

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

SUMMARY RECORD OF 5TH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE RE-CONSTITUTION OF EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL OF NON-COAL MINING PROJECTS CONSTITUTED UNDER THE EIA NOTIFICATION, 2006.

The 5th meeting of the Re-constitution of Expert Appraisal Committee for Environmental Appraisal of Mining Projects (Non-Coal) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was held during 18-20 October, 2022 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 4th EAC meeting held during 28-29th September, 2022:

The minutes of the 4th EAC meeting held during 28-29 September, 2022 were placed before the members of the Committee. The Member Secretary informed the Committee regarding the following Corrigendum:

S. No	As per 4 th EAC meeting held during 28-29 September, 2022	Typographical Error	EAC recommended in 5 th EAC meeting held during 18-20 October, 2022
1	Agenda 2.2, Subject, Line 3, Pg. No: 53 Point No: 1, Line 4, Pg. No: 54 Point No: 3, Para 3, Line 6, Pg. No: 61	0.0003 MTPA of Topsoil in the mine lease area of 27.4520 ha	total 0.05 Million Tonnes of Top soil till the end of the lease period in the mine lease area of 27.4520 ha
2	Agenda 2.3, Point No: 2 (ii), Line 3, Pg. No: 62	the mine lease area is located 4.8 km, S from the Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary	Narpuh wildlife Sanctuary located at 4.8 km, S from mine lease area
	Agenda 2.3, Point No: 2 (v), Line 6, Pg. No: 63	for enhancement in production capacity of Limestone for 9 Lakh TPA (ROM)	for production capacity of Limestone for 9 Lakh TPA (ROM)
	Agenda 2.3, Point No: 3,	shorten the time for	shorten the time for

	Para 3, Line 3, Pg. No: 71	installation of conveyor belt of length 1.1km i.e., not more than 18 months.	installation of conveyor belt of length 1.5km i.e., not more than 18 months.
3	Agenda 2.4, Point No: 2(i), Line 2, Pg. No: 74	Longitude 80°04'21.03"E - 80°11'38.65"E	Longitude 78°59'47.73"E - 79°01'27.35"E

Day 1: 18th October, 2022 (Tuesday)

1.1 Kanakadripalli Limestone mine of M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited (TRCL) for mining of Limestone with proposed production capacity of 0.10 MTPA with Total Excavation of 0.118 MTPA (Limestone: 0.10 MTPA + Top Soil: 0.013 MTPA + OB/Waste: 0.005 MTPA) in the mine lease area of 435.24 ha, located at Petnikota and Itikyala Villages, Kolimigundla Mandal, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh. – [Proposal No: IA/AP/MIN/89054/2018, F.No.-J-11015/6/2019.IA-II(M); Consultant: B.S. Envi – Tech Pvt. Ltd] – Reconsideration of Environmental Clearance (EC)

The instant proposal is for mining of Limestone in Kanakadripalli Limestone mine of M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited with proposed production capacity of 0.10 MTPA with Total Excavation of 0.118 MTPA (Limestone: 0.10 MTPA + Top Soil: 0.013 MTPA + OB/Waste: 0.005 MTPA) in the mine lease area of 435.24 ha, located at Petnikota and Itikyala Villages, Kolimigundla Mandal, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh.

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

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 15°02'23.9"N-15° 04'13.1"N and Longitude: 78°03'31.3"E -78°04'54.5"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 57I/4 and falls in Seismic Zone-II.
- ii. The proposed project activity is listed at Schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 and falls under Category "A" as the mining lease area is greater than 250ha and appraised at the Central level.
- iii. The proposal was earlier considered in the EAC (Non-Coal Mining) Meeting held during 16th - 18thAugust, 2022 wherein the EAC deferred the proposal for want of requisite information. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 21.09.2022 in Parivesh and accordingly, the proposal was reconsidered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) held during 18-19, October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC, compliance of observation of EAC made by Project Proponent, are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent
1	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed chemical analysis carried out for all these four mines with a proper justification that why there is a need to open this instant mine when two mines are already operating in that area.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the Limestone required is mainly for captive purpose for making cement. Quality control of feed limestone is very important while feeding different grades of limestone in the manufacturing process. Hence, different grades of limestone required which is available in four mining leases to blend and achieve the desired quality.</p> <p>PP also submitted the detailed chemical analysis of all the four mining leases and it is revealed that predominantly around 85% of reserves are in the range of high grade and cement grade. Theraw mix design for manufacture of cement in this plant demands need for at least 18 -20 % of low & very low-grade limestone. In order to bring to the feedable quality in line with the desired raw mix, it is required to blend Low grade and siliceous/ very low-grade limestone available from Kanakadripalle and Nayanapalle limestone. It is also shown that percentage of low grade and siliceous limestone is comparatively more from Kanakadripalle and Nayanapalle mining leases only.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that all the four mining leases are to be operated simultaneously in order to utilize all the available grades for conservation of mineral and increase the life of the mine towards zero waste mining. Life of the Mine is around 882.8 years @ 0.10 MTPA production. However, the production capacity will be enhanced after expansion of cement plant capacity in near future. Therefore, it is necessary to commence the mining operations at the earliest before 11.04.2023 after obtaining the required statutory clearances like Environmental Clearance, Consent to Establishment and Consent to Operate, failing which the plant will suffer for the required quality blend of Limestone. Hence, it is inevitable to open this instant mine simultaneously along with other two operating mines.</p>
2	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that Industries & Commerce (M-III) Department, Govt. of Andhra</p>

	present status of the mine lease from the State Government with specific reference to Section 4A, Termination of prospecting licences or mining leases of The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.	Pradesh vide Memo No. INC01-MG0MAJM/43/2021-M-III Dated. 01.03.2022 has granted extension of time for a period of one year w.e.f, 12.04.2022 for establishment of the cement plant and commencement of mining operations in respect of Kanakadripalli Limestone Mine (435.240 Ha) for the period upto i.e., 11.04.2023 as per Ministry of Mines order dated 14.10.2021 and under rule 20(6) of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydrocarbons Energy Mineral) Concession (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2021 dated 02.11.2021.
3	The Project Proponent submitted that the maximum value of PM ₁₀ is 60.1 µg/m ³ and 98 Percentile Value is of PM ₁₀ is 59.7 µg/m ³ and whereas Project Proponent has carried out Air Quality modeling for 98 Percentile Value. Hence, the Project Proponent needs to carry out the air quality modeling for worst case scenario (max.value) for all the parameters.	The Project Proponent submitted that the cumulative air quality modelling was carried out for all the present and proposed expansion scenario of all industries in the vicinity. Information was obtained on existing and proposed expansion of the respective plants. Project Proponent reported that the maximum concentration (24 hourly) for PM ₁₀ observed as 60.1 µg/m ³ , PM _{2.5} : 28.8 µg/m ³ , SO ₂ : 13.9 µg/m ³ , NO ₂ : 15.2 µg/m ³ and CO (8 hourly concentration): 1144 µg/m ³ and incremental concentration for PM ₁₀ observed to be 11.07 µg/m ³ , PM _{2.5} : 5.59 µg/m ³ , SO ₂ : 0.223 µg/m ³ , NO ₂ : 7.02 µg/m ³ and CO (8 hourly concentration): 295 µg/m ³ and the overall scenario of total ground level concentration of PM ₁₀ : 71.17 µg/m ³ , PM _{2.5} : 34.39 µg/m ³ , SO ₂ : 14.123 µg/m ³ , NO ₂ : 22.22 µg/m ³ and CO (8 hourly concentration): 1439 µg/m ³ found to be well within the limits of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).
4	The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for installing and commencing the conveyor belt for transportation of Limestone from Kanakadripalli Limestone mine to the crusher located at Chintalayapalli	The Project Proponent submitted that one crusher @1800 TPH is already installed at plant location, which is 7 km from this mine. Kanakadripalli mine limestone production rated capacity is 0.10 MTPA only. Project Proponent planning to install and commence the crusher with conveyor belt located at Chintalayapalli Limestone mine to transport the Limestone from both mines (Kanakadripalli & Chintalayapalli Mines) to cement plant. Hence, installation of dedicated crusher with conveyor belt at Kanakadripalli mine for 0.10 MTPA limestone productions rated capacity is not feasible

	Limestone Mine of M/s The Ramco Cements Ltd along with the timeline.	and economically viable. The limestone will be transported to crusher located at Chintalayapalli Limestone Mine of TRCL initially through public road there after by dedicated company own corridor road which is about 4.08 km from mining lease boundary and then to Cement Plant through 5.33 km proposed belt conveyor. However, all protective measures governing safety and environmental measures will be adhered towards ensuring safety during the transport of Limestone in private road.
5	The Project Proponent needs to justify that why only a small area of 17.67 ha will be utilized at the end of the conceptual plan period out of total mine lease area of 435.24 ha. PP also needs to submit the map demarcating the mineralized and non-mineralized zone in the mine lease area.	The Project Proponent submitted that the conceptual plan has been prepared up to lease period i.e., 08.08.2050. As per the approved Mining Plan from the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), an area of 17.67 ha area will be utilized at the end of the conceptual plan period (i.e, 08.08.2050) out of total mine lease area of 435.24 ha with the approved present rated capacity. PP also submitted the conceptual plan and section. Further, PP submitted the Surface-Geological Plan showing the mineralized and non-mineralized zone in the mine lease area.
6	The Project Proponent submitted that at the end of the conceptual plan period an area of 17.67 will be under mining and an area of 351.79 ha will be unutilized at the end of the conceptual plan period whereas in Form 2, Project Proponent submitted that the final Void of 377.01 (hectare) at a depth of 46 meter which is proposed to be converted into a	The Project Proponent submitted that the total area under mining during the conceptual plan period will be 17.67 ha up to lease period (2050). Whereas, the life of the mine is about 882.8 years and an area of 377.01 ha will be broken at the end of 882.8 years (i.e 2905). PP also submitted that the mined out pit will be converted into water body due to negligible amount of waste generation for any backfilling of the area.

	Water Body which is contradictory. Hence, the Project Proponent needs to clarify the same.	
7	The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed measures taken for protection of Villages such as Raghavarajupalle village (adjacent to the mine, SE) and Kanakadripalli (0.07km, ESE) which are found in the close proximity of the mine lease area.	The Project Proponent submitted that the following mitigation measures will be taken during mining operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 7.5m barrier zone with thick plantation will be carried out all along the mining lease boundary. A 50m thick plantation barrier zone will be made adjacent to Raghavarajupalle and Kanakadripalli villages. ii. Safe zone will be left for the habitation as stipulated by DGMS norms. iii. All safety precautions specified by DGMS will be followed during blasting. A safe code of practice for drilling and blasting will be made and adhered to as per DGMS guidelines. iv. Control Blasting Techniques like Bottom initiation, Adequate stemming, Noiseless trunkline delays will be practiced in this area. v. All safety precautions will be adhered to as per Mines Regulation No 162 to 170 as per MMR,1961 during drilling and blasting. vi. Prior approval from DGMS will be obtained to carry out mining operations within danger zone as per MMR, 1961.
8	The Project Proponent needs to submit the revised plan/section with proper scaling showing the depth of mining and ground water table.	The Project Proponent reported that the minimum altitude is 302 m and maximum altitude is 334 m. Groundwater table exists at a depth of 65 m - 80 m bgl. The ultimate working depth will be 15 m bgl during lease period and 46 m bgl during life of mine. PP also submitted the revised plan/section with proper scaling showing the depth of mining and ground water table.
9	The Project Proponent needs to distribute the budget allocated for purchasing of vehicles in the Wildlife Conservation Plan to the other parameters covered in the Wildlife	The Project Proponent submitted that an amount of Rs. 142.00 Lakhs deposited through online payment vide UTR No. HDFCR52020021970150156, HDFC Bank cheque no. 04601 dated. 19.02.2020 in the account of Wildlife Conservation Projects & CSR (WLC&CSR) as per the demand request letter received from Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wild life Warden (AP) after approval of Wildlife

	<p>Conservation Plan. "Project Proponent should also specifically indicate management interventions along with budget allocation for blackbuck population in the study area including rescue and rehabilitation of animals under stress due to any activity related with mining and protection from feral dogs where ever fencing is proposed by the PP, duly approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden."</p>	<p>conservation plan by Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wild life Warden (AP) Letter No. 9958/2018/ WL-2 dated 11.12.2019 & Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wild life Warden (AP) Letter No. 9958/2018/WL-2 dated. 14.02.2020. PP also submitted the proof of payment for the same.</p> <p>PP also submitted that as per the demand request letter No. Rc.No. 216/2018-H4, dated 27.02.2020 from Divisional Forest Office, Kurnool, requested to deposit an amount of Rs. 32,93,000/- towards (i) vehicle for the project implementing officer (ii) tractor and trailer mounted with a water tank along with pump set (iii) one vehicle for protection staff of the Forest department and RCL has deposited an amount of Rs. 33.00 Lakhs through online payment as per the demand raised by Divisional Forest Office, Kurnool for complying Wildlife conservation plan. PP also submitted the proof of payment for the same.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that the total commitment have been complied and submitted the letter No. RCL/WLCP/2019-20/04, dated. 20.02.2020 to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden. PP also submitted the acknowledgment copy of the same.</p> <p>Project Proponent submitted that as per the advice of the Committee, PP will provide the required support to Forest Department for conduct of population for count of scheduled 1 species and for the same an amount of Rs 10 lakhs has been allocated.</p> <p>A chain link fencing (3.3 Km Length) will be erected in phased manner within two years all along the lease boundary near roads and villages towards protection and safety of Schedule-I species and protection from feral dog's.</p>
10	<p>The Project Proponent needs to revise the budget of public hearing to address the concerns raised during public hearing.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the budget of public hearing has been revised from Rs. 70.90 Lakhs to Rs. 82.0 Lakhs over a period of three years. PP also submitted the various developmental activities proposed as per public hearing commitments along with action plan and budget as mentioned below:</p>

Minutes of 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022

S. No	Activity		Year			Total
			22-23	23-24	24-25	
1	Construction of School compound wall	Physical Nos (1)	1	-	-	
		Village	Kanakadripa Ili	-	-	
		Budget Rs Lakhs	6.0	-	-	6.0
2	Carrying out repair works in Ramalayam temple	Physical Nos (1)	1.0			
		Village	Kanakadripalli	-		
		Budget Rs Lakhs	4.0	3.0	-	7.0
3	Providing of RO plants with infrastructure	Physical Nos (2)	1	1		
		Village	Kanakadripa Ili	Petnikota	-	
		Budget Rs Lakhs	12.0	8.0	-	20
4	Construction of elevated water tank, lying of pipeline and water pumping system at Petnikota Village	Physical Nos (1)	1			
		Village	Petnikota			-
		Budget Rs Lakhs	6	11	11	28
5	Library facility will be provided in school (Purchasing a furniture and books for setting up a library in schools)	Physical Nos (3)	1	1	1	
		Village	Kanakadripa Ili	Petnikota	Itikyala	
		Budget Rs Lakhs	1.5	2.0	1.5	5.0
6	Avenue plantation will be carried out along corridor road @ 4 km with 1600 samplings @ 5 m interval on both sides	Physical Nos (1600)	800	800	-	
		Village	Road connecting to the crusher located at chintalayapalli mine			
		Budget Rs Lakhs	4.00	3.00	-	7.0
7	Construction of rain water harvesting pits in the village-2 nos.	Physical Nos (2)	1	1	-	
		Village	Kanakadripa Ili	Kanakadripa Ili	-	-
		Budget Rs Lakhs	1.0	1.0	-	2.0
8	Planation will be carried out in	Physical Nos (500)	250	250	-	

			Kanakadripalli & Petnikota schools with 500 samplings	Village	Kanakadripa Ili	Petnikota	-	-															
				Budget Rs Lakhs	0.5	0.5	-	1.0															
		9	Development of play ground	Physical Nos (1)		1																	
				Village	Location based on land allotted by panchayat																		
				Budget Rs Lakhs		3.0	3.0	6.0															
		TOTAL BUDGET (In lakhs of rupees) – Implementation period - 3 years						82.00															
11	The Project Proponent needs to submit the employment scheme adopted for employment of 208 persons and 30 persons for this instant mine from the surrounding villages based on their educational qualification, eligibility criteria and skill during establishment of cement plant and mines.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the following scheme will be adopted to ensure employment for 208 persons in Factory and 30 persons in Mines area based on their qualification, experience skill and criteria. The action plan are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Identifying required positions for Factory and Mines respectively. ii. Calling applications from local villagers for employment against vacancies. iii. Screening of candidates will be done based on vacancies. iv. Identifying suitable candidates based on eligibility with respect to educational qualification, experience and skill. v. Encourage candidates to obtain all necessary skill/ knowledge/training/ certification in-line with available vacancies. vi. Skill test will be conducted and placement will be provided to fill all vacancies within the time period. vii. Selection and placement of candidates will be based on skill test, interview and pre-employment medical check-up viii. Selected candidates will be provided with necessary vocational training to enhance their skill/ knowledge. 																					
12	The Project Proponent needs to submit the breakup of the Project Cost with proper estimation. PP also needs to submit the revised actionable EMP component wise	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the total cost of the project is Rs.44.905 crores and also submitted the breakup of the project cost as given under: -</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Rs in Crores</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Machinery Cost</td> <td>3.755</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Land Already Purchased</td> <td>28.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Land To Be Purchased</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">TOTAL</td> <td>44.905</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							S.No	Description	Rs in Crores	1	Machinery Cost	3.755	2	Land Already Purchased	28.15	3	Land To Be Purchased	13	TOTAL		44.905
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	<p>for all components with capital investment and recurring expenses over a period of life of mine.</p>	<p>Breakup of Machinery Cost are as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type</th> <th>No s</th> <th>Capacit y</th> <th>Make</th> <th>Motive Power</th> <th>Price (Rs.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Hydraulic ExcavatorEx-200</td> <td>1</td> <td>1.2 cu.m</td> <td>L& T Komatso/ Tata Hitachi</td> <td>Diesel</td> <td>6016949</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Crawler Mounted</td> <td>1</td> <td>115</td> <td>Atlas Capco</td> <td>Diesel</td> <td>6500000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rear Dump</td> <td>4</td> <td>35 MT</td> <td>Ashok Leyland</td> <td>Diesel</td> <td>18606504</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Water Tanker</td> <td>1</td> <td>12000 Ltrs</td> <td>Ashok Leyland</td> <td>Diesel</td> <td>3272350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Explosive Van</td> <td>1</td> <td>10 MT</td> <td>Ashok Leyland</td> <td>Diesel</td> <td>2807450</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dewatering Pump</td> <td>1</td> <td>100 cu.m/hr</td> <td>Lubit Kirloskar</td> <td>Electric al</td> <td>353900</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5">TOTAL</td> <td>37557153</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>PP also submitted the Environmental Management Plan as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activities</th> <th>Capital cost (Rs.Lakhs)</th> <th>Recurring cost (Lakhs up to lease period - 2050)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Dust Suppression Measures</td> <td>35.0</td> <td>71.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environmental Monitoring</td> <td>25.0</td> <td>313</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenbelt development</td> <td>185</td> <td>137</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Occupational Health Check up</td> <td>5.0</td> <td>31.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rainwater Harvesting Structures</td> <td>5.0</td> <td>27.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Retaining wall</td> <td>20.3</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pit fencing</td> <td>6.77</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wild Life Conservation Plan</td> <td>10</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total (Lakhs)</td> <td>292.07</td> <td>580.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type	No s	Capacit y	Make	Motive Power	Price (Rs.)	Hydraulic ExcavatorEx-200	1	1.2 cu.m	L& T Komatso/ Tata Hitachi	Diesel	6016949	Crawler Mounted	1	115	Atlas Capco	Diesel	6500000	Rear Dump	4	35 MT	Ashok Leyland	Diesel	18606504	Water Tanker	1	12000 Ltrs	Ashok Leyland	Diesel	3272350	Explosive Van	1	10 MT	Ashok Leyland	Diesel	2807450	Dewatering Pump	1	100 cu.m/hr	Lubit Kirloskar	Electric al	353900	TOTAL					37557153	Activities	Capital cost (Rs.Lakhs)	Recurring cost (Lakhs up to lease period - 2050)	Dust Suppression Measures	35.0	71.0	Environmental Monitoring	25.0	313	Greenbelt development	185	137	Occupational Health Check up	5.0	31.7	Rainwater Harvesting Structures	5.0	27.9	Retaining wall	20.3	-	Pit fencing	6.77	-	Wild Life Conservation Plan	10	-	Total (Lakhs)	292.07	580.6
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13	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the conservation plan for Black buck by mentioning the details of black buck population and the measures taken to prevent the road accidents in the study area.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that Wildlife conservation plan for black buck has been already covered in the approved Wildlife conservation plan by an approved and expert consultant (Retd. Officials from Wild life conservation department). The same has been already implemented.</p> <p>Project Proponent submitted that as per the advice of the Committee, PP will provide the required support to Forest Department for conduct of population for count of scheduled 1 species and for the same an amount of Rs 10 lakhs has been allocated.</p> <p>A chain link fencing (3.3 Km Length) will be erected in phased manner within two years all along the lease boundary near roads and villages towards protection and safety of Schedule-I species and protection from</p>																																																																														

		feral dog's.
14	The Project Proponent needs to submit the list of Schedule – I species present in the study area duly authenticated by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden and the status of National Park/Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve/Tiger Reserve/Elephant Reserve/any other Reserve, Habitat for migratory birds, Corridor for animals within 10 km of the study area.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that as per the Approved Wildlife Conservation Plan, following Schedule I species are found within 10 km radius from the proposed project area (Kanakadripalli Limestone Mine Lease area)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blackbuck 2. Peafowl. <p>PP also submitted that two Schedule – I fauna are indicated in page no 27 of Chapter-5 in Approved Wild Life Conservation Plan and as certified by the PCCF.</p> <p>PP reported that there is no National Park/Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve/Tiger Reserve/Elephant Reserve/any other Reserve Habitat for migratory birds, Corridor for animals within 10 km of the study area as per Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, vide letter no. PCCF-15030/2/2018/ FCASEC/PCCF/FCA-2, dated. 04.11.2019.</p>
15	The EAC noted that there are old pits existing in the mine lease area. Hence, the Project Proponent needs to submit the letter from the Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh 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 PP (M/s The Ramco Cements Ltd) or not?	The Project Proponent submitted that the Department of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has submitted the following clarification to the MoEF&CC vide Lr.No. 1306239/R4-1/2018, dated. 04.06.2018 stating that the M/s Ramco Cements Ltd., has not started mining operations and not done any mining in the subject mining lease area, old abundant pits falling in the subject area done by the local villagers for their livelihood since long.
16	The Project Proponent needs to submit the	The Project Proponent submitted the possession certificate has been obtained from the Revenue

	<p>Possession Certificate from the Revenue Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. The Project Proponent needs to submit the timeline for acquiring the remaining area of 40.25 ha.</p>	<p>Department, (Tahsildar) Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide Lr No. Rc.A.307/2022 and Dated. 07.09.2022 stating that out of the above total extent of 435.24 ha, Govt. land consists of 16.16 ha and Patta land consists of 419.08 ha. Against the above patta lands, M/s The Ramco Cements Limited have purchased 378.833 ha and they are in possession of these lands.</p> <p>PP also submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 08.09.2022 stating that the remaining area of 40.247 ha of patta land will be purchased within a period of one year from the grant of the EC.</p>
17	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for providing the check dams in the nearby Villages along with the timeline and budget as committed by the Project proponent during the EAC meeting. PP also needs to submit the measures taken for protection of two second order seasonal streams (nalas) are passing adjacent to the mining lease area which joins mada vagu near Kalvatata village</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that two check dams are proposed in Kanakadripalli Village for recharging of the Ground water and desilting. The construction of check dams will be completed in one year at a cost of Rs. 2 Lakhs each.</p> <p>PP reported that two second order seasonal streams (nalas) are passing adjacent to the mining lease area and join mada vagu near kalvatata village. During the course of mining these streams will not be disturbed and safety zone of 50 m on either side of the nalas will be left and greenbelt will be developed. The silt free water will be connected to the drain outside the mining lease area for natural flow. An area of 24.29 Ha will be developed under greenbelt all along the safety zone, about 36,435 saplings will be planted.</p>
18	<p>The Project Proponent needs to mention the validity of the permission obtained from Water Resources Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh for utilization of 2500 KLD of surface water from Owk Reservoir vide letter dated</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that Water Resource Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh has granted permission vide letter no EE/SRBC Divn. No.3/owk/IWS/186M Dated 27.05.2019 for drawl of 0.0322 TMC water per year (2500KLD) from owk reservoir on temporary basis from the industrial reserved quota of owk reservoir at present and on completion of Mettupalli reservoir, water shall be allocated on permanent basis in future. Therefore, it is submitted that allocation of water from the Mettupalli reservoir would be in permanent nature, hence,</p>

	27.05.2019.	validity of permission in this regard may not arise.																									
19	Details of deployment of Mining equipment in the mines needs to be looked into.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the details of deployment of mining equipment as given below. PP proposed to use 35 MT Tippers instead of 25 MT tippers as suggested by EAC.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No</th> <th>Type</th> <th>Nos.</th> <th>Dia of hole (mm)</th> <th>Motor Power</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Hydraulic excavator</td> <td>2</td> <td>1.5 m³</td> <td>Diesel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Tippers</td> <td>10</td> <td>35 MT</td> <td>Diesel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Water tanker</td> <td>1</td> <td>12,000 It</td> <td>Diesel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Dewatering pump</td> <td>2</td> <td>115 m³/hr</td> <td>Diesel/Electrical</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S.No	Type	Nos.	Dia of hole (mm)	Motor Power	1	Hydraulic excavator	2	1.5 m ³	Diesel	2	Tippers	10	35 MT	Diesel	3	Water tanker	1	12,000 It	Diesel	4	Dewatering pump	2	115 m ³ /hr	Diesel/Electrical
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3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC deliberated on the additional details submitted by the Project Proponent. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the proposed Limestone production is 0.10 MTPA i.e., about 300 TPD. There are total four mines in the vicinity of the Cement plant and two mines have already obtained the Environmental Clearance (EC). The proposals of EC for other two mines are under process. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that based on detailed chemical analysis of all these four mining leases, it was observed that five different grades of Limestone are found in all these four mining leases. Around 85% of reserves are in the range of high grade and cement grade and for manufacture of cement atleast 15% of low & very low-grade limestone is required to blend. The instant mine is having Low grade and silicious/very low-grade limestone. The requirement of raw mix design is 55% of high grade limestone, 20% of cement grade, 10% of low grade and 8% of silicious/very low-grade limestone. Further, PP submitted that all the four mining leases are to be operated simultaneously in order to utilize all the available grades for conservation of mineral and increase the life of the mine towards zero waste mining. The EAC was of the view that the low grade limestone is also available in other operating mines and just for a smaller production capacity why this instant mine is required to open and the EAC opined that the justification is still not convincing. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that as per Section 4A, Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, the State Govt. vide order dated 01.03.2022 has directed the Project Proponent for establishment of the cement plant and commencement of mining operations within 11.04.2023. The EAC was of the view of that PP has prolonged the opening of mine since 1998 (grant of mine lease by State Government) and unnecessary blocked the natural resources. If in case, PP fails to justify the observations of EAC, State Government may be take back the lease or PP shall surrender the lease due to failing of operations of mine. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the huge investment has been made towards establishment of cement plant and for commencement of mining operations and the production will be enhanced in the upcoming years and the

capacity will not be limited. The construction of Pvt. Railway siding is also under process. Also, there is a demand in the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu and in view of this it is necessary to operate this instant mine.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the maximum daily production is 300 TPD and it is proposed to use 35 MT of Tippers for transportation and it will be approximately 1 trip/hr. The limestone will be transported to the crusher located at Chintalayapalli Limestone mine of M/s The Ramco Cements Ltd. initially through public road and thereafter by dedicated company own corridor road which is about 4.08 km from mine lease area and then to the Cement plant through 5.33 km proposed conveyor belt. Even if the lowest capacity of the crusher will be installed, it will operate for a period of maximum 45 minutes only. Hence, installation of dedicated crusher with conveyor belt at Kanakadripalli mine for 0.10 MTPA limestone production rated capacity is not feasible and economically viable. The EAC was of the view that the without the baseline information and real-time data, justification is not acceptable. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the dedicated crusher will be put up in the enhancement proposal. The EAC was of the view that the when the crusher will be in place in enhancement proposal then why not in the present proposal? The EAC also asked the Project Proponent when will be the enhancement proposal will be put up? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the expansion proposal will be in place after 2 years and it will cost Rs 240 Cr for placing the crusher. The EAC was of the view that the costing is much higher just for laying it for 5-6 km. The EAC opined that the information/data needs to be authenticated with detailed study.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that an area of 17.67 ha area will be utilized at the end of the conceptual plan period (i.e, 08.08.2050) out of total mine lease area of 435.24 ha with the approved present rated capacity and an area of 377.01 ha will be broken at the end of 882.8 years (i.e 2905). The EAC was of the view that when PP is utilizing such a small area till the year 2050, why the remaining area shall not be surrendered. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the after expansion, the production will increase and the area utilization shall vary and there is no intention for surrendering the mine lease area. PP also informed that the Approval of Mining Plan is restricted to 0.1 MTPA. The EAC observed that the Mining Plan does not indicate stage wise plan for expansion. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to submit the stage wise plan for expansion along with life of the mine and the utilization of the area stage wise. The Mining Plan needs to be revised based on the revised production.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the budget of public hearing has been revised from Rs 70.90 Lakhs to Rs 82.0 Lakhs over a period of three years. PP also informed the EAC that the budget of the EMP has been revised from Rs 292.07 Lakhs to Rs 302.07 Lakhs. The EAC observed that in the ADS reply submitted by the PP it was Rs. 292.07 Lakhs and in the presentation it is Rs. 302.07

Lakhs. The EAC also observed that the contents in the presentation are changed after sending mail to the EAC. The EAC warned the Consultant for changing the contents in the final presentation after sending the mail to the EAC and for presenting a different figure before the EAC. Based on the above discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The Project Proponent needs to submit the phase wise plan for enhancement proposal along with timeline. PP shall also indicate the life of the mine and the area of utilization at different phases of expansion. The Project Proponent is required to revise the Mining Plan based on enhanced production.
- ii. The Project Proponent shall submit the plan of action for utilizing the area of ~351.79 ha (not proposed for mining as of now) in mine lease area.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed techno economic feasibility report for placing the crusher along with the conveyor belt.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the revised EMP budget from Rs. 292.07 Lakhs to Rs. 302.07 Lakhs in the Parivesh portal.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for switching over the diesel operating vehicles to electric/CNG.

