

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(IMPACT ASSESSMENT DIVISION)
NON-COAL MINING SECTOR

SUMMARY RECORD OF 29th MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL OF NON-COAL MINING PROJECTS CONSTITUTED UNDER THE EIA NOTIFICATION, 2006.

The 29th meeting of the Expert Appraisal Committee for Environmental Appraisal of Mining Projects (Non-Coal) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was held during 15th-17th March, 2021 through video conference. The list of participants is annexed herewith. After login of the Committee Members through video conference link provided by NIC, discussion on each of the Agenda Items was taken up ad-seriatim.

(1.0) Deliberation & Circulation on the Minutes of the 28th EAC Meeting held during 24th-26th February, 2021

The minutes of 28th EAC Meeting held during 24th-26th February, 2021 was placed before the members of the Committee. The Member Secretary informed the Committee that the following corrigendum was made in 28th EAC meeting held during 24th-26th February, 2021 and 20th EAC meeting held during 19-21 August, 2020 as given below:

S. No.	As per 28th EAC meeting minutes dated on 24th - 26th Feb, 2021	Typographical Error	May be read as
1	Page No: 9, Point No: 4, (vii)	The conservation plan prepared with the budgetary allocation of Rs 130 lakhs should not include the cost for purchasing vehicles and if it is included, the same should be distributed to other parameters covered in the conservation plan.	Conservation Plan at a cost of Rs 130 Lakhs should not include cost of vehicle and if included should be re distributed to other parameters given in the Conservation Plan.
2	Pg No: 19, Point No: 13		i. Total Iron Ore Production from Donimalai and Kumaraswamy Mines after the proposed

			<p>Expansion should not exceed the Permitted Quantity of Iron ore Mining as per the Recommendations of CEC.</p> <p>ii. PP shall take care of Health and Sanitation Requirements of Female Population in the Peripheral areas of the Mines where CSR Activities are being undertaken.</p>
3	Pg No: 45, Point No: 9, (i)	<p>The proposal for expansion from 74,000 TPA to 3,00,000 LTPA for which the plan was approved by IBM in the year 2018 with progressive increase in production to 3LTPA. Since now the mine lease is valid for one year of operation and as the mine is having very small working area and due to <i>sudden increase in around 4 times production will spare the ecological disaster and in pristine forest area of the country.</i></p>	<p>The proposal for expansion from 74,000 TPA to 3,00,000 LTPA for which the plan was approved by IBM in the year 2018 with progressive increase in production to 3LTPA. Since now the mine lease is valid for one year of operation and as the mine is having very small working area and due to <i>sudden increase to around 4 times will cause Ecological Disaster in the PRISTIME forest area of the Country.</i></p>
4	Pg No: 52, Point No: 20,		<p>PP shall have proper Noise control measures to ensure that the Noise Levels are maintained within limits outside the lease area as well as at heights at which the migratory and the local</p>

			birds generally fly.
5	Pg No: 52, Point No: 20, (v)	The piezometer should be placed on the western side of the lease and also within the Mine lease area <i>to maintain the increase in Salinity in the area.</i>	The piezometer should be placed on the western side of the lease and also within the Mine lease area <i>to monitor the increase in Salinity in the area.</i>
S. No.	As per 20th EAC meeting minutes dated 19th -21st August, 2020	Typographical Error	May be read as
6	Agenda 2.13, Pg. No: 184, Line 2 Pg No: 184, Point No: 1, Line 3 Pg No: 184, Point No: 3, Line 11 Pg No: 187, Point No:13, Line 4	Total excavation of 22.14 MTPA	Total excavation of 22.94 MTPA

DAY-1 (15.03.2021)

1.1: Proposal for Environmental Clearance for Banaur Limestone mine with Total Excavation of 0.0631 Million TPA (Limestone 0.060 Million TPA (ROM), Waste as Mineral Reject 0.0031 Million TPA, Topsoil- Nil) at ML Area 4.75 Ha in Khasra no 1956/1926/1886/131/2, 1928/1904/1, 1958/148, at Village Banaur, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmour (Himachal Pradesh) by Shri Rakesh Chaudhary - [Proposal no: IA/HP/MIN/67400/2017; File No. 23-183/2018-IA.III(V)] - Environmental Clearance (EC).

The proposal of Shri Rakesh Chaudhary is for grant of Environmental Clearance for Banaur Limestone mine with Total Excavation of 0.0631 Million TPA (Limestone 0.060 Million TPA (ROM), Waste as Mineral Reject 0.0031 Million TPA, Topsoil- Nil) at ML Area 4.75 Ha in Khasra no 1956/1926/1886/131/2, 1928/1904/1, 1958/148, at Village Banaur, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmour, Himachal Pradesh. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No 53F/10 and bounded by

Latitude 30°35'25.40"N to 30°35'15.63"N and longitude 77°43'17.27"E to 77°43'27.35"E and falls in seismic zone-IV.

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th Sept, 2006 and its subsequent amendments, the project falls under Project Activity 1 (a) "Mining of Minerals" and Category "A" as the interstate boundary of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand located at a distance of 1.7Km from the lease boundary.

3. The Project Proponent earlier submitted that the proposal for Terms of Reference (ToR) vide proposal no: IA/HP/MIN/27369/2015 dated 10.04.2015 and the proposal was considered in the EAC meeting held during June 24-26, 2015 wherein the Committee prescribed the TOR and the Ministry issued ToR vide letter No. J-11015/190/2015- IA.II (M) dated 29.07.2015 for a production capacity of 63,160 TPA (ROM) of Limestone. Then, PP applied for amendment in TOR vide proposal no: IA/HP/MIN/31512/2015 for production capacity from 63,160 TPA to 1,00,000 TPA (ROM) of Limestone and the proposal was considered in the 5th EAC meeting held during April 25-26, 2016 and the Committee noted that it appears to be a violation case as mine enhanced its production after 07.10.2014. Thus, at present the amendment of TOR is not agreed and the fact of excess production has to be ascertained first before amending the TOR. In view of the above, the Ministry vide letter dated 16.05.2016 requested the Project Proponent to provide information regarding violation done and also requested the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office (NCZ) to provide a report on project if it has violated the EIA Notification. In compliance to the Ministry's letter, Regional office, MoEF & CC (NCZ), Dehradun informed the Ministry vide letter no. F. No. NC.RO/ENV/MIN/HP/2016/1372 dt. 30.11.2016 that Project Proponents have violated Rule 13 (1) of MCDR, 1988 by producing limestone beyond approved limits of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) during 2014-15. In this regard, the Project Proponent on 20.12.2016 requested to withdraw the amendment proposal and to submit the final EIA/EMP report with production as mentioned in the TOR letter i.e. 63,160 TPA (ROM) of Limestone as the Public Hearing has also been conducted for the same production.

Then, the Project Proponent applied for Environmental Clearance (EC) vide proposal no: IA/HP/MIN/61904/2015 dated 20.01.2017 and the proposal was considered in the 15th EAC meeting held during 20-21 February, 2017 wherein the Committee noted that the proponent had carried out mining until June 2016 without EC which appears to be a violation as per the amendment of the EIA Notification, S.O. 141(E) dated 15th January 2016 which superseded the amendment of the EIA notification, S.O. 2601(E) dated 7th October 2014. The Committee deferred the proposal and requested the Ministry to ascertain and take view on the violation. In view of the above, the Ministry vide letter dated 24.04.2017 requested the Project Proponent

can apply for ToR/EC under the provisions of S.O 804(E) dated 14.03.2017 within six months from the date of this notification. Then, the Project Proponent applied for Terms of Reference under violation vide proposal no: IA/HP/MIN/67400/2017 dated 12.08.2017 and the proposal was considered in the EAC meeting held during 11-12th July, 2018 wherein the Committee confirmed the case to be of violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 and recommended for issuing Standard Term of Reference along with the following specific Term of Reference for undertaking EIA and preparation of Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and the Ministry issued the Terms of Reference vide letter no. 23-183/2018-IA.III(V) dated 15.12.2020. Now, the Project Proponent applied for Environmental Clearance vide online proposal no. IA/HP/MIN/67400/2017 on 01.01.2021 and submitted the Form2 and EIA report. Thereafter, the Ministry examined the proposal submitted by the Project Proponent and sought EDS on 22.01.2021 and the Project Proponent submitted the reply for EDS on 27.01.2021 and thereafter the Ministry again sought EDS on 16.02.2021 and the Project Proponent submitted the reply for EDS on 27.02.2021. As decided by the Competent Authority, Considering tenure of EAC (Violation) till June 2021, it has been decided that, henceforth all the EC applications for which ToR was recommended by the EAC (Violation) shall be appraised by the sectoral EACs. The respective sectors may consider co-opting two-three members from EAC (Violation) to facilitate appraisal of proposals related to violations. In this regard, the proposal was considered in the 29th EAC meeting held during 15th-17th March, 2021.

4. The Project Proponent submitted that the initially mining lease of 3.31 ha was granted vide letter no. Udyog-Bhu (khani-4) Major - 167/82-I-11855 dated 01.03.2001 in favour of Shri. Rakesh Chaudhary for a period of 30 years. Again the State Govt. has extended the lease area by granting additional lease area of 3.28 Ha vide letter no. 3311 dated 07.07.2011 and supplementary lease deed was executed on dated 28.02.2012. The PP was facing difficulties in operation of this part of ML. Therefore, the PP requested the State Govt. on 12.12.2012 for surrender of 1.61 Ha of the lease area and wished to retain only 4.98 ha from the ML area of 6.59 ha. Then the State Govt on 01.10.2013 reduced the lease area to 4.98 ha. Thereafter, State Govt. again directed the PP vide letter no. Udyog-Bhu (khani-4) Major-167/82-II-7404 dated 30.10.2013 that the area of 0.23 ha from Khasra Bila No. has been excluded, since it was not termed as a part of the lease and thus the ML area is 4.75 Ha. Supplementary lease deed for 4.75 Ha was executed on dated 07.02.2014 and the lease is valid until 19.03.2031. Govt. of Himachal Pradesh vide Lr.No. Udyog-Bhu (Khani-4) Major-167/82-I-6119 dated 03.09.2015 have extended the lease period up to 19.03.2051 in terms of the provision of Section 8A introduced by the MMDR (Amendment) Ordinance, 2015.

5. The Project Proponent submitted that the Mining Plan for revised mine lease area of 4.75 Ha has been approved by IBM for the year 2013-14 till 2017-18 vide IBM approval dated 21.02.2014. PP also submitted that the provisional and conditional approval of Review & updation of mining plan along with PMCP which was accorded vide letter of even no dated 31.03.2020 which was subsequently extended up to 31.01.2021 is hereby further extended on same terms and conditions up to 31.03.2021 or the final/regular disposal whichever is earlier dated 29.01.2021. PP also submitted the permission letter issued by the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh vide Lr.No. Udyog-Bhu (Khani-4) Major-167/82-III_10682 dated 04.03.2013 for lifting limestone already accumulated at the mining site.

6. The Project Proponent submitted that the mining will be done by opencast mechanized small drilling and blasting method of mining with use of drill machines, excavator & dumper for loading and transportation of overburden and lime stone. For extraction of Limestone 32 mm dia. Jack Hammer holes are proposed to be drilled and blasted. Quantity of explosives requirement is 0.140 kg per hole. PP reported that the Total Geological Resources as 17,60,976 Tonnes and Mineable reserves as 15,44,878 Tonnes. PP also submitted vide email dated 23.03.2021 that the total Excavation will be 0.0631 Million TPA (Limestone 0.060 Million TPA (ROM), Waste as Mineral Reject 0.0031 Million TPA, Topsoil- Nil). Life of the mine will be 24 years. Average rate of waste is taken as 5% of mineral excavation. The waste material generated will be mostly used for construction of retaining wall, parapet wall and check dams & other reclamation works.

7. The Project Proponent submitted that the nearest Village and School is Banour located at 2.8km away from the mining lease area. Nearest highway is interstate boundary of Himachal Pradesh and UK located at a distance of 1.7Km from the lease boundary.

8. The Project Proponent submitted that the total water requirement in this mine will be about 6.0 KLD of which for drinking 1.0 KLD, spraying (dust suppression) 3.0 KLD and plantation 2.0 KLD. Water will be brought from nearby Nallah & Khallah through water tankers. PP has obtained the NOC from Gram Panchayat for use of Surface water vide letter dated 07.10.2020.

9. The Project Proponent submitted that about 4.75 ha area will be planted up to end of mine life in which 3.467 ha area will be planted in mine out benches, 0.360 ha area on dump area & 0.923 ha area will be planted on statutory barrier. PP earmarked budget for greenbelt as Rs 4.0 Lakhs as capital cost and Rs 1.0 Lakhs/annum as recurring cost.

10. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no forest land involved in the mining lease area and letter for the same has been obtained from DFO vide letter no 6005 dated 17.01.2017. PP reported that there are 13 Reserve Forest in the study area such as Rajban (9.2 km, SW), Nigali R.F (1.8 km, SW), Salang R.F (4.8 km, SW), Satun R.F (7.5 km, SW), Choyla R.F (8.4 km, NE), Kandela R.F (6.7 km, SW), Mehruwala R.F (7.6 km, SW), Balikoli R.F (9.3 km, N), Gojar R.F (9.2 km, SE), Khajuri R.F (5.9 km, NW), Kandi R.F (8.7 km, NE), Sheilli R.F (7.8 km, NW) and Janju (7.0 km, SW) exists within the 10km of the study area. PP also submitted the letter from Divisional Forest Officer that Kafota range of this division is about 25km (aerial) away from the nearest Sri Renuka ji wild life sanctuary and there is no national park situated near this mine. PP further submitted that there is no National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserves, Tiger Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Protected Forest etc., within 10 km radius of the mining lease area.

11. The Project Proponent reported that there is One Schedule-I species Leopard found in the study area and submitted the authenticated list of flora and fauna obtained from DFO vide letter no 3764 dated 26.09.2016. Accordingly, PP prepared the conservation plan for *Panthera Pardus* with a budget of Rs 12 Lakhs/annum and obtained approval from DFO vide Ir.no: 6008 dated 17.01.2017.

12. The Project Proponent submitted that one season primary baseline data for ambient air quality, (as per CPCB quality Notification, 2009), water quality, noise level, soil and flora & fauna has been collected during Post Monsoon Season (October to December, 2015) and validated with one month fresh monitoring for the period Oct 2018. The concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} for all the 7 AAQM stations were found between 43.29 to 83.78 µg/m³ and 20.34 to 38.82 µg/m³, respectively. The concentrations of SO₂ and NO₂ were found to be in range of 3.31 to 8.08 µg/m³ and 3.50 to 9.08 µg/m³ respectively. PP also submitted that post project concentration of air pollutants is also well within the prescribed standards of NAAQS. Ambient noise levels were measured at 8 locations in and around the mine site and Noise levels varied from 50.2 to 54.3 Leq dB (A) during day time and from 41.2 to 45.4 Leq dB (A) during night time. Six ground water samples were collected, analyzed and compared with IS-10500:2012. All the parameters were found to be well within the limits.

