

**JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT IN HON'BLE NGT MATTER-
135 OF 2024.**

Hon'ble NGT in their original application registered SUO MOTO on the basis of the news item titled, "7 Flamingos spotted near DPS Lake Wetland, killed activists blamed CIDCO's development plant" which was appeared in the Indian express dated 28.04.2024 subsequently in the next hearing on 11.07.2025 further directed to the concerned respondent to constitute and filed Joint committee report comprising one member each of each of respondent No.1 – Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (H.O.F.F.), Maharashtra, respondent No 2 – Maharashtra Wetland Authority and respondent No.4 – Collector and District Magistrate, Thane, of which respondent No. 2 – Maharashtra Wetland Authority through its Member Secretary will be nodal agency. The said Committee shall visit the site in question and shall submit its report in the light of above observations.

Accordingly, Environment and Climate change Department, Government of Maharashtra informed as per their letter No. Wetland 2025/PK-23/TK-3 dated 14.10.2025 communicated to the Additional Chief Conservator of Forest, Maharashtra State District Collector, Thane, Dr. Y. B. Sontakke, Expert Wetland Authority, Env't. And CC Dept. Accordingly, the visit was caused to the site in question on 31.10.2025.

The list of committee members visited site in question on 31.10.2025 is enclosed as an annexure with this report.

The observations of the committee constituted are as follows-

Sr. No.	Hon'ble NGT Directions	Remarks/Compliance
1.	Perusal of the first order dated 30.05.2024 passed by the Principal Bench of this Tribunal, vide which suo motu cognizance of the news item, referred to above, was taken, the issue relates to two out of three inlets of the lake were blocked by the newly constructed high-rise roads by the CIDCO – Page 2 of 4 respondent No.3, which resulted in stagnant water, disregarding the fact that flamingos typically inhabit areas with flowing water. The news item also indicated that the defunct Nerul Jetty constructed by CIDCO served no purpose and instead, is blocking the inlets, thereby	During the visit it is found that, the CIDCO has adopted Dutch method of reclamation to prevent flooding of water and water lodging in the area the Survey No. 266, Sector 52, Nerul, Navi Mumbai is adjoining to the creek and its separated by the bund road (Kaccha approach road) land parcel. The Chief hydrographer has delineated the high tide line (HTL) based on this HTL Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) prepared for Navi Mumbai and approved by Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) in 1996. As per the approved CZMP a small portion of land was affected by CRZ to as per CRZ Notification 1991. Development was permitted on the land word on the side of existing road.

	<p>destroying the natural habitat of these birds.</p>	<p>The CIDCO has further informed that DPS lake is not a natural lake, also not a part of storm water drainage system. The said land parcel was earlier used for salt production. 7/12 extract of the said land Exhibit- 1.</p> <p>There are 2 inlets and outlets provided at the site through RCC 600 mm dia pipe. During the visit it has observed that south site and one site is located adjacent to the Palm Beach Service Road.</p> <p>Location 1- (19°00'20.5"N, 73°01'16.3"E)- At the south side of the lake where water was observed flowing from lake side to creek. The location observed as free flowing, CIDCO has provided storm water drain system for said area having 50.0 meter wide channel which was constructed in the year 1997 for proper storm water drainage system.</p> <p>Location 2- (19°00'21.5"N, 73°01'16.5"E)- At the south side of the lake where water was observed flowing water from lake side to creek. The location observed as free flowing.</p> <p>Location 3- (19°00'27"N, 73°01'18"E)- The said pipe is located at the site mentioned above which is not free flowing and water is not reaching to the pipe. It has no proper channel constructed and placed above the lake water. CIDCO representative has informed that they have not installed this pipe at the said location.</p> <p>Regarding construction of the Nerul Jetty no specific inlet or outlet was observed. The Jetty was constructed by CIDCO by obtaining necessary permissions from the MoEF on 13.02.2018. The entire structure of the Jetty is built on bridge. No pipe connection to this area and creek on the south side or any pipe to the surrounding area of DPS, lake on the main road. Copy of the MoEF permission is enclosed an Exhibit – 2.</p> <p>It is necessary to conserve and maintained proper free flowing water movements in the</p>
--	---	--