1.2 Nayanapalli Limestone mine of M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited (TRCL) for mining of Limestone with proposed production capacity of 2.70 MTPA with Total excavation of 2.911 MTPA (Limestone: 2.70 MTPA + Top Soil: 0.211 MTPA) in the mine lease area of 735.72 ha, located at Kolimigundla and Petnikota Villages, Kolimigundla Mandal, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh – [Proposal No: IA/AP/MIN/230981/2021 dated 28.07.2022, F.No. J-11015/95/2017.IA-II(M); Consultant: B.S. Envi Tech Pvt. Ltd] – Reconsideration of Environmental Clearance (EC)

The instant proposal is for mining of Limestone in Nayanapalli Limestone mine of M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited (TRCL) for mining of Limestone with proposed production capacity of 2.70 MTPA with Total excavation of 2.911 MTPA (Limestone: 2.70 MTPA + Top Soil: 0.211 MTPA) in the mine lease area of 735.72 ha, located at Kolimigundla and Petnikota Villages, Kolimigundla Mandal, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh.

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

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 15°04'51.24875"N - 15°06'44.36631"N and Longitude: 78°03'35.27704"E - 78°06'23.60471"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 57I/4 and falls in Seismic Zone-II.

- ii. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 and falls under Category “A” as the mining lease area is greater than 250ha and appraised at the Central level.
- iii. The proposal was earlier considered in the EAC (Non-Coal Mining) Meeting held during 16th - 18th August, 2022 wherein the EAC deferred the proposal for want of requisite information. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 21.09.2022 in Parivesh and accordingly, the proposal was reconsidered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) held during 18-20, October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC, compliance of observation of EAC made by Project Proponent, are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent
1	The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed chemical analysis carried out for all these four mines with a proper justification that why there is a need to open this instant mine when two mines are already operating in that area.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the Limestone required is mainly for captive purpose for making cement. Quality control of feed limestone is very important while feeding different grades of limestone in the manufacturing process. Hence, different grades of limestone required which is available in four mining leases to blend and achieve the desired quality.</p> <p>PP also submitted the detailed chemical analysis of all the four mining leases and it is revealed that predominantly around 85% of reserves are in the range of high grade and cement grade. The raw mix design for manufacture of cement in this plant demands a need for at least 18 -20 % of low & very low-grade limestone. In order to bring to the feedable quality in line with the desired raw mix, it is required to blend Low grade and silicious/ very low-grade limestone available from Kanakadripalle and Nayanapalle limestone. It is also shown that percentage of low grade and siliceous limestone is comparatively more from Kanakadripalle and Nayanapalle mining leases only.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that all the four mining leases are to be operated simultaneously in order to utilize all the available grades for conservation of mineral and increase the life of the mine towards zero waste mining. Life of the Mine is around 85.18 years @ 2.70 MTPA production. However, the production capacity will be enhanced after expansion of cement plant capacity in near future. Therefore, it is necessary to commence the mining operations at the earliest</p>

		before 11.04.2023 after obtaining the required statutory clearances like Environmental Clearance, Consent to Establishment and Consent to Operate, failing which the plant will suffer for the required quality blend of Limestone. Hence, it is inevitable to open this instant mine simultaneously along with other two operating mines.																																			
2	The Project Proponent needs to submit the present status of the mine lease from the State Government with specific reference to Section 4A, Termination of prospecting licences or mining leases of The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.	The Project Proponent submitted that Industries & Commerce (M-III) Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide Memo No. INC01-MG0MAJM/43/2021- M-III Dated. 01.03.2022 has granted extension of time for a period of one year w.e.f, 12.04.2022 for establishment of the cement plant and commencement of mining operations in respect of Nayanapalli Limestone Mine (735.720 Ha) for the period upto i.e., 11.04.2023 as per Ministry of Mines order dated 14.10.2021 and under rule 20(6) of Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydrocarbons Energy Mineral) Concession (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2021 dated 02.11.2021.																																			
3	The Project Proponent submitted that the maximum value of PM ₁₀ is 57.3 µg/m ³ and 98 Percentile Value is of PM ₁₀ is 56.2 µg/m ³ and whereas Project Proponent has carried out Air Quality modeling for 98 Percentile Value. Hence,	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the cumulative air quality modeling was carried out for all the present and proposed expansion scenario of all industries in the vicinity. Information was obtained on existing and proposed expansion of the respective plants.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Particulars</th> <th>(PM₁₀)</th> <th>(PM_{2.5})</th> <th>(SO₂)</th> <th>(NO₂)</th> <th>(CO)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>µg/m³</th> <th>µg/m³</th> <th>µg/m³</th> <th>µg/m³</th> <th>µg/m³</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="4">24-Hourly Concentrations</td> <td>8 -Hourly Concentrations</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Baseline concentration, max</td> <td>57.3</td> <td>28.4</td> <td>13.3</td> <td>14.3</td> <td>1144</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Predicted Ground level Concentration (Max)</td> <td>11.4</td> <td>4.3</td> <td>0.13</td> <td>6.45</td> <td>124.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Overall Scenario</td> <td>68.7 {100}</td> <td>32.7 (60)</td> <td>13.43 {80}</td> <td>20.75 {80}</td> <td>1268.97 {2000}</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Particulars	(PM ₁₀)	(PM _{2.5})	(SO ₂)	(NO ₂)	(CO)	µg/m ³	µg/m ³	µg/m ³	µg/m ³	µg/m ³		24-Hourly Concentrations				8 -Hourly Concentrations	Baseline concentration, max	57.3	28.4	13.3	14.3	1144	Predicted Ground level Concentration (Max)	11.4	4.3	0.13	6.45	124.97	Overall Scenario	68.7 {100}	32.7 (60)	13.43 {80}	20.75 {80}	1268.97 {2000}
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	<p>the Project Proponent needs to carry out the air quality modeling for worst case scenario (max.value) for all the parameters.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for installing crusher in the Nayanapalli Limestone mine and convey crushed limestone to the cement plant of The M/s Ramco cements Ltd by installing conveyor belt from mines to cement plant conveyor belt along with the timeline.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that one crusher @1800 TPH is already installed at plant location, which is 3.5 km from this mine. PP agreed to commission a crusher and conveyor belt for our chintalayapalle Limestone mine which is located at a distance of 6 kms from the Plant. Installation of another dedicated crusher with conveyor belt exclusively at Nayanapalli Limestone Mine for 2.70 MTPA limestone production capacity within 3.5 km distance from the Cement Plant, is not feasible and economically not viable. However, all protective measures governing safety and environmental measures will be adhered towards ensuring safety during the transport of Limestone in our private road.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that in this proposed interim road for transportation of limestone from Nayanapalli Mine to Crusher located at Cement plant, the following measures will be ensured:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Proper laying and maintenance of the road. ii. Frequent dust sprinkling using mobile water sprinkler to control fugitive emission. iii. Covering loaded transport vehicles with tarpaulin during transportation to avoid spillage and generation of dust. iv. Transport of limestone as per the permissible quantity only v. Creating avenue plantation along the transport road. vi. Installation of speed breaker at vulnerable points for speed control. vii. The road crossings will be provided with the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Posting of traffic guard at crossing area for control of traffic. b. Installation of traffic signal at road crossing. c. Providing good illumination facility on either side of

		<p>the road at road crossing.</p> <p>d. Installation of signal all along the road.</p> <p>e. Installation of speed breaker for speed control.</p> <p>viii. Road Signs:</p> <p>a. As per the applicability and requirement, road signs will be placed all along the road in order to guide the road user to traverse safely.</p> <p>b. A combination of road signs like Mandatory – Regulatory signs, Cautionary-Warning signs and Informatory signs will be installed.</p> <p>ix. Due to regular transportation of limestone transport trucks in this road, there may be some gas emission as a result of emission of SO₂, NO_x, CO etc., from transport trucks plying regularly in this road. As far as impact is concerned, the gaseous emissions like SO₂, NO_x & CO are controlled from the source itself by using very low sulphur content fuel, using advanced diesel engines to abate NO_x & CO emission from the construction and transport vehicles & equipments and no adverse impact on this front is envisaged during transportation operations. (BS-6 engine model new vehicles will be engaged for transportation of limestone which reduces approximate 70% of the emissions compare to previous BS-4 engine model).</p> <p>x. For preservation of environment strict enforcement of management schemes and regular air quality monitoring for taking corrective actions, will be undertaken.</p> <p>xi. Emerging technologies such as EV's will be explored in the future to reduce vehicle pollution and implemented appropriately.</p>
5	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed measures taken for protection of Villages such as Nayanipalle Village (0.03 km, S), Petnikota Village (0.31</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the following mitigation measures will be taken during mining operations</p> <p>i. 7.5m barrier zone with thick plantation will be carried out all along the mining lease boundary. A 50m thick plantation barrier zone will be made adjacent to Nayanipalle, Petnikota and Kolimigundla villages.</p> <p>ii. A 50m thick plantation barrier zone will be made in our mining lease boundary adjacent to peddavanka as a part of protection to Pedda Vanka</p> <p>iii. Safe zone will be left for the habitation as stipulated by DGMS norms.</p> <p>iv. All safety precautions specified by DGMS will be</p>

	<p>km, SSW) and Kolimigundla Village (0.39km, SE) which are found in the close proximity of the mine lease area. PP also needs to submit the measures taken for protection of Pedda Vanka which is flowing adjacent to the mine lease area.</p>	<p>followed during blasting. A safe code of practice for drilling and blasting will be made and adhered to as per DGMS guidelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. Control Blasting Techniques like Bottom initiation, Adequate stemming, Noiseless trunkline delays will be practiced in this area. vi. All safety precautions will be adhered to as per Mines Regulation No 162 to 170 as per MMR,1961 during drilling and blasting. vii. Prior approval from DGMS will be obtained to carry out mining operations within danger zone as per MMR, 1961. <p>The Project Proponent reported that two seasonal nallas originating adjacent to the mining lease area flow towards southern direction and join Pedda vanka and Mada Vagu which are active during rainy season. During the course of mining these streams will not be disturbed and safety zone of 50 m on either side of the nallas will be provided and greenbelt will be developed. The silt free water will be connected to the drain outside the mining lease area for natural flow.</p>																																	
<p>6</p>	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the design of blasting of 9000 TPD in phases.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the blasting plan involves the following considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Annual Production: 2.7MT ii. Daily Production: 9000 Tonnes iii. Bench Height: 8m iv. Limestone Density: 2.5T/m v. Hole diameter :114mm to 150mm <p>PP proposed two blast designs with 115 mm dia and 150 mm dia to be adopted for excavation of limestone at this mine as below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Particulars</th> <th>Case-1: Using 114mm drill holes</th> <th>Case-2: Using 150mm drill holes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Hole Diameter</td> <td>114mm</td> <td>150mm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burden</td> <td>3.0m</td> <td>6.0m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spacing</td> <td>4.5m</td> <td>8.0m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No. of holes</td> <td>56</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bench height</td> <td>8.0m</td> <td>8.0m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drill depth</td> <td>8.3m Including sub drilling</td> <td>8.3 m Including sub drilling</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charging Column</td> <td>5.3m</td> <td>5.3m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total charge per hole</td> <td>40kg</td> <td>112kg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total charge</td> <td>2240kg</td> <td>3360kg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charge factor</td> <td>6.75T/kg</td> <td>8.57T/kg</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Particulars	Case-1: Using 114mm drill holes	Case-2: Using 150mm drill holes	Hole Diameter	114mm	150mm	Burden	3.0m	6.0m	Spacing	4.5m	8.0m	No. of holes	56	30	Bench height	8.0m	8.0m	Drill depth	8.3m Including sub drilling	8.3 m Including sub drilling	Charging Column	5.3m	5.3m	Total charge per hole	40kg	112kg	Total charge	2240kg	3360kg	Charge factor	6.75T/kg	8.57T/kg
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		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Yield per meter</td> <td>33.75Tonnes</td> <td>120Tonnes</td> </tr> </table> <p>Further, PP submitted that Phase - I of the site-specific ground vibration study has been already carried out by National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM), Bengaluru and a report of the same has been submitted to MoEF&CC, New Delhi. From this study, NIRM has predicted that the maximum charge proposed in both the cases will restrict the peak particle velocity at habitation to less than 2mm/sec which is well below the actual permissible limits of 5mm /sec. Phase-II of The site-specific ground vibration study will be carried out and implemented through National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM), Bengaluru once the mining operations commences involving study of actual vibrations in and around the areas.</p>	Yield per meter	33.75Tonnes	120Tonnes
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7	The Project Proponent needs to submit the strength of the primary school, school timings, time and frequency of blasting and measures taken to protect the school from blasting activity.	<p>The Project Proponent reported that the strength of the primary school is 240 nos. The school timings are 9.00 am to 4.00 pm with a lunch break of 1 hour between 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm. The school is located towards southern side at a distance of 150 m from the mining lease boundary. However, a safety distance of 300 m is left from the mining lease boundary adjacent to the village boundary. Hence, the mining activity is far away by distance of 450 m from school area. The following safety measures will be taken during mining operations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. 300m safe zone will be left for the habitation as per DGMS guidelines from the villages ii. Blasting will be carried out during the lunch break of the school 1.00 PM to 2.00 PM iii. Blasting will be carried out in accordance with the plan as recommended by NIRM and in accordance with guidelines of DGMS circular No 7 dated 29.08.1997 towards permissible peak particle velocity(mm/s) for structures not belonging to owner. iv. Control Blasting Techniques like Bottom initiation, Adequate stemming, Noiseless trunkline delays will be practiced in this area. v. All safety precautions specified by DGMS will be followed during blasting. vi. Prior approval from DGMS will be obtained to carry out mining operations within safety zone as per MMR, 1961. 			
8	The Project Proponent	The Project Proponent submitted that the budget of public hearing has been revised from Rs 65.80 Lakhs to Rs 76.20			

needs to revise the budget of public hearing to address the concerns raised during public hearing.	Lakhs over a period of three years. PP also submitted the various developmental activities proposed as per public hearing commitments along with action plan and budget as mentioned below:						
	S. No	Activity	22-23	23-24	24-25	Total	
	1	Providing RO plants with infrastructure	Physical Nos (2)	1	1		
			Village	Nayanapalli	Kolimigundla	-	-
			Budget Rs Lakhs	8.0	7.0	-	15.0
	2	Avenue plantation will be carried out along corridor road @ 3.5 km with 1400 saplings @ 5 m interval on both sides	Physical Nos (1400)	700	700		
			Village	Road connecting mine boundary to the crusher located in Cement plant			
			Budget Rs Lakhs	1.5	1.5	-	3.0
	3	Planation will be carried out in Nayanapalli Petnikota and Kolimigundla schools with 500 saplings.	Physical Nos (500)	500	-	-	
			Village	Nayanapalli, Petnikota & Kolimigundla	-	-	-
			Budget Rs Lakhs	1.5	-	-	1.5
	4	Library facilities will be provided in the schools (Purchasing a furniture and books for setting up a library in schools)	Physical Nos (3)	1	1	1	
			Village	Nayanapalli	Kolimigundla	Petnikota	
			Budget Rs Lakhs	2.0	1.5	1.5	5.0
	5	Construction of rain water harvesting pits in the schools-10 nos.	Physical Nos (10)	5	3	2	
			Village	Petinkota	Nayanapalli	Kolimigundla	
			Budget Rs Lakhs	3.0	1.5	1.20	5.70
	6	Women training – Tailoring and providing	Physical Nos (300)	100	100	100	
			Village	Kolimigundla	Nayanapalli	Petnikota	

Minutes of 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022

			sewing machines	Budget Rs Lakhs	4.0	3.0	3.0	10.0	
		7	Providing education tutor for poor students from 5 th class to intermediate	Physical Nos (3)	1	-	-		
				Village	Kolimigundla, Petnikota & Nayanapalli	-	-		
				Budget Rs Lakhs	8.0	-	-	8.0	
		8	Covid Treatment assistance (Providing Infrastructure Facilities Like Beds, Cots & Pillows For Govt Covid Care Centres)	Physical Nos (3)	1	1	1		
				Village	Kolimigundla	Petnikota	Nayanapalli		
				Budget Rs Lakhs	4.0	3.0	3.0	10.0	
		9	Development of school, class rooms with Wi Fi, Digital boards and distribution of tablets.	Physical Nos (50)	20	15	15		
				Village	Kolimigundla	Petnikota	Nayanapalli		
				Budget Rs Lakhs	6.0	6.0	6.0	18.0	
		Total (Lakhs)							76.20
9	The Project Proponent needs to distribute the budget allocated for purchasing of vehicles in the Wildlife Conservation Plan to the other parameters covered in the Wildlife Conservation Plan. "Project Proponent should also specifically indicate management	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that an amount of Rs. 142.00 Lakhs deposited through online payment vide UTR No. HDFCR52020021970150156, HDFC Bank cheque no. 04601 dated. 19.02.2020 in the account of Wildlife Conservation Projects & CSR (WLC&CSR) as per the demand request letter received from Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wild life Warden (AP) after approval of Wildlife conservation plan by Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wild life Warden (AP) Letter No. 9958/2018/ WL-2 dated 11.12.2019 & Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wild life Warden (AP) Letter No. 9958/ 2018/WL-2 dated. 14.02.2020. PP also submitted the proof of payment for the same.</p> <p>PP also submitted that as per the demand request letter No. Rc. No. 216/2018-H4, dated 27.02.2020 from Divisional Forest Office, Kurnool, requested to deposit an amount of Rs. 32,93,000/- towards (i) vehicle for the project implementing officer (ii) tractor and trailer mounted with a water tank along with pump set (iii) one vehicle for protection staff of the Forest department and RCL has deposited an amount of Rs. 33.00 Lakhs through online payment as per the demand raised by</p>							

	<p>interventions along with budget allocation for blackbuck population in the study area including rescue and rehabilitation of animals under stress due to any activity related with mining and protection from feral dogs where ever fencing is proposed by the PP, duly approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden”.</p>	<p>Divisional Forest Office, Kurnool for complying Wildlife conservation plan. PP also submitted the proof of payment for the same.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that the total commitment have been complied and submitted the letter No. RCL/WLCP/2019-20/04, dated. 20.02.2020 to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden. PP also submitted the acknowledgment copy of the same.</p> <p>Project Proponent submitted that as per the advice of the Committee, PP will provide the required support to Forest Department for conduct of population for count of scheduled 1 species and for the same an amount of Rs 10 lakhs has been allocated.</p> <p>A chain link fencing (8.5 km Length) will be erected in phased manner within two years all along the lease boundary near roads and villages towards protection and safety of Schedule-I species and protection from feral dog’s.</p>
<p>1 0</p>	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the employment scheme adopted for employment for 208 persons and 69 persons for this instant mine from the surrounding villages based on their educational qualification, eligibility criteria and skill during establishment of cement plant and mines.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the following scheme will be adopted to ensure employment for 208 persons in Factory and 69 persons in Mines area based on their qualification, experience skill and criteria. The action plan are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Identifying required positions for Factory and Mines respectively. ii. Calling applications from local villagers for employment against vacancies. iii. Screening of candidates will be done based on vacancies. iv. Identifying suitable candidates based on eligibility with respect to educational qualification, experience and skill. v. Encourage candidates to obtain all necessary skill/ knowledge/training/ certification in-line with available vacancies. vi. Skill test will be conducted and placement will be provided to fill all vacancies within the time period. vii. Selection and placement of candidates will be based on skill test, interview and pre-employment medical check-

		up viii. Selected candidates will be provided with necessary vocational training to enhance their skill/ knowledge.																																																																																	
1 1	The Project Proponent needs to submit the breakup of the Project Cost with proper estimation. PP also needs to submit the revised actionable EMP component wise for all components with capital investment and recurring expenses over a period of life of mine.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the total cost of the project is Rs.28.46 Crores and also PP submitted the breakup of the project cost as given under: -</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No</th> <th>DESCRIPTION</th> <th>Rs in Crores</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Machinery Cost</td> <td>9.22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Land Already Purchased</td> <td>9.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Land To Be Purchased</td> <td>9.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">TOTAL</td> <td>28.46</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Breakup of Machinery cost are as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No</th> <th>Type</th> <th>Nos.</th> <th>Dia of hole (mm)</th> <th>Motor Power</th> <th>Total Cost (Rs)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Crawler/tyre mounted</td> <td>1</td> <td>102mm to 115mm</td> <td>Diesel/Electric</td> <td>6150000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Hydraulic excavator</td> <td>2</td> <td>1.5 m3</td> <td>Diesel</td> <td>17200000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Tippers</td> <td>10</td> <td>35 MT</td> <td>Diesel</td> <td>62450,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Water tanker</td> <td>2</td> <td>10,000 lt</td> <td>Diesel</td> <td>5800000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Dewatering pump</td> <td>2</td> <td>115 m3/hr</td> <td>Diesel/Electrical</td> <td>568600</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5">Total</td> <td>92168600</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>PP also submitted the Environmental Management Plan as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activities</th> <th>Capital cost (Lakhs)</th> <th>Recurring cost (Lakhs - up to lease period 2050)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Dust Suppression Measures</td> <td>35.0</td> <td>74.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environmental Monitoring</td> <td>25.0</td> <td>372</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenbelt development (including Bench Plantation upto HFL)</td> <td>206.36</td> <td>198.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Occupational Health Check up</td> <td>5.0</td> <td>33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rainwater Harvesting Structures</td> <td>10</td> <td>40.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wild Life Conservation Plan</td> <td>10</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total (Lakhs)</td> <td>291.36</td> <td>718.17</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S.No	DESCRIPTION	Rs in Crores	1	Machinery Cost	9.22	2	Land Already Purchased	9.96	3	Land To Be Purchased	9.28	TOTAL		28.46	S.No	Type	Nos.	Dia of hole (mm)	Motor Power	Total Cost (Rs)	1	Crawler/tyre mounted	1	102mm to 115mm	Diesel/Electric	6150000	2	Hydraulic excavator	2	1.5 m3	Diesel	17200000	3	Tippers	10	35 MT	Diesel	62450,000	4	Water tanker	2	10,000 lt	Diesel	5800000	5	Dewatering pump	2	115 m3/hr	Diesel/Electrical	568600	Total					92168600	Activities	Capital cost (Lakhs)	Recurring cost (Lakhs - up to lease period 2050)	Dust Suppression Measures	35.0	74.0	Environmental Monitoring	25.0	372	Greenbelt development (including Bench Plantation upto HFL)	206.36	198.97	Occupational Health Check up	5.0	33	Rainwater Harvesting Structures	10	40.2	Wild Life Conservation Plan	10	-	Total (Lakhs)	291.36	718.17
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1 2	The EAC noted that there are old pits existing in the mine lease area. Hence, the	The Project Proponent submitted that the Department of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide Lr.No. 4271387/D10/2021, dated. 16.09.2022 has issued/submitted the clarification stating that the old existing abandoned pits in Nayanapalli Limestone Mine were made by the local villagers for their lively hood before grant of mining lease and no fresh																																																																																	

	<p>Project Proponent needs to submit the letter from the Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh 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 PP (M/s The Ramco Cements Ltd) or not?</p>	<p>working pits were observed except old abandoned pits made by the local villagers before grant of mining lease and the workings are not connected to the present lease holder / proponent</p>
<p>1 3</p>	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the list of Schedule – I species present in the study area duly authenticated by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden and the status of National Park/Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve/Tiger Reserve/Elepha</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that as per the Approved Wildlife Conservation Plan, following Schedule I species are found within 10 km radius from the proposed project area (Kanakadripalli Limestone Mine Lease area):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blackbuck 2. Peafowl. <p>PP also submitted that two Schedule – I fauna are indicated in page no 27 of Chapter-5 in Approved Wild Life Conservation Plan and as certified by the PCCF.</p> <p>PP reported that there is no National Park/Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve/Tiger Reserve/Elephant Reserve/any other Reserve Habitat for migratory birds, Corridor for animals within 10 km of the study area as per Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, vide letter no. Ref.EFS02/15030/2/2018-FCA-2./SEC/PCCF, dated. 11.05.2018.</p>

	nt Reserve/any other Reserve, Habitat for migratory birds, Corridor for animals within 10 km of the study area.	
1 4	The Project Proponent needs to submit the Possession Certificate from the Revenue Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. The Project Proponent needs to submit the timeline for acquiring the remaining area of 31.34 ha.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the possession certificate has been obtained from the Revenue Department, (Tahsildar) Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide Lr No. Rc.A.308/2022 dated. 07.09.2022 stating that out of the above total extent of 735.72 ha, Govt. land consists of 142.92 ha and Patta land consists of 592.80 ha. Against the above patta lands, M/s The Ramco Cements Limited have purchased 561.46 ha and they are in possession of these lands.</p> <p>PP also submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 08.09.2022 stating that the remaining area of 31.34 ha of patta land will be purchased within a period of one year from the grant of the EC.</p>
1 5	The Project Proponent needs to mention the validity of the permission obtained from Water Resources Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh for utilization of 2500 KLD of surface water from Owk Reservoir vide letter dated 27.05.2019.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that Water resource Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh has granted permission vide letter no EE/SRBC Divn. No.3/owk/IWS/186M Dated 27.05.2019 for drawl of 0.0322 TMC water per year (2500KLD) from owk reservoir on temporary basis from the industrial reserved quota of owk reservoir at present and on completion of Mettupalli reservoir, water shall be allocated on permanent basis in future. Therefore, it is submitted that allocation of water from the Mettupalli reservoir would be in permanent nature, hence, validity of permission in this regard may not arise.</p>

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC deliberated on the additional details submitted by the Project Proponent. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the proposed Limestone production is 2.7 MTPA i.e., about 9000 TPD. There are total four mines in the vicinity of the Cement plant and two mines have already obtained the Environmental Clearance (EC). The proposals of EC for other two mines are in under process. All these four mines comprises of reserves of about 520 Million Tonnes. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that based on detailed chemical analysis of all these four mining leases, it was observed that five different grades of Limestone are found in all these four mining leases. Around 85% of reserves are in the range of high grade and cement grade and for manufacture of cement atleast 15% of low & very low-grade limestone is required to blend. The instant mine is having Low grade and silicious/very low-grade limestone. The requirement of raw mix design is 55% of high grade limestone, 20% of cement grade, 10% of low grade and 8% of silicious/very low-grade limestone. Further, PP submitted that all the four mining leases are to be operated simultaneously in order to utilize all the available grades for conservation of mineral and increase the life of the mine towards zero waste mining. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that as per Section 4A, Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, the State Govt. vide order dated 01.03.2022 has directed the Project Proponent for establishment of the cement plant and commencement of mining operations within 11.04.2023. The EAC was of the view of that PP has prolonged the opening of mine since 2000 (grant of mine lease by State Government) and unnecessary blocked the natural resources. If in case, PP fails to justify the observations of EAC, State Government may be take back the lease or PP shall surrender the lease due to failing of operations of mine. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the huge investment has been made towards establishment of cement plant and for commencement of mining operations and the production will have enhanced in the upcoming years and the capacity will not be limited. The construction of Pvt. Railway siding is also under process. Also, there is a demand in the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu and in view of all these facts it is necessary to operate this instant mine.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the proposed production capacity is 2.70 MTPA. Installation of another dedicated crusher with conveyor belt exclusively at Nayanapalli Limestone mine within 3.5 km distance from the Cement plant, is not feasible and economically not viable. The EAC was of the view that the without the baseline information and real-time data, justification is not acceptable and information/data needs to be authenticated with detailed study. PP also informed the EAC that the crusher along with the conveyor belt will be in place during the expansion. The EAC opined that in the instant mine production capacity is higher and the impact of the transportation will also be more due to the frequent movement of tippers and accordingly PP shall bring out the action plan for placing the crusher

along with the conveyor belt along with the timeline to reduce the impact of the transportation.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the school is located towards southern side at a distance of 150 m from the mining lease boundary and a safety distance of 300 m is left from the mining lease boundary adjacent to the village boundary. The strength of the primary school is 240 nos. Blasting will be carried out during the lunch break of the school 1.00 PM to 2.00 PM. Blasting will be carried out in accordance with the plan as recommended by National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM) and in accordance with guidelines of DGMS circular No 7 dated 29.08.1997. PP also informed that the budget of public hearing has been revised from Rs. 65.80 Lakhs to Rs. 76.20 Lakhs over a period of three years. Based on the above discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed techno economic feasibility report for placing the crusher along with the conveyor belt.
- ii. The Project Proponent shall bring out the action plan with time line and allocated budget for placing the crusher along with the conveyor belt to reduce the impact of transportation by road.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the phase wise plan for enhancement proposal along with timeline. PP shall also indicate the life of the mine and the area of utilization at different phases of expansion.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for switching over the diesel operating vehicles to electric/CNG.
- v. PP shall submit the details of transportation through proposed railway siding which is under construction along with the time line of completion and allocated budget (for prospecting transportation of limestone to other states).

