

नर्मदा बचाओ आंदोलन

• नर्मदा-आशिष, नवलपुरा, बडवानी, मध्यप्रदेश ४५१५५१

• दूरभाष : ९७५५५४४०९७

ईमेल : nba.badwani@gmail.com, medha.narmada@gmail.com

• मैत्री निवास, टेबेवाडी (काकावाडी के पीछे) धडगाव,
जिला नंदुरबार, महाराष्ट्र ४२५४१४

• दूरभाष : ९४२३९०८१२३

ईमेल : nba.maha@gmail.com, latikala@gmail.com



Narmada Bachao Andolan

• Narmada-Ashish, Navalpura, Badwani, Madhya Pradesh 451551

• Tel: 9755544097

Email: nba.badwani@gmail.com, medha.narmada@gmail.com

• Maitri Niwas, Tembawadi, Behind Kakawadi, Dhadgaon,
Dist. Nandurbar, Maharashtra 425414

• Tel: 9423908123

Email: nba.maha@gmail.com, latikala@gmail.com

Press Note

18th June 2024

Women lead the way on Day 4 of Medha Patkar's indefinite fast!

Growing Solidarity with the people of the Narmada valley!

18th June is the 4th day of Medha Patkar's indefinite fast for justice in the Narmada valley. Joining her by participating in a 24-hour relay fast, are four women – Kala Suraj from Anjad tin-shed, Kamla Devdas from Piplia, Suman Suresh and Gyarsi Ranju from Kheda.

Narmada Valley Development Authority (NVDA) officers visited the four villages of Ekalvara, Chandankhedhi, Dharamrai, and Gangli and asked for the people's grievances, requesting them for applications of the same. NBA's stand is that the State expedite on compensation for the total loss incurred by the people affected in 2023 and complete all the pending work of rehabilitation and resettlement – instead of extended hearings that duplicate past work. Additionally, during the visit, when people in the Ekalvara Village asked about the submergence in 2023, the officers replied saying that they don't have the authority to take decisions on the 2023 submergence. On the 6th of June, NBA had a detailed meeting with the Commissioner and all the officers of NVDA, where it was decided that the NVDA Commissioner would be present in the districts of Badwani, Dhar, Alirajpur and Khargone, along with NBA representatives, to resolve the people's grievances.

The doctors made their second visit to the sit-in today and were received with chanting .. **“Humme doctor nahi chahiye, sarkar chahiye!” (We don't want doctors, we want the Government officials to come here!). People are asserting their right to democratic dialogue and accountability for the devastation they continue to face.** Medha didi thanked them for coming, and assured them that she is not a patient – that there are many people in need who require their service instead. She teared up as she gave a speech about the state of health for the poor in the country.

Affected families from Maharashtra travelled to join the Satyagraha yesterday. Nurji Vasave Village Representative from Chimlakhedi, Maharashtra & Punya Vasave Sarpanch, Narmadanagar Rehabilitation Site, Maharashtra came in unity and reiterated that despite hundreds left to receive their rights in Maharashtra, compared to thousands in Madhya Pradesh – we all need to unite to assert our rights! **They brought information that the newly elected Maharashtra M.P. Adv. Goyal Padvi and M.L.A. Adv. K.C. Padvi have requested a letter with the families pending resettlement and rehabilitation from Maharashtra, as they hope to expedite the process.**

In Bhagirath Dhangar's speech, he remembered how the State paid the people being displaced, just Rs 80,000 when they were unaware of their rights to fair compensation, till NBA informed them.

Members of the Sant Shiromani Ravidas Yuva Sangathan joined the sit-in, where the Chairperson, Sunil Zarewar, made a speech saying, *“Har pal aapke sath rahenge”* (we will be with you every moment). *Ghar Bachao, Ghar Banao Andolan* (Build a House, Save a House Movement) in Mumbai, took to the streets with banners to express solidarity and demand that the State maintain the water level at 122 metres till people are fairly resettled and rehabilitated as per the laws and policies of the Nation.

National Alliance of People's Movement (NAPM) has written to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mantralaya to confirm the declaration of solidarity for NBA's demands by all these organisations so as to end Medha Patkar's indefinite fast:

Shramik Janta Sangh, National Alliance of People's Movement, Bharat Jodo Abhiyan, Bahujan Vikas Sangham, Kamgar Karmachari Sanyukta Kruti Samiti, Bhartiya Mahila Federation, Swaraj Abhiyan Thane, Samata Vichar Prasarak Sanstha, and Dharmarajya Paksha.

Sushila Nath, Kailash Yadav, Devisingh Tomar, Kuwarsingh Nargave, Rahul Yadav,

Mukesh Bhagoriya, Kamla Yadav, Bhagwan Septa, Mahendra Tomar

Contact: 9179617513 / 9755544097 / 8839295127 / 9174181215