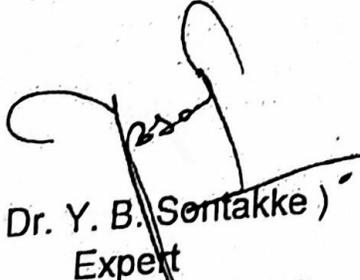
		lake and creek for natural conservation of ecosystem and habitat.
2.	In the aforesaid order of this Tribunal, it is further recorded that the death of the flamingos can be attributed to a scientific phenomenon called 'light pollution', which partially impairs the vision of the birds due to their fragile eyes. It is recorded that the newly installed LED lights disorient and misguide the birds while flying. In this regard, the reply submitted from the side of respondent No.3 – CIDCO states that in place of these LED lights, yellow LED lights have been installed, featuring a beam angle of the existing fixtures on the elevated road connecting the Nerul Jetty adjacent to the DPS lake area. This has been done by them only because of the recommendations of BNHS.	The CIDOC has replaced the existing white LED lights with yellow LED fittings on the elevated road connecting to the Nerul Jetty and Palm Beach service road adjacent to the DPS lake followed by the recommendation of Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) for replacing the lights provided at the bridge. Copy of the Additional Principal Conservator of Forest along with BNHS recommendations enclosed as Exhibit-3 . Impact of the lights on habitat of flamingo's needs further study along with life cycle pattern of global movement to ascertain impact of light on migratory birds viz. a viz. development in the area.
3.	Further, in the aforesaid order of this Tribunal, it is recorded that in the article in the newspaper states that the DPS Lake wetland, which has served as a habitat for flamingos and other migratory birds for decades, seems to be a land allotted for future development on the CIDCO plan.	The CIDCO has communicated appraisal regarding recent development related to vacant land parcel near DPS school, Nerul node. They have maintained that sector 52 Nerul falls in residential zone and is earmarked as future development in the nodal plan of Nerul. Exhibit-4 . Looking into development plan of Nerul node, the habitat of flamingos needs plan for conservation reserved for flamingos in the area. The said plan shall be periodically monitored by expert committee or agency.
4.	In view of above, we deem it appropriate to have a survey made of the site in question as to whether averments made in the news item were actually correct and whether as of now, any steps have been taken by respondent No.3 – CIDCO to take care of these issues and therefore, we constitute a Joint Committee	The Joint Committee has caused visit to the site in question and observed the issues raised in the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 11.07.2025.

	<p>comprising one member each of respondent No.1 – Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (H.O.F.F.), Maharashtra, respondent No 2 – Maharashtra Wetland Authority and respondent No.4 – Collector and District Magistrate, Thane, of which respondent No. 2 – Maharashtra Wetland Authority through its Member Secretary will be nodal agency. The said Committee shall visit the site in question and shall submit its report.</p>	
--	--	--

Recommendation:

- 1) The CIDCO has to conserve and maintained proper free flowing in and out water movements in the lake and creek for natural conservation of ecosystem and habitat.
- 2) Impact of the streetlights on habitat of flamingo's needs further study along with life cycle pattern of global movement to ascertain impact of light on migratory birds viz. a viz. development in the area.
- 3) The CIDCO is looking into development plan of Nerul node, the habitat of flamingos needs appropriate conservation plan reserved for flamingos in the area of DPS lake site.
- 4) The ecosystem & development plan shall be in line with DPS lake (Satellite Wetland) of Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary, Navi Mumbai.
- 5) The Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation & CIDCO shall take corrective action for the conservation of Thane Creek Flamingos.
- 6) The above said development plan shall be periodically monitored by expert committee or dedicated agency.

Date : 12-12-2025


(Dr. Y. B. Sontakke)
Expert
State Wetland Authority


(Umesh Patil)
Tahsildar, Thane
Collector Thane Representative


(C. U. G. Baisraj)
Forester, Nashi
Forest Department,
Thane

EXHIBIT-2

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE

Regional Office (WCZ)
Ground Floor, East Wing
New Secretarial Building
Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001
apcccentral-ngp.gov.in
Date: 13 February, 2018

F. No. FC-1/MH-71/2017-NGP/3280

To

The Secretary,
Govt. of Maharashtra,
Revenue & Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400032.

Sub: Diversion of 0.46 ha of Reserved Forest and Mangrove Forest land in favour of City & Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd (CIDCO), Belapur Railway Station, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai for development of passenger water transport terminal in Thane District in the State of Maharashtra

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra's letter no. Desk-17/NC/III/D 12486/(61)/2/16-17 dated 01.04.2017 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section - 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and letter no. Desk-17/NC/III/D 12486/(61)/1478/2017-18 dated 21.09.2017 forwarding additional information as sought by the Regional Office vide its letter of even number dated 2.05.2017. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, 'in-principle' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide its letter of even number dated 25.09.2017 subject to fulfilment of certain conditions prescribed therein. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra has now submitted a report on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval and requested the State Government to grant final approval to the proposal.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of compliance report submitted by the Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra vide his letter no. Desk-17/NC/III/D-12486/(61)/2717/17-18 dated 9.02.2018, the Central Government hereby accords final approval under Section - 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.46 ha of Reserved Forest and Mangrove Forest land in favour of City & Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd (CIDCO), Belapur Railway Station, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai for development of passenger water transport terminal in Thane District in the State of Maharashtra subject to following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- ii. Compensatory afforestation over the degraded forest land of 1.0 ha in lieu of forest land being diverted, shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department from the funds already provided by the User Agency.
- iii. Compensatory afforestation and penal compensatory afforestation shall be raised as per approved CA scheme from the funds already provided by the User Agency. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.
- iv. The State Government has realized the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2009 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the

Chait

guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 in this regard. The User Agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