1.3 Padhiarka and Doliya Limestone mine of M/s Nirma Limited for mining of Limestone with production capacity of 1.5 MTPA in the mine lease area of 332.24 ha, located at Villages Padhiarka & Doliya, Tehsil: Mahuva, District: Bhavnagar, Gujarat - [F.No: J-11015/154/2016-IA.II(M), Proposal No: IA/GJ/MIN/400887/2022, Consultant: Min Mec Consultancy Pvt. Ltd] – Terms of Reference (ToR)

The proposal is for mining of Limestone in Padhiarka and Doliya Limestone mine of M/s Nirma Limited with production capacity of 1.5 MTPA in the mine lease

area of 332.24 ha, located at Villages Padhiarka & Doliya, Tehsil: Mahuva, District: Bhavnagar, Gujarat.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 21°00'42.8152" N to 21°02' 9.7579" N and Longitude 71°40'10.0006"E to 71°41'9.9043"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: F42R12 and falls in Seismic Zone-III.
- ii. 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.
- iii. The Project Proponent submitted that earlier Terms of Reference (ToR) was granted by the Ministry vide letter dated 03.01.2017 and extension of validity of ToR vide letter dated 17.03.2020 for the period upto 12.11.2021. The draft EIA report was submitted to the Gujarat Pollution Control Board and public hearing was scheduled on 16.12.2021. However, Public hearing has been postponed by Gujarat Pollution Control Board due to "unavoidable circumstances" vide Board letter no. GPCB/PH/2020-21/Bhavnagar-41/608749 dated 13.12.2021. Since the conduct of public hearing has got delayed, Project Proponent will not be able to submit the Final EIA report within the stipulated time of validity of ToR. Hence, the Project Proponent submitted the fresh proposal for grant of Terms of Reference.
- iv. The Project Proponent submitted that the mining lease was granted by Industries and Mines Department, Govt. of Gujarat vide Order no: MCR-102004-1945-CHH dated 08.01.2017 for Limestone and Marl to M/s Nirma Limited over an area of 333.24 ha for a period of 50 years for its captive consumption.
- v. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine lease area:

Private land	199.2246 ha
Government land	133.0154 ha
Total Mining lease area (MLA)	332.24 ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	No facilities outside the mine lease area. However crusher will be installed at company's Cement Plant.

vi. Details of Mining Plan:

Review and updation of Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)	Letter No.	File No.: 684(4)(1)/MP-349(195)/2021-22 GNR/1129
	Date	05.08.2021
	Mineral	Limestone
	Mine lease area	332.24 ha

	Validity	31.03.2026
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Opencast mechanized	
Geological resource	28.177 Million Tonnes	
Mineable reserve	10.707 Million Tonnes	
Life of mine	11 years	
Bench Height	6.0 m	
Bench Width	12-15m	
Individual bench slope	80-85°	
Overall pit slope	~ 45°	
Drilling/Blasting	Multi-row drilling and V-pattern drill holes for deep hole drilling and blasting. Parameters will be 6.6 m depth x 4.0 m spacing x 3.0 m burden. Slurry explosive -cap sensitive and non-cap sensitive.	
Transportation details	Internal haul road from mine face to crusher and by conveyor from crusher to the Cement plant adjacent to the mine lease/through dumpers/trucks to the Soda Ash Plant located at Kalatalav, Bhavnagar.	
Dumpers capacity	25 tonnes	
Overburden	Nil	

vii. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	41.0 KLD	Fresh water	3.0 KLD
		Treated water	38.0 KLD
Source	i. Fresh water source Narmada water pipeline/Water tanker ii. Water harvested within mine lease during rainy season iii. Treated water source- Reject water of RO /DM plant & Reject water of RO /DM plant (proposed at Cement plant)		
Permission	Permission for water withdrawal from Narmada water pipeline has been obtained vide letter No. GWIL/Bhavnagar/Ind.conn./1257 dated 04.06.2008.		

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

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Direction
Village	Madhiya	0.5 km, N
Town	Mahuva	9.5km, NE
Highway	NH-51 (Una-Mahuva highway)	0.7 km, N
Railway Station	Amrutvel	4.5 km, N
Water bodies	Arabian Sea Coast	0.5 km, S from the HTL

	Samdiyala Bandhara	2.3 km, WSW
	Bhambhali River	3.6 km, W
Monuments	Firangi Deval Sun Temple, at Kalsar, Bhavnagar	23.5 km, NE

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

Forest Area/Environmental Zone	Land/Protected Area/Environmental Sensitivity	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter/Remarks
Forest Land		No	Nil
National park		No	
Wildlife Sanctuary		No	
Eco-Sensitive Zone(ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area(ESA)		No	
Schedule-I species		Yes	Peafowl, Chinkara and Asiatic lion are the Schedule - I species observed in the study area.
Status of Wildlife Conservation Plan		Yes	Wildlife Conservation Plan has been prepared.

x. Green belt/plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation	18.50 Ha
Budget for green plant& plantation till the end of life of mine.	56.10 Lakhs
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	5.0
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	3.0
500 m safety zones of nearest habitation villages	-
Additional information (if any)	10.50 ha(Backfilled area - Govt. wasteland)

xi. The Project Proponent submitted that baseline study conducted during 1st March 2021 to 2nd June 2021 (Summer season).

xii. Rehabilitation & Resettlement:

R & R details	The Project Proponent submitted that there is no displacement proposed from the mining lease area as habitation of villages falls outside the mining lease area.
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xiii. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no litigation pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.

xiv. The Project Proponent submitted that the total project cost is Rs 29.0 Cr and about 55 persons will get employment.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC noted that the Project Proponent earlier obtained Terms of Reference vide letter dated 03.01.2017 and extension of validity of ToR vide letter dated 17.03.2020 for the period upto 12.11.2021 and the Project Proponent submitted the draft EIA report to the Gujarat Pollution Control Board and public hearing was scheduled on 16.12.2021. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Public hearing has been postponed by Gujarat Pollution Control Board due to “unavoidable circumstances” vide Board letter dated 13.12.2021 and since the conduct of public hearing has got delayed, Project Proponent will not be able to submit the Final EIA report within the stipulated time of validity of ToR and hence the fresh proposal for grant of Terms of Reference was submitted.

The EAC asked the Project Proponent to begin with the KML file indicating the site features in the vicinity of the mine lease area and well as within the 10 km radius of the study area. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the NH-51 (Una-Mahuva highway) is located at a distance of 0.7 km, N from the mine lease area. Nearest village is Madhiya located at a distance of 0.5 km, N from the mine lease area. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the total mine lease area is 332.24 ha, out of which 199.2246 ha is a Private land and 133.0154 ha is a Government land. PP also informed that the few encroachments in the Govt. land will be shifted and some part of the area in the Pvt. agricultural land will be purchased and will be compensated accordingly. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to submit the area to be acquired along with timeline. The EAC also asked the Project Proponent to carry out a detailed R&R plan with need based study and also to submit the cost benefit analysis study comparing to the production of agriculture and mineral production. The EAC also asked the Project Proponent to submit the action plan for returning the land back to the farmers along with the timeline.

The EAC asked the Project Proponent that what is the mine lease area at the time of grant of mining lease. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the total mine lease area is 616.7254 ha at the time of grant of mining lease during the year 2008 and after that the part of the mine lease area was surrendered and at present the total mine lease area is 333.24 ha. The lease deed was executed on 11.01.2017 for the reduced mine lease area over an area of 333.24 ha for mineral Limestone and Marl for a period of 50 years. The Project Proponent vide email dated 18.10.2022 has submitted the entire approved mining plan, letter of intent over a mine lease area of 616.7254 ha dated 15.02.2008 and grant of mining lease order dated 08.01.2017 for revised mine lease area of 333.24 ha.

The EAC asked the Project Proponent to show the environmental sensitivity in the study area of the 10 km radius in the KML file. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the rivers located in the vicinity of the mine lease area flows in to the Arabian Sea which is located at a distance of 0.5 km, S (from the HTL) from the mine lease area. The EAC asked about the status of the Coastal Regulation Zone(CRZ)? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the areas regard to CRZ have been

excluded while surrendering the part of the mine lease area and the mine lease area is falling outside the CRZ and hence no clearance required for CRZ. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to show the supporting document in this regard. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the detailed study has been carried out by Anna University, Chennai who has been authorized to carry out CRZ studies and the study mentioned that the instant mine lease area is falling outside the CRZ. The Project Proponent has shown the study done by Institute of Remote Sensing during the year 2019 for the combined three mine lease areas demarcating the HTL, LTL and CRZ area. The study mentioned that the mine lease area is away from the CRZ area. The EAC opined that the Ministry may seek comments from the CRZ Division in the Ministry in this regard. The EAC was of the view that Bhavnagar coast line is very sensitive w.r.t sea turtles and Schedule-I species such as Lion are visible in the vicinity of the study area. The EAC also asked about the turtle breeding sites in the study area. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the conservation will be taken care of in consultation with the Forest Department. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to show the other two mine lease areas in the KML file. The Project Proponent has shown the other two mine lease areas and informed the EAC that the two mine lease areas are green field project. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to carry out the cumulative impact assessment by considering these two mines and also other mines in the study area.

The EAC asked whether any court case is pending against the project? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that there is no court case/litigation pending against the project. PP also informed that there is no Wildlife Sanctuary, National Park and Critically Polluted Areas within the study area of 10km radius. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the baseline study has been conducted during 1st March- 2nd June, 2021 (Summer season).

The EAC noted that the Consultant, Min Mec Consultancy Pvt. Ltd is not having accreditation for sector 1(a) Mining of Minerals and whereas the instant proposal is for 1(a) Mining of Minerals. The Consultant informed that the accreditation of the sector 1(a) Mining of Minerals was kept on hold since the Vibration expert was not accredited. The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether they are aware of the accreditation of the Consultant or not? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that they are aware that the Consultant is not accredited for 1(a) Mining of Minerals. The EAC warned both the Project Proponent and the Consultant for hiding the facts before the EAC. The EAC was of the view that neither the Project Proponent nor the Consultant revealed the information until the EAC took clarification. The EAC opined that the Project Proponent/ Consultant should have informed before the start of the presentation. The Project Proponent apologized before the EAC and it will not be repeated in future. The EAC took a stringent view and asked the Ministry to take action against the Consultant for hiding the facts before the EAC. Thereafter, the EAC allowed the Project Proponent to give the presentation since the instant proposal is for grant of Terms of Reference (ToR).

Based on the above discussions held, the EAC **recommended** the proposal in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022 for grant of Terms of Reference (ToR) under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 for M/s Nirma Limited for mining of Limestone in Padhiarka and Doliya Limestone mine with production capacity of 1.5 MTPA in the mine lease area of 332.24 ha, located at Villages Padhiarka & Doliya, Tehsil: Mahuva, District: Bhavnagar, Gujarat 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 opined that the Ministry may seek comments from the CRZ Division in the Ministry that whether the mine lease area falling in the CRZ area or not.
- ii. In view of the agricultural land proposed under the mining lease area, the Project Proponent needs to submit the Cost Benefit analysis comparing the current agricultural production and annual turnover including the cost and the benefits drawn by the local villages vis-a-vis the mineral cost and beneficiaries.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for deploying the Ripper-Dozer combination to eliminate the drilling and blasting.
- iv. The Project Proponent shall ensure that the shallow pits up to depth of 4 m shall be refilled and reclaimed and given back to the farmers as agriculture land. Return all the proposed non-mining area to farmers/owners of the land. The mining plan, inter-alia, includes the above mentioned details with regard to pits and reclamation.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to submit the detailed measures to be taken for protection of turtle breeding sites and also needs to specifically address the movement of Lions and conservation in the Wildlife Conservation plan in consultation with the Forest Department.
- 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 and noise pollution. PP also needs to submit the breakup of total excavation in tonnes.
- vii. The Project Proponent needs to monitor the ambient air quality and noise level at the mine lease boundary, nearest village, 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 needs to carry out the cumulative impact assessment by considering all the mining activity including the transport scenario of the mines in the study area and should indicate the capacity of each mine considered for predication of air quality modeling. The control case and worst-case scenario needs to be demonstrated with controlling factor and GLCs values for all the pollutants needs to be clearly mentioned. The input parameters used for the modeling also needs to be submitted.
- ix. 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. PP need 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. PP also needs to submit the possession certificate and timeline for acquiring the land at the time of appraisal of EC.
- x. 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.
- xi. 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.
- xii. 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.
- xiii. 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.
- xiv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the documents related to part surrender of the mine lease area at the time of appraisal of EC.

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

1.4 Mining of Sand in Riverbed of Wardha River with production capacity of 1.14 MTPA (0.70 Mm³) in mine lease area of 327.84 ha, located at village Shivanichor (Chandrapur Taluka), Hadsati, Nandgaon, Visapur (Ballarpur Taluka), Dhidsi, Kadholi BK, Charli, Kolgaon (Rajura Taluka) of Chandrapur District, Maharashtra by Western Coalfields Limited - [File No. IA-J-11015/92/2021-IA-II(NCM); Proposal No. IA/MH/MIN/237600/2021] - Terms of Reference

The instant proposal is for grant of Terms of Reference for M/s Western Coalfields Limited for mining of Sand in Riverbed of Wardha River with production capacity of 1.14 MTPA (0.70 Mm³) in mine lease area of 327.84 ha, located at village Shivanichor (Chandrapur Taluka), Hadsati, Nandgaon, Visapur (Ballarpur Taluka), Dhidsi, Kadholi BK, Charli, Kolgaon (Rajura Taluka) of Chandrapur District, Maharashtra.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 19°50'12.64"N to 19°53'27.86"N and Longitude 79°15'16.07"E to 79°20'25.44"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 56 M/5 and falls in Seismic Zone-III.
- ii. 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.
- iii. The proposal was initially considered in the 42ndEAC meeting held during 30th November to 3rdDecember, 2021 wherein the Committee deferred the proposal due to want of requisite information. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 10.03.2022 in PARIVESH. Accordingly, the proposal was considered in the 48thEAC meeting held during 28thto 30th March, 2022. The Committee suggested the Ministry to seek advice from the policy division, MoEF&CC whether the operation of sand extraction needs to be treated as violation or not, since, it is mined out without CTO and EC. Therefore, the Committee deferred the proposal. The Comments were taken from IA Policy in the Ministry and are given as under: "NCM sector may take up the matter with Ministry of Mines and/or Indian Bureau of Mines to ascertain whether sand used for stowing in coal mines is to be treated as major mineral or not and thereby the implications of EIA Notification 1994/2006 as amended from time to time."
- iv. Accordingly, the Non-Coal Mining sector invited representative of Ministry of Mines and Indian Bureau of Mines to participate in 53rdEAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 28th - 29th June, 2022 to ascertain whether sand used for stowing in coal mines is to be treated as major mineral or not and

thereby the implications of EIA Notification 1994/2006 as amended from time to time. However, both the officials were not available due to pre-occupancy in official work. However, a representative of Indian Bureau of Mines, Shri Pankaj Kulshreshtha, telephonically informed the Committee that sand use for the purpose of stowing in underground coal mine is to be treated as major mineral. The Committee duly noted above said submission. The project proponent during the meeting also indicated that in the State of Maharashtra, CTO is not required. The Committee was of the view that project proponent may submit the document/letter from Maharashtra State Pollution Board stating that CTO is not required in the matter. Therefore, the Committee deferred the proposal. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 01.10.2022 in PARIVESH and accordingly the proposal was reconsidered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18th – 20th October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC and the compliance of observation of EAC made by the Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent
1	The Committee was of the view that project proponent may submit the document/letter from Maharashtra State Pollution Board stating that CTO is not required in the matter.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the letter Maharashtra Pollution Control Board vide letter dated 27.09.2022 stating that the Central Pollution Control Board has published modified directions regarding harmonization of classification of industries under Red/Orange/Green/White Categories vide letter dated 07.03.2016. As per classification of industries, activity of “Excavation of sand from the river bed (excluding manual excavation)” comes under Orange category at Sr.no. 4.</p> <p>Hence, it is mandatory to obtain consent for sand mining activity subject to condition of proposed sand mining @ more than 5 ha area and after obtaining Environmental Clearance from the competent authority. It is to inform you that, till date this office has not received any application for grant of consent to establish/operate for sand mining activity.</p>

- v. The Project proponent submitted that the mining lease was granted by the Dept. of Industries, Energy and Labour, Govt. of Maharashtra vide Order no. MMH1276/50844 (1210)/ IND-9 dated 20.08.1977 for a period of 20 years

over an area of 329.84 ha and Agreement was executed on 18.02.1978. The mining lease was renewed by Government of Maharashtra vide letter dated 9th May, 2000 for further 20 years with validity till 15th April, 2021. Further, PP submitted that as per the provision of MM(DR) Amendment Act, 2015, Section 8A(3) all mining lease granted before the commencement of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015 shall be deemed to have been granted for a period of fifty (50) years. Thus, mining lease for sand granted to Western Coalfields is deemed to be valid for fifty years from 18-02-1978 i.e upto 18-02-2028. An application for renewal of mining lease upto 18.02.2028 as per provisions of MM(DR) Amendment Act, 2015 has been made to state government on 15th December, 2020 by Project Proponent. It was desired by district administration to prepare fresh mining plan and obtain Environmental Clearance for the project in order to renew the mining lease.

- vi. The Project Proponent submitted that mining plan for sand mining was prepared and approved by Ministry of Coal vide its letter dated 22.01.2001. In order to renew the mining lease, District administration desired to prepare fresh mining plan. Accordingly, activities for preparation of fresh mining plan were initiated. The sand replenishment study was started by surveying the RL level in the riverbed during April-May, 2021 (pre-monsoon season). The second survey is proposed to be carried out in November-December, 2021 after receding of water in Wardha River in Post-monsoon season. The approved mining plan will be submitted along with the Final EIA-EMP report.
- vii. The Project Proponent submitted that it is proposed to excavate 0.70 Mm³ of sand from riverbed of Wardha River within ML area of 327.84 ha. Sand will be extracted upto maximum depth of 2.0 m. The sand extraction activities will not intersect the water table. It is proposed to follow the sustainable sand mining practices as detailed in the document issued by MoEF&CC "Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining" in January 2020. The replenishment study will be carried out as per the guidelines.
- viii. The Project Proponent submitted that the daily water demand is estimated to be 64.0 KLD. The domestic water demand will be 4.0 KLD. Rest 60.0 KLD will be utilised for dust suppression and plantation etc. The requirement of water will be fulfilled from the mine discharge water of coal mines of project proponent.
- ix. The Project Proponent reported that there is no forest land involved in the mine lease area. The ESZ of the Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve is located approx. 10.5 kms from the mine lease area in the north. Nearest Forest is Ballarshah Protected forest located at a distance of (3-4 kms) from the mine lease area. Many other seasonal nallah meet Wardha River within the study area.
- x. The Project Proponent reported that the production capacity of 1.50 Mm³ annually was proposed in the earlier approved mining plan. However, maximum annual production in past 20 years was 1.1 Mm³ in 2006-07. Total

13.92 Mm³ of sand was excavated from year 2001-02 to 2020-21. Thus, average sand production was 0.73 Mm³ in a year since approval of previous Mining Plan. The actual average sand production quantity is less than 50% of the production capacity proposed in the approved Mining Plan. PP submitted the affidavit in a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing no: XU 159497 dated 20.11.2021 to comply with all the statutory requirements and judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors.

- xi. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no land acquisition involved & no village shifting is to be carried out.
- xii. The Project Proponent submitted that there is no litigation pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.
- xiii. The Project Proponent submitted that the total project cost is Rs 20.14 Cr and about 94 persons will get employment.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC noted that the instant proposal is for reconsideration of Terms of Reference (ToR) for mining of Sand in Riverbed of Wardha River with production capacity of 1.14 MTPA (0.70 Mm³) in mine lease area of 327.84 ha. The EAC observed that the instant mine lease was valid upto 15th April, 2021 and as on date validity of the mine lease expired. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the application has been made to the State government on 15th December, 2020 for renewal of mining lease upto 18.02.2028 as per the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015 and it was desired to prepare fresh mining plan and obtain Environmental Clearance for the project in order to renew the mining lease. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that the State Govt. is denying to renew the mine lease and insisting to obtain Environmental Clearance (EC) first. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that as per "*Mineral (Mining by Government Company) Rules, 2015, All mining leases for minerals granted to a Government company or corporation before the date of commencement of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015 (10 of 2015), namely, the 12th January, 2015 shall be deemed to have been granted for a period of fifty years*". The representative of the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) has informed that as per Section 8A (3) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 2015 "*All mining leases granted before the commencement of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015 shall be deemed to have been granted for a period of fifty years*". The EAC was of the view that the valid mine lease document is the basis for considering the proposal for prescribing the Terms of Reference (ToR) and as the same is in question in the instant case. The EAC was of the view that there is no any valid mine lease letter for this instant mine from the concerned authority in this regard. The EAC also noted that the District Chandrapur falls under Critically Polluted Area (CPA).

The EAC noted that the mining of sand is minor mineral. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the sand mining will be used for stowing purpose in coal mine and as per the MMDR Act, 1957 and Rule 70 of the MCR 1960, the sand used for stowing purpose has been classified as a major mineral. The EAC also noted that the mining plan for sand mining was prepared and approved by Ministry of Coal vide letter dated 22.01.2001. Further, the EAC noted that the instant matter was referred to the IA Policy Division in the Ministry and the Policy Division opined that the "NCM sector may take up the matter with Ministry of Mines and/or Indian Bureau of Mines to ascertain whether sand used for stowing in coal mines is to be treated as major mineral or not and thereby the implications of EIA Notification 1994/2006 as amended from time to time". The representative of the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) was present during the EAC meeting. The representative of the IBM has informed that the sand used for stowing purpose in coal mine is classified as Major Mineral. The relevant extract of the clause (e) of Section 3 of MMDR Act, 1957 and rule 70 of the MCR, 1960 are reproduced below:

Clause (e) of Section 3 of MMDR Act, 1957:

"minor minerals" means building stones, gravel, ordinary clay, ordinary sand other than sand used for prescribed purposes and any other material which the Central Government may, by Notification in the Gazette of India declare to be a minor mineral;

Rule 70 of the MCR, 1960:

*Sand not be treated as minor mineral when used for certain purposes: -
Sand shall not be treated as a minor mineral when used for any of the following purposes, namely:-*

- (i) purposes of refractory and manufacture of ceramic;*
- (ii) metallurgical purposes;*
- (iii) optical purposes;*
- (iv) purposes of stowing in coal mines;***
- (v) for manufacture of silvicrete cement;*
- (vi) for manufacture of sodium silicate;*
- (vii) for manufacture of pottery and glass.*

The EAC was of the view that the sand is classified as a minor mineral as defined under MMDR Act, 1957 and whereas in the instant proposal the sand used for stowing purpose in coal mine has been classified as a major mineral as per the MMDR Act, 1957 clause 3 (e) and Rule 70 of the MCR 1960. The EAC asked the Ministry to get clarification from the Ministry of Mines that whether sand used for stowing in coal mines is to be treated as major mineral or not for appraisal.

The EAC asked the Project Proponent to show the certified production details. The Project Proponent informed the EAC the past production details is not certified by the Dept. of Geology and Mining and data available as per the records is that the sand was excavated from the year 2001-02 to 2020-21 and a total of 13.92 Mm³ of sand was excavated during this period. PP also informed the EAC that the production capacity of 1.50 Mm³ annually was proposed in the earlier approved mining plan. However, maximum annual production in past 20 years was 1.1 Mm³ in 2006-07. The EAC was of the view that the Project Proponent needs to submit the certified past production details from the Dept. of Geology and Mining. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that the Dept. of Geology and Mining Unit has issued a directive to the District Mining Office, Chandrapur vide letter dated 04.06.2021 to recover the 100% mineral value mined out from the lease area as penalty for the period 2001-2020 as the Project Proponent did not obtain Environmental Clearance. The EAC observed that the Project Proponent has mined out the mineral from the year 2001-02 to 2020 without obtaining Environmental Clearance (EC) and CTE/CTO. The EAC opined that the instant case attracts the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment dated 02.08.2017 in W.P.C 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common cause Vs Union India and violation of EIA Notification, 2006. The EAC also observed that the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board vide letter dated 27.09.2022 has mentioned that the Central Pollution Control Board has published modified directions regarding harmonization of classification of industries under Red/Orange/Green/ White Categories vide letter dated 07.03.2016. As per classification of industries, activity of *"Excavation of sand from the river bed (excluding manual excavation)"* comes under Orange category at Sr.no. 4. Hence, it is mandatory to obtain consent for sand mining activity subject to condition of proposed sand mining @ more than 5 ha area and after obtaining Environmental Clearance from the competent authority. It is to inform you that, till date this office has not received any application for grant of consent to establish/operate for sand mining activity". The EAC observed that in Form-1, PP has submitted that the proposal does not involve violation of EIA notification, 2006 which is contradictory. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to revise the Form-1 accordingly and also to submit the Annexure-III.

Thus, the EAC was of the view that the valid mine lease document is the basis for considering the proposal for prescribing the Terms of Reference (ToR) and as the same is in question in the instant case as the mine lease expired on 15.04.2021. The EAC was of the view that there is no valid mine lease document for this instant mine from the concerned authority in this regard. The EAC asked the Ministry to get clarification from the Ministry of Mines that whether sand used for stowing in coal mines is to be treated as major mineral or not for appraisal of grant of Environmental Clearance (EC). The EAC advised the Project Proponent to explore the possibility of utilizing the sand from the sand segregation plants instead of utilizing the sand from the Riverbed of Wardha River. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to submit the certified past production details from the Dept. of Geology

and Mining. The EAC observed that in Form-1, PP has submitted that the proposal does not involve violation of EIA notification, 2006 which is contradictory. The EAC opined that the instant case attracts the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment dated 02.08.2017 in W.P.C 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common Cause Vs Union India and violation of EIA Notification, 2006. The EAC asked the Ministry to take action against the Project Proponent under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to revise the Form-1 under Ministry's SOP dated 07.07.2021 and also to submit the Annexure-III details. Based on the above discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal.

Day 2: 19th October, 2022 (Wednesday)

2.1 Mining of 85,000 TPA of Sand, Bajri and Boulders in River Ton Lot No. 3/13 by M/s Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd. from the mining lease area 6.0 Ha, located at Village: Banshiwala, Tehsil: Vikashnagar, District: Dehradun, Uttarakhand - [F.No. J-11015/88/2013-IAII(M); Proposal No: IA/UK/MIN/18419/2013, Consultant: Grass Root Research & Creation India (P) Ltd.]- Reconsideration of EC

The instant proposal is for reconsideration of EC for mining of 85,000 TPA of Sand, Bajri and Boulders in River Ton Lot No. 3/13 by M/s Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd. from the mining lease area 6.0 Ha, located at Village: Banshiwala, Tehsil: Vikashnagar, District: Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 30°20'29.19" N to 30°20'20.58" N and Longitude: 77°53'33.35" E to 77°53'49.23" E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 53F14 and the proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals.
- ii. The instant proposal is considered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022 as per Ministry's OM dated 27.09.2022 wherein it is mentioned that "the proposals which have been considered/ appraised once by EAC either for TOR or EC, but final decision has not been taken, shall continue to be appraised at the Central level only, till final disposal for ToR/EC, even after the amendments in the EIA Notification are issued from to time regarding delegation of projects to SEIAAs".
- iii. The project was granted Terms of Reference (ToR) by the Ministry vide letter dated 16.07.2013 based on the recommendation of sectoral EAC meeting held during May 15th-17th, 2013.
- iv. The proposal was earlier considered in the sectoral EAC Meeting held on 25 - 27 August, 2015 and 21-22 June, 2018 and the EAC in its meeting held during 21-22 June, 2018 recommended the project for the grant of Environmental Clearance along with additional conditions as specific to the project with the

conditions as mentioned in Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines 2016, subject to submission of information and Ministry vide letter dated 11.07.2018 asked the Project Proponent to submit the same.

