

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

MINUTES OF 23rd MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL OF NON-COAL MINING PROJECTS CONSTITUTED UNDER THE EIA NOTIFICATION, 2006.

The 23rd EAC 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 November 23-25, 2020 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.

1st Day of The EAC meeting held on 24th November, 2020(Tuesday)

2.1 Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine (ML No: 1111, M.L. area 639.80 Ha, 8.6 MTPA (ROM 7 MTPA and Waste Excavation 1.6 MTPA) Iron ore production capacity) of M/s. NMDC Limited, Tehsil Sandur, Ballari District, Karnataka [Proposal No. IA/KA/MIN/75088/2018; File No.IA-J-11015/93/2018-IAII (M); Consultant: M/s. Ecomen Laboratories Pvt. Ltd]– Reconsideration of Environmental Clearance

The Proposal of M/s. NMDC Limited is for total excavation of 8.6 Million TPA of material [7.0 MTPA Iron Ore (ROM) & 1.6 MTPA waste] from Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine (Mining Lease Area 639.80 ha) and installation of 1800 TPH crushing and screening plant located at Villages Deogiri, Taluka- Sandur, District- Ballari Karnataka. The mining lease is covered under SOI Toposheet D43E12(old57A/12) and bounded by Latitude between 15°00'00"N to 15° 01' 20"N and Longitude between 76° 33' 55"E to 76° 37' 10"E.

2. As per EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as amended from time to time, the project falls under Category "A", Projector Activity1(a) as the Mining lease area is more than 100 Ha.

3. As the Environmental Clearance was already been granted to PP vide Lr No J-11015/20/2002-IA. II{(M) dated 29.10.2004 under EIA Notification 1994, the PP applied as per provision of S.O. 1530(E) dated 06.04.2018 for obtaining environmental clearance under EIA Notification 2006. The PP applied online for grant of TOR vide Proposal No. IA/KA/MIN/75088/2018 dated 22.05.2018 and the proposal was placed in the 38th EAC meeting held during 15th - 16th November, 2018, the Committee after due deliberation recommended the proposal for grant of ToR. The Ministry granted the TOR vide MoEF&CC vide No.J-11015/93/2018-IA-II(M) on 10.12.2018. Then, PP applied for amendment in TOR which was considered in the 10th EAC meeting held during October 21-22, 2019 and MoEF&CC issued the Amendment to

TOR vide letter dated 09.12.2019 by withdrawing TOR point nos: 1 & 2 of standard TOR for mining projects. PP then applied for EC vide Proposal No. IA/KA/MIN/75088/2018 dated 16.06.2020 and the proposal was considered in the 19th EAC meeting held during 23rd July, 2020 wherein the committee deferred the proposal for want of additional information PP replied the same vide letter no. NMDC/KIOM/EC/2020/2289 dated 26.08.2020. Then the proposal was placed in 21st EAC meeting held during 23rd September, 2020 and the EAC after detailed deliberations decided to defer the proposal for want of following information.

- I. Stage-I Forest Clearance from MoEF&CC for the entire forest land involved in the project.
- II. The documents showing validity extension of mining lease for further period up to 20 years as per the MMDR Act, 2015 as amended time to time shall be submitted.
- III. List of Schedule-1 species duly authenticated by concerned department as per their records. The conservation plan needs to be prepared in consultation with the State Forest & Wildlife Department for Schedule-1 species. Proof of submission of conservation plan to Chief Wildlife Warden.
- IV. Statement regarding point-wise compliance made for the issues raised and as mentioned in the Minutes of public hearing to ascertain the needed CER activities in project cover area.

PP replied for the above points vide letter no. NMDC/KIOM/EC/2020/2305 dated 28.10.2020 and the proposal is now placed in the 23rd EAC meeting held during November 23-25, 2020.

PP reply vide letter no. NMDC/KIOM/EC/2020/2305 dated 28.10.2020.

I. Stage-I Forest Clearance from MoEF&CC for the entire forest land involved in the project.

PP reply:- PP informed that:

The Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine has got stage-1 and stage-2 Forest clearance for 341.20 Ha of forest land vide letter no: 8-27/2005-FC dated 7/9/2005 and 24/7/2006 respectively from MoEF&CC, New Delhi. Out of 341.20 Ha, the Forest Land falling within Mining Lease is 324.70 Ha and 16.50 Ha forest land falling outside lease for conveyor, power line and approach road.

The deemed approval obtained for retaining the remaining forest land of 159.01 Ha (as per CEC survey report) as per guidelines issued by Forest Conservation Division, MOEF&CC vide letter no: 11-599/2014-FC dated 1/4/2015 by payment of Net Present Value (NPV) Charges of Rs.12,76,85,030/-

on 23/08/2016 in Karnataka CAMPA Account. The same had been informed to the Dy. Conservator of Forests, Ballari with a copy endorsed to CCF, Ballari and PCCF, Karnataka, Bangalore vide letter no: DNM/ENV/85M/2015/1458 dt.27.08.2016. The NPV charges have been paid based on approval of Pr. Chief Conservator of Forest (HOFF), Government of Karnataka, Bangalore vide letter no: A5(1)/MNG.GR.28/15-16 dated 29/4/2016 and demand note received from Dy. Conservator of Forests, Ballari vide letter no: MI/ MNG/ NMDC/ MLNO:1111 /AR/ CR-13/2014-15 dated 12/8/2016 in terms of MOEF&CC circular dated 1/4/2015.

Hence, deemed approval under section 2(iii) of FC Act, 1980 has been obtained as per guidelines issued by MOEF&CC vide letter dated 1/4/2015 for retaining the remaining forest land of 159.01 Ha within 639.80 Ha Mining Lease of Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine.

As mentioned above, the Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine has got Forest clearance under section 2(ii) and deemed approval under section 2(iii) of F.C. Act, 1980 for entire forest land falling within Mining Lease area.

The ore body at Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine is dipping towards remaining forest land. Hence, NMDC retained the remaining forest land within Mining lease for future exploration / proving of mineral reserves in this area. It will add to the resource base, will increase life of mine and will be a great value addition to NMDC. If remaining forest land of 159.01 Ha is retained within Mining Lease area of 639.80 Ha, application for necessary approvals from Forest Department can be applied for undertaking core drilling operations and approval under section 2(ii) of FC Act for diversion for mining. If the area is surrendered, it may not be possible to submit any application as it will become free hold area.

The existing mining and related activities are confined only to diverted forest land and other revenue land acquired by NMDC. The remaining forest land is intact and at present as proposed by NMDC in the EIA/EMP report, no mining activity is envisaged.

Here, it is important to note that in the year 2011, when Hon'ble Supreme Court put blanket ban on Mining of Iron Ore in Karnataka's Bellary, Tumkur and Chitradurga districts, it was only Kumaraswamy and Donimalai Iron Ore Mines of NMDC Ltd., which were allowed to produce 12 MT of Iron Ore to fulfil the raw material requirements of the Iron & Steel Industry in the State.

The Mining Plan was approved for total lease area of 639.80 Ha and Government of Karnataka has also extended the lease period for entire 639.80 Ha under section: 8A (8) of MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 read with Rule 3(1) of the Mineral (Mining by Government Company) Rules 2015.

In view of the above and in order to have Environmental Clearance compatible with approved Mining Plan and Lease area approved by Government of

Karnataka, **the regularization of Environmental clearance under EIA 2006 Notification may be issued with a condition that NMDC shall continue to work only on diverted forest land till forest clearance is obtained in respect of area under discussion.**

- II. The documents showing validity extension of mining lease for further period up to 20 years as per the MMDR Act, 2015 as amended time to time shall be submitted.**

PP reply:-

The mining lease of Kumaraswamy Iron Ore was granted in favour of NMDC Ltd vide Notification No. C1-79-EMO-1970 dated 29.03.1972 over an extent area of 647.50 ha originally. The lease deed was executed on 18.10.1972 for a period of 30 years i.e. valid up to 18.10.2002 under M.M (DR) Act, 1957. Under MMDR (Amendment) Act- 2015, The Mineral (Mining by Government Company) Rules-2015 for the Mining Leases of Government Companies, were notified on 03/12/2015.. The rule no: 3 of the Mineral (Mining by Government Company) Rules-2015 prescribes the following:

Rule 3: Period of mining leases granted to Government Companies or Corporation before 12th January 2015.

1) All mining leases for mineral granted to a Government Company or Corporation before the date of commencement of the M.M (D&R) Amendment Act, 2015 (10 of 2015), namely, the 12th January, 2015 shall be deemed to have been granted for a period of fifty years.

In view of the above rule, the Under Secretary, Commerce & Industries Department, Govt of Karnataka, Bangalore vide notification No.C1-218 MMM 2015 dated 14.08.2019, conveyed the extension of lease in favour of Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine (ML No: 1111) up to 17.10.2022 (fifty years from the original mining lease registration date 18/10/72) for an area of 639.80 ha.

Rule 3(2) prescribes following procedure for extension of mining lease of Government companies as shown below.

Rule 3(2): The State Government, upon an application made it to in this behalf by the Government Company or Corporation at least twelve months prior to the expiry of the mining lease, shall, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the period of the mining lease for further periods of upto twenty years at a time.

The Mining Leases of Government Companies will not be renewed but extended. In view of the above rule, the Mining Lease of Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine of M/s. NMDC Ltd being a Government Company shall be extended for further period of 20 years based on application to be submitted to State Government at least 12 months prior to the expiry of the mining lease on 17/10/2022.

The application if any submitted to Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Karnataka, Bangalore for extension of lease under rule 3(2) of The Mineral (MBGC) Rules, 2015 as amended at this stage will be a premature application and may not be processed for extension of lease.

As per clause no: 9 of EIA Notification 2006, the validity of Environmental Clearance is "project life as estimated by Expert Appraisal Committee or State Level Expert Appraisal Committee subject to a maximum of thirty years for mining projects. As per EIA/EMP report, the life of Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine is 23 years (w.e.f 1/4/2018 to 31.3.2041) based on present available mineable reserves (162.64 Million Tons) and capacity of Project i.e 7.00 MTPA Run off Mine Iron ore.

Further, as per MoEF&CC Notification S.O 674(E) dated 13/3/2013 that No fresh Environmental Clearance shall be required for a mining project or activity at the time of renewal of mining lease, which has already obtained Environmental clearance under the EIA Notification 2006. Once, the regularization of Environmental Clearance is issued by MOEF&CC under EIA Notification 2006 for Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine, no fresh Environmental clearance will be required at the time of extension of Mining Lease during the year 2022 as per above notification dated 13/3/2013.

It is pertinent here to mention that the Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine is an existing iron ore mining project of NMDC and got Environmental clearance on 29/10/2004 from MoEF vide letter no: J-11015/20/2002-IA.II(M) for production of 7.00 MTPA Iron ore. As per MoEF&CC's notification no: S.O 1530(E) dated 6/4/2018, the project is regularizing the Environmental Clearance under EIA 2006 Notification for same ROM Iron ore production capacity of 7.00 MTPA.

In view of the above, MoEF&CC is requested to kindly regularize the Environmental Clearance under provisions of EIA 2006 Notification with a condition as deemed fit for validity of Environmental Clearance upon extension of mining lease.

III. List of Schedule-1 species duly authenticated by concerned department as per their records. The conservation plan needs to be prepared in consultation with the State Forest & Wildlife Department for Schedule-1 species. Proof of submission of conservation plan to Chief Wildlife Warden.

PP reply:-

The detailed ecological studies for Flora and Fauna in core and buffer zone of Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine was studied by EIA Consultant M/s. Ecomen Laboratories (P) Ltd., during summer season 2019. The details of the Flora & Fauna study were discussed in section 3.7.0 of EIA/EMP report. The Flora and Fauna report

was submitted to DCF, Ballari vide our letter dated 11/10/2019 for authentication.

DCF, Ballari vide letter no: M1/MNG/B/FF/2006-07 dated 13/4/2020 informed to NMDC that "the working plan of Ballari Forest Division from 2013-14 to 2022-23 is approved and in the said approved schedule, the list of flora and fauna coming within the range of Ballari Forest Division is mentioned at Page no: 551 to 555 and said list is enclosed as Annexure-1 and 2 to this letter". DCF, Ballari has informed us to take action as per this list.