- v. The User Agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- vi. Funds, if any, to be realized from the user agency under the project in future, except the funds realized for regeneration/ demarcation of safety zone, shall be transferred to Ad-hoc CAMPA, through e-challan, in the Saving Bank Account pertaining to the State concerned;
- vii. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- viii. The boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar;
- ix. The State Government/User agency shall take prior permission from Hon'ble High Court for Mangrove cutting before issue of order for diversion of the forest land in accordance with Hon'ble Mumbai High Court order dated 27/1/2010 in PIL 87 of 2006. Directions to be passed by the Hon'ble Court shall be binding on the User Agency,
- x. Baseline study, submitted along with the proposal, on flora conducted by the Salim Ali Center for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) in Thane creek mentioned several Schedule-I species in the area. The User Agency shall suitably contribute financially in the management plan, if any being implemented in the area, towards the conservation of the faunal diversity.
- xi. The User Agency shall obtain permission from the competent authority under CRZ notification, if required.
- xii. The user agency, if applicable, shall arrange to raise strip plantation on either side of the road and central verge at project cost, as per IRC specification, with maintenance of 7-10 years.
- xiii. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
- xiv. The reclamation of quarry should be done under the supervision of the State Forest Department. The quarry shall be reclaimed and afforested completely before the project is closed.
- xv. Overburden shall not be dumped outside the width of the road. The muck generated in the earth cuttings will be disposed of at the designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be allowed to roll down the hill slopes.
- xvi. The user agency will provide retaining walls, breast walls and drainage as per requirement to make the slope stable.
- xvii. The User agency, if required, will undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department,
- xviii. The designing of culverts/bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals should be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals.
- xix. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;

[Handwritten Signature]

- xx The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
- xxi The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- xxii The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government
- xxiii The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
- xxiv No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- xxv Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- xxvi. The user agency in consultation with the State Government shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird's nests artificially made out of eco-friendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;
- xxvii The State Government shall ensure that settlement of rights, in terms of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, have been completed in accordance with the relevant guidelines issued by the MoEF&CC in this regard;
- xxviii The user agency shall submit the six monthly self-compliance report in respect of the above conditions as on 31st July and 31st January to the State Government and to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry regularly.
- xxix. The State shall also monitor the compliance of conditions of the Stage-I approval and an annual report on the same may be submitted to this office as on 31st December every year
- xxx Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife, and
- xxxi The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

Yours faithfully



Charan Jeet Singh
Scientist C

Copy to:

- 1 The PCCF, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur
- 2 The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o of the PCCF, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur
- 3 The Director (RoHQ), MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj New Delhi.
- 4 User Agency
- 5 Guard File.

— 20/ —

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist C

EXHIBIT-3

President:

Pravinsingh Pardeshi, IAS (Retd.)

Ref.:615/2024

Date 30 April 2024

To
 Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
 & Mangrove Cell Head Mumbai
 O/o APCCF & Mangrove Cell Head Mumbai.
 302 Wakefield House, 3rd Floor,
 Near Britannia Restaurant
 Ballard Estate,
 Fort, Mumbai,
 Maharashtra 400001

Subject – Site Visit Report – Investigation into flamingo deaths near DPS Lake, Navi Mumbai.

Sir,

Greetings from Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS).

Following recent incidents of flamingo casualties, a team from BNHS, including Mr. Rahul Khot, Deputy Director, and Mr. Mrugank Prabhu, Scientist C, conducted a visit to the DPS Lake area on Friday, April 26, 2024, from 12:00 to 2:00 pm. Forest department officials, representatives from other NGOs, and local residents from NRI Complex were present during the visit. This report presents the observations and findings from the site visit aimed at investigating the causes of deaths of flamingos near DPS Lake in Navi Mumbai.

Date of Visit: 26 April 2024.

Location: DPS Lake, Navi Mumbai

Observations:

1. Flamingo Population: Upon arrival, it was noted that the number of flamingos present in the area was notably lower than anticipated for this season.
2. Information from individuals involved in rescuing deceased and injured flamingos revealed specific locations where these birds were discovered.
3. The water level in DPS Lake was observed to be significantly diminished.

Investigation:

1. Forest Department officials informed us that the blood and tissue samples from dead flamingos have been sent to Government Forensic Laboratory for further investigations.
2. Water samples were collected from DPS Lake by the Forest Department and have been sent to MPCB Lab for analysis of chemical composition and contaminants.

Bombay Natural History Society
 Hornbill House, Dr. Salim Ali Chowk, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Road, Mumbai – 400 001, India.
 Tel: (91-22) 2282 1811

Email: Office: info@bnhs.org Director: director@bnhs.org Website: www.bnhs.org



President:

Pravinsingh Pardeshi, IAS (Retd.)

3. **Habitat Assessment:** The habitat surrounding DPS Lake was assessed for any potential threats to flamingo health, such as habitat degradation or human interference.

Findings:

1. **Cause of Deaths:** Initial analysis based on available post-mortem reports suggests that trauma, including external injuries and hemorrhage, may be the primary cause of death.
2. **Suspected Cause:** There is suspicion that the LED light fixture installed on the elevated road connecting Nerul Jetty and Palm Beach service road adjacent to the DPS Lake could be a contributing factor to flamingos being lured onto the road. Situated between Thane Creek and DPS Lake, the road intersects the flight path of flamingos as they move between the creek and the lake during tides. The elevated position of the road and the blinding effect of the LED light fixtures may disorient flamingos flying low in this area. Notably, both incidents occurred at night and were reported by locals in the early hours of the day.
3. **Water Flow Dynamics:** DPS Lake receives water from the creek via inlets. During high tides, water enters through pipes located beneath the road on the southeastern side of the lake.
4. **Diminished Water Levels:** Presently, water can only enter the lake during the highest high tides, resulting in a reduction in water levels within the lake.

