a pesition to the Prime. All interests to cancel the new notification, sale Mr. Harekrishen Debrath, camperson of NFE.

According to 14t Debnath, implementation of CMZ will enable capitalists to explore the countyl areas that will destroy the countyl and

arpaire resources. The forces demanded that both state and the union government should not pential setting up of special economic axion ruclear and thermal power passent, chemical habs and entages for tourses within 500 motors from the coast line.

The setting up of such projects will denity manigrows and sand duries that act as martial harriers. Competition emong the state governments to bring in more investment in their own state has forced the governments to allow capitalism to chose land any where in the state," and Mr Debrath.

Atz Debruith also opposed the Centre's decision, so allote Reliance industries Limited to set up 10.000 outlets to set this as he left that sessing up of these outlets will affect the livelihood of about 17 leith fait sellers.

"The new law is based on Mr. M. S. Swarmansham's report too coastal emotion ment after the Tsurama. Even after the failure of figures revolution," the Centre is attempting to bring in "this revolution" through CMZ," Mr.N. D.Koli, general secretary of NFT said.

He said that the Carrers' decision to allow 97 travelers of countries like Taiwan. Thatland and Mexico to operate in Indian country. Tach of these ships not large tren of fish everyday thus resulting in over exploration of the aquatic resources along the Indian count," cold Me Kull.

West Bengal 112

Press Releases

Machimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan Press Release: May 1, 2008

Today 1st of May, the international day of workers, the Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan has been flagged off from Jakhau in the Kutch region of Gujarat. In Jakhau there are 25,000 fishers. The area suffers from tremendous loss of catch. According to Mitthu Bhai an elderly local fisher the fish catch has come down to 10% of what it was 10 years back. The fisherpeople here are under the threat of extinction due to large cle pollution from Sanghi and Anjan Cement Factories. Fly ash and waste water from these factories have devastated the fish stock. Private jetties built up by these factories have destroyed large areas of mangrove plantation.

Jakhau Salt and Welbrind two salt companies have acquired 300 hectares of land but using only 40 acres. All this land has been acquired by destroying mangroves and fishers are not allowed in the area. The chemical waste released from these salt factories further pollute and devastate the ecology and environment of Jakhau.

The Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan was flagged off by ceremonial and symbolic planting of mangrove saplings by local fishers. Fisherwomen were particularly enthusiastic in planting mangroves. Because mangroves are the symbols of wellbeing of coastal ecology and they are the first victims of so called development efforts that wreck havoc to natural coastal and marine resources. After planting of mangrove saplings Adam Ibrahim Jat, a senior leader of the fishers led the fishers to take an oath in the name of god that they will plant, protect and help regenerate mangroves. That they will fight to the last to protect the water and their livelihood.

The inaugural meeting was attended by around 400 local fisher men and women. Isha Bhai the Sarpanch (President) of local Panchayet, Siddique Bhai, Sakina Bahen, Ahmed Bhai, Abdul Shah - all leaders of local fishers spoke of the desparate situation the fishers are facing and expressed their resolve to fight for justice, for livelihood, for protection of natural resources.

Harekrishna Debnath, Chairperson,NFF said that a state which is only 60years old has no right to encroach upon the traditional and customary rights of the fishers, which are thousands years old. As the land belongs to the tillers, so the coast and coastal waters belong to the fishers. There is no power on the earth which can rob the fishers of this natural right.

He asked the fishers to unite and stand as one from Kutch in Gujarat to Sundarban in West Bengal. He said that not only in Jakhau or Gujarat, but in the whole of India the picture is the same. Everywhere the government is playing in the hands of big business and allowing large scale encroachment of coastal land and devastation of coastal resources by SEZs, large tourism, polluting industries, nuclear power plants. Now the government has allowed the foreign fishing vessels to fish in our waters. He warned the Government that very soon a big wave of protest and agitation will engulf the whole of the Indian coast. The agitating fishers together with the people of India who care to

protect the natural resources of our country will defeat the wrong policies of the government. He called on the fisherpeople of Jakhau to send at least two persons from each coastal village of the area to Delhi in July for a march to the parliament and sitting in demonstration.