- v. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 26.10.2019 and the proposal was placed in the EAC meeting held during 22-24 June, 2020 wherein Project Proponent did not attend the meeting therefore Committee deferred the proposal. Project Proponent vide its letter No. 113/Dus/Paach-01(2019-2020) dated 28.08.2020 submitted the information online on 14.09.2020 and the proposal was considered in the EAC in its meeting held during 26-28 October, 2020 wherein the Committee noted that an expert from IIT-Roorkee, Dr Garg, accompanied the PP during the EAC meeting and detailed about replenishment study. After detailed deliberation the Committee is of the view that PP should re-submit the information after making necessary corrections and in the next EAC meeting the PP should accompany the expert from IIT-Roorkee, who has conducted the baseline survey and replenishment study. In addition to this impact arising due to cluster situation also needs to be accounted for in the study and propose necessary management plan, if any. The Committee therefore deferred the proposals and also asked the PP to submit the following information along with the information sought in the EAC meeting held on November 28, 2019. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 21.09.2022 and accordingly the proposal was reconsidered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18th – 20th October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC and the compliance of observation of EAC made by the Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent
1	A detailed study on Silt management covering its quantity, separation and deposition/dumping in the river bed or on the banks for plantations. PP also should do assessment of its impact on river ecology.	The Project Proponent submitted that as per the logical assessment of the production proposed by benching manner (one pre & post monsoon survey conducted by IITR), out of total evaluated reserve about 90% considered/assessed as saleable production from proposed mining lease and about 10% of total material has been considered as waste material and time to time fluctuating value of RBM quantity, i.e. low value material like silt/clay etc. which gets deposited as crust material on the bed profile, will be scrapped and carefully stored for depositing into the mine pits in the river bed or in the upper terraces earmarked for plantation purpose or may be

		<p>used for river bank protection work.</p> <p>Project Proponent also submitted that the mining of sand from within or near a river bed has a direct impact on the physico-chemical habitat characteristics. These characteristics include in stream roughness elements, depth, velocity, turbidity, sediment transport and stream discharge. Altering these habitat characteristics can have deleterious impacts on both in-stream biota and associated riparian habitat. The detrimental effects, if any, to biota resulting from bed material mining are caused by following: Alteration of flow patterns resulting from modification of the river bed, An excess of suspended sediment and damage to riparian vegetation and instream habitat. PP submitted the following mitigation measures will be adopted</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Project activity will be carried out only in the dry part of the riverbed. Hence, none of the project activities affect the water environment directly. ii. Further mining will be completely stopped during the monsoon seasons to allow the excavated area to regain its natural profile.
2	<p>The Committee deliberated the sections submitted by PP and noted that it is not clear from the section that till what lateral and depth extents the material will be excavated. Thus, the PP is required to submit the sections clearly marking the lateral and depth extents of present ground profile as well as proposed excavation profile at individual sections.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent reported the assessment of reserve for pre-monsoon and post-monsoon period.</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted the working length of the section during pre-monsoon period is 230m (Pre-Monsoon working length), during pre-monsoon two mineable beaches from 527m AMSL level to 525m AMSL will be evaluated/formed/mined. The mineable depth shall be 0.50m slicing depth within each bench. First Bench area is 10,723m² and Second Bench area is 12,020m².</p>

		<p>PP also submitted that the working length of the section during post-monsoon period is 532m AMSL (Post-Monsoon working length), during post-monsoon period there shall be three mineable beaches from 527.5m AMSL level to 523m AMSL evaluated/formed/mined. The mineable depth for the first & second bench shall be 1.0m slicing depth and for third bench, the depth shall be 1.5m slicing depth. First Bench area is 10,723m², Second Bench area is 22,980m², and Third Bench area is 9,952m².</p> <p>PP also submitted the L-section plan and surface plan for pre-monsoon and post monsoon season.</p>
3	<p>The PP needs to submit a database in structured tabulated form clearly mentioning the nomenclature of the section line, latitude and longitude of both the extents of section line, chianages and respective levels (RL, AMSL) of all the points taken on that section line.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the surface plan with grid nomenclature.</p>
4	<p>Thus with the help of existing ground profile and proposed extents of excavation considering the stipulations of lateral extents of sustainable sand mining guidelines, as mentioned above, The PP shall estimate the proposed quantum of excavation in tonnages with the help of Specific Gravity verified by the State DMG between every two consecutive sections. Such estimation shall be furnished by the PP in tabular form which includes the</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the proposed lease area belongs to category C area (plain area of district Dehradun) as per defined in Uttarakhand Government Notification No. 1033/VII-1/2015/146-Kha/2010, dated 31stJuly 2015. The Specific Gravity (Bulk Density) for RBM has been verified & fixed as 2.2. The total estimated Geological Reserve includes the nomenclature of section lines, extent of working depth, slicing area etc.,</p> <p>The Project Proponent also submitted the working length of the section during pre-monsoon period is 230m (Pre-Monsoon working length), during pre-monsoon two</p>

	<p>nomenclature of section lines, area proposed for excavation, distance between two consecutive section lines, volume, specific gravity, tonnage of the mineral, maximum depth extent from existing ground profile. Respective plans shall also be submitted clearly marking the area to be excavated. In addition to this a composite plan mentioning the above proposed excavation zones for the entire mine lease area also needs to be submitted. Thus PP needs to submit a plan clearly showing the area to be put in under excavation and no excavation zones. Respective KML files of such lateral extents of excavation and no excavation zone within ML shall also be submitted by the PP.</p>	<p>mineable beaches from 527m AMSL level to 525m AMSL will be evaluated/formed/mined. The mineable depth shall be 0.50m slicing depth within each bench. First Bench area is 10,723m² and Second Bench area is 12,020m². During post-monsoon period there shall be three mineable beaches from 527.5m AMSL level to 523m AMSL evaluated/formed/mined. The mineable depth for the first & second bench shall be 1.0m slicing depth and for third bench, the depth shall be 1.5m slicing depth. First Bench area is 10,723m², Second Bench area is 22,980m², and Third Bench area is 9,952m².</p> <p>PP submitted the surface plan and L section plan for pre-monsoon and post-monsoon season. PP also submitted the map overlapped in the KML showing the area under excavation and no excavation zones.</p>
5	<p>PP needs to submit a plan clearly mentioning the width of river and Bridges, lease boundaries, area left under safety zones as prescribed as per Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016 and 2020, as per statutory requirements of Hon'ble High Court.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that there are no bridges present within 250 meters on the upstream side and 500 meters on the downstream side. PP also submitted the plan showing width of river and lease boundaries, area left under safety zones.</p>
6	<p>PP has to submit the systematic design of dumps including dumplocation and its impact on ecosystem (Silt deposition).</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the dump generated during RBM mining in each pit will be stacked temporarily towards the bank side of working pit. Dumping slope will be kept 30° to 35°. All the quantities will be used before the commencement monsoon period.</p>
7	<p>PP needs to ascertain the</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the</p>

	<p>impact of transportation and details of transportation route viz. (length of the road, type of road, collection point (loading/unloading), no. of trips, capacity of the truck, no. of trucks, passing through the village or habitation) and mitigative measures to be taken for abatement of pollution due to transportation. The impacts study shall consider along with the other mine lease area also.</p>	<p>sand, bajri & boulder excavated from the lease area will be loaded directly into trucks and transported to the concerned market via village Banshiwala by an unmetalled road of about 260m and finally meets Chakrata Dehradun road by a metalled road having length of 450m and width of 8m. The length of the haul road is 0.71 Km. PP also submitted the surface plan showing the collection point. The mineral will be transported in the trucks and unloaded in the market as per demand.</p> <p>The Project Proponent reported that the traffic study has been conducted in Chakrata-Dehradun road. PP submitted that the other mines also transporting the excavated minerals via Chakrata-Dehradun road. PP has considered only the cumulative truck capacities from mines 3/13 Mine (Proposed) and 3/14 Mine (operational) which are 38 & 24 no. of trucks deployed/day with truck capacity of 10 Tonnes. PP has not considered the impact of non-operational mine (3/12). PP reported that the increase in PCU/day will be 372. The V/C ratio will remain same as LOS A which is "Excellent" at Chakrata-Dehradun road intersection, as per classification. Further, PP submitted that budget of Rs. 5 Lakhs has been earmarked for a period of 5 years for the maintenance of haul road under EMP budget. The proposed mining project will have insignificant effect on the traffic and proper management plan will further reduce the negative impacts.</p>
8	<p>PP has to mention the actual width of the green belt development as per the profile of the river.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that as per rule, per hectare plantation, may be planned after consultation with forest department and local administration but river bank side on safety zone is proposed as alternative zone for plantation activities</p>

		1769 m ² .
9	<p>PP has to give justification for selection of ambient air quality monitoring stations and PP needs to submit the air quality modeling based on the mining activity proposed and the cluster of the mines in the study area. The control case and worst case scenario needs to be demonstrated with controlling factor and GLCs values for all the pollutants needs to be mentioned clearly. The input parameters and mathematical equations along with the reference used for the modeling needs to be submitted to the Ministry.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the Air Quality monitoring station was selected based on the coverage factor analysis by using the Climatological Tables of observation in India (1981-2010), Indian Meteorological Department. As per wind rose diagram predominant wind direction is NE to SW and five locations have been considered covering downwind, upwind and crosswind direction.</p> <p>Project Proponent reported that dust particles generated due to various activities like Loading & Unloading of sand, Bajri and Transportation. Air quality modeling has been carried out by using AERMOD version 8.9.0 using area and line source. PP have considered the activity of excavation, loading, hauling and transportation for estimation of emission rate and prediction of air quality modeling. Proponent has taken 80 % as a controlling factor for area source and 70% for line source. Project Proponent submitted that the cumulative concentration of PM10 observed to be 89.6 µg/m³, PM 2.5: 47.2 µg/m³, SO₂: 7.3 µg/m³ and NO_x: 24.5 µg/m³ and is within the limits of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).</p>
10	<p>PP has to submit the details of dedicated cell for the occupational health surveillance as sought by the EAC Committee.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the Environmental Management Cell(EMC) has been setup for all the riverbed mining projects of M/s GMVN Ltd. as Higher Management (i.e. MD, Evn. Expert, Mining Incharge, DFO and PRO) of the EMC will remain same for all the mining leases of GMVN Ltd. However, Sector In-charge, Administrator and Surveyor will be changed according to the location of Project Site/Lease area. Lower Management (i.e. Sector Incharge, Administrator and Surveyor) will be appointed for the entire</p>

		<p>Tehsil/Sector and they will be responsible to look after the all the mining leases falls under that Tehsil/Sector.</p> <p>Project Proponent reported that this project will have an impact on the human health due to sand, increased dust, creation of breeding grounds for disease vectors which might introduce new diseases in the area, and inadequate sanitation facilities may result in severe health Impact. A team of qualified doctors and nurses will visit the site periodically for health checkup of all the workers, team and its record will be maintained properly. River Bed Mining does not involve hazardous process with no risk related to Fire and Explosion. Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis (HIRA) shows no major Impact and can be mitigated with proper maintenance and use of PPE to avoid likely accidental scenario. PP earmarked a budget of Rs 5.10 Lakhs towards Occupational Health and Safety. The money for occupational health issues will be deposited with mining trust according to Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 dated 28th Dec, 1957 and Uttarakhand District Mineral Foundation Trust, 2017 dated 17th November, 2017.</p>
11	<p>PP needs to submit the revised EIA/EMP report along with the Annexures with proper reference and indexing. PP needs to submit the information on the PARIVESH portal to the Ministry.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the revised EIA/EMP report along with the Annexures with proper reference and indexing in Parivesh portal.</p>
12	<p>List of Schedule-I species within 10 km radius of mine lease area duly authenticated by the State Forest department along with the Conservation.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the list of Flora and Fauna authenticated by Sub-DFO, Dehradun. PP reported that there are three Schedule-I species found in the study area such as Leopard, Monitor lizard and House Lizard. PP also submitted that the</p>

		Conservation Plan for Schedule I & II species has been prepared and approved by PCCF (Wildlife)/CWLW, Uttarakhand vide letter 1378/12-1 dated 09.10.2019
13	District Survey Report as per the Ministry's notification S.O.3611(E) dated 25 th July, 2018.	The Project Proponent submitted that the District Survey Report prepared as per the Ministry's notification S.O.3611(E) dated 25 th July, 2018. The District Survey Report is approved from Geology & Mining Unit, Directorate of Industries Uttarakhand, District Office Dehradun vide letter no. 103 dated 26.05.2022.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC noted that the instant proposal is reconsideration of Environmental Clearance (EC). The EAC also noted the instant proposal is being considered at the Central level as per Ministry's OM dated 27.09.2022 wherein it is mentioned that "the proposals which have been considered/ appraised once by EAC either for TOR or EC, but final decision has not been taken, shall continue to be appraised at the Central level only, till final disposal for ToR/EC, even after the amendments in the EIA Notification are issued from to time regarding delegation of projects to SEIAAs".

The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether the project lies in the Doon Valley. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the project lies in the Doon Valley and the Ministry's Notification dated 1st February, 1989 does not applicable to this project and it is applicable for Limestone mining project only. The EAC asked the Project Proponent that whether there is any supporting document from the concerned Dept. stating that the project does not fall in the Doon Valley. The Project Proponent informed that there is no any supporting document in this regard. The EAC also noted that the Ministry's Notification S.O 94(E) dated 06.01.2020 wherein is mentioned that the "Red Categories of industries shall not be permitted in Doon Valley". The EAC opined that the Project Proponent shall obtain the letter from the State Pollution Control Board with respect to classification of the industrial sector for mining of sand.

The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether the Letter of Intent (LoI) is valid as on date or not? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Letter of Intent (LoI) was granted in the year 2013 and expired in the year 2018. The EAC also observed that the Validity is not mentioned in the Letter of Intent (LoI). The EAC opined that the Letter of Intent (LoI) is basis for considering the proposal and the same is in question and without the valid Letter of Intent (LoI), the proposal cannot be considered further. The EAC also observed that the baseline data was conducted on October, 2013 - December, 2013 which is more than nine years old. The EAC

was of the view that the Project Proponent needs to revalidate the baseline data for one month.

Further, the EAC noted that the District Survey Report was approved from Geology & Mining Unit, Directorate of Industries Uttarakhand, District Office Dehradun vide letter no. 103 dated 26.05.2022. The EAC discussed about the District Survey Report (DSR) as follows: -

- 1) Ministry issued Notification S.O. 141 (E) dated 15th January, 2016, which stipulates the constitution of the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority (DEIAA) for matters falling under Category 'B2' for mining of minor minerals. In the Notification the concept of DSR had been introduced and prescribed the procedure for preparation of District Survey Report for Sand Mining or River Bed Mining and Mining of other Minor Minerals and approval from the DEIAA.
- 2) The Ministry in 2016 issued Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016 which *inter-alia* focus on preparation of District Survey Report.
- 3) Then, the Ministry issued Notification S.O No. 3611 (E) dated 25th July, 2018 wherein a detailed procedure for preparation of district survey report for sand mining or river bed mining as well as procedure for preparation of district survey report of minor minerals other than sand mining or river bed mining has been mentioned.
- 4) The Notification S.O. 141(E) dated 15th January, 2016 has been challenged before Hon'ble Tribunal in the matter of Original Application No. 186 of 2016 titled as Satendra Pandey vs Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change wherein, Hon'ble Tribunal directed that:- *The MoEF&CC shall, therefore, take appropriate steps to revise the procedure laid down in the impugned Notification dated 15th January, 2016 in terms of the above directions and observations so that it is in conformity with the letter and spirit of the directions passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Deepak Kumar (supra).*
- 5) In pursuance to the order dated 13.09.2018 and 11.12.2018 passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal, Ministry has undergone to challenge the above mentioned orders by way of a Civil Appeal before Hon'ble Apex Court in the matter titled "*Union of India Vs Rajiv Suri*" having Civil Appeal No. 3799-3800 of 2019 and the case is sub-judice as of now.
- 6) The, Ministry in compliance of direction passed by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in its order dated 04.09.2018 in *Original Application No. 173/2018 in*

the matter of Sudarsan Das vs. State of West Bengal & Ors, the answering respondent has formulated the new guidelines i.e. "Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining" (EMGSM-2020) supplemental to the existing guidelines i.e. Sustainable Sand Management Guidelines 2016 (SSMG-2016).

- 7) Thereafter, the e-auction of 14 sand Ghats in District Banka, Bihar in the absence of a District Survey Report (DSR) was challenged in the matter of Pawan Kumar versus State of Bihar & Ors having Original Application No. 40/2020/EZ before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi. The matter was disposed of vide order dated 14.10.2020 with the following direction: -

102. *In the result, we allow the applications and hold that:*

- a) DSR 2018 cannot be considered as a final DSR and is only an Interim report.*
- b) The DSR 2019 incorporating the 14 Sand Ghats also cannot be considered as a final DSR and is hereby quashed.*
- c) All actions taken pursuant to DSR 2018 and DSR 2019 referred to in (a) and (b) above are hereby held to be void and a nullity.*

103. *In the light of the above findings, we direct as follows:*

- a) Having regard to the findings at (a), (b) and (c) above, we direct the State to undertake further exercise for preparation of a fresh DSR for the Banka district.*
-
- b) As the DEIAA is not functioning as a consequence of the decision of the Tribunal in Satendra Pandey (supra), the DSR shall be prepared through a consultant(s) accredited by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training/ Quality Control Council of India in terms of O.M. of MoEF&CC dated 16.03.2010.*
- c) The DSR so prepared shall be submitted to the District Magistrate who shall verify the DSR only in respect of the relevant facts pertaining to the physical and geographical features of the district which shall be distinct from the scientific findings based on the parameters prescribed in the SSMMG- 89 2016. After such verification, the District Magistrate shall forward the DSR for examination and evaluation by the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) having regard to the fact that the SEIAA comprises of technical/scientific experts. The SEAC after appraisal of the report shall forward it to the SEIAA for consideration and approval if it meets all scientific/technical requirements.*

d) While preparing the DSR, the MoEF&CC Accredited Agency/Consultant shall scrupulously follow the procedure and the parameters laid down under the SSMMG-2016 and EMGSM-2020 read in sync with each other.

8) Further, in another matter i.e Original Application no. 360 of 2015 titled as NGT Bar Association versus Virender Singh (State of Gujarat), vide order dated 26.02.2021 in para no.14 held that :-

14. Considering the above, vide order dated 04.11.2020 in O.A. No. 726 of 2018, *Rupesh Pethe v. State of M.P. & Ors.*, the Tribunal directed that the above direction ought to be followed pan India, as follows: -

5. *The above direction may be followed by the State of MP also for the sake of uniformity.*

.....

6. *We are of the view that the above directions need to be followed by all other States where the issue of mining is relevant.*

9) In view of the above NGT order dated 14.10.2020, the State of Bihar filed an Civil Appeal before the Hon'ble Supreme Court having Civil Appeals Nos. 3661-3662 of 2020 titled as State of Bihar V/s Pawan Kumar. The Hon'ble Supreme court has given its verdict on the above matter on 10.11.2021.

Thus, the EAC opined that the District Survey Report (DSR) shall be approved by the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA). The Consultant informed the EAC that the District Survey Report (DSR) has been approved by the SEIAA, Uttarakhand. The EAC observed that the Consultant does not shown the letter regarding approval of DSR by SEIAA. The EAC warned the consultant. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to highlight about the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020. Based on the above discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of the following additional information:

-

- i. The Project Proponent needs to submit the letter from the State Pollution Control Board regarding Classification of the Industrial Sector for mining of sand.
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to revalidate the baseline data for one month.

- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the valid Letter of Intent (LoI).
- iv. The project proponent needs to submit the action plan to carry out Scientific Replenishment Study as per the Methodology prepared by MoEF&CC along with CMPDI i.e. "Methodology for sand Replenishment Study in pursuance to Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's Order dated 11.11.2021 in S.L.P. (Civil) No. 10587 of 2019" to assess the available quantity of Bajri.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan as per the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020.
- vi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the District Survey Report (DSR) approved by SEIAA.

2.2 Mining of 2.8 LTPA of Sand, Bajri and Boulders in River Yamuna Lot No. 23/1 by M/s Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd from the mining lease area of 30.035 Ha, located at Village: Dumet, Tehsil: Vikashnagar, District: Dehradun, Uttarakhand - [F.No. J-11015/125/2013- IA-II(M); Proposal No: IA/UK/MIN/18535/2013, Consultant: Grass Root Research & Creation India (P) Ltd.] - Reconsideration of EC

The instant proposal is for reconsideration of EC for mining of 2.8 LTPA of Sand, Bajri and Boulders in River Yamuna Lot No. 23/1 by M/s Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd from the mining lease area of 30.035 Ha, located at Village: Dumet, Tehsil: Vikashnagar, District: Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:
 - i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 30°30'42.15" N to 30°30'40.55" N & Longitude: 77°50'22.59" E to 77°51'10.91" E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 53F11 and the proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals.
 - ii. The instant proposal is considered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022 as per Ministry's OM dated 27.09.2022 wherein it is mentioned that "the proposals which have been considered/ appraised once by EAC either for TOR or EC, but final decision has not been taken, shall continue to be appraised at the Central level only, till final disposal for ToR/EC, even after the amendments in the EIA Notification are issued from to time regarding delegation of projects to SEIAAs".
 - iii. The project was granted Terms of Reference (ToR) by the Ministry vide letter dated 16.09.2013 based on the recommendation of sectoral EAC meeting held during June 26th-28th, 2013.
 - iv. The proposal was earlier considered in the sectoral EAC Meeting held during 21-22 June, 2018, 27-28 November, 2019 and 26-28 October, 2020 and the

EAC in its meeting held during 26-28 October, 2020 noted that an expert from IIT-Roorkee, Dr Garg, accompanied the PP during the EAC meeting and detailed about replenishment study. After detailed deliberation the Committee is of the view that PP should re-submit the information after making necessary corrections and in the next EAC meeting the PP should accompany the expert from IIT-Roorkee, who has conducted the baseline survey and replenishment study. In addition to this impact arising due to cluster situation also needs to be accounted for in the study and propose necessary management plan, if any. The Committee therefore deferred the proposals and also asked the PP to submit the following information along with the information sought in the EAC meeting held on November 28, 2019. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 21.09.2022 in Parivesh and accordingly the proposal was reconsidered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18th – 20th October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC and the compliance of observation of EAC made by the Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent
1	A detailed study on Silt management covering its quantity, separation and deposition/dumping in the river bed or on the banks for plantations. PP also should do assessment of its impact on river ecology.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that as per the logical assessment of the production proposed by benching manner (one pre & post monsoon survey conducted by IITR), out of total evaluated reserve about 90% considered/assessed as saleable production from proposed mining lease and about 10% of total material has been considered as waste material and time to time fluctuating value of RBM quantity, i.e. low value material like silt/clay etc. which gets deposited as crust material on the bed profile, will be scrapped and carefully stored for depositing into the mine pits in the river bed or in the upper terraces earmarked for plantation purpose or may be used for river bank protection work.</p> <p>Project Proponent also submitted that the mining of sand from within or near a river bed has a direct impact on the physico-chemical habitat characteristics. These characteristics include in stream roughness elements, depth, velocity, turbidity, sediment transport and stream</p>

		<p>discharge. Altering these habitat characteristics can have deleterious impacts on both in-stream biota and associated riparian habitat. The detrimental effects, if any, to biota resulting from bed material mining are caused by following: Alteration of flow patterns resulting from modification of the river bed, An excess of suspended sediment and damage to riparian vegetation and instream habitat. PP submitted the following mitigation measures will be adopted</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Project activity will be carried out only in the dry part of the riverbed. Hence, none of the project activities affect the water environment directly. ii. Further mining will be completely stopped during the monsoon seasons to allow the excavated area to regain its natural profile.
2	<p>The Committee deliberated the sections submitted by PP and noted that it is not clear from the section that till what lateral and depth extents the material will be excavated. Thus, the PP is required to submit the sections clearly marking the lateral and depth extents of present ground profile as well as proposed excavation profile at individual sections.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent reported the assessment of reserve for pre-monsoon and post-monsoon period.</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that the working length of the section during pre-monsoon period is 300m (Pre-Monsoon working length), during pre-monsoon three mineable beaches from 484.5m level to 481.5m will be evaluated/formed/mined. The mineable depth shall be 0.75m slicing depth within each bench. First Bench Area is 15476m² and Second Bench Area is 24062m² and Third Bench Area is 18925m².</p> <p>PP also submitted that the working length of the section during post-monsoon period is 1156m (Post-Monsoon working length), during post-monsoon period there will be six mineable beaches from 484m AMSL level to 475m will be evaluated/formed/mined. The mineable depth for the first & second bench shall be 0.75m slicing depth</p>

		<p>and for third to sixth benches, the depth will be 1.5m slicing depth. First Bench Area is 31200 m², Second Bench Area is 28671 m², Third Bench Area is 29746 m², fourth bench area is 58325 m², fifth bench area is 50720 m² & sixth bench area is 25602 m².</p> <p>PP also submitted the L-section plan and surface plan for pre-monsoon and post monsoon season.</p>
3	<p>The PP needs to submit a database in structured tabulated form clearly mentioning the nomenclature of the section line, latitude and longitude of both the extents of section line, chianages and respective levels (RL, AMSL) of all the points taken on that section line.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the surface plan with grid nomenclature.</p>
4	<p>Thus with the help of existing ground profile and proposed extents of excavation considering the stipulations of lateral extents of sustainable sand mining guidelines, as mentioned above, The PP shall estimate the proposed quantum of excavation in tonnages with the help of Specific Gravity verified by the State DMG between every two consecutive sections. Such estimation shall be furnished by the PP in tabular form which includes the nomenclature of section lines, area proposed for excavation, distance between two consecutive section lines, volume, specific gravity, tonnage of the mineral, maximum depth extent from</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the proposed lease area belongs to category C area (plain area of district Dehradun) as per defined in Uttarakhand Government Notification No. 1033/VII-1/2015/146-Kha/2010, dated 31st July 2015. The Specific Gravity (Bulk Density) for RBM has been verified & fixed as 2.2. The total estimated Geological Reserve includes the nomenclature of section lines, extent of working depth, slicing area etc.,</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that during pre-monsoon three mineable beaches from 484.5m level to 481.5m will be evaluated/formed/mined. The mineable depth shall be 0.75m slicing depth within each bench. First Bench Area is 15,476m² and Second Bench Area is 24,062m² and Third Bench Area is 18925m².</p> <p>PP also submitted that during post-monsoon period there will be six mineable</p>

	<p>existing ground profile. Respective plans shall also be submitted clearly marking the area to be excavated. In addition to this a composite plan mentioning the above proposed excavation zones for the entire mine lease area also needs to be submitted. Thus PP needs to submit a plan clearly showing the area to be put in under excavation and no excavation zones. Respective KML files of such lateral extents of excavation and no excavation zone within ML shall also be submitted by the PP.</p>	<p>beaches from 484m AMSL level to 475m will be evaluated/formed/ mined. The mineable depth for the first & second bench shall be 0.75m slicing depth and for third to sixth benches, the depth will be 1.5m slicing depth. First Bench Area is 31,200 m², Second Bench Area is 28,671 m², Third Bench Area is 29,746 m², fourth bench area is 58,325 m², fifth bench area is 50,720 m² & sixth bench area is 25,602 m².</p>
5	<p>PP needs to submit a plan clearly mentioning the width of river and Bridges, lease boundaries, area left under safety zones as prescribed as per Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016 and 2020, as per statutory requirements of Hon'ble High Court.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that there are no bridges present within 250 meters on the upstream side and 500 meters on the downstream side. PP also submitted the plan showing width of river and lease boundaries, area left under safety zones.</p>
6	<p>PP has to submit the systematic design of dumps including dump location and its impact on ecosystem (Silt deposition).</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the dump generated during RBM mining in each pit will be stacked temporarily towards the bank side of working pit. Dumping slope will be kept 30° to 35°. All the quantities will be used before the commencement monsoon period.</p>
7	<p>PP needs to ascertain the impact of transportation and details of transportation route viz. (length of the road, type of road, collection point (loading/unloading), no. of trips, capacity of the truck, no. of trucks, passing through the</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the sand, bajri & boulder excavated from the lease area will be loaded directly into trucks and transported to the concerned market via near village Dumet by an unmetalled road of about 320m and finally meets National Highway 123 by a metalled road having length of 1.55 Km and width of</p>

	<p>village or habitation) and mitigative measures to be taken for abatement of pollution due to transportation. The impacts study shall consider along with the other mine lease area also.</p>	<p>8m. There is one haul road from mine site and connecting to village road. PP also submitted the map showing the evacuation route.</p> <p>PP submitted that the other mines also transporting the excavated minerals via NH-123 road. PP has not considered the impact of non-operation mine of Yamuna 21/1, 21/2, 21/3, 23/2 & 16/1. PP has considered the no. of trucks/day by the proposed and nearby mines-Yamuna 23/1 lot =125 trucks per day. PP reported that the increase in PCU/day will be 750. The V/C ratio will change to 0.14 from 0.09 with LOS being "C" which is "Good" at NH-123 intersection, as per classification. PP also earmarked a budget of Rs.1.0 as capital cost and Rs. 2 Lakhs/annum as Recurring cost for the maintenance of haul road under EMP budget.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that the proposed mining project will have insignificant effect on the traffic and proper management plan will further reduce the negative impacts.</p>
8	<p>PP has to mention the actual width of the green belt development as per the profile of the river.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that as per rule, per hectare plantation, may be planned after consultation with forest department and local administration but river bank side on safety zone is proposed as alternative zone for plantation activities 24,300m².</p>
9	<p>PP has to give justification for selection of ambient air quality monitoring stations and PP needs to submit the air quality modeling based on the mining activity proposed and the cluster of the mines in the study area. The control case and worst case scenario needs to be demonstrated</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the air quality monitoring station was selected based on the coverage factor analysis by using the Climatological Tables of observation in India (1981-2010), Indian Meteorological Department. As per wind rose diagram predominant wind direction is NE to SW and five locations have been considered covering downwind, upwind and crosswind direction.</p>

	<p>with controlling factor and GLCs values for all the pollutants needs to be mentioned clearly. The input parameters and mathematical equations along with the reference used for the modeling needs to be submitted to the Ministry.</p>	<p>Project Proponent reported that dust particles generated due to various activities like Loading & Unloading of sand, Bajri and Transportation. Prediction of Ground Level Concentrations (GLC's) due to proposed mines has been made by AERMOD View as per CPCB guidelines. PP have considered the activity of excavation, loading, hauling and transportation for estimation of emission rate and prediction of air quality modeling. Proponent has taken 80 % as a controlling factor for area source and 70% for line source. Project Proponent submitted that the cumulative concentration of PM10 observed to be 87.9 µg/m³, PM 2.5: 44.4 µg/m³, SO₂: 6.0 µg/m³ and NO_x: 21.2 µg/m³ and is within the limits of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>PP has to submit the details of dedicated cell for the occupational health surveillance as sought by the EAC Committee.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the Environmental Management Cell(EMC)has been setup for all the riverbed mining projects of M/s GMVN Ltd. as Higher Management (i.e. MD, Evn. Expert, Mining Incharge, DFO and PRO) of the EMC will remain same for all the mining leases of GMVN Ltd. However, Sector In-charge, Administrator and Surveyor will be changed according to the location of Project Site/Lease area.Lower Management (i.e. Sector Incharge, Administrator and Surveyor) will be appointed for the entire Tehsil/Sector and they will be responsible to look after the all the mining leases falls under that Tehsil/Sector.</p> <p>Project Proponent reported that this project will have an impact on the human health due to sand, increased dust, creation of breeding grounds for disease vectors which might introduce new diseases in the area, and inadequate sanitation facilities may</p>

		<p>result in severe health Impact. A team of qualified doctors and nurses will visit the site periodically for health checkup of all the workers, team and its record will be maintained properly. River Bed Mining does not involve hazardous process with no risk related to Fire and Explosion. Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis (HIRA) shows no major Impact and can be mitigated with proper maintenance and use of PPE to avoid likely accidental scenario. PP earmarked a budget of Rs 4.66 Lakhs towards Occupational Health and Safety. The money for occupational health issues will be deposited with mining trust according to Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 dated 28th Dec, 1957 and Uttarakhand District Mineral Foundation Trust, 2017 dated 17th November, 2017.</p>
11	<p>PP needs to submit the revised EIA/EMP report along with the Annexures with proper reference and indexing. PP needs to submit the information on the PARIVESH portal to the Ministry.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the revised EIA/EMP report along with the Annexures with proper reference and indexing in Parivesh portal.</p>
12	<p>List of Schedule-I species within 10 km radius of mine lease area duly authenticated by the State Forest department along with the Conservation.</p>	<p>The Proponent reported that there is no schedule-I species found in the study. List of Flora and Fauna study of the project area is duly authenticated by the State Forest department As there is no Schedule-I species, no conservation plan for Schedule-I species is required.</p>
13	<p>District Survey Report as per the Ministry's notification S.O.3611(E) dated 25th July, 2018.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the District Survey Report prepared as per the Ministry's notification S.O.3611(E) dated 25th July, 2018. The District Survey Report is approved from Geology & Mining Unit, Directorate of Industries Uttarakhand, District Office Dehradun vide letter no. 103 dated 26.05.2022.</p>

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC noted that the instant proposal is reconsideration of Environmental Clearance (EC). The EAC also noted the instant proposal is being considered at the Central level as per Ministry's OM dated 27.09.2022 wherein it is mentioned that "the proposals which have been considered/ appraised once by EAC either for TOR or EC, but final decision has not been taken, shall continue to be appraised at the Central level only, till final disposal for ToR/EC, even after the amendments in the EIA Notification are issued from to time regarding delegation of projects to SEIAAs".