Recommendations:

1. **Replacement of LED Lights:** Consideration should be given to replacing the existing LED lights with Low Pressure Sodium Lights (LPS) featuring a beam angle of 30° to 45° , compared to the current 180° of the existing fixtures installed on the elevated road connecting Nerul Jetty and Palm Beach service road adjacent to the DPS Lake.
2. **Alternative LED Replacement:** If the replacement with LPS lights is not feasible, the existing white LED lights could be substituted with yellow LEDs featuring a beam angle of 30° to 45° .
3. **Restoration of Tidal Water Flow:** It is imperative to restore the tidal water flow of DPS Lake. All entry points should undergo thorough inspection and cleaning to remove any potential obstacles.

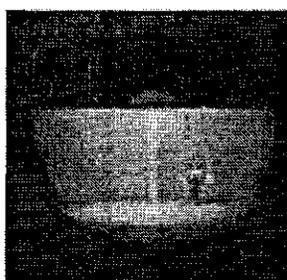


Fig 1. Current light fixture beam angle

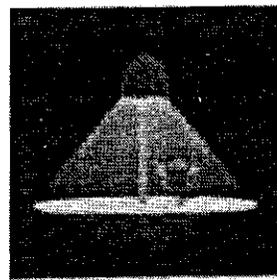


Fig 2. Recommended light fixture beam angle



President:

Pravinsingh Pardeshi, IAS (Retd.)

I hope our collaborative efforts will safeguard the welfare of these iconic birds and their fragile ecosystem.

Thanking you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kishor Rithe'.

Kishor Rithe

Director

CC

MD CIDCO

Municipal Commissioner Navi Mumbai Mahanagar Palika

EXHIBIT-4

P/1

CIDCO

**BOARD NOTE**

Item No	3
Board Meeting No	658
Date of Meeting	30.04.2025
Sponsoring HOD	Chief Planner (BP/DP/Env&Forest)

A) Subject: Appraisal regarding recent development related to vacant land parcel near DPS School, Nerul Node

B) Issue for consideration:

Regarding news published that, CIDCO's vacant land parcel admeasuring area approx. 12 Ha. near DPS School Sector- 52, Nerul node Navi Mumbai is being declared as 'Conservation Reserve for flamingos.

C) Nature of Approval :

Appraisal Note	Allotment	Adm Approval	Financial Approval / Award of work	Policy	Others (Pl. specify)
√					

D) Details about the Proposal :**1) BACKGROUND**

1. GoM Urban Development Department, Public Health and Housing Department has in exercise the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) and (3A) of Section 113 of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966 vide Notification No. RPB 1171/ 18124/113/IW, dated 20th March 1971 appointed CIDCO as the New Town Development Authority for the said area comprised of the site of Navi Mumbai.
2. Development Plan of Navi Mumbai sanctioned by the State Government in 1979 and modified upto 2021. As per the sanctioned Development Plan, the vacant land parcel located (approx 12 Ha.) at Sector -52, Nerul falls in 'Residential Zone' and is earmarked as

Demolish

[Signature]

1

'Future Development' in Nodal plan of Nerul, Navi Mumbai. The land is in possession of CIDCO. (ANNEXURE – I)

II) STATUS OF LAND AS PER REVENUE RECORD:-

1. As per the superimposition of village maps of Karave and Nodal layout of Nerul, Sector -52, Nerul is a part of S. No. 266 of Karave village, Thane.
2. 7/12 Extract, S. No. 266 shows the land as Salt Pan in possession with CIDCO. Before the acquisition of land, said land parcels were used for salt production, since it is adjacent to the creek.
3. Total area of S. No. 266 is approx. 86.0 Ha., out of which developed parts include Sector -50 (E), STP, Holding Pond, 50 m wide channel etc. at Sector - 50 (W). The existing DPS School and Playground is also part of said S. No.
Approx. 12.0 Ha. Land is a vacant/undeveloped land.

III) COURT MATTER STATUS:-

1. Around 2010, CIDCO started a development of balance land adjacent to DPS School, but PIL was filed before Hon. High Court (PIL 218 of 2013) by the adjacent societies/residents objecting the development of balance vacant land.
2. In the final order issued by the Hon. High Court, Mumbai on 01.11.2018 with regards to PIL 218 of 2013 and PIL 58 of 2018, it was directed that it is the obligation of CIDCO and other local authorities, as well as the state to protect and preserve the two lakes i.e. DPS and TS Chanankya and to ensure that they are not destructed.
3. CIDCO has challenged the said order issued by Hon'ble High Court of Bombay in the Hon'ble Supreme Court pertaining to land pocket near TS Chanakaya and land parcel at Sector-52, Nerul. The SLP in this regard, SLP (C) 16310 – 16311 of 2019 and SLP (C) 16313 – 16314 of 2019 are pending.

Desai

DMC

IV) COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PLAN (CZMP) FOR NAVI MUMBAI:-

1. The said land parcel is adjoining and near to the creek separated by existing bund/road at Sector 52, Nerul. The HTL as per CRZ 1991 notification was delineated by the Chief Hydrographer of India and based on this HTL, CIDCO has prepared the Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) for the said land parcel which is approved by the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) in 1996. A minor portion of Sector 52, Nerul, was affected by CRZ as per CZMP-1996.
2. Thereafter, as per CRZ Notification 2019, CZMP is approved by MoEF&CC. According to the approved CZMP-2019, minor portion of Sector-52, Nerul along existing bund/road, falls in CRZ-II and other major portion of land parcel is free from CRZ. **(ANNEXURE – II)**

V) Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary (TCFS):-

1. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) Govt. of India has published a notification on 14/10/2021 regarding the declaration of Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary (TCFS)
2. As per this notification, boundary of Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary and Eco Sensitive Zone published by the Govt of India. As per said notification, Sector-52, Nerul area is not affected by TCFS.