NFF national leaders Shri Narendra Patil, Shri Ramesh Dhuri, Smt. Purnima Meher, Shri Noel Kuni, Shri Bharat Patel, Mr. Dharmendra of Yusuf Meherally Centre, Mohd Osman Gani of MASS, Father David and other leaders addressed the gathering.

In the afternoon the Abhiyan reached in Layza fishing village and conducted a public meeting. Hundreds of fisher men and women participated and resolved to fight for their rights and protect the coastal zone from violent encroachments.

The fishers responded with enthusiasm.

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Machimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan Press Release: May 12, 2008

"Save the Coast, Save the Fisher People"

With this slogan, the *Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhayan*, a national campaign of fisher people, organized by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF), entered Mumbai on 12 May 2008. The campaign started in Jhekhau, Kachchh, Gujarat, on 1 May 2008. It will cover the entire seaboard of India and reach Kolkata on 27 June 2008.

The Abhayan held several public meetings and demonstrations in major fishing villages along the Gujarat seaboard such as Mundra, Bhadreshwar, Dwarka, Porbandar, Veraval, Mangrol, Dahez, Umbersari, Jambusar, Daman and Umbargaon before entering Maharashtra.

The campaign demands that the proposed coastal management zone (CMZ) notification of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MEF) be scrapped. It advocates the continuous implementation of existing Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification, and recognition of the rights of fisher peoples along the Indian seaboard.

In Gujarat, the campaign witnessed disturbing large-scale displacement of traditional fisher peoples in coastal villages to set up industries and special economic zones (SEZ). Hazardous and polluting industries were mushrooming along the coast. The abhayan strongly pleads to the Gujarat government to immediately address the deep insecurity of coastal peoples.

The Abhayan witnessed the rampant destruction of mangroves, and pollution of coastal waters. It was shocking to see that besides the SEZs the fishing communities had poor access to drinking water, and poor transport and medical facilities.

It was distressing to note that the fisheries resources off the Saurashtra coast were fully depleted. The fishers, as a result, were venturing into deeper waters in pursuit of fish, which often landed them in Pakistani jails.

The fishing communities of Gujarat strongly protested against the letters of permission (LOP) issued by Government of India permitting foreign fishing in the Indian waters. They wanted all LOPs to be cancelled with immediate effect.

In Maharashtra, the campaign visited Zai, Dahan, Dhakti, Dahan, Varor, Dandi, Murbve, Satpati, Arnala, Vasai, Gorai and Maroni and Mudh and Versova during the course of last couple of days. In Gorai, the Abhiyan was briefed about threats posed by an SEZ created for tourism of eviction of fisher peoples from five fishing villages. The fishing communities were resisting these threats and they wanted the said SEZ to be scrapped.

Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan

The Abhayan is led by Harekrishna Debnath, Chairperson, NFF, Rambhau Patil, N.D. Kohli, Narendra Patil, Matanhy Saldanha and others.

The State-level Seminar on ILO Convention on Work in Fishing Convention, 2007, organized as part of the Abhayan, at Shivaji Mandir, Dadar, Mumbai on 12 May 2008, recommended that the Government of India enact a national legislation in the light of the ILO Fishing Convention to include fishworkers. The Seminar further recommended that the Government of India should extend social security benefits to all fishworkers. The Seminar was jointly organized by Maharashtra Machimar Kriti Samiti and the NFF, in collaboration with others.

The Abhayan will resume its jatra from Uran on Tuesday, 13 May 2008. It will visit important fishing villages along the east and west coasts of India before reaching Kolkata. Further to the Abhayan, fisher people from all along the Indian coast will undertake a dharna in front of the Parliament during its monsoon session to press for their 15-point agenda.

Machimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan Press Release: May 14, 2008

On the 13th of May 2008, the members of the *Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan* performed a street play in the coastal village of Karanja for "jan jagruti" or awareness generation. The *Karanja Machhimar Vividha Karyakari Sahakari* Society Ltd. catalyzed this rendezvous with the coastal residents.

