

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

SUMMARY RECORD OF 24TH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE RE-CONSTITUTED EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL OF NON-COAL MINING PROJECTS CONSTITUTED UNDER THE EIA NOTIFICATION, 2006.

The 24th meeting of the Re-Constituted Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for Environmental Appraisal of Mining Projects (Non-Coal) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was held during 26-28 December, 2023 through video conference. The list of participants is annexed herewith. After login of the Committee Members through video conference link provided by NIC discussion on each of the Agenda Items was taken up ad-seriatim.

(1.0) Deliberation & Circulation on the Minutes of 23rd EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 5-7 December, 2023:

The minutes of the 23rd EAC meeting held during 5-7 December, 2023 were placed before the members of the EAC.

Day 1: 26th December, 2023 (Tuesday)

1.1 Majhgawan Diamond Mine, Panna of M/s NMDC Ltd. with total excavation of 13.90 LTPA [ROM Kimberlite Ore @ 8 LTPA and Overburden removal @5.90 LTPA] for production of 1.00 lakh carats of Diamonds per annum in the mine lease area of 113.332 Ha, located at village Majhgawan, Tehsil & District Panna, Madhya Pradesh -[F.No: J-11015/120/2018-IA-II(M), Proposal No: IA/MP/MIN/442288/2023, EIA Consultant: M/s Ecomen Laboratories Ltd] - Revalidation of EC under Ministry's Notification vide S.O. (E) 1530, dated 06.04.2018

The instant proposal is for mining of Diamond in Majhgawan Diamond Mine with total excavation of 13.90 LTPA [ROM Kimberlite ore @ 8 LTPA and Overburden removal @ 5.90 LTPA for production of 1.00 lakh carats of Diamonds per annum] in the mine lease area of 113.332 Ha (Main Lease), located at village Majhgawan, Tehsil & District Panna, Madhya Pradesh.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent and revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under: -

- i. The proposal was earlier considered in the 20th EAC (Non Coal Mining) meeting held during 21-22 September, 2023 wherein the EAC deferred the proposal for want of requisite information. Then, the Project Proponent submitted the information on 02.12.2023 in Parivesh portal and accordingly the proposal was considered in the 24th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023.

Based on observation of EAC in its meeting held during 21-22 September, 2023 and observation of EAC and compliance made by Project Proponent are detailed below:

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	S. No	Parameters	Winter 2020-21	Post Monsoon, 2023		
	1	pH at 25°C	6.84 – 7.11	7.08 -7.34		
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	3	Chloride as cl-, mg/l	43.5 – 47.2	26.0 – 34.0		
	4	Total Hardness, mg/l	92.6-115.6	116-144		
	5	COD, mg/l	<3.0	8 -16		
	6	BOD, mg/l	<5.0	2 – 2.5		
	7	Fluoride as F, mg/l	0.4-0.5	0.49-0.56		
	8	Sulphates as SO ₄ , mg/l	14.9-18.3	16.7-23.2		
Ground water quality (7 locations)						
	S. No	Parameters	Winter 2020-21	Post Monsoon, 2023		
	1	pH at 25°C	7.39 - 7.84	7.01 - 7.69		
	2	Total Dissolved solids, mg/l	335.1 - 539.4	446 – 612		

		3	Chloride as cl-, mg/l	29.4 - 70.5	40 – 75
		4	Total Hardness, mg/l	184.3-294.8	204 – 280
		5	Fluoride as F, mg/l	0.5 - 0.9	0.48 - 0.77
		6	Sulphates as SO ₄ , mg/l	19.8 - 46.8	22 – 41
		Soil quality (5 locations)			
		S. No	Parameters	Winter 2020-21	Post Monsoon, 2023
		1	pH	7.16 – 7.89	7.24 – 7.77
		2	Electrical Conductivity (µS/cm)	154 - 234	221 – 274
		3	Organic Carbon (%)	0.25 – 0.32	0.36 – 0.57
		4	Available Nitrogen as N (kg/Ha)	35.3 – 57.4	31.2 – 48.0
		5	Available Phosphorus as P (kg/Ha)	14.6 – 28.4	12.7 – 20.2
		6	Potassium (kg/Ha)	468 – 581.8	134 – 203
2	The EAC opined that the Project Proponent may seek a legal opinion regarding the applicability of the orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 in this instant proposal.	The Project Proponent submitted the legal opinion obtained from the Attorney-General for India on 23.11.2023. The Attorney-General for India has opined that the orders passed by the Supreme Court on 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 overrules all earlier orders is misconceived. As subsequent order cannot be said to have overruled an earlier order unless the earlier order is directly put to rest, considered and dealt with. There is no room for overruling by implication also unless the subjects of the two proceedings are common. The order passed by the Supreme Court on 30.11.2022 was with full knowledge and understanding about the national park aspect. It was on the strength of that order, that all statutory authorities applied their mind, more particularly on the need and relevance of the closure of the mining activities and its importance. As a result, the order dated 30.11.2022 may have to treated as a standalone order. It cannot be compared to any other mining activity which			

		<p>has not obtained requisite clearances. Additionally, having regard to the nature of the mining activity and the mischief that may arise from the abandonment of the mining activity, leaving the mined area with all its exposures, would also be a distinguishing factor.</p> <p>While on the prima facie reading on the two orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023, do seem to suggest against undertaking mining activities within the prohibited areas, as already stated above in view of the clearance given by the Supreme Court, it appears to me that the Querist has a legitimate claim for further undertaking of the mining activity strictly in terms of the approval granted.</p>
3	<p>The EAC also opined that the Ministry may seek comments from the ESZ Division since the project is located within the Gangau wildlife sanctuary of Panna Tiger Reserve and whether the aforesaid orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 are applicable in the instant proposal or not.</p>	<p>The ESZ Division gave their comments on 12.10.2023 stating that <i>“Mining within ESZ is a prohibited activity. This has been reiterated by the Supreme Court Order dated 28.04.2023, irrespective of whether the mining is beyond 1.0 km from the boundary of the protected area, in case ESZ extends beyond 1.0 km.”</i></p> <p>The comments of the Wildlife Division obtained on 19.11.2023 are as follows:-</p> <p>The proposal for wildlife clearance under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 of Majhgawan Diamond Mine of M/s NMDC Ltd was recommended by the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife in its 61st meeting held on 18th February, 2021 subject to the conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden and the National Tiger Conservation Authority. The recommendations of NTCA were subject to approval of Hon’ble Supreme Court. The Hon’ble Supreme Court order in I.A No: 1485 and 1507 dated 13/8/2008 and I.A No: 47252 of 2021 dated 30/11/2022 in W.P (Civil) no: 202 of 1995 permitted mining operations in Diamond Mining Project, Panna in Gangau wildlife sanctuary of Panna Tiger Reserve.”</p>

		<p>Subsequently, Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 26.04.2023 in IA 131377 of 2022 filed by the Ministry in W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that <i>“mining within the National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary and within an area of one kilometre from the boundary of such National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary shall not be permissible.”</i></p> <p>If any clarification is required on the matter, the IA Division may seek the same from Hon'ble Supreme Court.”</p>
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3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC:

The Member Secretary informed the EAC that officials from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and Wildlife Division in the Ministry were invited as a Special Invitee to discuss the matter. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to brief about the legal aspects of Main and Supplementary mine lease. The Project Proponent briefed about the chronology of the legal aspects since from the grant of mining lease in the year 1965 to till the order of the Hon'ble Supreme court orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that at the time of sanction of grant of mining lease, the instant leases were outside the Panna (Gangau) Wildlife Sanctuary. The Panna Wildlife Sanctuary was notified in the year 1975 and later in the year 1994, the Govt. of India declared it as a Project Tiger Reserve. Then in the year 2005, the Director, Panna National Park informed that both the mine leases fall within Gangau Wildlife Sanctuary. Thereafter, the mining operations were suspended in the year 2005 and plant operations in the year 2006.

Further, the Project Proponent informed the EAC that EC was obtained in the year 2006 under EIA,1994 subject to acceptance by the Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife as well as permission from Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The mining operations resumed in the year 2009 after obtaining all approvals and the permission was valid upto 31.12.2020. Again mining operations were stopped w.e.f 01.01.2021. In order to expedite the balance reserves, the application for renewal of Wildlife Clearance was submitted. The DIG, NTCA on 15.02.2021 conveyed the recommendations subject to fulfillment of conditions laid down by Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW), Madhya Pradesh. The CWLW while forwarding the proposal to the Ministry specifically mentioned that the NMDC again should obtain the permission from the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Then, an IA was filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 30.11.2022 stated that the present application deserves to be allowed and renewal of Wildlife Clearance was granted by CWLW on 24.02.2023. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 26.04.2023 and

28.04.2023 directed that *“any activity, which is prohibited by both the guidelines as well as the ESZ notification shall strictly be prohibited. Since the mining activity in ESZ area is a prohibited activity, there is no question of such an activity being permitted in an ESZ area even if it falls beyond the distance of one kilometer from the boundary of the protected area”*.

The Project Proponent also briefed about the legal opinion obtained from the Attorney-General for India on 23.11.2023. The Attorney-General for India has opined that the orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 over rules all earlier orders are misconceived. The order passed by the Supreme Court on 30.11.2022 was with full knowledge and understanding about the national park aspect. A subsequent order cannot be said to have overruled an earlier order unless the earlier order is directly put to rest, considered and dealt with. Also, there is no room for overruling by implication also unless the subjects of the two proceedings are common. Therefore, the order dated 30.11.2022 may have to be treated as a standalone order. It cannot be compared to any other mining activity which has not obtained requisite clearances. In view of the clearance given by the Supreme Court, it appears to that the Querist has a legitimate claim for further undertaking of the mining activity strictly in terms of the approval granted. The EAC noted that the Wildlife Division has informed that if any clarification is required on the matter, the IA Division may seek the same from Hon'ble Supreme Court. The officials of NTCA and Wildlife Division opined that the instant file may be sent to the NTCA to offer further comments in the instant matter.

The Project Proponent presented the KML file to indicate the site features in the vicinity of the mine lease area and in the study area of 10 km radius. The Project Proponent explained about the site features in the main mine lease area. The Project Proponent showed the existing working pit of 120m deep. The mining operations mainly will be carried out in the main mine lease and plant operations will be carried out in the supplementary mine lease for recovery of diamonds. Tailing pond is partly located within main mine lease and partly in supplementary mine lease. Water is re-circulated into the plant. The Project Proponent showed the processing plant, existing coarse tailing dumps, existing and proposed waste dumps and ore stack yard. The main mine lease does not involve forest land and the supplementary mine lease involves forest land of 74.018 ha and the Forest Clearance is co-terminus with extended lease period up to 30/6/2040. Water will be utilized from water reservoir built by NMDC. Renewal application was made to CGWA for obtaining approval for dewatering of 321.0 KLD and the same is awaited.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that baseline data was conducted during December, 2020 – February, 2021 (Winter Season) and then revalidated by collecting one-month fresh baseline data by new EIA Consultant M/s Ecomen Laboratories (P) Limited from 1st October, 2023 – 30th October, 2023. The revalidation

of baseline data was compared with initial baseline data generated during 01.12.2020 to 28.02.2021 and it was found that the revalidation of baseline data similar with previous baseline data and no major variations was observed during the recent study. Till date about 1.95 Lakhs saplings have been planted including both the leases as well as in surrendered areas. The monitoring committee suggested to remove the exotic species. No R&R issues are involved. The action plan for removal of exotic species is yet to be approved by PTR. Total height of dump will be around 25-30 m. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to ensure that no washouts should reach the village. The total excavated area will be 23.576 ha, out of which 3.07 ha will remain as water body at lower benches and the remaining area of 20.506 ha will be covered under plantation. OB & Tailing dump, mineral storage and infrastructure will also be covered under plantation. After removal of tailings, the tailing pond will be developed as a rain water reservoir. No backfilling is envisaged. Advertisement for public consultation was advertised on 20.07.2023 and the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board vide letter dated 22.08.2023 forwarded the objections/suggestions received. The main concerns of the locals were related to drinking water, skill development, improvement of facilities etc., The budget proposed to address the concerns works out be Rs. 252 lakhs for both main mine lease and supplementary mine lease. A capital cost of Rs 342 Lakhs and a recurring cost of Rs 54.5 Lakhs have been earmarked towards Environment Management Plan. The Project Proponent explained about the processing of plant operations. The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether any chemical is added during mineral processing. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that ferro silicon is added to maintain the density.

After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the EIA Consultant, the EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to seek clarification from the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding the applicability of the orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 in this instant proposals. Based on the discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The Project Proponent needs to seek clarification from the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding the applicability of the orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 in this instant proposals.
- ii. The Ministry to seek comments from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and Wildlife Division in the instant matter.

1.2 Majhgawan Diamond Mine, Panna of M/s NMDC Ltd. for 0.72 LTPA of over burden removal and Processing of Kimberley ore (8 LTPA) for production of 1.00 lakh carats of Diamond per annum with the mine lease area of 162.631 Ha (Supplementary Mine lease), located at village Majhgawan, Tehsil & District Panna, Madhya Pradesh – [F.No: IA-J-11015/121/2018-IA-II(M), Proposal

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2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent and revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under: -

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6	Potassium (kg/Ha)	468 – 581.8	134 – 203	
2	The EAC opined that the Project Proponent may seek a legal opinion regarding the applicability of the orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 in this instant proposal.	The Project Proponent submitted the legal opinion obtained from the Attorney-General for India on 23.11.2023. The Attorney-General for India has opined that the orders passed by the Supreme Court on 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 overrules all earlier orders is misconceived. As subsequent order cannot be said to have overruled an earlier order		

		<p>unless the earlier order is directly put to rest, considered and dealt with. There is no room for overruling by implication also unless the subjects of the two proceedings are common. The order passed by the Supreme Court on 30.11.2022 was with full knowledge and understanding about the national park aspect. It was on the strength of that order, that all statutory authorities applied their mind, more particularly on the need and relevance of the closure of the mining activities and its importance. As a result, the order dated 30.11.2022 may have to treated as a standalone order. It cannot be compared to any other mining activity which has not obtained requisite clearances. Additionally, having regard to the nature of the mining activity and the mischief that may arise from the abandonment of the mining activity, leaving the mined area with all its exposures, would also be a distinguishing factor.</p> <p>While on the prima facie reading on the two orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023, do seem to suggest against undertaking mining activities within the prohibited areas, as already stated above in view of the clearance given by the Supreme Court, it appears to me that the Querist has a legitimate claim for further undertaking of the mining activity strictly in terms of the approval granted.</p>
3	<p>The EAC also opined that the Ministry may seek comments from the ESZ Division since the project is located within the Gangau wildlife sanctuary of Panna Tiger Reserve and whether the aforesaid orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 are applicable in the instant proposal or not.</p>	<p>The ESZ Division gave their comments on 12.10.2023 stating that <i>“Mining within ESZ is a prohibited activity. This has been reiterated by the Supreme Court Order dated 28.04.2023, irrespective of whether the mining is beyond 1.0 km from the boundary of the protected area, in case ESZ extends beyond 1.0 km.”</i></p> <p>The comments of the Wildlife Division obtained on 19.11.2023 are as follows:-</p> <p>The proposal for wildlife clearance under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 of Majhgawan</p>

		<p>Diamond Mine of M/s NMDC Ltd was recommended by the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife in its 61st meeting held on 18th February, 2021 subject to the conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden and the National Tiger Conservation Authority. The recommendations of NTCA were subject to approval of Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Hon'ble Supreme Court order in I.A No: 1485 and 1507 dated 13/8/2008 and I.A No: 47252 of 2021 dated 30/11/2022 in W.P (Civil) no: 202 of 1995 permitted mining operations in Diamond Mining Project, Panna in Gangau wildlife sanctuary of Panna Tiger Reserve."</p> <p>Subsequently, Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 26.04.2023 in IA 131377 of 2022 filed by the Ministry in W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that "<i>mining within the National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary and within an area of one kilometre from the boundary of such National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary shall not be permissible.</i>"</p> <p>If any clarification is required on the matter, the IA Division may seek the same from Hon'ble Supreme Court."</p>
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2. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC:

The instant proposal of supplementary mine lease was appraised together with main mine lease as both the mine leases are contiguous. After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the EIA Consultant, the EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to seek clarification from the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding the applicability of the orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 for the instant proposals. Based on the discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information:-

- i. The Project Proponent needs to seek clarification from the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding the applicability of the orders dated 26.04.2023 and 28.04.2023 in this instant proposals.

- ii. The Ministry to seek comments from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and Wildlife Division in the instant matter.

1.3 Bicholim Mineral Block- Block 1 (Auction Block) of M/s Vedanta Limited for mining of Iron Ore with proposed production capacity of 3.0 MTPA, Waste: 25.162 MTPA(Total Excavation: 28.162 MTPA) along with crushing and screening plant capacity of 4.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 478.5206 ha, located at Bicholim, Bordem, Lamgao, Mulgoa, Mayem&Sirigao Villages of Bicholim Taluka of North Goa District, Goa - [F.No: IA-J-11015/3/2023-IA-II(NCM), Proposal No: IA/GA/MIN/442593/2023, EIA Consultant: M/s Mineral Engineering Services] – Environmental Clearance (EC)

The instant proposal is for mining of Iron Ore in Bicholim Mineral Block – Block 1 (Auction Block) of M/s Vedanta Limited with proposed production capacity of 3.0 MTPA, Waste: 25.162 MTPA (Total Excavation: 28.162 MTPA) along with crushing and screening plant capacity of 4.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 478.5206 ha, located at Bicholim, Bordem, Lamgao, Mulgoa, Mayem&Sirigao Villages of Bicholim Taluka of North Goa District, Goa.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent and revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under: -

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and falls under Category “A” as the mining lease area is greater than 250ha and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 15°34’20.518”N to 15°36’54.018”N and Longitude: 73°54’4.754”E to 73°57’09.51”E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: D43B14 and falls in Seismic Zone-II.
- iii. The proposal was earlier considered in the 20thEAC (Non Coal Mining) meeting held during 21-22 September, 2023 wherein the EAC deferred the proposal for want of requisite information and site visit report of the subcommittee. Accordingly, site visit was carried out during 29-31 October, 2023 and then the Project Proponent submitted the information along with compliance of site visit report on 04.12.2023 in Parivesh portal and hence the proposal was considered in the 24th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023.

Based on observation of EAC in its meeting held during 21-22 September, 2023 and observations of sub-committee during site visit (29-31 October, 2023), the project proponent provided the following compliances:-

S. No	Observation of subcommittee during site visit held during 29-31 October, 2023	Reply by Project Proponent
1	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the techno economic feasibility report for laying Over Land Belt Conveyor (OLBC) from the mine lease area to Sarmanas Jetty.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that transportation route from mine site to jetty currently covers a total distance of 5.48 kms (4.54 dedicated road and 0.94 km MDR-20 Public Road). Based on the present capacity of the tippers, 1205 trips are required per day and the present road network is adequate for the purpose with widening and strengthening of some patches.</p> <p>The preliminary Techno-Economic feasibility study has been undertaken and prima facie it does not look feasible to switchover to OLBC system considering the terrain of the likely route having mounds and low-lying areas, vegetation/forest patches and its likely degradation, accessibility, environmental impacts and safety issues, technologies available, cost of the system, implementation period via-a-vis remaining reserves in the mining lease.</p> <p>The Project Proponent also submitted the preliminary Techno-Economic feasibility issues for laying Over Land Belt Conveyor (OLBC) from the mine lease area to the Sarmanas Jetty along with cost and timeline comparison for conveyor system and dedicated road.</p>
2	<p>The subcommittee asked the Project Proponent to submit the ecology restoration plan for mined out pits for using as Water reservoir/Pisciculture.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the Ecology Restoration or Mine Reclamation activities at Block I Bicholim Mineral block will be carried out concurrently with mining operations. The company has in-house experienced team having experience of mine land reclamation. The company also proposes to collaborate and take support of various reputed institutes and consultancy firms in ecology restoration of the area more importantly the local stake holders will be consulted in the process of ecology restoration.</p> <p>The Project Proponent also submitted that at conceptual stage, 20 ha area will be converted into water reservoir & 293.5 ha will be converted into backfilled area. Backfilled area will be reclaimed & rehabilitated by the plantation. At conceptual stage around 105 ha (21.94% of the total project area) of land will be brought under plantation. The plantation will comprise of saplings of native species which are generally grown in the state of Goa. The plantation would be a mix of various forest and fruit tree species and</p>

		<p>technical advice would be taken from state forest and agriculture departments. The saplings will be procured from various nurseries like forest department nursery, nurseries developed by locals and also from companies in-house root trainer nursery.</p> <p>Further, the Project Proponent submitted that the Block-I Bicholim Mineral Block is already having a 7.5m wide green belt all along the mine block boundary except the areas where the mine block shares a common boundary with adjoining mine block. A 50m green belt exists towards the habitation within the lease and the same would be further strengthened and maintained. A dedicated 200m green belt would be developed and maintained towards the Idgah area. A density of 2500 saplings per ha will be maintained. Extensive plantation would also be done along the sides of connecting roads.</p> <p>The waste dump slopes will be covered with laterite material and then with biodegradable geotextile mats which will prevent soil erosion of the dump slopes and thus will facilitate the growth of native species. Grass seeds will be sprinkled on the dump slopes so that the same germinate during rains. The top of dump areas / levelled areas will be properly planned and developed in to theme based gardens which can be a attraction for school students, tourist etc.</p> <p>Some of the mined-out pits will partially backfilled and retained as water bodies. For instance, 1 Top pit and 5 Bottom pits will be finalized by end of first mine plan period and will be taken up for ecology restoration initiatives. The company will collaborate with state fisheries department to develop Pisciculture in the water body developed in the mine pits. Local youth will be provided training through the fisheries department so that they manage and maintain the Pisciculture project.</p>
3	<p>The subcommittee noted that the transfer of material from one pit to other working pit will lead to transportation issues. The subcommittee asked the Project Proponent to identify</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that as suggested by the Hon'ble Committee detailed study of mineral transportation from one pit to another pit including sequential mining has been carried out. The company has explored the possibility of concurrent backfilling and it will be possible only from 5th to 10th year.</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted the google image showing the existing available pits for backfilling and</p>

	<p>the shortest lead distance and also to explore the possibility of concurrent backfilling. The Project Proponent also needs to submit the sequential stage wise mining in top and bottom working pits and their backfilling plan.</p>	<p>proposed pits for backfilling. The Project Proponent also submitted the details of existing pits, area, depth and volume for backfilling and also the proposed working pits, area, depth and volume available for backfilling. Further, the Project Proponent submitted the year wise sequential mining & backfilling plan.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for strengthen the settling pond with proper stone pitching in line with the design of settling pond considering the annual rainfall, flow rate, catchment area and its discharge. The action plan for monitoring the water level and water quality before discharge needs to be submitted.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that at conceptual stage, total 12 no.s of settling ponds will be developed and these will be strengthened by the stone pitching. About 6 numbers of earlier mined out abandoned pits and 12 nos of interlinked siltation ponds have been identified for collecting surface run off from respective catchment sub basins. The Project Proponent also submitted the map showing the settling ponds and drainage network and design of settling ponds.</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that a total of 5.49 Million CuM of void volume is available for surface run-off holding in six pits having a cumulative area of 58.11 Ha which have a total catchment area of 160 Ha. During entire mine life water holding capacity of 5.49 or more than 5.49 Million CuM will be available at any time. Further, a total 12 nos of settling ponds have been earmarked within and outside the ML Area for collecting surface run off. A total of 0.38 Million M3 of void volume is available for surface run-off holding in 12 nos settling ponds having a cumulative area of 8.84 Ha. Considering five fillings in a year, the gross volumes of settling ponds will be 1.90 Million M3.</p> <p>Further, the Project Proponent submitted that entire monsoon runoff is channelized into mine pits and supernatant water flows into series of settling ponds through drains. The clear water is allowed to naturally overflow by Header arrangements or through check dams. In case required, Lime or combination of Lime and flocculent is used in the mine pit or settling pond so that the particles settle, and clear water is discharged. The discharge water is monitored regularly so that water quality meets the prescribed limits. The inhouse Environment management cell will undertake the regular</p>

		<p>monitoring and analysis of discharge water through Environment laboratory recognized by MoEF&CC. The monitoring reports will be submitted to Goa State Pollution Control Board on monthly basis and MoEF&CC Regional office on six monthly basis.</p> <p>Surface water samples shall be collected at 8 locations which include all the mine discharge points and upstream and downstream of Bicholim and Asnora river. Samples shall be collected once a month. The parameters listed in IS: 2296 shall be monitored. During monsoon season, in addition to the monthly monitoring, all the discharge points will be regularly monitored (on all the rainy days) and the TSS levels will be checked.</p>
5	<p>The design of garland drain around the waste dumps to divert the water to settling ponds and the measures to be taken to arrest the suspended solids needs to be submitted. The measures to be taken for preventing the soil erosion on slope of waste dumps needs to be submitted.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the dimensions of the drains will be maintained with width of 2m and 1.5 m in depth everywhere in the mine. A proper height will be maintained on the sides of the garland drain so that water does not get overflowed from the drains. The available garland drains are 11313 m in length which covers all the dumps within the mine lease area. The same will be strengthened and maintained before the onset of monsoon. The daily average surface run-off is estimated as 14003 m³. The garland drains have the capacity to accommodate instant volume of 33939 m³ as per above dimensions. Therefore, garland drains capacity is more than sufficient to take care of average daily surface run off during raining period. Additional drains are proposed to take care of peak run off during the plan period. Therefore, water management structures comprising of drains, settling ponds and mined out pits are available as well as planned to address the catchment area run-off for conceptual period.</p> <p>The Project Proponent also submitted the measures to be taken to arrest the suspended solids and for preventing the soil erosion on slopes of waste dumps for preventing the soil erosion on slope of waste dumps which are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Inward slope will be provided to all the dump benches so that the water doesn't flow over the slope and erodes the dump slope surface ii. Covering the finalised dump slope with lateritic material and then covering with coir geotextiles iii. Use of ERW pipes between benches to channelise the surface runoff water and diverting to settling

		<p>ponds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. Boulder walls 1.5m ht and 2m wide will be provided at the toe of the dump to arrest the flow of silt. v. Garland drains around the dump is constructed 1m bottom width, 2m top width and 1m deep with a length of 6100 m to divert water to settling pond for arresting the suspended solids. vi. Use of Stylo grass seeds and Glyricidia cuttings at the onset of monsoon to create green cover on the dump slopes. vii. Annual Plantation of native species on waste dump. viii. Safety green belt /barrier of 50 mts shall be maintained near the Assonora river from the mine pit. ix. Annual de-siltation of the settling ponds, drains. x. Use of lime and flocculants in case required so as to settle the suspended solids in settling pond. 																		
6	The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for installing permanent water sprinklers.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that permanent water sprinklers with 3.40 km length along the haul road within the ML area and 2.80 km length outside the ML area on either side of the road will be installed. Sprinklers will be spaced at 12m distance covering 6m radius at 180 degree. Estimated budget for the installation of the same is Rs. 191.60 Lakhs.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Cost (Rs. In Lakh)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Civil Works</td> <td>20.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Pump & Sprinkler System</td> <td>88.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Pipeline</td> <td>75.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Electrical Works</td> <td>8.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Total</td> <td>191.60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Project Proponent also submitted the map showing the layout of proposed water sprinklers within mine lease area and along dedicated road.</p>	S. No	Description	Cost (Rs. In Lakh)	1	Civil Works	20.0	2	Pump & Sprinkler System	88.0	3	Pipeline	75.60	4	Electrical Works	8.0		Total	191.60
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7	The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan and timeline to modify the crushing and screening units. The Project Proponent also needs to submit the material flow sheet and material balance.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that Crushing & screening units will be modified within 4 months after obtaining the Clearances. Budget proposed for the same is Rs. 6.97 Crore. The Project Proponent also submitted the flow Sheet of Crushing & Screening Unit.</p>																		
8	The Project Proponent needs to	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that it is proposed to develop nursery adjacent to the mineral block (Survey no</p>																		

