

PLEASE CIRCULATE WIDELY

Posco Hatao - Desh Bachao.....(Remove POSCO - Protect the Nation & Sovereignty)

Aamar Gram, Tumar Gram, Shavira Gram: Kalinga Nagar Aur Nandigram

My Village; Your Village; Everybody's Village. Kalinga Nagar Or Nandigram

ACT NOW to prevent a repeat of Kalinga Nagar Or Nandigram in POSCO Projected Area in Orissa.

By the concept of Centralized Development Self Village Autonomy can't be Sacrificed, Purchased & Pressurized by force; for the sake of the nation to protect the sovereignty

Call/Fax/Email to Chief Minister:

Shri Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Orissa
Address: Naveen Nivas, Aerodrome Road,
P.O.-Bhubaneswar, Dist.-Khurda Pin -751001(Orissa)
Tel. No.(O) 0674- 2531100,2535100 (FAX)

Tel. No.(R) 0674- 2590299,
2591099,2590844,2591100,2590833

Email here cmo@ori.nic.in

Call/Fax/Email to Collector, Jagatsinghpur:

Collector, Jagatsinghpur
Jagatsinghpur, Orissa

Tel. No. : 06724-220199
Fax No. : 06724-220299
E-mail : dmjssp@ori.nic.in

- * Around 51,000 crores of rupees of FDI, POSCO to take over 8000 acres of land
- * Direct displacement of 30,000 people
- * A State Government determined to help the company
- * 20 Platoons of Armed paramilitary forces
- * Three villages that have barricaded themselves in a bid to protect their land

Ask the State Government to:

1. Immediate removal of paramilitary forces and police from the vicinity of POSCO Project area.
2. Announce that no project will be located against the wishes of the local people

Villagers opposed to POSCO's steel plant in Jagatsinhpur district of Orissa are now at the receiving end of state violence. Fearful of the consequences of allowing Government surveyors access to their lands, villagers of Dinkia, Nuagaon and Garakuchang have barricaded themselves inside their villages, thereby restricting public access to the proposed project areas.

The sentiment, very clearly, is against the setting up of the giant steel smelter and captive port with the Special Economic Zone. However, the State Government egged on by a Prime Minister who has extended his personal blessings to the project is keen to get on with the POSCO project at any cost.

With three days to go before the statutory public hearing - scheduled for 15 April - the Government has deployed twenty platoons of paramilitary armed to the teeth. On 9 April, paramilitary forces staged a flag-march aimed to intimidate local opposition. The State Administration has chosen to hold the Public Hearing, as a mere formality, at Kujang - the stronghold of the ruling BJD party.

The area is crawling with paid henchmen and cadre of the ruling party. With the multinational POSCO, the State Government, the paramilitary and the BJD henchmen lined on one side against farmers, fisherfolk and workers opposed to POSCO on the other, the stage is set for a repeat of Nandigram or Kalinga Nagar.

The people have barricaded themselves are prepared to sacrifice themselves to save their lands. By underestimating the depth of opposition to the POSCO project, the Orissa Government may be committing the same mistake that the CPM did in Nandigram.

As per the reliable information, police may take action from 16th to 25th April at any time. So, we expect your physical presence in the field.

For details contact:

Akshay kumar,
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Patia, Bhubaneswar 31
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[Here is a sample letter below.]

To

The Chief Minister of Orissa,
Bhubaneswar.

<cmo@ori.nic.in>

CC: I. <manmohan@sansad.nic.in>
II. <covdnhrc@hub.nic.in>

COLLECTOR, Jagatsinghpur
Jagatsinghpur, Orissa

Tel. No. : 06724-220199

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Sub: Threatened Armed Intervention of the State of Orissa on behalf of the South Korean Steel Major POSCO to Rig a Public Hearing to Facilitate Acquisition of Agricultural Lands for Setting Up Its Plant

Sir,

I, as a citizen of India - having regard for the democratic values professed by the Indian State and enshrined in its Constitution and also concerned about the wellbeing of the citizenry in general, and the marginalised and vulnerable in particular, am extremely disturbed at the report that a large posse of armed paramilitary forces and hired goons have been mobilised to rig a public hearing scheduled on April 15 as regards the setting up of a proposed steel plant by the South Korean steel major M/s POSCO in the district of Jagatsinghpur.