13. The Project Proponent submitted that the public hearing was conducted on 25.07.2016 under the Chairmanship of Additional District Magistrate at Samudayik Bhawan, village - Banour, Tehsil – Paonta Sahib, District – Sirmour Himachal Pradesh. The Project Proponent submitted that the public hearing exempted as per Terms of Reference letter dated 15.12.2020 stating that vi) *Public Hearing (PH) has been conducted on dated 25.07.2016 covering all the issues, Committee felt that*

one time PH as per the order of Hon'ble High Court of Madras has already taken care and hence repeat PH is not required.

14. The Project Proponent submitted that the Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) Plan is not applicable for this project.

15. The Project Proponent submitted the details of past production certified by the Mining Officer, Distt. Sirmaur at Nahan from the year 2001-2002 to 2016-2017. It has been informed that the working activities in the mine discontinued/stopped from 13.03.2017 onwards. In compliance to the Ministry's letter dated 16.05.2016, Regional office, MoEF & CC (NCZ), Dehradun informed the Ministry vide letter no. F. No. NC.RO/ENV/MIN/HP/2016/1372 dt. 30.11.2016 that Project Proponents have violated Rule 13 (1) of MCDR, 1988 by producing limestone beyond approved limits of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) during 2014-15. PP also submitted the affidavit dated 05.02.2019 that PP shall comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August 2017 in writ Petition (civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors.

16. The Project Proponent reported that the mining operations have led to change in land use of the mining area. PP submitted that during the violation period of 2012-13 to 2013-14 & from 16th Jan, 2016 to 12th Mar.2017 mining was carried out within the mining lease area in 4.75 ha in the NW & Centre to SW as per information available from Approved Mining Plan for that period. Total quantity of Limestone extracted was 147806.10 MT. Remote Sensing Technique has been used for Assessment of LULC. Effect on the Land use/Land cover of the mining area during the violation Period (16 Jan 2016 to March 2017) has been used to assess the damage assessment. About 0.794 Ha area was degraded during violation period. Due to non-operation of mine from 16th Jan 2016 all check dam and retaining wall constructed have damaged due to non-maintenance and requires repair and further maintenance during the operation of proposed mining activity. The major impact because of mineral production without obtained environment clearance is mainly on land degradation & ambient air quality due to drilling & blasting and then material handling & transportation. No impact on surface as well as ground water. Mining was done on hill slope where no surface water body exists within or nearby lease area and also due to mining ground water was not interrupted. The Project Proponent vide email dated 16.03.2021 submitted the revised remediation plan.

17. The Project Proponent submitted that the Court case has been initiated by HP State Pollution Control Board against the PP for violation under the provision of Environment Protection Act, 1986. High Court of Himachal Pradesh directed to punish the accused in accordance with the law as required under the provisions of Environment Protection Act (1986) and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the

accused be ordered to stop illegal mining in concerned area. Then, the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh requested the Secretary, MoEF&CC vide letter No Ind-II(F)2-4/2018 dated 10.09.2018 that the Environment Clearance to be withheld by the MoEF of the mentioned lease holders may kindly be restored, so that working in the mining lease areas could be allowed in the interest of employment to the local people belonging to this most backward area of the State for earning their livelihood. PP also submitted that the Original Application No. 09/2016 (M.A No. 620/2016) and Original Application No. 10/2016 (M.A. No. 621/2016) before the NGT stand disposed of "in view of the spot physical measurement report dated 28th August, 2017 submitted by the Divisional Forest Officer, Renuka Ji Forest Division, Sirmaur (HP), that the area of alleged unauthorized encroachment is insignificant. It cannot be said that there is illegal mining".

18. The Project Proponent submitted an undertaking that 'I hereby accept all the liabilities and obligations associated with the working and result of the Udaipur Min - Tech Pvt. Ltd submitted herein within the report'.

19. The Project Proponent submitted that the total capital cost of the project is Rs. 2.80 Crore and capital cost for Environment Management Plan is Rs. 22 Lakh and recurring cost is Rs. 5 Lakh/Annum. PP reported that the total manpower required for this project will be around 41 persons.

20. The proposal for Environmental Clearance (EC) was considered before the Expert Appraisal Committee (Non-Coal Mining) and the members of the EAC (Violation) in its 29th EAC meeting held during 15th - 17th March, 2021. After detailed presentation by the Project proponent and the Consultant, the Committee noted that this proposal is for grant of Environmental Clearance under Ministry's Notification S.O 804 (E) dated 14.03.2017, the Committee **recommended** the proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance for Banaur Limestone mine with Total Excavation of 0.0631 Million TPA (Limestone 0.060 Million TPA (ROM), Waste as Mineral Reject 0.0031 Million TPA, Topsoil- Nil) at ML Area 4.75 Ha in Khasra no 1956/1926/1886/131/2, 1928/1904/1, 1958/148, at Village Banaur, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmour, Himachal Pradesh by Shri Rakesh Chaudhary subject to the compliance of following Specific conditions in addition to all Standard conditions applicable for such projects.

- i. EAC recommended for an amount of **Rs. 12.80/-** Lakhs towards Remediation plan and Natural and Community Resource Augmentation plan to be spent within a span of three years. The details of Remediation plan, Natural resource Augmentation plan and Community Resource Augmentation plan with budgetary provisions are mentioned below:

Remediation Plan & Budgetary Provision						
S. No	Environment Component	Activity Description	Budgetary Provision in Lakhs			Total in (Lakhs)
			1 st	2 nd	3 rd	
1	Air Environment	Repair & Maintained of approach Road upto main highway road, 750-meter-long and 3 meter wide.	1.50	0.50	0.50	2.50
2	Noise & land Environment	Plantation in the surrounding area, roadside. Total 500 Trees will be planted @400 Rs. Per tree. 100 trees every year.	0.40	0.40	0.40	1.20
3	Water Environment	Channelization of rainwater and construction/ repair of garland drain with sump.	2.50	0.50	0.50	3.50
TOTAL						7.20

Community Welfare Augmentation Plan and Budgetary Provisions						
S.N o.	Activity Proposed	Budgetary Provision in Lakhs			Total in (Lakhs)	
		1 st	2 nd	3 rd		
1	Medical fund for serious illness for Banore Villagers & medical equipment will be provided to Primary Health Center, Kamroo	1.0/-	0.75/-	0.60/-	2.35/-	
2	Computer & sport goods provided in School at Banor Village	1.0/-	0.75/-	0.60/-	2.35/-	
TOTAL						4.70/-

Natural Resource Augmentation Plan and Budgetary provisions						
S.N o.	Activity Proposed	Budgetary Provision in Lakhs			Total in (Lakhs)	
		1 st	2 nd	3 rd		
1	Providing of 3 solar streetlights @ 30000/Light, 1 lights every year at Banor	0.30/-	0.30/-	0.30/-	0.90/-	

	village				
	TOTAL				0.90/-

Summary		
S. No.	Activity Proposed	Total In (Lakhs)
1	Remediation Plan & Budgetary Provisions	7.20/-
2	Community Welfare Augmentation Plan and Budgetary Provisions	4.70/-
3	Natural Resources Augmentation Plan and Budgetary provisions	0.90/-
	TOTAL	12.80/-

- ii. Total budgetary provision with respect to Remediation plan and Natural & Community Resource Augmentation plan is **Rs 12.80/- Lakhs**. Therefore, project proponent shall be required to submit a bank guarantee of an amount of **Rs 12.80/- Lakhs** towards Remediation plan and Natural and Community Resource Augmentation plan with the SPCB prior to the grant of EC.
- iii. Remediation plan shall be completed in 3 years whereas bank guarantee shall be for 5 years. The bank guarantee will be released after successful implementation of the remediation plan and Natural and Community Resource Augmentation Plan, and after the recommendation by regional office of the Ministry, Expert Appraisal Committee and approval of the Regulatory Authority.
- iv. The adoption of mitigation measures and monitoring of the same as proposed in the EMP shall be done under the supervision of the qualified environmental/mining personnel.
- v. Approval/permission of the CGWA/SGWA shall be obtained before drawing ground water for the project activities, if applicable. State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) concerned shall not issue Consent to Operate (CTO) till the project proponent obtains such permission.
- vi. Wild life Conservation plan as approved by the Competent Authority shall be implemented.
- vii. The Environmental Clearance will not be operational till such time the Project

Proponent complies with all the statutory requirements and judgment of Hon^{ble} Supreme Court dated the 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common Cause versus Union of India and Ors.

- viii. State Government concerned shall ensure that mining operation shall not commence till the entire compensation levied, if any, for illegal mining paid by the Project Proponent through their respective Department of Mining & Geology in strict compliance of judgment of Hon^{ble} Supreme Court dated the 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common Cause versus Union of India and Ors.
- ix. Effective dust suppression system shall be adopted at the transportation site and in the other parts of the mining lease to arrest the fugitive dust emission.
- x. Project proponent shall take necessary other clearances/permissions under various Acts and Rules if any, from the respective authorities / department.
- xi. The mining lease holder shall, after ceasing mining operations, under take re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora and fauna etc.
- xii. The Project Proponent shall undertake the adequate plantation in peripheral zone as well as gap plantation with the seedling of 6-8 ft height with at least 90% survival rate to control the dust at source and should be completed within 3 years from the date of commencement of mining operations. Casualties of the previous year should be replaced other than the saplings proposed to be planted every year.

1.2 Proposal for Environmental Clearance for Coromandel Limestone Mine (Captive Limestone Mine, MLA: 602.137 Ha), Chilamkur Unit of the M/s India Cements Limited – Increase of Limestone Production from 2.0 to 5.5 Million Tonnes Per Annum (Total Excavation at 5.85 MTPA Limestone (Limestone: 5.5 MTPA + Top Soil: 0.35 MTPA) located at Chilamkur Village in Yerraguntla Mandal, Y.S.R. Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh - [Proposal no: A/AP/MIN/186198/2006; File No. J-11015/513/2007-IA II(I)] - Environmental Clearance (EC)

The proposal of M/s India Cements Limited is for grant of Environmental Clearance for Coromandel Limestone Mine (Captive Limestone Mine, MLA: 602.137 Ha) for expansion in Limestone Production from 2.0 to 5.5 Million Tonnes Per Annum (Total Excavation at 5.85 MTPA Limestone (Limestone: 5.5 MTPA + Top Soil: 0.35

MTPA) located at Chilamkur Village in Yerraguntla Mandal, Y.S.R. Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No 57J/6 and bounded by Latitude 14°39'33.20"N to 14°40'31.1"N and Longitude 78°27'55.4"E to 78°29'40.4"E (North Block) and Latitude 14°38'51.0"N to 14°40'03.00"N and Longitude 78°28'09.30"E to 78°29'33.60"E (South Block) with an altitude of 175m above MSL and falls in seismic zone – III.

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as amended from time to time, the project falls under Category "A", Project or Activity 1(a) as the mining lease area is more than 100 Ha.

3. The Project Proponent submitted that the mine was opened on 01.10.1982 and first Environmental clearance was obtained vide letter No J-11015/47/2003/IA II (M) dated 07.07.2004 for 1.422 to 1.8 MTPA and then vide letter No. J11015/513/2007-IA II (I) (Integrated Clearance) dated 30.11.2007 for 1.8 to 2.0 MTPA. Then, PP applied for Terms of Reference for expansion in production from 2.0 to 5.5 MTPA vide online proposal no IA/AP/MIN/112409/2019 dated 09.10.2019 dated 26.07.2019 and the proposal was considered in the 8th EAC meeting held during August 27-28, 2019 wherein the Committee recommended the proposal for grant of TOR and the Ministry issued TOR vide J-11015/513/2007-IA.II(I) dated 09.10.2019. The Project Proponent now applied for grant of Environmental Clearance vide online proposal no: IA/AP/MIN/186198/2006 dated 01.03.2021 and submitted the Form2 and EIA report after conducting the Public Hearing on 28.10.2020. The proposal was considered in the 29th EAC meeting held during 15th-17th March, 2021.

4. The Project Proponent submitted that the mining lease was initially granted vide G.O.Ms.no. 326 dated 22.05.1981, to Coromandel Fertilizers Ltd for a period of 20 years and was later transferred to The India Cements Ltd (ICL) vide G.O.Ms.no.482 dated 06.12.1990. Vide G.O.Ms.no. 539 dated 29.10.2001; this ML was 'renewed' for another period of 20 years, valid up to 17.11.2021 and now as per new MMDR Act 2015, the lease period is extended up to 2031 vide G.O. Ms. No. 61 dated 26.04.2018.

5. The Project Proponent submitted that the Approval of Modified Mining Plan in respect of Coromandel Limestone mine over an extent of 602.137 Ha approved by Indian Bureau of Mines, Hyderabad vide letter no. AP/659(72)/Lst/90/NLR dated 21.01.2020 for the period 2019-20 to 2021-22.

6. The Project Proponent submitted that the mining is being carried out through opencast mechanized mining method with deep hole drilling & blasting, loading and transportation. The mine will be operated by three shifts for 300 days in a year. The mineral reserves and resources are estimated as 270.89 million tonnes. The limestone

production will be increased from 2.0 to 5.5 MTPA. Total Excavation is 5.85 MTPA (Limestone: 5.5 MTPA + Top Soil: 0.35 MTPA). The planned annual rate of production is 5.5 million tonnes per annum and will be achieved in 2021-22. Life of the mine @ 5.5 MTPA production will be another 50 years i.e., up to 2071. However, the mining lease is valid up to 17.11.2031. At present the bench height is 8 m and mining will be carried up to a depth of 32m in North Block and 35m in South Block. Limestone deposit in the mine is concealed under an average 3.0 m thick soil layer. This soil layer is excavated by deploying of Shovel Dumper combination and either dumped in the same in excavated pits for reclamation or over non-mineralized area. Bench width of at least 20 m is maintained between two successive advancing production faces. In the expansion phase, two crushers of 1000 TPH will be installed within the ML Area. One crusher will be located in South Block and other will be located in the North Block. Top soil of 3.3 million m³ will be generated for the Lease period and 10.3 million cum will be generated for the life of the mine which will be used for afforestation. No overburden is anticipated. Limestone is excavated by deep-hole drilling & blasting and the blasted limestone is loaded by Hydraulic excavators into dumper/trucks/tippers. Limestone material is presently transported to a 500 TPH capacity crusher located within the plant premises at a distance of about 3.0 kms from the mines. PP also submitted an undertaking vide letter no ICL.CLM/EC/MOEFCC/Undertaking/2021 dated 16.03.2021 that watch and ward guards round the clock for traffic management at the junction of the public road connecting Chdamkur to Kalamalla & the Haul Road from South Block leading towards the Cement Plant.

