

Filmcity Authorities must protect tribals: Ram Naik

Mumbai, Thursday: Local tribals and residents will be taken into confidence about the survey conducted at various localities of Goregaon Filmcity viz. Morachapada, Gautam Nagar, Devichapada, Madraspada, Mali Nagar, Nagarmodi Pada and Habale Pada. This assurance was given to Shri Ram Naik, former Petroleum Minister by Shri Sanjay Patil, Joint Managing Director of Filmcity. Shri Naik called on Shri Patil yesterday with the delegation consisting of Shri Kisan Bhoir, President of Morachapada Tribals Association, tribal representatives Shri Bistur Nausha Chaudhari and Shri Shivram Krishna Chaudhari, local leaders Shri Kiran Salve, Shri Rajendra Yadav, Smt. Rukmini Pawar, etc.

Filmcity authorities had undertaken survey through private agencies in June. During the survey even non-residents were photographed with their thumb impressions and the purpose of survey was not revealed. This created doubts in the minds of locals who sought help of Shri Ram Naik. As the survey was done by private company, that too without prior intimation, Shri Naik urged for verification by Revenue Authorities. Thereafter Shri Patil assured Shri Naik that locals will be taken into confidence regarding the survey. Shri Naik also pointed out that many tribals are doing farming since many years and therefore the same information should be noted during the survey. He emphasized that the rights of tribals should be protected. Shri Patil thereafter assured that he will seek orders from higher authorities in this regard.

The delegation expressed their anger as the customary road connecting locals with schools, shops, hospital situated at Dindoshi is now closed due to the compound wall constructed by the Filmcity. Besides prohibiting daily commuting it has created hindrance in way of Municipal Corporation tankers meant for sewerage clearance, drinking water etc. "Shri Patil assured to solve this problem within 15 days", informed Shri Naik at the end.

(Office Secretary)