VI) DAMAGE OF EXISTING BUND/ROAD AT SECTOR-52:-

1. Existing ground level (GL) of the land parcel, is lower than adjacent road, hence rain water gets stored during rainy season. The stored water dries during summer season.
2. In last week of April 2024, Seven (07) Flamingos were found dead near Nerul Jetty and accordingly some people complained to Mangrove Cell, Forest Department, Govt of Maharashtra for allowing a creek water in vacant plot near DPS School.
3. CIDCO has received the letter from APCCF Mangrove Cell dated 03/05/2024, regarding the death of Flamingos near DPS School.

Signature

Signature

Nerul, Navi Mumbai. In this regard, the Joint site Visit was scheduled by the CIDCO on 15/05/2024 with the officers of Forest Dept.

Joint Site visit report of CIDCO officials/ departments concerned were prepared on 17/05/2024. Accordingly reply letter given by CIDCO on 28/05/2024 (**ANNEXURE – III**).

4. As per suggestion received from Mangrove Cell, Forest Dept., CIDCO has replaced a street light as well as removed a sign board of Nerul Jetty for the safety of Flamingos.
5. Local MLA also visited a site on 23/05/2024 with local people and representatives regarding a said drying of water and death of Flamingos. Officers and Representatives of NMMC, Forest, CIDCO and Police Departments were present.
6. Thereafter, a contractor of NMMC had excavated the bund road with JCB and removed the existing 300 mm dia. pipe outlet (not installed by CIDCO) and laid 600 mm dia. RCC pipe to allow creek water to enter the said area. Further additional 600 mm dia. pipe row was also laid adjoining to the replaced pipes resulting in two rows of 600 mm dia. pipe for intake of creek water in the above-mentioned area. In addition, the contractor also deployed 2 no's of 10 HP pump to lift the creek water into the above land parcel.

It is pertinent to note that, there is no natural flow of water into the said land parcel.

VII) ACTION TAKEN BY CIDCO:-

1. CIDCO has also informed to Local Police Station vide letter dated 05/06/2024 regarding the breach of the Hon. High Court order and the illegal work done without informing CIDCO (**ANNEXURE – IV**).
2. CIDCO has also informed to the Commissioner, Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) vide letter dated 29/07/2024 regarding illegally breaking 300 mm dia pipe outlet on the bund/existing road near DPS School (**ANNEXURE – V**).

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

3. CIDCO appointed M/s GRUS Consultant for study of report submitted by BNHS and analysis of the same. M/s GRUS submitted a report to the CIDCO with their recommendation regarding the bird study and the effect of the same on the proposed Navi Mumbai International Airport.

VIII) COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED BY STATE GOVERNMENT :-

1. The Government of Maharashtra has constituted a committee "to protect a natural habitat of Flamingos and mangroves in Nerul" under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary (Forest) vide GR dated 05/07/2024 (ANNEXURE - VI). The following are the members of the committee

1) Principal Secretary (Forest)	Chairman
2) Principal Secretary (Environment)	Member
3) Principal Secretary (UD-1)	Member
4) Vice Chairman and Managing Director, CIDCO	Member
5) Commissioner, Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation	Member
6) Chief Executive Officer, Maharashtra Maritime Board	Member
7) District Collector, Thane	Member
8) Shri. Pravin Pardeshi, BNHS	Member
9) Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (APCCF) Mangrove Cell	Member Secretary

2. CIDCO received a letter dated 12/08/2024 from Member Secretary/APCCF, Mangrove Cell regarding minutes of meeting dated 16/07/2024 of committee constituted by State Govt vide GR dated 05/07/2024 (ANNEXURE - VII).
3. Thereafter, 2nd letter dated 13/08/2024 received from Member Secretary/APCCF, Mangrove Cell for Joint Site visit on 16/08/2024 near DPS School as per GR. A joint site visit report was prepared by the officers concerned on 16/08/2024 (ANNEXURE - VIII)

Handwritten signature

Handwritten signature

IX) LETTER RECEIVED FROM NAVI MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PVT. LTD. (NMIAL) :-

CIDCO received a letter on 25/09/2024 from Navi Mumbai International Airport Pvt. Ltd. (NMIAL) regarding bird threat to operations at Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) (ANNEXURE – IX).

X) REPRESENTATION TO THE STATE GOVERNMENT BY CIDCO :-

CIDCO through Urban Development Department requested Forest Department vide letter dated 04/10/2024 not to declare the area adjacent to DPS School in Nerul node as bird sanctuary or as conservation reserve (ANNEXURE – X).

E) NEWS PUBLISHED REGARDING SECTOR -52, NERUL:-

In last week, various news items have appeared regarding the CIDCO's land near DPS School at Sector -52, Nerul being declared as conservation reserve for flamingos by the State Wildlife Board. However, CIDCO has not received any official notification (ANNEXURE – XI).

F) EFFECT OF DECLARATION OF "CONSERVATION RESERVE FOR FLAMINGOS AT SECTOR -52, NERUL":-

The land parcel at Sector -52, Nerul is located adjacent to Palm Beach road with significant development potential. On the basis of the current market rate of approx. 300 Cr. per Ha, the loss of revenue to CIDCO is to the tune of 3,600 Cr.