7. The Project Proponent submitted that the nearest village is Chilamakur (0.6km, S), nearest School is ZPH School (0.9km, SW) and nearest highway is NH-18 (Change to NH – 40 RF:- Google Map) - Kadapa – Kurnool 28.0 km, E from the mine site.

8. The Project Proponent submitted that the workings will reach depth of 36 m (134 m RL) for the lease period. Ground water table will not be intersected in the present mining operations. Mineral availability is up to the depth of 70 m (Maximum) within mining lease area. During exploration down to a depth of 70 m plus bgl in about 127 bore holes it is reported that ground water has not been met. PP submitted that water requirement is 110 m³/day and additional Water requirement for the proposed expansion is 70 m³/day and the same will be sourced from mine pit storm water storage.

9. The Project Proponent reported that Green Belt development already carried out in 16.75 Ha with 35,000 saplings. PP submitted that the total area under green belt for the lease period will be 154.75 Ha covering 12.10 Ha along ML boundary of North and South block, safety zones i.e. 50m width on either side of railway line in 48 Ha, 50m on either side of road (North block) in 8.68 Ha, Power line and Nala (South block) in 15.54 Ha by planting saplings of different varieties such as *Ficus Religiosa*, *Ficus*

Bengalensis, Hardwickia Binate, Pterocarous Santalinus, Azadirichta Indica, Holoptelia Integrifolia, Soyamida Fabrifuga, Tamarindus Indica, Pongamia Pinnata and Pheltophourm sps. PP submitted the revised Green Belt budgetary plan along with the revised map vide letter no ICL.CLM/EC/M0EFCC/EAC-Clarificaton/2021 dated 16.03.2021 for Rs 12.00 Crores which includes Rs 9.67 Crores (Capital cost), Rs 2.12 Crores (recurring cost) and Rs. 0.21 crores (Miscellaneous Expenditure).

10. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no forest land involved in the mining lease area and submitted the letter obtained from the Divisional Forest Officer vide RC.No. 2254/2018-P8, Dt: 14.08.2019 that mining lease area and Plant area are away from Reserve Forest areas.

S. No	Distance from RFs	Mining Lease Area	Cement Plant
1	Distance from Niduzuvvi RF Compt. No. 55	2.65 Km	4.40 Km
2	Distance from Kosinepalli RF	3.60 Km	3.20 Km
3	Distance from Rajiv Gandhi National Park, Proddatur, Compt. No. 70	9.3 Km	11.87 Km

PP also submitted the letter from Forest Department, Govt., of Andhra Pradesh issued vide Rc.no.5295/2020/WL-2, dated 13.10.2020 that No forest area is involved either in the plant site of 234.76 ha. or in the captive mining site of 602.137 ha. There are no National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserve and Migratory corridors of Wild animals within the impact zone of 10 Km radius. The boundary of the eco-sensitive Zone of Rajeev Gandhi National Park is falling at a distance of 9.3 Km from the boundary of the captive mine of M/s. India Cements Ltd. Eco-Sensitive Zone has been notified around the Rajiv Gandhi National Park vide S.O. 1563(E) dated 15.05.2017. As per this notification the extent of ESZ is 500 m around the protected area. Thus, the Limestone mine is not falling in the ESZ. However the mine required NBWL Clearance for the period from 01.02.2009 to 14.05.2017. MOEFCC vide Lr. No .J-11015/124/2018-IA-II(M) dt.10.12.2018 requested the Government of Andhra Pradesh to initiate Credible Action against ICL, under Section 19, Environmental Protection Act, 1986.

11. The Project Proponent submitted that following Schedule-I species are reported in the study area *Antilope cervicapra* (Black buck), *Gazella gazella bennettii* (Chinkara), *Melursus ursinus* (Sloth bear), *Pavo cristatus* (Peafowl) and *Manis crassicaudata* (Indian pangolin) and the Wildlife Conservation Plan was approved by Forest Department, Govt., of Andhra Pradesh vide Rc.no.5295/2020/WL-2, dated 13.10.2020 with an conservation budget of Rs 2130 Lakhs which is common for plant and mine.

12. The Project Proponent submitted that one season primary baseline data for ambient air quality, (as per CPCB quality Notification, 2009), water quality, noise level, soil and flora & fauna has been collected during Summer Season (March to May, 2019). The predominant wind directions during this period were from ESE-SE-SSE-S-SSW sector accounting to about 55.25 % of the total time and about 11.19 % of the time the winds were under calm condition. The concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} for all the 10 AAQM stations were found between 44.6 to 64.2 µg/m³ and 17.4 to 31.4 µg/m³ respectively. The concentrations of SO₂ and NO_x were found to be in range of 7.9 to 15.9 µg/m³ and 9.3 to 17.5 µg/m³ respectively. PP also submitted that post project concentration of air pollutants is also well within the prescribed standards of NAAQS. Ambient noise levels were measured at 8 locations in and around the mine site and Noise levels varied from 51.8 to 71.2 Leq dB (A) during day time and from 42.6 to 65.3 Leq dB (A) during night time. Eight ground water and three surface water samples were collected from the study area and the parameters thus analyzed were compared with IS-10500:2012. All the parameters were found to be well within the limits.

13. The Project Proponent submitted that the public hearing advertisement for the expansion proposal was published on 23.09.2020 in 'The New Indian Express' and 'Sakshi'. Public hearing was conducted on 28.10.2020 at Sri Venkateswaraswamy Temple, Chilamkur under Chairmanship of District Revenue Office & Additional District Magistrate, YSR Kadapa District. PP reported that 150 persons attended the Public Hearing. Issues raised during public hearing were related to provide employment opportunities to locals, educational and health care facilities for the local people, development of the surrounding villages, rain water harvesting and greenbelt development. PP submitted the revised EMP cost for public hearing commitments and need eased activities along with action plan with a budget of Rs 567 Lakhs (Rs 5.67 Crores) vide letter no ICL.CLM/EC/M0EFCC/EAC-Clarificaton/2021 dated 16.03.2021 to address the concerns raised during public hearing.

14. The Project Proponent submitted that Rehabilitation and Resettlement is not applicable for this proposal.

15. The Project Proponent submitted that State Government/SPCB has initiated action under the provisions of Section 19 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. A case has been filed at the 1st Class, Magistrate Court, Kamalapuram with CC number 250 of 2019.

16. The Project Proponent submitted the revised EMP budgetary plan vide letter no ICL.CLM/EC/M0EFCC/EAC-Clarificaton/2021 dated 16.03.2021 and proposed Rs. 1152.02 Lakhs (Capital) & Rs. 888.7 Lakhs (recurring/annum – up to lease period - 2031) for undertaking various activities proposed under Environment Management Plan

which includes i) Rs 125.0 Lakh (Capital) & Rs 116.0 Lakh (recurring) for Air Pollution Control Suppression Measures, ii) Rs 60.0 Lakh (Capital) & Rs 520.0 Lakh (recurring) for Environmental Monitoring, iii) Rs 967.2 Lakh (Capital) & Rs 212.7 Lakh (recurring) for Greenbelt Development, iv) Rs 40.0 Lakh (recurring) for Rainwater Harvesting structures.

17. The Project Proponent submitted the past production details duly authenticated by the Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh for the period from 1988-89 to 2020-21 vide its Lr.No. 1394/M1/2003, dated 20.02.2021. After obtaining EC, the production is well within the limits of sanctioned EC capacity. PP also submitted the affidavit bearing no CK 094685 dated 28.01.2020 that M/s India Cements Limited shall comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August 2017 in writ Petition (civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors.

18. The Project Proponent submitted that the Consent for Operation issued by the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board vide no APPCB/KNL/TPT/14379/CFO/HO/2014-903 dated 21.11.2016 for the period up to 31.12.2021. PP also submitted the EC compliance Report duly certified by the Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), Chennai vide letter dated F.No. EP/12.1/612/AP/415 dated 08.05.2020.

19. The Project Proponent has given undertaking that the information and data submitted is factually correct and The India Cements Limited owns the contents of the report. The Consultant also submitted an undertaking that the Consultant Organization shall be fully accountable for any misleading information mentioned in this statement.

20. The Project Proponent submitted that the total capital cost of the project is Rs. 50 Crores. PP reported that the existing manpower of this project is 73 persons. Additionally, 20 persons will be required thus the total manpower shall be 93 persons after the proposed expansion.

21. The proposal for Environmental Clearance (EC) was considered before the Expert Appraisal Committee (Non-Coal Mining) in its 29th EAC meeting held during 15th - 17th March, 2021. Based on the documents submitted and presentation made by the Project Proponent and the Consultant, the Committee **recommended** the proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance for Coromandel Limestone Mine (Captive Limestone Mine, MLA: 602.137 Ha), Chilamkur Unit of the M/s India Cements Limited – Increase of Limestone Production from 2.0 to 5.5 Million Tonnes Per Annum (Total Excavation at 5.85 MTPA Limestone (Limestone: 5.5 MTPA + Top Soil: 0.35 MTPA) located at Chilamkur Village in Yerraguntla Mandal, Y.S.R. Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh with the following specific conditions:-

- i. The Project Proponent shall undertake the plantation in peripheral zone and ensure that the plantation in peripheral zone and plantation along haul roads should be completed within 3 years from the date of commencement of mining operations with at least 90% survival rate. Casualties of the previous year should be replaced other than the saplings proposed to be planted every year.
- ii. The budget of Rs 5.67 Crores to address the concerns raised by the public including in the public hearing to be completed within 3 years from the date of start of mining operations.
- iii. The Project Proponent shall install the conveyor belt within 3 years till that time transportation of mineral through road is permitted for a period of 3 years only. This should be strictly followed.
- iv. The Project Proponent ensure that the watch guards shall manage the traffic at the junction of the public road connecting Chdamkur to Kalamalla & railway under bridge the Haul Road from South Block leading towards the Cement Plant. PP should also ensure that the speed of the trucks shall not exceed 25 km/hr while passing through the proximity of the village.
- v. The Project Proponent during the practice of drilling and blasting should monitor the noise level and ground vibration as well as Ambient Air Quality all around the mining lease boundary in down wind direction. The Project Proponent should also monitor the noise level and air quality in sensitive receptors as per the act and rules.
- vi. The conservation plan in consultation with the Forest Department shall be implemented and compliance of the same shall be submitted to IRO of MoEF&CC before 1st July of every year.

1.3 Proposal for Terms of Reference for Redi Iron Ore Mine of M/s Minerals and Metals with proposed production capacity of 0.2 Million Tonnes per annum of iron ore (ROM), 0.025 MTPA waste/overburden & 0.0003 MTPA top soil in the mine lease area of 27.4520 Ha., located at Redi Village (including Sakhalbhat, Mhartale and Bambadojiwadi), Taluka Vengurla, District Sindhurg, Maharashtra - [Proposal no: IA/MH/MIN/148253/2020; File No. J-11015/27/2020-IA-II(M)] - Terms of Reference (ToR)

The proposal of M/s Minerals and Metals is grant of Terms of Reference for Redi Iron Ore Mine with proposed production capacity of 0.2 Million Tonnes per annum of

iron ore (ROM) , 0.025 MTPA waste/overburden & 0.0003 MTPA top soil in the mine lease area of 27.4520 Ha., located at Redi Village (including Sakhalbhat, Mhartale and Bambadojiwadi), Taluka Vengurla, District Sindhudurg, Maharashtra. The mining lease is covered under SOI Toposheet No: 48 E/10 and bounded by Latitude between 15°44'25.64"N to 15°44'53.28"N and Longitude between 73°39'21.19"E to 73°40'54.18"E.

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as amended from time to time, this mining project falls under Category 'A' Project or activity 1(a) as the project attract general condition as mining lease falls at 1.34 Km from the Goa State boundary.

3. The Project Proponent submitted the proposal for Terms of Reference vide online proposal no. IA/MH/MIN/148253/2020 dated 10.03.2020 and submitted the Form-1 and Prefeasibility report. The Ministry examined the proposal and sought EDS on 01.04.2020 and PP submitted the reply on 21.04.2020 and then again the Ministry sought EDS on 27.04.2020 and PP submitted the reply on 11.05.2020 and the proposal was considered in the 18th EAC (Non-coal Mining) held during 22-24 June, 2020 wherein the committee after detailed deliberations on the proposal in respect of ecological sensitivity of the proposed location and availability of scanty reserves in the proposed ML area is of the view that PP shall submit the information before consideration of the proposal. The Committee therefore deferred the proposal. In view of the above, the Ministry sought Additional details on 01.07.2020. Then the proposal was delisted from the PARIVESH portal on 30.09.2020 and then relisted by the Project Proponent on 19.02.2021. The proposal was considered in the 29th EAC meeting held during 15th-17th March, 2021.

4. The Project Proponent reported that 'M/s Minerals and Metals', was granted Mining Lease 'Redi Iron Ore Mine', with an area of 27.4520 Ha., located at Redi Village (including Sakhalbhat, Mhartale and Bambadojiwadi), Taluka Vengurla, District Sindhudurg, State Maharashtra and the said mining lease is valid up to 20.08.2029. PP submitted the letter issued from DMG, Government of Maharashtra issued vide No. MLR-1847/2019/2114 dated 29.08.2019 w.r.t. grant of extension of mining lease and accordingly executed the lease deed on 27.02.2020 for the period 21.08.2009 to 20.08.2029.

5. The Project Proponent submitted the Approval of Review and Updation of Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan in respect of Redi Iron Ore mine over an area of 27.4520 Ha approved by Indian Bureau of Mines, Goa vide Lr.No. RMP/MECH-01(MAH)/GOA/2020-21 dated 29.10.2020.

6. The Project Proponent submitted that the mining operations will be mechanized opencast method without drilling & blasting, complying with all the statutory requirements using Heavy earth moving machineries like Rippers and Dozers, shovels, dumpers, wheel loaders, and tippers. The lease is in three blocks namely Block 1 (1 & 1A), Block 2 and Block 3. Block 1(1 & 1A) is falling under CRZ and the other two blocks (Block 2 & 3) fall outside the CRZ. The lessee will work in the Block 2 and Block 3 falling outside the CRZ. The western most part of the Mining Lease, called Block 1 (1 & 1A) is located near the sea coast, Block 2 forms the central part and Block 3 is the eastern most part of the Mining Lease.