	<p>submit the action plan for developing their own nursery by mentioning the details of the area to be covered, species to be planted and budget proposed. Most of the standing vegetation in the lease area constitutes of Acacia auriculiformis and Casuarina equisetifolia and it is further invading the open areas through natural regeneration. The invasion may be checked through planting native species in the region.</p>	<p>72/4 in Bicholim Village). Around 1100 sq.m of area will be utilized for the nursery. A budget of Rs. 5 lakh is kept for the same. The nursery will comprise of following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. A poly house/ nursery shed will be developed where in a root trainer nursery will be established. ii. Production area wherein various jobs like filling of root trainers/polybags will be undertaken store room wherein the nursery equipment's will be stored iii. Only native / local species of various horticultural and forest species will be grown in inhouse nursery or sourced from forest department nursery for planting in the finalised areas within the Mineral block. iv. Necessary technical support will be taken from state forest department. Company also carries out collaborative mine reclamation projects in association with research institutes like NEERI, Goa university etc. v. Horticultural species like Mango, Cashew, Ber, Aonla, Jambul, Tamarind, Jackfruit, citrus species, etc will be grown vi. Forest species like various Terminalia tomentosa, Terminalia bellerica, Bauhinia species, Teak, Cassia fistula, Arjun, Assan, lagerstromia species, Shiwan, Ficus species, Pongamiapinnata, Reetha, Rain tree, Pangara, Peltoforum, Palas, Saton, Mahagony, bamboo species etc. <p>The Project Proponent also submitted that during plan period an area of 9.7288 ha (24,322 no. of plants) will be developed under 7.5m safety zone, Buffer towards habitation, archaeological site, & river and an area of 9.4435 ha (23,609 no. of plants) will be developed on backfilled area. A budget of Rs 28.83 Lakhs has been earmarked towards the same.</p>
9	<p>The Project Proponent needs to ensure that whether any other Schedule-I species has been added as per latest Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act 2022 or not. Accordingly, the Project Proponent shall submit the</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the authenticated list of Schedule I Species as per Indian Wildlife Protection Act 1972 as amended Gazette Notification of Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022 has been obtained from the Dy. Conservator of Forests Wildlife & Eco-Tourism (North), Panji-Goa vide letter no. 1-576-WL&ET(N)/2023-2024/3312, dated 27.11.2023. According to this authenticated list, 29 Schedule I Species have been recorded within 10 km study area.</p> <p>As suggested by the Hon'ble EAC the company revised</p>

	<p>revised authenticated Schedule-I species. The Project Proponent also needs to submit the breakup of the conservation activities proposed under Wildlife Conservation Plan.</p>	<p>the break-up of conservation activities proposed under Wildlife Conservation Plan and same will be finalized after discussion with the Forest Dept. The break-up of the conservation activities proposed under Wildlife Conservation Plan are as follows:-</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="605 373 1429 1329"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No</th> <th>Particulars</th> <th>1st year</th> <th>2nd year</th> <th>3rd year</th> <th>4th year</th> <th>5th year</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Enrichment of forest areas with suitable indigenous species for wild life habitat improvement</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Creation/ maintenance of habitat for herbivores/ avian fauna</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Management interventions for facilitating water availability to the wild life in forest areas/ Improvement of soil and water regime of forest areas</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Financial support to the department for conducting awareness campaigns for various stakeholders</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Financial support to the department for celebrating events like Wildlife week and sponsoring the prizes for the competitions</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Total</td> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: center;">Rs 60.0 Lakhs</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S.No	Particulars	1 st year	2 nd year	3 rd year	4 th year	5 th year	1	Enrichment of forest areas with suitable indigenous species for wild life habitat improvement						2	Creation/ maintenance of habitat for herbivores/ avian fauna						3	Management interventions for facilitating water availability to the wild life in forest areas/ Improvement of soil and water regime of forest areas	12	12	12	12	12	4	Financial support to the department for conducting awareness campaigns for various stakeholders						5	Financial support to the department for celebrating events like Wildlife week and sponsoring the prizes for the competitions						Total		Rs 60.0 Lakhs				
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10	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the map demarcating the surface features in the mine lease area and their safety distances left/maintained as per mines acts and rules.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the map demarcating the surface features in the mine lease area. The Project Proponent also submitted the safety distances left/maintained as per mines acts and rules as given below in table:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="605 1514 1429 1883"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No</th> <th>Features inside lease</th> <th>Distance from Ultimate Pit Limit (UPL)</th> <th>Statutory Distances as per MMR</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>ManasbagMulgao village</td> <td>120 m</td> <td rowspan="3">45 m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Mulgao village</td> <td>58 m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Lamgao village</td> <td>56 m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Manaswada Govt. School within habitation</td> <td>138 m (12 Students)</td> <td rowspan="2">45 m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Gaonkarwada Govt. School</td> <td>190 m (not functional)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S.No	Features inside lease	Distance from Ultimate Pit Limit (UPL)	Statutory Distances as per MMR	1	ManasbagMulgao village	120 m	45 m	2	Mulgao village	58 m	3	Lamgao village	56 m	4	Manaswada Govt. School within habitation	138 m (12 Students)	45 m	5	Gaonkarwada Govt. School	190 m (not functional)																												
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		6	Old Lairai Temple	126m (From 5 Bottom Backfilling site)	45 m																
		7	Mahadev&Sateri Temple	280 m																	
		8	Kelbai Temple	205 m																	
		9	Sateri Temple	130 m																	
		10	Matrai Temple	150 m																	
		11	Nimuzgah	210 m																	
		12	Lamgao Caves	300 m		45 m															
11	The Project Proponent needs to provide proper treatment of channels and nallas flowing in the lease area for soil and water conservation. Scientifically designed and placed check dams and other engineering structures at different places can help control the erosion and loss of productive soil. Necessary study from competent institution/individuals may be done for this purpose.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that Silt load study was carried out through Center for Advance studies department of geology, University of Delhi and it was concluded that, all the structures made for the settling of sediments are found to be more than sufficient to accommodate sediments even during peak rainfall. The Project Proponent submitted that the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Total length of the Garland drain = 11313 m b) Peak rainfall = 154 mm/day c) Peak runoff in a day = 110590 m³ d) Capacity of garland drain = 33939 m³. <p>The garland drains are made such that from upstream to the downstream where the drains are meeting the settling ponds will show decrease in elevation, to maintain a free-flowing gradient of rainfall runoff. The dimension of the drains is maintained to be 2m in width and 1.5m in depth at everywhere in the mine site. A proper height has been maintained on the sides of the garland drain so that water don't get over-flooded from the drain.</p>																			
S. No	Observation of EAC in its meeting held during 21-22 September, 2023	Reply by Project Proponent																			
1	The site visit report of the subcommittee.	The Project Proponent submitted the observations to the subcommittee recommendations during the site visit 29-31Oct., 2023 are complied and submitted in Parivesh portal.																			
2	The Project Proponent needs to revisit the plan for backfilling with clearly indicating the voids area and the capacity available/required for backfilling.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that 5 numbers of earlier mined out pits have been identified for backfilling purpose to accommodate waste to be generated in future besides additional pits to be made available progressively with mining till conceptual period. The physical details of available pits to be converted into backfilled areas are as follows:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Mine pit</th> <th>Total</th> <th>Area</th> <th>Depth</th> <th>Top</th> <th>Bot</th> <th>Vol (m³)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Mine pit	Total	Area	Depth	Top	Bot	Vol (m ³)							
Mine pit	Total	Area	Depth	Top	Bot	Vol (m ³)															

location/ ID	area of pit (ha)	Available for Backfilling (Ha)	(m)	RL (m)	RL (m)	
1 Top	22.4367	20.9942	99	62	-37	19356183
2 Top	13.0803	9.9465	60	60	0	2968920
3 Top	16.0596	13.1650	70	110	40	2240000
¾ Bottom	-	-	109	102	-7	-
5 Top	37.0242	35.7242	78	98	50	14213124
5 Top CB	-	-	77	124	47	-
5 Bottom	15.4196	12.0840	92	87	-5	7035240
Total	104.0204	91.9139				45813467

Further, the details of pits to be made available progressively with mining till conceptual period and converted into backfilled areas are as follows:

Mine pit location/ ID	Total area of pit (ha)	Area Available for Backfilling (Ha)	Depth (m)	Top RL (m)	Bot RL (m)	Vol (m ³)	Void availability for backfilling
2 Top	43.1944	39.2331	116	91	-25	10518996	5 th year
¾ Bottom	39.4606	34.6140	169	102	-67	15412643	End of 3 rd year
2 Top	68.52	65.6420	113	103	-10	47912000	6 th to 10 th year
3 Top/2 Top combined	38.2545	36.6500	118	108	-10	38161200	11 th to 13 th year
4 Top/3 Top Combined	-	-	84	73	-11	-	11 th to 13 th year
5 Top CB Pit	-	-	168	94	-74	-	11 th to 13 th year
Total	189.425	176.1391				112004839	

As shown in the above tables, five numbers of earlier worked out pits will have void volume of 45.81 million m³ and during the Plan & Conceptual period progressive excavation, 112 million m³ of void volume will be available for backfilling. Therefore, a total of 157.98 million M³ of void volume will be available for backfilling in mined out pits having a cumulative area of 268.05 Ha. Additionally, area of 62 Ha will be available as voids including 22 ha of water reservoir for storing rain water.

The Project Proponent also submitted that the Conceptual waste generation shall be 124.9 million Cum which will have a swelled volume of 149.90 million CuM (say 150 million CuM). The 0.2 million CuM of swelled waste will be dumped over top of backfilled pits as surface dumps. Sufficient space is available to accommodate waste generated during life of mine considering swell factor of

		<p>1.2. Annual waste generation is in range of 4.35 to 12.58 million cum per year with an average of 9.61 million cum per year considering life of the mine as 13 years based on the presently available mineable reserves. Life of the mine may reach upto 30 years if entire resources are converted to reserves by removing all encumbrances.</p>														
3	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the design of settling ponds by considering the annual rainfall, catchment area and its discharge.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that at conceptual stage, total 12 nos. of settling ponds will be developed and these will be strengthened by the stone pitching. About 6 numbers of earlier mined out abandoned pits and 12 nos of interlinked siltation ponds have been identified for collecting surface run off from respective catchment sub basins. The Project Proponent also submitted the map showing the settling ponds and drainage network and design of settling ponds.</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that a total of 5.49 Million CuM of void volume is available for surface run-off holding in six pits having a cumulative area of 58.11 Ha which have a total catchment area of 160 Ha. During entire mine life water holding capacity of 5.49 or more than 5.49 Million CuM will be available at any time. Further, a total 12 nos of settling ponds have been earmarked within and outside the ML Area for collecting surface run off. A total of 0.38 Million M3 of void volume is available for surface run-off holding in 12 nos settling ponds having a cumulative area of 8.84 Ha. Considering five fillings in a year, the gross volumes of settling ponds will be 1.90 Million M3.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="602 1220 1430 1591"> <thead> <tr> <th>Particulars</th> <th>Details</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Catchment area of pits</td> <td>160 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rainfall received</td> <td>160 ha x 3500 mm = 5.6 Million CuM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Effective surface runoff to be accumulated in voids</td> <td>5.6 x 0.7 = 3.92 Million CuM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pits water holding capacity</td> <td>5.49 Million CuM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gross settling ponds capacity</td> <td>1.90 Million CuM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total water holding capacity of mined pits and settling ponds</td> <td>7.39 Million CuM</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Further, the Project Proponent submitted that since total water holding capacity in pits and settling ponds (7.39 Million CuM) is more than rainfall and surface runoff volume from catchment (3.92 Million CuM), there is sufficient space for effective surface runoff management in during extreme precipitation times. The dimensions of the drains to be maintained will be 2m in width and 1.5 m in</p>	Particulars	Details	Catchment area of pits	160 ha	Rainfall received	160 ha x 3500 mm = 5.6 Million CuM	Effective surface runoff to be accumulated in voids	5.6 x 0.7 = 3.92 Million CuM	Pits water holding capacity	5.49 Million CuM	Gross settling ponds capacity	1.90 Million CuM	Total water holding capacity of mined pits and settling ponds	7.39 Million CuM
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		<p>depth everywhere in the mine. A proper height will be maintained on the sides of the garland drain so that water does not get over-flooded from the drains. The available garland drains are 11313 m in length and daily average surface run-off is estimated as 14003 m³. The garland drains have capacity to accommodate instant volume of 33939 m³ as per above dimensions. Therefore, garland drains capacity is more than sufficient to take care of average daily surface run off during raining period. Additional drains are proposed to take care of peak run off during the plan period. Therefore, water management structures comprising of drains, settling ponds and mined out pits are available as well as planned to address the catchment area run-off for conceptual period. The overflow discharge water will be regularly monitored so that quality of water is maintained as per the prescribed standards and always clear water from ponds / pits meet the natural system. In case required, water treatment would be done in the pits by using lime and flocculants or other organic chemicals.</p>																											
<p>4</p>	<p>The Project Proponent needs to bypass the public road and also to explore the possibility of increasing the capacity of the truck so as to reduce the no. of trips. The EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to revisit the traffic load by considering the cycle time and waiting time. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for strengthening the road and for converting the unpaved road into concrete road.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the map showing the transportation route comprising of dedicated road corridor and public road. The total travel distance upto Jetty is 5.48 kms (4.54 km dedicated road and 0.94 km MDR-20 Public Road). Traffic load and effective distance between two trucks are as follows:-</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="602 1142 1430 1304"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No</th> <th>Transportation working days</th> <th>Quantity (In TPA)</th> <th>Tonnes/ Day</th> <th>Trips per day</th> <th>Mode of transport</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>237</td> <td>30,00,000</td> <td>12658</td> <td>1205</td> <td>Road</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Total Trips per day</td> <td>1205</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Road width details for various segments are as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="602 1409 1430 1549"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Dedicated Road corridor</th> <th>Public Road</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>3.31 km</td> <td>1.23 km</td> <td>0.94 km</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12-15 mts wide Road</td> <td>7 mts wide Road</td> <td>7 mts wide Road</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Further, the Project Proponent submitted the following details:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Capacity of truck is 10.5 tons as per directives of Deptt. of Mines & Geology, Goa ii. Total Handling per day is 12658 tons /day iii. Transportation timings are 6.00 am to 7.00 am, 8:00 am to 12.45 pm and 2:00 pm to 5.45 pm. Therefore, the effective transportation time is 9.30 hrs. 	S.No	Transportation working days	Quantity (In TPA)	Tonnes/ Day	Trips per day	Mode of transport	1	237	30,00,000	12658	1205	Road	Total Trips per day				1205		Dedicated Road corridor		Public Road	3.31 km	1.23 km	0.94 km	12-15 mts wide Road	7 mts wide Road	7 mts wide Road
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. Per Hour Handling is: 1332 tons/hour v. No. of Vehicles per Hour (One way): 127 vehicles vi. No. of Vehicles per Hour (to and fro): 254 vehicles vii. The Speed of vehicle is 25 KMPH and the lead distance is 5.48 kms viii. The time taken for 5.48 km is 13.15 mins for each truck and loading time is 1min, weighment time at both source location is 2 min, Tarpaulin tying and untying time is 2 min, unloading time 1 min and waiting time 10 min. ix. Each truck length is 15'. 5" (4.58 m) x. Distance from truck to truck is 5 m both side = 10 m xi. Each vehicle occupies a min. distance of 14.58 m = ~ 15 m xii. The length of road is 5.48 Km = 5480 m xiii. No. of vehicle which can travel on this road for one side= $5480 / 15 = 365$, However we would be plying only 127 trucks hence effective distance between two vehicles is 43 m. <p>The Project Proponent submitted the following mitigation measures for transportation:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Public road is hot mixed and same will be maintained. ii. Dedicated road is proposed to be hot mixed in phased manner. iii. Entire Dedicated transportation route is surrounded by thick Green Belt iv. Transportation vehicles shall be properly maintained to minimize the exhaust emission. v. Regular tests shall be carried out to check exhaust emission and PUC certification of transportation vehicles at prescribed interval. vi. Transportation trucks will be loaded with prescribed capacity and covered with tarpaulin before leaving mines premises. vii. Overloading of the material will be avoided. viii. Regular monitoring of the emission levels. ix. Over speeding of Vehicle will not be allowed. x. Traffic Marshals shall be provided for regulating movement of vehicles as well as for safety of persons. xi. Training will be given to all drivers about safe driving. xii. Regular water sprinkling by means five hired water tanker of 10KL capacity on haul road and Loading
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		<p>points will be carried out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> xiii. Used of fixed dust suppression system on haul roads xiv. Installation of two wheel washed system (one each at the exit of the dedicated road and jetty exit respectively) xv. Manual and mechanised machines for road sweeping xvi. Washing of mine exit points/Junctions (Mayem, Pilgao and Jetty exit area) after transportation hours/at night with water tanker having pipe arrangements xvii. Underpass proposed at Mayem junction to prevent interface with public. <p>The Project Proponent submitted that the regular mining in the state of Goa stopped since 2012 (it started for brief period in 2018 and again stopped). The truck owners who have already invested in the 10.5 T trucks are severely affected due to the stoppage of mining activity and are against procurement of new / high-capacity trucks, till their losses are covered. The company has already conducted series of meetings with the truck owner's associations for the higher capacity trucks and the truck owners are not agreeing to any changes in short term of 5 years. However, the engagement with the truck owners for higher capacity truck will continue. Company will also engage with all stake holders to explore the feasibility for installing conveyor belt system for transportation in near future, if permitted.</p> <p>The public road which is used for transportation is only 0.94 km long and the same is a hot mix road and in well maintained condition. The dedicated road of 4.54 km has very thick green belt on both the sides. There is no habitation along the dedicated road. Nearest habitation will be more then 250m from the road. The dedicated road before joining the public road is concreted and provided with the wheel wash system. Dedicated road sweeping machine will also be deployed to maintain the public road clean. The company also undertakes to hotmix the stretch of 4.54 km of dedicated road in a phased manner in three years' time frame. The estimated cost towards hot mixing is worked out as INR 18 crores.</p>
5	Since the mine lease area is sharing the Mayem Forest	The Project Proponent submitted the letter from the Office of the Dy. Conservator of Forests, North Goa Division Sensitivity: Public (C4) vide letter no. 5/MINES-

	common boundary, the Project Proponent needs to submit the letter from the State Forest Department regarding the involvement of forest land in the mine lease area.	GEN/DCFN/TECH/2023-24/56, dated 12.04.2023 stating that the detail of village wise Survey No.s within Block-1 of Bicholim Mineral block was verified and found that the area under the above mentioned Survey Nos is not a Govt. Forest and also does not identified as Private Forest by State Level Expert Committee headed by Sawan/Dr. Karapurkar/V.T. Thomas.
6	The Project Proponent needs to submit a letter from the Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Goa clarifying whether any illegal mining within the mine lease area has been carried out or not and whether the same has been carried out by M/s. Vedanta Limited or not?	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the letter from the Directorate of Mines & Geology vide Lr. No. 03/24/2023/Major/Mines/Part/489 dated 25.07.2023 stating that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> M/s. Vedanta has been declared as Preferred Bidder for Bicholim Mineral Block- Block I through an auction process conducted by the Government of Goa as per the Mineral Auction Rules, 2015. M/s. Vedanta Ltd., was not the erstwhile lessee of the said Block prior to auction. The matter of illegal mining in the State of Goa is under investigation by the Special Investigation Team (SIT). <p>The Project Proponent also submitted that the Block-I Bicholim Mineral Block was earlier operated by Sesa Mining Corporation Ltd. (SMCL) formerly known as Dempo Mining Corporation Ltd. Pursuant to Supreme Court Judgment in Goa Foundation order dated 07.02.2018, all the mining leases granted by the State Govt. were cancelled. Thereafter, State Govt. in terms of the said order and as per the provisions of MMDR Act put this block for auction as a fresh lease grant. The e-auction process was conducted in accordance with the Tender Document for said Mineral Block. Vedanta Limited emerged as the highest qualified bidder having submitted the highest final price offer and was declared as the preferred bidder under Rule 9(9) (iii) of auction Rules. Further, upon submission of the first Installment, being 20% of the upfront payment, Government of Goa issued a Letter of Intent (LOI) vide letter no. DMG/25/Auction Cell/LOI-function/2023/2801 dated 13.01.2023 for the grant of a mining lease for Block-I Bicholim Mineral Block in Bicholim, Bordem, Lamgao, Mulgao, Mayem&Sirigao Villages, of Bicholim Taluka, North Goa District, Goa State over an area of 478.5206 Ha over a period of 50 years.</p>
7	The Project Proponent needs to	The Project Proponent submitted that Goa State Pollution Control Board vide their letter No. 11/15/2023-PCB/

submit the video recording of the public hearing.	Leg/13555 dated 22/09/2023 submitted all the documents related to public hearing including public hearing video to the Member Secretary, EAC (Non Coal Mining).
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iv. Details of Terms of Reference (ToR):

Date of application	File. No/ Proposal No	Consideration	Details	Date of accord
16.03.2023	F.No: IA-J-11015/3/2023-IA-II(NCM) IA/GA/MIN/422323/2023	3-4 May, 2023	Terms of Reference (ToR) to M/s Vedanta Limited for mining of Iron Ore in Bicholim Mineral Block – Block 1 (Auction Block) with proposed production capacity of 3.0 MTPA, Waste: 25.162 MTPA (Total Excavation: 28.162 MTPA) along with crushing and screening plant capacity of 4.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 478.5206 ha, located in Bicholim, Bordem, Lamgao, Mulgao, Mayem & Sirigao Villages of Bicholim Taluka of North Goa District, Goa	16.06.2023

v. Details of Mine Lease:

- a) The Project Proponent has submitted the Letter of Intent (LoI) granted by the Government of Goa vide Lr No: DMG/25/Auction Cell/LOI-function/2023/2801 dated 13.01.2023 for grant of mining lease for Block I - Bicholim Mineral Block for Iron Ore in Bicholim, Bordem, Lamgao, Mulgao Mayem & Sirigao villages, Bicholim Taluka, North Goa District over an area of 478.5206 Hectare for a period of 50 (fifty) years in pursuant to Rule 10(2) of the Auction Rules. This letter of intent is valid for a period of 3 (three) years from the date of its issuance.

vi. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine Lease Area:

Private land	421.1153 Ha
Government land	57.4053 Ha
Total Mining lease area (MLA)	478.5206 Ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	Not Applicable

vii. Details of Mining Plan:

Review and Mining Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines, Goa	Letter No.	No. MCDR-MPC 1 2023-GOA-IBM_RO_GOA
	Date	26.05.2023
	Mine Lease Area	478.5206 Ha
	Mineral	Iron Ore (Major Mineral)
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Opencast mechanized mining without Drilling & Blasting	
Drilling/Blasting	Not Applicable	
Total Reserves and Resources	84.73 Million Tonnes	
Proved Mineral Reserve	36.071 Million Tonnes	
Life of mine	30 years	
Bench Height	7 m	
Bench Width	10 m	
Individual bench slope	70 ⁰	
Overall pit slope	<26 ⁰	
RoM output size	Less than 500 mm	
Crushing/Screening	Mobile Dry Crushing and Screening plant shall be available within the proposed mine to handle 4 MTPA of crude ore. The primary crusher will consist of 1 no. of Jaw crusher of capacity 120 TPH with an input feed of -500mm and shall produce output of -70 mm. It shall be followed by secondary crushers, 2 no.s of capacity 300 TPH and 200 TPH respectively. The input feed size shall be -70mm and output feed size obtained shall be -40mm. The Screening Plants of capacity -600TPH shall be installed where input the feed size shall be -70mm to obtain product of -40mm lumps & -10mm fines.	
Transportation details	ROM/Iron ore or Screened/crushed material will be transported by 10.5 Tonne trippers from Mine to Sarmanas jetty through a dedicated road. The total distance from the mine to Jetty is 5.58 km of which 0.94 km stretch is public road and remaining 4.64 km is company owned dedicated road.	
Dumpers capacity	40 tonne (within mines)	
Waste handling and Disposal	During the mining period, the waste generated by mining will be temporarily stacked within the mining lease area as surface dump and backfilled in the exhausted portion of the pits. The total waste to be generated during the plan period is about 69.85 million tonnes. An area of 6.7146 Ha shall be utilized for Dumps and Material stocking at the	

	conceptual stage of mining.
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viii. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	664 KLD	Pit Water	628 KLD
		Ground water	36 KLD
Source	Water from Mine Pit will be used for dust suppression, Vehicle washing and Green belt. Water for domestic requirement will be met from bore well.		
Permission	The Bore wells are registered with Goa State Water Resource department. Application for using mine pit water will be submitted.		

ix. Nearest village / town/ highway/railway station / water bodies/monument:

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Directions
Village	Lamgoa	Within the lease area
Town	Bicholim Town	0.5 km, East
Road	State Highway SH-1	0.65 km, East
Railway Station	Tivim Railwaystation	10.5 km, North
Water Bodies	Asnora River	Touching lease boundary at one of the points
	Mayem Lake	0.46 km
	Mandovi River	2.3 km, SW
School	Mulgao Govt. Primary School	Within the lease area
Worship places	Namuzgah/Idgah Shri Lairae Temple	Within the lease area 0.86 km
Caves/Fort	300m buffer from Lamgao caves Khorjuvem Fort: 2 km	

x. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area:

Forest Land/Protected Area/Environmental Sensitivity Zone	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter/Remarks
Forest Land	Yes	Mayem Forest Common Boundary with the mine lease area The following Reserve Forests are located within 10 km radius of the mine lease area such as Kharapal RF -6.7 km Kasarpal RF - 5.1 km Ambadgaon RF - 7.6 km
National park	No	The Project Proponent has submitted the letter from the Office of the Dy. Conservator of Forests vide Lr No: DCF(WP)/Tech/Digi/Vol-I/75/2022-23/968 dated 23.01.2023 stating that the proposed Bicholim Mineral Block-I is not situated within 10

		<p>km radius from the boundary of any the protected area in the State of Goa. PP also submitted the authenticated map dated 24.01.2023 showing the distance of the following Wildlife Sanctuary from the mine lease area.</p> <p>i. Madei Wild life Sanctury-14.105 km, E ii. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary -10.553 km, SW iii. Bondla Wild life Sanctuary -20.476 km, SE</p>
Schedule-I species	Yes	<p>The Project Proponent has submitted the letter from the Office of the Dy. Conservator of Forests vide Lr No: 5/FCA/GEN/F&F/DCFN/TECH/2022-23 dated 04.04.2023 with regard to list of Flora and Fauna species present in core and buffer zone.</p> <p>The following Schedule-I species are found in the study area such as 1 Common leopard (<i>Felidae</i>) 2 White-bellied Sea-Eagle(<i>Accipitridae</i>) 3 Indian Peafowl (<i>Phasianidae</i>) 4 Crimson rose- Butterfly (<i>Papilionidae</i>)</p>
Status of Wildlife Conservation Plan	Yes	<p>Wild Life Conservation Plan is prepared and submitted for approval of Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW) on 19.06.2023. PP has submitted the copy of the acknowledgement from Chief Wildlife Warden.</p>

xi. Green belt/plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation	105.8894 ha
Budget for green plant& plantation till the end of life of mine.	Rs159.0Lakhs
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	25 ha
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	
Additional information (if any)	80.8894 ha (on backfilled area)

xii. Details of Baseline data:

Baseline Data (Air / Water / Noise / Soil / Ground water table/ others)			
Period of baseline data collection	March, 2023 to May, 2023		
Season (Summer / Pre-monsoon / Post-monsoon / Winter)	Summer Season		
Ambient Air Quality (no. of locations) and results	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results
	9	PM10	27.0 to 56.0 µg/m ³
		PM2.5	14.0 to 36.0 µg/m ³
		SO2	4.0 to 13.0 µg/m ³

		NO2	<4.0 to 18.0 µg/m ³
Noise level (no. of locations) and results	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results
	09	During Day Time [Leq dB(A)]	43.1 to 61.7
		During Night Time [Leq dB(A)]	35.9 to 49.3
Water Quality (no. of locations) and results	Surface water quality		
	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results
	07	pH	6.35 - 7.39
		TDS (mg/l)	72 - 11240
		Fluoride (mg/l)	<0.1
		Chloride (mg/l)	18 - 5620
		Fe (mg/l)	<0.05
		Dissolved Oxygen (as O ₂), mg/l	6.2 – 6.9
		Biochemical Oxygen Demand (as O ₂), mg/l	<3.0
		Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) mg/l	22.0 – 26.0
	Groundwater Quality		
	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results
	10	pH	5.63 – 7.07
		TDS (mg/l)	20 – 150
		Fluoride (mg/l)	0.1
Chloride (mg/l)		5.0 - 19.0	
Soil Quality (no. of locations) and results	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results
	07	pH	5.38 to 5.78
		Electrical Conductivity (mohs/cm)	0.28 to 0.318
		Nitrogen (kg/ha)	200 to 275
		Phosphorus (kg/ha)	14.3 to 17.8
		Potassium (kg/ha)	230 to 263

xiii. Public Hearing (PH) Details:

Advertisement for PH with date	07.07.2023 Regional: Bhangar Bhui, Herald, Lokmat & Free press journal (Mumbai Edition) News papers
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Date of PH	11/08/2023
Venue	Narayan Zantye Multipurpose Sports Complex, Sarvan, Bicholim, Goa
Chaired by	District Collector, North Goa
Main issues raised during PH	Pollution, impact on ponds, Support for Education, Health, Agriculture Development & Skill Development, Employment.
Budget proposed for addressing issues raised during PH	Rs 309.3 Lakhs

xiv. Rehabilitation & Resettlement:

R & R details	There is presence of habitation within ML Area at Mulgao and lamgao villages. Safety Buffer of 50m will be maintained from the habitations. No Rehabilitation & Resettlement Plan is proposed during life of mine.
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xv. Court case details:

Court Case	Yes
Additional information (if any)	<p>First Case:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WP(Civil) 2478 of 2022 (Filing number) before the High Court of Bombay at Goa 2. The said writ petition has been filed against the State Government and seeks to challenge the identification of properties bearing survey no. 90/1(part) and 96/0 as part of the recently auctioned Bicholim mine. The petition alleges violation of Rule 5 &6 of Mineral Evidence Rules and Section 10B of MMDR, Act by the State of Goa and DMG. The petitioner has prayed for quashing of auction notice to the extend it includes the property of the petitioner and grant a writ of mandamus against the Respondents. 3. Case status is pending. 4. No adverse orders have been passed. 5. As per the last order the matter has been disposed of by the HC on 17th July 2023 with a direction to the Petitioner to make a representation before the Government and the Government is to dispose of the same within four months. <p>Second Case:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WP 592 of 2022 The said writ petition seeks to challenge the constitutionality of the tender

	<p>documents of Phase I auction of Goa mines. The petition alleges violation of Rule 5 & 6 of Mineral Evidence Rules by the State of Goa and DMG. The petition alleges non-disclosure of essential facts such as bore hole data, approved mining plan, production data of the previous five years and exploration data. The petitioner has prayed for quashing of auction notice to the extend it fails to include the essential facts and in the alternative to stay the auction.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Case status is pending 3. No adverse orders have been passed. 4. As per the last order the matter is listed on 01.09.2023.
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xvi. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

<p>Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018</p>	<p>The Project Proponent has submitted the Affidavit in a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing no: A807037 dated 24.04.2023 stating that they will comply to the directions issued by MoEF&CC vide Office Memorandum F.No.3-50/2017.IA.III (Pt) dated 30th May, 2018 in terms of directions given Hon'ble Supreme Court in judgment dated 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors.</p>
<p>Undertaking of Project Proponent</p>	<p>The Project Proponent has submitted an undertaking stating that the Environmental Impact Assessment Report of Block-1 Bicholim Mineral Block of M/s Vedanta Ltd was prepared by M/s Mineral Engineering Services, QCI/NABET Accredited EIA Consultant at Sr.No. 55 as per list of list of accredited consultant/organizations.</p> <p>The Project Proponent has submitted an undertaking that the information and data provided in the EIA report and submitted to the Ministry are factually correct and they are fully accountable for the same.</p>
<p>Consultant submitted an Undertaking vide letter dated 02.06.2023</p>	<p>This is to declare that the prescribed ToRs have been complied with and that the data submitted are factually correct in respect of EIA & EMP report prepared for Block-1 Bicholim Mineral Block of M/s Vedanta Ltd, Goa.</p>

xvii. Details of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP):

Activities	Capital cost (Crores)	Recurring cost (Lakhs/annum)
Plantation	-	7.5
Environment monitoring	44	44
Air pollution control measures	20	300
Water Treatment	-	11
Erosion control /monsoon measures	-	221
Personal protective equipment	-	15
Maintenance of fire protection systems	-	1.5
Environment awareness & training	-	5
Health	8	16
Total	72	621

xviii. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	(Rs. In lakhs)
Project Cost	25000 Lakhs
Employment	716 no.s

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC:

The Project Proponent presented the KML file to indicate the site features in the vicinity of the mine lease area. Then, the EAC deliberated on the additional details submitted by the Project Proponent and the EIA Consultant. The Project Proponent/EIA Consultant informed the EAC that plan for backfilling has been revised. About 5 numbers of earlier mined out pits have been identified for backfilling purpose to accommodate waste to be generated in future besides additional pits to be made available progressively with mining till conceptual period. The existing and conceptual availability of voids for backfilling is 157.98 (say 158) million CuM. Conceptual waste generation shall be 124.9 million Cum which will have a swelled volume of 147.43 million CuM. The void area and the capacity available are more than sufficient to meet the backfilling requirement. The Project Proponent also presented the year wise production from the working pits and waste disposal locations. Further, the Project Proponent presented the Progressive Mine Closure Plan showing working pit, backfilling, drainages and settling ponds at the end of plan period.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that a total of 0.38 million cu.m of void volume is available for holding surface run-off in 12 nos of settling ponds having a cumulative area of 8.84 ha. The EAC asked about the highest rainfall in the past. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the highest rainfall was 3900mm in the last 10 years. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that total water holding capacity in pits and settling ponds (7.39 Million Cu.M) is more than rainfall and surface runoff

volume from catchment (3.92 Million Cu.M) and hence there is sufficient space for effective surface runoff management in during extreme precipitation times. It is also proposed to strengthen the existing settling ponds embankments by stone pitching, cement pointing, addition of filter beds etc., The total travel distance upto Jetty is 5.48 km comprising of 4.54 km dedicated road and 0.94 km MDR-20 Public Road. Transportation working days will be 237 days. Trips per day will be 1205 and the capacity of the truck is 10.5 Tonne (T). It is proposed to have a dedicated road in place of 0.94 km stretch of public road within 2.5 years. It is also proposed to replace existing trucks of 10.5 t with higher capacity trucks of 25 t in phased manner to reduce traffic load and emissions per tonne/km. The EAC suggested the Project Proponent to speed up the process of construction of underpass. The Project Proponent presented a letter obtained from the Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests letter dated 12.04.2023 stating that village wise Survey nos within Block-1 of Bicholim Mineral Block is not a Govt. Forest land and also does not identified as Private Forest land by State Level Expert Committee headed by Sawan/Dr. Karapurkar/V.T. Thomas. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that Goa State Pollution Control Board vide their letter dated 22/09/2023 submitted all the documents related to public hearing including public hearing video to the Member Secretary, EAC (Non Coal Mining).

Then, the Project Proponent presented the point wise compliance of the recommendations of the subcommittee. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that preliminary techno-economic feasibility study has been undertaken for capacity of 3.0 MTPA from dry mineral processing plant to Sarmanas jetty covering a length of 5.72 km. Width of OLBC corridor is 17 m including service road. The proposed alignment for Over Land Belt Conveyor (OLBC) will be along the current transportation route. At prima facie it does not look feasible to switchover to OLBC system considering the terrain of the likely route having mounds and low-lying areas, vegetation/forest patches and its likely degradation, accessibility, environmental impacts and safety issues, technologies available, cost of the system, implementation period vis-a-vis remaining reserves in the mining lease. Further, the Project Proponent also submitted that they will engage with all stake holders to explore the feasibility for installing conveyor belt system for transportation in near future. At conceptual stage, area of 20 ha will be converted into water reservoir & an area of 293.5 ha will be converted into backfilled area and will be reclaimed & rehabilitated by the plantation. The mined out pits will be converted into water reservoirs, pond with other ecotourism facilities like water sports, boating, fishing etc. Pisciculture in mine pits will be developed and also to involve the community for cage fishing to make it a commercially viable venture. It is proposed to develop theme-based gardens like medicinal gardens, horticulture gardens, spice gardens etc. A garden will be developed near the Idgah within the mining block area and proper road will be provided for access of visitors and pilgrims. The Project Proponent also presented the eco restoration model developed in other mines.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that garland drain capacity is more than sufficient to take care of average daily surface run off during raining period. Additional drains are proposed to take care of peak run off during the plan period. A proper height will be maintained on the sides of the garland drain so that water does not get over-flooded from the drains. Permanent water sprinklers with 3.40 km length along the haul road within the mine lease area and 2.80 km length outside the mine lease area on either side of the road will be installed. Crushing & screening units will be modified within 4 months after obtaining the Clearances. It is proposed to develop nursery adjacent to the mineral block (Survey no 72/4 in Bicholim Village). Around 1100 sq.m of area will be utilized for the nursery. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the authenticated list of Schedule I Species as per Indian Wildlife Protection Act 1972 as amended Gazette Notification of Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022 has been obtained from the Dy. Conservator of Forests Wildlife & Eco-Tourism (North), Panji-Goa vide letter dated 27.11.2023 and according to this authenticated list, 29 Schedule I Species have been recorded within 10 km study area. The conservation activities proposed under Wildlife Conservation Plan has been revised with a budget of Rs 60.0 Lakhs and same will be finalized after discussion with the Forest Dept. A silt load study was carried out through Center for Advance studies, Department of Geology, University of Delhi and it was concluded that, all the structures made for the settling of sediments are found to be more than sufficient to accommodate sediments even during peak rainfall.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that a letter was obtained from the Directorate of Mines & Geology vide letter dated 25.07.2023 stating that matter of illegal mining in the State of Goa is under investigation by the Special Investigation Team (SIT). The EAC asked the Project Proponent to submit the undertaking regarding illegal mining. The Project Proponent submitted an undertaking vide email dated 26.12.2023 stating that M/s Vedanta limited is the preferred bidder for the Bicholim Mineral Block-Block 1 declared by the Govt. of Goa and it is also to undertake that there is no illegal mining done by M/s Vedanta Ltd. The EAC opined that the instant Environmental Clearance (EC) is subject to the outcome of the WP 592 of 2022(MSPL v. State of Goa & Ors.) regarding challenging the constitutionality of the tender documents of Phase I auction of Goa mines and PIL WP 2029/2023 (F) (Suresh Govind Gaonkar & Ors v. Directorate of Mines and Geology & Ors) regarding challenging the state's decision to go ahead with the auction of the mining block.

After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the EIA Consultant, the EAC in its meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023 under the provisions of EIA Notification 2006 and its subsequent amendments, **recommended** the proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) to Bicholim Mineral Block- Block 1 (Auction Block) of M/s Vedanta Limited for mining of Iron Ore with proposed

production capacity of 3.0 MTPA, Waste: 25.162 MTPA (Total Excavation: 28.162 MTPA) along with crushing and screening plant capacity of 4.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 478.5206 ha, located at Bicholim, Bordem, Lamgao, Mulgoa, Mayem & Sirigao Villages of Bicholim Taluka of North Goa District, Goa subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the standard EC conditions applicable for non-coal mining projects: -

- i. The instant Environmental Clearance (EC) is subject to the outcome of the WP 592 of 2022 (MSPL v. State of Goa & Ors.) regarding challenging the constitutionality of the tender documents of Phase I auction of Goa mines and PIL WP 2029/2023 (F) (Suresh Govind Gaonkar & Ors v. Directorate of Mines and Geology & Ors) regarding challenging the state's decision to go ahead with the auction of the mining block.
- ii. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has imposed a capping on mining of iron ore to 20 MTPA for the entire State of Goa. Accordingly, the Project Proponent shall first obtain the necessary permission from the competent authority with regard to the amount of mineral they can mine per year, before starting its mining operation.
- iii. As committed before the EAC, the Project Proponent needs to explore the feasibility for installing conveyor belt system for transportation.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to obtain prior permission from the MoEF&CC for mining in common boundary as and when required.
- v. The ecology restoration or mine reclamation activities shall be carried out concurrently with mining operations. The Project Proponent shall ensure that the restoration models demonstrated before the EAC shall be developed in association with research institutes like NEERI, Goa University etc.
- vi. The mined out pits will be converted into water reservoirs, pond with other ecotourism facilities like water sports, boating, fishing etc., Pisciculture in mine pits will be developed and also the local community will be involved for cage fishing to make it a commercially viable venture.
- vii. The waste dump slopes shall be covered with laterite material and then with biodegradable geotextile mats to prevent the soil erosion of the dump slopes so as to facilitate the growth of native species.

- viii. Regular monitoring and analysis of discharge water and at upstream and downstream of Bicholim and Asnora river needs to be carried out quarterly through NABL/MoEF&CC accredited laboratory.
- ix. Extensive native fruit bearing plantation shall be carried out in all safety zones with density of 2500 trees/ha.
- x. The Project Proponent needs to install the permanent water sprinklers along 3.40 km haul road within the ML area and 2.80 km length outside the ML area on either side of the road.
- xi. As committed by the Project Proponent, existing trucks of 10.5 Tonnes shall be replaced with higher capacity trucks of 25 Tonnes in phased manner to reduce traffic load and emissions per tonne/km.
- xii. Fugitive dust monitoring during transportation shall be monitored regularly at all the sensitive receptors and report shall be submitted quarterly to the Regional Office of MoEF&CC. Regular sprinkling shall be done on roads to suppress the dust at the source.
- xiii. The Project Proponent shall adhere to the pollution control measures suggested by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in the environmental guidelines for crushing/screening activity.
- xiv. The wheel washing facility for the ore transport vehicles shall be provided at the exit point of the mine.
- xv. The Project Proponent needs to speed up the process of construction of underpass.
- xvi. The Project Proponent needs to strengthen the settling pond with proper stone pitching in line with the design of settling pond considering the annual rainfall, flow rate, catchment area and its discharge.
- xvii. The catch drains and siltation ponds needs to be regularly maintained to arrest silt and sediments flow from dumps.
- xviii. The Project Proponent needs to modify the crushing & screening units within 4 months from the date of issue of this EC.

- xix. The Project Proponent needs to develop a nursery adjacent to the mineral block (Survey no 72/4 in Bicholim Village) for an area of about 1100 sq.m in consultation with State Forest Department. PP shall develop theme-based gardens like medicinal gardens, horticulture gardens, spice gardens etc.,
- xx. The Project Proponent needs to explore the possibility of using advanced/ latest mining technologies available so as to minimize the ecological impacts.
- xxi. The Project Proponent needs to use modern equipment's such as Camera Traps for ensuring presence and movement of wild animals in the vicinity of the mine lease area as well as in study area in consultation with Wildlife Wing of Forest Department. Appropriate interventions shall be taken to minimise stress conditions for wild animals and to avoid Man-Animal conflict.
- xxii. The Project Proponent should follow-up the status of implementation on Wildlife Conservation Plan from the Forest Officials and the same shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office in the six monthly compliance report.
- xxiii. The Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) shall be installed and commissioned in consultation with CPCB. The real time data so generated should be displayed digitally at entry and exit gate of mine lease area for public display and shall be linked to server of CPCB/SPCB.
- xxiv. The Project Proponent shall monitor the air quality, noise level, water quality, water level and ground vibration during drilling and blasting at the edge of the mine, near the village, crusher and at other sensitive receptors and such collected data shall be submitted quarterly to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- xxv. The budget of Rs 309.3 Lakhs to address the concerns raised by the public in the public consultation to be completed within 3 years from the date of start of mining operations. PP shall comply with all action plans made for public hearing concerns and make regular maintenance and record the progressive activity outcomes. The Project proponent shall ensure that the activities proposed under the public hearing is different from the CSR activities.
- xxvi. The Project Proponent shall create awareness among the local people working within the project area as well as its surrounding area on the ban of Single Use Plastic (SUP) in order to ensure the compliance of Notification published by MoEF&CC on 12/08/2021. A report, along with photographs, on the measures taken shall also be included in the six monthly compliance report.

- xxvii. The Project Proponent needs to complete the entire peripheral plantation under green belt, safety barrier plantation and gap plantation within three years from the start of mining operations. The Project Proponent should plant quality sapling of appropriate height of native and fruit bearing species. In case of tall transplants (seedlings) the seedlings should have proper trained root stock with root biomass commensurate with seedling height to ensure good growth after out planting. Plantation shall be undertaken in consultation with the State Forest Department. The Project Proponent shall make the actual count on the saplings planted and its survival rate and in case of failure of achievement of 95% survival rate, action plan for achieving the target survival rate shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- xxviii. The Project Proponent should adopt the proper mitigation measures as proposed under EMP with budgetary provision of Rs 72 Cr. The adoption of mitigation measures and monitoring of the same as proposed in the EMP shall be done under the supervision of the qualified environmental personnel. The implementation status of the same shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- xxix. The Project Proponent should establish in house (at project site) environment laboratory for measurement of environment parameter with respect to air quality and water (surface and ground). A dedicated team to oversee environment management shall be setup at site which should comprise of Environment Engineers, Laboratory chemist and staff for monitoring of air, water quality parameters on routine basis instead of engaging environment monitoring laboratories/consultants. Any non-compliance or infringement should be reported to the concerned authority.
- xxx. The Project Proponent shall explore the possibility of using atleast 20% of Electric vehicles/CNG/Solar instead of diesel operation within three years.
- xxxi. NoC from the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA)/ Concerned Local authority, as the case may be, shall be obtained before drawing the ground water for the project activities, State Pollution Control Board / Pollution Control Committees shall not issue the Consent to Operate (CTO) under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act till the project proponent shall obtain such permission.

- xxxii. The Project Proponent shall also organize employment-based apprenticeship/ internship training program every year with appropriate stipend for the youth and other programs to enhance the skill of the local people. The data should be maintained for the training imparted to the persons and the outcome of the training, for the assessment of the training program should be analyzed periodically and improved accordingly. The preference shall be given to the local people for the purpose of employment as committed before the EAC.
- xxxiii. The Project Proponent should periodically monitor and maintain the health records of the mine workers digitally prior to mining operations, at the time of operation of mine and post mining operations. Regular surveillance on occupational health shall be carried out every year for mine workers. PP shall also organize medical camp for the benefit of the local people and also the monitor the health impacts due to mining activity.
- xxxiv. The mining lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake regrassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The implementation report of the above said condition shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.

1.4 Guruvanipalli Limestone Mine of M/s. UltraTech Cement Limited for expansion in Limestone Production from 0.30 Million TPA to 4.00 Million TPA, Soil: 0.31 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 4.31 Million TPA) in the mine lease area of 395.15 Ha, located at Village Guruvanipalli (Revenue Village: Petnikota), Taluka-Kolimigundla, DistrictKurnool, Andhra Pradesh – [F.No: :IA-J-11015/56/2021-IA-II(NCM), Proposal No: IA/AP/MIN/453165/2023;EIA Consultant: M/s J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd] – Environmental Clearance (Expansion)

The instant proposal is for mining of Limestone in Guruvanipalli Limestone Mine of M/s. UltraTech Cement Limited for expansion in Limestone Production from 0.30 Million TPA to 4.00 Million TPA, Soil: 0.31 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 4.31 Million TPA) in the mine lease area of 395.15 Ha, located at Village Guruvanipalli (Revenue Village: Petnikota), Taluka- Kolimigundla, District Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent and revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under: -

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals under Category "A" of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 as the mining lease area is greater than 250 ha and appraised at Central level.

- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 15°03'19.99661" N to 15°05'36.79473" N and Longitude: 78°00'16.63709" E to 78°01'55.11414" E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: D43F16, D43L13, D44A4 and 57 J/1 and falls in Seismic Zone – II.
- iii. Details of previous Environmental Clearance (EC):
- a) The Project Proponent submitted that initially Environmental Clearance was obtained vide Lr No J-11015/212/2008-IA.II(M) dated 01.07.2009 for a production of 0.30 MTPA in the mine lease area of 395.15ha in favour of M/s. UltraTech Cement Limited.
- iv. Details of Terms of Reference:
- a) The Project Proponent obtained Terms of Reference (ToR) vide ToRLr. No IA-J-11015/56/2021-IA.II(NCM) dated 23.12.2022 for Guruvanipalli Limestone Mine for expansion in Limestone Production capacity from 0.30 Million TPA to 4.0 Million TPA, Soil: 0.31 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 4.31 Million TPA) in the mine lease area of 395.15 Ha.
- v. Details of Mine lease:

S.no	Lol/Lease Grant order	Date of the grant	Name of the Mineral	Period of Grant	Granted by	Mine lease area in Ha
1	Initial Grant of Mining lease in favour of M/s DakshinCement Limited vide G.O. Ms. No.149, Inds. & Com (M.III) Dept.,	30.09.1995	Limestone	02.01.1997 – 01.01.2017 (20 years)	Govt., of Andhra Pradesh	395.15
2	Transfer of Mining lease held by M/s DakshinCement Limited to M/s. UltraTech Cement Limited vide G.O. Ms.No.80, Inds. & Com (M-I) Dept.,	16.04.2012	Limestone	for the unexpired portion of the mining lease period i.e., upto 01.01.2017	Govt., of Andhra Pradesh	395.15
3	Extension of validity of mine lease vide G.O. Ms. No. 38	12.02.2019	Limestone	For the period upto 01.01.2047	Govt., of Andhra Pradesh	395.15

- vi. Details of executed Mine leases:

S.no	Date of grant of Lease execution	Period of Grant		Details
		From	To	
1	Date of entering into original lease deed.	02.01.1997	01.01.2017	Proceedings No. 5634/M4/95 dated 02.01.1997 in favour of M/s DakshinCement Limited
2	Transfer of mining lease deed	11.07.2012	01.01.2017	Affidavit bearing AK 772376 in favour of M/s. UltraTech Cement Limited
3	Supplementary lease deed	15.03.2019	01.01.2047	Affidavit bearing CH 337737

vii. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine Lease Area:

Private land	230.02 ha
Government land	165.13 ha
Total Mining lease area (MLA)	395.15 ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the mine lease area	No infrastructure is proposed outside the mine lease area

viii. Mining plan details:

Modified Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines	Letter No.	AP/KNL/MP/LST-22/HYD
	Date	04.02.2021
	Mineral & (Major/Minor)	Limestone, (Major)
	Mine Lease Area, Ha	395.15
	Validity	2021-22 to 2025-26
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Fully Mechanized Opencast Mining Method.	
Drilling/Blasting	Drilling: Drilling will be carried out using 150 mm dia drills. Blasting: The burden & spacing is 4 x 6 m, 5 x 8 m or more depending on the strata and the holes will be drilled upto 9 m depth with sub grade drilling of 1 m. Delay detonators/ shock tube detonators with ANFO, slurry, SME explosives, will be used to achieve better fragmentation and less throw of material.	
Geological Reserves	170.79 million Tonnes	
Mineable Reserves	108.81 million Tonnes	
Breakup of Total Excavation (Topsoil/OB/SB/IB/Mineral)	Total Excavation: 4.31 million TPA <u>Breakup of Total Excavation:</u>	

Rejects/ Waste, MTPA)	1. Limestone: 4.0 Million TPA 2. Soil: 0.31 Million TPA
Life of mine	~31 years
Mine Bench Height & Bench Width	Bench height: 9 m Working Bench Width: 20-25 m (Working)
No. of Mine Benches	4 in current plan period & 6 at conceptual stage
plan period m bgl	312 m AMSL (37 m bgl)
Ultimate Depth of Mining, m bgl	294 m AMSL (55 m bgl)
Ground Water Table, m bgl	Pre-monsoon - 14.7 to 21.2 m bgl Post-monsoon - 12.5 to 19 m bgl
Details of ground water intersection	Water table will be intersected during the working and necessary permission will be taken before intersecting ground water table.
Individual bench slope	85°
Overall pit slope	45°
Details of existing/ proposed Crusher	An existing crusher is located in the adjacent mine lease, at about 2.0 KM distance from the current working pit and this crusher is being utilized for crushing of limestone. After exhausting the mineral reserves at the southern side of the mining lease area (near to the crusher), a crusher will be established at this mining lease for crushing the remaining limestone reserves
Mineral Beneficiation	Nil
RoM output size	50 mm
Transportation details including capacity of dumper/tipper, mode of transport and distance	The transport of blasted material is being/will be done by dumpers (55 & 100 T) from mine faces to crusher located at a distance of 1.80 km in adjoining Tummalapenta Limestone mine and after crushing, the crushed limestone is being dispatched to the cement plant located about 3.1 km away from crusher, through the covered conveyor belt. Subsequently after exhaust of mineral reserves on southern side of the mining lease (near to the existing crusher), a crusher will be established at this mining lease for crushing the remaining limestone reserves and transported to cement plant through covered belt conveyor.
Generation of Topsoil/OB & its Management during plan period & conceptual period.	<u>Top Soil:</u> ➤ During Plan period, 0.34 million tonnes of Top soil will be generated which will be used for greenbelt and plantation ➤ During conceptual period 1.34 million Tonnes of top soil will be generated which will be used for greenbelt and plantation. <u>Over Burden:</u>

	➤ No OB generation is there in this mining project
Generation of Mineral Rejects/ Waste & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	-
Additional information (if any)	There are some old slab quarries existing within the mining lease area. A Letter has been obtained from Department of Mines and Geology, Andhra Pradesh, vide letter no. 744/M4/1998 dated 09.07.2018 regarding the existence of old slab quarries in part of the mine lease area. The limestone is not uniform in quality across the deposit. Some areas are high in lime content and some are low. For mineral conservation and optimum utilization of the reserves, it is proposed to operate multiple pits simultaneously and also to meet the necessary ROM quality of the cement plant.

ix. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	300 KLD	Domestic	10 KLD
		Dust Suppression/Greenbelt	290 KLD
Source	Sourced from Cement plant and sump of existing Tummalapenta mine & later from this instant mine sump as and when developed.		
Permission for withdrawal/ intersection along with details of grant and its validity	Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, O/o The Commissioner, Panchayat Raj & Rural Development & Administrator, Apwalta accorded permission vide Lr.No. CORD-11028/6/2018- SLNA-GIS-CORD, dated 11/12/2021 to draw 2900 KLD of Rain water collected in the Mine pit and 500 KLD of groundwater from the existing bore wells of Thummalapenta village, Kolimigundla Mandal, Kurnool district and also 600 KLD of groundwater from the existing bore wells of Bhogasamudram Village, Tadipatri Mandal, Ananthapuramu District.		

x. Nearest village/town/ highway/interstate boundary/railway station/water bodies/monument/ forest

Particulars	Particular's Name	Directions
Nearest Village	Guruvanipalli	Adjacent to the ML Area in East direction
Nearest Town	Tadipatri	16.0 km in SSW direction
Nearest State/National Highway	SH - 30	5.5 km in South direction
	SH - 57	4.0 km in SE direction
Interstate Boundary	-	
Railway Station/Railway line	Tadipatri	16.5 km in SSW direction

Water Bodies	Seasonal nallah passing through the lease area	-
	PeddaVanka (intermittent stream)	2.5 km in NE direction
	PeddaVanka (intermittent stream)	6.5 km in WSW direction
	SaddalaVengannaCheruvu (lake)	7.0 km in East Direction
Forest	Nil	-

xi. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area:

Forest Land / Protected Area / Environmental Sensitivity Zone	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter issued by the concerned Department mentioning the Lr no, date of grant and remarks
Forest Land within the mine lease area and (if yes) status of Forest Clearance	No	The Project Proponent submitted the letter from the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Forest Department vide Lr. Rc.No. 21052/1/2023/WL-2, dated 01.11.2023 stating that i. No Reserve Forest and Protected Forest etc., within 10 km radius of the study area. ii. No National Park, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridor, Tiger/Elephant Reserves etc., within 10 km radius of study area. iii. The nearest protected area is Rajiv Gandhi National Park at a distance of 66.59 km and GundlaBrahmeswra WLS is about 70.11 km from the proposed mine area.
National Park	No	
Wildlife Sanctuary	No	
Elephant/Tiger Reserve	No	
Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA)	No	
Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)	No	-
Schedule-I species (No. s and name of schedule-I species with authenticated letter)	Yes	The Project Proponent submitted the letter from the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Forest Department vide Lr. Rc.No. 21052/1/2023/WL-2, dated 01.11.2023 stating that following Schedule-I animals are found in the impact zone of 10 km radius from the proposed boundary such as Bengal fox, Jackal, Jungle Cat, Small Indian Mongoose, Indian crested porcupine, Bonnet macaque, Indian Chameleon, Indian Cobra and Rat Snake. Further, the Project Proponent submitted that
Wildlife Conservation Plan	Yes	

		the Wildlife Conservation Plan for Schedule-I fauna with financial outlay of Rs 85.0 Lakhs was approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden vide letter dated 01.11.2023.
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xii. Green belt/Plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation and no. of saplings proposed	74.98 ha
Budget for green plant & plantation till the end of life of mine.	62 lakhs (yearly 2 lakhs)
Budget for nursery	No Provision for Nursery
Details of existing plantation and its survival rate	<i>Pongamiapinnata</i> (Kanuga), <i>Azadirachtaindica</i> (Neem), <i>Samaneasaman</i> (Rain tree), <i>Cassia fistula</i> (SemaThangedi), <i>Delonixregia</i> (Gulmohar Tree). Survival Rate is 92%
No. of tree cuts in the mine lease area and compensatory afforestation	None
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & Non mineralized areas	14.30 Ha
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	35.50 Ha
500 m safety zones of nearest habitation villages (Exhausted Pit Boundaries & Non Mineralized areas)	25.18 Ha

xiii. Baseline Data:

Baseline Data (Air / Water / Noise / Soil / Hydro geological study/ Traffic Study/ others)	
Period of baseline data collection	March to May, 2021
Season (Summer / Pre-monsoon / Post-monsoon / Winter)	Summer Season
Predominant Wind direction (From)	West
Ambient Air Quality (no. of locations) and results	9 Locations Result summary: PM ₁₀ : 51.8µg/m ³ - 88.9µg/m ³ PM _{2.5} : 26.9µg/m ³ - 51.3µg/m ³ SO ₂ : 6.4µg/m ³ - 12.3µg/m ³ NO ₂ : 13.2µg/m ³ -28.7µg/m ³
Noise level (no. of locations) and results	9 Locations Day Time (Lday) noise level: 50.6 dB (A) – 59.8 dB (A) Night Time (Lnight) noise level: 41.8 dB (A) – 50.9 dB (A).