The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether the project lies in the Doon Valley. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the project lies in the Doon Valley and the Ministry's Notification dated 1st February, 1989 does not applicable to this project and it is applicable for Limestone mining project only. The EAC asked the Project Proponent that whether there is any supporting document from the concerned Dept. stating that the project does not fall in the Doon Valley. The Project Proponent informed that there is no any supporting document in this regard. The EAC also noted that the Ministry's Notification S.O 94(E) dated 06.01.2020 wherein is mentioned that the "Red Categories of industries shall not be permitted in Doon Valley". The EAC opined that the Project Proponent shall obtain the letter from the State Pollution Control Board with respect to classification of the industrial sector for mining of sand.

The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether the Letter of Intent (LoI) is valid as on date or not? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Letter of Intent (LoI) was granted in the year 2013 and expired in the year 2018. The EAC opined that the Letter of Intent (LoI) is basis for considering the proposal and the same is in question and without the valid Letter of Intent (LoI), the proposal cannot be considered further. The EAC also observed that the baseline data was conducted on October, 2013 - December, 2013 which is more than nine years old. The EAC was of the view that the Project Proponent needs to revalidate the baseline data for one month.

Further, the EAC noted that the District Survey Report was approved from Geology & Mining Unit, Directorate of Industries Uttarakhand, District Office Dehradun vide letter no. 103 dated 26.05.2022. The EAC discussed about the District Survey Report (DSR) as follows: -

- 1) Ministry issued Notification S.O. 141 (E) dated 15th January, 2016, which stipulates the constitution of the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority (DEIAA) for matters falling under Category 'B2' for mining of minor minerals. In the Notification the concept of DSR had been introduced and prescribed the procedure for preparation of District Survey Report for Sand Mining or River Bed Mining and Mining of other Minor Minerals and approval from the DEIAA.

- 2) The Ministry in 2016 issued Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016 which *inter-alia* focus on preparation of District Survey Report.
- 3) Then, the Ministry issued Notification S.O No. 3611 (E) dated 25th July, 2018 wherein a detailed procedure for preparation of district survey report for sand mining or river bed mining as well as procedure for preparation of district survey report of minor minerals other than sand mining or river bed mining has been mentioned.
- 4) The Notification S.O. 141(E) dated 15th January, 2016 has been challenged before Hon'ble Tribunal in the matter of Original Application No. 186 of 2016 titled as Satendra Pandey vs Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change wherein, Hon'ble Tribunal directed that:- *The MoEF&CC shall, therefore, take appropriate steps to revise the procedure laid down in the impugned Notification dated 15th January, 2016 in terms of the above directions and observations so that it is in conformity with the letter and spirit of the directions passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Deepak Kumar (supra).*
- 5) In pursuance to the order dated 13.09.2018 and 11.12.2018 passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal, Ministry has undergone to challenge the above mentioned orders by way of a Civil Appeal before Hon'ble Apex Court in the matter titled "*Union of India Vs Rajiv Suri*" having Civil Appeal No. 3799-3800 of 2019 and the case is sub-judice as of now.
- 6) The, Ministry in compliance of direction passed by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in its order dated 04.09.2018 in *Original Application No. 173/2018 in the matter of Sudarsan Das vs. State of West Bengal & Ors*, the answering respondent has formulated the new guidelines i.e. "Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining" (EMGSM-2020) supplemental to the existing guidelines i.e. Sustainable Sand Management Guidelines 2016 (SSMG-2016).
- 7) Thereafter, the e-auction of 14 sand Ghats in District Banka, Bihar in the absence of a District Survey Report (DSR) was challenged in the matter of Pawan Kumar versus State of Bihar & Ors having Original Application No. 40/2020/EZ before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi. The matter was disposed of vide order dated 14.10.2020 with the following direction: -

102. *In the result, we allow the applications and hold that:*

- d) *DSR 2018 cannot be considered as a final DSR and is only an Interim report.*

- e) *The DSR 2019 incorporating the 14 Sand Ghats also cannot be considered as a final DSR and is hereby quashed.*
- f) *All actions taken pursuant to DSR 2018 and DSR 2019 referred to in (a) and (b) above are hereby held to be void and a nullity.*

103. *In the light of the above findings, we direct as follows:*

- e) *Having regard to the findings at (a), (b) and (c) above, we direct the State to undertake further exercise for preparation of a fresh DSR for the Banka district.*
-
 - f) *As the DEIAA is not functioning as a consequence of the decision of the Tribunal in Satendra Pandey (supra), the DSR shall be prepared through a consultant(s) accredited by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training/ Quality Control Council of India in terms of O.M. of MoEF&CC dated 16.03.2010.*
 - g) *The DSR so prepared shall be submitted to the District Magistrate who shall verify the DSR only in respect of the relevant facts pertaining to the physical and geographical features of the district which shall be distinct from the scientific findings based on the parameters prescribed in the SSMMG- 89 2016. After such verification, the District Magistrate shall forward the DSR for examination and evaluation by the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) having regard to the fact that the SEIAA comprises of technical/scientific experts. The SEAC after appraisal of the report shall forward it to the SEIAA for consideration and approval if it meets all scientific/technical requirements.*
 - h) *While preparing the DSR, the MoEF&CC Accredited Agency/Consultant shall scrupulously follow the procedure and the parameters laid down under the SSMMG-2016 and EMGSM-2020 read in sync with each other.*
- 8) Further, in another matter i.e Original Application no. 360 of 2015 titled as NGT Bar Association versus Virender Singh (State of Gujarat), vide order dated 26.02.2021 in para no.14 held that :-
- 14. Considering the above, vide order dated 04.11.2020 in O.A. No. 726 of 2018, *Rupesh Pethe v. State of M.P. & Ors.*, the Tribunal directed that the above direction ought to be followed pan India, as follows: -
 - 5. *The above direction may be followed by the State of MP also for the sake of uniformity.*
.....

6. *We are of the view that the above directions need to be followed by all other States where the issue of mining is relevant.*

- 9) In view of the above NGT order dated 14.10.2020, the State of Bihar filed an Civil Appeal before the Hon'ble Supreme Court having Civil Appeals Nos. 3661-3662 of 2020 titled as State of Bihar V/s Pawan Kumar. The Hon'ble Supreme court has given its verdict on the above matter on 10.11.2021.

Thus, the EAC opined that the District Survey Report (DSR) shall be approved by the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA). The Consultant informed the EAC that the District Survey Report (DSR) has approved by the SEIAA, Uttarakhand. The EAC observed that the Consultant does not shown the letter regarding approval of DSR by SEIAA. The EAC warned the consultant. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to highlight about the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020. Based on the above discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of the following additional information: -

- i. The Project Proponent needs to submit the letter from the State Pollution Control Board regarding Classification of the Industrial Sector for mining of sand.
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to revalidate the baseline data for one month.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the valid Letter of Intent (LoI).
- iv. The project proponent needs to submit the action plan to carry out Scientific Replenishment Study as per the Methodology prepared by MoEF&CC along with CMPDI i.e. "Methodology for sand Replenishment Study in pursuance to Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's Order dated 11.11.2021 in S.L.P.(Civil) No. 10587 of 2019" to assess the available quantity of Bajri.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan as per the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020.
- vi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the District Survey Report (DSR) approved by SEIAA.

2.3 South Kaliapani mine of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd for mining of Chromite Ore without change in production capacity of 1.40 MTPA of Chromite Ore [Total Excavation: 16.64 MTPA (Production: 1.40 MTPA (ROM) + Waste Rock: 15.24 MTPA)] with increase in mine lease area from 552.457 ha to

720.727 ha along with an annual throughput capacity of 4,74,000 tonnes (0.47 million tonnes) of COB plant, located at Villages Kaliapani, Gurujangpal, Sukurangi and Saruabi, Tehsil Sukinda, District Jajpur, Odisha - [F.No: J-11015/407/2008-IA.II(M), Proposal No: IA/OR/MIN/279986/2022; Consultant: MECON Limited] - Terms of Reference (ToR)

The instant proposal is for mining of Chromite Ore in South Kaliapani mine of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd without change in production capacity of 1.40 MTPA of Chromite Ore [Total Excavation: 16.64 MTPA (Production: 1.40 MTPA (ROM) + Waste Rock: 15.24 MTPA)] with increase in mine lease area from 552.457 ha to 720.727 ha along with an annual throughput capacity of 4,74,000 tonnes (0.47 million tonnes) of COB plant, located at Villages Kaliapani, Gurujangpal, Sukurangi and Saruabi, Tehsil Sukinda, District Jajpur, Odisha.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 21°00'49.64076"N to 21°03'25.10625"N and Longitude: 85°46'25.96764"E to 85°48'28.53433"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: F45N16 and falls in Seismic Zone - II.
- ii. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals & 2(b) Mineral beneficiation and falls under Category "A" as the mining lease area is greater than 250ha and appraised at the Central level.
- iii. The proposal was earlier considered in the 1st EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 27th – 29th July, 2022 wherein the EAC deferred the proposal for want of requisite information. The Project Proponent vide letter dated 16.09.2022 submitted the information in PARIVESH portal on 17.09.2022 and accordingly the proposal was reconsidered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18th – 20th October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC and the compliance of observation of EAC made by the Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent
1	The Project Proponent needs to explore the alternate location of non-forest land for dumping the over burden.	The Project Proponent submitted that during the year 2014, PP first apprehend the intricacies in providing space for disposal of overburden dump, to be generated from South-Kaliapani and Sukurangi chromite mines, explored various alternatives in and around the mining area. PP submitted that Indian Bureau of Mines, in the mining plan (2015-2020) of South-Kaliapani Chromite Mines of M/s OMC Ltd.

		<p>approved the estimated quantity of 100.90 million cu.m (Mm³) of overburden (OB) on dated 13.02.2018 out of which 35.17 Mm³ can be accommodated inside ML area and balance 65.73 Mm³ is recommended to take outside South-Kaliapani ML area. Based on this, PP filed an application vide Lr No. 461/OMC/P&T/14 dated 13.01.2014 before the Dept. of S&M, Govt. of Odisha for grant of additional area adjacent to both South-Kaliapani and Sukurangi mines for waste dump. The State Govt. in the Dept. of S & M has conveyed in-principle approval over 222.0 ha of forest land on dt 11.11.2014 subject to grant of all other statutory clearances. While the processes of forest clearances are on its way, PP also explored the availability of space in non-forest land for OB dumping.</p> <p>PP also submitted that the matter was discussed in the 5th review meeting of State Project Monitoring Group (SPMG), Chaired by the Chief Secretary of Odisha, held on dated 10.09.2014. It was decided that Revenue Development Commissioner (RDC) shall explore the availability of alternate non-forest land near the mines for dumping of OB. In the 6th SPMG meeting held on 08.10.2014, RDC (CD) informed that alternate nonforest land has been identified outside the chromite lease hold areas in Sukinda valley and OMC to verify its suitability. Five patches on the south-eastern side of the ML have been identified.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that in the 7th SPMG meeting held on 12.11.2014, PP submitted that the five identified land has been examined and found un-suitable for OB dumping due to following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. It does not occur in a compact patch. Patches available for 35.0 Acr to 105.0
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		<p>Acr is technically not acceptable to accommodate the dump.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">ii. All are surrounded by agricultural land and the inherent hexavalent chromium content of the OB is likely to contaminate the adjoining agricultural land and water regime.iii. The patches are located at a distance of about 15km from mine face.iv. Most of the identified land is found to be of Jungle category in SABIK record.v. OB dump can only be taken out of the ML area if it is considered as a part of the ML area in light of Goa Foundation Case.vi. Dumping is a part of mining activity and to be confined within the ML area. <p>In light of point no. v above, PP obtained the legal opinion from the Sr. Advocate, Supreme Court of India on dt 09.12.2014 who advised to acquire the nonmineralised area of 222.00 ha, located adjacent to South-Kaliapani Mines.</p> <p>PP submitted that in the 10th SPGM meeting held on 11.02.2015, it was decided that being a non-site specific project, location of the project on forest land with details of alternatives examined establishing in-escapability for locating the project in forest land should be given by the M/s OMC Ltd. as per provision of para 2.1.(vii) (3) of FC Act guidelines. PP submitted the Forest Diversion Proposal over an area of 222.00 ha to DFO, Cuttack dated 09.04.2015. Director of Geology on 23.04.2015 informed that the proposed area over 222.00 ha has no indication of chromite mineralisation. (PD- VI). DFO, Cuttack, through RCCF, Angul and PCCF, Odisha recommended the proposal on 27.05.2015. State Govt. recommended the proposal on 15.10.2015 to Govt. of India.</p>
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		<p>Then, MoEFCC on 13.06.2016 requested Eastern Regional Office, MoEFCC for a site inspection. Considering the site visit report, PP submitted a revised diversion proposal. PP submitted the forest diversion proposal over an area of 168.948 ha of reduced forest area on 16.04.2018 and obtained the Stage-I FC from the Ministry vide letter dated 15.10.2019. The identification and finally acceptability of the area for dumping of overburden commenced on 10.09.2014 and completed after five years i.e. on 15.10.2019 after undertaking a lot of exercises to continue the mining operation at SouthKaliapani ML. PP also submitted the summary of the matrix showing all site alternatives considered along-with the final selected site.</p>
2	<p>The Project Proponent shall carryout a geology study within the pit/mine lease area and based on the study Project Proponent needs to explore the feasibility for dumping of overburden dumps (OB) within the pit/mine lease area.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent reported that overburden to be generated during FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 will be 28.0 million cu.m. Average OB generated per year is 9.3 million cu.m. Balance dumping capacity available over existing dump as on 31.12.2021 is 20.36 million cu.m. Thus, the existing overburden dump will cater the dumping requirement for next 2.2 years only, i.e. up to FY: 2023-24. None of the pits would attain the conceptual pit limits. Therefore, backfilling of pits is not a feasible option. Further, to continue opencast mining operation beyond FY 2023-24, there is no space available within ML area for creating new overburden dump. Thus, external dumping would be required over 168.948 ha. PP also submitted the details of year-wise pit development & dump management as per mining plan.</p>
3	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the measures taken for treatment and discharge of water in Damsal Nala (0.12 km, N).</p>	<p>The Project Proponent reported that there are two nos. of Effluent Treatment Plant at South Kaliapani Chromite Mine such as ETP, Quarry D and ETP, Quarry F with total capacity of 1200 m³/hr and 300 m³/hr</p>

		<p>respectively. The ETPs are designed to receive the mine discharge effluent as well as surface runoff effluent. The combined flow received at ETP is treated with chemicals such as Ferrous Sulphate (FeSO₄), Sodium Hydroxide (NaOH), Polyelectrolyte for reduction of hexavalent chromium to trivalent chromium. In addition to the above, Total Suspended Solid, pH & Fe content of the effluent are also being controlled during the treatment process at the ETP.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that the parameters of the inlet and outlet effluent of the ETP are being monitored on continuous basis and the data is being sent to the OSPCB website on a real time basis. The final discharged water of the ETP to the outside surface source i.e. Damasla Nala is also being monitored by an online monitoring system at MIP Damsala Nala and the data is being sent to the OSPCB website on a real time basis. Outlet parameters maintained at the ETP are within the prescribed standards. PP also submitted the flow diagram of Effluent Treatment plant of Quarry D and Real Time Data Acquisition and Monitoring for Quarry D inlet and outlet.</p>								
4	The Project Proponent needs to submit the test report on physical and chemical characteristics of tailing pond.	The Project Proponent submitted the certificate of analysis dated 07.09.2022 for 01 average sample of tailing samples drawn on 03.09.2022 from the stacks laying at COBP.								
5	The Project Proponent needs to submit the production details authenticated by Department of Mines and Geology for chrome ore beneficiation plant.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the past production details authenticated by the Dy. Director of Mines, J.K Road vide letter dated 15.09.2022 for chrome ore beneficiation plant for the period 1993-94 to 2021-22.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Production (in MT)</th> <th>EC capacity (TPA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>1993-94</td> <td>166.670</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No	Year	Production (in MT)	EC capacity (TPA)	1	1993-94	166.670	-
S. No	Year	Production (in MT)	EC capacity (TPA)							
1	1993-94	166.670	-							

		2	1994-95	1976.290	-
		3	1995-96	29,284.290	-
		4	1996-97	56,151.900	-
		5	1997-98	71,424.550	-
		6	1998-99	78,176.260	-
		7	1999-2000	1,13,479.240	-
		8	2000-01	1,05,717.500	-
		9	2001-02	3,04,898.910	-
		10	2002-03	2,17,119.600	-
		11	2003-04	1,68,635.000	-
		12	2004-05	1,70,372.040	-
		13	2005-06	1,79,901.170	-
		14	2006-07	1,80,475.638	-
		15	2007-08	1,02,841.237	-
		16	2008-09	44,622.880	-
		17	2009-10	35,286.745	-
		18	2010-11	91,767.605	4,74,000
		19	2011-12	83,583.588	4,74,000
		20	2012-13	83,682.410	4,74,000
		21	2013-14	76,280.070	4,74,000
		22	2014-15	37,445.555	4,74,000
		23	2015-16	29,568.310	4,74,000
		24	2016-17	34,827.845	4,74,000
		25	2017-18	Nil	4,74,000
		26	2018-19	Nil	4,74,000
		27	2019-20	Nil	4,74,000
		28	2020-21	Nil	4,74,000
		29	2021-22	Nil	4,74,000
6	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the copy of the demand raised from the Office of Deputy Director of Mines, Jajpur Road Circle, Jajpur Road, vide letter dated 10.04.2018 in pursuant to the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment dated 02.08.2017 in the matter of W.P.(C) No.114/14 Common cause vs Union of India and Others. Project Proponent also needs to submit the payment of proof deposited on 15.03.2022.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the copy of the demand raised from the Office of Deputy Director of Mines, Jajpur Road Circle, Jajpur Road, vide letter dated 10.04.2018 for production without/in excess of the Environmental Clearance, in pursuance to the judgment dt.02.08.2017 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of W.P. (C) No.114/14 Common Cause vrs Union of India and Others. PP also submitted the proof of payment made towards the compensation of Rs.1662,85,42,189/- (Rupees One thousand six hundred sixty-two crore eighty-five lakh forty two thousand one</p>			

		hundred eighty nine) on 15.03.2022.
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iv. The details of the Environmental Clearance (EC) are furnished as below:

Date of application	File. No/ Proposal No	Consideration	Details	Date of accord
31.10.2009	J- 11015/407/2008-IA.II(M) IA/OR/MIN/ 8899/2007	-	Environmental Clearance of for an annual production capacity of 14,00,000 tonnes (1.4 million tonnes) of chromite ore by the opencast semi-mechanized method involving total mining lease area of 552.457 ha along with an annual throughput capacity of 4,74,000 tonnes (0.47 million tonnes) of COB plant.	20.07.2010
31.08.2015	J- 11015/407/2008-IA.II(M) IA/OR/MIN/ 8899/2007	September 22-24, 2015 July 21-22, 2016	Amendment in EC dated 20.07.2020 w.r.t shifting the tailing pond area with the additional condition that the Project Proponent will take sufficient precautions and safety measures around the Tailing pond.	06.07.2021

v. Details of Mine lease:

- a) The Project Proponent submitted that the initially mine lease deed was executed on 22.01.1980 between the Governor of Orissa and M/s Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd for a period of 20 years for the period up to 21.01.2000. Then, the Project Proponent submitted the application for renewal of mine lease before the expiry of the mine lease period and the lease was under deemed renewal stage.
- b) The Govt. of Odisha vide Order No: 2749/SM dated 26.03.2015 have extended the validity period of the lease from 22.01.2000 to 31.03.2020. Then, the Project Proponent executed the supplementary lease deed for the extended period and registered vide e-Registration ID No. 1871500004 and e-Registration document No. 11871500004 dated 06.10.2015.
- c) Further, Project Proponent submitted that the Govt. of Odisha have extended the validity period of the lease for a period of 50 years from the original period of lease i.e., from 22.01.1980 to 21.01.2030. Accordingly, the Project Proponent executed the supplementary lease deed on 12.08.2016 between the Governor of Odisha and M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd for the period upto 21.01.2030.
- d) Thereafter, the Govt. of Odisha vide Lr No. 10647/III(Cr)SM-03/2013/SM, Bhubaneswar dated 14.12.2021 granted the mining lease over an area of

168.948 ha of non-mineralised land in favour of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd to be included in its South Kaliapani Chromite Mining lease with existing area of 552.457 ha for a period co-terminus with the validity of the South Kaliapani Chromite Mining lease for the specific use for dumping of overburden dumps (OB) from its existing chromite mines at South Kaliapani and Sukrangi mining lease in Jajpur District.

- e) The Project Proponent also submitted the surface right obtained over an area of 721.25 acres vide letter dated 19.08.1985.

vi. Mining plan details:

Modification of Review of Mining Plan along with the Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)	Letter No.	BBS/JJP/CR/2015/MPM/2022-23	
	Date	12.05.2022	
	Mine Lease area, Ha	720.727 Ha	
	Mineral	Chromite	
	Validity	2022-23 to 2024-25	
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description		
Method of Mining	Open Cast Mechanized Mining		
Total Mineral Reserves + Resources	116,21,334 Tonnes		
Life of mine	9 years		
Bench Height	6 m		
Bench Width	11 m		
Individual bench slope	70 ⁰ -80 ⁰		
Overall pit slope	18-29 ⁰		
Drilling/Blasting	HEMM with deep hole drilling & blasting with combination of loaders and tippers.		
RoM output size	Type of crusher	Product size in mm	
	Hammer Mill (New COBP)	-18	
	Rock Breaker (New COBP)	-300	
	Hammer Mill (Old COBP)	-18	
	Mobile Jaw/Cone Crushing & Screening Plant	-100	
Transportation details	By trucks to nearby railway siding(s) at buyers' discretion		
Dumpers capacity	30-45 T		
Mineral Beneficiation	Crushing & screening. Wet beneficiation of beneficiable ore		
Waste Generation	PP reported that it has been estimated that approximately 76.9 million cu.m of overburden will be generated till the end of conceptual period. 1.672 million tonnes of sub grade material will be generated up to the conceptual stage.		
Waste Disposal	PP submitted that initially the wastes will be dumped. These dumps will be compacted and afforested on the terraces as well as along the slopes after spreading a layer of top soil over it		

	before rehabilitation.
Present Proposal	PP submitted that the proposed project is only for increase in mine lease area. No increase in production capacity or change in mining technology or increase in beneficiation capacity or change in beneficiation technology are proposed in the present proposal.

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

Forest Land	594.346 ha
Private land	8.009 ha
Government land	119.050 ha
Total Mining lease area (MLA)	720.727 ha as per DGPS/ 721.405 ha as per ML grant orders (including 168.948 Ha of additional granted area)
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	NA

viii. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	Potable: 120 m ³ /day	Fresh water	120 m ³ /day
	Industrial: 2200 m ³ /day	Treated water	2200 m ³ /day
Source	Industrial: Recycled effluents/mine discharge water Potable: Bore-wells		
Permission	PP submitted that the NOC obtained from CGWA vide letter No. CGWA/NOC/MIN/REN/1/2021/6334, dated 26.10.2019 for groundwater abstraction of fresh water of 120.0 m ³ /day which was valid up to 25.10.2021.		
Additional information (if any)	PP also submitted that no fresh water is utilized for Industrial purpose.		

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

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Direction
Nearest Town	Sukinda	~13.5 km (SE)
Nearest railway station	Baghupal on Padapahar Jn.	~21.5 km (E)
Nearest Highway	Daitari- Paradeep Express Highway	~10 km (NE)
Water Bodies	a. Damsal Nala b. Talangi Nala c. Nadibarana Nala d. Pandaral Nala	0.12 km (N) 2.4 km (NE) 4.8 km (W) 7.7 km (S)

- x. The Project Proponent reported that the total mine lease area is 720.727 ha out of which Forest land is 594.346 ha, Private land is 8.009 ha and Govt. land is 119.050 ha. PP submitted that the Stage-II Forest Clearance over the forest area of 425.398 ha within the original mining lease area of 552.457 ha, have been obtained from MoE&F vide F No. 8-15/2000-FC dated 08.06.2001 for diversion of 146.047 ha of already broken up forest land and MoE&FCC vide file No. 8-15/2000-FC (Vol.) dated 25.02.2016 for diversion of 279.351 ha

of forest land including 2.790 ha for safety zone in addition to 146.047 ha of forest land already diverted within total mining lease area of 552.457 ha. Further, PP submitted that the Stage-I Forest Clearance granted by MoEFCC vide F No. 8-19/2019- FC dated 15.10.2019 for diversion of 168.948 ha of forest land adjacent to South Kaliapani Mines of OMC for dumping of overburden of South Kaliapani and Sukurangi Chromite Mine. PP reported that there are no National parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, and Tiger/Elephant Reserves (existing as well as proposed) within 10 km of the mine lease area. Also, there is no archeological site, defense installation and airports within 10 km of the periphery of the lease area. The area does not fall in seismically active or landslide prone zone. PP submitted the Approval of Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan of South Kaliapani Chromite mines approved by the Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) vide Memo no. 5911/1 WL(C) SSP-351/2012 dated 20.07.2013 with a financial forecast of Rs 2,01,14,080 (Rupees Two Crore One Lakh Fourteen Thousand Eighty Only).

xi. Green belt/plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation	Sl. No	Year	Green Belt Location (s)	Area Proposed to be Covered (Ha)	Number of Plants Proposed	Expected Survival Rate (%)	Estimated Expenditure (INR)
	1	2022 - 2023	Existing Dump	3.7	9,250	>85%	1896250
	2	2023 - 2024	Existing Dump	6.0	15,000	>85%	3225000
	3	2024 - 2025	Existing Dump	6.0	15,000	>85%	3375000
Additional information (if any)	Cumulative work done						
	Sr. No	Total Expenditure Incurred up to Last Year (INR)		Area Covered (Ha)	Number of Plants	Survival Rate (%)	
	01.	4,03,52,797		58.52	124659*	85%	
	*The total costing has been for 1,24,659 plantations which includes 16000 nos of Vertiver, Lemon, Palmarosa and Napier grass.						
Particulars for Green belt/plantation					Area covered (in Ha)		
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone					5.578		
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines					-		
500 m safety zones of nearest habitation villages					-		

xii. Previous EC compliance and production details:

Particulars	Granted by, Letter no. and date
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Consent to Establish (CTE)	PP submitted the Consent to Establish (CTE) issued by the State Pollution Control Board, Orissa vide letter no: 16706/IND-II-NOC-4702 on dated 06.10.2010 for increase in production of chromite ore (ROM) of quantity up to 14,23,500 Ton/Annum and capacity of existing COB Plant from 1.8 Lakh Ton/Annum to 3.24 Lakh Ton/Annum with additional 1.5 Lakh Ton/Annum new COB Plant (over mine lease hold area of 552.457 ha).																																																																																																																																						
Consent to Operate (CTO)	PP submitted the Consent to Operate (CTO) issued by the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha vide letter no 3844/IND-I-CON-253(A) with Consent Order No - 368 dated 27.03.2020 for production of 1.4 MTPA of Chrome ore and COB Plant of throughput capacity of 0.47 MTPA and is valid up to 31.03.2025.																																																																																																																																						
Certified past production	<p>PP submitted the production details authenticated from the Office of Deputy Director of Mines; Jajpur Road Circle vide Lr No 815/Mines dated 27.05.2022 from the year 1992-93 to 2021-22.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Production (MTPA)</th> <th>EC Capacity (MTPA)</th> <th>Excess Production (MTPA)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>1992-93</td><td>0.20</td><td>-</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>1993-94</td><td>0.20</td><td>-</td><td rowspan="8">Exceeded the base year production of 1993-94</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>1994-95</td><td>0.21</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>1995-96</td><td>0.47</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>1996-97</td><td>0.34</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>1997-98</td><td>0.37</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>1998-99</td><td>0.38</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>1999-2000</td><td>0.51</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>2000-01</td><td>0.24</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.04</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>2001-02</td><td>0.75</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.54</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>2002-03</td><td>0.67</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.46</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>2003-04</td><td>0.71</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.50</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>2004-05</td><td>0.65</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.44</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>2005-06</td><td>0.61</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.41</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>2006-07</td><td>1.20</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.99</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>2007-08</td><td>1.15</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.94</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>2008-09</td><td>0.90</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.69</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>2009-10</td><td>0.49</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.29</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>2010-11</td><td>1.10</td><td>0.99</td><td>0.02</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>2011-12</td><td>0.41</td><td>1.40</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>2012-13</td><td>0.52</td><td>1.40</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>2013-14</td><td>0.48</td><td>1.40</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>2014-15</td><td>0.65</td><td>1.40</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>2015-16</td><td>0.83</td><td>1.40</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>2016-17</td><td>1.00</td><td>1.40</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>2017-18</td><td>0.75</td><td>1.40</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>2018-19</td><td>10.5</td><td>1.40</td><td>-</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No	Year	Production (MTPA)	EC Capacity (MTPA)	Excess Production (MTPA)	1	1992-93	0.20	-		2	1993-94	0.20	-	Exceeded the base year production of 1993-94	3	1994-95	0.21	-	4	1995-96	0.47	-	5	1996-97	0.34	-	6	1997-98	0.37	-	7	1998-99	0.38	-	8	1999-2000	0.51	-	9	2000-01	0.24	0.20	0.04	10	2001-02	0.75	0.20	0.54	11	2002-03	0.67	0.20	0.46	12	2003-04	0.71	0.20	0.50	13	2004-05	0.65	0.20	0.44	14	2005-06	0.61	0.20	0.41	15	2006-07	1.20	0.20	0.99	16	2007-08	1.15	0.20	0.94	17	2008-09	0.90	0.20	0.69	18	2009-10	0.49	0.20	0.29	19	2010-11	1.10	0.99	0.02	20	2011-12	0.41	1.40	-	21	2012-13	0.52	1.40	-	22	2013-14	0.48	1.40	-	23	2014-15	0.65	1.40	-	24	2015-16	0.83	1.40	-	25	2016-17	1.00	1.40	-	26	2017-18	0.75	1.40	-	27	2018-19	10.5	1.40	-
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	30	2021-22	0.99	1.40	-
Compliance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 02.08.2017 in the matter of W.P.(C) No.114/14 Common cause vs Union of India and Others	<p>PP submitted that in pursuant to the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 02.08.2017 in the matter of W.P.(C) No.114/14 Common cause vs Union of India and Others, it was deemed that during the period 2001-02 to 2010-11, the mine had produced a total of 5384427.613 tonnes of chromite without EC.</p> <p>PP also submitted that the Demand Noticewas issued by the Office of Deputy Director of Mines, Jajpur Road Circle, Jajpur Road, vide notice no. 543/Mines dated 10.04.2018 for depositing Rs.1662,85,42,189/- (Rupees One thousand six hundred sixty-two crore eighty-five lakh forty two thousand one hundred eighty nine). PP submitted that the above said demand was on 15.03.2022.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted the undertaking by way of affidavit as per the Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018 in a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing K 141113 dated 09.08.2018 stating that M/s OMC shall comply with all the statutory requirements and judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2ndAugust 2017 in the matter of Common Cause Vs Union of India & Ors in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014.</p>				

xiii. The Project Proponent submitted that the mine is already in operation. The additional land allocated is a forest land. The proposed project does not envisage any leasing and / or acquisition of additional private land, hence no rehabilitation & resettlement is involved in this project.

xiv. The Project Proponent submitted that there is one court case pending in the JMFC Court, Barbil, Odisha vide case. No 2(C)C.C.No.11114 and the matter is subjudice.

xv. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	(Rs. In Crore)
Project Cost	Rs. 500 Crores
Employment	608 Persons

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC deliberated on the additional details submitted by the Project Proponent. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that in the year 2014, PP found that there is need for identifying the non-mineralized area for the dumping of the overburden dumps (OB) generated from the South Kaliapani till the conceptual

stage. PP also informed that the identification and finally acceptability of the area for dumping of overburden commenced on 10.09.2014 and completed after five years i.e. on 15.10.2019 after undertaking a lot of exercises to continue the mining operation at SouthKaliapani ML. No agriculture land is involved in the identified site and also no pond/canal found nearby. Further, PP submitted that the Stage-I Forest Clearance granted by MoEF&CC vide F No. 8-19/2019- FC dated 15.10.2019 for diversion of 168.948 ha of forest land adjacent to South Kaliapani Mines of OMC for dumping of overburden of South Kaliapani and Sukurangi Chromite Mine.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the overburden to be generated during FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25 will be 28.0 million cu.m. Average OB generated per year is 9.3 million cu.m. Balance dumping capacity available over existing dump as on 31.12.2021 is 20.36 million cu.m. Thus, the existing overburden dump will cater the dumping requirement for next 2.2 years only, i.e. up to FY: 2023-24. None of the pits would attain the conceptual pit limits. Therefore, backfilling of pits is not a feasible option. Further, to continue opencast mining operation beyond FY 2023-24, there is no space available within ML area for creating new overburden dump. Thus, external dumping would be required over 168.948 ha.