As the ADS was raised in EAC meeting held on 23/7/2020 at agenda no: 2.9 for authentication of schedule-1 species by concerned Department, the issue was again taken up with DCF, Ballari for authentication of flora and fauna details carried out in core and buffer zone of Kumaraswamy iron ore mine.

DCF, Ballari vide letter no: M1/MNG/NMDC/ML No: 1111/2018-19/1072 dated 4/9/2020 directed Range Forest Officer, Sandur to verify the data and submit the details of flora and fauna found in buffer zone of project (10-km radius) through Asst. Conservator of Forests, Ballari Sub Division, Ballari.

Range Forest Officer, Sandur range, Ballari Forest Division vide letter no: 1111/2020-21/174 dated 12/10/2020 has submitted authenticated list of flora and fauna details to Asst. Conservator of Forests, Ballari.

The PP submitted the copy of letter dated 12/10/2020 along with **list of flora and fauna details authenticated by RFO, Sandur and ACF, Ballari vide letter dated 15/10/2020.**

Wildlife Conservation Plan

As per authenticated list, following Seven Schedule-1 species found in buffer zone of Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine and in Ballari Forest Division.

1	PART I	MAMMALS	S. No:2	Black buck	Antilope cervicapra
2	PART I	MAMMALS	S. No:16B	Panther	Panthera pardus
3	PART I	MAMMALS	S. No:31C	Sloth Bear	Melursus ursinus
4	PART I	MAMMALS	S. No:15	Indian Wolf	Canis lupus pallipes
5	PART II	REPTILES	S. No: 1	Monitor lizard	Varanus Spp.
6	PART II	REPTILES	S. No 14A	Python	Python molurus
7	PART- III	BIRDS	S. NO: 11	Common Peafowl	Pavo cristatus

The site-specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been prepared for above 7 Schedule-1 species with budget proposal of Rs.200/- lakhs by our EIA Consultant M/s. Ecomen Laboratories (P) Ltd. The conservation plan was submitted to Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) / Chief Wildlife Warden, Karnataka, Bangalore and DCF, Ballari vide our letter dated 25/8/2020 for approval. The PP submitted the proof of submission of Conservation Plan to PCCF (WL), Bangalore and DCF, Ballari. Further, PCCF (WL) /

CWLW, Karnataka, Bangalore vide letter no: PCCF (WL)/D/CR-37/2020-21 dated 5/9/2020 advised DCF, Ballari to submit the report along with their opinion after verifying the Conservation Plan submitted by NMDC, Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine.

The Range Forest Officer, Sandur vide letter no: RFO/ SSR/ NMDC/ MLNo/1111/2020-21/177 dated 20/10/2020 addressed to DCF, Ballari has submitted that the wildlife conservation plan prepared by NMDC has been verified and opined that the plan is suitable for conservation of wildlife.

IV. Statement regarding point-wise compliance made for the issues raised and as mentioned in the Minutes of public hearing to ascertain the needed CER activities in project cover area.

PP reply:-

NMDC has received Terms of Reference from MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide letter no:J-11015/93/2018-IA.II(M) dated 10/12/2018 with exemption of Public Consultation since the same was held on 6/8/2001 at the time of obtaining Environmental Clearance under EIA 1994 Notification.

Hence, No Public Consultation was conducted for the present proposal i.e regularization of Environmental Clearance under EIA 2006 notification in terms of TOR letter dated 10/12/2018.

As mentioned above, the Public hearing was held on 6/8/2001 at the time of obtaining Environmental clearance for Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine under EIA 1994 Notification. The Public consultation meeting held on 6/8/2001 was chaired by (i) Dy. Commissioner, Ballari District (ii) Member, KSPCB, Bangalore as Member Convenor and (iii) eleven Members of public hearing committee. 44 public and special invitees participated in the Public Hearing. During the meeting, Chairman, Member – Convenor and Members of the Public Hearing Committee had asked various technical questions which were replied by NMDC officials and appointed EIA consultant and also submitted the additional information to KSPCB, RO, Ballari.

Further the, Environment Public Hearing committee members visited the existing project site of M/s. NMDC Ltd., at Donimalai and the proposed Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mines on 26.9.2001. The PP submitted the proceedings of Environmental Public Hearing held on 6/8/2001 in respect of Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine. The proceedings of the public hearing were appraised by EAC, MoEF and Environmental Clearance was issued vide letter no: J-11015/20/2002-IA.II(M) dated 29/10/2004. The compliance report to the four conditions prescribed by Public Hearing Committee was addressed and present status is given below.

S.no	Conditions	Present compliance status
1.	The project proponent should strictly implement soil conservation, dump stabilization measures and continuous afforestation measures to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine is implementing Soil conservation, Dump stabilization measures and continuous afforestation measures to avoid runoff and siltation in the valleys as per the plan submitted in the EMP. ➤ Further, ICFRE (an autonomous organization

	<p>avoid run off and siltation in the valleys as per commitment submitted in the Environment Management.</p>	<p>of MOEF&CC), Dehradun has prepared "Reclamation & Rehabilitation" plan in the year 2016 for Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine. The Central Empowered Committee gave its concurrence on 5/2/2016 to the R&R plan prepared for KIOM. The Monitoring Committee, Bangalore has forwarded approved R&R plan prepared for KIOM to PCCF, KSPCB & IBM on 5/5/2016</p> <p>➤ The engineering measures works as suggested in R&R report such as construction of loose boulder check dams, Gabion check dam, brush wood check dams, silt setting tanks are implemented for control surface water pollution as shown below: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check dams for Nallah-17 no.s. • Gabion/wire crate check dam -23 no.s. • Stone masonry check dams-6 no.s. • Rain water harvesting pits - 13 no.s. • Silt setting tanks -3 no.s • Earthen check dams (with stone pitching) - 10 no.s. • As per approved R&R Plan Gully Plugs (Brush wood check dams, Logwood check dams, Loose boulder check dams) will be constructed at the time of Conceptual Stage. <p>➤ Dump stabilization measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toe wall, garland drains and geo-coir matting for waste dump-1 is in progress. • Toe wall, garland drain and geo-coir matting for waste dump-2 is completed. • Similar measures shall be taken for proposed waste dump no: 3 & 4. <p>➤ Soil conservation measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,99,000 saplings of native species have been planted under afforestation till March,2019. • 50,000 saplings were planted covering an area of 20.00 ha during 2019-20. • 50,000 samplings were planted covering an area of 20.00 Ha at C Block area in different plots. • Afforestation is a continuous activity and saplings shall be planted over non-mineralized areas <p>Post plantation care is being carried out for</p>
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		achieving survival rate of 80 to 85%.
2	The project proponent shall strictly adhere to the conditions and guide lines stipulated by the Forest Department, Ministry of Environment & Forest, New Delhi and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Project is adhering to the conditions and guidelines stipulated by the Forest Department, MoEF&CC, New Delhi and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board on time to time. ➤ The half yearly compliance reports are being regularly submitted to MOEF&CC, RO and the latest report from October 2019 to March 2020 is uploaded in Parivesh portal. ➤ MOEF&CC, RO, Bangalore has carried out site inspection report on 25/4/2019 and submitted report on 1/5/2019. As per report, NMDC is complying with the conditions of the Environmental clearance issued to KIOM on 29/10/2004. The copy of the report is enclosed as Annexure 1.9 in EIA/EMP report.
3.	The project proponent shall prepare reclamation plan on annual basis for another 5 years and the plan shall have to be submitted to the Forest Department for Monitoring the implementations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ At present, the mining benches are active, hence, the reclamation of mined out areas shall be taken up as per the Progressive Mine Closure plan (PMCP) and Final Mine closure Plan (FMCP). ➤ Project is also implementing measures given in the EIA/EMP report and R&R plan duly approved by Monitoring Committee constituted by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
4.	Further, the committee expressed that there is a proposal by the State Government i.e Forest Department to raise Compensatory Afforestation over double the lease area in degraded forest land. The committee recommends that the vast degraded forest land which is available in Bellary Dist., hence the committee recommended the State Government to take the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ According to this condition and the terms & conditions of the Stage-I approval, project has paid compensatory afforestation charges of Rs.369.86 lakhs for raising compensatory afforestation over 682.40 Ha degraded forest land (double the forest land of 341.20 Ha being diverted). ➤ Copy of letter dated 19/6/2006 from PCCF addressed to Pr. Secretary to Government, FEE Department, Bangalore is enclosed as Annexure: 19 towards deposition of Rs.369.86 lakhs by NMDC towards C.A. charges. ➤ Identified C.A. land areas by Forest Deptt are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kudligi Range (321.77 Ha.), • H.B.Halli Range (80.00 Ha.), • Hadagali Range (83.84 Ha.) &

	respective Compensatory Afforestation programme in Bellary district degraded forest area itself.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballari range (196.786) of Ballari Dist.
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4. The proposal was again considered in the 23rd EAC Meeting held during 23-25 November, 2020. After detailed deliberations, the committee observed that the instant proposal is for grant of environmental clearance under SO 1530 dated 6th April, 2018 in pursuant to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court. The project was already granted environmental clearance under the provisions of EIA Notification, 1994 vide Lr No J-11015/20/2002-IA. II(M) dated 29.10.2004. Therefore, the committee **recommended** for grant environmental clearance under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 in accordance with the SO 1530 dated 6th April, 2018 for total excavation of 8.6 Million TPA of material [7.0 MTPA Iron Ore (ROM) & 1.6 MTPA waste] from Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine (Mining Lease Area 639.80 ha) and installation of 1800 TPH crushing and screening plant located at Villages Deogiri, Taluka- Sandur, District- Ballari Karnataka subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the standard conditions applicable for non-coal mining projects:

- i. The validity of the EC will be co-terminus with the validity of the lease period.
- ii. Geomats to be used as erosion control blanket should be biodegradable and accordingly validated through testing from a recognized institution/laboratory.
- iii. Plantation should be done in coincidence with the mining plan and needs to be completed in between 4-5 years before the closure of the mine. Recommendations of the ICFRE shall be implemented in this regard.
- iv. Wild life Conservation Plan to be implemented as per the approval by the State Forest/Wild life Department.

2.2 **Sukinda Chromite Block of M/s T S Alloys Limited having mining lease area: 406.00 Ha for production of 2.4 MTPA Chrome Ore (ROM) & 0.072 MTPA Pyroxenite Ore (ROM) With Maximum excavation of 6.56 Million Cum per Annum through Opencast & Underground Mining At Village: Kalarangiatta, Kaliapani, Mahulkhal & Forest Block No. 27 under Sukinda Tehsil, Jajpur District of Odisha State [Proposal No. IA/OR/MIN/180571/2020; File No. J-11015/54/2020-IA-II(M)]**

The Proposal of **M/s. Tata Steel Mining Limited (formerly known as M/s T S Alloys Limited)** is for grant of Terms of Reference for Sukinda Chromite Block, (ML Area: 406.00 ha) with production capacity of 2.4 MTPA Chrome Ore (ROM) and 0.072 MTPA Pyroxenite Ore (ROM) with maximum excavation of 6.56 Million Cum per Annum through Opencast and underground Mining at Villages Kalarangiatta, Kaliapani, Mahulkhal & Forest Block No. 27 under Sukinda Tehsil, Jajpur District of Odisha State. The mine is located between Latitude N 21°00'39.60" & 21°02'5.81" and Longitude E 85°44'27.10" & 85°46'22.37" and within survey of India Toposheet No. 73-G/12, 73-G/16, 73-H/9, & 73-H/13.

2. PP has submitted that the said proposal is covered under the ambit of EIA Notification, 2006 & its subsequent amendments and the project falls under Schedule 1(a) of mining of minerals and is a Category- "A" as the mining lease area is greater than 100 Ha.