Water Quality (no. of locations) and results	Parameters	Surface water (2 locations)	Ground water (8 locations)
	pH	6.92 – 7.26	7.04 – 7.55
	Total Dissolved Solids, mg/l	381 - 549	494 - 651
	Chloride as Cl-, mg/l	109.9 – 144.9	74.9 – 139.9
	Total Hardness, mg/l	209.6 – 292.3	267.3 – 405.9
	DO, mg/l	6.5 – 6.9	-
	BOD, mg/l	4.9 – 7.1	-
	COD, mg/l	20 - 26	-
Soil Quality (no. of locations) and results: 8 Locations	Parameters		Observed Values
	pH		7.47 – 7.92
	Electrical Conductivity (mS/cm)		0.25 – 0.58
	SAR Value		0.38 – 0.63
	Available Nitrogen, kg/ha		171.09 - 190.72
	Available Potassium, kg/ha		168.45 - 559.27
	Available Phosphorus, kg/ha		26.47 – 37.89
Hydro geological study and results	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the hydrogeological report and rainwater harvesting plan for Guruvanipalli Limestone mine. The Project Proponent submitted also that the total groundwater recharge within the mine site will be the sum of recharge through pit and recharge through rainwater harvesting structure is 1,58,000 cu.m/annum. At present the groundwater intersection has not occurred, but during plan period water table will be intersected due to mining activities. Prior permission will be taken before intersection of ground water table.</p>		
Traffic study (no. of locations) and results	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the blasted material is being/will be transported by dumpers from mine faces to crusher (located in adjacent mine) via haul road and after crushing finally the limestone is being/will be dispatched to the clinkerization unit located about 3.1 km away from this mine through conveyor belt. No public road will be used for transportation of limestone. Hence, traffic study is not required.</p>		

xiv. Public Hearing (PH) Details:

Advertisement for PH with date (name of major national daily and one regional vernacular daily newspaper)	Indian Express on 02.06.2023 and Sakshi on 02.06.2023
Date of PH	04.07.2023 at 11:00 AM
Venue	Mining Lease Area of Guruvanipalle Limestone Mine 395.15 Ha
Chaired by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shri B. Pullaiah (District Revenue officer, Nandyal District, Nominated by District Collector) ▪ Shri B Y Muni Prasad (Environment Engineer, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kurnool)
Main issues raised during PH	Drinking water facilities, Medical camp, Community hall, Employment, Environment and Development, Cattle grazing, R&R, Greenbelt development works, Pollution etc.,
Budget proposed for addressing issues raised during PH over 3 years	Capital Cost: 307.5 Lakhs Recurring Cost: 35.70 Lakhs

xv. Details of CTE/CTO, Certified Compliance Report, Certified Production Details from the inception of the mine:

Particulars	Details of Letter along with date of grant and validity					
Consent to Establish	Consent Order for Establishment was granted by the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board vide Order No. 193/PCB/CFE/RO-KNL/HO/2011 dated 22.06.2012 for production capacity of 0.3 MTPA in an area of 33.50 ha in the mine lease area of 395.15 ha.					
Consent to Operate	Renewal of CFO was granted by the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board vide order dated 23.11.2022 for 0.3 million TPA (Valid: 31.01.2024) under Water Act (1974) and Air Act (1981).					
Certified Compliance Report and Inspection date	Certified Compliance Report was issued by Sub-Office at Vijaywada, MoEF&CC vide File No. IRO/VIJ/EPA/EC-A/101/06-38/2022 dated 13.07.2023. Site visit was carried out by Sub-Office on 27.04.2023.					
Certified Production Details from the inception of the mine (in tabular form against the EC capacity)	Department of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide Lr. No: 744/M4/1998 dated 04.08.2023 issued the production and dispatch details since inception to 30 th June, 2023.					
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">S. No</th> <th style="width: 35%;">Year</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Production and</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No	Year	Production and		
S. No	Year	Production and				

		Dispatch (in MT)
1	1997-98 to 2013 to 2014	0
2	2014-15	1000
3	2015-16	0
4	2016-17	1000
5	2017-18	30000
6	2018-19	39882
7	2019-20	41000
8	2020-21	44882
9	2021-22	111882
10	2022-23	296882
11	2023-24 (up to 30 th June, 2023)	64386

xvi. Rehabilitation & Resettlement:

R & R details	The Project Proponent submitted that total mining lease area is 395.15 ha out of which 230.02 ha is a private agricultural land and 165.13 ha is government land. Out of total private land of 230.02 ha, 104.77 ha land has been purchased by UTCL and remaining 125.25 ha of lands need to be purchased. There are 83 houses present within mine lease area, hence there will be need of displacement due to the mining activities. There are 279 families out of which 139 PAFs whose land 125.25 ha. is yet to be purchased and 140 PAFs whose land 104.77 ha. have already been acquired. A budget of Rs 28.683 Cr have been earmarked towards R&R.
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xvii. Court case details:

Court Case, No and its present status	The Project Proponent submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 12.12.2023 stating that there is no litigation pending against the project and order passed by any Court of Law against the project under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or relevant Sections of Air and Water Acts and that for any such litigation whatsoever, the sole responsibilities will be borne by the company.
Undertaking by Project Proponent w.r.t court case	

xviii. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018	The Project Proponent submitted the Affidavit in a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing no: CM 524112 dated 19.04.2021 stating that they will comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 2 nd August 2017 in w.r.t. Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors.
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Undertaking by Project Proponent in EIA/EMP report	The Project Proponent submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 22.11.2023 stating that they have reviewed the EIA report and take full responsibility and ownership of the contents presented in the EIA report by J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd and instructions as per MoEF&CC vide O.M. No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 4 th August, 2009 has been followed in the preparation of this EIA Report.
Undertaking by Consultant in EIA/EMP report	The Consultant submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 24.04.2023 to the effect that the conditions laid down in Terms of Reference issued by MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide letter no. J11015/56/2021-IA.II(NCM) dated 23.12.2022 have been complied as per data/details provided by Project Proponent & as per Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by IBM and the data submitted are factually correct.
Plagiarism Certificate	The Head of the Accredited Consultant Organization/ Authorized person certified that this EIA Report has been evaluated by using online software viz. Plagiarism Checker X on 20.11.2023. The report produced has been analyzed by the system and based on it and certify that the EIA Report produce in accordance with good scientific practice.

xix. Details of the Environment Management Plan (EMP):

Sl. No.	Activities	Proposed Cost (In Lakhs)	
		Capital	Recurring
A.	Mitigative Measures		
1	water tanker for water sprinkling in other roads and mining areas/activities.	24.43	5.14
2	Fixed Water Sprinkler on Haul Road	50	10
3	Green belt and plantation on 62.90 ha (10.42 ha on 7.5 m lease periphery + 25.18 ha on bench plantation + 27.30 ha on safety zone of nala, road and habitation)	394	2.62
4	Drip irrigation facility for plantation	5.0	0.5
5	Protection for Plantation (Fencing around area)	20	0.30
6	Garland Drain around Low line of mining pit	0.20	0.56
7	10 nos. of fog canon/mist sprayer of at least 40 m throw shall be installed at various locations in the mine lease area.	30.0	2.0
	Sub Total	523.63	21.12
B.	Monitoring		

1	Installation of continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station (3 nos)	150	15
2	Display Board at main gate for display of Ambient, Air, Noise and Hazardous waste monitoring data.	5.00	0.50
3	Six Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station at Village Guruvanipalle, Ankireddipalle, Petnikota	5.00	0.50
4	Providing Ear muffs/plus to workers working in high noise area	2.37	0.00
5	Air monitoring Equipment for PM10 & PM2.5	1.70	1.50
6	Work Place Noise Level Monitoring (4 no. of locations & quarterly frequency)	-	0.10
7	Installation of 03 piezo-meter along the periphery in the premises	5.00	0.50
8	Occupational Health Check-up of Mines Employees	10.00	0.00
	Sub total	169.07	18.1
C.	Wildlife conservation plan	85.00	0.00
	Total	777.70	39.22

xx. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	Budget (Rs. in Crores)
Total Cost for EMP (Capital Cost of EMP + Capital cost of public hearing)	Capital Cost: Rs. 7.78 Crores/- Recurring Cost: Rs. 40 Lakh/ annum
Project Cost	Rs. 48 Crores
Employment	71 persons

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC:

The Project Proponent/EIA Consultant presented the KML file to indicate the site features in the vicinity of the mine lease area. The Project Proponent showed the boundary of the mine lease area and the cement plant. The Project Proponent also indicated the location of the existing crusher located in the adjacent Tummalapenta Limestone mine. After exhaust of mineral reserves on southern side of the mine lease (near to the existing crusher), a crusher will be established at this instant mine lease for crushing the remaining limestone reserves and will be transported to cement plant through covered belt conveyor. In the 2nd phase, crusher will be installed in the northern part of the mine lease area and the same will be transported through covered belt conveyor and there will be no issue of crossing the public road and the roads will not be disturbed. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that during initial period of 5 years of mining operation existing haul roads will be used and no public road will be used for mineral transportation purpose. A nallah passes through the southern part of the mine lease area and will not be disturbed. The EAC asked about the old workings visible in the eastern and western side of the mine lease area. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that there are some old slab quarries. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to

take adequate control measures to arrest the fugitive dust arising from the crusher at the source itself.

The EAC asked the Project Proponent that when will the peak production will be achieved. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that peak production of 4.0 MTPA will be achieved in the 5th year i.e., 2025-26. No National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Reserve and Protected forest located within 10km radius of the study area. The nearest protected area is Rajiv Gandhi National Park at a distance of 66.59 km and Gundla Brahmeswra WLS is about 70.11 km from the proposed mine area. The mine lease area falls under Kurnool District only. There will be no waste generation from this mine. Baseline data was carried out during March-May 2022 (Summer Season). Predominant wind direction is from west. Environment Impact Assessment was carried out for normative production capacity of 13333 TPD and peak production capacity of 15333 TPD to assess the pollution. The resultant concentration of PM₁₀ will be 67.27 µg/m³ and PM_{2.5} will be 36.55 µg/m³. The no. of working days will be 305 @ 3 Shifts of 8 working hours. At the end of life of mine, an area of 155.32 ha will be excavated, 163.23 ha will remain undisturbed and an area of 74.98 will be brought under greenbelt/plantation. The excavated area will be converted into water reservoir.

The Project Proponent showed the photographs of the greenbelt and plantation developed within the mine lease area. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the public hearing was conducted on 04.07.2023. A budget of Rs 307.5 Lakhs has been earmarked as a Capital cost and Rs 35.70 Lakhs as a recurring cost towards to address the concerns of the public hearing with a timeline of three years. The proposed cost for Environment Management Plan (EMP) is Rs 7.78 Crores. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to show the existing and proposed list of machineries. The Project Proponent presented the existing and proposed list of machineries required for expansion. The EAC observed that the production is suddenly increasing from 1.0 MTPA in 4th year to 4.0 MTPA in the 5th year. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that at present mine is operating in a single shift and later the mine will be operated in three shifts to achieve the proposed production capacity. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to ensure that the machinery requirement/capacity to match with the proposed expansion production capacity. The Project Proponent presented the certified past production details and certified compliance report dated 13.07.2023. Site visit was carried out by Sub-Office on 27.04.2023. Sub-Office of MoEF&CC has certified that no non-compliances were detected.

After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the EIA Consultant, the EAC in its meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023 under the provisions of EIA Notification 2006 and its subsequent amendments, **recommended** the proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) to M/s. UltraTech Cement Limited for mining of Limestone in Guruvanipalli Limestone Mine for expansion in

Limestone Production from 0.30 Million TPA to 4.00 Million TPA, Soil: 0.31 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 4.31 Million TPA) in the mine lease area of 395.15 Ha, located at Village Guruvanipalli (Revenue Village: Petnikota), Taluka- Kolimigundla, District Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the standard EC conditions applicable for non-coal mining projects: -

- i. The Project Proponent needs to ensure that the machinery requirement/capacity shall match with the proposed expansion production capacity so as to avoid the sudden increase in pollution load.
- ii. No Nallah should be disturbed or diverted at any stage of the mining operation.
- iii. No public road shall be used for mineral transportation purpose.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to carry out ground vibration study through reputed institute to determine maximum charge per hole and charge to be blasted per delay so that ground vibrations are minimized and kept within permissible safe limits fixed by DGMS.
- v. The mined out pits shall be used as Water reservoir/Pisciculture. Fencing should be made to prevent any inadvertent entry of men and cattle.
- vi. The Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) shall be installed and commissioned in consultation with CPCB. The real time data so generated should be displayed digitally at entry and exit gate of mine lease area for public display and shall be linked to server of CPCB/SPCB.
- vii. The Project Proponent shall monitor the air quality, noise level, water quality, water level and ground vibration during drilling and blasting at the edge of the mine, near the village, crusher and at other sensitive receptors and such collected data shall be submitted quarterly to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- viii. The Project Proponent needs to explore the possibility of using advanced/ latest mining technologies available so as to minimize the ecological impacts.
- ix. The Project Proponent needs to use modern equipment's such as Camera Traps for ensuring presence and movement of wild animals in the vicinity of the mine lease area as well as in study area in consultation with Wildlife Wing of Forest Department. Appropriate interventions shall be taken to minimise stress conditions for wild animals and to avoid Man-Animal conflict.

- x. The Project Proponent should follow-up the status of implementation on Wildlife Conservation Plan from the Forest Officials and the same shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office in the six monthly compliance report.
- xi. The Project Proponent needs to take adequate control measures to arrest the fugitive dust arising from the crusher at the source itself. The dense plantation shall be carried out in the vicinity of the crusher. The air pollution control equipment's like bag filters, vacuum suction hoods, dry fogging system etc. shall be installed at Crushers, and other areas prone to air pollution. The Stack emission monitoring of the Crusher shall be carried out at periodic intervals.
- xii. The Project Proponent needs to make provision for permanent water sprinklers instead of water tankers. About, 10 nos. of fog canon/mist sprayer of atleast 40 m throw shall be installed at various locations in the mine area. Effective dust suppression system shall also be adopted at other parts of the mining lease to arrest the fugitive dust emission. The Project Proponent needs to put effort to reduce water consumption by 30%.
- xiii. The Project Proponent needs to complete the entire peripheral plantation under green belt, safety barrier plantation and gap plantation within three years from the start of mining operations. The Project Proponent should plant quality sapling of appropriate height of native and fruit bearing species. In case of tall transplants (seedlings) the seedlings should have proper trained root stock with root biomass commensurate with seedling height to ensure good growth after out planting. Plantation shall be undertaken in consultation with the State Forest Department. The Project Proponent shall make the actual count on the saplings planted and its survival rate and in case of failure of achievement of 95% survival rate, action plan for achieving the target survival rate shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- xiv. The budget of Rs 307.5 Lakhs to address the concerns raised by the public in the public consultation to be completed within 3 years from the date of start of mining operations. PP shall comply with all action plans made for public hearing concerns and make regular maintenance and record the progressive activity outcomes. The Project proponent shall ensure that the activities proposed under the public hearing is different from the CSR activities.
- xv. The Project Proponent shall create awareness among the local people working within the project area as well as its surrounding area on the ban of Single Use Plastic (SUP) in order to ensure the compliance of Notification published by

MoEF&CC on 12/08/2021. A report, along with photographs, on the measures taken shall also be included in the six monthly compliance report.

- xvi. The Project Proponent should adopt the proper mitigation measures as proposed under EMP with budgetary provision of Rs 7.78 Cr. The adoption of mitigation measures and monitoring of the same as proposed in the EMP shall be done under the supervision of the qualified environmental personnel. The implementation status of the same shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- xvii. The Project Proponent should establish in house (at project site) environment laboratory for measurement of environment parameter with respect to air quality and water (surface and ground). A dedicated team to oversee environment management shall be setup at site which should comprise of Environment Engineers, Laboratory chemist and staff for monitoring of air, water quality parameters on routine basis instead of engaging environment monitoring laboratories/consultants. Any non-compliance or infringement should be reported to the concerned authority.
- xviii. The Project Proponent shall explore the possibility of using atleast 20% of Electric vehicles/CNG/Solar instead of diesel operation within three years.
- xix. NoC from the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA)/ Concerned Local authority, as the case may be, shall be obtained before drawing the ground water for the project activities, State Pollution Control Board / Pollution Control Committees shall not issue the Consent to Operate (CTO) under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act till the project proponent shall obtain such permission.
- xx. The Project Proponent shall also organize employment-based apprenticeship/ internship training program every year with appropriate stipend for the youth and other programs to enhance the skill of the local people. The data should be maintained for the training imparted to the persons and the outcome of the training, for the assessment of the training program should be analyzed periodically and improved accordingly. The preference shall be given to the local people for the purpose of employment as committed before the EAC.
- xxi. The Project Proponent should periodically monitor and maintain the health records of the mine workers digitally prior to mining operations, at the time of operation of mine and post mining operations. Regular surveillance on

occupational health shall be carried out every year for mine workers. PP shall also organize medical camp for the benefit of the local people and also the monitor the health impacts due to mining activity.

- xxii. The mining lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake regrassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The implementation report of the above said condition shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- xxiii. The Project Proponent shall seek permission from Ministry before installing any crusher in the mine lease area.
- xxiv. The Project Proponent shall periodically maintain the garland drains, retaining wall and other water management structures in the mine lease area.

1.5 Hutti Gold Mines (ML No: 2671) of M/s The Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited for expansion in production capacity from 0.6 MTPA to 0.9 MTPA (2000 TPD to 3000 TPD) and enhancement of processing plant capacity of 0.9 MTPA – 1.2 MTPA (3000 TPD to 4000 TPD) in the mine lease area of 528.35 ha, located at Hutti Village, Lingsugur Taluk, Raichur District, Karnataka - [File No: J11015/13/2003-IA.II(M), Proposal No: IA/KA/MIN/436624/2023; EIA Consultant: M/s Ecomen Laboratories Pvt Ltd] - Terms of Reference (Expansion)

The instant proposal is for Terms of Reference of M/s The Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited for expansion in production capacity from 0.6 MTPA to 0.9 MTPA (2000 TPD to 3000 TPD) and enhancement of processing plant capacity of 0.9 MTPA – 1.2 MTPA (3000 TPD to 4000 TPD) in the mine lease area of 528.35 ha, located at Hutti Village, Lingsugur Taluk, Raichur District, Karnataka.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent and revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under: -

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and 2(b) Mineral Beneficiation and falls under Category "A" as the mine lease area is greater than 250ha and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 16°12'29.55813"N to 16°11'57.54790"N and Longitude: 76°39'38.73430" E to 76°39'42.06560"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 56 D/12.
- iii. The proposal was earlier considered in the 19th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 24-25 August, 2023 wherein the EAC deferred the proposal for want of requisite information. Then, the Project Proponent submitted the information

on 29.11.2023 in Parivesh portal and accordingly the proposal was considered in the 24th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023.

Based on observation of EAC in its EAC meeting held during 24-25 August, 2023 and compliance of observation of EAC made by Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC in its meeting held during 24-25 August, 2023	Reply by Project Proponent																				
1	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the details of the chronology of the two mine leases and their amalgamation into single lease with supporting documents clearly mentioning the mine lease area also to clarify whether any amendment in EC has been obtained after renewal as a single mine lease during the year 2008.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that initially mining lease was granted under the mining lease no. 1564 for mining of gold and associated minerals over an area of 528.35 Ha (1305.6 Acres) for a period of 30 years from 20.12.1978 to 19.12.2008.</p> <p>Then, the second mining lease was granted under the mining lease no. 1734 for mining of Scheelite Mineral over an area of 528.35 Ha (1305.6 Acres) for the period coterminous with the original lease i.e., up to 19.12.2008.</p> <p>Further, the Project Proponent submitted that the ML no. 1564 and ML no. 1734 for mining of Gold and associated minerals and Scheelite Mineral respectively, renewed under the Mining Lease no. 2671 for mining of Gold, Scheelite and associated minerals. There was no amalgamation of mining lease of M L no. 1564 and M L no.1734.</p> <p>The Project Proponent also submitted the letter issued by the Govt. of Karnataka vide Lr No. CI 113 CMC 2016 Bengaluru, dated 14.02.2019 stating that as per the provision of Section 8A (8) of MMDR Act, 1957 read with Rule 3(1) of the Mineral (Mining by Government Company) Rules, 2015, the period of mining lease bearing no: 2671 held by M/s Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited shall extended up to 19.12.2028.</p>																				
2	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the certified past production details from the inception of the mining operation to 2011-12.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the letter from the Office of the Director, Dept. of Mines and Geology, vide Lr.No DMG/DCBML-2671/2023-24/6799 Bengaluru-1, dated 25.09.2023 from the period 1948-49 to 2022-23.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="586 1669 1430 1883"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="586 1669 727 1822">Year</th> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="727 1669 1235 1822">Ore production</th> <th data-bbox="1235 1669 1430 1822">Ore processing Tonnage (Million Tonnes)</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="586 1822 727 1883"></th> <th data-bbox="727 1822 878 1883">Tonnage (Million Tonnes)</th> <th data-bbox="878 1822 1057 1883">Recovery grade (g/t)</th> <th data-bbox="1057 1822 1235 1883">Gold produced (Tons)</th> <th data-bbox="1235 1822 1430 1883"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="586 1822 727 1854">1948-49</td> <td data-bbox="727 1822 878 1854">0.0039</td> <td data-bbox="878 1822 1057 1854">19.01</td> <td data-bbox="1057 1822 1235 1854">0.074</td> <td data-bbox="1235 1822 1430 1854">0.0039</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="586 1854 727 1883">1949-50</td> <td data-bbox="727 1854 878 1883">0.0265</td> <td data-bbox="878 1854 1057 1883">7.60</td> <td data-bbox="1057 1854 1235 1883">0.202</td> <td data-bbox="1235 1854 1430 1883">0.0265</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Ore production			Ore processing Tonnage (Million Tonnes)		Tonnage (Million Tonnes)	Recovery grade (g/t)	Gold produced (Tons)		1948-49	0.0039	19.01	0.074	0.0039	1949-50	0.0265	7.60	0.202	0.0265
Year	Ore production			Ore processing Tonnage (Million Tonnes)																		
	Tonnage (Million Tonnes)	Recovery grade (g/t)	Gold produced (Tons)																			
1948-49	0.0039	19.01	0.074	0.0039																		
1949-50	0.0265	7.60	0.202	0.0265																		

1950-51	0.0289	8.81	0.255	0.0289
1951-52	0.0350	8.02	0.281	0.0350
1952-53	0.0424	7.58	0.321	0.0424
1953-54	0.0620	8.49	0.527	0.0620
1954-55	0.0751	7.24	0.544	0.0751
1955-56	0.0756	7.45	0.563	0.0756
1956-57	0.0760	6.47	0.491	0.0760
1957-58	0.0776	5.68	0.440	0.0776
1958-59	0.0802	5.78	0.464	0.0802
1959-60	0.0954	5.22	0.498	0.0954
1960-61	0.1045	6.28	0.656	0.1045
1961-62	0.1105	7.07	0.781	0.1105
1962-63	0.1095	8.22	0.900	0.1095
1963-64	0.0531	8.04	0.427	0.0531
1964-65	0.0959	8.02	0.768	0.0959
1965-66	0.0804	9.76	0.785	0.0804
1966-67	0.1068	8.62	0.921	0.1068
1967-68	0.1086	8.48	0.921	0.1086
1968-69	0.1065	9.13	0.972	0.1065
1969-70	0.1258	7.25	0.912	0.1258
1970-71	0.1758	7.59	1.334	0.1758
1971-72	0.2041	6.29	1.283	0.2041
1972-73	0.2134	6.23	1.328	0.2134
1973-74	0.2157	6.60	1.423	0.2157
1974-75	0.1866	6.84	1.276	0.1866
1975-76	0.1789	6.54	1.170	0.1789
1976-77	0.1401	6.28	0.880	0.1401
1977-78	0.1090	7.84	0.855	0.1090
1978-79	0.1191	6.65	0.792	0.1191
1979-80	0.1100	7.65	0.842	0.1100
1980-81	0.1479	5.24	0.774	0.1479
1981-82	0.1451	6.57	0.954	0.1451
1982-83	0.1422	5.26	0.749	0.1422
1983-84	0.1462	5.58	0.816	0.1462
1984-85	0.1364	6.32	0.862	0.1364
1985-86	0.1510	5.54	0.837	0.1510
1986-87	0.1558	5.88	0.916	0.1558
1987-88	0.1631	5.37	0.876	0.1631
1988-89	0.1828	5.29	0.968	0.1828
1989-90	0.1599	5.38	0.861	0.1599
1990-91	0.1965	5.25	1.032	0.1965
1991-92	0.2012	5.34	1.075	0.2012
1992-93	0.1809	4.86	0.880	0.1809
1993-94	0.1775	5.42	0.962	0.1775
1994-95	0.2338	5.21	1.218	0.2338
1995-96	0.1873	5.07	0.949	0.1873
1996-97	0.1864	6.59	1.228	0.1864
1997-98	0.1667	7.28	1.213	0.1667
1998-99	0.1583	7.25	1.147	0.1583
1999-2000	0.1298	7.94	1.030	0.1298
2000-01	0.1331	10.82	1.440	0.1331
2001-02	0.3220	6.77	2.181	0.3220

		2002-03	0.3993	5.99	2.390	0.3993
		2003-04	0.4823	6.01	2.900	0.4823
		2004-05	0.4808	6.71	3.227	0.4808
		2005-06	0.4542	5.89	2.673	0.4542
		2006-07	0.4855	4.60	2.232	0.4855
		2007-08	0.5015	4.57	2.307	0.5015
		2008-09	0.5047	3.96	1.975	0.5047
		2009-10	0.4989	4.09	2.030	0.4989
		2010-11	0.4964	4.46	2.006	0.4964
		2011-12	0.4498	2.87	1.396	0.4498
		2012-13	0.4865	2.95	1.435	0.4865
		2013-14	0.4867	2.75	1.293	0.4867
		2014-15	0.4695	2.37	1.245	0.4695
		2015-16	0.5246	2.74	1.473	0.5246
		2017-18	0.5089	2.98	1.514	0.5089
		2018-19	0.5374	2.91	1.563	0.5374
		2019-20	0.5403	2.77	1.499	0.5403
		2020-21	0.3803	2.47	0.940	0.3803
		2021-22	0.4197	2.88	1.209	0.4197
		2022-23	0.5395	2.35	1.270	0.5395
3	The Project Proponent needs to submit the copies of the Consent to Operate (CTO) from its inception.	The Project Proponent submitted the copies of Consent to Operate as given below in table:				
		S. Nos	Documents	File no.	Validity	
		1	Consent to Establish (CTO)	624/KSPCB/R0900004/APC/2000-01/1246	01/07/2000 to 30/06/2001	
		2	Consent to Establish (CTO)	311/KSPCB/TC/WPC/DEO-3/2001/651	21/09/2001 to 30/06/2002	
		3	Consent to Establish (CTO)	KSPCB/SEO-2/SC&M/DEO AEO3/2002-03/77	09/07/2002 to 30/06/2003	
		4	Consent to Establish (CTO)	KSPCB/APC/IND2/CKM/DEO-TC/AEO-2/2002-03/780	28/10/2002 to 30/06/2003	
		5	Consent to Operate (CTO)	KSPCB/APC/RCR/DEO-TC/2003-04/335	01/07/2003 to 30/06/2004	
		6	Consent to Operate (CTO)	KSPCB/WPC/RCR/2003-04/343	01/07/2003 to 30/06/2004	
		7	Consent to Operate (CTO)	KSPCB/WPC/SEO-2/SC&M/DEO/AEO/2004-05/342	20/12/2004 to 30/06/2005	
		8	Consent to Operate (CTO)	KSPCB/WPC/SEO-3/DEO-TC/AEO-3/2005-06/65	29/06/2005 to 30/06/2006	
		9	Consent to Operate (CTO)	KSPCB/SEO-4/EO/DEO-3/06-07/149	01/07/2006 to 30/06/2007	
		10	Consent to Operate	KSPCB/APC/SEO-4/EO/DEO/AEO/07-08/211	01/07/2007 to	

		(CTO)		30/06/2008
11	Consent to Operate (CTO)	KSPCB/SEO/DEO/AEO/08-09/539		01/03/2008 to 30/06/2009
12	Consent to Operate (CTO)	KSPCB/SEO/Mining/AEO/09-10/725		01/07/2009 to 30/06/2010
13	Consent to Operate (CTO)	25/KSPCB/SEO/DEO/AEO/2011-12/95		01/07/2010 to 30/06/2011
14	Consent to Operate (CTO)	271/PCB/MIN/CFO/2012-13/1383		21/12/2012 to 30/06/2013
15	Consent to Operate (CTO)	313/PCB/MIN/CFO/2013-14/1410		18/11/2013 to 30/06/2014
16	Consent to Operate (CTO)	321/PCB/MIN/CFO/2004-15/1651		01/07/2014 to 30/06/2015
17	Consent to Operate (CTO)	416/PCB/ MIN/CFO/2015-16/1506		01/07/2015 to 30/06/2016
18	Consent to Operate (CTO)	AWH-30621 PCB ID 28496		11/05/2016 to 30/06/2020
19	Consent to Operate (CTO)	AW-333881 PCB ID 28496		03/09/2020 to 31/03/2023
20	Addendum to Consent Order	PCB/MIN/ADDENDUM/2023-24/1276		01/04/2023 to 31/03/2025

iv. Details of previous Environmental Clearance (EC):

- a) Initially, the Project Proponent obtained Environmental Clearance (EC) vide EC Lr.No: J-11015/13/2003.IA.II(M) dated 17.11.2004 for Hutti Underground Gold mine of M/s Hutti Gold Mines Company Ltd., for expansion in production of Gold ore from 0.351 MTPA to 0.6 MTPA over an area of 308.35 ha under the EIA Notification, 1994.

v. Details of Mine Lease:

- a) The Project Proponent has submitted that initially mining lease deed was executed on 20.12.1978.
- b) The original grant notification was issued vide Notification No. CI 128 MMN 2011, dated 26.03.2012.
- c) The Project Proponent submitted the copy of the mine lease deed made on 22.03.2014 for a period of 20 years w.e.f. 19.12.2008.
- d) The Project Proponent submitted the letter issued by the Govt. of Karnataka vide Lr No. CI 113 CMC 2016 Bengaluru, dated 14.02.2019 stating that as per the provision of Section 8A (8) of MMDR Act, 1957 read with Rule 3(1) of the Mineral

(Mining by Government Company) Rules, 2015, the period of mining lease bearing no: 2671 held by M/s Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited shall extended up to 19.12.2028.

