PUDUCHERRY DEEP WATER PORT

A SCAM!

SALIENT POINTS

- Project approval process: a sham.
- Subhash Projects & CS Khairwal: a confluence of corruption.
- MoU: Subhash wins Pondy loses.
- Port privatization: a cover up for illegal real estate development.
- Loopholes in the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report.
- Port privatization: an invitation to criminal activities.

Project approval process: a sham

- Tender called for appointment of consultant. Subhash Projects participated and was rejected.
- Without any tender, DS constructions selected as developer.
- Mr. Rumneek Bawa, CEO of DS const. joins Subhash Projects who are then suddenly awarded the contract.
- No feasibility study conducted.
- Govt. of Pondy dumps National Institute of Port Management, official consultant, half-way for giving unfavorbale report.
- Concession agreement hastily entered into by-passing normal process.
- Port Director transferred for asking too many questions.

Subhash Projects & CS Khairwal: confluence of corruption

SUBHASH PROJECTS:

- Banned by SEBI for 3 years for price manipulation, irregular subscription, mis-statements, non-listing of shares.
- Indicted and punished by the Calcutta High Court and Supreme Court for obtaining contract through underhand dealings with Minister of Power.
- Rejected even as a consultant by the Govt. of Pondy as they have no experience in building or managing ports and yet were awarded the contract as developers.
- Less than Rs. 2600 crores of business in the last 25 years Value of business received from Pondy Govt. > Rs. 6000 crores.

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Subhash Projects & CS Khairwal: confluence of corruption

CS KHAIRWAL, the then Chief Secretary

- No 1 tainted officer as per Central Vigilance Commission
- Rated No 2 in India among the most corrupt official
- Indicted for granting permission to Red line bus services in Delhi which claimed many human lives
- Arrested along with Mistress and lodged in Tihar Jail by CBI
- Prosecuted by CBI for possession of disproportionate assets (28 immovable properties worth 20 million)
- Prosecuted for illegal posession of huge quantities of Foreign liquor.
- Closely connected with Developers and involved in hastily awarding the contract.

Port privatization: a cover up for illegal real estate development.

- Port not viable as per National Institute of Port Management and Halcrow (Developer's consultant).
- Subhas Projects proposed an 8 million ton port.
 (Average traffic over the last 17 years 47 tons/year).
 No detailed local demand assessment data provided
- Project viable only with real estate component. Five star hotels, shopping malls, etc, proposed by developer in violation of CRZ Act.
- Project cost of Rs. 2700 crores for this port unjustified.
 With JNPT port as reference this port should not cost more than Rs. 700 crores.

LOOPHOLES IN THE EIA

- No terms of reference
- No supporting data and documents annexed
- No social and insignificant ecological impact assessment
- No baseline data reference
- Factual errors (Wind direction, littoral drift)
- Recommends dumping of non-plastic waste in the sea

MoU: Subhash wins - Pondy loses

- 400 acres of prime property handed over to Subhash Projects @ Rs. 2000/acre per year.
- Revenue sharing of only 2.6% of <u>profits</u> while normally it is 30 % of total <u>revenue</u>.
 - (The DPR states the port is not financially viable)
- No investment by Subhash Projects. Funds raised by mortgaging leased land and floating shares.
- Leased land can be sold after 10 years at market rates
- All mitigation measures is the responsibility of Pondy Govt.
- All clearances and licenses made mandatory under agreement.
- Govt to buy back the Port at the then prevailing market value.