I also understand that there is widespread apprehension and panic that an armed assault, a la Nandigram, is also in the offing to crush the resistance of the villagers of Dinkia, Nuagaon and Garakujang, who have barricaded themselves inside their villages, determined not to part with their lands and means of livelihood and oppose the apprehended move by the State to expropriate them of the same by all possible means.

Hence, I demand that (i) a conducive atmosphere free of intimidating moves and gestures must be ensured for holding a free and transparent public hearing on the forthcoming April 15. I also demand that (ii) the police & paramilitary forces should be withdrawn as quick as possible from the Kujanga area & no coercive/repressive actions must be taken or threatened to be taken against the villagers fighting to protect their lives and livelihoods. (iii) and Announce that no project will be located against the wishes of the local people. (iv) All disputes must be resolved through dialogue.

To conclude, you are earnestly urged to personally ensure that the blood-soaked tragedy of Kalinga Nagar or Nandigram is in no way repeated here.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely

YUVA BHARAT

(NAVNIRMAN SAMITI)

Plot No. 849/5051, Soumya Bhawan, Talabhoisahi,
Patia, Bhubaneswar-751031

Ph. No. : 0674-3206874, 09937427611, 09937829484

E-mail : yuva.bharat@rediffmail.com, yuva.bharat100@rediffmail.com

RASTRIYA YUVA SANGATHAN

Gunanidhi Bhawan,

Thoria sahi
Cuttack-1

REPORT

After the W.T.O. agreement in 1994 India lost its political sovereignty as well as the economic freedom. All the ruling political parties as well as the opponents worked as the political agents of the multinationals. The direction of the W.T.O., W.B., I.M.F. decided the policies and development of the nation. In the same process of globalization, liberalization and privatization, on 22nd June 2005, the Govt. of Orissa signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Pohang Steel Company (POSCO) of South korea. Since it is a symbol of slavery not only for Orissa but also for the Nation, the tough struggle is continuing against POSCO to wipe it out from our motherland.

In the past, at the beginning of the seventeenth century, the East India Company of England came to the soil of India for the purpose of business. But they ruled over us 190 years with the cutthroat loot of our wealth. Many revolutionary youths became the martyrs to liberate mother India from the bondage of slavery. Our mother India got her political independence by the dedication of Baji Rout , Laxman Nayak , Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Uddam Singh, Chandra sekhar Azad, Netaji , Rani Laxmi bai , Tilak , Gopabandhu and Gandhi Ji etc. But within more than half century of independence passed, again our independence is in danger. The soil of India is under the attack of foreign conspiracy. Again a multinational company named as POSCO (Pohang steel company) is coming to Indian soil in the name of development and LPG (Liberalization, Privatization, Globalization) under the agreement of WTO as the East India company had ruled in the name of civilization. POSCO is the face of destruction, slavery and exploitation. The negative impact of POSCO as follows:-

1. For the first time after the independence of India, POSCO has been given the permission to construct its private port . As in the seventeenth century East India company was given three private villages (Kothi) by Mughal Emperor Aurangjeb and captured and ruled over all the country: again POSCO is coming into India with all the conspiracy and strategic planning to root out our political independence by bringing the

army, arms and ammunitions through its private port in the direction of England and America under the umbrella of WTO. (World Trade Organization)

