



National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (NPSSF) National Conference 2022

Resolution on Vizhinjam Port

National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (NPSSF) is gravely concerned by the stubbornness of the Government of Kerala in allowing the constructions for Vizhinjam Port in spite of the perceptible ecological disaster, widespread erosion and resulting destruction of livelihood of the coastal communities including the small scale fish workers.

NPSSF vehemently disapprove the suppression of facts and lack of public consultation involved in the procedure to provide clearance to the Vizhinjam Port.

NPSSF further regrets that the Government is not paying heed to the demands raised by the Joint Council of Protest constituted by affected fishing and farmer communities and supported by organisations like Kerala Swathanthra Malsyathozhilali Federation, Rashtreeya Kisan Sangh, Sewa Union, Coastal Watch and Kerala Shastra Sahithya Parishad (KSSP). It is deplorable that a Government calling itself left and democratic is promoting the interest of corporate like Adani at the cost of the life and livelihood of common people.

NPSSF observes that the interest of big business, especially that of Adani, has united the CPI(M) and the BJP, arch enemies in electoral politics, in their opposition to the fish workers protesting against the port.

NPSSF further observes that the scheme of Government of India to establish major and non-major ports as well as to expand existing ports under Sagarmala or other projects are ravaging the coastline and devastating the coastal ecology of our country, thereby destroying the livelihoods and habitats of coastal fishing communities.

NPSSF takes this opportunity to raise its concern on other ongoing and upcoming port constructions like JNPT, Vadhaban, Ennore, Tajpur etc.

NPSSF extends its whole hearted support to the movement of small scale fishing communities and the coastal people of Kerala against the construction of the Vizhinjam Port and urges upon the Government of Kerala to –

- 1. Immediately stop further construction of the Vizhinjam Port;**
 - 2. Remove all constructions like breakwaters and groins that intervene the sand movement and cause erosion;**
 - 3. Compensate and rehabilitate all people including fishing communities affected by the port construction and erosion;**
 - 4. Start consultations with the people who are agitating against the Vizhinjam Port.**
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- No Sea Port without proper environmental and social assessment.**
 - No Sea Port without informed consent of fishing communities.**

Dt. November 10, 2022