Secondly, if the State Govt. declares the said land in Sector -52 the major repercussion on various important projects are as under

I. Detrimental Effect on the Proposed NMIA and its operation

Declaration of the Conservation Reserve would be foremost detrimental to the NMIA project crucial for the MMR with significant investment and which is nearing completion to start operations.

In this regard the following may be noted :-

- a. In the minutes of 34th meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on, 2/6/2015, CIDCO had representation

Original

[Signature]

seeking waiver of condition to declare adjoining area of NMIA as mangrove sanctuary was discussed wherein it was stated based on BNHS study that area adjoining NMIA site shall be made unattractive to birds in view of air safety human safety and airport safety. Accordingly the standing committee waived the condition of development of bird sanctuary in mangrove park near NMIA in view of human safety (ANNEXURE - XII).

- b. The airport operators of NMIA have also conveyed time and again that the locations in vicinity of NMIA are in close proximity of western approach path of NMIA runway and being in the inner horizontal surface (IHS) of NMIA should be made unattractive for bird and wildlife as it will pose threat to of bird strike for aircraft operations.
- c. In this regard letter was submitted to forest department by CIDCO on 25.01.2016 (ANNEXURE - XIII).
- d. Considering the letter from CIDCO and NMIAL. Principal Conservator of Forest (wild life) conveyed that the bird activities will obstruct the operations of the airport, therefore the declaration of wild life at Palm Beach Road will not be appropriate from technical and practical point of view (ANNEXURE - XIV).
- e. Recently M/s GRUS consultant appointed for study of report submitted by BNHS and analysis of the same have stated in the report that International Civil aviation organization (ICAO) documents stipulate to keep bird activity low in the airport area by monitoring and actively managing. Considering the future safety of aviation, prevention of death of birds, damage to the property, endangering the life of passenger and crew it is very important to follow ICAO guidelines and prevent bird concentration zone near the airport. The site is located hardly at a distance of 1.0 to 1.5 Km from the Navi Mumbai International Airport. NMIAL has also appointed the consultant M/s BirdGard for wildlife assessment in and around 13.0 km from the airport.

Quisiera

PMU

II. Other infrastructure and development projects affected

The following projects shall also be affected :-

- 1) Proposed MLA/MMP Housing Project
- 2) Nerul Jetty and surrounding Development
- 3) Prop. CSMIA to NMIA Metro alignment
- 4) Prop. Thane to NMIA Road alignment
- 5) Prop. Golf Course Project at Nerul
- 6) Prop. ASR of Airport
- 7) Prop. Kharghar – Nerul Coastal Road
- 8) Prop. Palm beach to Ulwe Coastal Road Connectivity
- 9) Existing Development and vacant plots
- 10) Existing NMMC headquarter and surrounding area

G) PROPOSAL:-

About 12.0 ha. of land in Sector -52, Nerul, as per point no. (IV) and (V) in the earlier para of the Board Note belongs to CIDCO, is developable and is not a "wetland". However, there has been a concerted effort by various agencies to declare the same as Conservation Reserve for flamingoes.

Recent newspapers have news titled 'DPS flamingo lake now a Conservation Reserve', 'Maharashtra declares DPS wetland as flamingo Conservation Reserve in Navi Mumbai'.

It is pertinent to note that :

- 1) The declaration of the conservation reserve for flamingoes at sector -52, would have detrimental effect on the project of national importance namely the Proposed NMIA project and would derail this key project which is in final stage of completion
- 2) Apart from Navi Mumbai International Airport, key regional linkage infrastructure projects and development projects in the surrounding area will also be affected as mentioned at in (F) (II), which would negatively affect comprehensive development of Navi Mumbai.

Demolished

[Signature]

- 3) Considering the threat of bird hit to aviation operations, the declaration of any wild life reserve in proximity of airport have already been objected by CIDCO, airport operators and Forest Department and National Board of wildlife.

Hence it is therefore proposed to bring to notice of the State Government and authorities concerned about the facts of the present case and seek suitable directives about the plot adjacent to DPS

H) Financial Implication: NIL

I) Legal Requirements/Implications/Provisions: NIL

J) Date of approval of the agenda note by VC & MD/Jt MD:

K) Whether continuation of Deferred item/ or Fresh Item. Fresh Item

(If, deferred, date of Board Meeting)

L) Whether to provide the Board Note and Board Resolution under RTI Act, 2005 : Yes

DRAFT RESOLUTION NO:

1. "RESOLVED THAT the Board do and hereby take note of the facts submitted at point no. (D) and the repercussion of declaration of conservation reserve for flamingos at sector -52, nerul indicated at point no. (F) The proposal as brought out in point no. (G) is perused and be brought to the notice of the Govt of Maharashtra and authorities concerned"
2. "RESOLVED FURTHER THAT. MD/JT MD/ CP(NM/DP/BP/E & F) be and are hereby authorized to implement the resolutions without waiting for confirmation of the minutes "

Initiated by -

Assented by -

Jagdish Patil
Jagdish Patil
Senior Planner
(Env & Forest)



Ravindrakumar Mankar
Ravindrakumar Mankar
Chief Planner
(Env & Forest)

PART



Item No 09 / 658 BM
Appraisal regarding recent development related to vacant land parcel near DPS School, Nerul Node



Various news published in newspaper regarding CIDCO's vacant land parcel measuring area approx. 12 Ha. near DPS School, Sector- 52, Nerul Node



Navi Mumbai is being declared as 'Conservation Reserve for flamingos.'



