

# NMIA-like package for sea link PAPs, says Cidco

dna correspondent @dna

**Panvel:** Majority of the project-affected persons (PAPs) of the proposed Nhava Sheva-Sewri sea link have agreed to surrender their land after they were offered a package similar to PAPs of the Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA) project.

The villagers gave their consent during a meeting held with Cidco last week.

The state government will be acquiring the land from Jasai, Gavhan, Chirle, Shelghar, and other villages for the sea link project. The proposed sea link will be developed by both MMRDA and Cidco.

Villagers — under the Nhava Sheva-Sewri sea link

project sanghatana — demanded compensation similar to the one being offered to the airport PAPs and the Cidco agreed.

The Cidco and MMRDA are jointly constructing the sea link, which measures 22km. The distance from Sewri to Nhava is 16.5km and that from Nhava to Chirle village is 5.5km. The project will involve construction of five flyovers. Around 37 hectares of land from Chirle, Jasai and Gavhan is being acquired for the mega project.

Earlier, the villagers had formed the sanghatana to put pressure on the state government and sought a good compensation for the project. The sanghatana, under the leader-

ship of former MP, late DB Patil, held meetings with the state government, Cidco, road development corporation and other departments.

"In these meetings, we had requested the government au-

## Best deal

thorities to dole out justice to the farmers before acquiring their land for the mega project," said a villager. Around 27 hectares of land from a few villages in Panvel taluka will be acquired for the project.

The rehabilitation package offered by the state government to the NMIA PAPs is being termed as the best deal and so farmers in the region, whose land has either been

acquired by the Cidco or MIDC or is yet to be acquired, had demanded a package similar.

They have also asked the state government to adopt the affected villages for 50 years and develop the necessary infrastructure. Other demands include a service road on the stretch, parking lots in the area and a state-of-the-art hospital on national highway 4B (JNPT-Palasphe expressway).

The project, which the MMRDA will undertake on public-private partnership (PPP) with 20% viability gap funding from the government of India, includes a six-lane bridge connecting Sewri on the island city to Nhava-Sheva in Navi Mumbai.



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— A villager