The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that there are two nos. of Effluent Treatment Plant at South Kaliapani Chromite Mine such as ETP, Quarry D and ETP, Quarry F with total capacity of 1200 m³/hr and 300 m³/hr respectively. The ETPs are designed to receive the mine discharge effluent as well as surface runoff effluent. Further, PP submitted that the parameters of the inlet and outlet effluent of the ETP are being monitored on continuous basis and the data is being sent to the OSPCB website on a real time basis. The final discharged water of the ETP to the outside surface source i.e. Damasla Nala is also being monitored by an online monitoring system at MIP Damasla Nala and the data is being sent to the OSPCB website on a real time basis. Outlet parameters maintained at the ETP are within the prescribed standards. The Project Proponent has shown the past production details authenticated by the Dy. Director of Mines, J.K Road vide letter dated 15.09.2022 for chrome ore beneficiation plant for the period 1993-94 to 2021-22. Further, the Project Proponent informed the EAC that the instant case attracts the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment dated 02.08.2017 in W.P.C 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common cause Vs Union India. PP also informed the EAC that the payment has been made towards the compensation of Rs.1662,85,42,189/- (Rupees One thousand six hundred sixty-two crore eighty-five lakh forty two thousand one hundred eighty nine) on 15.03.2022 as per the demand raised from the Office of Deputy Director of Mines, Jajpur Road Circle, Jajpur Road, vide letter dated 10.04.2018. Further, PP informed that one court case pending in the JMFC Court, Barbil, Odisha vide case. No 2(C)C.C.No.11114 and the matter is subjudice.

The EAC noted that the Project Proponent is proposing to dump the overburden of Sukurangi mining lease in the existing chromite mines at South

Kaliapani. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to revise the Mining Plan to dispose the overburden of this instant mine in the allocated area of overburden (an area of 168.948 ha) instead of dumping of Sukrangi Overburden. The EAC also advised the Project Proponent to specifically address the impacts of hexavalent chromium on the crops, soil environment and biological environment. PP also needs to bring out the action for implementation of CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology (CSIR-IMT), Chandigarh. The EAC also asked the Project Proponent to submit the stage wise action plan for cutting the trees in consultation with the Forest Department. The EAC advised the project proponent also to submit the action plan for dump stability with design at the time of appraisal of EC. Therefore, the EAC **recommended** the proposal in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18th – 20th October, 2022 for grant of Terms of Reference (ToR) under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 for mining of Chromite Ore in South Kaliapani mine of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd without change in production capacity of 1.40 MTPA of Chromite Ore [Total Excavation: 16.64 MTPA (Production: 1.40 MTPA (ROM) + Waste Rock: 15.24 MTPA)] with increase in mine lease area from 552.457 ha to 720.727 ha along with an annual throughput capacity of 4,74,000 tonnes (0.47million tonnes) of COB plant, located at Villages Kaliapani, Gurujangpal, Sukurangi and Saruabi, Tehsil Sukinda, District Jajpur, Odisha 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 specifically address the impacts of hexavalent chromium on the crops, soil environment and biological environment in the EIA/EMP report. PP also needs to bring out the action for implementation of CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology (CSIR-IMT), Chandigarh.
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the dump management plan and design for dump stability at the time of appraisal of EC.
- iii. The Project Proponent shall revise the Mining Plan to dispose the overburden of this instant mine in the allocated of area of overburden (an area of 168.948 ha) instead of dumping of Sukrangi Overburden and shall submit the same at the time of appraisal of Environmental Clearance (EC).
- iv. The Project Proponent shall submit the action plan for handling of rejects from tailing pond and recycling of wastewater after treatment.
- v. 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.

- vi. The Project Proponent shall submit the details of the saplings planted and its survival rate, type of species planted and the area covered under greenbelt/plantation against the earlier EC. Proof of the same shall be submitted at the time of appraisal of EC. In case of failure of achievement of target survival rate, PP shall submit the action plan for achieving the target survival rate and yearwise plan for carrying out such plantation including gap plantation.
- vii. 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.
- viii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the stage wise action plan for cutting the trees in consultation with the Forest Department.
- ix. The Project Proponent needs to submit the details of court case from time to time with the latest orders at the time of appraisal of Environmental Clearance (EC).
- x. The Project Proponent needs to submit the latest certified compliance report at the time of appraisal of EC.
- xi. The Project Proponent shall conduct drone survey of the mine lease area and buffer area and submit during the appraisal for EC.

2.4 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; Consultant: J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd] - Amendment in EC

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, located at villages Korumanipalli & Thollamadugu, Mandal- Kolimigundla, District- Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 14°58'42.488" N to 14°58'44.382" N and Longitude 78°06'01.789" E to 78°06'15.139" E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 56 J/1 and falls in Seismic Zone-II.
- ii. 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.
- iii. The instant proposal was considered in the 1st EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 27th - 29th July, 2022 wherein the EAC deferred the proposal for want of the requisite information. The Project Proponent vide letter dated 06.09.2022 submitted the information on 13.09.2022 in PARIVESH portal and accordingly the proposal was reconsidered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18th – 20th October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC and the compliance of observation of EAC made by the Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent
1	The Project Proponent needs to submit the environmental impacts arising due to amalgamation of the two mining leases.	<p>The Project Proponent reported that there will be no change in the mine lease area after amalgamation of mining lease (254.852 ha = 205.212 ha + 49.64 ha) and also there will be no change in production capacity after amalgamation of mining lease (2.1 + 0.2 = 2.30 million TPA). PP also submitted that there will be no change in the mining technology.</p> <p>PP submitted that the following mitigation measures have been taken and the same will be followed after amalgamation of mining lease to reduce the impact on environment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Drilling is being/will be carried out with the help of sharp drill bits which will help in reducing noise. ii. Secondary blasting is being/will be totally avoided and Hydraulic rock breaker will be used for breaking boulders, Charging the holes by using optimum charge and using Non electric delay detonator and controlled blasting is being/will be adopted.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">iii. Crusher is provided with sprinklers at unloading hopper.iv. Crushed raw material transportation from crusher to stacker & reclaimer through a belt conveyorv. Proper maintenance, oiling and greasing of machines at regular intervals is being done to reduce generation of noise.vi. Vehicles and machinery are kept in well-maintained condition so that emissions are minimized.vii. Regular grading of haul roads and service roads to clear accumulation of loose material.viii. Avoiding overfilling of Dumpers and consequent spillage on the roads within pit.ix. Adequate silencers with AC cabins are being/will be provided in Heavy Earth Moving Machines.x. All Mine employees are being provided with necessary PPE's.xi. Ambient Air and Noise level is being monitored. <p>PP also submitted that the no surface water body exist within the mine lease area.A check dam has been constructed outside the mine lease area between the plant and mines about a distance of 1.0 km from the existing mine across the nala by Project Proponent to make a pond for collection of water during the rainy season. Groundwater table in the area is 45 m bgl (259 m RL) and Ultimate depth of Mining will be 35 m bgl (269 m RL) and there will be no ground water table intersection. PP submitted that the water quality and level is being monitored regularly.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that the total area under greenbelt and plantation is 33.9 ha</p>
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		<p>in which 22.72 ha area has been covered with greenbelt and plantation and remaining 11.18 ha area will be done till March, 2025.</p> <p>PP also submitted the monitoring reports of ambient air quality carried out 11 locations, noise level at 7 locations and water quality at 9 locations during March-May, 2022.</p>
2	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the final closure report issued by the Integrated Regional Office (IRO) for the non-compliances identified by IRO during the site visit conducted on 08.09.2021.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the examination of the action taken report issued by the Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Vijayawada vide letter dated 29.07.2022. IRO stated that the above project was monitored by undersigned on 08.09.2021 for issue of certified compliance report. During monitoring various non-compliances were observed. Subsequently, letter was sent on 29.11.2021 to the Project Authorities (PAs) for taking corrective measures. Subsequently, the PAs have submitted Action Taken Report (ATR) vide their letter dated 02.12.2021. IRO informed that the PAs have complied or are in process of complying the conditions stipulated by the Ministry.</p>
3	<p>During the EAC meeting, the EAC observed that the Project Proponent amalgamated the mine lease on 16.03.2021 and continued to operate the mines after 16.03.2021 without obtaining amendment in Environmental Clearance (EC). Further, the EAC observed that the Project Proponent initially obtained EC on 27.08.2004 and whereas the Project Proponent submitted the authenticated past production</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the authenticated past production details separately for both the mines (ML-205.212 ha) and (ML-49.64 ha) from Department of Mines & Geology vide letter dated 22.08.2022 for the period 2004-05 to 2020-21. PP also submitted the certificate from the Department of Mines & Geology vide letter dated 22.08.2022 stating that "No Mining has been done in ML-2 after Amalgamation of Mine lease".</p>

	<p>details from the year 2006-07 to 2020-21 (ML-205.212 ha) and 2017- 18 to 2019-20 (ML-49.64 ha). Hence, the Project Proponent needs to submit the letter from the Department of Geology and Mining (DMG) in this regard for examination of violation in the Ministry. Further, PP shall submit the letter from the DMG stating that no mining has been done in ML-2 after amalgamation of mine lease as informed during the meeting.</p>	
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iv. The details of the Environmental Clearance (EC) are furnished as below:

Date of application	File. No/ Proposal No	Consideration	Details	Date of accord
Mine Lease Area: 49.64 ha				
11.08.2003	J-11015/138/2003-IA.II(M) IA/AP/MIN/21785/1910	-	Korumanipalli Limestone Mine involving a mine lease area of 49.64 ha for expansion in production of limestone at a rated capacity of 0.20 million TPA under the provisions of EIA Notification, 1994	27.08.2004
29.10.2018	SIA/AP/MIN/29197/2018	SEAC meeting held during 04 th December, 2019	Mining of Limestone in an area of 49.64 ha with the production capacity of 0.20 MTPA under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006	07.01.2020
Mine Lease Area: 205.212 ha				
23.06.2004	J-11015/141/2003-IA.II(M) IA/AP/MIN/21278/1910	-	Korumanipalli Limestone Mine involving a mine lease area of 205.212 ha to produce limestone at a rated capacity of 0.13 MTPA under the provisions of EIA Notification, 1994	27.08.2004

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23.06.2007	J-11015/ 654/2007- IA.II(M)	October 11-12, 2007	Korumanipalli Limestone Mine involving a mine lease area of 205.212 ha for expansion of limestone production from 0.13 MTPA to 2.10 MTPA under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006	02.11.2007
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v. Details of Mine lease:

S.no	Lease particulars	Date of the grant	Name of the Mineral	Period of Grant	Granted by	Mine lease area
Mine Lease Area: 49.64 ha						
1	Grant of Mining lease vide G.O.Ms. No 202 in favour of Sri GnanaSundara Rajan	22.04.1985	Limestone	19.09.1985 to 18.09.2005 (20 years)	Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	122.67 Acres or 49.64 ha
2	Transfer of Mining lease from Sri GnanaSundara Rajan to M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited vide G.O.Ms. No 75	02.02.2000	Limestone	For the remaining period of the lease i.e., up to 18.09.2005.	Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	122.67 Acres or 49.64 ha
3	1 st Renewal of Mining lease for a further period of 20 years w.e.f. 19.09.2005 vide G.O Ms No 129	28.04.2006	Limestone	19.09.2005 to 18.09.2025	Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	122.67 Acres or 49.64 ha
4	Transfer of Mining lease held by M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited to M/s Penna Limestone Quarries Limited vide G.O Ms. No 36	07.03.2007	Limestone	For the un-expired portion of the lease period i.e., up to 18.09.2025.	Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	122.67 Acres or 49.64 ha
5	Change of Name from M/s	12.02.2021	Limestone	For the un-expired	Govt. of Andhra	122.67 Acres or

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	Penna Limestone Quarries Limited to M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited vide Memo No.INC01-MG0MAJM/3/2021-M-III			portion of the lease period i.e., up to 18.09.2025.	Pradesh	49.64 ha
Mine Lease Area: 205.212 ha						
1	Grant of Mining lease vide G.O.Ms. No 242 in favour of M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited	19.08.2003	Limestone	29.01.2004 to 28.01.2024 (20 years)	Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	507.08 Acres or 205.212 ha
Amalgamation of mining leases: 629.75 Acres or 254.856 ha						
1	Amalgamation of two mining leases held by M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited over an extent of 507.08 Acres and 122.67 Acres as one mining lease for a total extent of 629.75 Acres vide G.O Ms No: 18	16.03.2021	Limestone	Co-terminus with the mining lease period up to 18.09.2035 on which one ML of the two expires first, in terms of Rule 56 of Minerals (Other Than Atomic & Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 duly treating the lease period deemed to have been extended up to 18.09.2035 as per Section 8 (A) (5) of MM (D&R) Amendment	Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	629.75 Acres or 254.856 ha

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				Act, 2015		
2	Proceedings of the Asst. Director of Mines and Geology, Banaganapalle vide Proceedings No: 1196/M4/2007	24.03.2021	Limestone	For the Lease Period up to 18.09.2035	Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	629.75 Acres or 254.856 ha
3	Supplementary lease deed	24.03.2021	Limestone	For the Lease Period up to 18.09.2035	Supplementary lease deed made between the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited	629.75 Acres or 254.856 ha

vi. Details of Mining Plan:

S.no	Particulars	Date of approval	Name of the Mineral	Mine lease area, Ha	Validity	Land Use, Ha
1	Modified Mining Plan (Progressive Mine Closure Plan) approved by the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) vide Lr No F.No AP/KNL/MP/LST-148/HYD	08.06.2021	Limestone	254.856 ha	2021-22 to 2025-26	Govt. Waste land: 87.15 Ha & Pvt. Agricultural un irrigated land: 167.70 ha

- vii. Now, the Project Proponent requested to amalgamate both the EC's held by M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited vide EC dated 02.11.2007 over an area of 205.212 ha with Limestone production capacity of 2.10 MTPA and EC dated 07.01.2020 over an area of 49.64 ha with Limestone production capacity of 0.20 MTPA into single EC over an area of 254.856 ha with Limestone production capacity of 2.30 MTPA. PP also submitted that two

mining leases are compact and contiguous and share the common boundary. Therefore, considering mineral conservation and environmental issues, principles of safe and scientific mining and to maintenance of statutory records, process of administration, etc., M/s Penna Cement Industries Limited amalgamated these two contiguous lease into a single mine lease over an area of 254.856 ha and the same has been accorded by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O Ms No: 18 dated 16.03.2021. Further, PP submitted that the amalgamation simplifies and maintenance of environment parameters and facilitates complete extraction of limestone in between these two lease boundaries, conservation plan and due to which State Government will get more revenue.

- viii. The Project Proponent submitted the authenticated past production details issued from the Office of the Asst. Director of Mines and Geology, Banaganapalle over an area of 205.212 Ha for the period from 2006-07 to 2020-21 and over an area of 49.64 Ha for the period from 2017-18 to 2019-20 and over an area of 254.856 Ha for the period 2021-22.

S. No	Mine Lease Area: 205.212 ha			S. No	Mine Lease Area: 49.64 ha		
	Year	Limestone Production (MTPA)	EC Capacity (MTPA)		Year	Limestone Production (MTPA)	EC Capacity (MTPA)
1	2004-05	0	0.13	1	2006-07	-	0.20
2	2005-06	0	0.13	2	2007-08	-	0.20
3	2006-07	0.03	2.10	3	2008-09	-	0.20
4	2007-08	1.64	2.10	4	2009-10	-	0.20
5	2008-09	1.63	2.10	5	2010-11	-	-
6	2009-10	1.67	2.10	6	2011-12	-	-
7	2010-11	1.45	2.10	7	2012-13	-	-
8	2011-12	1.15	2.10	8	2013-14	-	-
9	2012-13	1.23	2.10	9	2014-15	-	-
10	2013-14	1.14	2.10	10	2015-16	-	-
11	2014-15	0.97	2.10	11	2016-17	-	-
12	2015-16	0.94	2.10	12	2017-18	0.11	-
13	2016-17	0.86	2.10	13	2018-19	0.16	-
14	2017-18	0.42	2.10	14	2019-20	0.15	0.20
15	2018-19	0.62	2.10	15	2020-21	-	0.20
16	2019-20	0.44	2.10				
17	2020-21	0.47	2.10				
S. No	Mine Lease Area: 254.856 ha						
	Year	Limestone Production (MTPA)	EC Capacity (MTPA)	Excess Production (MTPA)			
1	2021-22	0.77	2.30	-			

- ix. The Project Proponent submitted the Certified Compliance Report issued by the Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada vide Lr No File No. IRO/VIJ/EPA/MISC/111-01/2021 dated 29.11.2021 for the two EC's dated 02.11.2007 and 07.01.2020. The site was conducted on 08.09.2021.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC deliberated on the additional details submitted by the Project Proponent. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that there will be no change in the mine lease area after amalgamation of mining lease (205.212 ha + 49.64 ha = 254.852 ha) and no change in production capacity after amalgamation of mining lease (2.1 + 0.2 = 2.30 million TPA) and also there will be no change in the mining technology. The Project Proponent also informed that wet drilling, secondary blasting, controlled blasting, avoiding overfilling of dumpers, proper maintenance, water sprinkling and monitoring of water quality are being undertaken by the Project Proponent to reduce the impact on environment. The Project Proponent also has shown the photographs of the wet drilling arrangement, muck pile wetting arrangement, water sprinkling on haul road & ramp and dedicated cement concrete road for transport of Limestone to Crusher. Further, the Project Proponent informed that the total area under greenbelt and plantation is 33.9 ha, out of which 22.72 ha area has been already covered with greenbelt and plantation and the remaining area of 11.18 ha will be completed by March, 2025 and shown the photographs of the greenbelt/plantation already carried out.

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.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the examination of the action taken report was issued by the Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Vijayawada vide letter dated 29.07.2022 and the non-compliances w.r.t to land use pattern of the nearby villages, development of water bodies for pisciculture and financial closure and final approval of the project have been addressed. 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 (Prior-EC) 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.

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.**

2.5 Amendment in EC dated 30.05.2022 for Surda Copper Mine for production of 0.9 million TPA (ROM) by M/s Hindustan Copper Ltd., located at village (s) - Surda, Sohada, Pathargora, Benashole villages and Forest Block No. 1098, Tehsil - Ghatsila, District - East Singhbhum, Jharkhand (MLA: 323.16 ha out of 388.68 ha) – [F.No: J-11015/80/2012-IA-II(M), Proposal No: IA/JH/MIN/26614/2012, Consultant: Nil] – Amendment in EC

The instant proposal is for amendment in EC dated 30.05.2022 for Surda Copper Mine for production of 0.9 million TPA (ROM) in the mine lease area of 323.16 ha out of 388.68 ha by M/s Hindustan Copper Ltd., located at village (s) - Surda, Sohada, Pathargora, Benashole villages and Forest Block No. 1098, Tehsil - Ghatsila, District - East Singhbhum, Jharkhand.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 22°32'42"N to 22°34'19"N and Longitude 86°25'41"E to 86°26'42"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 73 J/6 and falls in Seismic Zone-II.
- ii. 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.

- iii. The project was granted Environmental Clearance by the Ministry vide letter dated 30.05.2022 based on the recommendation of EAC (Violation) meeting held during August 6-7, 2020.
- iv. Now, the Project Proponent requested for amendment in EC dated 30.05.2022 w.r.t amendment in mine lease area from 323.16 ha to 388.68 ha in order to execute the mine lease deed over an area of 388.68 ha. PP submitted the following reasons which mandates for amendment in EC
 - i. Govt. of Jharkhand vide order dtd. 06.01.2022 have extended the lease period of Surda ML over an area 388.68 ha w.e.f. 01.04.2020 till 31.03.2040 as per provision of Mineral (Mining by Government Company) Rules, 2015.
 - ii. EIA-EMP, Public Hearing have been conducted over an area of 388.68 ha.
 - iii. The total mine lease area is 388.68 ha having 149.03 ha of forest land which consists of 83.51 ha diverted forest area (31.07 ha for Surface utilization & 52.44 ha for Underground activities) and yet to divert 65.52 ha. For remaining area of 65.52 ha, NPV for an amount of Rs 52,61,256.0 has already been deposited in the Ad-hoc CAMPA fund of Govt. of Jharkhand as per demand note of Forest Dept., letter dated 24.03.2022.
 - iv. Mining Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines vide letter dated 27.04.2022 over an area of 388.68 ha, with a restriction of mining activities within an area of 323.16 ha.
 - v. Environmental Clearance was granted by the Ministry vide letter dated 30.05.2022 for Surda Copper Mine for production of 0.9 million TPA (ROM) by M/s Hindustan Copper Ltd., located at village (s) - Surda, Sohada, Pathargora, Benashole villages and Forest Block No. 1098, Tehsil - Ghatsila, District - East Singhbhum, Jharkhand (MLA: 323.16 ha).
 - vi. Govt. of Jharkhand vide letter dated 29.08.2022 mandated to have similarity between mining lease area of 388.68 ha with EC accorded area in order to execute the mining lease deed.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC noted that the instant proposal is for amendment in EC dated 30.05.2022 w.r.t amendment in mine lease area from 323.16 ha to 388.68 ha in order to execute the mine lease deed over an area of 388.68 ha. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the EC was obtained on 30.05.2022 for production of 0.9 million TPA (ROM) in the mine lease area of 323.16 ha. Project Proponent also informed the EAC that the total mine lease area is 388.68 ha, out of which forest land is 149.030 ha, already diverted area is 83.51 ha (31.07 ha for Surface utilization & 52.44 ha for Underground activities) and the area yet to be diverted is 65.52 ha. Further, the Project Proponent informed the EAC that in view of the forest diversion, EC has been restricted to 323.16 ha whereas the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)/Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Public Hearing have been conducted over an area of 388.68 ha.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Govt. of Jharkhand vide order dated 06.01.2022 has extended the lease period of Surda mine lease over an area of 388.68 ha w.e.f. 01.04.2020 to 31.03.2040 as per provision of Mineral (Mining by Government Company) Rules, 2015. Project Proponent also informed that the Govt. of Jharkhand vide letter dated 29.08.2022 mandated to have similarity between mining lease area of 388.68 ha with EC accorded area in order to execute the mining lease deed. The Project Proponent also has shown the land use pattern over an area of 388.68 ha including the unutilized area of the forest land of 65.52 ha for which FC is yet to be obtained and Project Proponent also informed that the Net present value (NPV) for an amount of Rs 52,61,256.0 has already been deposited in the Ad-hoc CAMPA fund of Govt. of Jharkhand as per demand note of Forest Dept., letter dated 24.03.2022. Further, Project Proponent informed that no mining activities will be undertaken over an area of 65.52 ha and the mining activities will be restricted to 323.16 ha only out of total mine lease area of 388.68 ha as per the Mining Plan approved by the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM). Project Proponent also informed the EAC that there is no court case/litigation pending against the project.

Based on the above discussions held, the EAC (Non-Coal Mining) **recommended** the proposal during the 5th EAC meeting held during 18th-20th, October, 2022 for amendment in EC dated 30.05.2022 for Surda Copper Mine of M/s Hindustan Copper Ltd., for production capacity of 0.9 million TPA (ROM) in the mine lease area of 323.16 ha out of 388.68 ha, located at village (s) - Surda, Sohada, Pathargora, Benashole villages and Forest Block No. 1098, Tehsil - Ghatsila, District: East Singhbhum, Jharkhand along with the following additional specific conditions: -

- i. Mining activity shall be restricted over an area of 323.16 ha only.
- ii. No mining activities shall be carried out over an area of 65.52 ha for which the Stage-I FC is yet to be obtained.
- iii. Skill training as per safety norms specified by DGMS shall be provided to all workmen including the outsourcing employees to ensure high safety standards in mines.
- iv. The Project Proponent shall undertake Occupational Health survey for initial and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project and maintain the records digitally.
- v. Efforts should be made to reduce energy and fuel consumption by conservation, efficiency improvements and use of renewable energy.

- vi. Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. All the vehicles engaged in mining and allied activities shall operate only after obtaining 'PUC' certificate from the authorized pollution testing centres. PP shall explore the possibility of engaging electric vehicles/CNG to reduce the diesel consumption.
- vii. The Project Proponent shall submit the action taken report and the amount spent towards the Ecological Damage Assessment, Natural Resource Augmentation Plan (NRAP), and Community Resource Augmentation Plan (CRAP) to the Ministry's Integrated Regional Office.
- viii. 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. Compliance of this condition after the mining activity is over at the cost of the mining lease holders/Project Proponent".
- ix. All other terms and conditions mentioned in the EC letter dated 30.05.2022 shall remain unchanged.

Day 3: 20th October, 2022 (Thursday)

3.1 Taliha Graphite Deposit of M/s Sthenos Cement Private Limited for mining of Graphite with proposed production capacity of 4,10,879 TPA (ROM) of Graphite, Topsoil: 82,201.99 TPA, OB/SB/IB: 3,58,926.45 TPA, Total Excavation: 8,52,007.4 TPA along with the setting up of three mobile crushers at pit mouth with capacity of 100 t/h each to crush the mineralized material to <80 mm size in the mine lease area of 496.0 Ha, located at Village Taliha, Tehsil Taliha, Upper Subansiri District, Arunachal Pradesh – [F.No: IA-J-11015/32/2022-IA-II(NCM), Proposal No: IA/AR/MIN/285470/2022, Consultant: VardanEnviroNet] –Terms of Reference (ToR)

The instant proposal is for mining of Graphite in Taliha Graphite Deposit with proposed production capacity of 4,10,879 TPA (ROM) of Graphite, Topsoil: 82,201.99 TPA, OB/SB/IB: 3,58,926.45 TPA, Total Excavation: 8,52,007.4 TPA along with the setting up of three mobile crushers at pit mouth with capacity of 100 t/h each to crush the mineralized material to <80 mm size in the mine lease area of 496.0 Ha, located at Village Taliha, Tehsil Taliha, Upper Subansiri District, Arunachal Pradesh.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 28°13'30.539"N to 28°14'41.651"N and Longitude: 94°07'6.850" E to 94°09'26.539"E. The mine

lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 82L/4 and falls in Seismic Zone-V.