Said matter was put to the Board and after detailed deliberation, the Board passed the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO:13069

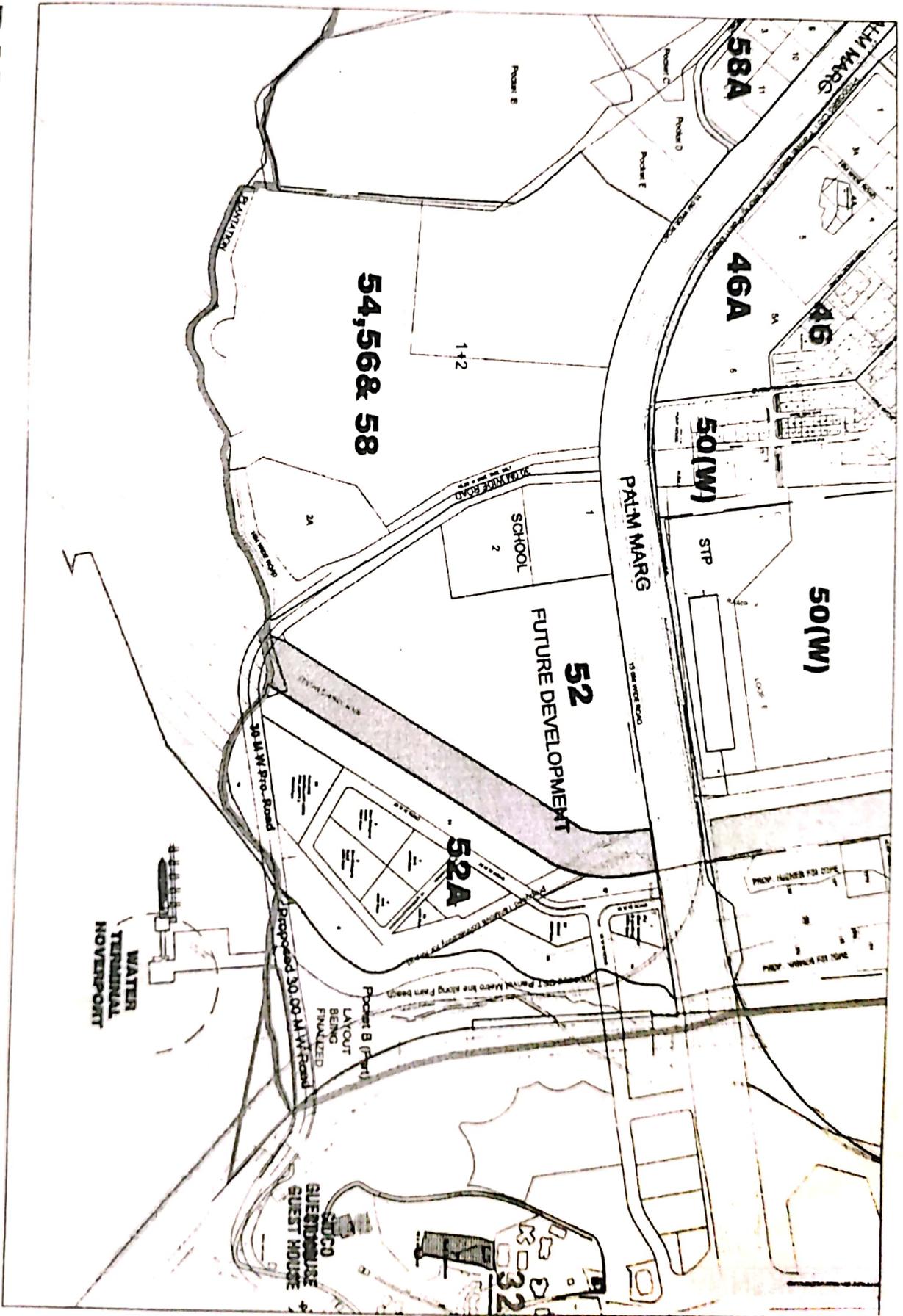
"RESOLVED THAT, the Board do and hereby take note of the facts submitted at point no. (D) and the consequences of declaration of conservation reserve for flamingos at Sector -52, Nerul indicated at point no. (F). The proposal as brought out in point no. (G) is perused and be brought to the notice of the Govt. of Maharashtra and authorities concerned".

"RESOLVED FURTHER THAT, after detailed discussion, the board decided to appoint the international reputed consultant to study the movement of birds in the vicinity of Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) and the consequences of the same on NMIA in two phases. In first phase, to study the movement of birds over the plot adjacent to DPS School and effect of the same on NMIA operations. In second phase, to study of the movement of birds along the Palm Marg area in Navi Mumbai jurisdiction"

"RESOLVED FURTHER THAT, VC & MD/JMD be and are hereby authorized to implement the resolutions without waiting for confirmation of Board minutes."