2. The greatest mining resource of Iron, Buxite , Coal etc. of Asia continent lies in three states , Orissa , Chhatisgarh and Jharkhand of India. So if POSCO sets up its plant at Paradeep with the private port, it will exploit & extract all the mineral resources of all these three states in the coming 20/30 years.
3. If POSCO will setup its private port at Paradeep, the recent Paradeep port will face a cutthroat competition and according to the geographical situation, there is possibility of submerging of the recent port into the Bay of Bengal.
4. By setting of the POSCO plant at Paradeep there will be a displacement of 30,000 people directly from three panchayats i.e. Nuagaon, Dinkia, Gadakujanga of Erasama block and more than 1 lakh people will be displaced indirectly in the slow process.
5. POSCO will extract near about 12 thousand to 15 thousand crores liters of water from zobra and naraj barrage of river Mohanadi, as a result the farmers irrigating the lands by the canals of Taldanda, Machhagaon, Birupa of Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, and Kendrapada district will suffer a great loss.
6. The company will take 8000 acres of land directly and 20,000 acres of cultivated land will be affected indirectly. Side by side, two iron belt mines of Gandhamardhan and Malangtoli hills of the tribal areas will be given as lease to the company.
7. The people of the displaced area of the plant are living a prosperous life with the cultivation of betel vines, rice, fish, cashewnuts, coconuts and earn more than 5 crore rupees per year. They will loss everything and their society will be wiped out. The Govt. is telling to rehabilitate them. But those people had been displaced in the Hirakud, Nalco, Rourkela projects, they have not been rehabilitated till yet.
8. Since Orissa govt. is not selling the iron ore in international rate, it will be the looser of 1,32,000 crores rupees directly.
9. Since POSCO will be provided the *Special Economic Zone*, Government of India will lose a lot of revenue by subsidizing the taxes.

10. POSCO will disturb the ecological balance of Paradeep, Kujanga and Erasama area of Jagatsinghpur district. The temperature of that area will increase and that may welcome the cyclone into this area.(as you know a super cyclone of 1999 had devastated this district earlier and more than 10,000 people died directly here at Erasama block at oceanic cyclone)
11. As per a survey done by Navnirman Samiti Research unit that the total national loss will be 2,94,135 crores rupees.
12. POSCO will invite all kind of immoral activities i.e. the drugs, liquors and all criminal elements as these are the side effects of the heavy industrialization.

So POSCO will welcome another slavery of the Indian Soil. But since our govt. has signed the MoU of POSCO that is anti-development and anti-people; so we have started fighting against POSCO by organizing the public opinion to protect our soil and mother India.

PROGRAMMES:

Programmes Taken :

1. Padayatra from POSCO Projected area to Bhubaneswar POSCO Office Fortune Tower since 18th Oct. to 29th Oct. 2005 & demonstration in front of Fortune Tower.
2. The local R.I. Office was locked on 22nd Feb.2006 after the 52 days demonstration & 7 days fasting for resisting the land acquiring process of POSCO through revenue department.
3. 22nd June 2006 was observed as the Endangered Day of Indian Independence.
4. 21 days fasting & demonstration in Bhubaneswar for challenging the Chief Minister for open debate on POSCO & Gherao of the Chief Ministers residence (Navin Niwas) on 15th Oct.2006.

Since, it's a national struggle against the wrong system and a big challenge, we need the following co-operation as follows :

1. You are requested to come to join in this movement to give your moral and physical support.

2. You can do the conference, demonstration in your own area for the withdrawal of POSCO from India.
3. You can send literatures, Books, Documents, Video Cassettes etc. regarding POSCO or any other movement or Govt. documents that will help us to strengthen the movement.
4. You may write the collective Letter/ E-mail/ Fax to C.M. of Orissa or Prime Minister of India by pressurizing them morally to cancel the MoU of POSCO.
5. We need the financial support for this movement. If you are going to send your financial support, please make the draft by the name of **“AKSHAYA KUMAR”** or **“YUVA BHARAT”**, payable at **Bhubaneswar** and send it in the following address (**Akshaya Kumar, YUVA BHARAT, Plot No 849/5051, Soumya Bhawan, Talabhisahi, Patia, Chandrasekharapur, Bhubaneswar – 751031**)

Hope, you might be co-operative in the above ways. Remain here waiting your reply.

