नर्मदा बचाओ आंदोलन

• नर्मदा–आशिष, नवलपुरा, बडवानी, मध्यप्रदेश ४५१५५१ • दूरभाष : ९७५५५४४०९७ इमेल : nba.badwani@gmail.com, medha.narmada@gmail.com

> मैत्री निवास, टेंबेवाडी (काकावाडी के पीछे) धडगाव, जिला नंदुरबार, महाराष्ट्र ४२५४१४
> दूरभाष : ९४२३९०८१२३
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Press Note

Narmada Bachao Andolan

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19th June 2024

Nationwide Solidarity for Narmada Bachao Andolan!

Representatives from National Alliance of People's Movements (NAPM), a pan-India coalition with close to 500 associated organizations, arrived in Chikhalda to show solidarity, and assured their support for the people's demands and rights! Richa Singh, the NAPM Convener from Uttar Pradesh, assured the people that the country stands with them, and protests have already started in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala...

Sunithi S.R, the NAPM Convener from Pune reminded the people of their success over the last 39 years, every time they asserted their rights!

Dr. Sunilam, a social activist, former MLA, and President of Kisan Sangharsh Samiti, made a strong speech declaring farmer solidarity with the people of the Andolan and issued a statement and warning, that if the government doesn't resolve all the issues, they will take to the streets for a Sanyukta Kisan Morcha. He said the Central government should be ashamed that after the submergence of 160 villages inhabited by farmers, labourers, fish workers, potters, boatsmen, shopkeepers, etc – they have been unsuccessful to rehabilitate and resettle them. He declared deep concerns over Medha Patkar's health during this indefinite fast and emphasized her importance and that of Narmada Bachao Andolan, to bringing about a shift in the current development paradigm.

Prafulla Sumantara, the activist and environmentalist from Odisha who fought the 12-year legal battle leading to the closure of Vedanta Resources mining and affirming indigenous land rights in the sacred Niyamgiri Hills, made a speech of solidarity and strength! He assured support and expressed the importance of this movement in a larger fight to protect the handover of *jal, jungle, jameen* (water, forests, land) to corporations, and protect the culture that the people of the valley represent.

The people of the movement shared their struggles through speeches and songs. Shyama behan, a fish worker spoke passionately of the people's rights to resources and was joined by the crowd chanting *"jaha jameen doobi humari, paani, machli kaise tumhari?"* (Where the land inundated is ours, how is the water and fish yours?)

<u>On Medha didi's 5th Day of hunger strike</u>, the women who joined her for a 24-hour relay fast are, Basu bai Solanki from Budhwada Kukshi, Kala bai Kailash from Khalghat, Chinta bai - Pati Shriram Dawar and Bhuri bai Pati Cheemu from Chikhalda Kheda.

Sushila Nath, Kailash Yadav, Devisingh Tomar, Kuwarsingh Nargave, Rahul Yadav, Mukesh Bhagoriya, Kamla Yadav, Bhagwan Septa, Mahendra Tomar Contact: 9179617513 / 9755544097 / 8839295127 / 9174181215