PP reported that the total reserves/resources as on 04.08.2020 are 2.7584 Million Tonnes, out of which 0.897 Million Tonnes is possible ore and the remaining 1.8614 Million Tonnes are reserves and resources which is considered for defining the Life of the Mine. PP vide letter dated 23.03.2021 submitted that 0.2 MT mineral will be excavated during 2023-24 during 0.025 MTPA waste/overburden & 0.0003 MTPA top soil need to be excavated. which Considering next four years production of 0.4 million tonnes and subsequently 0.2 million tonnes of production per annum, the life of the mine will be 11 years which may enhance based on the future results of exploration planned during the Mining Plan period. However, the lease is valid till 20.08.2029. Rippers and Dozers will be used for ripping of hard material and wheel loaders are used for loading and leveling. The excavation will be done by hydraulic excavator's bucket capacity of 2.45 cubic meter and hauling by 25 to 35 Tonnes capacity dumpers and 10 tonner tippers. Redi Port is at a distance of about 1.4 to 4.0 Km by road from the lease. Finished product (Lumps & Fines)/ROM will be sold to the domestic buyer for further export or domestic consumption. The ore transportation by the buyer will be done by tippers with the capacity of 10 Tonnes as well by dumpers with higher capacity. Mine will be worked by forming systematic benches in ore and overburden maintaining a maximum optimum pit slope 30°. The height of the benches maintained will be 6 meters and width will be kept more than the height. Based on size and capacity of the machinery, mine approach road and mine haulage road with an average gradient of 1:16 will be maintained. PP reported that the total waste generation during mining plan period will be about 0.28 million tonnes. Due to the restrictions on dumping outside the Mining Lease area, the temporary dumping/backfilling of waste will be carried out within the Lease.

7. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no abstraction or transfer of water from surface water body is envisaged. However, the mining activities will go below the ground water table. The abstraction of the ground water will be done on obtaining necessary permission from the CGWA. Total water requirement shall be 165 m³/day. (Dust suppression - 150 m³/day Green belt - 10 m³/day Domestic & drinking - 5

m³/day). The drinking water to office and canteen will be supplied by drawing it from well water in the nearby areas through contractor. During rainy season most of the water from broken up area proposed will be diverted to the proposed pit. The pit acts as settling pond and the clean water will be supplied to the villagers for Irrigation and other utilities in fair season. Also, a part of pumped out water will be utilized for dust suppression. No sewage is generated from the mine. The waste water generated during the washing and maintenance of machineries will be treated in Eco Tanks and will be recycled for washing. The domestic waste water will be treated in the septic tank and soak pit.

8. The Project Proponent submitted that during the lease period the proposed afforestation will be carried out to fill up the gaps in the areas of existing plantation and also along the 7.5m safety barrier wherever feasible. About 500 saplings are proposed to be planted every year.

9. The Project Proponent submitted that no forest land is involved in the mining lease area. However, the Lease is in three blocks namely Block 1 (1 & 1A), Block 2 and Block 3. Block 1(1 & 1A) is falling under CRZ and the other two blocks (Block 2 & 3) fall outside the CRZ. The project requires the grant of EC and CRZ. The PP had uploaded the application for CRZ clearance and is under examination. Sawantwada reserve forest of fairly dense mixed jungle exist at 8.52 km NE of the lease boundary (Block- 3) in the buffer zone. Shiroda Creek which meets the sea. High Tide Line of Shiroda creek is beyond 422 m N from the lease boundary (Block-3). Terekhol creek is located towards SE located at 2.50 km from lease boundary (Block-2). A water reservoir is located at southeastern corner of Redi village, called Kanyal tank, at a distance of 1.10 km SSE from the Lease boundary (Block-3).

10. The Project Proponent submitted that the mine does not form part of Western Ghat ESA, there will be no impact of the W.P (Civil) filed before the Supreme Court in relation to the issue of Western Ghats.

11. The Project Proponent submitted that M/s Minerals and Metals will draw the R & R plan as per the statutory requirements and mutually agreed compensation to the home oustees, land outstees etc. before commencing the operations in the habitation areas.

12. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no any litigation pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.

13. The Project Proponent submitted that the estimated cost of the project is Rs. 890 Lakhs. The mine shall provide employment to 360 people, in direct and indirect way.

About 60 families in direct way and 300 families will benefit indirect way with this project.

14. The information sought by the Committee in the 18th EAC (Non-coal Mining) held during 22-24 June, 2020 and the reply submitted by Project Proponent vide letter dated 19.02.2021 are as follows:

S. No	Queries	Reply
1	PP needs to submit the cost-benefit analysis of the project in respect of the value of the mineral via-a'-vis the ecological services rendered by the area.	<p>PP submitted that the mining lease area is of 27.4520 Ha (27.0374 ha as per the DGPS Plan). The Mining Lease consists of three independent blocks, namely Block 1 and 1A, Block 2 and Block 3. Out of these 3 blocks, the Block 1 & 1A falls within CRZ area where no mining is proposed. All the area is private land and no forest land is involved.</p> <p>Mining and allied activities are proposed in Block 2 & Block 3 covering an area of 9.5734 ha. The reserves and resources in Block 2 and 3 are to the tune of 2.7584 Million Tonnes. The grade of iron ore produced shall be 58 to 60 % Fe. The life of the Mine is 9 years with an average production rate of 0.2MTPA. The detailed cost benefit analysis of the project is carried out and enclosed along with the reply. The proposed mining activity of production of iron ore for this mine is very cost effective after meeting direct mining costs, environmental costs, cost on health and safety, socioeconomics, compensation for land, capital and R & D cost as it may be seen that the cost benefit ratio (CB ratio) works out to be 1:18.66.</p>
2	A certificate from the DMG to the effect that no mining activities have been carried out by PP in the said lease area needs to be submitted	The Project Proponent categorically states that the subject mine has never been worked. A certificate has been obtained from the Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Govt of

		<p>Maharashtra, Nagpur clearly stating that no production of mineral took place since originally lease deed execution and enclosed along with the reply.</p>
3	<p>PP submitted that the mining lease falling outside the ESA area villages as mentioned in the Ministry's direction vide letter No. F.No. 1-4/2012-RE (Pt) dated 13.11.2013. But it has come to the notice that recently a Writ Petition 369/2020 filed before Hon'ble Supreme Court on the Issues related to Western Ghat. The PP needs to submit whether there is any possible impact of the said W.P. (Civil) on the instant proposal.</p>	<p>PP submitted that the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MOEF) vide letter no.1-4/2012-RE(Pt.) dated 13.11.2013 issued Directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, to State Governments of Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu as regards the Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA) identified by High Level Working Group (HLWG) in the respective states. The State wise, District wise and Taluka wise villages in ESA identified by HLWG are enclosed as Annexure III to the MoEF&CC letter dated 13.11.2013.</p> <p>Further, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) in terms of Section 3 and Section 5 (3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 issued Draft Notification dated 10.3.2014 and subsequent notifications on 4.9.2015, 27.2.2017 and 3.10.2018, thereby demarcating an area of 56,825 square kilometre spread across six states namely Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, as Western Ghats Ecologically Sensitive Area. The last of the Notification issued by the MOEF&CC is dated 3.10.2018, which indicates (1) State wise area of Western Ghat ESA except Kerala in Annexure A to the notification (2) Indicates State wise map of the Western Ghat ESA along with the latitudes and longitudes of prominent points on the outer boundary of the ESA for the respective States in Annexure B2 to the Notification and (3)</p>

		<p>List of villages falling the ESA in Annexure C to the Notification (Details of Maharashtra are reflecting at pages 184 to 234 of the Notification).</p> <p>The MOEFCC on 03.12.2018 issued an amendment vide letter No. F. no.1/9/2018-ESZ, to the Direction dated 13.11.2013. The amendment clarified that the area covered under the ESA of Western Ghats would be 56825 sq. km and also stated that the list of villages as per the draft Notification dated 3.10.2018.</p> <p>The Mining Lease of the project proponent (PP), admeasuring of 27.4520 Ha (27.0374 ha as per the DGPS Plan) is situated at Redi village, Vengurla Taluka, Sindhudurg District. Upon perusal of the Direction dated 13.11.2013 and the Notification dated 3.10.2018 issued by the MOEFCC it can be clearly seen that the mine of the PP does not fall in proposed Western Ghat ESA.</p> <p>In view of the above, as the mine does not form part of Western Ghat ESA, there will be no impact of the W.P (civil) filed before the Supreme Court in relation to the issue of Western Ghats.</p>
4	<p>Specific recommendation of the CRZ division based on the inputs from the SCZMA on the proposal. PP should submit the demarcation details as approved by MCZMA</p>	<p>The PP has submitted that online application to MCZMA for the recommendations of the CRZ division has been submitted. The details of the copy of the Approved CRZ Plan and recommendations once it is granted by MCZMA will be submitted before the submission of Final EIA-EMP report.</p>
5	<p>PP is required to submit the copy of application for obtaining permission from CGWA for intersection of ground water and withdrawal of</p>	<p>PP has submitted that the detailed hydro geological study has been conducted through the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH) (Ministry of Jalshakti) Regional Office Belgaum. As</p>

	ground water if any	per the study there will no impact of mining activities surrounding ground water. PP has applied online to CGWA for intersection of ground water and withdrawal of ground water.						
6	PP needs to provide the details of the existing tree density, the number of trees that is going to be cut due to the said proposal and protection against the sensitive areas.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that detailed tree enumeration study has been carried out through the Post Graduate Department of Botany, Shri Pancham Khemraj Mahavidyalay, Sawantwadi, under the guidance of Dr. Uttam Dethe, Ph.D.</p> <p>As per the Approved Mining Plan, the mining activities will be carried out in Block 2 and Block 3 only. The Block 1 and Block 1A falling within the CRZ and hence it will not be worked. And thus, the area will be protected from any mining activities.</p> <p>As per the study, the total no of trees in Block 2 are 1152 and Block 3 are 607 trees, altogether 1759 in 18.6893Ha area which corresponds to the tree density of 94 plants per Ha.</p> <p>However, the Lessee intends to continue the mining operations in Block 2 and Block 3 and within an area of 9.54Ha area only. In this proposed area for mining operations, out of 1759 trees only 428 no of trees in Block 2 and 478 no of trees in Block 3 will be felled. The felling of trees will be carried out in phase manner as per the requirement of the area for mining. During the first three years the mining operation will be carried out in Block 3 and subsequently the mining operation will be shifted to the Block -2 in the next Review and Updating periods. The tree feeling will be carried out in phase manner as below: -</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="873 1822 1429 1858"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="873 1822 992 1858">Sr. No</th> <th data-bbox="992 1822 1175 1858">Year</th> <th data-bbox="1175 1822 1429 1858">No of Trees to be</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sr. No	Year	No of Trees to be			
Sr. No	Year	No of Trees to be						

		felled	
		Block 2	Block 3
1	2021-22 to 2023-24	-	478
2	2024-25 to 2029-30 (up to 20.08.2029)	406	-

This shows that only 478 no of trees will be felled during the first two years of the Mining. And the 406 no of trees will be felled in the next review and updating period of Mining Plan Period, i.e, 2024-25 to 2029-30 (upto 20/08/2029). The afforestation of the mined-out areas will be concurrent to the Mining. The no of trees to be felled is very small and does not form any part of the schedule or endangered species as per the Indian Forest Act.

Protection against sensitive areas: -

There are no any sensitive areas within the Mining Lease Area. However, the project proponent has planned comprehensive Environmental Management Plan. As per the plan, the recommended environmental protective measures like dust suppression, air pollution control measures, water pollution control measures, dump stabilisation, afforestation will be carried out to restore and reclaim the mined-out land.

After the mining the broken-up land will be backfilled and will be progressively planted and rehabilitated with local species like Cashew, mango, Jamun, Cocum, Terminalia etc. All the efforts will be taken for 100% survival and growth of the plants.

Land use at the end of Conceptual

period		
Sr. No	Particulars	Area (in Ha)
1	i) Converted as reservoir	0.1778
	ii) Backfilled and plantation	7.6669
2	Waste Dumps & Protective measures	1.7287
	Sub Total	9.5734
	Balance un-utilized area	17.4640
	TOTAL	27.0374

The rainwater harvesting structures in the form of recharge structures, arrestors to arrest the flow of the rain water and thereby increase the maximum recharge of the water into the ground have been planned as part of the Environment Management Plan.

Garland drains, trenches, retaining walls structures of the sufficient size and sufficient number will be constructed wherever necessary thereby to control the siltation and water pollution control measures.

The matured portion of the dumps will be covered with coir made geotextile and leguminous seeds will be broadcasted to amend the soil quality. Thus, stabilized dump slopes will be further brought under plantation of the local species. Regular watering by drip irrigation and manuring will help to attain the 100% survival of the plants.

The improvised technology will be adopted for mining thereby reducing the emissions and control of the air as well noise pollution.

Thus, by implementation of well-

		developed Environment Management Plan the mined-out land will be restored and reclaimed.
--	--	--

15. The proposal for Terms of Reference (ToR) was considered before the Expert Appraisal Committee (Non-Coal Mining) in its 29th EAC meeting held during 15th - 17th March, 2021. Based on the documents submitted and presentation made by the Project Proponent and the Consultant, the Committee **recommended** the proposal for grant of the proposal for grant of Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) for Redi Iron Ore Mine of M/s Minerals and Metals with proposed production capacity of 0.2 Million Tonnes per annum of iron ore (ROM) , 0.025 MTPA waste/overburden & 0.0003 MTPA top soil in the mine lease area of 27.4520 Ha, located at Redi Village (including Sakhalbhat, Mhartale and Bambadojiwadi), Taluka Vengurla, District Sindhudurg, Maharashtra for undertaking detailed EIA/EMP study with the following specific conditions:-

- i. The proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance will be considered only after the recommendation of the Maharashtra Coastal Zone Management Authority (MCZMA).
- ii. The PP needs to submit the total excavation in tonnes including mineral, overburden, inter-burden, waste, top soil, rejects etc. to be handled and the management of topsoil and waste needs to be properly addressed in EIA/EMP report. The mineable reserves, blocked reserves need to be mentioned along with the life of mine. Waste to be generated during the entire life of mine and details of the location of dumping/backfilling area need to be submitted.
- iii. The Project Proponent shall undertake plantation such as Coconut, Mango, Cashew, Terminalia, etc. as demonstrated in Block 1 (1 & 1A) after obtaining the Terms of Reference. Proof of the same shall be submitted at the time of appraisal of EC.
- iv. The Project Proponent shall ensure that there would not be any mining in Block 1 (1 & 1A) as proposed and undertaking for the same needs to be submitted by the Project Proponent.
- v. The Project Proponent should clearly show the transport route of the mineral with its impact and protection and mitigative measure to be adopted while transportation of the mineral.
- vi. The Project Proponent needs to locate the monitoring locations which are sensitive and close to habitation with proper design in the EIA report. The Project

Proponent needs to submit the impact on the nearby villages and measures taken for abatement of air and noise pollution due to mining activity in the EIA/EMP report.