Yours sincerely,

AKSHAY KUMAR

Convenor

YUVA BHARAT



Tussle with Police when demonstration Infront of POSCO Office



Demonstrators are shouting POSCO Go Back & Trying to Enter into POSCO Office, Police Obstructing them.

Posco invokes Lord as protests cloud project

By Rajaram Satapathy/TNN

Bhubaneswar: Pushed to the wall by protests from different quarters, South Korean steel giants Posco on Thursday sought Lord Jagannath's blessings to help set up a 12-million-tonne plant near Paradeep in the state.

The company distributed free lunch to thousands of people at Iskon temple here. All this happened while hundreds of villagers from the plant site were chanting "go back Posco" slogans before the company office here.

Posco-India CMD Soung-Sik Cho led his team, all sporting white kurta and pyjama, to the Iskon temple and offered puja to the presiding deity. Over 3,000 people got free meals, while the company paid the bill for anyone who had lunch at the temple's restaurant.

Posco's move to tap the religious sentiments of the people had been deliberately planned to calm down growing protests against the project that has been promised wide ranging concessions, including captive mines and tax benefits. A similar visit and free prasad distribution are being chalked out at the Hanuman temple here. The temple at Kujang will be renovated, too. This day last year, Posco signed the MoU with the Orissa government for the Rs 51,000-crore project. But this has not gone well with

many, who feel the project would yield more benefit for the company than the country. Hundreds of villagers at the plant site near Paradeep observed June 22 as "Black Day". The villagers, backed by almost all political parties excepting the ruling BJD, have vowed not to leave the place.

The villagers, braving blinding rain, on Thursday came to Bhubaneswar and took out a rally protesting against the project. They held a demonstration outside the Posco-India office here. The government had intensified security arrangements fearing a law and order breakdown. The protest was peaceful, the police said.

Later, the protesters met Governor Ram eshwar Thakur and gave him a memorandum demanding cancellation of the project. "The Governor heard our case very patiently," said Bichitra Biswal of Nava Nirman Samiti, the organisation spearheading the protest.

The government, which has been under pressure for the tardy progress of the project, has designated the IPICOL chairman as nodal officer, and appointed a senior officer to oversee rehabilitation and resettlement work. It has announced that of the estimated 4,004 acre, 1,135 acre have been handed over to Posco. The remaining land would be acquired in phases, officials said.



pioneer

Bhubaneswar
Friday | June 23 | 2006



Members of Jibha Banchha Andolan, Rastriya Yuva Sangathan and Nava Nirman Samiti scuffle with the police in front of Fortune Towers in Bhubaneswar on Thursday during a protest rally against the Posco project in Orissa. Pioneer Photo

Activists demonstrate at Posco office

Pioneer News Service | Bhubaneswar

Anti-Posco campaigners on Thursday took out a rally from Vaidi Vihar Square to the Posco-India office at the Fortune Towers here to demonstrate against the company's proposed steel plant at Paradeep.

Earlier, a delegation met the Governor and submitted a memorandum opposing the Posco project. Coloured banners, carried by the agitators, showed June 22 as an 'Endangered Day of Indian Independence', as on the same day a year back the State Government had signed a MoU with the South Korean steel giant to set up the mega steel plant thereby allegedly overlooking the problems relating to displacement, loss of livelihood and

life of the people living in the area. About five hundred people from the affected areas of the proposed site led by Rastriya Yuva Sangathan and Nava Nirman Samiti held a meeting in front of the Posco office in which the speakers vociferously opposed Posco. They alleged that Posco's Rs 51,000-crore mega project would invariably take away the means of livelihood of not less than fifty thousand people residing in the vicinity of the proposed site. They made it clear that by the proposed plant the people of the area would lose domestic industries, which are linear industries based on betel.