3. PP submitted that the previous Environment Clearance was granted for enhancement of production of Chrome ore from 0.95 to 2.4 MTPA and Pyroxenite ore from mining from 0.25 to 0.5 MTPA and enhancement of Chrome beneficiation production from 0.1 MTPA to 0.65 MTPA (throughput) by MoEF vide letter no. J-11015/96/2011-IA.II (M), dated 06.09.2013 and amendment of Environment Clearance vide MoEF&CC vide letter no. J-11015/96/2011-IA.II (M), dated 26.09.2016 in the name of M/s Tata Steel Limited. PP has now applied vide Proposal no: IA/OR/MIN/180571/2020 dated 25.10.2020 for prescribing Term of Reference (ToR) and submitted Form-1 and Pre-feasibility report. The proposal was considered in the 23rd EAC meeting held during 23-25 November, 2020.

4. PP submitted that the initially Sukinda Valley lease over an area of 1813.457 Hectare area was granted in favour of Tata Steel Limited (earlier Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.) for a period of 20 years from 1952 from the then Maharaja of Sukinda Garh. The lease was ratified with effect from 12.01.1953. The first renewal was for a period of 20 years from 12.01.1973 to 11.01.1993 over an area of 1261.657 Hectare. The second renewal was for a period of 20 years from 12.01.1993 to 11.01.2013 over an area of 406.00 Hectare. After endorsement of the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015, the Govt. of Odisha extended the mining lease from 12.01.2013 to 31.03.2020. PP also mentioned that the M/s Tata Steel Mining Limited is a wholly owned Subsidiary of M/s Tata Steel Limited.

PP submitted that the M/s Tata Steel Mining Limited (Formerly known as M/s T S Alloys Limited) emerged as preferred bidder in the e-auction process and Letter of Intent (LOI) for grant of mining lease of Sukinda Chromite Block in Jajpur District over 406 Ha ML area for a period of 50 years was issued by the State Government vide letter No. 5555/SM/IV(B)SM-32/2020 dated 29th June 2020. Subsequently, in terms of section 8B (2) of MMDR Act, 1957 read with rule 9A (4) of MCR, 2016, the bidder is deemed to have acquired all valid rights, approvals, clearances, licenses and the like vested with the previous lessee for a period of two years from the date of execution of the lease deed or till the date of getting fresh approvals, clearances, licenses, permits and the like whichever is earlier. PP reported that the lease deed for the Sukinda Chromite Block was executed on 23.07.2020.

5. PP submitted that, out of 406 Ha (ML area), 404.669 Ha is forest land and 1.331 ha is Non-Forest (Govt.) land in the mine lease area. PP also submitted that the Stage-II clearance for Forest area of 73.697 ha was obtained vide MoEF's Letter No. 8-78/96-FC, dated 27.01.1998 & Stage-II clearances for Forest area of 330.972 ha was obtained vide letter no. F.No. 8- 15/2016-FC dated 18.05.2018 in the name of M/s Tata Steel Limited. PP has applied vide Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/51786/2020 dated 22.10.2020 for obtaining fresh forest clearance (Stage I) and is under process.

PP reported that the nearest protected forest from the mine site is Mahagiri PF (2.9 km, N), Nala Damsal (1.81 km W) and river Brahmani (14.48 km S). PP further submitted that there are no wild life sanctuaries, national parks, elephant/tiger reserves within 10 km of the mine lease area.

6. PP submitted that the Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan has been approved by IBM vide letter no MP/A/15-ORI/BHU/2020-21/1025 dated 10.09.2020 in the name of M/s Tata Steel Mining Limited.

PP submitted that the fully mechanized Opencast and Underground mining is proposed to be carried out during the plan period. Sub Level Stopping and Cut & Fill method will be used for underground mining. The operations like digging, excavation and removal of ore in conjunction with deep hole drilling and blasting will be done with the help of heavy earth moving machineries. In underground mining, holes for blasting will be of 45 mm dia. which shall be charged with 40 mm power gel cartridge. Depth of drilling will be 3.6 m. In opencast Mining, generally, 150 mm dia. holes are drilled in the overburden benches and ore benches. Depth of holes will be 9.0 to 10.0 m in OB benches and 5.0 to 6.0 m in Ore benches. Burden & Spacing of 3.0 to 4.0 m & 4.0 m to 5.0 m respectively will be maintained. On an average 25 -30 holes are blasted in a round using conventional explosive. The SME (Site Mixed Emulsion) is used for better safety, lesser ground vibration and better fragmentation. During the plan period, the development of Underground Mine would commence, and it would reach its rated capacity of 2.4 MTPA of ROM production during the conceptual period. The selection of the mining method was based on extensive geotechnical studies and numerical modelling done by SRK, South Africa and CIMFR, Nagpur.

PP reported that total Geological Reserves of Chromite Ore as on 01.07.2020 are estimated to be 93.161 Million tonnes. Of these, Mineable reserves has been assessed to be 5.247 Million tonnes. Geological reserves for Pyroxenite ore as on 01.07.2020 are estimated to be 9.911 Million tonnes. Of these, Mineable reserves has been assessed to be 0.221 Million tonnes. The proposal is for production of 2.4 MTPA Chromite Ore (ROM) and 0.072 MTPA Pyroxenite ore (ROM) with maximum excavation of 6.56 Million Cum per annum. There is no proposal for any mineral beneficiation within the mine lease area. Further the life of mine will increase after the geological resources are converted to reserves during future exploration.

A large quantity of waste is to be generated. The old stabilized Dump 2A was spread over 29.25 ha out of which 13.03 was re-handled during the earlier plan period and will also continue during this plan period till 31.03.2025. Dump 2A does not contain any Chromite ore, hence no ore recovery is envisaged. This re-handling of the dump is completely concurrent to development of mine benches of OB X (Friable Ore) Quarry and has been proposed during 2021-24.

The ore having < 40% Cr₂O₃ from the middle band ore body and diluted ore from the contact zone are stacked separately in the Mineral reject stack yard. Based on experience and changing market scenario a part of Mineral reject is likely to be used as saleable ore and will be sent directly to stack yard for onward dispatch to customers based on their requirements. The remaining Mineral reject will be stacked

separately for future feed to beneficiation plant which is planned to be commissioned outside lease area. The chrome ore produced will be for captive use utilized for Ferro Chrome manufacturing at Lessee's plants in Odisha as well as other FeCr plants in different state where conversion arrangements have been made. A part of the ore will also be for merchant mining purpose to other needy Fe-Cr manufacturers. Both ore (High & Medium grade) and mineral rejects will be dispatched separately to the plant sites where blending will be done as per requirement.

The extracted Chrome ore will be used to meet the in-house demand in their Tata Steel Plant situated at Jamshedpur. The part of Chrome ore produced from the mine shall be utilized for Ferro Chrome manufacturing at Lessee's plants located at Bamnival, Athagarh, Gopalpur of Keonjhar, Cuttack and Ganjam district respectively in Odisha as well as other FeCr plants located in Odisha, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh etc..

7. PP has submitted that Total water requirement of the Sukinda mine is estimated to be about 12930 KLD. Of this, about 9510 KLD water will be recycled and reused for dust suppression, plantation and stowing activities. Remaining 3420 KLD make up water requirement will be met by mine dewatering. Mine pit water will be used for dust suppression and plantation activities. Mine pit water will be treated to achieve drinking water standards before supplying for drinking and domestic use. Necessary permission from CGWA has been obtained by the previous lessee for mine pit dewatering vide Letter No 21-4488/NOC No. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2018/3161, dated 23.03.2018 and Fresh permission will be obtained for mine water dewatering. Water requirement will be met using mine pit water after necessary treatment. Excess pit water will be supplied for drinking and domestic use in nearby villages after necessary treatment & surplus water, if any, will be discharged in Damsal nalla after treatment for Hexavalent chromium. Mining has already intersected ground water table of the area.

8. PP has submitted that the total ML Area is 406.00 ha, which is comprises of Forest & Govt. land. Thus, there is no R & R involved. A colony located within the Northern part of the Mine Lease will facilitate as housing for the workers of Sukinda Chromite Block.

9. PP reported that there is no Court Cases pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.

10. PP has submitted that the estimated total capital cost of the project will be approximately Rs. 2610.55 crore. PP reported that total of 400 people will be required to carry out the opencast and underground mining operation. In addition to this, 500 persons will be employed through contracts to provide various essential services like loading, security, conveyance & transportation of minerals etc.

11. The proposal was considered in the 23rd EAC meeting held during November 23-25, 2020. The EAC deliberated on the submissions made by the project proponent and presentation made by the PP in the meeting and the EAC **deferred the proposal** for want of the following information:

- i. Assessment of ecological damage w.r.t. air, water, land and other environmental attributes.
- ii. Details of land for any over burden dumps outside the mine lease, such as extent of land area, distance from mine lease, its land use, R&R issues, if any, should be given.
- iii. Plan showing safety zone maintaining between opencast and underground working along with cross section.
- iv. The mine has been operated and it has been observed that the waste dump has been permitted outside the lease area. Letters for approval for permitting the PP to dump outside shall be submitted.
- v. The management of dump outside the lease area is currently in practice and hence, w.r.t. chromium pollution in the nearby water bodies needs to be submitted.
- vi. Affidavit in a Non-Judicial Stamp paper to comply with all statutory requirement & 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 & Ors as applicable as per Ministry OM dated 30.05.2018 shall be submitted.
- vii. Validity of the mine plan is required to be submitted as Mineable reserve for Chromium is shown as 5.247 Million tones and the proposal is for extracting 2.4 MTPA of Chrome.
- viii. Lease boundary plantation which was not visible in the KML file has to be substantiated with other evidences.
- ix. PP should also submit an undertaking that it has not undergone any violation in either of the prior EC condition.
- x. Last 5 years mining operation of converting resources into mineable reserves including the Over burden and the waste along with the practices of managing the waste needs to be submitted.
- xi. Transport routes within the lease boundary and outside should be delineated and submitted.
- xii. Lease needs to be properly demarcated as it is abutting the many leases outside.
- xiii. PP needs to upload the complete previous EC Letter in the PARVESH PORTAL and details of Compliance of Earlier EC Conditions
- xiv. Status of Compliance with regard to MINE CLOSURE PLAN of Earlier LESSE be indicated

- xv. Proof of application for forest clearance and NOC for de-watering needs to be submitted.

2.3

Siljora-Kalimati Iron & Manganese Ore Mines of M/s Debabrata Behera for expansion of production capacity of Manganese Ore of 1,89,000 TPA & Iron Ore of 1,36,000 TPA at Siljora-Kalimati, Dist Keonjhar, Odisha. [Proposal No. IA/OR/MIN/180442/2020; File No. J-11015/ 55/2020-IA-II(M)]

The Proposal of M/s. Debabrata Behera is for grant of Term of Reference for Siljora-Kalimati Iron & Manganese Ore Mines [(MLA: 713.510 ha (As per DGPS)/715.639 ha (As per ROR)] of production capacity of Manganese Ore of 1,89,000 TPA & Iron Ore of 1,36,000 TPA at Siljora-Kalimati, Dist Keonjhar, Odisha. The mine is located between Latitude 21°53'59.00750" N to 21°52'34.01443" N and Longitude 85°21'58.88860" E to 85°24'16.06824" E and within survey of India Toposheet No. F45 N5.

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

3. PP submitted that the previous lessee M/s Mangilall Rungta obtained Environment clearance vide No.J-11015/691/2007-IA.II(M) dated 03.02.2009 for the Siljora Kalimati Manganese and Iron Ore Mining Project for an annual production capacity of 1,89,657 tonnes (0.189657million tonnes) of manganese ore and 1,36,035tonnes (0.136035million tonnes) of iron ore involving total mine lease area of 715.639ha. PP has now applied vide Proposal no: IA/OR/MIN/180442/2020 dated 23.10.2020 for prescribing Term of Reference (ToR) and submitted Form-1 and Pre-feasibility report. The proposal is considered in 23rd EAC meeting held during 23-25 November, 2020.

4. PP has submitted that the Siljora-Kalimati Iron & Manganese Ore Mines over an [(MLA: 713.510 ha (As per DGPS)/715.639 ha (As per ROR)] has been intended by the Government of Odisha for grant of mining lease for a period of 50 years in favour of Shri Debabrata Behera through auction as per the letter of Intent no. 5506/SM, dated 26.06.2020. PP also submitted the vesting order issued by Government of Odisha, Steel and Mines Department vide no. 4273/SM/III(A)SM-07/2020 dated 30.05.2020 stating that the vesting order is valid for a period of 2 years from the date of execution of lease deed or till the date of getting fresh approvals, clearances, licenses, permits and the like, whichever is earlier.