Touring the Alibag belt now, the activists of the "Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan" organized by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF), found that 10,000 acres of farm land and greenery including mangrove vegetation would be affected by a port as part of an SEZ, proposed to be constructed by Reliance. 135 coastal villages of which 80 are exclusively dependent on fishing would be affected by the project estimated to cost approximately rupees 20,000 crores. "50,000 traditional fisher folk would be displaced from their traditional livelihood forever as the SEZ would legally encompass the area of 22 km into the sea" the villagers of Revas Bodani apprehended. The proposed container port would destroy a large tract of mangrove forest which keeps a fragile ecosystem in homeostasis, impacting both the livelihoods the environment. There are local agitations in the fishing villages. The villagers recall that there is no direct proposal for purchasing the land but according to informants, a few contractors and middlemen have already acquired land in the area.

After the ride to the next campaign site of Thal port where a quick meeting was underlined with the following three slogans, the campaign proceeded to the urban region near the district administration's head-office at Alibag. The slogans that have punctuated the campaign today are as follows;-

Kamane wala Khayega.... Lootne wala Jayega"

The Shri Martoi Varsoli Machhimar Vividh Karyakari Sahakari Society Ltd. was our next stop. Various delegates like Mr Changa Posha Kulam, Chairman of Martand Vividh Karyakari Sahkari Society; Mr. Balkrishna Mahaden Koli. A street play group which has joined the abhiyan till Goa enthusiastically performed their play which humorously splashes through the issues and the charter of demands which are advocated by the abhiyan. Mr Nandu Kumar Patil the Maharashtra Pradesh secretary spoke about the SEZ's and the proposed shift from CRZ to CMZ regulation which threatens the livelihoods of people and the coastal ecosystem.

[&]quot;Samudra Amcha Kolencha, Nahi Konacha Bappacha"

[&]quot;Kinara Amchi Kolenchi, Nahi Konachi Bapachi"

[&]quot;Jo Humse Takrayega, Pani me doob jayega"

Machhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhiyan

The *abhiyan* is now mingling with more villages along the Alibag coast. The Abhiyan creates an electrifying atmosphere along the coast and is greeted by warmth, everywhere the communities are spontaneously receiving the Abhiyan and enthusiastically expressing their solidarity with the cause. The *abhiyan* traversed across 5 fishing villages yesterday and have today resumed their *yatra* from Rajauri village in Mulund Taluka, Raigarh, Maharashtra where over 200 fisher people gathered to watch the play and energetically took over shouting the *abhiyan* slogans expressing their faith in the cause.

Three hours from Rajauri the next meeting was scheduled at the village of Bharatkhol in Trivardhan Taluka, Raigarh district, Maharahstra. At 1:18pm, the street play has been performed and the audience joined in shouting the campaign slogans. Currently, Mr. Rambhau Patil, Chairman Maharashtra *Machhimar Samiti* is sharing his views with the villagers regarding the proposed Coastal Management Zone regulation.

The journey highlights the stories of various fishing villages along the east and west coasts of India before reaching Kolkata. The energies roused along the Indian coast traversed by the Abhiyan and manifested in the concrete 15 points Charter of Demands of the fisher people' would culminate in a *dharna* in front of the Parliament during its monsoon session. In each place people are committing to participate in the *Sansad Abhiyan* in July in large numbers.

Press Release

The Macchhimar Adhikar Rashtriya Abhayan, a national campaign for the rights of fisher people, has been flagged off by the National Fishworkers' Forum (NFF). The two month long campaign commenced from Jakho, the ran of Kutch, Gujrat on the International Labour day (1st May, 2008). Since then the entire Indian coast is experiencing mass mobilizations with agitations, demonstrations, rallies, reception, public meetings, seminars and press conferences all along its stretch. The campaign will traverse 8000 kilometers in nine states and conclude its feet in Kolkata on 27th June. This campaign will be a precursor to Fisher People's Parliament March in July 2008.

Inaugurating the campaign HareKrishna Debnath, Chairperson, NFF said that Indian state had no right to encroach upon the traditional and customary rights of the fishers, which were thousand years old. He said that as land belongs to the tillers so the coast and coastal waters belong to the fishers.