- vi. The Project Proponent has submitted that the entire mine lease area of 528.35 ha is a Govt. land.
- vii. Details of Mining Plan:
 - a) The Project Proponent has submitted that the Modification of Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines vide Lr.No: 279/356/92/BNG/803 dated 09.04.2018 for mining of Gold over an area of 528.35 ha for the period 2018-19 to 2022-23.
 - b) The method of mining will be mechanized underground mining method.
 - c) The mined out ore will be transported to the processing plant by trucks and conveyor belt. The gold ore will be treated in processing plant by various stages to recover the final product gold.
 - d) The oxide ore will be mined first and will be extracted by adopting Grinding, Gravity Concentration, Thickening & Leaching-Carbon-In-Pulp-Elution & Electro Winning-Cyanide Detoxification-Refining.
 - e) The mill tailings will be disposed of separately in a designated tailing dump within the mine lease area. The tailings will be disposed by pumping in slurry form.
 - f) The generation of waste rock estimated as around 4,37,414 Tonnes during the period 2020-21 to 2022-23, out of which 49% will be used as road metal, building construction jobs and remaining 51% as filling materials in completely depleted stopes. There is no sub grade ore or mineral produced.
 - g) Disposal methods being practiced includes coarse material in stope filling in underground and fine material is stored in upstream embankment method in tailings dam. About 1400-1500 tonnes per day, tailings estimated to dispose to the dump and 300-400 tons per day coarse sand estimated to be used for stope filling.
- viii. The Project Proponent has submitted that the source of supply of water is from Krishna river (20 km from mine), Dump recycling water and mined out water. About 25.88% of water is recycling. About 4600 KLD of water from Krishna river is being used every day. For the expansion proposals, the required quantity of water for additional manpower, ore processing works out to be 1320 KLD and will be met from Krishna river and recycled water.
- ix. The Project Proponent has submitted that there is no forest land within the mine lease area and Reserve Forests are located more than 5km from the mine lease area. The Project Proponent also submitted that there is no National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Eco Sensitive Area, Western Ghats within 10 km radius of the

mine lease area. Further, the Project Proponent has submitted that Hutti Nadi (Seasonal Odai), Odai (Seasonal nala) are found within the mine lease area and Canal near medinapur and Hire halla are located at a distance of 0.77 km, W and 1.81 km, WNW respectively from the mine lease area. Hutti village is located within the mine lease area.

- x. The Project Proponent has submitted that an area of 66.08 ha has been developed under greenbelt. The proposed area for the development of greenbelt will be 108.27 ha and no. of saplings proposed to plant is 1,51,578 no.s with a budget of Rs 1500 Lakhs.
- xi. The Project Proponent vide letter dated 24.04.2023 submitted an undertaking stating that the proposed expansion proposal is not a violation as per provision S.O 804 (E) dated 14.03.2017 and SOP dated 07.07.2021.
- xii. The Project Proponent has submitted that since it is an underground mine, the question of reclamation and rehabilitation does not arise and no R&R is involved in this project.
- xiii. The Project Proponent has submitted that there is no litigation pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.
- xiv. The Project Proponent has submitted that the total cost of the proposed expansion project is Rs 10,000 Lakhs. The existing manpower is 3892 persons and the proposed manpower for the expansion will be 1000 persons.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC:

The EAC deliberated on the additional details submitted by the Project Proponent and the EIA Consultant. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that initially mining lease was granted under the mining lease no. 1564 for mining of gold and associated minerals over an area of 528.35 Ha (1305.6 Acres) for a period of 30 years from 20.12.1978 to 19.12.2008. Then, the second mining lease was granted under the mining lease no. 1734 for mining of Scheelite Mineral over an area of 528.35 Ha (1305.6 Acres) and the lease deed was executed on 17.03.1981 for the period coterminous with the original lease i.e., up to 19.12.2008. Further, the Project Proponent submitted that the ML no. 1564 and ML no. 1734 for mining of Gold and associated minerals and Scheelite Mineral respectively, renewed under the Mining Lease no. 2671 for mining of Gold, Scheelite and associated minerals on 26.03.2012 and it was effective from 19.12.2008. There was no amalgamation of mining lease of M L no. 1564 and M L no.1734. Further, the Project Proponent presented the certified past production details from the period 1948-49 to 2022-23. The Project Proponent also presented the details of the Consent to Operate (CTO) from its inception and the last CTO was obtained on 01.04.2023 which is valid upto 31.03.2025.

The EAC observed that the Project Proponent obtained Environmental Clearance on 17.11.2004 under EIA, 1994 and after that the Project Proponent did not obtain amendment in EC for inclusion of Gold, Scheelite and associated minerals. The EAC noted that as per Ministry's Notification dated 04.04.2011, *prior environmental clearance is as well required at the stage of renewal of mine lease for which application should be made up to one year prior to date of renewal.* The EAC also reiterated the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August, 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common Cause Versus Union of India and Ors *"the renewal of a mining lease after 27th January, 1994 will require an EC even if there is no expansion or modernization activity or any increase in the pollution load"*. The EAC noted that the Project Proponent obtained the renewal of mining lease on 26.03.2012 and at this stage Project Proponent required to obtain EC as per Ministry's Notification dated 04.04.2011. However, project proponent has not obtained the EC at the time of renewal of mine lease. Further, the EAC noted the Project Proponent did not submit the proposal under Ministry's Notification dated 06.04.2018 and 14.03.2017. Thus, the EAC opined that the instant proposal attracts the 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 violation of the EIA Notification, 2006. The EAC also observed that the Project Proponent submitted the proposal for expansion in production capacity from 0.6 MTPA to 0.9 MTPA (2000 TPD to 3000 TPD) and enhancement of processing plant capacity of 0.9 MTPA – 1.2 MTPA (3000 TPD to 4000 TPD) in the mine lease area of 528.35 ha. The EAC reiterated the Ministry's SOP notification dated 7th July, 2021, SOP for dealing with the violation cases:

Step 1: Closure or Revision:

S. No	Status of EC	Actions
1	If no prior EC has been taken	Order to close its operation
2	If prior EC is available for existing/old unit	Order to revert the activity/ production to permissible limits
3	If prior EC was not required for earlier production level but is now required	Restrict the activity/production to the extent to which prior EC was not required

Step 2: Action under Environment (Projection) Act, 1986:

Action under section 15 read with section 19 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be initiated against the violators.

The EAC was of the view that the Project Proponent needs to revert the activity/ production to permissible limits. The EAC asked the Ministry to take action against the Project Proponent under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Based on the discussions held, the EAC in its meeting held during 26-28

December, 2023, under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendments therein, **recommended** the proposal for grant of Terms of Reference (ToR) under Ministry's SOP dated 07.07.2021 for identification and handling of Violation cases under EIA 2006 to M/s The Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited for production capacity of 0.6 MTPA and processing plant capacity of 0.9 MTPA in the mine lease area of 528.35 ha, located at Hutti Village, Lingsugur Taluk, Raichur District, Karnataka for undertaking detailed EIA/EMP study subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the standard ToR conditions applicable for non-coal mining projects:-

- i. The Ministry has to initiate action under section 15 read with section 19 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 against the project proponent. Further, no consent to operate to be issued till the project is granted EC. The action initiated by the State Govt./State PCB, status of the same may be submitted to the Ministry.
- ii. The Project Proponent shall be required to submit a bank guarantee equivalent to the amount of remediation plan and natural and community resource augmentation plan with the SPCB prior to the grant of EC. The quantum shall be recommended by the EAC and finalized by the regulatory authority. The bank guarantee shall be released after successful implementation of the EMP, followed by recommendations of the EAC and approval of the regulatory authority.
- iii. Assessment of ecological damage with respect to air, water, land and other environmental attributes. The collection and analysis of data shall be done by an environmental laboratory duly notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, or an environmental laboratory accredited by NABL, or a laboratory of a Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) institution working in the field of environment.
- iv. Preparation of EMP comprising remediation plan and natural and community resource augmentation plan corresponding to the ecological damage assessed and economic benefits derived due to violation.
- v. The remediation plan and the natural and community resource augmentation plan to be prepared as an independent chapter in the EIA report by the accredited consultants. vi. Details of benefit accrued during the violation period along with capital cost of the project needs to be submitted.

- vi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the penalty provisions as per Ministry's SOP dated 07.07.2021 at the time of appraisal of EC.
- vii. The Project proponent needs to comply with all the statutory requirements of the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August 2017 in w.r.t. Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors.
- viii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the ecology restoration plan.
- ix. The Project Proponent needs to submit the efficacy and operational data of the EMP measures undertaken in the past.
- x. The Project Proponent needs to carry out the rapid study on need-based assessment for undertaking community development activities in nearby villages and conducting to achieve specific SDGs with the help of the local community. Based on the study/report, the Project Proponent shall prepare long-term sustainable development programs for their holistic development.
- xi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the comparison of data on the standards of the living of the local people after obtaining EC under EIA, 1994 and as on date. PP also needs to highlight the influence on the developmental activities that changed the standard of living of the local people.
- xii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the management plan for handling and management of tailings.
- xiii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the treatment methods for mine water discharge and waste water containing heavy metals.
- xiv. The Project Proponent needs to monitor the ambient air quality and noise level at the mine lease boundary, nearest village, crusher, predominant downwind direction and at other sensitive receptors. Accordingly, Project Proponent shall propose to install Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station within certain timeline.
- xv. The Project Proponent should prepare the EMP considering the scenario of pollution to be generated for normative and peak total excavation for assessing air and noise pollution.

- xvi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for carrying out plantation along the 7.5m barrier, safety zone and gap plantation. PP should also submit the details of no of saplings planted and to be planted, type of saplings existing and proposed, existing survival rate and the area covered and to be covered under greenbelt/plantation along with the timeline and budget. The Project proponent also needs to submit the successful rate in compliance to the earlier EC.
- xvii. The Project Proponent needs to carry out the Public Hearing as per provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. PP should also submit the time bound action plan on concerns of the public through a separate budget with capital expenditure with a timeline of 3 years. The Project proponent shall ensure that the activities proposed under the public hearing shall be different from the CSR activities. The Project Proponent also needs to submit the implementation status of the earlier public hearing concerns.
- xviii. The Project Proponent shall carry out the assessment of impact due to the proposed project as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP. The project proponent shall conduct hydrological study for projects involving intersection of ground water table as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP.
- xix. The Project Proponent shall explore the possibility of reduction of specific water requirement by optimization / technology up gradation, etc. The efforts shall be delineated in the EIA/EMP.
- xx. The Project Proponent shall prepare the scheme for mandatory recycle/reuse of water as specified by the Central Ground Water Authority for different category areas seeking NoC for ground water withdrawal and the shall submit as part of EIA/EMP report.
- xxi. The Action Plan on the compliance of the recommendations of the CAG as per Ministry's Circular No. J-11013/71/2016-IA.I(M), dated 25.10.2017 needs to be submitted at the time of appraisal of the project and included in the EIA/EMP Report.
- xxii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the latest Certified Compliance Report (CCR) by the Ministry's Regional Office at the time of appraisal of EC.

- xxiii. The Project Proponent shall conduct drone survey of the mine lease area and buffer area and submit during the appraisal for EC.

Day 2: 27th December, 2023 (Wednesday)

2.1 Proposed Dongargaon Limestone Mine of M/s RCCPL Private Limited with total excavation of 1.52 Million TPA (ROM- Limestone – 0.9 Million TPA, OB – 0.56 Million TPA & Soil – 0.06 Million TPA) over an area of 252.36 ha, located at Village (s) - Dongargaon, Dahigaon and Wegaon, Tehsil – Wani&Maregaon, District Yavatmal, Maharashtra – [F.No: J-11015/33/2022-IA-II(NCM), Proposal No: IA/MH/MIN/451465/2023; EIA Consultant: M/s Enkay Enviro Services Private Limited] – Environmental Clearance (EC)

The instant proposal is for mining of Dongargaon Limestone Mine of M/s RCCPL Private Limited with total excavation of 1.52 Million TPA (Limestone: 0.9 Million TPA (ROM), OB – 0.56 Million TPA & Soil – 0.06 Million TPA) over an area of 252.36 ha, located at Village (s) – Dongargaon, Dahigaon and Wegaon, Tehsil – Wani&Maregaon, District Yavatmal, Maharashtra.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent and revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under: -

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and falls under Category “A” as the mining lease area is greater than 250ha and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 20°2’24.76”N to 20°3’43.16”N and Longitude: 78°50’22.24”E to 78°51’44.12”E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 55L/16 and falls in Seismic Zone – II.
- iii. Details of Terms of Reference:
 - a) The Project Proponent obtained Terms of Reference vide ToRLr. No: IA-J-11015/33/2022-IA-II(NCM) dated 03.10.2022 for mining of Limestone in Dongargaon Limestone Mine of M/s RCCPL Private Limited with Total Excavation of 1.52 Million TPA [Limestone (ROM) – 0.9 Million TPA, OB – 0.56 Million TPA & Soil – 0.06 Million TPA] in the mine lease area of 252.36 Ha for undertaking detailed EIA/EMP study.
- iv. Details of Mine Lease:

S. No	Lease Particulars	Date of Grant	Mineral	Mine Lease Area, Ha	Period	Granted by

1	Letter of Intent for grant of mining lease in pursuant to Rule 10 (2) of the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 and this Letter of Intent is valid for a period of 3 years from the date of its issuance	20.05.2022	Limestone	252.36	50 years	Govt. of Maharashtra
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v. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine lease area:

Private Agriculture land	252.36 Ha
Government land	Nil
Total Mine lease area (MLA)	252.36 Ha

vi. Details of Mining Plan:

Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines	Letter No.	YTL/LST/MPLN-02/2022-NGP
	Date	12.08.2022
	Mineral & (Major/Minor)	Limestone (Major)
	Mine Lease Area, Ha	252.36
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Open cast Mechanized	
Drilling/Blasting	115 mm dia and 5 m (+10% subgrade drilling) will be drilled with compressed-air-operated DTH drills. The blasting will be done by ANFO/SME/Slurry as column charge and slurry /cast booster explosive as booster charge. Controlled blasting will be practiced by using Nonel detonators.	
Geological Reserves	12.95 Million Tonnes	
Mineable Reserves	5.36 Million Tonnes	
Breakup of Total Excavation (Topsoil/OB/SB/IB/Mineral Rejects/Waste, MTPA)	Total Excavation-1.52 Million TPA Mineral (Limestone)-0.9 Million TPA OB-0.56 Million TPA Soil-0.06 Million TPA	
Life of mine	8 Years	
Mine Bench Height & Bench Width	Bench Height- 5.0 m & Width-15.0 m	

No. of Mine Benches	Max. 12		
Existing Depth, m bgl	Nil		
Ultimate Depth of Mining, m bgl	49 m bgl		
Ground Water Table, m bgl	Post Monsoon-25 m bgl & Pre-Monsoon-29 m bgl		
Details of ground water intersection	Ground water table will be intersected during Post Monsoon period of 4 th year.		
Individual bench slope	80 ⁰		
Overall pit slope	35 ⁰		
Details of existing/ proposed Crusher	Not Any		
Mineral Beneficiation	Not Any		
RoM output size	400 mm		
Transportation details including capacity of dumper/tipper, mode of transport and distance	Production TPD	Average - 3000 Tonne (Limestone)	
	Dumper Capacity	25/30 Tonne	
	Mode of Transport	By Road	
	Distance	55 km	
	No. of Dumper Required per Day	34 No. of dumper	
Generation of Topsoil/OB & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	Particular	Plan Period	Conceptual
	Soil	0.16 Million Tonne	0.19 Million Tonne
	Management	Will be Stored at Soil dump and use for plantation	
	Over burden	1.89 Million Tonne	2.26 Million Tonne
Management	Will be Stored at waste dump	Shall be utilized for backfilling	
Generation of Mineral Rejects/ Waste & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	Not Any		

vii. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	115.0 KLD		Domestic	4.0 KLD
	Fresh	105.6 KLD	Dust Suppression	80.0 KLD
	Treated	9.4 KLD	Plantation	23.0 KLD
			Workshop	8.0 KLD
Source	Ground Water & Mine Pit Water			
Permission	No Objection Certificate (NOC) for Groundwater abstraction was obtained vide letter no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2023/18998, dated 11.08.2023 for abstraction of fresh water of 115 m ³ /day for the period up to 10.08.2025.			

viii. Nearest village / town/ highway/railway station / water bodies/monument:

Particulars	Particular's Name		Distance & Directions	
Nearest Village	Dongargaon		0.40 km, N (From lease boundary) 0.59 km, N (From mine working pit)	
Nearest Town	Wani		8.60 km, E	
Nearest Highway	NH-930		4.0 km, N	
Nearest Railway station	Wani		10.4 km, ENE	
Water bodies	S. No	Particulars	Distance (Km)	Direction
	1.	NirgudaNala adjoining lease boundary	0.86 (from Nearest working pit in N)	N
	2.	NirgudaNala passing through lease boundary	0.170 (from Nearest working pit in S)	S
	3.	GhanmodNala	3.53	NE
Forest	S. No.	Particulars	Distance (Km) (From Lease Boundary)	Direction
	Reserve Forest (RF)			
	1.	Borgaon	3.49	SE
	2.	Ghonsa	4.83	SSW
	3.	MaregaonRamna	4.86	N
	4.	Maregaon	5.41	N
	5.	Margaon	6.37	N
	6.	Suknegaon	6.66	SSE
	7.	Manki	7.04	SE
	8.	Pendhari	8.61	WSW
	9.	Petur	8.67	SE
	10.	Bhivkund	8.77	SW
	11.	Phiski	9.90	N
	Protected Forest (PF)			
	12.	PF N/V Dongargaon	0.72	NE
	13.	PF N/V Borda	2.94	S
	14.	PF N/V Kegaon	3.33	WSW
15.	PF N/V Gothani	5.06	SW	
16.	PF N/V Surla	8.85	SW	
17.	Lakhapur PF	9.71	NNE	

ix. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area:

Forest Land/Protected Area/ Eco-Sensitive Zone(ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area(ESA)	Yes/ No	Details of Certificate/letter/Remarks
Forest Land	No	The Project Proponent submitted the letter from the Office of the Conservator of Forest (Territorial), Yavatmal, Forest Circle dated 23.12.2022 stating that

		no forest land involved in the mining lease area of 252.36 ha.
National Park	No	The Project Proponent submitted the letter from the Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF) vide letter dated 19.06.2023 stating that there is no Sanctuary, National Park or Tiger Corridor observed within 10 km area from the mining area. The Tipeshwar Sanctuary is 38 Km away from this mining area. Hence, there is no need to take wildlife clearance for this proposal. The Project Proponent also submitted the map certified by Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife).
Wildlife Sanctuary	No	
Elephant/Tiger Reserve		
Eco-Sensitive Zone(ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area(ESA)	No	
Schedule-I species (No.s and name of schedule-I species with authenticated letter)	Yes	The Project Proponent submitted the authenticated list of flora and fauna vide LrNo. DESK - 23 (2) / WL / SURVEY / PAKRA30 / 785 / 2023-24, dated 19.06.2023. Core Zone - Large Bengal Monitor Lizard Buffer Zone - Tiger, Sloth Bear, Indian Pangolin, Indian Peafowl.
Wildlife Conservation Plan	Yes	The Project Proponent submitted that the Wildlife Conservation plan for Five Schedule-I species was prepared and submitted to DCF, Pandhakarwada, as well as PCCF (WL) Maharashtra on the basis of present study Field Observations, Working Plan and as per the recommendation of the Forest department – Yavatmal (Maharashtra). WLCP has been forwarded by CCF Amravati, on 08.11.2023 to APCCF (WL) East, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

x. Green belt/plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation	38.94 ha
Budget for green plant& plantation till the end of life of mine.	Rs. 1.01 Cr.
Budget for nursery	Nil
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
Along Road, Near Soil & OB Stack	14.16 ha
Dumps Area	6.84 ha
Backfilled area	12.80 ha
Two uppermost benches	5.14 ha
Total no. of saplings proposed to plant	39,210 No.s

xi. Baseline data:

Baseline Data (Air / Water / Noise / Soil / Hydro geological study/ Traffic Study/ others)	
Period of baseline data collection	October, November & December - 2022
Season (Summer / Pre-monsoon / Post-	Post Monsoon Season

monsoon / Winter)			
Predominant Wind direction (From)		North	
Ambient Air Quality (no. of locations) and results		8 No. of Locations of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring	
	Particular	Results	Standard
	PM10	38.5 to 56.7 µg/m ³	100 µg/m ³
	PM 2.5	16.3 to 37.6 µg/m ³	60 µg/m ³
	SO2	7.9 to 24.6 µg/m ³	80 µg/m ³
	NO2	12.2 to 30.8 µg/m ³	80 µg/m ³
Noise level (no. of locations) and results		8 No. of Locations of Noise Monitoring	
		Day Time	44.6 to 49.8 Leq dB (A)
		Night Time	40.1 to 42.4 Leq dB (A)
Water Quality (no. of locations) and results		8 No. of Locations of Ground Water Quality Monitoring	
		pH	7.4 to 7.9
		Total Hardness	162 to 199 mg/l
		Alkalinity	148 to 176 mg/l
		TDS	228 to 384 mg/l
		3 No. of Locations of Surface Water Quality monitoring:-	
		pH	7.4-7.9
		BOD	2.2-2.4 mg/l
		COD	11.8-13.6 mg/l
		DO	3.2-3.8 mg/l
Soil Quality (no. of locations) and results		8 No. of Locations of Soil Quality Monitoring	
		pH	6.74 to 7.85
		Type of Soil	Silty Clay
		Nitrogen	87.2 to 279.3 mg/kg
		Phosphorus	16.8 to 60.7 mg/kg
		Potassium	124.4 to 302.8 mg/kg
Hydro geological study and results		The Project Proponent submitted that detailed hydrological study was conducted as per the guidelines issued by Central Ground Water Authority. As per the study the water table in area is about 29 m bgl (Pre-Monsoon) & 25 m bgl (Post-Monsoon). As per approved mining plan at the end of 4th year working the pit bottom will be 190 MSL (27 m bgl). Thus, the mine will intersect the ground water table during Post-Monsoon period of 4 th year. Permission for Ground water abstraction	

	was obtained vide letter no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2023/18998, dated 11.08.2023. Permission for de-watering will be taken when required. There will be no considerable impact on ground water quality due to mining activity. However norms of CGWA regulations will be complied.
Traffic study (no. of locations) and results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project Proponent submitted that traffic survey was conducted at three stations TS-1 (T bend of Wegaon To Kumbharkhani Mine Road To Dongargaon), TS-2 (SH 233 T Bend To Wegaon Road (Near WCL Kumbharkhani Mine)) & TS-3 (SH 233 T Bend Wani - Mukutban Road). • As per traffic survey, the existing Volume in PUV/Hr at TS stations is 32, 95 & 235 respectively and existing Capacity of Road in PUC/Hr is 625 and LOS Value for existing traffic Scenario come under A (excellent at TS-1 & TS-2) and B (Very Good at TS-3). • After the operation of proposed mining only 30 PUC per/hr will increase. Hence, the carrying capacity of the road is accommodable for the proposed project.

xii. Public Hearing (PH) Details:

Advertisement for PH with date (name of major national daily and one regional vernacular daily newspaper)	1. Hitavada – 15.06.2023 2. "Lokmat" – 15.06.2023
Date of PH	17.07.2023
Venue	At Project site of Dongargaon Limestone Mining Project, Village-Dongargaon, Tehsil-Wani, District-Yavatmal.
Chaired by	Mr. Amol Yedge, IAS, District Magistrate Yavatmal, Chairman of Environment Public Hearing committee; SouHema Deshpande, Regional officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board Chandrapur as Member and Mr. Umashankar Bhadule, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board Chandrapur as convener.
Main issues raised during PH	Environment, Employment, Education and skill

	development training for youth, Plantation Programme, Land Compensation, CSR, Transportation, Water Level/Borewell Status / Surface Water.
Budget proposed for addressing issues raised during PH over 3 years	Rs.60 Lakhs (For Three years)

xiii. Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R):

R & R details	The Project Proponent submitted that R&R Plan/compensation details for the Project Affected Family's / Project Affected People has been prepared and as per the Detailed Report prepared the total land required for the lease period (08 years) is 82.21 Hectares. The land purchase cost based on the best (maximum) of LARR Act, 2013 and Maharashtra State Policy & Annual Statement of Rates which is Rs. 13,42,94,000. However, land shall be purchased based on mutual agreement and consent of land owners. The land rates shall be in conformity to or higher than State Policy. Land purchase shall start after obtaining environmental clearance and mining lease grant order.
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xiv. Court case details:

Court Case	Project Proponent submitted that there is no litigation pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up
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xv. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018	Project Proponent submitted an Affidavit in a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing 17AA 928904 dated 09.08.2022 stating that this mine will comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2 nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India &Ors.
Plagiarism certificate	The head of the EIA Consultant certified that this EIA report has been evaluated using licensed software iThenticate plagiarism software and plagiarism was checked on 04.12.2023. The report produced has been analyzed by the system and based analyzed by the system and based on it, I certify the EIA Report produces in accordance with good information technology practice.

xvi. Details of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP):

Sr. No.	ENVIRONMENT	Cost of EMP (Rs. in crores)	
		Capital Cost	Recurring Cost per Annum

A	ENVIRONMENTAL AIR MANAGEMENT		
1	Tanker mounted water sprinklers	0.400	0.150
2	Dust Mist canons	0.150	0.020
SUB TOTAL - A		0.55	0.17
B	ENVIRONMENTAL WATER MANAGEMENT		
1	Garland drains around mine pit	0.040	0.008
2	Silt Settling ponds	0.010	0.002
3	ETP (Capacity- 10 KLD, Oil and grease trap for workshop waste water)	0.100	0.025
4	STP (Capacity – 3 KLD, Sewage treatment for domestic waste water)	0.100	0.025
5	Rain Water Harvesting Structure	0.100	0.025
SUB TOTAL - B		0.350	0.085
C	ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE & GROUND VIBRATION MANAGEMENT		
1	Periodic maintenance of Equipment's, signage installation, weather cock, Noise barrier like green corridor and bund around sensitive receptor	0.010	-
2	Controlled blasting technique	0.100	0.010
SUB TOTAL - C		0.110	0.010
D.	ENVIRONMENTAL SOIL & WASTE DUMP MANAGEMENT		
1	Garland drain around dump (2m x 1.5m)	0.120	0.024
2	Toe wall (Height-2.0) around dump	0.120	-
SUB TOTAL - D		0.240	0.024
E	PLANTATION PROGRAMME		
1	Plantation near soil stripping stock and waste dump, along haul road, Safety Zone, backfilled area, acting noise barrier and upper benches in water filled area (38.94 ha with 39,210 no. of Plants@1500 per ha)	1.10	0.11
SUB TOTAL – E		1.10	0.11
F	TRANSPORT ROAD MAINTENANCE		
1	Strengthening of existing road and its maintenance to be used for transportation of mineral in association with local governance including Safety and speed signage on the road side	3.0	0.30
SUB TOTAL – F		3.0	0.30
G	WILD LIFE CONSERVATION PLAN FOR SCHEDULE-1 SPECIES		
1	Financial outlay for activities proposed in wildlife Conservation Plan of Schedule-I Species (Under Approval)	1.01	-
SUB TOTAL – G		1.01	-
H	BUDGET FOR PUBLIC HEARING ACTION PLAN		
SUB TOTAL – H		0.60	-

GRAND TOTAL	6.96	0.699
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xvii. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	(Rs. In Crore)		
	EMP Cost	Capital Cost in Cr,	Recurring Cost in Cr,
Total cost of EMP (Capital Cost of EMP + capital cost of Public hearing)	Proposed	6.96	0.699
Project Cost	45.35 Cr		
Employment (No.s)	92		

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC:

After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the EIA Consultant, the EAC noted that instant mine is located adjacent to continuous forest patch having breeding tiger occupancy of Pandharkawada Forest Division and Tipeswar Wildlife Sanctuary and thus the EAC was of the view that the Ministry may seek comments from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) in this regard. The EAC also noted that a school and temple is located in the vicinity of the mine lease area. The EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to submit the sequence of mining near the school & temple and to demonstrate that how the mining activity will not have impact on the school & temple. The EAC observed that the Project Proponent needs to increase the density of plantation as per the guidelines of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and needs to submit the revised plan for greenbelt/plantation all along the mine lease boundary, safety zone plantation, dump area, backfilled area, two uppermost benches etc. The EAC observed that the mined out mineral will be transported to the crusher located in Mukutban mine by road at a distance of about 55 kms) and from there to Cement plant by OLBC (1.9 km). The EAC was of the view that the Project Proponent needs to explore the possibility of installing portable crusher within the instant mine lease area along with the timeline. The EAC also observed that the Project Proponent prepared the Wildlife Conservation Plan in discussion with the local villagers. The EAC noted that as per the authenticated list of flora and fauna letter dated 19.06.2023, Large Bengal Monitor Lizard is found in the core zone. The EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to prepare the Wildlife Conservation Plan in a scientific way in consultation with the Forest Department. The EAC noted that the land purchase will start after obtaining Environmental Clearance and grant of order of mining lease. The EAC also asked the Project Proponent to submit the merits and demerits of land acquisition. Based on the discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The EAC noted that instant mine is located adjacent to continuous forest patch having breeding tiger occupancy of Pandharkawada Forest Division and Tipeswar Wildlife Sanctuary and thus the EAC was of the view that the Ministry

may seek comments from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) in this regard.

