

Regarding likely ecological damage due to rehabilitation of project affected persons by proposed use of salt-pan land in Mulund, Bhandup and Vikhroli areas in Maharashtra.-laid

SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL (MUMBAI NORTH-EAST): I wish to bring to the attention of the Government towards a deeply concerning development in my Parliamentary Constituency ? the proposed use of 255.6 acres of salt-pan land in the Mulund, Bhandup, and Vikhroli areas for rehabilitation of project affected persons. While the Bombay High Court may have approved this plan, the ground reality is alarming. There is no sewerage network, no drainage system, and no assured water supply. There has been no Environmental Impact Assessment, and CRZ clearance is missing. Yet, thousands of families are set to be relocated here. These salt pans are not just empty land ? they are natural flood buffers and crucial for groundwater recharge. Reckless redevelopment without infrastructure or environmental planning will lead to flooding, health hazards, and long-term ecological damage. Rehabilitation must be carried out with care, planning, and dignity. I strongly urge the Government to pause this project and ensure that proper civic infrastructure, environmental clearances, and long-term safeguards are put in place before any resettlement begins.