Indian coastline which is 8118 km long is extraordinarily rich in diversity and its water hosts one of the richest fisheries of the world. About 3.5 million fisher people live traditionally in 3200-odd villages along the coastline of mainland India. They supply more than 30 lakh tones of marine fish, the cheapest source of animal protein to our people. The GDP from the entire fisheries sector is nearly 30,000 cores. India earns 4200 crore from export of fish every year.

NFF has consistently been alleging that Indian government both at the centre and states is playing to the tune of big business houses and corporate establishments allowing large-scale encroachment of coastal land and devastation of coastal resources by Special Economic Zone (SEZs) and Special Tourism Zones (STZs) expanding coastal towns, cities, ports and harbors. Ill conceived mega projects, rampant reclamation, large scale mechanized and destructive fishing are threatening our coastal environment, marine resources and traditional livelihood and the sea has become the dumping ground of all sorts of toxic wastes and pollutants. The crisis has reached to such an extent that in a UNEP report, In DEAD WATER has documented how the Indian Ocean has been turned in to one of the major marine zones adversely affected by land based sources of pollution. Now the government has even allowed the foreign fishing vessels to fish in our waters.

The social history of coastal India is replete with incidents of traditional fisher's struggles against coastal encroachments, pollution and destructive fishing gears and practices. Good fish requires healthy habitats. Traditional fishers' struggles for right to fish have always been intertwined with strivings to conserve its resources. Protection of marine ecology and resources can't be thought of independent of protection of the livelihood rights of fishers.

In 1991 when the government came out with a notification in the form of CRZ it was the first ever national statute to protect coasts from developmental activities. However central and state governments hardly made any serious effort to enforce this notification and moreover amended it as many as 21 times under pressure from numerous commercial interests. Now the government is planning to further sell out our coasts to commercial plunder and condoning all violations of CRZ

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that have taken place since 1991 and has come out with a Coastal Zone Management (CZM) notification with the sole intention of further selling out our coasts to commercial plunder.

The movement among other things demands to recognize Inalienable Traditional and Customary Rights of Fisherpeople over coastal lands and waters; Implement CRZ notification 1991 while rejecting recent CZM notification; Develop a comprehensive fisheries legislation for the EEZ waters; Reform Marine Fishing Regulation Acts of States to improve fisheries management and develop coordination mechanism for peaceful inter-state fishing; Develop regional mechanism to facilitate reciprocal access to adjacent maritime waters of neighbouring countries. Stop making fishworkers victims of maritime boundary disputes; Recognize and uphold the importance of women's roles in fisheries - recognize their rights to social security, Land for fish processing and marketing, basic amenities, child care, credit and transport facilities and a national legislation for fishers in the line of ILO's Work in Fishing Convention, 2007.

The movement is of the view that now the fishing community is under tremendous attack. While SEZ, CMZ, STZ and industrial aquaculture are overshadowing the coastal zone; imported foreign fishing vessels are plundering the sea. NFF struggle in 1990 had compelled the government to rescind the deep sea fishing policy that allowed foreign fishing vessels in our Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The high power Murari Committee recommendations were accepted by the government and it immediately stopped permitting the joint venture. And now once again Government of India (GOI) started allowing operation of Deep Sea fishing vessels under joint venture arrangements as resource specific. Letters of Permits (LOP) have already been issued to more than 100 vessels and there have been news doing rounds that GOI has decided to allow import of 500 vessels under joint venture.

Addressing the large inaugural gathering with other NFF leaders and releasing the detail itinerary of the campaign and the names of civil society organizations that have been with the fisher folk through thick and thin; Debnath came down heavily on both central and state governments. He warned the government to see reason with the demands of NFF and called people to stand united from Kutch to Sundarban. He also called up on the fishing community, other coastal communities, students, youth, peoples' movements, trade unions, civil society organizations and media to support the ongoing campaign and prepare for the bigger one during the monsoon session of the parliament.

The march in the meantime covered Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa and now reached Karnataka.

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