

For favour of Publicity

19th January 2010

No NOC for proposed bridge on Manori Creek

Disclosure by Ram Naik

Mumbai, Tuesday: Disregarding all rules about CRZ and without obtaining NOC from the Union Government's Environment Ministry, the MMRDA proposes to build a cable -stayed bridge across Manori Creek in Mumbai. This startling revelation has been made by Shri Ram Naik, BJP leader & former Petroleum, Minister in a press statement issued to-day.

While fishermen and farmers of Manori and Gorai are opposing the construction of the bridge over the creek, MMRDA have invited tenders on 16th November, 2009 for the construction of bridge costing around Rs 200 crore under the pretext of " releasing traffic congestion on Swami Vivekanand Road and Western Express Highway and also to provide an access to the development in the area between Manori & Bhayander." Shri Ram Naik had opposed the proposal on the environmental grounds as it would have detrimental effect on rich mangrove as well as two defence establishments i.e. Navy's I.N.S. Hamla and Army's Heavy Bridge Training Centre on the other side of creek at Marve. He also wrote a letter on 19th November, 2009 to Shri Jairam Ramesh, Minister of State for Environment (Independent Charge) enquiring as to how the NOC has been given for construction of bridge. The Minister has now replied on 14th January, 2010 stating that no such proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra for the CRZ clearance. "This clearly shows that the MMRDA is embarking on the project without a valid NOC", stated Shri Ram Naik.

To the query submitted to Shri A.K. Anthony, Defence Minister about the NOC from the defence point of view, he replied that he was looking into the matter.

Shri Ram Naik has warned that fishermen and farmers would not allow construction of the bridge which will have adverse impact on fishing and farming and also on their peaceful life. He also demanded that the Chief Minister should enquire as to how the MMRDA decided to construct the bridge without the NOC from the Union Environment Ministry and also how they invited the tender bids without the NOC.

(Office Secretary)

Encl: Zerox copy of letter dt. 14.1.2010 from Shri Jairam Ramesh

जयराम रमेश
JAIRAM RAMESH



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D.O.No.2-15/2009-IA-III/2830

14th January 2010

Dear *Shri Ram Naikji -*

This has reference to your letter dated 19th November 2009 regarding construction of Cable-stayed Bridge across Manori Creek in Mumbai. It is informed that no such proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra for the CRZ clearance.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jairam Ramesh
(Jairam Ramesh)

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