5. PP submitted that the total land is 713.510 ha, out of the total 509.71 ha is forest land and balance 203.80 ha is non- forest land. PP also submitted that the Ministry of Environment and Forests vide Lr.No 8-104/96-FC (Pt.) dated 12.11.2010 accorded approval under Section-2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for diversion of 311.396 ha of deemed forest land in village – Silijora, kalimati etc. in

Keonjhar District, Odisha for Manganese and Iron ore mining by M/s Mangilall Rungta in addition to already diverted area of 139.736 ha of revenue forest land during 3rd renewal of mining lease which has been now vested with Sri Debabrata Behera. PP reported that the nearest Reserve Forest from the mine site are Baitarani RF – 7.12 km (NNW) and Khajurdihi RF – 6.65 km (SE) are found within 10 km radius of the mine lease. PP also submitted that the Baitarani river – 4.3km (E) found within 10 km radius of the mine lease. PP further submitted that there are no wild life sanctuaries, national parks, elephant/tiger reserves within 10 km of the notified mine lease area.

6. PP submitted Letter for Approval of Modification of Mining Plan of Siljora-Kalimati Manganese & Iron mine over an area of 715.639 ha in Keonjhar District of Odisha of M/s Mangilall Rungta vide IBM vide Lr.No MPM/OTFM/15-ORI/BHU/2018-19 dated 25.07.2018.

PP submitted that the mine will be developed by opencast mining method with semi-mechanized means deploying machinery like wagon drill machine, rock breaker, hydraulic /diesel operated shovel, dumper/tipper, crushing and screening unit etc. PP has submitted that total Geological Reserves under proved & probable category of Manganese Ore is 3783655 MT and Iron ore is 704833.9 MT. Based on the present reserve estimates and proposed production program, the life of mine is 22 years for Manganese Ore and 8 years for Iron ore. Further, the life of the mines may not hold constant for all the time. Based on the market demands the life of the deposit may increase or decrease, accordingly the life of mine may vary from time to time. PP reported that It has been planned for the production of 189000 tons of Manganese Ore & 136000 tons of Iron Ore.

PP also submitted that processing of ROM and mineral rejects is being done only by dry crushing & screening method. The dry processing method is being adopted for processing of ROM with the help of crushing and screening unit. The ROM ore will be subjected to screening, crushing, sizing, blending etc before finished product is ready for dispatch. Mobile crushing and screen unit of 60TPH capacity will be deployed for separation into different size material as per the requirement. PP also envisaged that 1522500cum from iron ore zone and 4247304cum from manganese ore zone will be generated. Waste from manganese ore will be disposed of at Back-filled area -1, 2,3 dump-A and H and waste from iron ore will be disposed of a Back-filled area – 3.

PP also submitted that after expansion, about 3,25,000 TPA of Iron ore (ROM) will be produced from the mine. Ore will be transported from quarry site to screen and crushing site for processing by use of 20/35 ton dumpers whereas waste materials will be dispatched from quarry to dumping site by using same capacity dumpers.

7. PP has submitted that the total water requirement for the project is 410cum/day in which 250 m³/day from surface water (for dust suppression such as transportation road, inside quarry road, stack yards, mine camp, dry fogging in screening plant: 221.0 m³/day, for green belt development: 18.8 m³/day and for miscellaneous: 10.2 m³/day) and rest 160m³/day for Drinking & domestic

purposes used from ground water. This will be met from surface and ground sources for which permission has been taken from the Department of Water Resources Govt. of Odisha.

8. PP reported that rehabilitation and resettlement is not applicable in this proposal.

9. PP reported that there is no Court Case pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.

10. PP submitted the Consent to Operate issued by Odisha State Pollution Control Board vide Lr.No: 3226/IND-I-CON-1806, dated 23.02.2016 in the name of M/s Mangilall Rungta which was valid up to 31.03.2020.

11. PP submitted that the estimated total capital cost of the project will be approximately Rs. 72cr that includes mine activities and machineries. PP reported that approx. 32 nos. persons will be engaged as managerial staff and approx. 845 semi-skilled & unskilled persons will be engaged from local village area.

12. Based on the discussion held and document submitted, the EAC in its 23rd EAC meeting held during November 23-25, 2020 wherein the committee **deferred the proposal** for want of the following information.

- i. PP should submit the revised Form 1 and Prefeasibility report by mentioning the actual mine lease area and breakup of the forest land.
- ii. Is Mineral Processing Plant is part of TOR proposal. Mineral Processing Plant is proposed for Iron & Manganese ROM, If so details of the same to be furnished.
- iii. Details of Equipments & process involved, Capacity of Plant & proposed Environmental mitigation measures needs to be submitted.
- iv. TOR proposal is for ROM production basis of Manganese & Iron Ore. Therefore envisaged Mass balance of Saleable Ore, Sub Grade Ore, Mineral Rejects & waste generated along with storage & disposal plan to be furnished in respect of Iron & Manganese Ore.
- v. Details of Total Excavation per Year to be considered for EC needs to be furnished.
- vi. Details of existing Green Cover & Proposed Green cover in next five years & at conceptual stage including Safety zone plantation along lease boundary.
- vii. PP should submit the copy of all forest clearances obtained.
- viii. PP should submit the valid lease document.

- ix. PP should submit the permission letter obtained from Department of Water Resources Govt. of Odisha for ground water withdrawal.
- x. PP should submit the Affidavit in a non-judicial stamp paper in compliance to the Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018.
- xi. PP needs to upload the complete previous EC Letter in the PARVESH PORTAL and details of Compliance of Earlier EC Conditions.
- xii. compliance of Status with regard to MINE CLOSURE PLAN of Earlier LESSE be indicated.
- xiii. Status of Compliance as per NERI recommendations for iron ore for Orissa be indicated
- xiv. Treatment details of Tailings if any be indicated.

2.4

Kamarda Chromite Block of M/s T S Alloys Limited having mining lease area: 107.240 Ha for Production of 0.30 MTPA Chrome Ore (ROM) with maximum Excavation of 2.50 Million Cum Per Annum through Opencast Mining at Village-Talangi, Kamarda & Balipada, Tehsil-Sukinda, District Jajpur, Odisha.. [Proposal no. IA/OR/MIN/180570/2020; File No. J-11015/ 56/2020-IA-II(M)]

The Proposal of **M/s. Tata Steel Mining Limited (formerly known as M/s T S Alloys Limited)** is for grant of Term of Reference for Kamarda Chromite Block, (Mining Lease Area: 107.240 ha) with production capacity of 0.30 MTPA Chrome Ore (ROM) with maximum Excavation of 2.50 Million Cum Per Annum through Opencast Mining at Village-Talangi, Kamarda & Balipada, Tehsil-Sukinda, District Jajpur, Odisha State. The mine is located between latitude 21° 03'06.11316" N - 21°03'50.88708" N and longitude 85°49'22.45836" E- 85° 50'11.31576" E and within survey of India Toposheet No. 73-G/16.

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

3. PP submitted that the Environmental clearance was obtained by the previous lessee, M/s. B. C. Mohanty & Sons (P) Ltd for a production of 88,000 TPA Chrome Ore vide MoEF Letter No. J-11015/418/2006-IA.II(M) dated 08.05.2008. PP submitted that M/s. Tata Steel Mining Limited (formerly known as M/s T S Alloys Limited) has been declared as the preferred bidder through auction and now applied vide Proposal no: IA/OR/MIN/180570/2020 dated 25.10.2020 for prescribing Term of Reference (ToR) and submitted Form-1 and Pre-feasibility report. The proposal is considered in 23rd EAC meeting held during 23-25 November, 2020.

4. PP submitted that the Kamarda Chromite Block Mining lease over an area of 107.24 Hectare area was originally granted in favour of Sri B. C. Mohanty for a period of 20 years from 22.02.1968. Subsequently, the lease was transferred in favour of M/s. B. C. Mohanty & Sons (P) Ltd on 05.05.1981. The lease was first renewed for 20 years up to 22.02.2008 & further extended up to 31.03.2020 vide supplementary lease deed dated 06.10.2015.

PP also submitted that the Government of Odisha pursuant to the Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act 1957 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules 2015, conducted auction for grant of lease for Kamarda Chromite Block located in Jajpur district of Odisha. The Lessee Company M/s T S Alloys Limited was emerged as successful bidder in the e-auction process. Letter of Intent (LOI) for grant of mining lease of Kamarda Chromite Block in Jajpur District over 107.240 Ha Area in favour of the Company for a period of 50 years was issued by the State Government vide Letter No 9012/SM dated 18.11.2019 read with letter No. 9095/SM dated 20.11.2019. Subsequently, in terms of section 8B(2) of MMDR Act, 1957 read with rule 9A(4) of MCR, 2016, the bidder is deemed to have acquired all valid rights, approvals, clearances, licenses and the like vested with the previous lessee for a period of two years from the date of execution of the lease deed or till the date of getting fresh approvals, clearances, licenses, permits and the like whichever is earlier as per Vesting Order issued vide Letter No 4129/SM dated 28.05.2020.

PP submitted that in the meantime, the name of the preferred bidder M/s T S Alloys Limited has been changed to M/s Tata Steel Mining Limited on 19.05.2020 by the Registrar of Companies, Odisha and Govt. of Odisha has also accorded its approval for Change of Name vide letter no. 5169/SM dated 22.06.2020. Accordingly, the State Government issued grant order in favor of the M/s Tata Steel Mining Limited vide letter No. 5476/SM dated 26.06.2020 and executed and registered the Mine Development and Production Agreement (MDPA) and Mining Lease deed on 26.06.2020 for a period of 50 years over the said area.

5. PP submitted that there is 105.78 ha forest land involved in the lease area and Forest clearance has been obtained by the previous lessee over an area of 87.44 Ha vide MoEF Letter No. F. No. 8-81/1996-FC dated 28.03.2008. PP has reported that the nearest forest from the mine site are Mahagiri Protected Forest (500 m, S), Daitari Protected Forest (1 km, N) and Nala Damsala, (adjacent, N). PP further submitted that there are no wild life sanctuaries, national parks, elephant/tiger reserves within 10 km of the notified mine lease area. PP submitted that online application for obtaining fresh Forest Clearance has been submitted vide Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/51780/2020 dated 22.10.2020.

6. PP submitted that the Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by IBM vide letter no MP/A/16-ORI/BHU/2020-21 dated 18.09.2020 for the period 2020-21 to 2024-25 in the name of M/s Tata Steel Mining Limited.

PP submitted that the mining shall be by open cast fully mechanized system of mining by deploying higher capacity of machinery (HEMM) for optimization of mining operation by scientific mining. The deposit shall be worked by adopting a system of bench formation with deep hole blasting. Three (3) shift operations are proposed in which drilling of blast holes shall be done by Pneumatic DTH drill of 150mm dia holes while excavation and transportation of ROM ore and waste materials shall be done through excavators of 1.9 Cu.m/ 3.0 Cu.m capacity and dumpers of 30/40 t capacity. Besides, a dozer of appropriate capacity shall be used for construction, levelling and compaction of haul road and waste dump.

PP reported that total Geological Reserves of Chromite Ore as on 01.07.2020 are estimated to be 22,87,470 tonnes. Of these, Mineable reserves has been assessed to be 17,07,660 tonnes. Based on the present reserve estimates and proposed production program, the life of mine is estimated to be about 8.5 years which is likely to increase with further exploration, diversion of road and slope steepening.

PP submitted that the extracted 0.3 MTPA Chrome ore ROM will be used to meet the in-house demand for Ferro Chrome manufacturing at Lessee's plants located at Bamnival, Athagarh, Gopalpur of Keonjhar, Cuttack and Ganjam district respectively in Odisha as well as other Conversion FeCr plants located in Odisha, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh etc.