- vii. The Project Proponent needs to carry out the Public Hearing as per provisions of EIA Notification, 2006.
- viii. The Project Proponent shall allocate separate budget for the concerns of the people in terms of health, education, and infrastructure and environment protection. The Project Proponent also shall include the budget for the betterment of schools nearby and to facilitate the online education system by providing Wi-Fi connectivity and desktops/tablets.
- ix. PP need to submit the actionable occupation and health plan which should also include the health and sanitation programme for women of the nearby villages.
- x. The Project Proponent needs to submit a Certificate from the Competent Authority in the State Forest Department, confirming the involvement of forest land, if any, in the project area. PP should also submit list of Schedule I species present in the lease area authenticated by PCCF and the status of National Park/Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve/Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Reserve/any other Reserve, Habitat for migratory birds and corridor for animals within 10 km of the lease area.
- xi. The Project Proponent shall submit the NOC from CGWA for withdrawal of ground water at the time of appraisal of EC.
- xii. The Project Proponent should submit the Affidavit in a Non-Judicial Stamp paper to comply with all statutory requirement & judgement of Hon'ble Supreme court dated the 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common Cause versus Union of India & Ors as applicable as per Ministry OM dated 30.05.2018.
- xiii. MoEF & CC may also verify from the ESZ division regarding ESA of Western Ghats.

1.4 Proposal for Terms of Reference for Captive Limestone Mine of M/s. Sree Jayajothi Cements Private Limited (SJCPL), MLA: 131.568 Ha, 0.60 Million Tonnes per Annum of Limestone Production [Total Excavation: 0.60 MTPA (Limestone: 0.60 MTPA & Top Soil/OB: Nil)] at Villages Erragudi, Hussainapuram & Yanakandla, Mandal Banaganapalli, District Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh - [Proposal

no: IA/AP/MIN/197632/2021; File No. IA-J-11015/19/2021-IA-II(M)] - Terms of Reference (ToR)

The proposal of M/s. Sree Jayajothi Cements Private Limited (SJCPL) is for grant of Terms of Reference for Captive Limestone Mine in MLA: 131.568 Ha, with 0.60 MTPA of Limestone Production [Total Excavation: 0.60 MTPA (Limestone: 0.60 MTPA & Top Soil/OB: Nil)] at Villages Erragudi, Hussainapuram & Yanakandla, Mandal Banaganapalli, District Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No 57 I/3 and bounded by latitude: 15° 22' 33.83583" N -15° 22' 59.21049" N and longitude 78° 09' 25.43278" E - 78° 11' 35.43709" E with an elevation of 255 - 330 m above MSL and falls in Seismic Zone II.

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as amended from time to time, the project falls under Category "A", Project or Activity 1(a) as the Mining lease area is more than 100 Ha.

3. The Project Proponent earlier submitted the proposal for Terms of Reference vide online proposal no: IA/AP/MIN/72528/2018 dated 27.01.2018 and the proposal was considered in the EAC meeting held during March 22-23, 2018 and during the presentation the project proponent informed the committee that a court case has been filed vide W.P. 9268/2018 wherein the complainant prayed the Hon'ble Court to set aside the Letter of Intent issued to the proponent by Department of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. The Committee therefore was of the view that Letter of Intent (LoI) is the basis for considering the proposal for prescribing the Term of Reference and as the same is in question in the instant case, the proposal could not be considered in present form. The Committee therefore, rejected the proposal and was of the view that proponent may apply afresh after the outcome of the said court case.

PP again applied for grant of Terms of Reference vide online proposal no: IA/AP/MIN/197632/2021 dated 10.02.2021 and submitted the Form-1 & Pre-Feasibility Report. The Ministry examined the proposal submitted by the Project Proponent and sought EDS on 16.02.2021 and the Project Proponent submitted the Essential Details Sought vide Lr. SJCPL/MoEF&CC/TOR/2021 dated 16.02.2021 and the proposal was considered in the 29th EAC meeting held during 15th-17th March, 2021.

4. The proposal for grant of Terms of Reference (ToR) was considered in the 29th EAC meeting held during 15th-17th March, 2021. During the meeting, the Committee noted that the proposal was earlier considered in the EAC meeting held during March 22-23, 2018 wherein *the Committee rejected the proposal and was of the view that proponent may apply afresh after the outcome of the said court case*. Now the Project Proponent informed the Committee that the court case was resolved in favour of M/s.

Sree Jayajothi Cements Private Limited. PP also mentioned that there is no any court case/litigation pending against the PP in Sr. No. 24 of the Form-1. The Committee also noted that the PP was unable to produce the copy of final judgement of the court case.

After detailed deliberation and discussion held during the meeting, the Committee felt that the information submitted by the Project Proponent appears to be contradictory. Thus, the Committee was of the view that the Letter of Intent (LoI) is the basis for considering the proposal for prescribing the Terms of Reference (ToR) and as the same is in question in the instant case, hence the proposal could not be considered. Therefore, the Committee **returned the proposal in the present form** and was of the view that the Project Proponent shall apply a fresh along with the valid Letter of Intent (LOI) mentioning the validity of the lease period and after the disposal of the court case.

DAY-2 (16.03.2021)

2.1: Proposal for Environmental Clearance for Gumgaon & Khodegaon Manganese underground mine of M/s MOIL Limited for production capacity of 1,02,000 MTPA of ROM (inclusive of mineral rejects of 5100 MTPA) & 62017 MTPA of waste, in mine lease area of 126.84 Ha, situated at Village(s) - Gumgaon, Khodegaon & Tigai, Tehsil-Saoner, District-Nagpur, Maharashtra- [Proposal no: IA/MH/MIN/194443/2017; File No. J-11015/74/2017-IA.II(M)] - Environmental Clearance (EC)

The proposal of M/s MOIL Limited is for grant of Environmental Clearance for Gumgaon & Khodegaon Manganese Underground mine for production capacity of 1,02,000 MTPA of ROM (inclusive of mineral rejects of 5100 MTPA) & 62017 MTPA of waste, in mine lease area of 126.84 Ha, situated at Village(s) - Gumgaon, Khodegaon & Tigai, Tehsil-Saoner, District-Nagpur, Maharashtra. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No 55 K/15 and 55 O/3 and bounded by Latitude 21°23' 47.84" to 21°23' 55.72" N and Longitude 78°58' 28.77" E to 78°58' 19.71" E.

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as amended from time to time, the project falls under Category "A", Project or Activity 1(a) as the mining lease area is more than 100 Ha.

3. The Project Proponent earlier submitted the proposal for Terms of Reference (ToR) vide proposal no: IA/MH/MIN/67094/2017 dated 31.07.2017 and the proposal was considered in the EAC meeting held during 29-30, August, 2017, 26-27 February 2018 and 23-24 April, 2018 wherein the Committee recommended the proposal for the grant of the Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) and the Ministry issued the Terms of

Reference vide letter no. J-11015/74/2017-IA-II(M) dated 14.05.2018. Now, the Project Proponent applied for grant of Environmental Clearance vide online proposal no. IA/MH/MIN/194443/2017 dated 27.01.2021 and submitted the Form2 and EIA report after conducting the public hearing on 20.02.2020. The Ministry examined the proposal and sought essential details on 16.02.2021 and the PP submitted the reply vide Lr.No: Jt.GM(S&E)/EC/GUM/2020-21/165 dated 24.02.2021. The proposal was considered in the 29th EAC meeting held during 15th -17th March, 2021.

4. The Project Proponent submitted that the mining lease over an area of 126.84 hectares falling in Khasra Nos of village Gumgaon- 8, 157, 158, 166/1, 166/2 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 176, 177, 178, 179, 188, 189, 190, 192 193, 194, village Tegai- 1, 2, 3 ,4 ,10, 12 ,13 ,14 ,15a ,15b ,15k/1, 15k/2, 16, 17, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72/1, 72/2, 73/3, 73/1, 73/2, 73/3 142/1, 142/2, 142/3, 142/4, 143, 144, 145, 146, 148, village Kodegaon- 94 ,95 ,96, 97, 122-123/1, 122-123/2, 126, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138- 278, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143/1, 143/2 in village Gumgaon, Kodegaon and Tegai, Tehsil: Saoner, District: Nagpur, Maharashtra. The Letter of Intent (LOI) for Mining Lease followed by prospecting license issued to M/S MOIL Ltd by Government of Maharashtra vide letter number MMN0216/L. No. 20/Industry-9, Mumbai dated 06.04.2016.

5. The Project Proponent submitted the Approval of Modification in Approved Mine Plan along with the Progressive Mine Closure Plan (PMCP) in respect of Gumgaon, Kodegaon and Tegai Manganese Mine over an area of 126.84 Ha approved by Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur vide letter no. NGP/MN/MPLN-1174/NGP-2016/676 dated 24.07.2019.

6. The Project Proponent submitted that the method of mining will be underground mechanized mine with drilling and blasting. The mining will be done by Flat back overhand cut and fill method with hydraulic sand stowing. Drilling in the drifts for haulage road, x-cut and ore drive will be done by pneumatically operated jack hammer of 33 mm dia of the length of 1.5 m. Blasted ore will be transported manually to ore chute, from where the ore is drawn and filled in tubs and transported to main shaft bin by battery locomotive. The ore is hoisted through vertical shaft with cage. The Proponent mentioned that the mode of entry to the mine is through vertical shaft of 6.5 m diameter. After sinking of vertical shaft, haulage road will be developed at each level which runs parallel to the ore zone. The haulage road will have an x cut at regular interval of 60 m. The x cut will be developed across the strike until it encounters the ore zone. After ore zone is encountered, an ore drive along the contact will be developed to prove the strike of ore zone. The winzes will be developed vertically at regular interval of 60 m connecting the two levels. This will serve as 2nd outlet, transport of material and

also acts as a ventilation circuit. The level difference of 30mtr will be maintained and each level will be interconnected to each other through shaft and winzes. Hydraulic sand stowing with roof support by cable bolting and roof bolting will be done to maintain safety in mine. The other supports like choks, props and wire mesh will be installed wherever required in stope. The proponent reported that the total Geological Reserve is 1134086 Tonnes, Mineable Reserve is 850864 Tonnes and Extractable Reserve is 850864 Tonnes. The life of mine is 13 Years. PP also submitted that a screening plant will be set up at Gumgaon Mine in lease area of 126.84 ha. From screening plant, the ROM will be sorted size wise. Later the same ROM will be collected in tubs and grade wise sorting will be done manually. PP submitted that about 1910 T mineral reject will produce as the recovery is 95%; which will be stored in separate dumps. Further PP submitted that there is no need of beneficiation plant and hence, there is no proposal for installing processing plant in the lease area. PP vide letter no. Jt.GM(S&E)/EC/GUM/Plant/2020-21/178 dated 24.03.2021 submitted that it is proposed to produce 1,02,000 MTPA of ROM (inclusive of mineral rejects of 5100 MTPA) & 62017 MTPA of waste.

7. The Project Proponent submitted that the nearest Village is Gumgaon (0.31 km, SE), nearest Town is Khapa (1 km, N) and nearest highway is SH-249 (0.70 km, W) and NH-69 (5.20 km, SW).

8. The Project Proponent submitted that as it is underground mining, water table will be intersected during mining process. The water table in pre-monsoon (in dry season) remains 8 to 10m bgl & in post monsoon season it remains 2.0 to 6.0m bgl and the ultimate working depth will be 40m. PP reported that the total water requirement in this mine is envisaged to be 840 KLD (30 KLD for Domestic, 60 KLD for Dust Suppression, 100 KLD for Greenbelt, 650 KLD for sand stowing). 30 KLD will be withdrawal by borewell for domestic use only and 810 KLD groundwater abstracted on account of dewatering/mining seepage from the underground mine. NOC from CGWA for application for permission to dewater groundwater for mining industry and water demand to the tune of 840 KLD is under active consideration and applied vide no. 21-4/2019/MH/MIN/2019 dated 11.01.2019.

9. The Project Proponent submitted that about 5.0 ha area will be planted in next five year & 2.0ha are will be planted in 6th to 10th year as follows: -

Year	Area of Plantation (Ha)	No. of Plants
1 st year	1.00	2,000
2 nd year	1.00	2,000
3 rd year	1.00	2,000

4 th year	1.00	2,000
5 th year	1.00	2,000
Total	5.00	10,000
6 th to 10 th year	2.00	4,000
Total	7.00	14,000

PP also submitted that the following species will be planted such as *Azadirachta Indica*, *Dalbargia Sisso*, *Cassia Fistula*, *Mangifera Indica*, *Polyalthia Longifolia*, *Pongamia Pinnata*, *Ficus Religiosa*, *Tectona Grandis*, *Aegle Marmelos* and *Albizia Lebbeck*. PP earmarked budget for greenbelt as Rs 10.0 Lakhs as capital cost and Rs 5.0 Lakhs/annum as recurring cost.

10. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no forest land involved in the mining lease area. Out of the total mine lease area 126.84 Ha, 114.21 Ha is Private land and 12.63 Ha is Revenue land. PP also reported that the Stagondi RF is located at a distance of 6.60km, NE and Korardhari nala flows through South of the lease and join at 2.5 km South-East to Kanhan river which flows at 0.8 km, North from lease area. PP further submitted that there are no National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Ramsar site, Tiger/Elephant Reserves (existing/ proposed) located within the radius of 10km of the mine lease.

11. The Project Proponent reported that there is no Schedule-I species found in the study area and submitted the authenticated list of flora and fauna within 10 km radius obtained from Office of District Forest Office, Nagpur vide letter no. Kaksh-11/ Vansanvardhan/Pr.Kr./ 3984/ 19-20 dated 09.01.2019.