- ii. The Project Proponent needs to explore the possibility of installing portable crusher within the instant mine lease area along with the timeline.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the sequence of mining near the school & temple and also to demonstrate that how the mining activity will not have impact on the school & temple.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to prepare the Wildlife Conservation Plan in a scientific way in consultation with the Forest Department. PP also needs to specify the activities proposed along with budget under Wildlife Conservation Plan.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to increase the density of plantation as per the guidelines of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and also needs to submit the revised plan for greenbelt/plantation all along the mine lease boundary, safety zone plantation, dump area, backfilled area, two uppermost benches etc.
- vi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the merits and demerits of land acquisition. PP also needs to submit the phase wise land acquisition plan.

2.2 Proposed 3C2 Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) of M/s. JSW Cement Ltd with Limestone Production Capacity: 2.50 Million TPA, OB/IB/Waste: 2.80 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.38 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 5.68 Million TPA) along with Installation of Crusher 1600 TPH with Wobbler in the mine lease area of 386.0215 Ha, located at Villages: Harima & Deh, Tehsil: Nagaur & Deh, District: Nagaur, Rajasthan – [F.No: :IA-J-11015/49/2023-IA-II(NCM), Proposal No: IA/RJ/MIN/451760/2023; EIA Consultant: J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd] – Terms of Reference

The instant proposal is for mining of Limestone in 3C2 Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) of M/s. JSW Cement Ltd with proposed Limestone Production Capacity: 2.50 Million TPA, OB/IB/Waste: 2.80 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.38 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 5.68 Million TPA) along with Installation of Crusher 1600 TPH with Wobbler in the mine lease area of 386.0215 Ha, located at Villages: Harima & Deh, Tehsil: Nagaur & Deh, District: Nagaur, Rajasthan.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent and revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under: -

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and falls under Category “A” of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 as the mine lease area is greater than 250 ha and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 27°16'25.15"N to 27°17'21.393"N and Longitude: 73°52'31.652"E to 73°53'54.28"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: G43B15 (45E/15) and falls in Seismic Zone-II.
- iii. Details of Mine Lease:

S.no	Prospecting License/ Letter of Intent (Lol)/ Grant of Mine lease and Lr No	Date of the grant	Name of the Mineral & (Major/ Minor)	Period of Grant	Granted by	Mine lease area in Ha
1.	Letter of Intent (Lol) for grant of mining lease issued vide letter no. P.2(21) Khan/Group-2/2022 through e-auction process	15.11.2022	Limestone	3 years	Govt. of Rajasthan	386.0215

iv. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine Lease area:-

Private land	292.3618 ha
Government waste land	90.2725 ha
Forest Land	-
Total Mining lease area (MLA), Ha	386.0215 ha <i>Note: The variation in the total block area (386.0215 Hectare) and calculated by superimposition of block on revenue record (382.6343 hectare) is due to measurement in partial khasras and differences of areas in digitized settlement sheets and revenue record.</i>
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	No infrastructure is proposed outside the ML area.
Additional information (if any)	It is proposed to install a Crusher of 1600 TPH within the ML area.

v. Details of Mining Plan:

Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines	Letter No.	MCDR-MPC0LST/6/2023-AJM-IBM_RO_AJM
	Date	11.05.2023
	Mineral & (Major/Minor)	Limestone (Major)

	Mine Lease Area, Ha	386.0215 ha
	Validity	5 years from the date of Mining Lease deed Execution
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Fully Mechanized Opencast Mining Method.	
Drilling/Blasting	Drilling will be done with sharp drill bits. Drill machine equipped with wet drilling arrangement. Controlled blasting with proper spacing, burden, stemming and optimum charge/delay to be adopted. NONEL will be used to control ground vibrations, noise & fly rocks.	
Geological Reserves	156.76 Million Tonnes	
Mineable Reserves	129.64 Million Tonnes	
Breakup of Total Excavation (Topsoil/OB/SB/IB/Mineral Rejects/ Waste, MTPA)	Total Excavation: 5.68 Million TPA 3. Limestone: 2.50 Million TPA 4. OB/IB/Waste: 2.80 Million TPA 5. Top Soil: 0.38 Million TPA	
Life of mine	~55 years	
Mine Bench Height & Bench Width	Bench height: 8 m (Maximum) Bench Width: 15 m (Minimum)	
No. of Mine Benches	6 benches at conceptual stage	
Existing Depth, m bgl	It is a proposed mining project so this is not applicable.	
Ultimate Depth of Mining, m bgl	257.5 m AMSL (50 m bgl (maximum depth))	
Ground Water Table, m bgl	192.5 m to 182.5 m AMSL (115 m to 125 m bgl)	
Details of ground water intersection	Water table will not be intersected by mine workings at any stage of mining operation.	
Individual bench slope	75°	
Overall pit slope	45°	
Details of existing/ proposed Crusher	Crusher of capacity 1600 TPH & wobbler	
Mineral Beneficiation	Nil	
RoM output size	<110 mm	
Transportation details including capacity of dumper/tipper, mode of transport and distance	Limestone will be transported from mine face to crusher by 40 T dumpers via haul road. Crushed limestone will be transported to proposed Cement Plant of M/s. JSW Cement Ltd. via Over Land Belt Conveyor (OLBC) and via road for sale to the prospective buyers.	
Generation of Topsoil/OB & its Management during plan period & conceptual period.	<u>Top Soil:</u> ➤ During the first plan period, 0.21 Million Cu.m of Topsoil will be generated which will be used for Greenbelt development/Plantation. ➤ At conceptual stage, 10.01 Million Cu.m of Top Soil will be generated and it will be used for greenbelt	

	<p>development/ plantation and for carpeting of the backfilled area for plantation.</p> <p><u>OB/IB/Waste:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the plan period, no overburden/Interburden/waste will be generated. ➤ At conceptual stage, about 43.44 Million Cu. m of waste will be generated which will entirely be utilized for back filling of mined-out area.
Generation of Mineral Rejects/ Waste & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	-

vi. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	200 KLD	Domestic	7.0 KLD
		Dust suppression	168.0 KLD
		Greenbelt/Plantation	20.0 KLD
		Workshop	5.0 KLD
Source	Water will be sourced from Ground water (Borewells) and mine sump water (as & when developed).		
Permission for withdrawal/ intersection along with details of grant and its validity	Working depth during the plan period will be 299.5 m AMSL (8.0 m bgl) and at conceptual stage, ultimate working depth will be 257.5 m AMSL (50 m bgl). Depth of water table in the area is at 192.5 m to 182.5 m AMSL (115 m to 125 m bgl). Hence, there is no possibility of groundwater table intersection by mine workings at any stage of mining operation.		

vii. Nearest village/town/ highway/interstate boundary/railway station/water bodies/monument/ forest

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Directions
Nearest Village	Harima	~2.0 km in SW direction
Nearest School	Govt. Primary School, Banjaron Ki Dhani, Deh is present within the lease area in NW corner	
Nearest Town	Deh	~1.0 km in NE direction
Nearest State/National Highway	NH-58	Passing through the lease area from North boundary to West direction.
Interstate Boundary	None	None
Railway Station/Railway line	Nagaur Railway Station	~17.3 km in SW direction
Water Bodies	ChaparNaadi	(~ 4.2 km in SE direction)
	JanjolaiNaadi	(~4.8 km in North direction)
	JakhaliNaadi	(~5.0 km in NW direction)
	Bamanda Nada	(~7.5 km in SE direction)
	PinsariyaNaadi	(~ 8.0 km in SE direction)

Forest	None	None
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viii. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area:

Forest Land / Protected Area / Environmental Sensitivity Zone	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter issued by the concerned Department mentioning the Lr no, date of grant and remarks
Forest Land within the mine lease area and (if yes) status of Forest Clearance	No	No Forest land involved in mining lease area.
National Park	No	No National Park, Wild Life Sanctuaries, Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ)/ Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA) etc. within 10 km radius study area.
Wildlife Sanctuary	No	
Elephant/Tiger Reserve	No	
Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA)	No	
Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)	No	--
Schedule-I species (No.s and name of schedule-I species with authenticated letter)	-	This proposal is for ToR, study is under process, if any schedule -I found in the study area, Wildlife Conservation Plan will be prepared during the preparation of EIA/EMP report.
Wildlife Conservation Plan	-	

ix. Green belt/Plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation and no. of saplings proposed	Greenbelt and plantation will be carried out over an area of 196.52 ha (5.93 ha area on 7.5 m lease periphery, on waste dump covering an area of 10.52 ha, 155.44 ha on backfilled area & 24.63 ha on safety zone of school, electric line & Road).
Budget for green plant & plantation till the end of life of mine.	Rs. 5.9 Cr. (196.52 ha, 2,94,255 Saplings)
Budget for nursery	N/A
Details of existing plantation and its survival rate	It is a proposed mining project.
No. of tree cuts in the mine lease area and compensatory afforestation	No. of trees to be cut: 1611 (tentative figure considering entire life of mine) No. of trees proposed to be planted: 150 <i>Note: 1611 trees to be cleared and 150 trees to be transplanted is a tentative figure. Young trees are proposed to be transplanted and the figure may change after detailed study.</i>
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	5.93 ha
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	24.63 ha

500 m safety zones of nearest habitation villages	Nil
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x. Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R):

R & R details	The Project Proponent submitted that the total mine lease area is 386.0215 ha, out of which 292.3618 ha is private land and 90.2725 ha is Govt. Land which spreads in 2 villages: Harima & Deh. Land will be purchased with negotiation and R&R provisions will be followed as per Central and State Government Rules & Notifications.
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xi. Court case details:

Court Case, No and its present status	The Project Proponent submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 24.11.2023 stating that there is no litigation pending against the project and/or any direction/ order passed by any court of law against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed and that for any such litigation whatsoever, the sole responsibilities will be borne by the company.
Undertaking by Project Proponent w.r.t court case	

xii. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018	The Project Proponent submitted the Affidavit in a nonjudicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing no: 77AA 401394 dated 24.11.2023 stating that the company undertakes by affidavit to comply with all the statutory requirements & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 2 nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors before grant of ToR/EC
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xiii. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	Budget (Rs. in Crores)
Project Cost	Rs. 203.50 Crores
Employment	79 persons

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The Project Proponent presented the KML of mine leases of 3C2 Limestone Block, 3C1 Limestone Block and 3D1 Limestone Block. The EAC noted that all three mine leases share a common boundary and are contiguous to each other. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that all these three blocks are non-captive mines. The Limestone produced will be used for cement manufacturing in the company's proposed Cement Plant and the Limestone will also be sold to prospective buyers. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that in 3C2 Limestone Block, a Govt. Primary School, Banjaron Ki Dhani, Deh is located within the lease area in the NW corner. NH-58 is passing through all these three mine lease areas. A crusher of 1600 TPH & Wobbler will be

installed in all these three mine lease areas respectively. Limestone will be transported from mine face to crusher by 40 T dumpers via haul road. Crushed Limestone will be transported to the proposed Cement Plant of M/s. JSW Cement Ltd. via Over Land Belt Conveyor (OLBC) and via road for sale to the prospective buyers. The EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to submit the year wise sequence of mining operation considering the nearby surface features and their impacts and mitigation measures. The EAC was of the view that the working in the common boundary needs to be reflected in the mining plan.

Further, the Project Proponent informed the EAC that there are no Wildlife Sanctuaries, National Parks, Biosphere Reserves), Reserve/ Protected Forest within 10km radius study area. The EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed scientific study on flora and fauna and also to highlight on the endangered species. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to verify the list as per the latest Wildlife Protection Amendment Act, 2022. The EAC also asked the Project Proponent to submit the letter from the State Forest Department regarding whether the instant mine leases fall under Aravalli or not. The EAC noted that the tree cutting is involved in all these three mine leases. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to submit the compensatory afforestation plan and also to submit the action plan for tree transplantation. The EAC noted that Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) is involved in all these three mine leases. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to submit the detailed R&R plan in consultation with the local people and also needs to cover all the components viz. number of Project Affected Families (PAF) and details of the land owned by them, break up of total compensation to be paid including method of calculation including the sources/references adopted and mode of payment etc. The Project Proponent informed that compensation provided to PAF is mostly 3-4 times of the land cost. The EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to submit the livelihood education and skill development plan.

Based on the discussions held, the EAC in its meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023, under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendments therein, **recommended** the proposal for grant of Terms of Reference to M/s. JSW Cement Ltd for mining of Limestone in 3C2 Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) with proposed Limestone Production Capacity: 2.50 Million TPA, OB/IB/Waste: 2.80 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.38 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 5.68 Million TPA) along with installation of Crusher 1600 TPH with Wobbler in the mine lease area of 386.0215 Ha, located at Villages: Harima & Deh, Tehsil: Nagaur & Deh, District: Nagaur, Rajasthan for undertaking detailed EIA/EMP study subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the standard ToR conditions applicable for non-coal mining projects:-

- i. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for shifting the school within the mine lease area.
- ii. The EAC was of the view that the working in the common boundary needs to be reflected in the mining plan.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the ecology restoration plan for mined out pits for using as Water reservoir/ Pisciculture as well as the plan for the backfilled area.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the year wise sequence of mining operation and plan for backfilling considering the site features and their impacts and mitigation.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed scientific study on flora and fauna and also to highlight on the endangered species. The Project Proponent needs to verify the list as per the latest Wildlife Protection Amendment Act, 2022.
- vi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the letter from the State Forest Department regarding whether the instant mine leases fall under Aravalli or not.
- vii. The Project Proponent needs to monitor the ambient air quality and noise level at the mine lease boundary, nearest village, crusher, predominant downwind direction and at other sensitive receptors. Accordingly, Project Proponent shall propose to install Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station within certain timeline.
- viii. The Project Proponent should prepare the EMP considering the scenario of pollution to be generated for normative and peak total excavation for assessing air pollution, noise level and ground vibration.
- ix. The Project Proponent shall monitor the water quality in the impact zone such as water reservoir, river water with specific reference to the parameter Langelier Saturation Index which will denote the impact of calcium carbonates on water bodies and these parameters and determine the tendency of water to form calcium carbonate scaling.
- x. The Project Proponent needs to carry out the Public Hearing as per provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. PP should also submit the time bound action plan on

concerns of the public through a separate budget with capital expenditure with a timeline of 3 years. The Project proponent shall ensure that the activities proposed under the public hearing shall be different from the CSR activities.

- xi. The Project Proponent needs to undertake the enumeration of the species within the mine lease area before cutting. The Project Proponent also needs to submit the compensatory afforestation plan for the no. of trees to be cut in the mine lease area and also to explore the possibility of tree transplantation.
- xii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for undertaking the plantation along the 7.5m barrier, safety zone of tar road/cart tracks, electric line etc., PP should also submit the details no of saplings to be planted, type of saplings proposed and the area to be covered under greenbelt/plantation along with the timeline and budget. The greenbelt/plantation plan shall be prepared in such a way that the ecology of the area shall be restored.
- xiii. The Project Proponent shall carry out the assessment of impact due to the proposed project as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP. The project proponent shall conduct hydrological study for projects involving intersection of ground water table as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP.
- xiv. The Project Proponent shall explore the possibility of reduction of specific water requirement by optimization / technology up gradation, etc. The efforts shall be delineated in the EIA/EMP.
- xv. The Project Proponent shall prepare the scheme for mandatory recycle/re-use of water as specified by the Central Ground Water Authority for different category areas seeking NoC for ground water withdrawal and the shall submit as part of EIA/EMP report.
- xvi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed R&R plan covering all the components viz. number of Project Affected Families (PAF) and details of the land owned by them, break up of total compensation to be paid including method of calculation including the sources/references adopted and mode of payment etc.

- xvii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the plan for Socio economic development of the neighbourhood habitats based on the need based survey along with the time bound action plan in consultation with the local people. Further, PP needs to submit the possession certificate and timeline for acquiring the land at the time of submission of EC proposal.
- xviii. The Project Proponent needs to submit a letter from the Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Rajasthan clarifying whether any illegal mining within the mine lease area has been carried out or not and whether the same has been carried out by M/s. JSW Cement Ltd or not?
- xix. The Project Proponent shall conduct drone survey of the mine lease area and buffer area and submit during the appraisal for EC.
- xx. The Project Proponent needs to initiate action to obtain permission to shift the HT line.

2.3 Proposed 3C1 Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) of M/s. JSW Cement Limited with Limestone Production Capacity: 1.45 Million TPA, OB/IB/Waste: 0.52 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.07 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 2.04 Million TPA) along with installation of Crusher of 1600 TPH with Wobbler in the mine lease area of 300.7284 ha, located at Villages: Harima, Bhadana&Deh, Tehsil: Nagaur&Deh, District: Nagaur, Rajasthan - [F.No: :IA-J-11015/50/2023-IA-II(NCM), Proposal No: IA/RJ/MIN/452414/2023; EIA Consultant: J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd] – Terms of Reference

The instant proposal is for mining of Limestone in 3C1 Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) of M/s. JSW Cement Limited with proposed Limestone Production Capacity: 1.45 Million TPA, OB/IB/Waste: 0.52 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.07 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 2.04 Million TPA) along with installation of Crusher of 1600 TPH with Wobbler in the mine lease area of 300.7284 ha, located at Villages: Harima, Bhadana&Deh, Tehsil: Nagaur&Deh, District: Nagaur, Rajasthan.

- 2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent are given below:
 - i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and falls under Category “A” of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 as the mine lease area is greater than 250 ha and appraised at the Central level.

- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 27°16'24.639"N to 27°17'20.742"N and Longitude: 73°51'27.709" E to 73°52'32.21 " E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: G43B15 (45E/15) and falls in Seismic Zone-II.

iii. Details of Mine Lease:

S.no	Prospecting License/ Letter of Intent (LoI)/ Grant of Mine lease and Lr No	Date of the grant	Name of the Mineral & (Major/ Minor)	Period of Grant	Granted by	Mine lease area in Ha
1.	Letter of Intent(LoI) for grant of mining lease issued vide letter no. P.2(22) Khan/Group-2/2022through e-auction process	15.11.2022	Limestone	3 years	Govt. of Rajasthan	300.7284

iv. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine Lease area:

Private land	264.0431 ha
Government waste land	36.6953 ha
Forest Land	-
Total Mining lease area (MLA), Ha	300.7284 ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	No infrastructure is proposed outside the ML area.
Additional information (if any)	It is proposed to install a Crusher of 1600 TPH within the ML area.

v. Details of Mining Plan:

Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines	Letter No.	MCDR-MPC0LST/5/2023-AJM-IBM_RO_AJM
	Date	12.05.2023
	Mineral & (Major/Minor)	Limestone (Major)
	Mine Lease Area, Ha	300.7284 ha
	Validity	5 years from the date of Mining Lease deed Execution
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Fully Mechanized Opencast Mining Method.	
Drilling/Blasting	Drilling will be done with sharp drill bits. Drill machine equipped with wet drilling arrangement. Controlled blasting with proper spacing, burden, stemming and optimum charge/delay to be adopted. NONEL will be	

	used to control ground vibrations, noise & fly rocks.
Geological Reserves	188.45 Million Tonnes
Mineable Reserves	168.46 Million Tonnes
Breakup of Total Excavation (Topsoil/OB/SB/IB/Mineral Rejects/ Waste, MTPA)	Total Excavation: 2.04 Million TPA 6. Limestone: 1.45 Million TPA 7. OB/IB/Waste: 0.52 Million TPA 8. Top Soil: 0.07 Million TPA
Life of mine	~119 years
Mine Bench Height & Bench Width	Bench height: 8 m (Maximum) Bench Width: 15 m (Minimum)
No. of Mine Benches	5 benches at conceptual stage
Existing Depth, m bgl	It is a proposed mining project and hence not applicable.
Ultimate Depth of Mining, m bgl	274.5 m AMSL (39 m bgl (maximum depth)
Ground Water Table, m bgl	198.5 m to 188.5 m AMSL (115 m to 125 m bgl)
Details of ground water intersection	Water table will not be intersected by mine workings at any stage of mining operation.
Individual bench slope	75°
Overall pit slope	45°
Details of existing/ proposed Crusher	Crusher of capacity 1600 TPH & wobbler
Mineral Beneficiation	Nil
RoM output size	<110 mm
Transportation details including capacity of dumper/tipper, mode of transport and distance	Limestone will be transported from mine face to crusher by 40 T dumpers via haul road. Crushed limestone will be transported to proposed Cement Plant of M/s. JSW Cement Ltd. via Overland belt conveyor and via road for sale to the prospective buyers.
Generation of Topsoil/OB & its Management during plan period & conceptual period.	<u>Top Soil:</u> ➤ During the first plan period, 0.14 Million Cu.m of Topsoil will be generated which will be used for Greenbelt development/Plantation. ➤ At conceptual stage, 4.31 Million Cu.m of Top Soil will be generated which will be entirely be used for greenbelt development/ plantation and for carpeting of the backfilled area for plantation. <u>OB/IB/Waste:</u> ➤ During the plan period, no overburden/Interburden/waste will be generated. ➤ At conceptual stage, about 19.86 Million Cu.m of waste will be utilized for back filling of mined-out area.
Generation of Mineral Rejects/ Waste & its Management during plan period &	-

conceptual period	
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vi. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	200 KLD	Domestic	7.0 KLD
		Dust suppression	168.0 KLD
		Greenbelt/Plantation	20.0 KLD
		Workshop	5.0 KLD
Source	Water will be sourced from Ground water (Borewells) and mine sump water (as & when developed).		
Permission for withdrawal/ intersection along with details of grant and its validity	Working depth during the plan period will be 295 m AMSL (18.5 m bgl) and at conceptual stage, ultimate working depth will be 274.5 m AMSL (39 m bgl). Depth of water table in the area is 198.5 m to 188.5 m AMSL (115 m to 125 m bgl). Hence, there is no possibility of groundwater table intersection by mine workings at any stage of mining operation.		

vii. Nearest village/town/ highway/interstate boundary/railway station/water bodies/monument/ forest:

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Directions
Nearest Village	Harima	~1.0 km in SW direction
Nearest Town	Deh	~3.0 km in NE direction
Nearest School	Govt. Primary School, Banjaron Ki Dhani, Deh	~0.06 Km in NE direction
Nearest State/National Highway	NH-58	Passing through the lease area from East boundary to the South direction.
Interstate Boundary	None	None
Railway Station/Railway line	Nagaur Railway Station	~15.7 km in SW direction
Water Bodies	JakhaliNaadi	~4.0 km in NW Direction
	JanjolaiNaadi	~5.4 km in North Direction
	ChaparNaadi	~ 5.9 km in SE Direction
	Bamanda Nada	~9.0 km in SE Direction
	PinsariyaNaadi	~ 9.3 km in SE Direction
Forest	None	None

viii. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area:

Forest Land / Protected Area / Environmental Sensitivity Zone	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter issued by the concerned Department mentioning the Lr no, date of grant and remarks
Forest Land within the mine lease area and (if yes) status of Forest Clearance	No	No Forest land involved in mining lease area.

National Park	No	No National Park, Wild Life Sanctuaries, Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ)/ Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA) etc. within 10 km radius study area.
Wildlife Sanctuary	No	
Elephant/Tiger Reserve	No	
Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA)	No	
Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)	No	--
Schedule-I species (No.s and name of schedule-I species with authenticated letter)	-	This proposal is for ToR, study is under process, if any schedule - I found in the study area, Wildlife Conservation Plan will be prepared during the preparation of EIA/EMP Report.
Wildlife Conservation Plan	-	

ix. Green belt/Plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation and no. of saplings proposed	Greenbelt and plantation will be carried out over an area of 116.61 ha (5.18 ha area on 7.5 m lease periphery, 95 ha backfilled area, 4.13 ha area will be covered under top bench plantation & 12.3 ha under safety zone of road, school & other virgin area).
Budget for green plant & plantation till the end of life of mine.	Rs. 3.50 Cr. (116.61 ha, 174,915 Saplings)
Budget for nursery	N/A
Details of existing plantation and its survival rate	It is a proposed mining project.
No. of tree cuts in the mine lease area and compensatory afforestation	No. of trees to be cut: 1378 (tentative figure considering entire life of mine) No. of trees proposed to be planted: 150 <i>Note: 1378 trees to be cleared and 150 trees to be transplanted is a tentative figure. Young trees are proposed to be transplanted and the figure may change after detailed study.</i>
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	5.18 ha
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	12.3 ha
500 m safety zones of nearest habitation villages	Nil

x. Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R):

R & R details	The Project Proponent submitted that the total mine lease area is 300.7284 ha, out of which 264.0431 ha is a private land and 36.6953 ha is a Govt. Land which spreads in 3 villages: Harima, Bhadana&Deh.Land will be purchased with negotiation and R&R provisions will be followed as per Central and State
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	Government Rules & Notifications.
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xi. Court case details:

Court Case, No and its present status	The Project Proponent submitted a undertaking vide letter dated 24.11.2023 stating that there is no litigation pending against the project and/or any direction/ order passed by any court of law against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed and that for any such litigation whatsoever, the sole responsibilities will be borne by the company.
Undertaking by Project Proponent w.r.t court case	

xii. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018	The Project Proponent submitted the Affidavit in a nonjudicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing no: 77AA 401395 dated 24.11.2023 stating that the company undertakes by affidavit to comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 2 nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors before grant of ToR/EC.
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xiii. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	Budget (Rs. in Crores)
Project Cost	Rs. 198.45 Crores
Employment	91 persons

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The EAC deliberated the instant proposal (3C1 Limestone Block) along with 3C2 Limestone Block and 3D1 Limestone Block as all these mine leases sharing common boundary and contiguous to each other. Based on the discussions held, the EAC in its meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023, under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments therein, **recommended** the proposal for grant of Terms of Reference to M/s. JSW Cement Ltd for mining of Limestone in 3C1 Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) with proposed Limestone Production Capacity: 1.45 Million TPA, OB/IB/Waste: 0.52 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.07 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 2.04 Million TPA) along with installation of Crusher of 1600 TPH with Wobbler in the mine lease area of 300.7284 ha, located at Villages: Harima, Bhadana & Deh, Tehsil: Nagaur & Deh, District: Nagaur, Rajasthan for undertaking detailed EIA/EMP study subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the standard ToR conditions applicable for non-coal mining projects:-

- i. The EAC was of the view that the working in the common boundary needs to be reflected in the mining plan.