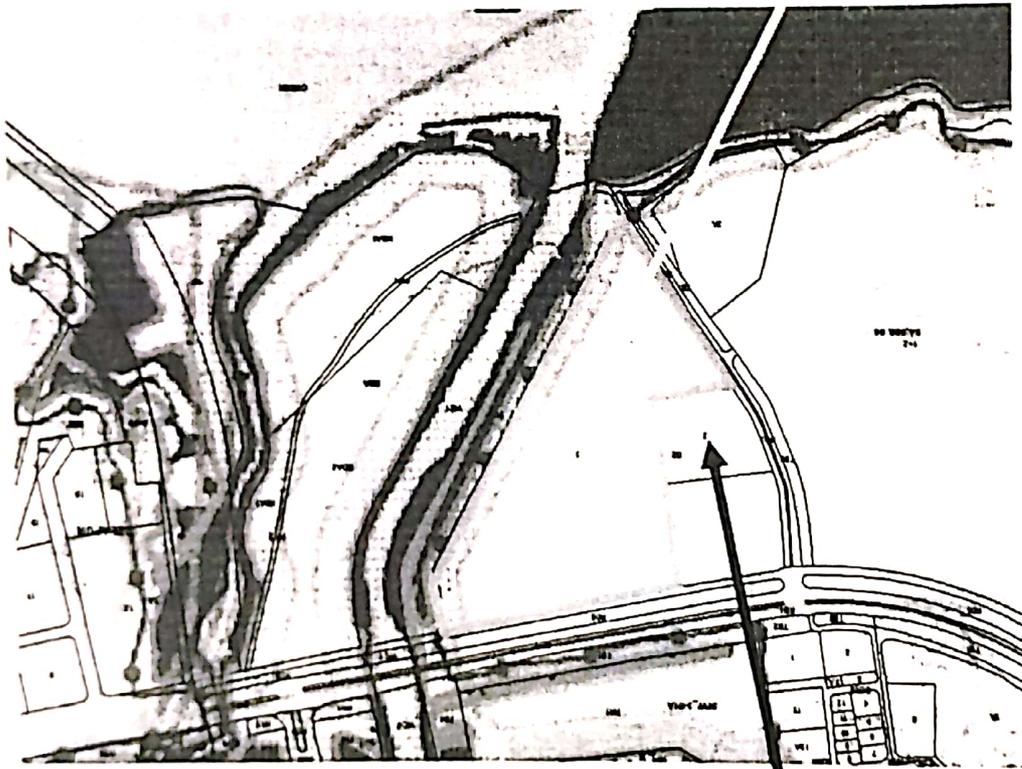
Passed by the	Resolution No.
13069	
30/4/25	held on
	Secretary



PART PLAN NERUL

Part Plan of approved CZMP -2019, Nerul Node

Land u/r (approx. 12.0 Ha.)



DPS School

ANNEXURE - II

"मा. हरित लवाद पूणे येथे दाखल मूळ अर्ज क्र. १३५/२०२४ दिनांक २८.०४.२०२४ रोजी व इंडियन एक्सप्रेसमध्ये प्रकाशित झालेल्या डी. पी. एस. लेक वेटलँडजवळ ७ मृत फ्लेमिंगो आढळल्याबाबतची गठीत समितीची पाहणी दिनांक ३१.१०.२०२५ रोजी सकाळी ११:०० वाजता.

अनु. क्र.	नाव	पदनाम / विभाग	मोबाईल नं.	सही
१)				
२)	डॉ. बसवंत सोनवणे	वेरुंगे अर्थसहाय्यी तह मसाले	९४६९५५१२४	
३)	श्री. सतगुप्त भ. बोर्डे	तहसिलदार ठाणे कृषि - नाप्रब तह	९९२२८५८३५४	 31/10/25
४)	सुजीत भाजाधरे	कार्यकारी अभियंता (वाढी) सिव्ही -	९७०२०३९६७९	
५)	विपिन विनायक जोशी	अभियंता (पर्यावरण) ज. पुणे	९३२२४०५७३४	
६)	अनिल रा. यादव	लगावी बेलापूर महसूल विभाग	८५५१८३५१०४	
७)	मोहन कोव	मं. अ. बेलापूर	७९७७९८८२५९	
८)	विलास वैरागी	व्यपाय वारी	९९७०७५१८१०	 31/10/25
९)	सादिक शेखे	वनरक्षक नेस्ट	९३०९९८७६७४	 31.10.2025
१०)	श्री. गोकुळ शर्मा	सहाय्यकारी अभियंता	९०८२५९९१९९	 31/10/25
११)				
१२)				
१३)				



Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

224c+f4v, Sector 32, Seawoods, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra 400706, India

Lat 19.005772° Long 73.021145°

Friday, 31/10/2025 12:33 PM GMT +05:30

Google

GPS Map Camera



Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

224c+f4v, Sector 32, Seawoods, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra 400706, India

Lat 19.005705° Long 73.021235°

Friday, 31/10/2025 12:35 PM GMT +05:30

Google

GPS Map Camera





Google

GPS Map Camera

Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India 

225c+3qq Lake View Nature Walkway, Dps Bypass St,
Sector 32, Seawoods, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra 400706,
India

Lat 19.007704° Long 73.021909°
Friday, 31/10/2025 12:57 PM GMT +05:30



Google

GPS Map Camera

Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India 

225c+3qq Lake View Nature Walkway, Dps Bypass St,
Sector 32, Seawoods, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra 400706,
India

Lat 19.007703° Long 73.02191°
Friday, 31/10/2025 12:58 PM GMT +05:30