12. The Project Proponent submitted that one season primary baseline data for ambient air quality, (as per CPCB quality Notification, 2009), water quality, noise level, soil and flora & fauna has been collected during Summer Season (March to May, 2018). The concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} for all the 8 AAQM stations were found between 44.0 to 75.83 µg/m³ and 17.96 to 44.0 µg/m³, respectively. The concentrations of SO₂ and NO₂ were found to be in range of 5.29 to 11.40 µg/m³ and 14.02 to 32.66 µg/m³ respectively. PP also submitted that post project concentration of air pollutants is also well within the prescribed standards of NAAQS. Ambient noise levels were measured at 8 locations in and around the mine site and Noise levels varied from 52.7 to 56.9 Leq dB (A) during day time and from 37.8 to 54.1 Leq dB (A) during night time. Eight ground water and Four surface water samples were collected, analyzed and compared with IS-10500:2012. All parameters are within permissible limit of drinking water standard except sample collected from village Yarandagoan (GW 7) where TDS & Hardness in Ground water observed above the permissible limit which could be due to agricultural runoff, urban runoff, industrial wastewater etc. The soil samples were collected at 5

locations and the pH values of the collected samples were in the range of 7.84 to 8.26, organic matter in the range of 0.786(%) to 1.96 (%), water holding capacity in the range of 5.56 to 7.70%, potassium in the range of 0.07 to 173, total nitrogen in the range of 0.012 to 0.013 %, bulk density in the range of 1.45 to 1.49gm/cc. All these parameters indicate that soil is not so fertile in this area.

13. The Project Proponent submitted that the public hearing advertisement was published on 18.01.2020 in 'The Hatawara and Tarun Bharat'. Public hearing was conducted on 20.02.2020 at Mine lease, Villages Gumgaon, Khodegaon and Tegai, Tehsil-Saoner, District-Nagpur, Maharashtra under Chairmanship of Additional District Magistrate, Nagpur. PP reported that 90 persons attended the Public Hearing. Issues raised during public hearing were related to control of air pollution, provide employment opportunities to locals, drinking water facility, toilet facility, etc.. PP submitted the revised budgetary plan as Rs 2.0 Crores to address the issues raised during public hearing vide Lr. No. Jt. GM (S&E)/EC/GUM/2020-21/178 dated 16.03.2021.

14. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no displacement of habitation envisaged as no habitation exists in the proposed ML area. However, land will be procured from the private landowners. There are lands of 298no.s within the proposed M.L area, which will be procured in phase-wise manner after the execution of the ML. Compensation details will be given as per the MOIL's R&R Policy, duly approved. PP submitted the need-based survey of the project affected families.

15. The Project Proponent submitted that the budget earmarked for Environmental Management Plan (EMP) shall be Rs. 100 Lakhs (Capital) & Rs. 50 Lakhs (recurring/annum) which includes i) Rs 50.0 Lakh (Capital) & Rs 20.0 Lakh (recurring) for Pollution Control & Conservation of Natural Resources (Garland Drain, Water sprinkler, Septic tank, Rainwater Harvesting Structure), ii) Rs 10.0 Lakh (Capital) & Rs 10.0 Lakh (recurring) for Pollution Monitoring (Air, soil, Water, Noise), iii) Rs 20.0 Lakh (Capital) & Rs 10.0 Lakh (recurring) for Occupational Health & Safety, iv) Rs 10.0 Lakh (Capital) & Rs 5.0 Lakh (recurring) for Green Belt Development and v) Rs 10.0 Lakh (Capital) & Rs 5.0 Lakh (recurring) for Miscellaneous (Fencing, protection, regeneration and maintenance of safety zone).

16. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no any Court Cases pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.

17. The Project Proponent submitted the Affidavit bearing XM 207399 dated 09.03.2021 that no activity in relating to the proposed project i.e., Gumgaon, Khodegaon and Tegai Manganese mine has been undertaken at the site and that no activity has been carried out in violation to MoEF&CC Notification date dated

14.03.2017 and 08.03.2018. PP also submitted this undertaking as part of the EIA report, owning the contents (information and data) of the EIA report. The details and data presented are factually correct (as per OM dated 04.08.2009), along with other information is also to be submitted. The Consultant also given undertaking that the consultant organization shall be fully accountable for any mis-leading information mentioned in this statement.

18. The Project Proponent submitted that the total capital cost of the project is Rs. 100 Crore and recurring cost is Rs 1.50 Crore. PP submitted that the proposed project will provide direct employment to 290 people which includes 240 Nos (80 per shift) for mining operation and 50 Nos for additional manpower for sorting, gardening and other works on surface; beside this many indirect employment opportunities will be created. Local people will be given preference in employment for mine as per their eligibility.

19. The proposal for Environmental Clearance (EC) was considered before the Expert Appraisal Committee (Non-Coal Mining) in its 29th EAC meeting held during 15th - 17th March, 2021. Based on the documents submitted and presentation made by the Project Proponent and the Consultant, the Committee **recommended** the proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance for Gumgaon & Khodegaon Manganese Underground mine of M/s MOIL Limited for production capacity of 1,02,000 MTPA of ROM (inclusive of mineral rejects of 5100 MTPA) & 62017 MTPA of waste, in mine lease area of 126.84 Ha, situated at Village(s) - Gumgaon, Khodegaon & Tigai, Tehsil-Saoner, District-Nagpur, Maharashtra with the following specific conditions:-

- i. The Project Proponent shall stack the mineral rejects in the earmarked area as proposed with adequate safety by creating retaining wall around the dump and other measures to avoid inrush of mineral during rainy season. PP need to obtain permission from competent authority to use the rejects.
- ii. The budget of Rs 2.0 Crores to address the concerns raised by the public in the public hearing to be completed within 3 year from the date of start of mining operations.
- iii. The Project Proponent shall organize employment based apprenticeship/ internship training program with stipend for the youth. PP shall also conduct programs to enhance the skill of the local people.
- iv. The Project Proponent shall undertake the plantation in plant to plant and row to row distance of 2m with the seedling of 10 ft height having at least 90% survival

rate. The Project Proponent shall provide tree guard to maintain the early stages of plant growth. The PP shall also make arrangements for backpack drip irrigation. Causalities of the previous year should be replaced other than the saplings proposed to be planted every year.

- v. The Project Proponent shall ensure that adequate safety measures adopted by the employees engaged in mining operations within the mine premises so as to avoid dust inhalation.
- vi. Proponent shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project and maintain records accordingly; also, Occupational health check-ups for workers having some ailments like BP, diabetes, habitual smoking, etc. shall be undertaken once in six months and necessary remedial/preventive measures taken accordingly. PP shall take care of Health and Sanitation Requirements of Female Population in the peripheral areas of the mines where CSR Activities are being undertaken.
- vii. The Project Proponent shall obtain the NOC from CGWA for withdrawal of water before undertaking mining operations.

2.2 Proposal for Environmental Clearance for Sultanpur Thanda Limestone Mine of M/s NCL Industries Limited for production of limestone from 0.05 to 1.0 MTPA over an area of 42.83 Ha in Survey No 540 (P) located at Pedaveedu Village, Matampalli Mandal, Nalgonda District, Telangana - [Proposal no: IA/TG/MIN/53618/2007; File No. J-11015/159/2016-IA.II(M)] - Environmental Clearance (EC)

The proposal of M/s NCL Industries Limited is for grant of Environmental Clearance for Sultanpur Thanda Limestone Mine for production of limestone from 0.05 to 1.0 MTPA over an area of 42.83 Ha in Survey No 540 (P) located at Pedaveedu Village, Matampalli Mandal, Nalgonda District, Telangana. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No 56 P/14 and bounded by Latitude 16°42'44.50"N to 16°43'15.60"N and Longitude 79°50'19.20"E to 79°50'58.20"E with an altitude of 60m above MSL.

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th Sept, 2006 and its subsequent amendments, the project falls under Project Activity 1 (a) "Mining of Minerals" and Category "A" as the interstate boundary of Telangana-Andhra Pradesh located at a distance of 1.0km from the mining lease boundary.

3. The Project Proponent submitted that the initially Environmental clearance was obtained vide Lr.No J-11015/67/2005/IA.II (M) dated 05.10.2006 for enhanced production capacity of limestone from 200 TPA to 7700 TPA of Limestone (MLA 42.82 Ha). Then, PP obtained Environmental Clearance for integrated proposal (Combined Environmental Clearance for plant and all the three mining leases (captive) vide Lr.No. J-11015/576/2008-IA.II(I) dated 15.12.2009 for enhanced production from 0.02 to 0.05 MTPA.

The Project Proponent applied for Terms of Reference for expansion in production from 0.05 to 1.50 MTPA vide proposal no IA/TG/MIN/53620/2016 dated 10.05.2016 and the proposal was considered in the EAC meeting held during June 22-23, 2016 wherein the Committee prescribed the Standard TOR for undertaking detailed EIA study and the Ministry issued ToR vide J-11015/159/2016-IA.II(M) dated 24.08.2016. Then again the Project Proponent applied for Amendment in ToR on 20.01.2017 and the proposal was considered in the EAC meeting held during January 30-31, 2017 and the Committee recommended the proposal for reduction of production of limestone from 1.5 MTPA to 1.0 MTPA and the Ministry issued Amendment in ToR on 16.02.2017.

The Project Proponent applied for grant of Environmental Clearance vide online proposal no: IA/TG/MIN/53618/2007 dated 06.02.2019 and submitted the Form2 and EIA report after conducting the Public Hearing on 29.06.2018. The Ministry examined the proposal and sought essential details on 01.03.2019 and the PP submitted the information on 25.06.2019 and the proposal was considered in the 8th EAC Meeting held during August 27-28, 2019 and the PP not able to attend the meeting. The Committee therefore deferred the proposal and is of the view that PP should submit the past production details duly authenticated by DMG for examining the proposal in light of Common Cause Judgment dated 02.08.2017 and S.O. 804(E) dated 14.03.2017. In this regard, the Ministry sought additional details on 25.09.2019. Then the proposal was delisted on 20.05.2020 from the PARIVESH portal. Then, the Project Proponent relisted the proposal on 17.02.2021 and submitted the information for the additional details sought in 8th EAC Meeting held during August 27-28, 2019 vide Lr. No: NCL/Mine/EC/MoEFCC/ADS/ 2021 dated 02.02.2021 as mentioned below.

- i. PP should submit the past production details duly authenticated by DMG for examining the proposal in light of Common Cause Judgment dated 02.08.2017 and S.O. 804(E) dated 14.03.2017.

The Project Proponent submitted the past production details duly authenticated by the Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana vide its Lr.No. 2876/M2/1998, dated 22.01.2021 for the period from 1998-99 to 2019-20 along with Annexure III. PP reported that there is excess of the production against the EC capacity during the period 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2018-19. PP also submitted the affidavit bearing no H 582237 dated 12.06.2017 that M/s NCL Industries Limited shall comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August 2017 in writ Petition (civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors.

4. The proposal for Environmental Clearance (EC) was considered before the Expert Appraisal Committee (Non-Coal Mining) in its 29th EAC meeting held during 15th - 17th March, 2021. During the EAC meeting, the Project Proponent informed the Committee that there is excess of the production against the EC capacity of 50,000 TPA during the period 2015-16 (52,000 TPA), 2016-17 (51,000 TPA) and 2018-19 (50,021 TPA). The Committee is of the view that this proposal is a violation of the EIA Notification 2006 and subsequent amendments as PP has enhanced the production against the approved EC capacity of 50,000 TPA. The following principle as approved by the Competent Authority with respect to consideration of violation cases to be followed:

- i. Send the matter to the Sector EAC for consideration of the case on merit.
 - ii. Take action against the alleged violation as per law.
 - iii. Do not wait for either the evidence of action having been started or violation proceedings to finish before taking up the case on merit.
 - iv. The EC if given after consideration on merit would be valid from the date it is given and not with retrospective effect. For the period before it, if violation is established by the court or the competent authority, the punishment/penalty as per law would be imposed.
5. In view of the above, the Committee **deferred** the proposal for want of the following additional information: -
- i. The State Government/SPCB to take action against the project proponent under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
 - ii. The Project Proponent shall be required to submit a bank guarantee equivalent to the amount of remediation plan and natural and community resource augmentation plan with the SPCB prior to the grant of EC. The quantum shall be

recommended by the EAC and finalized by the regulatory authority. The bank guarantee shall be released after successful implementation of the EMP, followed by recommendations of the EAC and approval of the regulatory authority.

- iii. Assessment of ecological damage with respect to air, water, land and other environmental attributes. The collection and analysis of data shall be done by an environmental laboratory duly notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, or an environmental laboratory accredited by NABL, or a laboratory of a Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) institution working in the field of environment.
- iv. Preparation of EMP comprising remediation plan and natural and community resource augmentation plan corresponding to the ecological damage assessed and economic benefits derived due to violation.
- v. The remediation plan and the natural and community resource augmentation plan to be prepared as an independent chapter in the EIA report by the accredited consultants.
- vi. The Project Proponent should submit the latest EC certified Compliance report.

2.3. Proposal for Revalidation of EC under Ministry's Notification vide S.O. (E) 1530, dated 06.04.2018 for M/s Sagar Cements Ltd, Limestone production of 3.3 MTPA with Total Excavation 3.398 MTPA (Cement grade LS - 3.135 MTPA + Sub Grade LS (Blendable) - 0.165 MTPA + Top Soil - 0.098 MTPA), over an area of 326.58 Ha located at Pedaveedu and Mattampally Village Of Mattampally Mandal, Suryapet District, Telangana - [Proposal no: IA/TG/MIN/114695/2019; File No. J-11015/2/2020-IA-II(M)] - Reconsideration of ToR

The proposal of M/s Sagar Cements Ltd is for grant of Terms of Reference for Limestone production of 3.3 MTPA with total excavation of 3.398 MTPA (Cement grade LS - 3.135 MTPA + Sub Grade LS (Blendable) - 0.165 MTPA + Top Soil - 0.098 MTPA) over an area of 326.58 Ha, located at Pedaveedu and Mattampally Village of Mattampally Mandal, Suryapet District, Telangana. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet nos. 56 P/13 & 14 and bounded by A. (16°44'21.00"N - 16°46'14.30"N) – (79°51'13.00"E - 79°52'23.30"E) & B. (16°44'48.40"N - 16°44'59.90"N) (79°50'19.60"E - 79°51'3.80"E).

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as amended from time to time, the project falls under Category “A”, Project or Activity 1(a) as the Mining lease area is more than 100 Ha.