7. PP has submitted that about 330 KLD water will be required for dust suppression, plantation, workshop & wheel wash, drinking & domestic activities, etc. Mine pit water will be used for dust suppression and plantation activities. Ground water from borewell will be used for drinking and domestic use. Permission for ground water drawl of 590 KLD has been obtained from Central Ground Water Authority, Govt. of India, Ministry of Water Resources, New Delhi, vide letter no. 21-4 (31) SER/CGWA/2008-294 dated 18.02.2013. Necessary permission from CGWA has been obtained by the previous lessee and the same will be renewed by TSML. PP also reported that the excess water in the mine pit will be treated in ETP for neutralization of Hexavalent chromium and the treated effluent will be discharged in Damsal Nallah.

8. PP has submitted that the mine lease area comprises of Forest & Non-Forest land. However, there are few households in the north western part of the mine lease area. These households will have to be rehabilitated for mining in the year 2024-25. Necessary Rehabilitation and Resettlement plan will be prepared in line with the National / State R&R policy after negotiations with the residents. Detailed R&R plan will be prepared and submitted in the EIA/EMP report.

PP also submitted that there are some encroachments inside the mining lease near Previous Lessee's office premises. One more encroachment exists near Common boundary of Kamarda and Saruabil. There is no proposal for mining in this area and as such, these will not be rehabilitated.

9. PP reported that there is no Court Cases pending against the project and/or

land in which the project is proposed to be set up.

10. PP has submitted that the estimated total capital cost of the project will be approximately Rs. 83.50 crore. PP reported that the estimated total manpower requirement for this project is 440 persons.

11. Based on the discussion held and document submitted, the EAC in its 23rd EAC meeting held during November 23-25, 2020 and the committee is of the view that the PP/Consultant were unable to bring out the technical details in the presentation and explain the same and therefore the committee **deferred** the proposal for want of the following information.

- I. PP needs to submit the management Plan for the OVER BURDEN on the Environment.
- II. Proper management of Waste should be APPENDED for grant of TOR.
- III. Total Excavation of around 6.0Million Tonnes for mining of 0.3Million Tonnes of Chromite Ore and it is burden on the environment be justified. PP needs to submit the management plan of the burden on the environment.
- IV. Proper management plan of waste should be apprehended for grant of TOR.
- V. The mine has been handed over in e-auction and since the mine wasn't operated earlier by present owner, PP must need to assess the damages done to the environment. PP should submit a status report on environment along with the time bound corrective measures in case of any damages observed.
- VI. PP needs to submit the status report of RO, MoEF&CC on compliance of EC condition on mine closure plan by the previous lessee.
- VII. PP needs to submit the Rehabilitation plan for relocating the affected people in the core area.
- VIII. Certificate issued by Registrar of Companies for name change of M/s T S Alloys Limited to M/s. Tata Steel Mining Limited needs to be submitted.
- IX. Approval letter for Mining plan issued by IBM needs to be submitted.
- X. Permission letter obtained from CGWA for ground water withdrawal on 18.02.2013 and 25.05.2016 needs to be submitted.

- XI. PP should submit the proof of online submission for forest clearance and submit the status of remaining forest land of 18.34 Ha.
- XII. PP should submit the Affidavit in a Non-Judicial Stamp paper to comply with all statutory requirement & 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 & Ors as applicable as per Ministry OM dated 30.05.2018.

2.5 **Proposal for Amendment in ToR granted vide letter dated J-11015/162/2018-IA.II(M) dated 10.06.2020 to M/s Chowgule and Company Private Ltd. for Karadikola Iron Ore Mine, ML No. 2546 over an area of 459.73 Ha located at Bavihalli Village of Sandur Taluka, Bellary District, Karnataka regarding change in production from 0.38 MTPA to 0.50 MTPA and exemption from the requirement of Public Hearing/Public Consultation. [Proposal No. IA/KA/MIN/177696/2020, File No. J-11015/162/2018-IA.II(M)] ; Consultant: Mineral Engineering Services – Amendment in ToR**

The proposal of M/s Chowgule and Company Private Ltd. is for amendment in TOR granted vide letter J-11015/162/2018-IA-II(M) dated 10.06.2020 w.r.t. change in production from 0.38 MTPA to 0.50 MTPA and exemption from the requirement of Public Hearing/Public Consultation for Karadikola Iron Ore Mine, ML No. 2546 over an area of 459.73 Ha located at Bavihalli Village of Sandur Taluka, Bellary District, Karnataka.

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

3. PP earlier had applied online vide proposal no. IA/KA/MIN/75923/2018 dated 24.07.2018 as per the provisions of S.O 1530(E) dated 06.04.2018 and submitted Form-1, Prefeasibility report. The proposal was then placed in EAC meeting held during 15-16th November, 2018 and 22-23rd January, 2019 wherein the Committee deferred the proposal for want of requisite information and action by Ministry. The proposal was then placed in EAC meeting held during 25-26th March, 2019 wherein the Committee recommended the proposal for grant of Additional and Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) and the Ministry issued TOR vide letter J-11015/162/2018-IA-II(M) dated 10.06.2020 would be valid for a period of 4 years i.e valid up to 09.06.2024 as per notification S.O 751 (E) dated 17.02.2020.

4. PP has now applied vide Proposal No. IA/KA/MIN/177696/2020 dated 06.10.2020 for seeking amendment in the above granted TOR w.r.t. change in production from 0.38 MTPA to 0.50 MTPA and exemption from the requirement of Public Hearing/Public Consultation. PP has stated that *"the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) has increased the permissible annual production to 0.50 MTPA vide letter no. F.No2-75/CEC/SC/2018Pt.VII dated 08.01.2019 and accordingly the said*

capacity of 0.50 MTPA has also been approved by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Indian Bureau of Mines and the Directorate of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka”

PP has submitted the following documents with the application dated 06.10.2020:

- I. Revised Form-I
 - II. Revised Prefeasibility report
 - III. Copy of approval letter of Modification to the approved Review and Updation of Mining plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan over an area of 103.68 Ha for 5 years period from 2017-2018 to 2022-23 vide IBM letter no. 279/327/92/BNG/170 dated 07.02.2019.
 - IV. Copy of Central Empowered Committee (CEC) letter no. F.No2-75/CEC/SC/2018Pt.VII dated 08.01.2019 for change in production from 0.38 MMT to 0.50 MMT.
 - V. Copy of Department of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Karnataka vide letter No.DMG/MLS/PE/16/2017-18 dated 10.01.2019 for approval of increase in the permissible annual production limit from 0.38 MMT to 0.50 MMT.
 - VI. Copy of Consent for Operation issued by Karnataka State Pollution Control Board vide No. PCB/244/MIN/2018-19/6702 dated 20.03.2019 for increase in capacity of iron ore mining from 0.38 MMTPA to 0.50 MMTPA for the period up to 31.03.2023 for an area of 103.68 Ha.
5. PP further submitted that the public hearing was held on 09.12.2003 for which Environment Clearance granted vide No. J-11015/138/2005-IA.II (M) dated 17.02.2006 under EIA Notification 1994 for the proposed capacity of 0.60 MTPA and thereby requesting for exemption from the requirement of Public Hearing.
6. Based on the discussion held and document submitted, the EAC in its 23rd EAC meeting held during November 23-25, 2020 wherein the committee **recommended the proposal for** Amendment in ToR granted vide letter dated J-11015/162/2018-IA.II(M) dated 10.06.2020 to M/s Chowgule and Company Private Ltd. for Karadikola Iron Ore Mine, ML No. 2546 over an area of 459.73 Ha located at Bavihalli Village of Sandur Taluka, Bellary District.
- i. Change in production from 0.38 MTPA to 0.50 MTPA is permitted as per Central Empowered Committee (CEC) letter no. F.No2-75/CEC/ SC/ 2018 Pt.VII dated 08.01.2019 and therefore, the request of PP is agreed by the EAC.
 - ii. PP shall invite comments/objections on the EIA report and other documents as per the EC regulations 2006 as part of public consultation.
 - iii. All other terms and conditions stipulated in the TOR letter dated 10.06.2020

remains the same.

Minutes of the 2nd Day EAC (Non Coal) meeting held on 25th November, 2020

- 2.1 **Jajang Iron Ore mine of M/s JSW Steel Ltd. for production of 12.80 million TPA (ROM) of Iron ore with maximum waste of 28.589 MTPA (OB/IB/SB) along with**

screening, crushing in lease area of 669.078 Ha (as per DGPS Survey)/666.150 Ha (as per ROR) land in villages Jajang, Jadibahal, Palsa(Ka), Bandhuabeda, Tehsil Barbil, District Keonjhar, Odisha [Proposal No. IA/OR/MIN/175990/2020] – Terms of Reference.

The Proposal of M/s JSW Steel Ltd. is for grant of Term of Reference for production of 12.80 million TPA (ROM) of Iron ore with maximum waste of 28.589 MTPA (OB/IB/SB) along with screening, crushing in lease area of 669.078 Ha (as per DGPS Survey)/666.150 Ha (as per ROR) land in villages Jajang, Jadibahal, Palsa(Ka), Bandhuabeda, Tehsil Barbil, District Keonjhar, Odisha. The mine lease area falls under survey of India Topo sheet No. 73 F/8, F/12, G/5 & G/9. The indicative range of coordinates of the lease area is:

Pillar No.	Latitude	Longitude
1	21 ⁰ 54'44.23926"N	85 ⁰ 26'14.55590"E
23	21 ⁰ 53'33.49374"N	85 ⁰ 25'45.85255"E
31	21 ⁰ 55'52.37093"N	85 ⁰ 24'49.65672"E
12	21 ⁰ 56'08.11524"N	85 ⁰ 26'50.70226"E

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 is Category "A" project.

3. PP vide proposal No. IA/OR/MIN/175990/2020 dated 28.09.2020 applied for grant of ToR and submitted Form-1 & Pre-Feasibility Report.

4. PP has submitted that the Jajang iron ore mine (erstwhile lessee M/s Rungta Mines Limited) was one of the mines whose lease expired on 31.03.2020. Government of Odisha vide letter No. 3007/ S&M/ Bhubaneshwar/IV(Misc)SM-66/2016 dated 18th March 2020 issued the notice for grant of Mining Lease (ML) for Jajang Iron Ore Block over an area of 666.15 ha as per ROR (669.078 ha as per DGPS computation) in villages Jajang, Jadibahal, Palsa (Ka), Bandhuabeda under Barbil tehsil of Keonjhar District, Odisha for a mineable reserve size of about 34.87 Million tonnes (Mt).

PP submitted that in pursuant to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015, Govt. of Odisha issued the notice inviting tender dated 6th December, 2019 for commencement of the auction process to grant the mining lease in respect of Jajang Iron Ore Block located in villages Jajang, Jadibahal, Palsa (Ka), Bandhuabeda under Barbil tehsil of Keonjhar district, Odisha. The e-auction process was conducted in accordance with the tender document and the mineral auction rule, 2015 for the said mineral block and M/s JSW Steel Limited was declared as the Preferred Bidder under Rule 9(9) (iii) of Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015. Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of section 8B(2) of the MMDR Act, 1957, the details of the valid rights, approvals, clearances, licenses, and the like held by the previous lessee are vested in favor of M/s JSW Steel Ltd by the Govt. of Odisha for a period of 2 years from the date of execution of lease deed or till the date of getting fresh approvals, clearances, licenses, permits, and the like, whichever is earlier vide order No-4190/SM, dated 29.05.2020. M/s JSW Steel Limited being successful bidder upon execution of mining lease deed, the Successful

Bidder shall immediately, but not later than one hundred twenty days from the date of execution of mining lease, apply afresh for all necessary rights, approvals, clearances, licenses and the like under the applicable statutes, rules or regulations, as the case may be, for obtaining the necessary clearances to enable further continuance of the mining operations beyond two years and vesting order shall be valid for a period of two years from the date of execution of new lease deed or till the date of getting all fresh approvals, clearances, licenses, permits, and the like, whichever is earlier.”

Subsequent to signing of the MDPA, M/s JSW Steel Limited has made payment of the third installment being the eighty percent of the upfront value and executed and registered the mining lease with the Government of Odisha on 27.06.2020 and the mining lease was granted in favor of M/s JSW Steel Limited for a period of 50 years w.e.f 27.06.2020.

