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 COMPLETED
2ND SEMI-FINAL

 328/7
AUS 50 Ov

 233
46.5 Ov IND

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Metro III car shed battle not yet over, say activists

Richa Pinto | Mar 26, 2015, 11:36PM IST

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MUMBAI: Activists have welcomed the chief minister's clarification in the state legislative council on Wednesday that the plan for the Metro III car shed in Aarey had been stayed and a committee had been formed to suggest another location, but are also wary of the state government's intent and suspect it may be a ploy to wait for the protests to die down.

The virtual world, too, was awash with reactions to what experts termed was a "first-phase win".

Stalin Dayanand, a member of the Save Aarey campaign and project director at NGO Vanashakti, said, "We are skeptical about the authorities not making things very clear yet. The human chain that we had recently held at Marine Drive helped garner a lot of attention to our campaign. The CM himself saw so many people come on the streets to save the city's green cover."

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A few activists said the CM's clarification had "a lot of ambiguity". "The CM's statement at the legislative council just mentioned things like a committee being formed to look into the issue, something we already were aware of. The battle is not yet over for us; we will double our efforts to save the green cover," said Anand Pendharkar of the NGO SPROUTS.

Activists said people from most sections of the society had approached the CM to save the trees in Aarey. "The CM was aware of the mass sentiment. It is assuring that a person of his authority made this statement; it clearly spells out the intentions of the government. But the campaign is far from over for us; we will continue with our activities till all trees are safe," said Manish Sethi, a member of the Save Aarey Campaign.

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