3. The Project Proponent submitted that initial application was submitted for grant of Terms of Reference on 27.09.2018 vide IA/TG/MIN/80392/2018 as per the provision of S.O. 1530(E) dated 6.04.2018. Then, the Ministry sought EDS on 09.10.2018. Due to delay in obtaining information from various departments, proposal was deleted from the PARIVESH portal and therefore PP again applied online for grant of Terms of Reference (ToR) vide proposal no. IA/TG/MIN/114695/2019 dated 17.08.2019 and submitted Form-1 & Pre-Feasibility Report along with the reply of EDS. The proposal was considered in the 13th EAC Meeting held during January 30-31, 2020 wherein “the Committee is of the view that in the instant case, PP did not obtained amendment in both the ECs after amalgamation of mining leases, PP approached the Ministry in the year 2012 but no supporting documents in this regard was submitted by PP. As this is a typical case wherein one EC was granted under EIA 1994 and another EC was granted under EIA 2006 then the combined mining lease can be considered as per provision of notification 6.04.2018 or not. There is also difficulty in ascertaining the violation of S.O. 804(E) dated 14.03.2017 and Common Cause Judgment dated 02.08.2017. Committee is of the view that comments of Policy Sector may be sought for dealing with such type of cases. Committee is also of the view that PP should submit the communication made by the Ministry if any with respect to amalgamations of ECs and prove that production from both the mines is within the approved EC capacity. Committee therefore deferred the proposal. The proposal was again considered in the 27th EAC meeting held during 3rd -5th February, 2021, wherein the Committee noted that the Project Proponent has not address any of the ADS points sought by EAC during the meeting held on January 30-31, 2020 and the Committee was of the view that till the information submitted by the Project Proponent, the proposal will not be considered for grant of TOR and therefore the Committee returned the proposal in present form”. PP submitted the information vide letter no SCL:GA:2021 dated 22.02.2021 as follows.

- i. PP should submit the communication made by the Ministry if any with respect to amalgamations of ECs

SCL has approached MoEF&CC vide the following letters seeking amalgamation of Environmental Clearances of ML-1 & ML-2 as both the mines are having valid EC's and are operated complying with all statutory norms.

- 1) Request to amalgamate the Environmental Clearances of ML-1 & ML-2, Dated 20th February, 2014 enclosed as Annexure.

2) Reminder dated 28th June, 2014 enclosed as Annexure.

We have not received any communication from MoEF&CC on the above.

On 26.09.2018, we have filed our application for Terms of Reference for obtaining Environmental Clearance for Amalgamated mine under the regulatory framework of the EIA Notification, 2006 as per MoEF&CC Gazette Notification S.O 1530 (E) dated 06.04.2018.

- ii. Prove that the production from both the mines is within the approved EC capacity.

The production from both the mines has not exceeded the EC capacity after obtaining EC. Details of the same are provided. Authenticated document of DMG certifying the production details is also attached. There is no violation of increase in production in excess of EC granted capacity in case of both the leases.

4. The proposal for Terms of Reference (ToR) was considered in the 29th EAC meeting held during 15th – 17th March, 2021. During the EAC meeting, the Project Proponent and the Consultant submitted the details of the mining leases, Consent to establishment, Consent for Operate, Environmental clearance and past production details certified from Asst Director of Mines and Geology, Suryapet. The Committee noted that the Project Proponent has applied for Revalidation of EC granted for a production of 0.8 million TPA of Limestone in an MLA 196.35 Ha dated 09.12.2004 under EIA Notification 1994 as per Ministry's Notification vide S.O. (E) 1530, dated 06.04.2018. The Committee observed that the PP has operated the mines without obtaining EC before 09.12.2004 and also exceeded the production capacity as granted in CFO during 2001-02, 2003-04 & 2004-05. The Committee also noted that the EC for 196.27 Ha lease area was obtained under EIA 1994 and for lease area 130.30 Ha the EC was obtained under EIA notification 2006 and later on PP amalgamated the lease on 29.04.2008. The Committee felt that during the amalgamation of mining leases, PP was required to obtain fresh EC under the EIA Notification 2006 as the scope of mining was changed due to increase in mining area. Also, PP informed that they have not obtained the certified compliance report from time to time. Thus Committee was of the view that the instant case is a violation of EIA Notification 2006 and violation under the Common Cause Judgement dated 02.08.2017. The instant proposal cannot be considered as per the Ministry's Notification S.O. 1530 dated 06.04.2018, as mining project is applicable for the mining projects, which were granted environmental clearance under the EIA Notification, 1994, and but not obtained environmental clearance for expansion/modernization/ amendment under the EIA Notification, 2006.

The following principle as approved by the Competent Authority with respect to consideration of violation cases to be followed:

- i. Send the matter to the Sector EAC for consideration of the case on merit.
 - ii. Take action against the alleged violation as per law.
 - iii. Do not wait for either the evidence of action having been started or violation proceedings to finish before taking up the case on merit.
 - iv. The EC if given after consideration on merit would be valid from the date it is given and not with retrospective effect. For the period before it, if violation is established by the court or the competent authority, the punishment/penalty as per law would be imposed.
5. In view of the above, Committee therefore **returned the proposal in present form** and asked PP to apply fresh for grant of ToR as violation proposal. Ministry may take action accordingly.

DAY-3 (17.03.2021)

3.1: Proposal for Environmental Clearance of Proposed Limestone Mine (ML Area: 176.619 ha.) with 3.0 Million TPA Limestone Production Capacity and 1.135 Million TPA Overburden including Soil (Total Excavation 4.135 Million TPA) at Villages Chulhi & Majhiyar, Tehsil Kotar, District Satna, Madhya Pradesh by M/s Prism Johnson Ltd- [Proposal no: IA/MP/MIN/76001/2018; File No. IA-J-11015/86/2018-IA-II(M)] - Environmental Clearance (EC)

The proposal of M/s Prism Johnson Ltd is for grant of Environmental Clearance for Proposed Limestone Mine (ML Area: 176.619 ha.) with 3.0 Million TPA Limestone Production Capacity and 1.135 Million TPA Overburden including Soil (Total Excavation 4.135 Million TPA) at Villages Chulhi & Majhiyar, Tehsil Kotar, District Satna, Madhya Pradesh. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No G44U14 and G44V2 and bounded by Latitude 24^o35'16.54"N to 24^o36'30.00"N and longitude 80^o58'56.46"E to 81^o00'47.67" E with an elevation of 283 m AMSL to 299 m AMSL and falls in seismic zone-II.

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as amended from time to time, the project falls under Category "A", Project or Activity 1(a) as the mining lease area is more than 100 Ha.

3. The Project Proponent submitted that the proposal for Terms of Reference (ToR) vide proposal no: IA/MP/MIN/76001/2018 dated 30.07.2018 and the proposal was

considered in the 35th EAC Meeting held during August 24, 2018 and 37th EAC meeting held during October 23-24, 2018 wherein the Committee recommended the ToR and the Ministry issued the ToR vide letter No.IA-J-11015/86/2018-IA-II(M) dated 18.11.2019. PP now applied for grant of Environmental Clearance vide proposal no: IA/MP/MIN/76001/2018 dated 12.02.2021 and submitted the Form2 and EIA report after conducting the public hearing on 14.08.2020. The proposal was considered in the 29th EAC meeting held during 15th-17th March, 2021.

4. The proposal for Terms of Reference (ToR) was considered in the 29th EAC meeting held during 15th – 17th March, 2021. Based on the documents submitted and presentation made by the Project Proponent and the Consultant, the Committee **deferred** the proposal for want of the following information:-

- i. The demand of the electricity i.e. 1000 KWh as proposed by the PP shall be used for mine illumination purpose and not for other purpose. The details of the emissions of Sulphur dioxide and Hydrogen Sulphide from the operating machines at the site to be submitted in the EIA report.
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed plan for accessing each block with the mineable reserves and production proposed. PP need to clarify the blocks will be accessed simultaneously or one followed by other. PP need to submit the production schedule for each block in a single table for entire life of mine. PP should also submit the undertaking in this regard.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the block wise progressive mining and closure plan.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to predict the air quality modeling with the impact of distance for each block separately to understand the impacts of sensitive receptors for total excavation. Isopleths should also be drawn to be show the impact on the reserve forest area falling within the three blocks.
- v. The Project Proponent should address the separate scenario for transportation on approach road as well as tar road integrating the isopleths of area and point source at the mine with 20km/hr and 25 km/hr with 25T. PP shall also submit the integrated pollution scenario for dust generation and emission from truck.
- vi. The Project Proponent should also demonstrate the worst-case meteorological conditions with EMP and without EMP to understand the efficacy of the EMP.

- vii. The Project Proponent should simulate a noise modeling showing the anticipated noise level along with the distance in each block separately considering all the mining activity.
- viii. The Project Proponent should give undertaking that they will restrict the use of public road beyond 8 PM to 8 AM. The use of public road with 25T trucks to be restricted with a speed limit of 20 km/hr.
- ix. The Project Proponent needs to prepare an action plan to reduce the pressure on the forest by providing LPG cylinders to the villagers, dwellings in the forest area and workers of the mines.
- x. The Project Proponent should submit the copy of the letter obtained from the DFO vide letter no 5320 dated 04.06.2019 regarding no forest land involved.
- xi. The Project Proponent should submit the NOC obtained from CGWA for withdrawal of water.

3.2: Proposal for Environmental Clearance for Brishyrnot Limestone Deposit-I with proposed production of limestone capacity of 2.507 Million TPA and proposed shale production capacity of 0.217 Million TPA in the MLA 42.051 Ha by M/s Star Cement Meghalaya Limited located at Village Brishyrnot, Tehsil-Khliehriat, District-East Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya – [Proposal no: IA/ML/MIN/90354/2019; File No. J-11015/17/2019-IA.II(M)] - Environmental Clearance (EC)

The proposal of M/s Star Cement Meghalaya Limited is for Brishyrnot Limestone Deposit-I with proposed production of limestone capacity of 2.507 Million TPA and proposed shale production capacity of 0.217 Million TPA in the MLA 42.051 Ha located at Village Brishyrnot, Tehsil-Khliehriat, District-East Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No. 83C/8 (Restricted). It is bounded by latitude 25^o10'05.27" to 25^o10'28.39" N, and longitude 92^o24'49.56" to 92^o25'55.23" E. The mine lease area falls under seismic zone - V [as per IS 1893 (Part-1): 2002].

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as amended from time to time, the project falls under Category A or Activity 1(a) as the project attracts general condition. The mine lease area is at a distance of 1.46 km from Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary and at a distance of 0.25 km from Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Narpuh Wild Life Sanctuary.

3. The Project Proponent submitted that the proposal for Terms of Reference (ToR) was considered in the EAC meeting held during February 20-21, 2019 and the Ministry granted ToR vide letter No. J-11015/17/2019-IA.II (M) dated 22.04.2019 in the name of M/s Star Cement Meghalaya Limited. Project proponent applied for Environmental Clearance vide online proposal no. IA/ML/MIN/90354/2019 on 01.03.2021 and submitted the Form2 and EIA report.

4. The Project Proponent submitted that the Prospecting License (PL) over the area of 427 ha was granted by the Government of Meghalaya vide grant letter No.MGS/2008/33, dated 09.09.2009. The Prospecting License (PL) deed was executed on 09.10.2009. Further, the PP applied for Mining Lease (ML) over an area of 42.051 Ha on 04.02.2011 within the afforested PL area. The Letter of Intent (LoI) vide order no MG.63/2012/128 dated 4th May, 2018 was issued by Department of Mining & Geology, Government of Meghalaya, under sub-section 2(b) of section 10A of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015. The total mining lease is 42.051 Ha and area to be excavated is 23.557 Ha. There is no forest land involved in the Mine lease area. PP also reported that the Um Lunar River is adjacent to Eastern boundary, Umso Nallah (adjacent to Northern boundary, Ludha River is located at 1.38 km in SE direction from the mine lease area.

5. The Project Proponent submitted that the Mining plan of “Brishyrnot Limestone Deposit I” over an area 42.051 Ha has been approved by IBM vide letter no. IBM/GHY/MEG/EJH/LST/MP-88 dated 28.07.2020.

6. The Project Proponent submitted that mining will be fully mechanized open cast mining with drilling and blasting. The mineable reserves are estimated to be 17.341 Million Tonnes for limestone and 0.535 Million Tonnes for Shale. The life of mine is approximately 50 years (Note: After first five year of plan period, the limestone will be mined @2.12 Lakh ton per annum as by then other mines of group will supply the balance quantity). PP also reported that no overburden will be generated during the mining period, and about 21563.40 m³ top soil will be generated during the mining, the same will be used for plantation. The ultimate maximum bench height will be up to 9 m and width will be 15-20 m. The slope of the individual bench will be 800 to 850. While overall pit slope will be 45°. The mining will be done upto depth of 93 mRL from the top of the quarry. The deep hole drilling and blasting will be undertaken. The maximum hole depth will be about 9 m with burden & spacing as 3m-3.5m and 4m - 4.5m respectively. The powder factor is 7.69 Tons/Kg. No. of working days will be 300. The water will not be intersected, as during borehole investigation it was found that the water table is at 78 mRL, whereas the ultimate pit bottom level is 93 mRL.

7. The Project Proponent submitted that the nearest village is Brishyrnot (2.12 Km in SE), nearest Dist. H.Q. Jowai which is 36.04 Km away from the mine site in NW. Nearest school is SCL Vidya Bharti school which is 2.93 Km away from mine site in NW direction. Nearest highway is NH 44 (2 Km, W).
8. The Project Proponent submitted that the total water requirement for mining operations will be 40 KLD, for sprinkling & dust suppression 25 KLD, drinking 10 KLD, and for green belt 5 KLD. Recycled treated water will be sourced from clinker plant of SCML through water tankers for sprinkling and Green belt. Water will be brought from the plant for drinking and domestic purpose. Recycled treated water will be sourced from the existing SCML plant through water tankers.
9. The Project Proponent submitted that the green belt for a 5-year planned period will be developed in 1.058 ha which includes a safety zone of 7.50 m along the lease boundary. At the end of the 50 year about 37.748 ha area will be afforested with native species within the safety zone, 50 m nallah area and mined out benches.
10. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no forest land involved in the mining lease area and letter for the same has been obtained from Chief conservator of forest & HOFF has been obtained vide letter no MFG.16/50/CMCL/Vol-III/7849-855 dated 29.08.2018. The PP submitted that the boundary of Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary is located at distance of 1.46 km in SE direction from the mine lease area and boundary of ESZ of Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary is 0.25 Km away from the mining lease area. PP also submitted certificate vide letter no JH/CMCL/2011-12/584/A/449 dated 20th August, 2018 from the Divisional Forest Officer, Jaintin Hills Territorial Division, Jowal, Govt. of Meghalaya, stating that the boundary of Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary is located 1.46 km away from the mining lease area and boundary of ESZ of Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary is 0.25 Km away from the mining lease area, the same was confirmed vide letter no JH/ACF(p)/2017-18/CORR dated 20th August, 2018 by the Assistant Conservator of Forest, Jaintia Hills Territorial Division, Jowal, Govt. of Meghalaya.
11. The project proponent submitted that there are schedule-1 species present in the buffer area namely Clouded leopard, Great Pied Hornbill, Indian Rock Python, Himalayan Serow, Leopard Cat, Pangolin, Sloth Bear, Slow Loris, Western Hoolock Gibbon and Assam Bamboo partridge. Wildlife Conservation Plan for Schedule-I species found in the buffer zone has been prepared along with budgetary allocations and same approved by PCCF, Meghalaya, vide no. MFG16/50/CMCL/Vol.I/II, 031 dated 28.11.2013 and supplementary conservation plan has also been approved vide

no.CMCL/Cons.PI-Supl/2015 dated 05.11.2015. In addition to that, Site specific supplementary Conservation plan including Schedule-I species is under process.