5. PP has submitted that the allotted mining block has an area of 666.15 ha as per ROR (669.078 ha as per DGPS computation). As per LS certified by Tahasildar, Barbil- Forest: 543.916 ha and Non Forest area 121.003 Ha. (Stage-II) FC of 447.811 ha (incl 44.70 ha Rev.F) already diverted on 28.08.2014 & vested to JSW for 2 years. Fresh forest clearances under FC Act, 1980 for diversion of 543.916 ha of forest land has also been applied vide Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/50705/2020 dated 09.10.2020.

6. PP has submitted that the total mineable reserves are 34.87 Million tonnes (Mt) as on 01.04.2020 as per approved mining plan in the name of M/s JSW Steel Limited vide letter no. MP/A/13-ORI/BHU/2020-21 dated: 19.08.2020. Fully mechanized open cast method of mining by drilling and blasting and by deploying HEMM equipment's like hydraulic drills and excavators, wheel loaders, dumpers, will be undertaken. The height and width of the benches for iron ore will be kept at 9 m and 15 m respectively. The working of benches will be commenced from top and extended to bottom benches. The excavated ROM ore is proposed to be processed in the crushing and screening plants to obtain the lump and fine ore as product mix. The iron ore lumps and iron ore fines extracted from the mine will be transported through railway/port/road to JSW Steel Plants. There are two no.s of railway siding namely, BIL sliding, Jajang Railway sliding existing within the mine lease area. These sidings will be used for transportation of ore of Jajang block. Further, the Railway sidings will also be used for transportation of ore of other mining leases viz., Nuagaon, Narayanposhi, Gonua & upcoming mines of M/s JSW Steel Ltd. The excavated ROM ore is proposed to be processed in the 3x 360 TPH, 2x 200 TPH, 1x175 TPH mobile crushing units and 10x400 TPH, 1x 180 TPH, 1x170 TPH mobile screening plants to obtain the lump and fine ore as product mix.

7. The total make-up water requirement for the proposed mining is about 2098 m³/day and it will be met from surface water and ground water sources. NOC from CGWA for 1015 m³/day is already vested to JSW for 2 years, new application for the NOC is applied.

8. The mine area does not cover any habitation. Hence, the mining activities do not involve any displacement of human settlement. No public buildings, places,

monuments etc., exist within the lease area or in the vicinity. The mining operations will not disturb / relocate any village. In view of this, there are no Rehabilitation & Resettlement issues.

9. PP submitted that One case is pending for proposed Jajang mine at Odisha High Court with order no. WP (C) 24918/2020 regarding the refund of excess stamp duty paid during the time of registration of lease deed. Till now no order has been passed.

10. The total capital investment in the Jajang iron ore mine is about Rs. 485 Crores which includes the cost of mine development, plant & machinery, utility facilities and mine closure cost.

11. The proposal was placed in 23rd EAC meeting held during November 23-25, 2020. The committee after detailed deliberations on the submissions made and presentation by the project proponent, the committee **deferred** the proposal for want of the following information.

- i. status of earlier EC compliance and latest environmental quality of the study area.
- ii. PP should upload the Approval of Mining plan which is approved by IBM on 19.08.2020 in the PARIVESH portal.
- iii. PP should submit the proof of application made in the name of M/s JSW Steel for obtaining ground water withdrawal permission from CGWA.
- iv. PP needs to submit the details of the court case pending at Odisha High Court with order no. WP (C) 24918/2020.
- v. In the Core Zone Mineral Processing Plant is proposed as per the Presentation made; thus, Mineral Processing Plant is part of TOR proposal or not? need to clarity,
- vi. Details of Equipments & process involved, Capacity of Plant & proposed Environmental mitigation measures.
- vii. TOR proposal is for ROM production basis of Iron Ore. Therefore envisaged Mass balance of Saleable Ore, Sub Grade Ore, Mineral Rejects & waste generated along with storage & disposal plan to be furnished in respect of Iron & Mn Ore.
- viii. Details of existing Green Cover & Proposed Green cover in next five years & at conceptual stage including Safety zone Plantation along Lease boundary.
- ix. Status of Compliance of NEERI recommendations for Iron ore for Odisha be indicated.

2.2 **Bathiya Limestone Mine with total excavation: 8.84 MTPA, Limestone: 4.0 MTPA, Waste/reject: 4.43 MTPA Topsoil: 0.41 MTPA and Lease Area: 266.302 ha situated at Bathiya, Barahiya, Karaundi, Chapna and Tamoria villages, Tehsil: Maihar, District: Satna, State: Madhya Pradesh by AAA Resources Private Limited [Proposal No. IA/MP/MIN/176767/2020; File No. J-11015/ 44/2020-IA-**

II(M)]

The Proposal of AAA Resources Private Limited is for grant of Term of Reference for Bathiya Limestone Mine, (ML Area: 266.302 ha) with total excavation: 8.84 MTPA, Limestone: 4.0 MTPA, Waste/reject: 4.43 MTPA Topsoil: 0.41 MTPA situated at Bathiya, Barahiya, Karaundi, Chapna and Tamoria villages, Tehsil: Maihar, District: Satna, State: Madhya Pradesh State. The mine lease area falls between the Latitude 24°16'19.675" N - 24°18'46.795" N and Longitude 80°52,42.166" E - 80°55'18.769" E and within the Topo sheet No: 63D/15.

2. PP has submitted that the said proposal is covered under the ambit of EIA Notification, 2006 & its subsequent amendments and the project falls under Schedule 1(a) of mining of minerals and is a Category- "A" as the mining lease area is greater than 100 Ha.

3. PP has applied vide Proposal no: IA/MP/MIN/176767/2020 dated 30.09.2020 for prescribing Term of Reference (ToR) and submitted Form-1 and Pre-feasibility report. The proposal is considered in the 23rd EAC meeting held during 23-25th November, 2020.

4. PP submitted that LOI was issued by the State Government vide letter No. F3-8/2011/12/1 dated 03.01.2018 for Bathiya Limestone Mine in Satna District, over an ML area of 266.302 ha for a period of 50 years. PP also submitted that the total lease area is merger of 3 separate blocks, area of this blocks are 177.813 Ha, 6.913 Ha and 81.576 Ha respectively.

5. PP submitted that the proposal is for limestone mining with proposed total excavation of 8.84 MTPA (including Limestone: 4.0 MTPA, Waste/reject: 4.43 MTPA Topsoil: 0.41 MTPA) in the mine lease area of 266.302 ha. All the land within the lease area is non forest land (Govt. Land - 8.072 ha and and Private Land - 258.23 ha).

6. PP reported that the nearest forest from the mine site are Sirgo RF (8.2 km, NW), Papra RF (9.2 km, SE), Ghutehi PF (13.2 km, NW), Naru PF (12.3 km, N), Goraia RF (14.0 km, S). PP also submitted the nearest river/nala and other sensitive areas from the mine site are Tamasa / Tons river (6.9 km, W), Bihar river (7.6 km, SE), Serainji nala (1.9 km, S), Bakauli nala(8.0 km, N), Pathana nala (9.2 km, WNW) Kaimur Hill range (4.3 km, S) Maihar – Temple on Hill top (15.8 km, W). PP further submitted that there are no wild life sanctuaries, national parks, elephant/tiger reserves within 10 km of the mine lease area.

7. PP submitted that fully mechanized opencast method of mining will be adopted. All operations of mining will be done by deployment of heavy earth moving machinery for deep hole drilling, excavation, loading & transportation. Various mining activities such as drilling, blasting, loading and transportation will be undertaken so as to ensure maximum mineral conservation and minimum environmental degradation. While planning, quality parameter of the deposit has been taken care of so as to have maximum blending ratio. Following measures will be taken for

protection of nearby habitation. (i) Drilling with dust collector / dust suppression (ii) Regular water sprinkling on haul roads (iii) Dust collector and water spraying at crusher (iv) Controlled blasting to minimize impact of noise and vibration (v) Detailed vibration study will be carried out (vi) Periodic maintenance of mining machinery to control noise and emission within permissible limit (vii) Adequate safety barriers from habitation, road etc. as per statutory guidelines (viii) Creation of garland drain and settling pond for protecting water environment (ix) No mining operation during night shift.

PP submitted that mine will be operated in two shifts with working of 8 hours each. Systematic working will be done by formation of benches. All applicable laws such as MMR, Mines Act, MMDR, MCR, MCDR, explosive rules and other applicable acts, rules & regulations will be followed for safe, scientific & systematic working to follow the principles of safety & human health and conservation of mineral. Site will be cleared with the help of dozer / loader and top soil will be utilized for plantation or stacked separately for future use. Removal of over burden will be done by loader / excavator. Drilling in hard strata will be done by DTH drills of hole dia. 115 mm. For blasting, explosives such as ANFO, slurry / emulsion explosives, Nonel detonator, Electric detonator etc. will be used. Blasted limestone will be loaded in to the dumpers by loaders/ excavators. These materials will be transported to the crushing plant. The over burden will be loaded by loaders/ excavators and transported to the dumping yard/backfilling site by dumpers / tippers. Mining of limestone and handling of waste rock will be done by adequate size of mining machinery as per approved mining plan. The mine will be operated under the control of mines manager, who will be reporting to the agent of mine. The Limestone extracted from the mining lease will be utilized in the captive cement plant situated at Village Bharauli & Itahara, Tehsil Maihar, District Satna, Madhya Pradesh. The Company has an operating cement plant of 5 Million Tonne Per Annum (3.6 MTPA Clinker) capacity at villages Bharauli and Itahara, Tehsil: Maihar, District: Satna, Madhya Pradesh (MP). Annual limestone requirement for 3.6 MTPA clinker plant is 5.4 million tonne. Limestone requirement for 50 years of economic plant life is 270 million tonne, whereas limestone resources in existing mining leases are to the tune of 160 million tons which is grossly inadequate to operate cement plant till its economic life.

PP reported that total Probable mineral reserve (Mineable) of limestone is 33.96 Million tonnes, Pre-feasibility mineral resource is 13.49 million tonnes and Inferred mineral resource is 39.01 million tonnes. The proposal is for production of 4.0 MTPA of Limestone. As per the mineral reserve, the total life of mine is 12 years. Top soil in the lease area will be used for preparing bund and temporarily stacked and used for topping of the backfilled area. Overburden waste/reject will be stored separately at earmarked sites and used for preparation of ramp & platform of crusher and backfilling of mined out pits. A crusher of the capacity of 1400 TPH will be established. There is no processing of mineral. There is no process effluent generation in the mine. Hence, there is no possibility of any recycling and reuse. Solid Waste like overburden reject etc. produced during mining activity will be utilized for back filling in the worked-out pit simultaneously. Top soil generated will be used for plantation activity. Sub-grade limestone which is not suitable for cement making will be stored

separately for future use, if any. PP further submitted that the Limestone extracted from the mining lease will be utilized in the captive cement plant situated at Village Bharauli & Itahara, Tehsil Maihar, District Satna, Madhya Pradesh, as has been mentioned and approved in the State Government Order dated 12th September 2008 and Mining Lease application dated 11th August 2009.

8. PP has submitted that Total water requirement of the Bhatiya Limestone mine is estimated to be about 412 KLD. Of this, about 330 KLD water will be used for dust suppression at crusher, 60 KLD will be used for plantation, 7 KLD will be used for domestic purpose and 15 KLD will be used at workshop. The water requirement will be met by Tube wells and harvested rainwater in mine sump. After five years of operation, considering the development of mines and filling of mine pit by rain water harvesting, fresh water requirement will be reduced considerably. The detail study will be carried out for proper water management. There will not be any process effluent generation from the mine lease area, however effluent generated from mine workshop will be treated using oil-grease separator and reused. Only domestic waste water will be generated and will be treated in septic tank/soak pits.

9. PP has submitted that the total ML Area is 406.00 ha, which is comprises of Private & Govt. land. Rehabilitation and resettlement is not envisaged. The project will not involve movement/relocation of any people or their habitations.