- ii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the ecology restoration plan for mined out pits for using as Water reservoir/ Pisciculture as well as the plan for the backfilled area.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the year wise sequence of mining operation and plan for backfilling considering the site features and their impacts and mitigation.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed scientific study on flora and fauna and also to highlight on the endangered species. The Project Proponent needs to verify the list as per the latest Wildlife Protection Amendment Act, 2022.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to submit the letter from the State Forest Department regarding whether the instant mine leases fall under Aravalli or not.
- vi. The Project Proponent needs to monitor the ambient air quality and noise level at the mine lease boundary, nearest village, crusher, predominant downwind direction and at other sensitive receptors. Accordingly, Project Proponent shall propose to install Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station within certain timeline.
- vii. The Project Proponent should prepare the EMP considering the scenario of pollution to be generated for normative and peak total excavation for assessing air pollution, noise level and ground vibration.
- viii. The Project Proponent shall monitor the water quality in the impact zone such as water reservoir, river water with specific reference to the parameter Langelier Saturation Index which will denote the impact of calcium carbonates on water bodies and these parameters and determine the tendency of water to form calcium carbonate scaling.
- ix. The Project Proponent needs to carry out the Public Hearing as per provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. PP should also submit the time bound action plan on concerns of the public through a separate budget with capital expenditure with a timeline of 3 years. The Project proponent shall ensure that the activities proposed under the public hearing shall be different from the CSR activities.
- x. The Project Proponent needs to undertake the enumeration of the species within the mine lease area before cutting. The Project Proponent also needs to submit

the compensatory afforestation plan for the no. of trees to be cut in the mine lease area and also to explore the possibility of tree transplantation.

- xi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for undertaking the plantation along the 7.5m barrier, safety zone of tar road/cart tracks, electric line etc., PP should also submit the details no of saplings to be planted, type of saplings proposed and the area to be covered under greenbelt/plantation along with the timeline and budget. The greenbelt/plantation plan shall be prepared in such a way that the ecology of the area shall be restored.
- xii. The Project Proponent shall carry out the assessment of impact due to the proposed project as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP. The project proponent shall conduct hydrological study for projects involving intersection of ground water table as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP.
- xiii. The Project Proponent shall explore the possibility of reduction of specific water requirement by optimization / technology up gradation, etc. The efforts shall be delineated in the EIA/EMP.
- xiv. The Project Proponent shall prepare the scheme for mandatory recycle/re-use of water as specified by the Central Ground Water Authority for different category areas seeking NoC for ground water withdrawal and the shall submit as part of EIA/EMP report.
- xv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed R&R plan covering all the components viz. number of Project Affected Families (PAF) and details of the land owned by them, break up of total compensation to be paid including method of calculation including the sources/references adopted and mode of payment etc.
- xvi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the plan for Socio economic development of the neighbourhood habitats based on the need based survey along with the time bound action plan in consultation with the local people. Further, PP needs to submit the possession certificate and timeline for acquiring the land at the time of submission of EC proposal.

- xvii. The Project Proponent needs to submit a letter from the Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Rajasthan clarifying whether any illegal mining within the mine lease area has been carried out or not and whether the same has been carried out by M/s. JSW Cement Ltd or not?
- xviii. The Project Proponent shall conduct drone survey of the mine lease area and buffer area and submit during the appraisal for EC.

2.4 Proposed 3D1 Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) of M/s. JSW Cement Limited with Limestone Production Capacity: 1.0 Million TPA, Waste: 0.34 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.06 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 1.40 Million TPA) along with installation of Crusher 1600 TPH with Wobbler in the mine lease area of 357.0937 ha, located at Villages: Harima, Sarasani&Deh, Tehsil: Nagaur&Deh, District: Nagaur, Rajasthan - [F.No: :IA-J-11015/46/2023-IA-II(NCM), Proposal No: IA/RJ/MIN/452877/2023; EIA Consultant: J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd] – Terms of Reference

The instant proposal is for mining of Limestone in 3D1 Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) of M/s. JSW Cement Limited with proposed Limestone Production Capacity: 1.0 Million TPA, Waste: 0.34 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.06 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 1.40 Million TPA) along with installation of Crusher 1600 TPH with Wobbler in the mine lease area of 357.0937 ha, located at Villages: Harima, Sarasani&Deh, Tehsil: Nagaur&Deh, District: Nagaur, Rajasthan.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent are given below:

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and falls under Category “A” of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 as the mine lease area is greater than 250 ha and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 27°15'55.751"N to 27°16' 25.809"N and Longitude: 73°51'30.391"E to 73°53'54.280" E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: G43B15 (45E/15) and falls in Seismic Zone-II.

iii. Details of Mine Lease:

S.no	Prospecting License/ Letter of Intent (Lol)/ Grant of Mine lease and Lr No	Date of the grant	Name of the Mineral & (Major/ Minor)	Period of Grant	Granted by	Mine lease area in Ha
1.	Letter of Intent (Lol) for grant of	30.06.2023	Limestone	3 years	Govt. of Rajasthan	357.0937

mining lease vide Lr No. P.3(10) Khan/Group-2/2017 issued through e-auction process					
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iv. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine Lease Area:-

Private land	301.8498 ha
Government waste land	55.2439 ha
Forest Land	-
Total Mining lease area (MLA), Ha	357.0937 ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	No infrastructure is proposed outside the ML area.
Additional information (if any)	It is proposed to install a Crusher of 1600 TPH within the mine lease area.

v. Details of Mining Plan:-

Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)	Letter No.	E-8702-MCDR-MPC0LST/21/2023-AJM -IBM_RO_AJM
	Date	06.12.2023
	Mineral & (Major/Minor)	Limestone (Major)
	Mine Lease Area, Ha	357.0937
	Validity	5 years from the date of Mining Lease deed Execution
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Fully Mechanized Opencast Mining Method.	
Drilling/Blasting	Drilling will be done with sharp drill bits. Drill machine equipped with wet drilling arrangement. Controlled blasting with proper spacing, burden, stemming and optimum charge/delay to be adopted. NONEL will be used to control ground vibrations, noise & fly rocks.	
Geological Reserves	199.15 Million Tonnes	
Mineable Reserves	158.03 Million Tonnes	
Breakup of Total Excavation (Topsoil/OB/SB/IB/Mineral Rejects/ Waste, MTPA)	Total Excavation: 1.40 Million TPA 9. Limestone: 1.0 Million TPA 10. Waste: 0.34 Million TPA 11. Top Soil: 0.06 Million TPA	
Life of mine	~161 years	
Mine Bench Height & Bench Width	Bench height: 8 m (Maximum) Bench Width: 15 m (Minimum)	
No. of Mine Benches	4 benches at conceptual stage	
Existing Depth, m bgl	It is a proposed mining project and hence not	

	applicable.
Ultimate Depth of Mining, m bgl	274.5 m AMSL (30 m bgl (maximum depth)
Ground Water Table, m bgl	124 m AMSL to 184 m AMSL (115 m to 125 m bgl)
Details of ground water intersection	Water table will not be intersected by mine workings at any stage of mining operation.
Individual bench slope	75°
Overall pit slope	45°
Details of existing/ proposed Crusher	Crusher of capacity 1600 TPH & wobbler
Mineral Beneficiation	Nil
RoM output size	<110 mm
Transportation details including capacity of dumper/tipper, mode of transport and distance	Limestone will be transported from mine face to crusher by 40 T dumpers via haul road. Crushed limestone will be transported to proposed Cement Plant of M/s. JSW Cement Ltd. via Overland belt conveyor and via road for sale to the prospective buyers.
Generation of Topsoil/OB & its Management during plan period & conceptual period.	<u>Top Soil:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the first plan period, 21255Cu.m of Topsoil will be generated which will be used for Greenbelt development/Plantation. ➤ At conceptual stage, total 1015336.76 Cu.m of Top Soil will be generated which will be entirely be used for greenbelt development/ plantation. <u>Waste:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the plan period, no overburden in the form of Soil/ alluvium will be generated. ➤ At conceptual stage, about 27.51 Million Cu.m of waste generated will be utilized for back filling of mined-out area.
Generation of Mineral Rejects/ Waste & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	-

vi. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	200 KLD	Drinking & Domestic	5.0 KLD
		Dust suppression	170.0 KLD
		Greenbelt/Plantation	20.0 KLD
		Workshop	5.0 KLD
Source	Water will be sourced from Ground water (Borewells) and mine sump water (as & when developed).		
Permission for withdrawal/ intersection along with details of	Working depth during the plan period will be 301 m AMSL (8.0 m bgl) and at conceptual stage, ultimate working depth will be 279 m AMSL (30 m bgl). Depth of water table in the		

grant and its validity	area is at 124 m AMSL to 184 m AMSL (115 m to 125 m bgl). Hence, there is no possibility of groundwater table intersection by mine workings at any stage of mining operation.
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vii. Nearest village/town/ highway/interstate boundary/railway station/water bodies/monument/ forest:

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Directions
Nearest Village	Harima	~150 m in SW direction
Nearest School	Govt. Upper Primary School, Harima	~300 m in SW direction
Nearest Town	Deh	~3.0 km in NE direction
Nearest State/National Highway	NH-58	Passing through the lease area from North-west corner.
Interstate Boundary	None	None
Railway Station/Railway line	Nagaur Railway Station	~15.1 km in SW direction
Water Bodies	ChhaparNaadi	(~ 3.8 km in SE)
	JakhaliNaadi	(~ 5.4 km in NW)
	BamandaNaadi	(~ 6.6 km in SE)
	JanjolaiNaadi	(~ 7.0 km in North)
	PinsariyaNaadi	(~ 7.6 km in SE)
Forest	None	None

viii. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area:

Forest Land / Protected Area / Environmental Sensitivity Zone	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter issued by the concerned Department mentioning the Lr no, date of grant and remarks
Forest Land within the mine lease area and (if yes) status of Forest Clearance	No	No Forest land involved in mining lease area.
National Park	No	No National Park, Wild Life Sanctuaries, Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ)/ Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA) etc. within 10 km radius study area.
Wildlife Sanctuary	No	
Elephant/Tiger Reserve	No	
Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA)	No	
Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)	No	
Schedule-I species (No.s and name of schedule-I species with authenticated letter)	-	This proposal is for ToR, study is under process, if any schedule - I found in the study area, Wildlife Conservation Plan will be prepared during the preparation of EIA/EMP Report.
Wildlife Conservation Plan	-	

ix. Green belt/Plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation and no. of saplings proposed	Total area under greenbelt and plantation will be ha 140.22 ha on backfilled area and 10.79 ha area including Greenbelt along 7.5 m Mine Periphery & Plantation in Safety Zone etc.).
Budget for green plant & plantation till the end of life of mine.	Rs. 4.5 Cr.
Budget for nursery	N/A
Details of existing plantation and its survival rate	It is a proposed mining project.
No. of tree cuts in the mine lease area and compensatory afforestation	No. of trees to be cut: 1570 (tentative figure considering entire life of mine) No. of trees proposed to be planted: 150 <i>Note: 1570 trees to be cleared and 150 trees to be transplanted is a tentative figure. Young trees are proposed to be transplanted and the figure may change after detailed study.</i>
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	43.1137 ha area including greenbelt Road, HT Line, Power line safety zone plantation etc.
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	

x. Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R):

R & R details	The Project Proponent has submitted that the total mine lease area is 357.0937 ha, out of which 55.2439 ha is Govt. Land and 301.8498 ha is a Pvt land which spreads in 3 villages: Harima, Sarasani&Deh.Land will be purchased with negotiation and R&R provisions will be followed as per Central and State Government Rules & Notifications..
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xi. Court case details:

Court Case, No and its present status	The Project Proponent submitted a undertaking vide letter dated 24.11.2023 stating that there is no litigation pending against the project and/or any direction/ order passed by any court of law against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed and that for any such litigation whatsoever, the sole responsibilities will be borne by the company.
Undertaking by Project Proponent w.r.t court case	

xii. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018	The Project Proponent submitted the Affidavit in a nonjudicial stamp paper ofRs 100 bearing no: 77AA 401393 dated 24.11.2023 stating that the company undertakes by affidavit to comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 2 nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India &Ors before grant of ToR/EC
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xiii. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	Budget (Rs. in Crores)
Project Cost	Rs. 197.60 Crores
Employment	82 persons

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The EAC deliberated the instant proposal (3D1 Limestone Block) along with 3C2 Limestone Block and 3C1 Limestone Block as all these mine leases sharing common boundary and contiguous to each other. Based on the discussions held, the EAC in its meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023, under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments therein, **recommended** the proposal for grant of Terms of Reference to M/s. JSW Cement Ltd for mining of Limestone in 3D1 Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) with proposed Limestone Production Capacity: 1.0 Million TPA, Waste: 0.34 Million TPA, Top Soil: 0.06 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 1.40 Million TPA) along with installation of Crusher 1600 TPH with Wobbler in the mine lease area of 357.0937 ha, located at Villages: Harima, Sarasani & Deh, Tehsil: Nagaur & Deh, District: Nagaur, Rajasthan for undertaking detailed EIA/EMP study subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the standard ToR conditions applicable for non-coal mining projects:-

- i. The EAC was of the view that the working in the common boundary needs to be reflected in the mining plan.
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the ecology restoration plan for mined out pits for using as Water reservoir/ Pisciculture as well as the plan for the backfilled area.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the year wise sequence of mining operation and plan for backfilling considering the site features and their impacts and mitigation.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed scientific study on flora and fauna and also to highlight on the endangered species. The Project Proponent needs to verify the list as per the latest Wildlife Protection Amendment Act, 2022.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to submit the letter from the State Forest Department regarding whether the instant mine leases fall under Aravalli or not.

- vi. The Project Proponent needs to monitor the ambient air quality and noise level at the mine lease boundary, nearest village, crusher, predominant downwind direction and at other sensitive receptors. Accordingly, Project Proponent shall propose to install Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station within certain timeline.
- vii. The Project Proponent should prepare the EMP considering the scenario of pollution to be generated for normative and peak total excavation for assessing air pollution, noise level and ground vibration.
- viii. The Project Proponent shall monitor the water quality in the impact zone such as water reservoir, river water with specific reference to the parameter Langelier Saturation Index which will denote the impact of calcium carbonate on water bodies and these parameters and determine the tendency of water to form calcium carbonate scaling.
- ix. The Project Proponent needs to carry out the Public Hearing as per provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. PP should also submit the time bound action plan on concerns of the public through a separate budget with capital expenditure with a timeline of 3 years. The Project proponent shall ensure that the activities proposed under the public hearing shall be different from the CSR activities.
- x. The Project Proponent needs to undertake the enumeration of the species within the mine lease area before cutting. The Project Proponent also needs to submit the compensatory afforestation plan for the no. of trees to be cut in the mine lease area and also to explore the possibility of tree transplantation.
- xi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for undertaking the plantation along the 7.5m barrier, safety zone of tar road/cart tracks, electric line etc., PP should also submit the details no of saplings to be planted, type of saplings proposed and the area to be covered under greenbelt/plantation along with the timeline and budget. The greenbelt/plantation plan shall be prepared in such a way that the ecology of the area shall be restored.
- xii. The Project Proponent shall carry out the assessment of impact due to the proposed project as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP. The project proponent shall conduct hydrological study for projects involving intersection of ground water table as per the guidelines issued by the Central

Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP.

- xiii. The Project Proponent shall explore the possibility of reduction of specific water requirement by optimization / technology up gradation, etc. The efforts shall be delineated in the EIA/EMP.
- xiv. The Project Proponent shall prepare the scheme for mandatory recycle/re-use of water as specified by the Central Ground Water Authority for different category areas seeking NoC for ground water withdrawal and the shall submit as part of EIA/EMP report.
- xv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed R&R plan covering all the components viz. number of Project Affected Families (PAF) and details of the land owned by them, break up of total compensation to be paid including method of calculation including the sources/references adopted and mode of payment etc..
- xvi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the plan for Socio economic development of the neighbourhood habitats based on the need based survey along with the time bound action plan in consultation with the local people. Further, PP needs to submit the possession certificate and timeline for acquiring the land at the time of submission of EC proposal.
- xvii. The Project Proponent needs to submit a letter from the Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Rajasthan clarifying whether any illegal mining within the mine lease area has been carried out or not and whether the same has been carried out by M/s. JSW Cement Ltd or not?
- xviii. The Project Proponent shall conduct drone survey of the mine lease area and buffer area and submit during the appraisal for EC.

Day 3: 28th December, 2023 (Thursday)

3.1 Proposed Rata - Mandha Limestone Mine (Auctioned Block) of M/s. Deccan Cements Limited with Limestone Production Capacity: 1.5 Million TPA along with installation of Crusher 750 TPH in the mine lease area of 420.0 ha, located at Village: Rata Mandha, Tehsil: Mohangarh, District: Jaisalmer, Rajasthan – [IA-J-11015/48/2023-IA-II(NCM), Proposal No: IA/RJ/MIN/453669/2023; EIA Consultant: J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd] – Terms of Reference (ToR)

The instant proposal is for mining of Limestone in Rata - Mandha Limestone Mine (Auctioned Block) of M/s Deccan Cements Limited with proposed Limestone Production Capacity: 1.5 Million TPA along with installation of Crusher 750 TPH in the mine lease area of 420.0 ha, located at Village: Rata Mandha, Tehsil: Mohangarh, District: Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent and revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under: -

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and falls under Category "A" of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 as the mine lease area is greater than 250 ha and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 27°18'31.2441" N to 27°19'37.24040" N and Longitude: 70°52'13.80922" E to 70°53' 31.2778" E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: G42E15 and falls in Seismic Zone-V.

iii. Details of Mine Lease:

S. No	Prospecting License/ Letter of Intent (Lol)/ Grant of Mine lease and Lr No	Date of the grant	Name of the Mineral & (Major/ Minor)	Period of Grant	Granted by	Mine lease area in Ha
1.	Letter of Intent (Lol) for grant of mining lease granted vide LrNo. P.3(1) Khan/Group-2/2022through e-auction process conducted by the Govt. of Rajasthan.	08.03.2023	Limestone (Major)	2 years	Govt. of Rajasthan	420.00 ha

iv. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine Lease Area:

Private land	57.21 ha
Government waste land	362.79 ha
Forest Land	-
Total Mining lease area (MLA), Ha	420.0 ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	No infrastructure is proposed outside the ML area.

v. Details of Mining Plan:-

Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines	Letter No.	MCDR-MPC0LST/11/2023-AJM-IBM_RO_AJM
	Date	08.09.2023
	Mineral & (Major/Minor)	Limestone (Major)
	Mine Lease Area, Ha	420.00 ha
	Validity	5 years from the date of Mining Lease registration
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Fully Mechanized Opencast Mining Method.	
Drilling/Blasting	Mining will be done by mechanized opencast method using Hydraulic excavator/loader. Drilling will be carried out with the help of hydraulic drill machines equipped with arrangement for wet drilling, dust collectors and sample collection. Controlled blasting will be carried out. No secondary blasting is proposed. Rock breaker will be deployed for breaking the oversized boulders. To control the ground vibration as well as fly rock only 100% Non-Electric (NONEL) detonators will be used.	
Geological Reserves	209.71 Million TPA (As on 10.08.2023)	
Mineable Reserves	168.83 Million TPA (As on 10.08.2023)	
Breakup of Total Excavation (Topsoil/OB/SB/IB/Mineral Rejects/ Waste, MTPA)	Total Excavation: 1.56Million TPA <u>Breakup of Total Excavation:</u> 1. Limestone: 1.50 Million TPA 2. Over Burden: 0.06 Million TPA	
Life of mine	116 years (As on 10.08.2023)	
Mine Bench Height & Bench Width	Bench height: 9 m (During plan period), 8 m (During conceptual stage). Bench Width: 25 m (During plan period), 9 m (During conceptual stage).	
No. of Mine Benches	2 (In Pit 1) [during plan period], 5 (In Pit 3) and 4 (In Pit no 1 & 2) [During conceptual stage]	
Existing Depth, m bgl	It's a greenfield project and hence not applicable.	
Ultimate Depth of Mining, m bgl	140 m RL (32 m) (In Pit no 1 & 2) 132 m RL (40 m) (In Pit 3)	
Ground Water Table, m bgl	70 m bgl	
Details of ground water intersection	The water table in the area is about 70 m deep and the ultimate working depth will be 40 m bgl. Thus, water table will not be intersected during mining at any stage.	
Individual bench slope	80°	
Overall pit slope	45°	

Details of existing/ proposed Crusher	Capacity of 750 TPH crusher is proposed.
Mineral Beneficiation	Nil
RoM output size	Nil
Transportation details including capacity of dumper/tipper, mode of transport and distance	Limestone will be transported from mine face to head by dumpers via haul road and it will be transported to end users via road or belt conveyor.
Generation of Topsoil/OB & its Management during plan period & conceptual period.	<p><u>Over Burden:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the plan period 0.064 Million Tonnes of waste will be generated which will be stacked temporarily and will be utilized further for backfilling. ➤ During conceptual stage, 18.83 Million Tonnes of waste will be generated, out of which 18.45 million tonnes of waste will be backfilled over an area of 23.07 ha and remaining 0.38 million tonnes of waste will be stacked in dump over an area of 5.04 ha which will be rehabilitated by plantation.
Generation of Mineral Rejects/ Waste & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	-

vi. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	70 KLD	Domestic	10.0 KLD
		Dust suppression	35.0 KLD
		Plantation	20.0 KLD
		Workshop	5.0 KLD
Source	IGNP canal (SagarmalGopa Branch) and mine sump as and when developed. Permission will be taken from competent authority for using of canal water.		
Permission for withdrawal/ intersection along with details of grant and its validity	The water table in the area is about 70 m deep and the ultimate working depth will be 40 m bgl. Thus, water table will not be intersected during mining at any stage and hence permission is not required.		

vii. Nearest village/town/ highway/interstate boundary/railway station/water bodies/monument/ forest

Particulars	Particular's Name	Directions
Nearest Village	Kinya	~1.2 km in NW direction
Nearest Town	Jaisalmer	~111 km in SE direction
Nearest State/National Highway	MDR-103	~4.3 km in NNE direction
	MDR-19	~5.4 km in NW direction

Interstate Boundary	None	None
Railway Station/Railway line	Jaisalmer Railway Station	~44 km in SSE Direction
Water Bodies	Indira Gandhi Canal (SagarmalGopa Branch)	~4.5 km in NNE direction
Forest	None	None

viii. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area

Forest Land / Protected Area / Environmental Sensitivity Zone	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter issued by the concerned Department mentioning the Lr no, date of grant and remarks
Forest Land within the mine lease area and (if yes) status of Forest Clearance	No	No Forest land involved in mining lease area. Letter from competent authority will be taken.
National Park	No	No National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Elephant/Tiger Reserve involved in study area. Letter from competent authority will be taken.
Wildlife Sanctuary	No	
Elephant/Tiger Reserve	No	
Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA)	No	
Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)	No	--
Schedule-I species (No.s and name of schedule-I species with authenticated letter)	-	This proposal is for ToR, study will be carried out, if any schedule - I species found in the study area Wildlife Conservation Plan will be prepared during the preparation of EIA/EMP Report.
Wildlife Conservation Plan	-	

ix. Green belt/Plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation and no. of saplings proposed	Total area under greenbelt and plantation will be under 76.052 ha (6.127 ha area on 7.5 m lease periphery +5.04 ha on waste dump + 23.07 ha on backfilled area + 20.94 ha on 2 no of top most benches + 20.875 ha on 45 m safety one of tar road).
Budget for green plant & plantation till the end of life of mine.	Rs. 2.30 Crore
Budget for nursery	N/A
Details of existing plantation and its survival rate	It's a greenfield project.
No. of tree cuts in the mine lease area and compensatory afforestation	50no.s
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	6.127 ha
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads,	20.875 ha

electric lines	
500 m safety zones of nearest habitation villages	Nil

x. Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R):

R & R details	The Project Proponent has submitted that the total mine lease area is 420 ha, out of which 57.21 ha is private land. Land will be purchased with negotiation and R&R provisions will be followed as per Central and State Government Rules & Notifications.
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xi. Court case details:

Court Case, No and its present status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The e-auction organized for a Rata Mandha Limestone block. The initial attempt didn't receive any bids at the 10% reserve price. ❖ In the second attempt of auction, DCL and SCL participated in which the highest bid of 10.40 percent was proposed by SCL which was declared as Preferred Bidder. Considering that the bid submitted by SCL was relatively less received by the State Government and considering the revenue interest involved in the matter and wider public interest and government revenue, the bid submitted by M/s Shree Cement Limited was rejected. ❖ Following the rejection, Shree Cement Limited filed a case (Civil Writ Petition No. 16345/2018) before the Honourable High Court in Jodhpur against the government's order dated July 23, 2019. As of now, no stay order has been issued by the Honourable Court, and the case remains pending. ❖ In the third attempt of auction, M/s Deccan Cements Limited declared as the Preferred Bidder with a winning bid of 15.25% in the e-auction conducted on 16.12.2021 and LOI has been issued by Government of Rajasthan vide letter No. P.3(1) Khan/Group-2/2022 dated 08.03.2023 for grant of Mining Lease for the said Block for a period of 2 years.
Undertaking by Project Proponent w.r.t court case	N/A

xii. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018	The Project Proponent submitted the Affidavit in a non judicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing no: AN 756550 dated 01.12.2023 stating that the company undertakes by affidavit that it will comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 2 nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors before grant of ToR/EC
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xiii. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	Budget (Rs. in Crores)
Project Cost	Rs. 45 Crores
Employment	68 persons

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The Project Proponent/EIA Consultant presented the KML file to indicate the site features in the study area of 10 km radius. The Project Proponent showed the boundary of the mine lease area. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that One HT line passes through mine lease area. Safety barriers are left in both sides of HT line and the same will not be disturbed at any stage of mining activity. Tar road of length of 2.20 km exists within the mine lease area. Nearest village is Khinya Village located at a distance of ~1.2 km in NW direction. A School is also located in Khinya Village. Nearest water body is Indira Gandhi Canal (~4.5 km, NNE). Dumpers of 20 Tonnes capacity bucket capacity will be used for transportation of mineral from mine face to the crusher. During the initial period of 2 years, Limestone produced from this mine will be directly sold in open market and then in fourth/fifth year Limestone will be used in upcoming cement plant which will be installed in the year 2030. During the first two years, Limestone will be transported by road at a distance of 50 km to the Sanu railway siding. The EAC was of the view that the Project Proponent needs to double the width of road. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that at the end of conceptual stage, an area of 329.45 ha will be excavated out of which 285.44 ha will be converted into water reservoir, 23.07 ha will be backfilled and an area of 20.94 ha will be reclaimed on top most 2 benches. During conceptual stage, about 18.83 Million Tonnes of waste will be generated, out of which 18.45 million tonnes of waste will be backfilled over an area of 23.07 ha and remaining 0.38 million tonnes of waste will be stacked in dump over an area of 5.04 ha which will be rehabilitated by plantation. Till 30 years, mining will be carried out in Govt. land.

The EAC asked about the status of court case. The Project proponent informed the EAC that initially e-auction organized for the Rata Mandha Limestone block. The initial attempt didn't receive any bids at the 10% reserve price. In the second attempt of auction, Deccan Cements Limited (DCL) and Shree Cement Limited (SCL) participated in which the highest bid of 10.40 percent was proposed by SCL and declared as a Preferred Bidder. Considering that the bid submitted by SCL was relatively less and considering the revenue interest involved in the matter and wider public interest and government revenue, the bid submitted by Shree Cement Limited was rejected. Then, the Shree Cement Limited filed a case (Civil Writ Petition No. 16345/2018) before the Hon'ble High Court in Jodhpur against the Govt. order dated July 23, 2019. As of now,

no stay order has been issued by the Hon'ble Court, and the case remains pending. Next date of hearing is 23.04.2024. In the third attempt of auction, M/s Deccan Cements Limited declared as the Preferred Bidder with a winning bid of 15.25% in the e-auction conducted on 16.12.2021 and accordingly Letter of Intent (LoI) for grant of mining lease was granted by the Govt. of Rajasthan vide letter dated 08.03.2023 for the said block for a period of 2 years. The EAC opined that the instant Terms of Reference would be subject to the outcome of the court case filed before the Hon'ble High Court in Jodhpur in Civil Writ Petition No. 16345/2018.

Based on the discussions held, the EAC in its meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023, under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments therein, **recommended** the proposal for grant of Terms of Reference to M/s Deccan Cements Limited for mining of Limestone in Rata - Mandha Limestone Mine (Auctioned Block) with proposed Limestone Production Capacity: 1.5 Million TPA along with installation of Crusher 750 TPH in the mine lease area of 420.0 ha, located at Village: Rata Mandha, Tehsil: Mohangarh, District: Jaisalmer, Rajasthan for undertaking detailed EIA/EMP study subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the standard ToR conditions applicable for non-coal mining projects:-

- i. The instant Terms of Reference would be subject to the outcome of the court case filed before the Hon'ble High Court in Jodhpur in Civil Writ Petition No. 16345/2018.
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the timeline and action plan for transporting the Limestone through OLBC.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the ecology restoration plan for mined out pits for using as Water reservoir/ Pisciculture as well as the plan for the backfilled area.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the year wise sequence of mining operation and plan for backfilling considering the site features and their impacts and mitigation.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to monitor the ambient air quality and noise level at the mine lease boundary, nearest village, crusher, predominant downwind direction and at other sensitive receptors. Accordingly, Project Proponent shall propose to install Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station within certain timeline.