- ii. 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.
- iii. The proposal was earlier considered in the 2nd EAC (Non-Coal Mining) Meeting held during 16th - 18th August, 2022 wherein the EAC deferred the proposal for want of requisite information. The Project Proponent vide letter dated 13.09.2022 submitted the information in PARIVESH portal on 14.09.2022 and accordingly the proposal was reconsidered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18th- 20th October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC and the compliance of observation of EAC made by the Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent
1	The EAC asked the Project Proponent to verify the safety distance as per the mines act and rules.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the Taliha Graphite mining plan, maps and sections have been prepared as per prevailing provision of statute applicable to mines viz. MMDR act 1957, MCDR 2017, MEMC Rules 2015, The Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Mineral) Concession Rules, 2016 & MMR 1961.</p> <p>PP submitted that 45 m wide safety zone along Road (excluding safety zone along ML boundary) has been maintained. Extent of protective buffer area for road is 70.64 Ha which is 14.24% of the total area. PP also submitted that 60 m wide safety zone along river and non-perennial nala course (excluding safety zone along ML boundary) has been maintained. Extent of protective buffer area for water bodies is 98.67 Ha, which is 19.89% of the total area. Total buffer area left under the safety zone along roads, river and non-perennial nala course (excluding safety zone along ML boundary) covers an area of 169.31 Ha which is 34.13 % of the total area.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that following</p>

		<p>additional precautions will also be taken to minimize any detrimental impact:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Blast hole will be initiated by non-electric down the hole delay detonator ii. Care will be taken to avoid excessive burden by keeping long & straight face. iii. Optimum charge per delay will be kept as low as possible. iv. Adoption of two row blasting in 'V' pattern. v. If required, blast hole will be adequately muffled to arrest any flying fragment at the collar level of blast hole itself. vi. Controlled blasting will be in practice during mining operation and secondary blasting shall be avoided by deploying rock breaker whenever necessary. vii. Necessary ground vibration study, impact study and detailed blasting study will be conducted within Mining Lease area and submitted with the EIA report.
2	<p>The EAC observed that there are three villages within the mine lease area with a total population of 2,389. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that no settlement is going to be affected, so no rehabilitation and resettlement plan is anticipated. The EAC was of the view that the status of R&R plan still needs to be ascertained by the Project Proponent.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the proposed area to be mined currently i.e., GR-4 (working pit) is located at an avg. aerial distance of 250 m from the habitation (Taliha Village). Controlled blasting will be done during the mining operation. Impact of controlled blasting will be very limited & localized and shall not propagate any shock wave, air blast or flying fragments away from the site of blasting. Mining site is quite far from the village habitation. So, there will be no relocation/shifting of the locals. Hence R&R plan is not applicable on the project during the plan period.</p> <p>PP also submitted that as per the approved mining plan calculations, only very less number of dumpers (<5 dumpers/day in initial 3 years, around 10-15 dumpers/day in 4th year and around 80 dumpers/day in the</p>

		<p>5thyear) will be deployed for material shifting (Graphite bearing material and wastes). Two existing roads (Road 1 and Road 2) are already present within the ML area, continuing towards the southern side of the ML boundary. Road 1 and 2 are connecting working pit (GR4) and temporary location of dump and stock yard to the southern side of ML boundary respectively and continuing beyond the southern ML boundary.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that as per the advice of the EAC, PP proposed to connect both the roads (Road 1 and 2) outside the ML area for Graphite ore dispatch and temporary stock/dump yard access to avoid any dumper movement along the existing road passing through the Taliha village. This new connecting bypass will completely nullify any dumper traffic movement along the existing road passing through the habitations. Provision of road strengthening shall also be proposed during the mine operation period, if necessary.</p> <p>The entire mining activities in Taliha Graphite Mining Plan has been planned in such a way that it will not affect any local habitats in any way. Also, all types of safety measures will be executed during mining activities so that the entire system will neither bring harm to local people nor any issues of Rehabilitation & Resettlement will arise during the mining operation. PP also submitted the map showing the proposed transport route to and from the working pit area.</p>
3	The Project Proponent should bring out the action plan for shifting the dump, Sewage Treatment Plant (STP)/Effluent Treatment	The Project Proponent reported that the entire ML area being a very undulating terrain with a northwardly general slope of 1 in 3. The location proposed for temporary location of dump & mineral stock yard is at

	<p>Plant (ETP) as well as habitation away from the river and to give detailed note on proper justification for site selection for dump.</p>	<p>approx. 100 m south (aerial distance) of Subansiri river course. This portion of the lease area is relatively moderately levelled terrain because slope of this portion is 1 in 8.</p> <p>PP also reported that all the nearby areas, close to the working pit are having higher elevation than the working pit's elevation (Top and bottom RL of the working pit are 650 m and 595 m respectively, during 5 years plan period). Moreover, its slope is also rather steep around 1 in 2. Therefore, if dump disposal is planned near to the working pit area, it could attract environmental & safety hazards in terms of dump sliding, subsidence along slopes, rolling down of boulders, seepage of water from higher elevation etc. Hence, disposal of dump & stock yard is proposed in a comparatively less undulating terrain and in lower elevation (RL- approx. 360m). As per mine's safety and adhering to the mining plan, a dump cannot be planned at higher elevation than the working pit elevation. Hence, this temporary dump location has been selected being the only area available (as per current scenario) at the lower elevation. The current temporary dump yard is located at an aerial distance of approx. 100 m from the bank of the Subansiri River. Besides it, a 60 m wide safety Buffer zone from the closest bank profile of Subansiri river has also been ear marked.</p> <p>PP submitted that at present five mineralized zones trending along NE-SW have been established within the mining lease area. As per rule 14(4) of Mineral Conservation & Development Rules 2017, <i>"the ground selected for dumping of overburden, waste material, the sub-grade or non-saleable ores or minerals shall be</i></p>
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		<p><i>proved for absence or presence of underlying mineral deposits before it is brought into use for dumping".</i> As per the approved mining plan, G1 level exploration will be commenced from 1st year in 50 m x 50 m grid pattern. As a part of the exploration program, boreholes would be drilled to earmark no ore zone within mining lease area. At the end of the exploration program, permanent dump will be constructed in the no ore zone and till then dumping and stacking would be done temporarily in the location earmarked as temporary dump and stock yard. Very nominal (19,681 tonnes) quantity of waste would be dumped in the temporary dump yard as majority of the waste (quartzite, gneiss & calc-silicate) would be absorbed/utilized to develop infrastructure, construction work, environmental measures etc. being a Greenfield project as well as making of other protective work e.g. Gabion structured retaining wall, haul road protective parapet/bund making along roads to ensure vehicular moment safety against accidental fall of vehicle in hill slope/valley.</p> <p>PP also submitted that the nearby areas to the working pit (Mineralized Zone GR4) and other GRs (Mineralized Zones) are expected to be potentially mineralized as per the exploratory mineral evidences derived from the existing mineralization trend. Garland drain (width 3 m in pit area and 1.5 m in temporary dump and stock location and depth 2 m), retaining wall (width 1 m, height 2 m), Check dam (Height 1.5 m; width 5 m), settling tank would be constructed around the temporary dump location. There would be zero discharge/release of fines from the temporary dump location. PP also</p>
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		<p>submitted the geological plan showing the mineralized zone within the mine lease area.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that as per approved mining plan, the location chosen for temporary dumping, is surrounded in north by Subansiri river, in west and south-west by Taliha village and in east and south-east by existing road (NH13) but located sufficiently away from all these features. Beside it, proposed location for temporary dumping is a very small area (0.55 Ha.) and also surrounded by 'road buffer' of 45m and 'river/non-perennial nala buffer' of 60m (as additional protective measure). It is therefore nullifying any possible mining activities here in near future. Thus, the location itself is a very suitable location for temporary dump. Dump stability study will also be carried out and submitted with the EIA report.</p> <p>PP submitted that the Proposed location of Mineral stock and temporary dump yard plan has been approved by IBM as part of the current mining and progressive mine closure plan with due adherence to scientific, systematic development of mineral deposit, mineral conservation and environment protection aspect. Presently, it is not feasible to relocate the currently proposed temporary dump & stock area nearer to the pit area.</p> <p>PP also submitted that the current location of mine infrastructure has been planned in such a way that it is at a nearest safe distance from the working pit, temporary dump-stock location. Also, this proposed infrastructure ensures that in no way it will affect the local village people. As per the advice of the EAC, PP revised the location</p>
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		and number of ETP from 6 to 3 and STP from 6 no.s to 2 no.s.
4	The Project Proponent needs to give proper justification for utilization of land use pattern in the core zone till the conceptual period.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the Configuration of the area is elongated along E-W. It is largely inaccessible due to highly rugged and dissected topography with steep slope. Its elevation is ranging between 315 m (near the river) and 740 m (southwardly). The area is drained mainly by Subansiri River passing from the northern part of the area and flows southwards. A number of non-perennial drainages are well distributed over the area of operation. Drainage of the area is mainly controlled by the gullies and valleys of the terrain as well as the natural slope of the area. Safety Buffer zone of 60 m width have been earmarked for all drainage features. Besides its Safety buffer zone for roads, hamlet & villages have also been marked.</p> <p>PP also submitted that five numbers of Mineralized zones namely GR-1, GR-2, GR-3, GR-4 & GR-5 trending generally along NE-SW have been identified in the lease area. These ore zones occur as irregular pockets but significant portion of mineralized strike length over 5-6 km length is yet to be explored. Accordingly detailed exploration program has been proposed in the mining plan to undertake detailed exploration in entire remaining area by 983 bore holes to be drilled in a pattern of 50 m x 50 m. Proposed exploration area covers approx. (50m x 50m x 983= 24,57,500 m²=245.75 Ha. (As per approved Mining Plan). Total Mining lease area required as on today is: Area Already explored + Proposed exploration area = Approx. 250.00 Ha for direct mining for excavation of total sanctioned M.L area of 496.0 Ha. PP also submitted that out of total mine lease area of 496 ha, around 240 ha, area is</p>

		already ear marked as protective buffer for road, water bodies, safety zone along boundary, village etc.
5	The Project Proponent needs to explore the possibility of increasing the capacity of the mobile crusher and reduce the number of mobile crushers from five to three.	The Project Proponent reported that the maximum production would be achieved during 5 th year i.e., approx. 4,11,000 tonnes, No. of working days estimated in a year is 200 days (D), No. of working shift / day-1 in no. (S), Maximum no. of hours/shift- 7 hrs. (H) and Mobile crusher capacity – 100 tph (C). Hence 3 nos. of mobile crusher of existing proposed capacity will be sufficient during ensuing five-year mining period. Accordingly, PP will manage the mining operation with three (3) numbers of crushers instead of five (5), to comply EAC observation and suggestion.
6	The Project Proponent needs to submit the current status of the mine lease area/ mining plan from the State Government w.r.t Section 10(A)(2)(b) of MMDR Amendment Act, 2021.	The Project Proponent submitted that there is no order of revocation of the mining plan presently in effect, as this revocation has been stayed by an order of the Hon'ble High Court of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh on 08.03.2022. The said stay order is subsisting since it has been continued by subsequent orders dated 04.04.2022, 26.04.2022 and 31.08.2022. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in Shree Chamundi Mopeds Ltd. v. Church of South India Trust Assn., (1992) 3 SCC 1 at 10 makes it clear that an order that has been stayed would not be operative from the date of the passing of the stay order. This means that during the pendency of the stay, it will be as if the order was never passed. In effect, today, there is a valid mining plan for this mining lease, and hence there is no impediment in law for the EAC to consider the present application.

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	21.08.2019	Graphite	496	50 years	Govt. of Arunachal

Minutes of 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022

	mining lease vide Lr No DGM/ML/GHP T/SCPL/470/2 019/3014-3020					Pradesh
2	Grant of mining lease vide Lr No DGM/ML/GHP T/SCPL/470/2 019/4019-32	29.01.2021	Graphite	496	50 years	Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh

v. 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.	05.02.2021	04.02.2071	Mining lease deed executed on 29.01.2021 between the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and M/s Sthenos Cement Private Limited and registered on 05.02.2021 for the term of 50 years.

vi. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine lease area:

Private land	476.78 ha
Public road	7.74 ha
River	11.48 ha
Total Mining lease area (MLA)	496.00 ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	None

vii. Mining Plan details:

Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)	Letter No.	IBM/GHY/AP/US/GRPT/MP-95
	Date	12.08.2021
	Mineral	Graphite
	Mine lease area	496 Ha
	Validity	2021-22 to 2025-26
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Fully mechanized open cast mining method with formation of benches by drilling and blasting	
Total Mineable Reserves	29,29,424 Tonnes	
Life of mine	12 years (as per present reserve and resources and likely to be enhanced subject to the outcome of the proposed future exploration)	
Bench Height	5 m	

Bench Width	7.5 m
Individual bench slope	70°
Overall pit slope	28°
Drilling/Blasting	Drilling will be carried out using 100 mm dia. Drill with 2 m burden & 3m spacing and 5.5 m. Approx. 29 number of holes will be required to be blasted per day. Emulsion/slurry explosive/ ammonium nitrate fuel oil mixture (ammonium nitrate: fuel oil = 94:6 by weight) may be used. Total 38,688 kg of explosive will be required per month.
Dumpers capacity	20 tonne
Transportation details	Graphite ore within the mine lease area: through dumper of 20 t capacity. Sized Graphite Ore outside the mine lease area: through covered truck. The excavated waste and Graphite bearing material (GBM) will be transported to dump and stock yard respectively through trucks.
Mineral Processing	No mineral processing proposed, only five mobile crushers at pit mouth with capacity of 100 t/h each to crush the mineralized material to <80 mm size
Waste Generation	PP submitted that the waste includes top soil, graphite bearing material, gneisses (calc gneiss, biotite gneiss, granite gneiss), calc silicate rock and quartzite. PP reported that it is estimated that around 32,016.91 cu.m of Topsoil, 35,543.38 cu.m. of Gneisses and Calcsilicate rock, 1,37,789.54 cu.m of graphite bearing material and 503.78 m ³ of quartzite will be generated during plan period.
Waste Management	PP reported that the Topsoil will be reused for plantation purposes, immediately upon excavation. The entire quantity of quartzite and approx. 66% of excavated quantity of gneiss (calc gneiss, granite gneiss, biotite gneiss) and calc silicate rock would be utilized for road, safety berm, retaining wall (protective measures) construction and all other infrastructure development. Rest approx. 34% of gneisses and calc silicate rock would be kept as dump. The graphite bearing material will be temporarily stocked in stockyard. Periodically, it would be analyzed from government laboratory and after analysis, the material having FC value ≥2% (Threshold value) would be sold accordingly.

Working days	200 days/ year, 1 shift/day, 7 hours/shift
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viii. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	274.0 KLD	Fresh water	274.0 KLD
		Treated water	-
Source	Subansiri River/ Ground water, with prior permission		
Permission	PP submitted that the permission will be obtained prior to mining operation		
Wastewater Generation	PP reported that 3.2 m ³ /day domestic waste water will be discharged via septic tank.		

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

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Direction
Village	Taliha	Within the mine lease area
Town	Daporijo	44 km, South
Railway station	Silapathar	260 km, SE
Highway	NH-13	44 km, S
River	Subansiri River	Within the mine lease area

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	No	PP reported that there is no forest land involved in the mine lease area and the same has been confirmed by the DFO (Daporijo Forest Division) vide letter dated 25.06.2022.
National Park	No	
Wildlife Sanctuary	No	
Eco Sensitive Zone	No	

xi. Green belt/plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation	0.845 ha
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	7.59
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	69.1 ha for nalla. 45 m wide safety zone along Road (excluding safety zone along ML boundary): 70.64 ha 60 m wide safety zone along River course (excluding safety zone along ML boundary): 29.57 Ha
Additional information (if any)	PP reported that approx. 125 trees to be cut and that the trees are of non-forestry species, and necessary permissions would be obtained, if required, since land is privately owned

	and is certified not to be a forest area.
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xii. Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R):

R & R details	PP submitted that there are three villages within the mine lease area with total of 2,389no.speopleresiding. However, as no settlement is going to be affected, so no rehabilitation and resettlement facility is anticipated.
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xiii. Court case details:

Court Case	<p>Yes, a) Name of Court: Hon'ble High Court Gauhati b) Case no: WP(C)/1104/2022</p> <p>The Project Proponent reported that there is a court case pending before the Hon'ble High Court Gauhati vide WP (C)/1104/2022 titled STHENOS CEMENT PRIVATE LIMITED and ANR, v. the Union of India and 3 Ors. The petition challenges the revocation of the mining plan of Sthenos Cement Private limited by the regional Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines, Bhubaneswar. The Hon'ble High Court has on 08.03.2022 stayed the operation of the revocation of the approval of the Mining Plan. The said stay has been continued by subsequent orders dated 04.04.2022 26.04.2022 and 31.08.2022. The said stay order is valid and subsisting.</p>
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xiv. Details of Project Cost and Employment:

Particulars	(Rs. In Crore)
Project Cost	78.82 Crores
Employment	127 nos.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC deliberated on the additional details submitted by the Project Proponent. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the mining plan, maps and sections have been prepared as per prevailing provision of statute applicable to mines viz. MMDR act 1957, MCDR 2017, MEMC Rules 2015, The Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Mineral) Concession Rules, 2016 & MMR 1961. PP also informed the EAC that the 45 m wide safety zone along road (excluding safety zone along ML boundary) has been maintained. Extent of protective buffer area for road is 70.64 Ha which is 14.24% of the total area. Further, PP informed that 60 m wide safety zone along river and non-perennial nala course (excluding safety zone along ML boundary) has been maintained. Extent of protective buffer area for water bodies is 98.67 Ha, which is 19.89% of the total area. Total buffer area left under the safety zone along roads, river and non-perennial nala

course (excluding safety zone along ML boundary) covers an area of 169.31 Ha which is 34.13 % of the total area.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the location chosen for temporary dumping, is surrounded in north by Subansiri river, in west and south-west by Taliha village and in east and south-east by existing road (NH13) but located sufficiently away from all these features and the location proposed for temporary dumping is also a very small area (0.55 Ha).

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Mining Plan was revoked on the ground that the (i) Mining Plan has been approved after the grant/execution of the lease deed and (ii) the rights of the Project Proponent had been extinguished on 28.03.2021 in the absence of an executed lease, in view of the MMDR Amendment Act, 2021. Thereafter, the Project Proponent challenged the revocation of the approval of the Mining Plan in the Hon'ble High Court of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh and the Hon'ble High Court on 08.03.2022 has stayed the operation of the revocation of the approval of the Mining Plan. The said stay has been continued by subsequent orders dated 04.04.2022, 26.04.2022 and 31.08.2022 Further, the Project Proponent said that the stay order is valid and subsisting. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to submit the undertaking in this regard and also asked the Project Proponent to update the status of the court regularly to the Ministry. PP submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 20.10.2022 stating that the "Project Proponent will be bound by further orders of the Hon'ble High Court at Guwahati in WP(C) 1104/2022, subject to remedies of appeal before the Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court and the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

The mine lease is located in the north eastern region and falls under seismic zone V. The EAC noted that the project site has hilly terrain and is rich in greenery. Three villages are located in the lease area and 34 villages are within 5 kilo meters distance. The subanshiri river flows through the mine lease area. The drainage of the area is mainly controlled by the gullis and valley of the terrain as well as the natural slope of the area. The proposed mining shall result in topographical changes that will require stabilization. The project also involves construction activities to meet the infrastructure needs for the mine. In view of the above, the EAC opined that a sub-committee comprising of EAC members and Officials of the Ministry may visit the site to ascertain the ground realities of the project. Therefore, the EAC **deferred** the proposal.

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-IA-II(M), Proposal No: IA/OR/MIN/180360/2020, Consultant: Kalyani Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.] - Environmental Clearance

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

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

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 21°46'52.12" to 21°49'04.55"N and Longitude: 85°07'55.43" to 85°09'10.42"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 73/G1 and falls in Seismic Zone-III.
- ii. 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.
- iii. The proposal was earlier considered in the 52ndEAC meeting (Non-Coal Mining) held during 14th-15thJune, 2022 wherein the EAC was of the view that the Consultant were not able to bring out the technical details, observed to be unprepared and the performance of the consultant was not satisfactory and further the EAC asked the Consultant to revise the technical presentation. Based on the discussions held and detailed deliberations, the EAC deferred the proposal for want of requisite information. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 25.08.2022 in Parivesh portal. The Ministry examined the proposal and found that the Project Proponent submitted the information for the 13 no. of points only and hence requested the Project Proponent to submit the complete information on Parivesh portal. Accordingly, the Project Proponent submitted the information on 22.09.2022 in Parivesh portal and the proposal was reconsidered in the 5thEAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022.

Based on the observation of EAC and the compliance of observation of EAC made by the Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent
1	As committed by the Project Proponent,	The Project Proponent submitted that the mining operation is being continued for production of 40,000

	<p>mining operation shall be stopped if the validity of the vesting order is not extended beyond 28.06.2022 (executed the mine lease deed on 29.06.2020) since EC/CTO has not been obtained within the stipulated 2 years timeline.</p>	<p>TPA Manganese ore based on subsequent Vesting Order issued by Steel and Mines Department, Govt. of Odisha vide order no. 2076/SM/ SM-MC1-MIS.0017-2020 dated 07.03.2022 stating that the all the valid rights, approvals, clearances, licences and the like vested in the previous lessee in respect of the mining block are deemed to have vested and transferred in favour of the holder of the letter of intent on the same terms and conditions of every rights, approvals, clearances, licenses and the like which vested with previous lessee till expiry or termination of mining lease granted. The order is the partial modification to the previous Vesting Order Vide No. 4246/SM dated 30.05.2020. PP also submitted that the transfer process of all statutory approvals/clearances are being undertaken by the concerned Department of State/Central Govt.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>The Project Proponent needs to comply the Specific Terms of Reference (ii) w.r.t Compliance of mining plan, including waste and OB dump management, mine closure plan etc., Compliance to Common cause judgment, Status of R&R, Compliance of plantation, Compliance of public hearing issues and Status of complaints/court cases/legal action.</p>	<p>I. Compliance of mining plan and Mine Closure Plan:</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that the previous mining plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) vide approval No MPM/OTFM/24-ORI/BHU/2018-19/1367 dated 06.09.2018 in favour of M/s Aryan Mining and Trading Corporation Limited. After the auction of the lease the mining plan has been prepared by M/s Patnaik Minerals Private Limited and has been approved the IBM, Ministry of Mines vide letter no. MP/A/17-ORI/BHU/2020-21 dated 01.10.2020. The mining activity in the lease area is continuing as per the previous mining details and production plan. The new mining plan will be effective after obtaining environment clearance as this proposal is for enhancement in production from the lease area.</p> <p>PP also submitted that earlier the mine was operated by M/s AMTC for only Manganese ore. It was A-Category mines and operated by other than Semi mechanised Method in two shift basis. The mining operation is being continuing as per the existing method of mining.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that earlier the waste</p>

		<p>generated from the mines has been dumped in the non-mineralized area. Out of 6 waste dumps, at present only one active dump is there where the present waste is being dumped. The precautionary and protective measures adopted as per the EC and mining plan. Mine closure plan has been prepared by M/s Patnaik Minerals Private Limited and approved by concerned authority as per the present proposal for enhancement in production of manganese ore and production of Iron ore from the lease area.</p> <p>II. Compliance to Common cause judgment:</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that as the lease has been granted in favour of M/s Patnaik Minerals Private Limited on 29.06.2020, the common cause judgment is not applicable for this mine.</p> <p>III. Compliance to R&R:</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that as the lease area is devoid of any human habitation/ villages, No R& R plan involved in the project.</p> <p>IV. Compliance to plantation:</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that at the time of lease allocation, the safety zone plantation along 7.5 m lease boundary has been completed by the previous lessee (9.066 Ha) with a count 23,150 no.s. The safety zone plantation over an area of 6.7 Ha along the road side and 28.134 Ha along Nala have been already undertaken with a count of 18,000 no.s and 82,000 no.s respectively by the previous lessee. Further backfilled area and dump plantation on dead dumps has been carried out over an area of 19.85 Ha with a count of 57,559 no.s. The existing plantations within the lease area are well grown. PP also submitted that an amount of Rs.58.0 Lakhs has been allocated for development of greenbelt and annual expenses for green belt maintenance will be Rs. 10.0 Lakhs.</p>
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		<p>V. Compliance to Public Hearing:</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that the earlier public hearing details are not available with the present lessee. However, six monthly compliance report of previous EC was being regularly submitted to Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC. As this is the proposal for enhancement, a fresh public hearing was conducted by M/s Patnaik Minerals Private Limited on 8.10.2021 at Bhutuda Gram Panchayat Office under Lahunipada Block of Sundergarh District as per EIA Notification, 2006. The demands/ grievances of the public have been taken up seriously and will be complied within three years of implementation period. The PP has already started complying to the present public demand. PP earmarked a budget of Rs 242.50 Lakhs to address the concerns of the public hearing.</p> <p>VI. Compliance to Status of complaints/ court cases/legal action:</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that no complaints/ court cases and legal action have been taken against the project.</p>
3	<p>The EAC observed that the two perennial nalah flow from the eastern part and Rajabasa nalah flow from the SW part of the lease area. These perennial nalah merge to form the Bhutuda nalah which flows within the mine lease area and drains into Kurarhi nalah in the north part outside ML area. Hence, the Project Proponent</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the core zone (lease area) is made up four hilly blocks dissected by the natural streams at many places with varying slope. One perennial nalah flow from the eastern part and one perennial nala locally known as Rajabasa nala flow from the SW part of the lease area. These perennial nalah merge to form the Bhutuda nala which flows towards north and finally drains into Kurarhi nala in the north part outside ML area. PP submitted the management plan for nalah as mentioned below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The fresh dumping on dump 4 will be done at a minimum distance of 300 m from the boundary of nala which has been already demarcated. ii. A safety zone of 50m has been already demarcated and no mining, dumping and transportation activities will be carried out in the safety zone.