10. PP reported that M/s SNS Minerals Limited has filed a writ petition having number 484 of 2017 in Madhya High Court at Jabalpur verses MP State Govt. and Others claiming their rights for grant of mining lease over certain areas which includes 13.702 Ha in Khasra No. 1083, 1084, 1086, 1087 and 1088 of Bathiya village falling within LOI area of 266.302 Ha issued in favour of AAA resources Private Limited. The case is pending at the High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Jabalpur. PP also submitted an undertaking for above litigation vide letter no RCCPL/DEVCO/ MOEFCC/ MP/ML-2 dated 28.09.2020 for abiding by the order of the Hon'ble High Court of Jabalpur in respect of Writ Petition no. 484/2017, it is stated that I, Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Authorized Signatory on behalf of M/s AAA Resources Private Limited undertake that: (i) M/s AAA Resources Private Limited is applying for grant of TOR for the above Limestone Mining Lease. (ii) M/s AAA Resources Private Limited is committed to abide by the order of the Hon'ble High Court. (iii) In case the Court verdict is not in favour of M/s AAA Resources Private Limited, it shall apply for necessary amendment in TOR.

11. PP has submitted that the estimated total capital cost of the project will be approximately Rs. 255.72 crores (including cost of land, machinery, pollution control measures, construction of mines office, weighbridge, man power etc.). PP reported that during project period, total 105 people (direct: 15 & Indirect 90) and during operation period, total 132 people (Direct 24 & Indirect 108) people will be required.

12. Based on the discussion held and document submitted, the EAC in its 23rd EAC meeting held during November 23-25, 2020 wherein the committee **deferred** the proposal for want of the following information.

- i. It is observed that the major part of the land is an agricultural land. Hence, PP should submit environmental cost benefit analysis of mining on agricultural land. Crop cost should be taken as annual crop cost.
- ii. Protection to habitation which is a part of lease boundary should also be accounted. PP should come out with demarcated buffer zone with a safety barrier of 100m from the nearest house. A minimum of 50m has to be left out for plantation. Therefore 150m will not be available for mining. PP should revise the mining plan with safety barrier of 150m and width of 200m. Total loss of hectare is 6 Ha and mineral loss to be accepted by proponent and accept it as a part of TOR.
- iii. PP should calculate the total distance they have to leave from the mine including this 150m over a width of 100m on either side of the central line and submit the revised mining plan.
- iv. PP should submit the delineation of water bodies and the measures taken to protect the water bodies both inside in ML area mine and outside ML area.
- v. PP should submit the proper surface plan indicating mining area, non-mining area, dump area, buffer zone for overhead lines and well defined roads be given on the surface plan duly authenticated by IBM.
- vi. PP should upload the Approval of Mining Plan in the PARIVESH portal.
- vii. PP submitted that the 258.23 ha is private agricultural land and remaining land 8.072 ha is government land (Clause 4, ii, Pg. No.11 of Prefeasibility report). But, as per the LOI, there is no government land. PP should submit the actual land use classification with supporting document.
- viii. PP should submit the Affidavit in a Non-Judicial Stamp paper as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018.
- ix. PP should submit the details of the court case pending at the High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Jabalpur.

2.3 **Bhatgawan Sunehra Limestone and Dolomite Mine of M/s Ramniwas Singh & Sons having mining lease area: 101.480 Ha in village Bhatgawan Sunehra, Tehsil murwara District Katni, Madhyapradesh for Production capacity 1360000 Ton per Annum [Proposal No. IA/MP/MIN/166976/2020]– Terms of Reference.**

The Proposal of M/s Ramniwas Singh & Sons is for grant of Term of Reference for production capacity 1360000 Ton per Annum [Limestone- 360837 Ton per annum and Dolomite- 992655 Ton per annum] from Bhatgawan Sunehra Limestone and Dolomite Mine having mining lease area: 101.480 Ha in village Bhatgawan Sunehra, Tehsil murwara District Katni, Madhyapradesh. The mine is located between latitude 23° 40' 58.1381" N to 23° 41' 46.5829" N and Longitudes: 80° 28' 01.5428" E to 80° 28' 59.7959" E and within survey of India topo-sheet Nos. 64A/6 & Altitudes: 430-452m.

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 is Category "A" project the lease area is more than 100 ha.

3. PP applied online vide proposal no. IA/MP/MIN/166976/2020 dated 04 September 2020 for grant of Term of Reference for production capacity 1360000 Ton per Annum [Limestone- 360837 Ton per annum and Dolomite- 992655 Ton per annum] from Bhatgawan Sunehra Limestone and Dolomite Mine and submitted Form-1 & Pre-Feasibility Report. The proposal was placed in EAC meeting held during 19-21 November, 2020.

4. PP has submitted that the prospecting License has been granted on 31/12/2012 vide letter no. F-2-158/1998/12/2 and the PL deed was executed (Form F) on dated 05/01/2013. PP submitted that the Bhū Prवेश for the PL over an area 101.48 ha has been grant by Office of Collector District Katni vide letter no 255/P.K./68A-67/2012-13 Katni dated 31/05/2013 for the period of two years. The Govt. of Madhya Pradesh has been issued a Letter of Intent in favor of M/s Ramniwas Singh & Sons vide letter No. F-3-2/2016/12/2 dtd. 12/07/16 for sanction of mining lease over an area of 101.48ha for the period of 50 years.

5. PP has submitted that mining lease area does not involve any forest land also no reserved / protected forest within 10km radius (Boundary to boundary distance) as per the letter from Office of DFO Katni.

6. PP has submitted the copy of Mining Plan approval letter approved by Regional Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines vide letter no MP/Katni/limestone/MPLN/G-09/19-20/414 dated 06.02.2020. PP submitted that opencast mechanized method of mining will be adopted in the lease area. The loading of mineral will be done with shovel-tipper combination and transportation will be done through trucks or tippers. While planning the proposal for the ensuring proposal period, economic depth of the pit for minimum degradation of land has been considered, in order to prevent haphazard excavation of pits. Haul road will be extended to every working bench and to the floor of the Pit. The development will be done both in the Northern and southern part of the lease area. A new pit B will be developed from the northern side up to a maximum depth of RL 417m advancing towards south which will be merged with the existing Pit 2 and Pit 3 at the end of the proposal period. On the southern side a new Pit A will be developed up to a maximum

depth of RL 432 advancing towards east and will be merged with the existing Pit 1 at the end of the proposal period. Drilling & blasting method will be adopted. While planning the proposal for the ensuring proposal period, economic depth of the pit for minimum degradation of land has been considered, in order to prevent haphazard excavation of pits. Details are given in conceptual plan. In this five years proposal period, From Pit-A two benches will be developed in the ore zone of 6mt in height with mRL438 and mRL 432 respectively and in Pit-B four benches will be developed in the ore zone of 6mt in height with mRL 435, mRL 429, mRL423 and mRL 417 respectively. Width of benches will be as per DGMS requirements/ not less than height whereas mineral bench length will be as per production requirements. Plantation will be developed in 7.5 m safety zone as well as near mine office etc. and on the top benches of the mined out pit. The water reservoir can be used by nearby farmers for irrigation.

7. PP submitted that two waste dumps are available at present in the northern part of the lease area. The waste dumps covering an area of 28370 sqm with 60352 cum of volume with 1-2mt in height. Total 60352 m³ will be used for road maintenance purpose. During the proposal period 554526m³ of waste will be generated which will be dumped separately in the northern part of the lease area which covering an area of 74082 sqm with 5-11mt average in height. (Cohesion factor taken as 1.4). There will be a generation of 1033862 cum of Dolomite as minor mineral, which will be stacked separately in the northern part of the lease area which covering an area of 122643m² with 7-11mt average in height. (Cohesion factor taken as 1.4) There will be a generation of 516931 cum of low grade Dolomite as minor mineral, which will be stacked separately in the north-western part of the lease area which covering an area of 63950 sqm with 5-11mt average in height. (Cohesion factor taken as 1.4) During the conceptual period total of 955030 sqm area will be broken up to maximum 402m mRL. At the end of the conceptual period there will be one pit namely Pit A with nine benches in total in mineralized zone and around 220562 sqm area will be backfilled of pit -A by the generated waste up to the conceptual stage and the rest of the area about 734468 sqm of pit A will be converted into a reservoir which can be used by the local villagers for irrigation purpose.

8. PP submitted that total water requirement will be 20 KLD both for domestic and mining purpose. Out of total water requirement 10.0 KLD will be used for dust suppression, 5.0 KLD for greenbelt and 5.0 KLD for domestic purposes. PP submitted that ground water will be used. PP has submitted that out of lease area of 101.48 ha a thick plantation has been developed over an area of 40 ha, during last 50 years and the same will be preserve during the mining activity.

9. PP submitted that the lease area of 101.48 ha and the land is private land belong to project proponent, therefore, no R & R plan is required.

10. PP has submitted that the total Project capital Cost is Rs. 5.0 Crores. PP submitted that the total manpower required is 60 (for material handling and loading works out to 60 and 60 skilled / unskilled and semi-skilled workers) besides managerial and administrative purpose.

11. Based on the discussion held and document submitted, the EAC in its 23rd EAC meeting held during November 23-25, 2020 wherein the committee **recommended** the proposal for prescribing the standard TOR with Public Consultation for mining for undertaking detailed EIA/EMP study for production capacity 1360000 Ton per Annum [Limestone- 360837 Ton per annum and Dolomite- 992655 Ton per annum] from Bhatgawan Sunehra Limestone and Dolomite Mine having mining lease area: 101.480 Ha in village Bhatgawan Sunehra, Tehsil Murwara, District Katni, Madhya Pradesh with subject to submission of the following information.

- i. PP should submit a letter within 15 days from the State Government, Dept. of Geology and Mining for Approval of extraction of Dolomite along with Limestone.
- ii. Details of Total Excavation Per Year to be considered for EC. The envisaged Mass balance of Saleable Ore, Sub Grade Ore, Mineral Rejects & waste generated along with storage & disposal plan to be furnished in respect of Iron & Mn Ore.
- iii. PP should submit a letter obtained from the Office of DFO Katni for no involvement of forest land in the mine leased area.
- iv. PP should submit the actual total requirement of water with breakup for different activities along with the source of water to be utilized.
- v. PP should submit the Affidavit in a non-judicial stamp paper as per Ministry's O.M. dated 30.05.2018.
- vi. Detailed hydrogeological study to be carried out in core and buffer zone of the project as per the GEC 2015 guidelines.
- vii. Statement on the commitment (Activity-wise) made during public hearing to facilitate the discussion on the CER in compliance of the Ministry's OM F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September, 2020.

2.4

Proposal of M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited for Amalgamation of Environmental Clearances of Gudipadu Limestone Mine – 1 (392.62 Ha.) with Gudipadu Limestone Mine – 2 of (28.47 Ha) for total Limestone Production of 3.20 MTPA with total Excavation of 3.23 MTPA (Limestone – 3.2 MTPA + Top soil – 0.030 MTPA)- without change in production quantities. [Proposal No. IA/AP/MIN/174433/2020; File No. J- 11015/211/2007-IA.II(M)] Consultant: B.S. Envi-Tech Pvt Ltd – Amendment in EC

The proposal of M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited is for amendment in EC for amalgamation of Environment clearances of Gudipadu Limestone Mine – 1 (392.62 Ha.) with Gudipadu Limestone Mine – 2 of (28.47 Ha) for total Limestone Production

of 3.20 MTPA with total Excavation of 3.23 MTPA (Limestone – 3.2 MTPA + Top soil – 0.030 MTPA) located at Gudipadu & Kundanakota villages, Yadiki Mandal, Ananthapur District, Andhra Pradesh.

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 mining lease area is greater than 100 ha.

3. PP had earlier applied vide Proposal No. IA/AP/MIN/59624/2016 dated 14.03.2018 for expansion of production of Limestone Mine -1 from 2.3 MTPA to 5.3 MTPA and the proposal was placed in the 12th EAC meeting held during, November 23-25, 2016 wherein the Committee recommended the grant of TOR and the Ministry issued TOR vide Lr. No. J-11015/207/2016-IA.II (M) dated 19.01.2017. PP stated that the Public hearing was completed and due to initiation of amalgamation of mining lease, PP stopped pursuing the above proposal for expansion.