12. The Project Proponent submitted that one season primary baseline data for ambient air quality, (as per CPCB quality Notification, 2009), water quality, noise level, soil and flora & fauna has been collected during winter season (Dec 2018 to Feb 2019). The dominant wind direction is from North-East to South-West direction. Temperature of the area varied from 9.9 0C to 30.2 0C. Relative Humidity of the area varied from 21.0 % to 97.0 %. Wind speed was in the range of 0.3 m/s to 7.3 m/s. The concentrations of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} for all the 7 AAQM stations were found between 59.6 to 76.8 µg/m³ and 24.6 to 31.7 µg/m³ respectively. The concentrations of SO₂ and NO₂ were found to be in range of 6.4 to 8.3 µg/m³ and 11.2 to 14.5 µg/m³ respectively. Ambient noise levels were measured at 8 locations in and around the mine site and varied from 51.5 to 68.3 Leq dB(A) during day time and from 44.5 to 60.7 Leq dB(A) during night time. The Surface water sample collected from 4 surface water bodies was found potable as per the drinking water standards IS – 10500: 2012. The ground water /drinking water samples were collected from 4 locations, the ground water was found that all parameters are within the drinking water standards (IS:10500) and can be used for drinking purpose and other household activities. The analysis results of soil shows that soil texture in core zone is clay loam which can hold water and nutrients and makes soil fertile.

13. Meghalaya SPCB vide their letter no. MPCB/TB-360-SCML-2020-2021/ dated 4th December 2020 *vide* which copy of the public hearing proceedings along with DVD of the hearing and written presentations received till date in r/o of the proposal of M/s Star cement Meghalaya Ltd for Brishyrnot Limestone deposit-I with proposed production of Limestone capacity of 2.507Million TPA and proposed Shale Production capacity of 0.217Million TPA in the Mine Lease area of 42.051ha located at village Brishyrnot, District East Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya were forwarded to this Ministry. Endorsement of the State Pollution Control Board on the Deputy Commissioner's letter dated 25.11.2020 has also been conveyed to this Ministry *vide* above-said letter.

DC, Jaintia Hill District, Meghalaya *vide* above-said letter has informed that three attempts have been made on 19.10.2019, 31.01.2020 and 21.11.2020 for holding the public hearing, however, in view of the law-and-order situation created on each of these occasions the hearings have been cancelled/ discontinued. It has been requested to consider exempting the said project from the requirement of the public hearing as a part of public consultation as provided in para 7(i) Stage (3) - Public Consultation, clause (v) of the EIA Notification, 2006 and to take into account the written submissions which were received during the period of one month after the publication of the public

notice and to make them an integral part of public consultation under the prescribed provisions of the notification.

The matter was in the Ministry and it was communicated to Meghalaya SPCB on dated 22.02.2021, that the public consultation in the instant case need not include the component of the public hearing.

14. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no habitation within the mine lease area hence no R&R is applicable to the proposed mining project. The capital cost for EMP has been allotted of Rs. 71 Lakhs and annual recurring cost is 19.10 Lakhs. PP also submitted that Workers will be subjected to primary health check-up before they are employed to ascertain their health conditions. Thereafter, regular medical check-up will be organized for workers & villagers to evaluate the adverse impact if any on these persons due to proposed mining activity. Workers are provided with environment protection equipment like masks, gloves, goggles & ear muffs etc. First aid facility and training to workers will be provided. Insurance for workers will be done.

15. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no court case pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.

16. The Project Proponent submitted that the total project is Rs. 16 Crores. PP reported that the total manpower required for the proposed mining project will be around 70 persons.

17. The proposal was considered in 29th EAC meeting held during 15-17th March, 2021. The Committee observed that the project site is on hill between 72 mRL and 219 mRL contour. The steep slope is towards the NE and NW direction of the lease area. Mine is adjacent to the cement plant. It is proposed to take out 2.507 Million TPA of limestone which will be achieved in 50 years.

18. Based on the documents submitted and presentation made by the project proponent and the consultant, the Committee **recommended** the proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance for Brishyrnot Limestone Deposit-I with proposed production of limestone capacity of 2.507 Million TPA and proposed shale production capacity of 0.217 Million TPA in the mine lease area 42.051 Ha by M/s Star Cement Meghalaya Limited located at Village Brishyrnot, Tehsil Khliehriat, District East Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya with following specific conditions:

- a) Since the project is in close vicinity of eco-sensitive area, mining should be carried out strictly as per the approved mining plan with all safety measures in place particularly during blasting to avoid impacts due to noise and vibration, impacts on movement on the road as well as on natural disturbance to the hilly

area. Noise and vibration will be monitored at the lease boundary every time during blasting and the record will be kept. It should never exceed the noise limits set for the wildlife as well as vibration should be brought to zero at the mine lease boundary.

- b) Conservation plan must include a study by a Government recognized agency to study the impact of mining on the Schedule-1 species and arboreal species as well. Collect the data on number of animals and the species diversity. The conservation plan must include the propagation of specie's number in the Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary as global conservation is highly significant in India.
- c) The protection of slopes by advanced technologies to ensure that mine operation does not cause any landslide in future.
- d) The budget for addressing public concerns i.e. 32 Lakhs will be spent on capital items as mentioned during the presentation.
- e) Peripheral plantation must be completed in 3 years using the capital budget indicated in the EIA report.
- f) The mining operation will start from western side of the mine as it is close to the plant and progressive mining and back filling should be adopted.
- g) Since the stream is passing adjacent to the eastern boundary, protective measures should be in place before mining operation to protect the water body. Monitoring should be carried out for water quality in the stream whenever it is flowing and in the river at the confluence point to assess impact of mining on the water quality.
- h) Monitoring station should be located near the mine dump so that any impact due to mining on the environmental and ecologically sensitive locations such as forest; school etc. can be assessed regularly. Intermittently, air quality should also be monitored near the school.

3.3: Proposal for Terms of Reference for mining of Natural Pozzolanic Clay as a captive mine with production capacity of 1,00,000 TPA along with proposed crusher capacity of 200 TPH in the mine lease area of 107.3031 Ha by M/s Tata Chemicals Ltd., located near village - Makanpur, Taluka - Okhamandal, District - Devbhumi Dwarka, Gujarat - [Proposal no: IA/GJ/MIN/198129/2021; File No. IA-J-11015/20/2021-IA-II(M)] - Terms of Reference (ToR)

The proposal of M/s Tata Chemicals Limited is for Terms of Reference for mining of Natural Pozzolanic Clay as a captive mine with production capacity of 1,00,000 TPA

along with proposed crusher capacity of 200 TPH in the mine lease area of 107.3031 Ha by M/s Tata Chemicals Ltd., located near village - Makanpur, Taluka - Okhamandal, District - Devbhumi Dwarka, Gujarat. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No. 41B/15 and bounded by latitude 22°20'02.69" to 22° 20'54.36" N and longitude 68° 59'2.02" to 68° 58'57.20" E. The mine lease area falls under seismic zone – IV (High Risk Zone).

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th Sept, 2006 and its subsequent amendments, the project falls under Project Activity 1 (a) "Mining of Minerals" and Category "A" as the mine lease area is greater than 100 Ha.

3. The Project Proponent applied online for grant of Terms of Reference (ToR) vide proposal no. IA/GJ/MIN/198129/2021 dated 15.02.2021 and submitted Form-1 & Pre-Feasibility Report and the proposal is now considered in 29th EAC meeting held during 15-17th March, 2021. Natural Pozzolanic Clay is a minor mineral. PP has submitted a request letter dated 16.01.2021 to Gujarat Government regarding the DSR.

4. The Project Proponent submitted that Lol (Letter of intent) granted in favor of M/s Tata Chemicals Ltd. by Industries & Mines Department, Gandhinagar (Gujarat) vide their letter no MCR-102011-M L-1716-Chh -1 on dated 08/08/2018.

5. The Project Proponent submitted that the Mining Plan with progressive mine closure plan was approved in favor of M/s Tata Chemicals Ltd. by Geologist(I/C), Geology and Mining Department, Devbhumi Dwarka vide letter no. DD/QL/MP/NPCLAY/5714 dated 28/10/2020.

6. The Project Proponent submitted that the open cast semi-mechanized method with use of rock breaker and shovel-dumper combination. No drilling and blasting will be carried out in mining operation. Further rock breakers/ excavators will be used for excavation of mineral Natural Pozzolanic Clay. Bench height will be kept 3 m and width of benches will be more than 3 m with face slope of 80°, overall bench slope will be maintained at 45°.

7. The Project Proponent submitted that the nearest village is Makanpur village which is at an approximate distance of 0.41 Km towards SSW direction from the mining lease area. Nearest Highway is SH-6A, which is at an approximate distance of 0.90 Km towards West direction from the mining lease area. Nearest Railway Station is Varvala Railway Station, which is at an approximate distance of 3.99 Km towards SSW direction from the mining lease area. Nearest Town: Mithapur, 7.50 Km towards North-East direction from the mining lease area. Nearest City is Dwarka, at 9.30 Km towards South direction from the mining lease area.

8. The Project Proponent submitted that the total water requirement for the project will be 30.00 KLD (Dust suppression-15.60 KLD, Domestic purposes-2.70 KLD & Green belt development-11.70 KLD). Source will be purchased water through tanker supply, Rain pit water and Borewell (Ground water) within mine lease (as per approval from CGWA).

9. The Project Proponent submitted that it is proposed to develop plantation in an area of 35.4123 Ha. During the mine life of approx. 30 years (1.18 Ha. per year). Native species which are more suitable to the local environment are preferred to be planted such as *Emblicaofficinalis* (Amla), *Azadirachta indica* (Neem), *Ficus religiosa* (Pipal), *Cocos nucifera* (Nariyal) etc.

10. The Project Proponent submitted that Mojap Reserved forest is at an approximate distance of 3.45 Km towards NNW direction from the mining lease area. Varwala Reserved forest is at an approximate distance of 5.99 Km towards SSW direction from the mining lease area.

11. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no litigation pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.

12. The Project Proponent submitted that the total cost of the project is Rs. 5 crores. The employment generated by this project will be about 56 (Skilled-13 and Un-skilled-43).

13. The proposal was considered in 29th EAC meeting held during 15-17th March, 2021. Based on the documents submitted and presentation made by the project proponent and the consultant, the Committee **recommended** the proposal for grant of Terms of Reference for mining of Natural Pozzolanic Clay as a captive mine with production capacity of 1,00,000 TPA along with proposed crusher capacity of 200 TPH in the mine lease area 107.3031 Ha by M/s Tata Chemicals Ltd., located near village - Makanpur, Taluka - Okhamandal, District - Devbhumi Dwarka, Gujarat with following specific conditions:

- a) District survey report to be submitted as per the Ministry's notification S.O 3611 (E) dated 25th July, 2018.
- b) PP shall submit the CRZ map of the area along with the EIA/EMP report to ascertain that lease does not attract CRZ regulations.
- c) Reserved forest is at 3 Km, NW of mine site should be treated as sensitive location and EMP to protect that from any mining activity should be delineated and be specifically covered in EIA/EMP report.

- d) The mining methodology as indicated is excavation and crushing if required for sizing by putting the crusher at the site. The study must include impacts of excavation and crusher as well as loading and transportation operation through proper modeling.
- e) Mithapur plant is already operating in this region. Therefore, cumulative impacts of Mithapur plant and the mining plant to be studied.
- f) A separate EMP for mine site, transportation activity with cost (capital and recurring). Public hearing will be required and a separate cost to be allocated.
- g) There are water bodies in the vicinity of mine. Therefore, a study for migratory birds as well as impact of mining on water quality must be included in the EIA/EMP report.

List of members of Expert Appraisal Committee participated through VC

S.No.	Member Name	Member Address	Designation	15 th Mar, 2021	16 th Mar, 2021	17 th Mar, 2021
1	Dr. S.R. Wate	Add. 148/149, Nagar Vikas Society, Narendra Nagar, Nagpur-440015, Maharashtra	Chairman	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	Dr. Ajay Deshpande	Building A-26, Flat-403, Happy Valley Homes, Manpada, Ghodbunder Road, Thane (West) - 400610, Maharashtra	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	Shri B Ramesh Kumar	H-No. 6-1-134/6, Balram Compound, Padmarao Nagar, Secundrabad- 500025, Andhra Pradesh	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
4	Prof. S. Ramakrishna Rao	50-120-9/1, Tulasi Mani Regency North Extension, Seethammadhara, Visakhapatnam - 530013 Andhra Pradesh.	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes

5	Shri Santosh Gupta	Flat No. 405, Block –B, Gaur Green Vista, Nyay Khand -1, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201014	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
6	Dr. (Ms.) Asha Rajvanshi	Wildlife Institute of Inida, Chandrabani, Dehradun-248001	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
7	Shri G.P. Kundargi	Plot No. 32, MOIL Vatika, Chicholi Road, Fetri, Nagpur 441501, Maharashtra	Member	Yes	Yes	No
8	Dr. A.K. Malhotra	C-6, SubhavnaNiketan, Road No. 41, Pitampura, Delhi-110034	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
9	Dr. Gurdeep Singh	Centre of Mining Environment, Department of Environmental Science & Engg. Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad-826004	Member	No	Yes	Yes
10	Dr. Parimal Chandra Bhattacharjee	A/3 Asiyana Housing Complex Maligaon, Guwahati-781011, Assam	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
11	Prof. MukeshKhare	Department of Civil Engineering, IIT, Delhi	Member	No	No	No
12	Mr. V. K. Soni	Government of India, Ministry of Earth Sciences, India Meteorological Department, MausamBhawan, Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110003	Member	Yes	No	No
13	Sh. Pankaj Kulakshethra	Regional Controller of Mines, IBM Block D, Second Floor, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001	Member	No	No	No
14	Sh. Aftab Ahmend	Representative of DGMS, DMS, Room No. 201-203, II Floor, B- Block, CGO-II,, Hapur Rd, Kamla Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar	Member	No	No	No

		Pradesh 201002				
15.	Shri K Gowarappan	Plot No. 6, Ganesh Avenue, II Street, Sakthi Nagar, Porur, Chennai – 600116	Special Invitee	Yes	---	---
16.	Shri Pankaj Verma	2 nd Floor, Prithvi Block, Indira Paryawaran Bhawan, MoEF&CC, Jorbhag, New Delhi- 110003	Member Secretary	Yes	Yes	Yes