RI OFFICE LOCKED, MINISTERS DENIED ENTRY

Statestman
21/12/2006

Posco stir hots up

Statestman News Service

JAGATSINGHPUR, Feb. 23. — After Kalinga Nagar, a proposed mega-steel plant of South Korean major Posco, entailing the biggest ever FDI of over Rs 50,000 crore, has run into trouble with local people. Women residents of the area the company seeks to acquire, today locked up the revenue inspector office at Nuagaon circle. They were demanding cancellation of the MoU signed between the state government and the South Korean Company.

The anti-Posco movement gained momentum with the visit of social activists including Medha Patekar recently. In fact Ms Patekar had declared the acquisition notices as null and void as it did not mention the Act, the nature of industry to be set up and how it was in public interest etc.

Today, activists of Rastriya Yuva Sangathan and Nav Nirman Samiti, who are spearheading the movement and have been demonstrating in front of the RI office since December 2005, mobilised women from different villages and locked up the RI office.

People belonging to three pan-

chayats — Dhinkia, Nuagaon and Gadakujang, participated in the agitation today. They threatened to paralyse the entire government machinery. Women activists Gita Das, Pratiba Das, Majulata and others said the locking up of the RI office stood for a complete plug on the land acquisition related process.

It may be noted here that the RYS and NNS as well as social activists from different parts of the country, who had assembled here earlier this month and dubbed the Posco project as anti-development and anti-people. It would spell disaster for the state, they had said, while pointing out at the promising agriculture economy of the area. Environmental concerns were also raised.

Thousands of anti-Posco project activists, including a large number of women carrying lathis and lanterns, successfully prevented two senior cabinet ministers — the panchayati raj minister, local MLA Dr Damodar Rout and revenue minister Mr Manmohan Samal from reaching the venue of a meeting at Gadkujang last night.

The two ministers were to attend a meeting organised by a

few pro-Posco project groups but they faced the ire of protestors, who blocked the Balitutha bridge and denied them entry. Rout and Samal were compelled to return, but before doing so they addressed the protestors and assured them force would not be used.

A reliable source said a meeting had been arranged at Gadakujanga to educate people about the mega steel plant project and its benefits. The meeting was to inform people about rehabilitation of the affected people of Dhinkia, Nuagaon, Gadkujanga area. Leaflets for the same purpose were also distributed. The source said an organisation called Bhumiputra Sangram Sansad and Posco Janasampark Samiti had tried to hold meetings in favour of the project.

It was apparently aimed at countering the anti-Posco agitation in the area that in recent weeks had gained momentum with several social activists from outside the state addressing public meetings on the ills of the steel plant. Ms Medha Patekar and others had come here to pledge their support to the anti-Posco movement.