PP has now applied vide Proposal No. IA/AP/MIN/174433/2020 dated 21.10.2020 for Amendment in Environment Clearance for Amalgamation of Environmental Clearances of Gudipadu Limestone Mine – 1 (392.622 Ha.) of 2.3 MTPA limestone production with Gudipadu Limestone Mine – 2 (28.474 Ha) with 0.9 MTPA Limestone production for Combined Limestone Production of 3.20 MTPA from Amalgamated Mining Lease Area of 421.096 Ha located at Gudipadu & Kundanakota villages, Yadiki Mandal, Ananthapur District, Andhra Pradesh.

PP has submitted that the Environmental Clearances granted for Gudipadu **Limestone Mine –1 (ML-I Area - 392.622 Ha.)** with limestone production of 2.30 MTPA vide MoEFCC Letter No: J-11015/211/2007 – IA. II(M) dt. 17.07.2007 and Gudipadu **Limestone Mine – 2 (ML Area – 28.474 Ha.)** with limestone production of 0.9 MTPA vide SEIAA Letter No: SEIAA/AP/ANT/- 119/2014 - 1961 dt. 04.03.2015 located at Gudipadu Village, Yadiki Mandal, Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh.

4. PP has submitted that the Mining Lease was granted for **Limestone Mine-1** over an extent of 970.17 Acres (392.622 Ha) in Sy.Nos.57, 58, 60 to 67, 79, 99 to 102, 105 to 128, 130 to 161, 163 to 180, 261, 268 to 270, 272 to 273, 277 to 285 & 287 of Gudipadu (V) and in Sy.Nos.1 to 10, 28(P), 31 to 45, 47 to 50 of Kundanakota (V), Yadiki (M), Ananthapuramu District in favour of M/s.Penna Cement Industries Ltd., vide G.O.Ms.No.78, Ind & Com (M.III) Dept, dt.02.04.2007 for a period of 20 years. The lease deed was executed on 16.07.2007 and the lease is in force up to 15.07.2027.

PP has submitted that the mining lease was initially granted in favour of Smt.D.Satyavathi vide G.O Ms.No. 422, Ind & Com. (M.III) Department, dt. 24.07.1986. The lease deed was executed on 08.07.1999 and was valid up to 07.07.2019 (20 years). Then, DMG vide F.No 15987/R4-1/04, Dt 19.05.2005, the Director of Mines and Geology has send lapsed proposals under rule 28 (1) of M.C.Rules, 1960 for the mining lease held by Smt.D.Satyavathi on the grounds that the lessee has not operating the lease since execution of the lease deed. The previous lessee vide application dated 11.05.2006 through an affidavit stated that she is not in position to set up a cement

plant due to financial problems and requested to transfer the said mining lease in favour of M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited. Thereafter, DMG vide F.No. 23883/R4-1/2006, dated 03.08.2006 and Govt, of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O Ms. No. 281 dated 18.10.2006 accorded permission to the previous lessee Smt.D.Satyavathi to transfer the mining lease held by her for **Limestone Mine-2** over an extent of 70.36 Acres (28.474 Ha) in Sy.Nos.101/A & 122/A of Gudipadu (V), Yadiki (M), Ananthapuramu District in favour of M/s.Penna Cement Industries Ltd., for un-expired portion of the lease period up to 07.07.2019. Then, PP executed the transfer of lease deed on 13.12.2006.

PP further submitted that the Government of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O.MS.No. 87 dated: 15.10.2019 accorded permission for amalgamation of two Mining Leases held by M/s.Penna Cement Industries Ltd. for Limestone over an extent of 70.36 Acs in Sy.Nos.101/A & 122/A of Gudipadu (V), Yadiki (M), Ananthapuramu Dist. and over an extent of 970.17 Acs in Sy.Nos.57, 58, 60 to 67, 79, 99 to 102, 105 to 128, 130 to 161, 163 to 180, 261, 268 to 270, 272 to 273, 277 to 285 & 287 of Gudipadu (V) and in Sy.Nos.1 to 10, 28(P), 31 to 45, 47 to 50 of Kundanakota (V), Yadiki (M), Ananthapuramu District as one Mining Lease for a total extent of 1,040.53 Acs (421.096 Ha) co-terminus with the Mining Lease period up to **07.07.2049** which is going to be expired first in terms of Rule 56 of Minerals (other than Atomic & Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 and as per Section 8 (A) (3) of MM (D&R) Amendment Act, 2015 and subject to submission of valid MRCC by the lessee Company and subject to satisfaction of all terms & conditions of MM (D&R) Act, 1957 & M.C. (OAH&E) Rules, 2016.

5. PP submitted Approval of Modified Mining Plan in respect of Amalgamated Gudipadu Limestone mine of M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited over an extent of 421.096 Ha under Rule 17 (3) of MCR, 2016 for the period w.e.f. 2019-20 to 2023-24 vide IBM Lr.No. AP/ANP/MP/LST-60/HYD dated 24.08.2020.

6. PP reported that the mechanized opencast mining with deep-hole drilling & blasting will be adopted. Drilling operations are being conducted with 150 mm dia drilling machines. Hydraulic excavators are being deployed to load the blasted limestone into dumpers. Presently the production of limestone is being raised by deploying two Hydraulic excavators with 3.30 cu.m bucket capacity. The same method will continue. The transportation of limestone from the working face to the crusher is presently carried out by 60 tons & 40 tons of capacity dumpers which are matching with the loading/ excavating unit. The average to and fro hauling distance from the farthest working face to the crusher is around 1.75 km. Thus the number of dumpers required for transportation of limestone has been calculated based on haulage distance of 1.75 km. and also on the basis of two shifts working in a day. The ROM will be hauled to the crusher for sizing from the pit-head. The feed size to the crusher is 1.00 cu m. From Crusher limestone is transported to cement plant through closed conveyor.

PP also submitted that production will be 3.20 million tons of Limestone per annum, Life of the mine @ 3.2 million tonnes per annum of production for the mineral

reserves of 180.92 million tonnes would be 57 years. However the lease period of Amalgamated Mine is 29 years i.e. up to 07.07.2049. Top soil generation is 0.30 million m³ for the lease period of 29 years i.e up to 07.07.2049 m³. Top soil generated will be utilized for various plantation works within ML areas. The waste generation will be temporarily stacked within the mining lease area and ultimately it is totally consumed.

PP also reported that Out of the total 421.096 Ha, about 180.78 Ha will be broken for production of limestone during the lease period upto 07.07.2049. Greenbelt will be developed in 25.85 Ha which includes the barrier zone of 7.5 m width all along the mining lease boundary and 200.846 Ha will remain undisturbed.

7. PP submitted that the water table is found at a depth of 60 m below, 405 m RL in summer and 65 m below, 415 m RL during the rainy season. Working pit is finally to reach a depth of 425 m RL which is above the water table. There will not be any impacts on ground water regime of the area due to mining. The workings are expected to reach 425 m RL as ultimate depth of mining, which is above the water table in the area. Hence there will not be any impact on ground water regime of the lease area and its surroundings. Water requirement of the mine is 90 m³/day (total of two mines). The source of water is existing mine pit. No additional water is required due to amalgamation. The waste water generation is only through domestic usage. This waste water of 6.0 m³/day is treated in Septic tanks followed by soak pit. PP also reported that as part of rainwater harvesting collects the storm water for storage in the mine pit for use during lean season.

8. PP reported that already afforestation was developed in 12.0 Ha within the mine area under part of boundary plantation and all along the approach road to the pit with species like *Peltophorum ferrugineum*, *Pongamia-Pinnata*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Nerium spp*, *Bougainvillea indica*, *Hibiscus rosasinensis*, *Melia dubia*, *Conocarpus lancifolius*, *Ficus religiosa*, *Pongamia glabra*, *Mangifera indica*, *Cocos nucifera*, *Acrus sapota*, *Casuarina equisetifolis*, *Pithecellobium dulce*, *Psidium guajava*, *Punica granatum*, *Syzygium cumini* and *Alstonia scholaris*. PP submitted that the 10.5 Ha covering 7.5 m width barrier zone along the lease boundary will be developed for the period 2019-20 to 2023-24 with a density of 2500 saplings/ha of 3150 no.s/year with a capital cost of Rs 19.5 lakhs and recurring cost of 3.15 lakhs.

9. PP submitted that there is no forest land involved in the mining lease area. PP reported that the Nearest Reserve Forests from the Mining Lease Area is Yadiki RF (6.1km, WNW). There are no National Parks or Sanctuaries located in 10 km radius. PP also obtained Letter from Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Ananthapuram vide Rc.No.2933/2015 dated 09.08.2017 and reported that there is no schedule – I species found in 10 km radius.

10. PP submitted that the baseline data for ambient air quality (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂ & NO₂), water quality, noise level, soil and flora & fauna was generated for the period during summer season 2018. PP submitted that the air quality monitoring has been carried out at 8 locations. The air quality concentrations of PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ for all the 8 AAQM stations were found between 21.8 to 31.9 µg/m³ and 49.8 to 60.4 µg/m³

respectively. The concentrations of NO_x and SO₂ were found to be in range of 12.1 to 14.2 µg/m³ and 11.3 to 12.9 µg/m³ respectively. AAQ parameters in the study area have been found well within prescribed norms. Ambient noise levels were measured at 8 locations in and around the mine site. Noise levels varied from 40.5 & 63.8 Leq dB(A) during day time and from 35.7-55.4 Leq dB(A) during night time. PP further submitted that ground water samples were collected from 8 locations within study area. PP submitted that the collected water quality samples showed conformation with IS-10500 limits except for presence of coliforms. PP submitted that post project concentration of various pollutants is well within the prescribed standards.

11. PP submitted Auto renewal of Consent for Operation for **Limestone Mine-1** issued by Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board vide APPCB/KNL/ATP/106/HO/CFO/2015-474 dated 22.04.2015 for a production of 2.3 MTPA and is valid up to 28.02.2023.

PP also submitted Auto renewal of Consent for Operation for **Limestone Mine-2** issued by Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board vide ATP-460/APPCB/ZOKNL/CFO/2016-884 dated 14.11.2016 for a production of 0.9 MTPA and is valid up to 30.09.2021.

12. PP submitted Certified EC Compliance report by Regional Office, MoEFCC, Chennai for **Limestone Mine -1** vide Lr. No. EP/12.1/577/AP/725 dated 07.09.2020 and for **Limestone Mine -2** vide Lr. No. EP/12.1/2020- 21/SEIAA/40/AP/724 dated 07.09.2020.

13. PP submitted the past production details duly authenticated by Department of Mines and Geology, Tadipatri, Anantapur District for **Limestone Mine – 1** for the period 2007-08 to 2019-20 **and Limestone Mine – 2** for the period 2016-17 to 2018-19 along with Annexure III. The mining operation for Limestone Mine -2 began on only 2016-17. The past production details submitted by PP shows that production is well within the capacity of CFO and EC dated 17.07.2007 and 04.03.2015 respectively. PP also submitted the affidavit vide PB5616 dated 21.09.2020 as per the Ministry's Office Memorandum No.350/2017-IA.III(Pt.), dated 30.05.2018 to comply 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 and further declared that the no violations are involved in the mine.

14. The proposal was considered in the 23rd EAC meeting held during November 23-25, 2020. The EAC deliberated on the submissions made by the project proponent and presentation made by the consultant in the meeting and **recommended** the proposal for amalgamation of Environmental Clearances of Gudipadu Limestone Mine – 1 (392.62 Ha.) with Gudipadu Limestone Mine – 2 of (28.47 Ha) for total Limestone Production of 3.20 MTPA with total Excavation of 3.23 MTPA (Limestone – 3.2 MTPA + Top soil – 0.030 MTPA) - without change in production quantities along with the specific condition.

- i. Plantation in the remaining 11 Ha should be done as per the existing guidelines of Green belt development and Plantation so that it can serve the purpose of green belt.
- ii. Survival rate of the saplings/plants may be recorded and status to be submitted in compliance report to RO, MoEF&CC as per schedule.