- vi. The Project Proponent should prepare the EMP considering the scenario of pollution to be generated for normative and peak total excavation for assessing air pollution, noise level and ground vibration.
- vii. The Project Proponent shall monitor the water quality in the impact zone such as water reservoir, river water with specific reference to the parameter Langelier Saturation Index which will denote the impact of calcium carbonates on water bodies and these parameters and determine the tendency of water to form calcium carbonate scaling.
- viii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the map showing the transport route of the mineral from the mine lease area to the destination, impact of details of habitation at a distance of 100m from the center on both sides of road, details of no. of trips/day to and fro, capacity of the dumper/tipper to be deployed and the dimensions of the road, existing and additional traffic load to the NH/SH/MDR and the carrying capacity of the road. Project Proponent needs to submit SOP for transportation.
- ix. The Project Proponent needs to carry out the Public Hearing as per provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. PP should also submit the time bound action plan on concerns of the public through a separate budget with capital expenditure with a timeline of 3 years. The Project proponent shall ensure that the activities proposed under the public hearing shall be different from the CSR activities.
- x. The Project Proponent needs to undertake the enumeration of the species within the mine lease area before cutting. The Project Proponent also needs to submit the compensatory afforestation plan for the no. of trees to be cut in the mine lease area and also to explore the possibility of tree transplantation.
- xi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for undertaking the plantation along the 7.5m barrier, safety zone of tar road/cart tracks, electric line etc., PP should also submit the details no of saplings to be planted, type of saplings proposed and the area to be covered under greenbelt/plantation along with the timeline and budget. The greenbelt/plantation plan shall be prepared in such a way that the ecology of the area shall be restored.
- xii. The Project Proponent needs to submit employment based skill development plan for the local people and thrust should be to provide employment to local people after imparting training.

- xiii. The Project Proponent shall carry out the assessment of impact due to the proposed project as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP. The project proponent shall conduct hydrological study for projects involving intersection of ground water table as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground Water Authority from time to time and submit the same as a part of the EIA/EMP.
- xiv. The Project Proponent shall explore the possibility of reduction of specific water requirement by optimization / technology up gradation, etc. The efforts shall be delineated in the EIA/EMP.
- xv. The Project Proponent shall prepare the scheme for mandatory recycle/re-use of water as specified by the Central Ground Water Authority for different category areas seeking NoC for ground water withdrawal and the shall submit as part of EIA/EMP report.
- xvi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed R&R plan covering all the components viz. number of Project Affected Families (PAF) and details of the land owned by them, break up of total compensation to be paid including method of calculation including the sources/references adopted and mode of payment etc. The Project Proponent needs to submit the plan for Socio economic development of the neighbourhood habitats based on the need based survey along with the time bound action plan. An action plan for land acquisition in consent with the local people also needs to be submitted. Further, PP needs to submit the possession certificate and timeline for acquiring the land at the time of submission of EC proposal.
- xvii. The Project Proponent needs to submit a letter from the Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Rajasthan clarifying whether any illegal mining within the mine lease area has been carried out or not and whether the same has been carried out by M/s. Deccan Cement Ltd or not?
- xviii. The Project Proponent shall submit the action plan along with timeline for doubling the width of the village road which is to be used for transportation.
- xix. The Project Proponent shall conduct drone survey of the mine lease area and buffer area and submit during the appraisal for EC.

3.2 Mahulsukha Iron and Manganese Ore Block of M/s Patnaik Minerals Private Ltd for mining of Iron and Manganese Ore in the mine lease area of 390.317 ha (as per DGPS)/399.838 ha (as per ROR), with proposed production capacity of Iron

Ore: Total Excavation: 1.662977 MTPA; ROM: 1.0MTPA and Manganese Ore: Total Excavation: 1.407519 MTPA; ROM: 0.15MTPA, located at Villages Randa, Rantha and Bhutuda under Bonai Sub-Division and Lahunipada Tehsil, Sundargarh District, Odisha - [F. No: J-11015/75/2020-IAII(M), Proposal No: IA/OR/MIN/180360/2020] – Environmental Clearance (EC)

The instant proposal is for mining of Mahulsukha Iron and Manganese Ore Block of M/s Patnaik Minerals Private Ltd for mining of Iron and Manganese Ore in the mine lease area of 390.317 ha (as per DGPS)/399.838 ha (as per ROR), with proposed production capacity of Iron Ore: Total Excavation: 1.662977 MTPA; ROM: 1.0MTPA and Manganese Ore: Total Excavation: 1.407519 MTPA; ROM: 0.15MTPA, located at Villages Randa, Rantha and Bhutuda under Bonai Sub-Division and Lahunipada Tehsil, Sundargarh District, Odisha.

2. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The EAC noted that the Project Proponent vide letter dated 12.12.2023 informed that due to unavoidable circumstances they are not in position to present the technical presentation and hence requested to defer the proposal. Based on the request of the Project Proponent letter dated 12.12.2023, the EAC **deferred** the proposal.

3.3 Gojoli-Somanpalli Dongargaon Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) of M/s Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd. for mining of Limestone with Limestone Production Capacity 1.0 Million TPA, Soil: 0.10 Million TPA, OB: 0.15 Million TPA & Waste: 0.25 Million TPA (TotalExcavation-1.50 Million TPA) along with installation of Impact Crusher-500 TPH Capacity with Screen/Wobbler in the mine lease area of 646.55 ha, located at Villages: Somanpalli, Dhaba, ChakDubarpeth, ChakNavegaon, GojoliMakta and ChakGojoli, Tehsil: Gondpipri, District: Chandrapur, Maharashtra – [Proposal No: IA/MH/MIN/285399/2022, F.No: IA-J-11015/31/2022-IAII(NCM), EIA Consultant: M/s Aditya Environmental Services Pvt.Ltd] – Terms of Reference (ToR)

The instant proposal is for grant of Terms of Reference for mining of Limestone in Gojoli-SomanpalliDongargaon Limestone Block (Auctioned Block) of M/s Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd. with Limestone Production Capacity 1.0 Million TPA, Soil: 0.10 Million TPA, OB: 0.15 Million TPA & Waste: 0.25 Million TPA (Total Excavation-1.50 Million TPA) along with installation of Impact Crusher-500 TPH Capacity with Screen/Wobbler in the mine lease area of 646.55 ha, located at Villages: Somanpalli, Dhaba, ChakDubarpeth, ChakNavegaon, GojoliMakta and ChakGojoli, Tehsil: Gondpipri, District: Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the document submitted by the Project Proponent and revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under: -

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and 2(b) Mineral Beneficiation and falls under Category “A” as the mining lease area is greater than 250ha and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 19°35'50.61"N to 19°40'40.89"N and Longitude: 79°38'40.56"E to 79°40'00.39"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 56 M/10 and falls in Seismic Zone – II.
- iii. The proposal was earlier considered in the 2ndEAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 16 - 18 August, 2022 wherein the EAC noted that the instant proposal located at an environmental sensitivity area due to presence of 185.83 ha of forest land involved in the mine lease area, Tiger corridor (Kanha-Navegaon-Nagzira-Tadoba-Indravati), Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary (~450 m, W), area of 11.12 ha under seasonal nalla/pond, 17.95 ha under road and 1.09 Ha under settlement inside the mine lease area. Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary situated at 450 meters from lease boundary is a part of identified tiger corridor connecting tiger meta populations in the existing tiger reserves of the landscape. Some forest and Govt. lands near the lease area may also be playing similar role for meta population management. In view of the above, the EAC opined that the comment from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is a prerequisite for further consideration of the instant proposal for Terms of Reference (ToR). Therefore, the EAC deferred the proposal and asked the Project Proponent to submit the comments from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) w.r.t Tiger corridor and State authority for wildlife corridor. Then, the Project Proponent submitted the information on 09.08.2023 and 04.12.2023 in Parivesh portal and accordingly the proposal was considered in the 24th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 26-28 December, 2023.

Based on observation of EAC in its EAC meeting held during 16-18 August, 2022 and compliance of observation of EAC made by Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC in its meeting held during 16-18 August, 2022	Reply by Project Proponent
1	Comments from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) w.r.t Tiger corridor	The NTCA Division gave their comments on 21.09.2023 which are as follows: 1. The ML area is located at approximate distances of 40 km from TadobaAndhari Tiger Reserve (TATR), 51 km from Kawal Tiger

		<p>Reserve and 86 km from Indravati Tiger Reserve. Nearest Protected Areas to the ML area are Kanhargaon WLS (approximately 450 m) and Chaprala WLS (approximately 14 km). Moreover, the ML area is at an approximate distances of 7.5 km from IndravatiTadoba tiger (least cost pathway) corridor and 46 km from IndravatiNavegaonNagzira tiger (least cost pathway) corridor delineated by NTCA and Wildlife Institute of India. A map is enclosed in this regard.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The ML area is part of tiger corridors delineated for Eastern Vidharbha Landscape (EVL) by Wildlife Institute of India and is adjacent to the tiger corridor delineated by Maharashtra Forest Department in the Tiger Conservation Plan for TadobaAndhari Tiger Reserve. A map is enclosed in this regard. 3. The ML area has presence of tigers in its vicinity as per all India tiger estimations carried out in 2022 and 2018. Maps showing tiger distribution are enclosed in this regard. 4. As per 2022 cycle of all India tiger estimation, the ML area had presence of large mammals and major tiger prey species such as leopard, sloth bear, dhole, gaur, chital and sambar in its vicinity. Many of these species are endangered and under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. 5. Currently, both Kawal and Indravati Tiger Reserves support low density tiger populations below their potential. Recovery of tigers in these Tiger Reserves are possible only when the habitat connectivity with major source populations in the landscape such as Tadoba and
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		<p>Nagzira are maintained. Kanhargaon WLS, Junonah RF and Chichpalli Range of Chandrapur Forest Division are important stepping stone habitat connectivity in between Kawal and Tadoba which got further strengthened by declaration of Kanhargaon as a Protected Area. Permeability of these corridors are currently already under fragmentation threats from urban sprawls and many linear infrastructures such as railway tracks, highways and mining. Impact of any further developmental project in this landscape will be cumulative and detrimental for the persistence of corridor functionality.</p> <p>6. EAC observed that about 11.12 ha of ML area is under seasonal nalla/pond. The area is drained by few first/second order seasonal nallas. Some originates within the lease area and some traverse the lease area. All drains into DabhaNalla which further merges into Wardha River. Abstraction of water for mining should be subject to thorough understanding on its impact on minimum ecological flow for these nallahs and Wardha river.</p> <p>7. EAC may like to take cognizance of these ecological concerns before granting any statutory clearance to the proposed limestone mining project.</p>
2	Comments from State authority for wildlife corridor.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the letter from the Office of the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) East, Nagpur vide No: Desk-1(B)/Survey/2022-23/1340 Dated: 24.03.2023 stating that the office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), M.S. Nagpur has attested the maps. The distance of the Wildlife Sanctuary, Tiger Corridor and Reserve Forest from the mine lease area as per the authenticated location map are given</p>

below in table:		
S. No	Particulars	Distance & Direction from mining lease
1	Kanhargaon WLS	0.45km, W
2	Tiger Corridor (WII)	7.4 km, W
3	Dongargaon RF	0.6 km, NE
4	Watrana RF	0.04 km, NE
5	Dabha RF	1.6 km, W
6	Khararpet RF	2.4 km, NE
7	Karinji RF	0.05 km, NW
8	Panchgaon RF	2.5 km, NW
9	Ghanpur RF	8.9 km, NW
10	Muthampet RF	9 km, SE
11	Kadamba RF	9.5 km, SW
12	Dongargaon PF	1.1 km, NE
13	Palsori PF	8 km, NW
14	Wamapalli RF	5.79 km, W

2. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The Project Proponent briefed the EAC about the distance of the Wildlife Sanctuary, Tiger Corridor and Reserve Forest from the mine lease area within 10 km radius of the study area. The EAC also noted the comments given by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) on 21.09.2023. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that mining plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), Nagpur vide letter dated 19.03.2021, prior to declaration of Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary. About 54.5 ha of Lol area falling within the 1 km buffer from the Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary, has been demarcated as Non-Mining Zone as per Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement dated 03/06/2022. Life of the mine will be reduced to 33 years from 37 years due to blocking of 3.61 Million Tonnes of Reserves. Accordingly, Modified Mining Plan is under preparation and approved Modified Mining Plan will be submitted during EC. Further, the Project Proponent informed the EAC that application for Wild Life Clearance has been re-submitted vide Proposal No.WL/MH/MIN/QRY/448509/2023 dated 19/10/2023 on PARIVESH 2.0. The EAC also noted the comments of NTCA which are as follows: -

- i. The ML area is part of tiger corridors delineated for Eastern Vidharbha Landscape (EVL) by Wildlife Institute of India and is adjacent to the tiger corridor delineated by Maharashtra Forest Department in the Tiger Conservation Plan for TadobaAndhari Tiger Reserve.
- ii. The ML area has presence of tigers in its vicinity as per all India tiger estimations carried out in 2022 and 2018.

- iii. As per 2022 cycle of all India tiger estimation, the ML area had presence of large mammals and major tiger prey species such as leopard, sloth bear, dhole, gaur, chital and sambar in its vicinity. Many of these species are endangered and under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- iv. Currently, both Kawal and Indravati Tiger Reserves support low density tiger populations below their potential. Recovery of tigers in these Tiger Reserves are possible only when the habitat connectivity with major source populations in the landscape such as Tadoba and Nagzira are maintained. Kanhargaon WLS, Junonah RF and Chichpalli Range of Chandrapur Forest Division are important stepping stone habitat connectivity in between Kawal and Tadoba which got further strengthened by declaration of Kanhargaon as a Protected Area. Permeability of these corridors are currently already under fragmentation threats from urban sprawls and many linear infrastructures such as railway tracks, highways and mining. Impact of any further developmental project in this landscape will be cumulative and detrimental for the persistence of corridor functionality.

After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the Consultant, the EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to submit the proposal for obtaining approval of the National Board for Wildlife for Tiger reserves under Section 38 (O) (1) (g) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The EAC also opined that the Ministry may seek comments from the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) since the mine lease area is part of tiger corridors delineated for Eastern Vidharbha Landscape (EVL) by Wildlife Institute of India (WII). The EAC also asked the Project Proponent to refer the report prepared by Wildlife Institute of India/Maharashtra Forest Department/All India tiger estimations with respect to Tiger distribution and also to submit the point wise reply to the comments of NTCA. Owing to the environmental sensitivity of the mine lease area, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The Ministry may seek comments from the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) since the mine lease area is part of tiger corridors delineated for Eastern Vidharbha Landscape (EVL) by Wildlife Institute of India (WII).
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the copy of proposal for obtaining approval of the National Board for Wildlife for Tiger reserves under Section 38 (O) (1) (g) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to refer the report prepared by Wildlife Institute of India/Maharashtra Forest Department/All India tiger estimations with respect to Tiger distribution and also to submit the point wise reply to the comments of NTCA.

- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the approved Modified Mining Plan.

3.4 Mining of Bajri (Minor Mineral) with proposed production capacity 5.60 MTPA (ROM) in the mine lease area of 3843.098 Ha (19011.89 Bigha), located at Villages Annapurna, Arjiyana, Indrana, Kundal, etc. of Tehsil Siwana, District Barmer, Rajasthan by M/s Ridhi Siddhi Associates [File No. J-11015/427/2013-IA.II(M); Proposal No. IA/RJ/MIN/20595/2013] – Reconsideration of Environmental clearance

The instant proposal is for mining of Bajri (Minor Mineral) with proposed production capacity 5.60 MTPA (ROM) in the mine lease area of 3843.098 Ha (19011.89 Bigha), located at Villages Annapurna, Arjiyana, Indrana, Kundal, etc. of Tehsil Siwana, District Barmer, Rajasthan by M/s Ridhi Siddhi Associates.

2. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The EAC noted that the Project Proponent vide letter dated 23.11.2023 regarding the change in scope of the proposal. Accordingly, the EAC recommended to **return the proposal** in present form.

Additional Agenda: -

3.5 Amendment in existing Environmental Clearance dated 2nd November, 2007 w.r.t Amalgamation of Korumanipalli & Thollamadugu Limestone Mine (ML Area 205.212 ha) and Korumanipalli Limestone Mine (49.64 ha) of M/s. Penna Cement Industries Ltd with combined production capacity of 2.30 MTPA over an amalgamated mine lease area of 254.856 ha, located at villages Korumanipalli & Thollamadugu, Mandal- Kolimigundla, District- Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh - [F.No: J-11015/654/2007-IA.II(M), IA/AP/MIN/276997/2022] - Amendment in EC

The instant proposal for amendment in EC was earlier considered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022 wherein the EAC noted that the instant proposal for amendment in EC dated 02.11.2007 is w.r.t amalgamation of Korumanipalli & Thollamadugu Limestone Mine (ML Area 205.212 ha) and Korumanipalli Limestone Mine (49.64 ha) of M/s. Penna Cement Industries Ltd with combined production capacity of 2.30 MTPA over an amalgamated mine lease area of 254.856 ha. The EAC also noted that the Project Proponent having two separate valid EC's dated 02.11.2007 (ML Area 205.212 ha) and 07.01.2020 (49.64 ha) for the above said mine leases. Further, the EAC noted that the Project Proponent amalgamated the mine lease on 16.03.2021 over an area of 254.856 ha and continued to operate the mines after 16.03.2021 without obtaining amendment in EC.

2. The EAC observed that as per Ministry's SOP dated 07.07.2021, "Violation" means cases where projects have either started the construction work or installation or excavation, whichever is earlier, on site or have expanded the production capacity and /or project area beyond the limit specified in the Environmental Clearance (PriorEC) without obtaining Prior-EC or change of scope without prior approval from the Ministry. The EAC also observed that in the instant case, the Project Proponent has increased the mine lease area from 205.212 ha to 254.856 ha beyond the limit specified in the Environmental Clearance (Prior-EC) dated 02.11.2007 and continued to operate the mines after 16.03.2021 without obtaining amendment in EC. The EAC was of the view that the instant case attracts the violation of the EIA Notification, 2006.

3. During the EAC meeting, the Project Proponent informed the EAC that there was no excess of production has been done and the production capacity is well within the limits of the EC capacity dated 02.11.2007 (ML Area 205.212 ha) and 07.01.2020 (49.64 ha) and there is no violation. PP also informed the EAC that the certificate from the Department of Mines & Geology has been obtained vide letter dated 22.08.2022 stating that the "No Mining has been done in ML-2 after Amalgamation of Mine lease". The EAC asked the Project Proponent that why the PP has approached the Ministry for amendment in EC after one year of amalgamation of mining lease. The Project Proponent/consultant accepted that it was the fault of the Project Proponent and apologized for not applying for amendment in EC well in time after the amalgamation of mining lease on 16.03.2021. Thus, the EAC opined that the instant case attracts the violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 and the EAC advised the Project Proponent to apply for fresh Terms of Reference (ToR) under Ministry's SOP dated 07.07.2021. The EAC also asked the Ministry to take action against the Project Proponent under section 19 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. In view of the above, the EAC returned the proposal in the present form.

4. As per the recommendation of EAC, the Ministry vide letter dated 19.12.2022 requested the Secretary, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh to initiate action under the provisions of section 19 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 against the Project Proponent and also to intimate the details of the action taken against the Project Proponent to the Ministry for further necessary action.

5. Then, the Project Proponent vide letter dated 01.12.2023 and 22.02.2023 urged the Ministry that the violation should not be considered in light of the following facts:

- i. No construction work or installation or excavation was done in both the mine without getting EC.
- ii. The Company has not expanded the production capacity mentioned in both the ECs separately (2.1 + 0.2 = 2.30 million TPA). Certificate from DMG has been

taken on 22.08.2022 stating that "No Mining has been done in ML-2 after Amalgamation of Mine lease"

- iii. Company has not expanded the ML area from 205.212 ha to 254.856 ha beyond the limit specified in the EC dated 02.11.2007. Both the leases (49.64 ha and 205.012 ha) are contiguous and share common boundary and EC for both the mine has been obtained separately from MoEFCC on 02.11.2007 (205.212 ha) and 07.01.2020 (49.64).
- iv. Also, Company didn't change their scope of work w.r.t technology and others.

6. The Project Proponent also submitted that same matter was heard in the court and the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh vide order dated 02.11.2023 in Writ Petition No 22715 of 2023 has directed that *"According to the learned counsel, the said representation has not been disposed of so far. Taking into consideration the nature of controversy and keeping in view the pendency of the representation dated 22.02.2023, said to have been submitted by the petitioner, this court deems it appropriate to dispose of the writ petition, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the matter, with a direction to Respondent No 5 to verify the representation dated 22.02.2023, said to have been submitted by the petitioner, this court deems it appropriate to dispose of the writ petition, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the matter, with a direction to Respondent No 5 to verify the representation dated 22.02.2023 said to have been submitted by the Writ petitioner and take appropriate action/pass appropriate orders, as expeditiously as possible, after affording opportunity of hearing to the writ petitioner, preferably within a period of four (04) weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order"*.

7. In view of the above order of Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh vide order dated 02.11.2023, an opportunity for hearing has been given to the Project Proponent to discuss the matter before the EAC (Non-Coal Mining) in its meeting scheduled to be held on 28.12.2023. The Ministry also issued meeting notice to the Project Proponent vide letter dated 20.12.2023.

8. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The Project Proponent briefed about their representation letter dated 22.02.2023. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that no construction work or installation or excavation was done in both the mine without getting EC. The production capacity in both the ECs (2.1 + 0.2 = 2.30 million TPA) was not increased and Certificate from Dept. of Mining and Geology was obtained on 22.08.2022 stating that *"No Mining has been done in ML-2 after Amalgamation of Mine lease"*. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that the mine lease area from 205.212 ha to 254.856 ha was not increased beyond the limit specified in the EC dated 02.11.2007. Both the leases (49.64 ha and 205.012 ha) are contiguous and share common boundary and Environment

Clearance's for both the mine was obtained separately from MoEF&CC on 02.11.2007 (205.212 ha) and 07.01.2020 (49.64). There is no change in the scope of work w.r.t technology and others. Further, the Project Proponent requested the EAC to allow the amendment in EC w.r.t amalgamation in existing EC for Korumanipalli & Thollamadugu Limestone mine over an area of 254.856 Ha without considering violation.

The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that the same matter was heard in the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh and the Hon'ble High Court vide order dated 02.11.2023 in Writ Petition No 22715 of 2023 directed that *"According to the learned counsel, the said representation has not been disposed of so far. Taking into consideration the nature of controversy and keeping in view the pendency of the representation dated 22.02.2023, said to have been submitted by the petitioner, this court deems it appropriate to dispose of the writ petition, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the matter, with a direction to Respondent No 5 to verify the representation dated 22.02.2023, said to have been submitted by the petitioner, this court deems it appropriate to dispose of the writ petition, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the matter, with a direction to Respondent No 5 to verify the representation dated 22.02.2023 said to have been submitted by the Writ petitioner and take appropriate action/pass appropriate orders, as expeditiously as possible, after affording opportunity of hearing to the writ petitioner, preferably within a period of four (04) weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order"*. The EAC noted that in view of the above order of Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh order dated 02.11.2023, an opportunity for hearing has been given to the Project Proponent by the Ministry letter dated 20.12.2023 to discuss the matter before the EAC (Non-Coal Mining).

The EAC reiterated the earlier minutes of 5thEAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022. The relevant extract of the minutes are as follows *"The EAC noted that the instant proposal is for amendment in EC dated 02.11.2007 w.r.t Amalgamation of Korumanipalli&Thollamadugu Limestone Mine (ML Area 205.212 ha) and Korumanipalli Limestone Mine (49.64 ha) of M/s. Penna Cement Industries Ltd with combined production capacity of 2.30 MTPA over an amalgamated mine lease area of 254.856 ha. The EAC also noted that the Project Proponent having two separate valid EC's dated 02.11.2007 (ML Area 205.212 ha) and 07.01.2020 (49.64 ha) for the above said mine leases. Further, the EAC noted that the Project Proponent amalgamated the mine lease on 16.03.2021 over an area of 254.856 ha and continued to operate the mines after 16.03.2021 without obtaining amendment in EC". PP also informed the EAC that the certificate from the Department of Mines & Geology has been obtained vide letter dated 22.08.2022 stating that the "No Mining has been done in ML-2 after Amalgamation of Mine lease". The EAC observed that as per Ministry's SOP dated 07.07.2021, "Violation" means cases where projects have either started the construction work or installation or excavation, whichever is earlier, on site or have expanded the*

production capacity and /or project area beyond the limit specified in the Environmental Clearance (PriorEC) without obtaining Prior-EC or change of scope without prior approval from the Ministry. The EAC also observed that in the instant case, the Project Proponent has increased the mine lease area from 205.212 ha to 254.856 ha beyond the limits specified in the Environmental Clearance (Prior-EC) dated 02.11.2007 and continued to operate the mines after 16.03.2021 without obtaining amendment in EC. The EAC was of the view that the instant case attracts the violation of the EIA Notification, 2006. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that there is no any excess of production has been done and the production capacity is well within the limits of the EC capacity dated 02.11.2007 (ML Area 205.212 ha) and 07.01.2020 (49.64 ha) and there is no any violation. The EAC asked the Project Proponent that why the PP has approached the Ministry for amendment in EC after one year of amalgamation of mining lease. The Project Proponent/consultant accepted that it was the fault of the Project Proponent and apologized for not applying for amendment in EC well in time after the amalgamation of mining lease on 16.03.2021. Thus, the EAC opined that the instant case attracts the violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 and the EAC advised the Project Proponent to apply for fresh Terms of Reference (ToR) under Ministry's SOP dated 07.07.2021. The EAC also asked the Ministry to take action against the Project Proponent under section 19 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. In view of the above, the EAC returned the proposal in the present form".

After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the EIA Consultant, the EAC opined that the decision made in the earlier EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022 shall remain unchanged. Thus, the EAC propounded that the instant case attracts the violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 and advised the Project Proponent to apply for fresh Terms of Reference (ToR) under Ministry's SOP dated 07.07.2021.

List of members of Expert Appraisal Committee participated through VC

S.No	Member Name	Member Address	Designation	26 th Dec., 2023	27 th Dec., 2023	28 th Dec., 2023
1	Dr. Dinesh Misra, IFS (Retd.)	Plot No 65, Sector 8, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, 382 008	Chairman	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	Sh. Niranjana Kumar Vasu, IFS (Retd.)	816, Shanti Nagar, Opposite Durgapur Railway Station, Jaipur-	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes

		Rajasthan, 302018				
3	Dr. Asha Rajvanshi, Scientist 'G' (Retd.), WII	B/104/106 Rock Valley Apartments, GMS Road, Sewla Kalan, P.O. Majra, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248171.	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
4	Shri. Avijit Ghosh (CMD- Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited) (Retd.)	Singhee Marg, A- 604 Shahadeo Tower, P.P.Compound, Ranchi 834001, Jharkhand	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	Shri. Bandi Ramchandra Reddy (Former CMD-South Eastern Coalfields Limited)-(Retd.)	Flat No-503 A, Jyoti Cosmos, White Fields, Hi-Tech City, Kondapur, Hyderabad-500081	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
6	Prof. Pramod Kumar, Professor, Shri Aurobindo College, University of Delhi	Shri Aurobindo College, University of Delhi 1372, B-1, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070	Member	No	No	No
7	Prof. Devesh Walia, Department of Environmental Studies	Department of Environmental Studies, NEHU, Shillong-793022 Meghalaya	Member	Yes	No	No
8	Dr. Suresh Tiwari Scientist-F	Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, New Delhi Branch, Prof. Ram Nath Viji Marg Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi – 110060	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
9	Dr. K.G Asha Manjari, Professor, University of Mysore	10/B, "SPARSHA", 2nd Main, 2 nd Cross, Bhogadi Ind Stage, Mysore-570026, Karnataka	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
10	Prof. Dev Dutt Sharma, Vice-Chancellor	Sardar Patel University, Mandi H.P. 175001	Member	No	No	No
11	Shri V. K. Soni, Representative of India Meteorological Department	Government of India, Ministry of Earth Sciences, India Meteorological Department, Mausam Bhawan, Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110003	Member	No	No	No
12	Shri Yogesh Kale, Representative of Indian Bureau of Mines	Controller of Mines, IBM Block D, Second Floor, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001	Member	No	Yes	Yes

13	Representative of Directorate General of Mines Safety	Directorate General of Mines Safety	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
14	Shri Rakesh Kumar Jagenia, DIG, MoEF & CC, New Delhi	Wildlife Division, MoEF&CC, Jorbagh, New Delhi-110003.	Special Invitee	-	-	Yes
15	Shri Hemant Singh, AIG (NTCA), MoEF & CC, New Delhi	CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003.	Special Invitee	-	-	Yes
16	Shri Pankaj Verma	3 rd Floor, Vayu Block, Indira Paryawaran Bhawan, MoEF&CC, Jorbagh, New Delhi- 110003.	Member Secretary	Yes	Yes	Yes