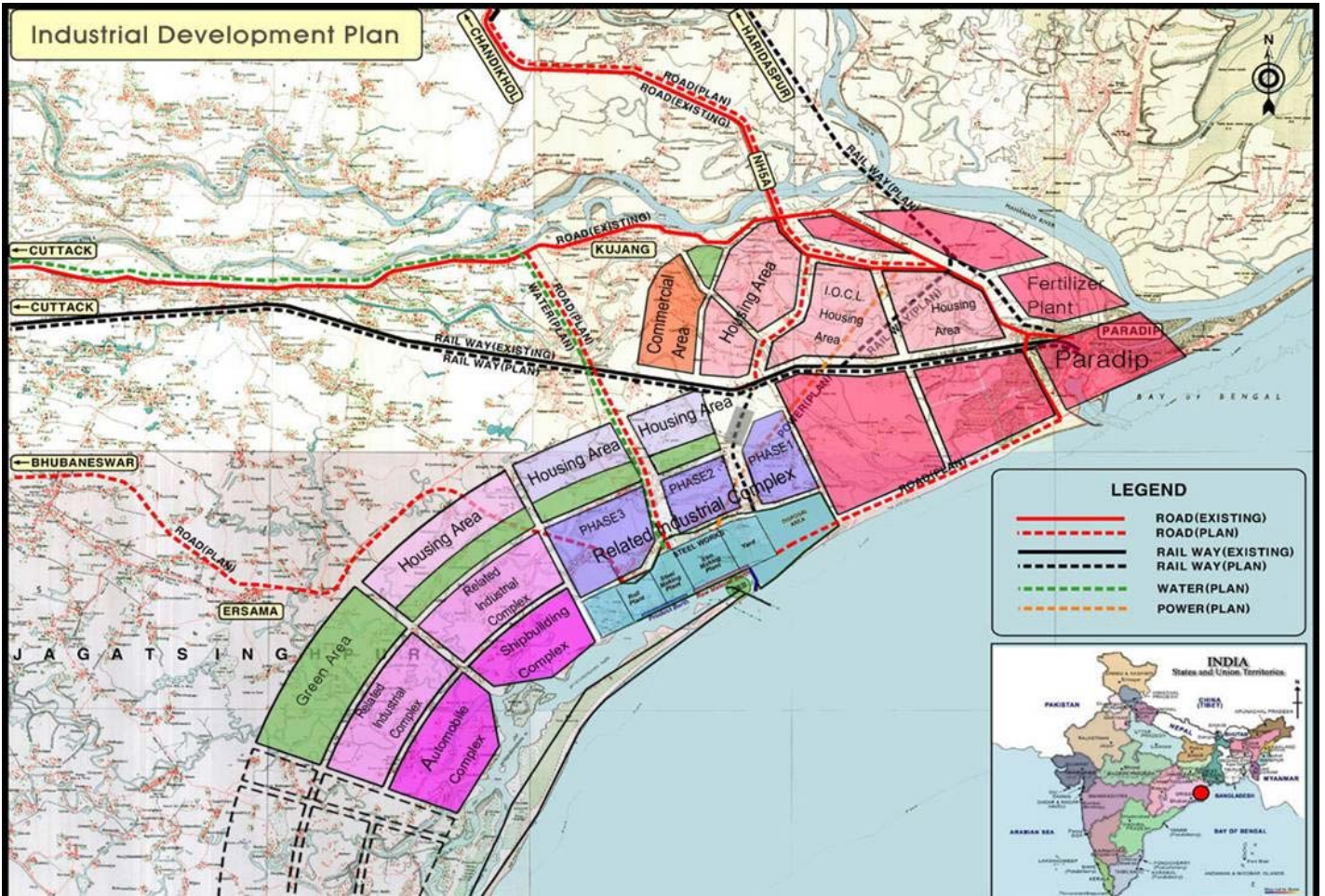
Getting this information, thousands of villagers including women sat on dharana at Balitutha bridge, an entry point to the affected villages, by lighting lantern and holding lathis. They also slept on the road preventing two ministers from proceeding to the area.

The district officials and police requested the protestors to clear the road for entry of two ministers to the meeting place but they did not move. They resisted saying they were prepared to lay down their lives and face bullets from police.

They raised several uncomfortable questions on the project and the conduct of the two ministers.

Rout and Samal then decided to address people on the bridge. The Panchayati Raj minister, who happens to be the local MLA, clarified that he had not come to speak in favour of the project but to listen to the people. Nothing could be forced upon the people, he stated. The steel plant would come up only if the locals are willing and interested, he added.

Significantly, no BJD or BJP activist of the three panchayats had come to the rescue of the two leaders last night.



Nearly 20,000 acres of land will be taken by POSCO in the slow process for the command area development. Which is five times of the lands declared to be taken.

Source : POSCO INDIA, Page-5.17, Fig-5.2, from M.N Dastur & Co. Pvt. Ltd.