<p>needs to submit the nalah protection plan for two perennial nalah, Bhutuda nala flowing within the lease area and Kurarhi nalah in the north (outside) of mine lease area. PP shall also submit the detailed measures taken to prevent the chance of surface runoff from the quarry and dump area which flow down to the nala flowing within the lease area as the mining activity in the lease area may lead to blockage of flow of water in the lease area. PP shall ensure that the dumps should be 300m away from nalah and needs to submit the action plan for monitoring of surface water quality in the above said nalahs.</p>	<p>iii. The nala was crossing at two pints of transportation road. So, there is the proposal for construction of culvert over the nala for transporting material from the quarry site. Out of the two culverts one has already been constructed and other one will be constructed during this year.</p> <p>iv. The nala which is flowing near to the quarry area and dumping area will be stone patched.</p> <p>PP also submitted the map showing the safety zone demarcated along the nala and road. Further the location of culverts on the nala is also demarcated in the map.</p> <p>Surface water runoff management:</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that the perennial water flow is towards North & NE. The planning for surface water runoff management has been designed for rainy season. The seasonal drains will be channelized in such a way that the rain water from the catchment area will allow to flow through series of settling pond so no surface runoff water will carry mines runoff sediments to the nala. The existing and proposed protective measures like retaining wall, garland drain and settling pond will act as barrier for restricting the wash offs from the dumps/stockyards etc. PP also submitted that the good run off water management practices are being followed by the earlier lessee to prevent the flow of silt along with the run off to outside during monsoon period. The lessee has constructed eight nos. of check dam cum siltation pond inside the mine lease area; five of them have been washed out partly. The retaining wall were already repaired, desiltation activities has been carried out for siltation pond and garland drains by PMPL. The accumulated silts in these facilities during monsoon period are being de-silted at regular intervals. PP also submitted the details of 9 no.s of retaining wall, 10 no.s of garland drains, 18 no.s of settling ponds and 8 no.s of check dams.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that it has been planned to make</p>
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		<p>retaining wall, garland drain, settling pond etc at strategic point by which water can be channelized through the proposed protective measures and ultimately allowed to flow within the nalas flowing within the lease areas. The average rain fall has been considered as 1300 mm/year. Since the proposed waste dumps are located in areas which is a steep slope, maximum flow of water in rainy season will endanger the retaining walls. Therefore, it has been proposed to construct masonry wall with weep holes along the toe of the proposed dump. However, the following precautionary measures will be taken while designing the retaining walls and garland drains.</p> <p>a. Retaining Walls: Retaining boulder wall (1.5 m high and 1.0 m width) of substantial strength will be constructed all around the bottom periphery of waste dumps with locally available boulders mixed with sand and cement, to arrest any rolling down of the dump materials. Perforation will be left at around 10 m intervals to allow for passage of water.</p> <p>b. Garland drains: Garland drains of 1.5 m deep and 1.0 m wide will be constructed all along the bottom periphery of waste dumps followed by the retaining wall to prevent any wash off or leaching of dump materials during heavy rains. Side walls and the base will be pitched with locally available boulders. Joints will be filled up with cement and sand mixture so that water cannot percolate.</p> <p>c. Settling Tank: The garland drain will be channelized to settling tank of 15m long, 10m width and 2.0m deep. Side walls and base will be packed with locally available boulders mixed with cement and sand.</p> <p>Measures taken for protection of surface water bodies:</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that the adverse impact on the existing natural drainage system is</p>
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		<p>minimized because of provision of retaining wall, garland drains at strategic location to guide water through check dams & settling ponds down to outside nala. The water management scheme suggested for the project is periodical cleaning of settling ponds, garland drains & check dam during and after the monsoon season. The regular monitoring of surface run-off is/will be carried out by the authorized agency and record is/will be maintained regularly and submitted. The preventive measures have been proposed are as below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Provision of Retaining wall, garland drain, settling pond.ii. Garland drains/settling pond is being cleaned up periodically during and after rainy season.iii. Strengthen of small stone/ rock barriers across the drains at intervals to check the water current and to arrest the solid particles.iv. All the water of mines has to pass into the settling tanks and after settling the water will be stored in the rain water harvesting pit, the water shall be used for plantation & dust suppression.v. Monitoring and analysis of surface water as per MoEF&CC guideline by recognized laboratories.vi. A culvert has already been constructed on the nala passing near the entrance of the lease area and there is also a proposal for construction of another culvert near the dumping site of Nadagira block.vii. A 50m safety zone has been demarcated for the Nala protection which has been declared as no mining zone.viii. All the dumps proposed will be located beyond 300m from the nala the existing dump haul road will be relocated and a culvert will be constructed near the Nadigira block to connect the block to the road. PP also submitted the map showing the Nala, dumping area and road. <p>Further, the Project Proponent submitted that surface water quality at Bhutuda Nala near Nandigira Block, Office building and northern part of mines will be monitored once in a month.</p>
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4	<p>The Project Proponent should prepare the EMP considering the scenario of pollution to be generated for peak total excavation for assessing air and noise pollution.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent reported that the maximum excavation per annum for Iron ore = 1662977 MT (As per approved Mining Plan) and Maximum excavation per annum for manganese ore = 1407519 MT (As per approved Mining Plan). Total excavation per annum for both Iron and Manganese ore = 3070496 MT (As per approved Mining Plan). Maximum working days taken per annum = 300 days (As per approved Mining Plan). Average excavation per day from the mines = 10234 MT. Assuming the rainy season (4 months) as no production days the productive days considered as = 245 days Peak excavation per day considering 245 working days with = 12532 MT.</p> <p>PP also submitted that the environment management plan is being prepared considering the peak total excavation. The normative excavation from the lease is 10234 MT per day with 300 days production capacity and the peak excavation considering the fleet of machinery and days of production as 245 days will be 12532 MT.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that the mining activities such as drilling, blasting, excavation, dumping of waste, loading of material, transportation, and screening are the sources of air pollution and noise pollution and accordingly PP suggested the control measures for normative and peak production.</p>
5	<p>The Project Proponent needs to carry out the air quality modeling for the worst-case scenario for parameters such as PM10, PM2.5, SO2 and NOx. PP should indicate the peak capacity considered for predication of air quality modeling for point source, area source and line source all along the 12 km on</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the detailed air quality modeling for worst case scenario considering the point source, area source and line source all along the 12 km on either side of the road up to 100 m has been carried out.</p> <p>PP reported that air quality modeling has been carried out using AERMOD Cloud remote version. The activity such as drilling and blasting are considered as point source, excavation of ore and waste considered as area source and transportation of ore and waste considered as line source. As per the study conducted on the surface iron ore mines indicated that the particulate matter is the major source of emission, whereas emission of SO2 and NOx from most of the</p>

	<p>either side of the road up to 100 m. The impact from the center line of the road on either side should be clearly brought out supported with the line source modeling and isopleths. The control case and worst-case scenario needs to be demonstrated with controlling factor and GLCs values for all the pollutants needs to be clearly mentioned. The input parameters used for the modeling also needs to be submitted. PP also needs to provide the comparative of the emission rates using USEPA and Indian School of Mines.</p>	<p>mining activities are negligible. PP also submitted the comparison of emission rate from Mines (USEPA Vs Central Mining Research Institute) taking into account peak excavation.</p> <p>The Project Proponent submitted that the trucks required for transportation = 20 no of trucks per hour (4 trucks of 20 Ton capacity for manganese ore and 16 no.s of trucks of 35 Ton capacity for Iron Ore). Taking to and fro journey, there will be 20 trips per hour. It is planned that about 75% trips will transport material to Barsuan Railway siding and rest 25% will be transported to the nearby user agency through road joining Koira- Tensa road. PP reported that the maximum incremental concentration of CO found to be 5.60 µg/m³, NO_x: 6.23 µg/m³ and PM: 5.4 µg/m³. PP also submitted the isopleths of area source and along the transportation route.</p> <p>Further, PP submitted that existing air environment in the mining area is of desired quality i.e., all parameters are within limit with all environmental management plan implemented.</p>
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6	<p>The Project Proponent shall submit the action plan for installing Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) with proper justification of site selection.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the ambient air quality monitoring is regularly being carried out at four different locations within the core zone. PP also submitted that the Regional Officer and Environment Engineer of Regional Pollution Control Board, Rourkela have visited the site and finalized the locations in respect of installation of Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station. The AAQ sampling stations selected near the proposed active mining areas and entrance to the mining lease. In the buffer zone nearest downwind villages and nearest sensitive locations has been considered for monitoring. PP also submitted the map showing the location of CAAQMS and communication with regional officer OSPCB.</p>
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Environmental Attributes	Locations	Frequency of monitoring	Location co-ordinates	Monitoring parameters	Reporting Schedule
Ambient air Quality	Core Zone (CAAQMS)				
	Near Pump House	Daily	21°47'55.79"N 85° 8'58.08"E	PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} SO ₂ and	Once in a month
	Near		21°47'26.77"N		

			Nandagira Quarry		85° 8'53.69"E			
			Near Mahulasukha Quarry		21°48'14.87"N 85° 8'20.48"E			
			Buffer Zone					
			Bhutuda (Near School)	Once in a month	21°47'53.43"N 85°09'01.95"E	PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} SO ₂ and NO _x , CO	Once in a month	
			Rantha (Human Habitation)		21°46'19.16"N 85° 7'44.24"E			
			Khandadhar (Near the colony)		21°46'34.72"N 85° 08'12.57"E			
			Randa (Near Anganwadi)		21°49'22.62"N 85°08'11.86"E			
7	The Project Proponent needs to submit the mining strategy over a period of life of mine for Iron and Manganese with 5-year stage plan. PP should submit the sequential plan for accessing Iron and Manganese Ore and progressive mine closure plan. PP needs to submit the production schedule for Iron and Manganese Ore in a single table for entire life of mine. The EAC advised the Project Proponent to submit the breakup of total excavation of all parameters in same unit.	The Project Proponent submitted the production schedule for Iron and manganese for the life of mines. The life of mines for manganese ore will be 6.8 years and for Iron ore mines is 29 years. PP also submitted the map showing the detail mining strategy over a period of life of mine for Iron and Manganese with 5-year stage plan. Further, PP submitted the mine closure plan.						
8	The Project Proponent needs to clarify why the two different Forest Clearance proposals has been submitted vide proposal no:	The Project Proponent submitted that Forest proposal vide proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/51823/2020, dated 23.10.2020 over an area of 370.751 ha was submitted as per the land schedule of the State Government allotted to us previous lessee. After scrutiny of the proposal by Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai and issued Letter to Tahasildar, Lahunipada, Range Officer						

	<p>FP/OR/MIN/51823/20 dated 23.10.2020 over an area of 370.571 ha at the time of TOR and at the time of EC for diversion of forest land of 382.437 ha vide proposal no: FP/OR/MIN/122038/2021 dated 19.04.2021. PP also needs to clarify what is the actual forest land and why the PP has not taken amendment in ToR for change in land use pattern and also the reason for increase in forest land with the supporting documents. Further, PP needs to submit the status of Transfer of FC as per letter dated 27.08.2021.</p>	<p>Barsuan and Project Proponent Letter vide Memo No.9890/6F-Dt:03.12.2020w.r.t. verification of land schedule in field as well as revenue record. Accordingly, there was a joint verification conducted by Revenue Department and Forest Department, Odisha on 02.01.2021 and found to be the Forest area of 382.437 Ha. Subsequently, Project Proponent submitted the fresh proposal for diversion of 382.437 ha of forest land vide Proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/122038/2021 dated 19.04.2021.</p>
9	<p>The Project Proponent needs to explore the possibility of using a dedicated road bypassing the village road for the purpose of transportation of mineral. PP shall also submit the measures taken for protection of existing public road passing through the mine lease area.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the existing public road passes within the lease area is 10m wide road which is blacktopped. This road has been constructed and maintained by DMF Sundargarh. The transportation of manganese ore excavated from Nandigira quarry will be carried out through this road. For Mahulasukha quarry transportation will be carried out by the dedicated haul road constructed from the quarry to zero point and connected to OMC – Barsuan road. The Iron ore will also be transported to the OMC Barsuan Road through the dedicated haul road which will be constructed during the proposed mining operation. The safety zone of 10m will be maintained from the road and plantation will be carried out on the road side in the safety zone. PP also submitted that the road passing through the lease area will be maintained. The plantation of about 10m width has been done as</p>

		part of management. PP also submitted the map showing the transportation route from the quarry to Barsuan Railway siding.																											
10	The Project Proponent needs to submit the map demarcating the safety zone, location of dumps, mineralized and non-mineralized zone and other surface features in the vicinity of the mine lease area. PP also needs to submit the details of the already broken up area and the area to be broken up in the forest land.	The Project Proponent submitted the map demarcating the safety zone, location of dumps, mineralized and non-mineralized zone and other surface features in the vicinity of the mine lease area.																											
11	The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for carrying out peripheral plantation, safety zone plantation, avenue plantation, gap plantation and plantation of fruit bearing trees. PP needs to submit the detailed greenbelt/plantation plan in tabular format (year wise for entire life of mine) with proper time bound capital and recurring cost.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that it is proposed to plant 1,94,750no.s of saplings over an area of 77.826 ha during 2022-23 to 2025-26.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Location</th> <th>Area (ha)</th> <th>No. of saplings proposed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2022-23</td> <td>Safety zone (Nala side)</td> <td>22.5</td> <td>56,250</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2023-24</td> <td>Safety zone (Nala side)</td> <td>20.0</td> <td>50,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Safety Zone (Along Road)</td> <td>1.99</td> <td>5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024-25</td> <td>Safety zone (Nala side)</td> <td>20.0</td> <td>50,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2025-26</td> <td>Safety zone (Nala side)</td> <td>13.336</td> <td>33,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total</td> <td>77.826 ha</td> <td>1,94,750</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Further, PP submitted that the Broad leaf trees growing above 10 m in height will be planted along the roads and ML boundary and local/indigenous fast growing trees shrubs will be planted.Placement of tree guards will be provided to save the plants.There will be three rows of plants along the lease boundary. The row of</p>	Year	Location	Area (ha)	No. of saplings proposed	2022-23	Safety zone (Nala side)	22.5	56,250	2023-24	Safety zone (Nala side)	20.0	50,000	Safety Zone (Along Road)	1.99	5,000	2024-25	Safety zone (Nala side)	20.0	50,000	2025-26	Safety zone (Nala side)	13.336	33,500	Total		77.826 ha	1,94,750
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		plants facing mine will be of smaller species and those facing outside will be of taller species.Regular monitoring on survival rate and remedial action should be done in an organized and planned manner.PP also submitted that an amount of Rs.58.0 Lakhs has been allocated for development of greenbelt and annual expenses for green belt maintenance will be Rs. 10.0 Lakhs.																																																				
12	The Project Proponent needs to revise the EMP budget and shall submit the action plan for implementing EMP. The Project Proponent needs to revisit the action plan for public hearing with a timeline of 3 years. PP also needs to submit the action plan for partial compliances/being compiled as identified by Ministry's Integrated Regional Office along with the timeline and budget.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the budget of the capital cost of EMP has been revised from Rs 138.5 Cr to Rs 396.0 Cr.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sl. No</th> <th>Proposed EMP</th> <th>Capital Cost (INR) Lakhs</th> <th>Recurring Cost Lakhs (INR)/Annum</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>Air Environment</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>a.</td> <td>Installation of Fixed water sprinklers along the haul road (20m gap for 3 Km) 150 nos sprinklers</td> <td>30.00</td> <td>04.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b.</td> <td>Fixed Water sprinkler near the dump and quarry area (100 nos)</td> <td>15.00</td> <td>05.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c.</td> <td>Water pipeline with pumping system</td> <td>05.00</td> <td>01.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d.</td> <td>Mobile water tanker for water sprinkling on the transportation road</td> <td>30.00</td> <td>06.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e.</td> <td>Installation of CAAQMS (3 nos) within core zone</td> <td>130.00</td> <td>3.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>f.</td> <td>Ambient air quality Monitoring at 4 stations within buffer zone</td> <td>--</td> <td>3.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>Water Environment</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>a.</td> <td>Construction of Garland drain</td> <td>10.00</td> <td>1.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b.</td> <td>Construction of Retaining wall</td> <td>12.00</td> <td>1.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c.</td> <td>Construction of Settling Pond</td> <td>08.00</td> <td>1.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d.</td> <td>Rain water harvesting Pond</td> <td>06.00</td> <td>00.50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sl. No	Proposed EMP	Capital Cost (INR) Lakhs	Recurring Cost Lakhs (INR)/Annum	1.	Air Environment			a.	Installation of Fixed water sprinklers along the haul road (20m gap for 3 Km) 150 nos sprinklers	30.00	04.00	b.	Fixed Water sprinkler near the dump and quarry area (100 nos)	15.00	05.00	c.	Water pipeline with pumping system	05.00	01.00	d.	Mobile water tanker for water sprinkling on the transportation road	30.00	06.00	e.	Installation of CAAQMS (3 nos) within core zone	130.00	3.0	f.	Ambient air quality Monitoring at 4 stations within buffer zone	--	3.0	2.	Water Environment			a.	Construction of Garland drain	10.00	1.00	b.	Construction of Retaining wall	12.00	1.00	c.	Construction of Settling Pond	08.00	1.00	d.	Rain water harvesting Pond	06.00	00.50
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		e.	STP	12.00	03.00
		f.	Construction of two no of culverts on Bhutuda Nala	30.00	3.0
		e.	Surface water quality Monitoring (4 locations)	--	2.8
		f.	Ground water quality Monitoring (4 locations)	--	4.8
		g.	Installation of Piezometer	5.0	1.0
		3.	Noise Environment		
		a.	Enclosure for DG set	1.50	0.60
		b.	Noise Monitoring in Core and Buffer zone	1.50	1.5
		4.	Environmental monitoring programme	10.00	5.00
		5.	Green Belt development (Plantation)	58.0	10.0
		6.	Occupational Health		
		a.	Setup of dispensary within the lease area	10.0	2.0
		b.	Occupational health checkup (IME & PME)	4.00	00.50
		c.	Ambulance facility for the workers and local people	15.0	3.0
		d.	PPE kits for Workers (150 sets)	3.0	1.00
		Total		396	63.7
		8.	Cost for Wildlife Management Plan	515.00	170.00
13	The Project Proponent shall make a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the concerned private railway siding for the purpose of transportation of mineral.	The Project Proponent submitted that the transportation of ore will be carried out through rake from Barsuan railway siding which is located at 12 km from the project site. The Barsuan is a Public/ Private railway siding and the permission has already been obtained from the department through online portal for transport of ore through train.			

14	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for employing qualified persons in Environment Management Cell along with the procedure for eligible criteria, announcement of vacancy, shortlisting criteria, interview procedures, timeline of appointment and scope of work assigned.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the Environment Management Cell will operate under the direct supervision of Mines Managers and headed by Manager (Environment and Forest). The Manager (Environment and Forest) will operate with supporting Environment workers. PP submitted the qualification, experience and scope of work for Manager (Environment and Forest) and Environment support staff. Further, PP submitted that the vacancy will be intimated in the local newspaper and company website. Based on the application received the candidates shortlisted based on their qualification and experience. Walk in interview is being carried out at the PMPL office at Joda and suitable candidates selected for appointment based on their qualification and experience. Local candidates are being given more priority for appointment. Selected candidates asked to join within a period of 1 month after receiving the offerletter.</p>
15	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the map authenticated by PCCF showing the distance of nearest of National Park/Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve/Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Reserve/any other Reserve, Habitat for migratory birds, Elephant Corridor for animals within 10 km from the periphery of the mine lease area. PP also needs to submit the proof of submission of application of Wildlife Conservation Plan to the Chief Wildlife Warden.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the map showing the location of the project site and the distance of the nearest of National Park/Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve/Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Reserve/any other Reserve, Habitat for migratory birds, Elephant Corridor for animals authenticated by DFO. PP also submitted the proof of submission of site specific wildlife conservation plan submitted to the Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai Forest Division on 19.07.2022.</p>

16	The Project Proponent needs to submit all the analysis/testing reports of water, air, soil, noise, etc. using the MoEF&CC/NABL accredited laboratories as per S.No 14 (c) of TOR letter dated 20.01.2021.	The Project Proponent submitted that the Baseline study was carried out during December 2020 to February 2021 by M/s Kalyani Laboratories Private Limited, Bhubaneswar. PP also submitted the test reports of ambient air quality, noise level, water and soil quality. Further, PP submitted that the NABL: Certificate No.TC -7043 is valid till 2023 and MoEF Recognition: Gadget Notification No. S.O 2003 (E) dated 6th August 201 File No: Q-15018/46/2018-CPW dated 24.10.2019 is valid till 23.10.2024.
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3. **Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:**

The EAC noted that the instant proposal is for reconsideration of EC and the proposal was earlier considered in the 52nd EAC meeting (Non-Coal Mining) held during 14th-15th June, 2022. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to begin with KML indicating surface features in the vicinity of the mine lease area and the study area of 10 km radius. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the mineralized zone of Iron ore is a virgin land as of now and will be excavated after obtaining the Environmental Clearance (EC). There are two nallahs such as Rajabasa nallah and Bhutuda nallah flow within the mine lease area and both these nallahs meet at Kurarhi nalah in the northern part outside the mine lease area. A 50m safety zone has been demarcated for the Nala protection which has been declared as no mining zone. The nala was crossing at two points of transportation road. So, there is the proposal for construction of culvert over the nala for transporting material from the quarry site. Out of the two culverts one has already been constructed on the nala passing near the entrance of the lease area and other one will be constructed during this year near the dumping site of Nadagira block.

The EAC asked that what is the total forest land involved in the mine lease area. All of a sudden, the Consultant got disconnected from the EAC meeting. The Consultant again logged into the EAC meeting and informed the EAC that the total forest land is 382.437 ha and out of which Stage-II FC was obtained for diversion of 227.0 ha of forest land vide F.No.8-93/2004-FC dated 18.08.2008 in favour of M/s Aryan Mining & Trading Corporation Private Ltd. The Consultant again got disconnected from the EAC meeting. The Consultant again logged into the EAC meeting. The EAC observed that the voice of the Consultant is breaking and could not able to hear anything due to poor network connectivity from the Consultant end. The EAC advised the Consultant to log out and rejoin the EAC meeting.

The Consultant again joined the EAC meeting and informed the EAC that the transfer of Forest Clearance from M/s Aryan Mining & Trading Corporation Private Ltd to M/s Patnaik Minerals Pvt. Ltd is under process. Initially, the Project Proponent

submitted the proposal for FC vide proposal No. FP/OR/MIN/51823/2020, dated 23.10.2020 over an area of 370.751 ha as per the land schedule of the State Government allotted to the previous lessee. After scrutiny of the proposal by Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai and issued Letter to Tahasildar, Lahunipada, Range Officer Barsuan and Project Proponent letter dated 03.12.2020 w.r.t. verification of land schedule in field as well as revenue record. Accordingly, joint verification survey conducted by the Revenue Department and Forest Department, Odisha on 02.01.2021 and the forest area found to be 382.437 Ha. Subsequently, the Project Proponent submitted the revised application for Stage-I Forest Clearance vide online proposal no: FP/OR/MIN/122038/2021 dated 19.04.2021 for diversion of forest land of 382.437 ha in the name of M/s Patnaik Minerals Pvt. Ltd. The mine is presently in operation based on the vesting dated 30.05.2020. The EAC was of the view that the Project Proponent needs to give proper breakup of the mine lease area in tabular form by mentioning the details of Forest Clearance available. Again, the Consultant got disconnected from the EAC meeting. The EAC observed that the problem is occurring repeatedly due to poor connectivity and the EAC was of the view that the Consultant shall ensure the network connectivity and if the presentation will be continued in this manner it will be difficult for the EAC to appraise the project. The EAC gave an opportunity to the Consultant once again to rectify the issue and rejoin the EAC meeting. The network connectivity still persists from the Consultant end and the EAC after giving several opportunities to the Consultant, the EAC **deferred** the proposal.

3.3 Amendment in EC dated 10.12.2008 of M/s Bharathi Cement Corporation Pvt Ltd for Bharathi Limestone mine for Limestone production of 5.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 632.278 ha, located at District: Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh - [F.No: J-11011/379/2008-IA.II(I), Proposal No: IA/AP/MIN/287601/2022, Consultant: Enviro Techno Consult Pvt. Ltd.] - Amendment in EC

The instant proposal is for amendment in EC dated 10.12.2008 of M/s Bharathi Cement Corporation Pvt Ltd for Bharathi Limestone mine for production of Limestone of 5.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 632.278 ha, located at District: Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 14°35'00" N-14°40'00"N and Longitude 78°30'00"E-78°35'00"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 55J/10 and falls in Seismic Zone-II.
- ii. 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.
- iii. The details of the previous Environmental Clearance (EC) are furnished as below:

Minutes of 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022

Date of application	File. No/ Proposal No	Consideration	Details	Date of accord
13.08.2007	J-11015/ 210/2007- IA.II(I) IA/AP/MIN/2 1281/1910	-	Environmental Clearance for proposed Limestone mine (MLA: 824.573 ha) for production capacity of 2.25 MTPA, located at Villages Sunkesula and Tippalur, in Yerraguntla Mandal and villages Pandillapalli, Nallalingayapalle, Thurkapalli, Sadipiralla, Jambapuram and Apparaopalli in Kamalapuram Mandal, in Kadapa Dist, Andhra Pradesh in favour of M/s Raghuram Cements Ltd.	18.10.2007
15.09.2008	J- 11011/379/2 008-IA.II(I) IA/AP/IND/4 636/2008	-	Integrated Environmental Clearance for expansion of Cement Plant - increase of clinker production from 1.485 to 3.3 MTPA, Cement production from 2.25 MTPA to 5.0 MTPA, installation of 2 x 35 MW coal based captive power plant and increase of Limestone production from 2.25 to 5.0 MTPA (MLA: 825.573 ha), located at District: Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh in favour of M/s Raghuram Cements Ltd.	10.12.2008
15.02.2019	J- 11011/379/2 008-IA.II(I) IA/AP/IND/9 4552/2019	27-29, March, 2019	Environmental Clearance for expansion of clinker unit from 3.3 MTPA to 3.927 MTPA, addition of 9.5 MW CPP-WHRS, dropping of 40 MW FBC Captive Power from 70 MW in the existing Integrated cement plant (5.0 MTPA), located at Nallalingayapalli in YSR Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh in favour of M/s	18.11.2019

			Bharathi Cement Corporation Pvt Ltd.	
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iv. Details of mine lease:

- a. The Project Proponent submitted that the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O Ms No. 95 dated 27.03.2006 granted the mining lease for Limestone over an extent of 2037.52 acres in S. No.s 215 to 231, 239 to 300 etc., 268, 270 to 296 etc., of T.Sunkesula, Tippaluru, Pandillapalli, Nallalingampalli etc Villages in Yerra guntla Kamalapuram Mandals, Kadapa District in favour of M/s Raghuram Cements Limited for a period of 30 years.
- b. Then, the Government of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O Ms No. 305 dated 07.11.2008 accepted the part surrender of the area over an extent of 475.16 acres in Sy Nos. 21, to 125, 129,130,132,133,134,169,170, to 176,29 of Nallalingayapalli, 193 to 198, 213 to 215 of Tarakapalli, 271 to 274, 340,341 of T. Sunkesula, 377 to 381, 254,357,353, of Tippalur 34,35,47, 46 of Jambapuram, I to 49 of Apparampalli and 1028 of Sodipiralla Villages, Kadapa District by M/s Raghuram Cements Limited from out of the Mining Lease area held by them over an extent of 2037.52 Acres duly permitting them to retain over an extent of leased area of 1562.36 acres, under Rule 29(1) of Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 subject to satisfaction of all terms and conditions laid down under MMD&R) Act, 1957, and the rules made there under.

v. Details of Mining Plan:

- a. The Project Proponent submitted the Review of Mining Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) vide letter dated 04.12.2017 in respect of Bharathi Limestone mine over an extent of 632.278 ha in favour of M/s Bharathi Cement Corporation Pvt Ltd..
- b. PP also submitted the Final Mine Closure Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines vide letter dated 04.07.2011 over an area of 192.295 ha (Part surrender of the original lease area over of 824.573 ha).

vi. Now, the Project Proponent requested for amendment in EC dated 10.12.2008 as mentioned below:

- a. Split of prior environmental clearance for M/s BCCPL Limestone Mine:

The Project Proponent submitted that environmental clearance granted by the Ministry vide letter dated 10.12.2008 is an integrated environmental clearance for expansion of Cement Plant - increase of clinker production from 1.485 to 3.3 MTPA, Cement production from 2.25 MTPA to 5.0 MTPA, installation of 2 x 35 MW coal based captive power plant and increase of Limestone production from 2.25 to 5.0 MTPA (MLA: 825.573

ha). It becomes difficult to make a separate accountability for environmental clearance conditions and other administrative decisions and workings. PP also submitted that clinker Production from 1.485 MTPA to 3.3 MTPA, Cement Production from 2.25MTPA to 5.0MTPA, CPP 2 x 35 MW is now changed to Production from 3.3MTPA to 3.927MTPA, addition of 9.5MWCPP WHRS dropping of 40MW FBC CPP from 70MW in existing integrated cement plant (5.0MTPA) vide environmental clearance dated 18.11.2019 without inclusion of limestone production in environmental clearance.

- b. Amendment in Mine Lease area of 632.278Ha in place of 824.273Ha as an area of 192.295 ha was surrendered being non-mineralized on 07.11.2008.

The Project Proponent submitted that an area of 192.295 ha out of initial allotment of lease of 824.573Ha is surrendered due to non-mineralized area. Proposal for limestone mining is approved and restricted to 632.278Ha. Area of 192.295ha is surrendered (non-worked area) vide Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide order I& CD M[III] GO. NO. 305 dated 07.11.2008 after formal approval of Final Mine Closure Plan for 192.295Ha out of 824.573 Ha vide Indian Bureau of Mine, Hyderabad letter reference FMCP/AP/CDP/LST-2-SZ/345 dated 04.07.2011. Hence this amendment of prior environmental clearance is requested for amendment in Mine Lease area of 632.278Ha in place of 824.573Ha.

- vii. The Project Proponent submitted that the ambient air quality monitoring has been carried out at 12 locations during March-May, 2022 and the monitored values are observed to be well within the limits of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The total predicted concentrations due to fugitive emissions from the mining activity are also well within the limits of NAAQS. The Noise level was monitored at 10 locations during PP also informed that the monitored noise level is well within the standards. Further, the Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Ground Water fluctuation ranges between 5.6m BGL to 15.9m BGL (Pre monsoon and Post Monsoon).
- viii. The Project Proponent submitted the past production details duly authenticated from the O/o Dept. of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide Lr.No: 642/M/06, dated 22.08.2022 for the period 2009-10 to 2021-22.

Sr. No.	Year of Production	Production/ Dispatch in MTPA	Approved Capacity as per EC in MTPA	Any Deviation
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1	2009-10	0.801	5	Nil
2	2010-11	2.280	5	Nil
3	2011-12	2.630	5	Nil
4	2012-13	3.768	5	Nil
5	2013-14	2.430	5	Nil
6	2014-15	2.795	5	Nil
7	2015-16	2.788	5	Nil
8	2016-17	3.120	5	Nil
9	2017-18	4.038	5	Nil
10	2018-19	4.611	5	Nil
11	2019-20	3.707	5	Nil
12	2020-21	3.685	5	Nil
13	2021-22	4.150	5	Nil

- ix. The Project Proponent submitted the Certified Compliance Report issued by the Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), Chennai vide F.No. EP/12.1/881/AP/1895 dated 09.12.2019 for the EC's dated 18.10.2007 and 10.12.2008. Site visit was conducted on 22.10.2019.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC noted that the instant proposal is for amendment in EC dated 10.12.2008 with respect to split of prior Environmental Clearance for Limestone mine of M/s Bharathi Cement Corporation Pvt Ltd. and amendment in mine lease area of 632.278Ha in place of 824.273 Ha. The Project Proponent began with the KML file and shown the mine lease area before the EAC indicating the mine lease area and power plant. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the integrated Environmental Clearance obtained on 10.12.2008 for expansion in Plant Capacity, increment in limestone mining and along with the addition of captive power plant and thereafter the EC was obtained on 18.11.2019 for increase in clinker capacity, decrease in captive power plant configuration and change in name excluding the Limestone mine. The EAC on viewing the KML file noted that the development of greenbelt is not visible in the mine lease area. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that about 1,19,696 saplings have been planted till date.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the initially mining lease was granted on 27.03.2006 over an area of 2037.52 acres (i.e., 824.573 ha) in favour of M/s Raghuram Cements Limited for a period of 30 years. Then, in the year 2008, the State Govt., have accepted the part surrender of the area of non-mineralized area of 475.16 acres (i.e., 192.295 ha) and permitted to retain over an extent of leased area of 1562.36 acres (i.e., 632.278 ha). PP also informed that the Final Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines vide letter dated 04.07.2011 over an area of 192.295 ha (Part surrender of the original lease area over of 824.573 ha). Further, the Project Proponent informed the EAC that the integrated EC was obtained on 18.11.2019 and the name change of the company also accorded in

favour of M/s Bharathi Cement Corporation Pvt Ltd. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the State Govt. have extended the validity period of the mine lease and is valid upto the year 2056. Review of Mining Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) vide letter dated 04.12.2017 in respect of Bharathi Limestone mine over an extent of 632.278 ha for the period 2018-19 to 2022-23 in favour of M/s Bharathi Cement Corporation Pvt Ltd.

The Project Proponent has shown the land use pattern upto the year 2023 and the PP informed the EAC that an area of 131.87 ha will be excavated and an area of 490.778 ha remains an unutilized area as on date. The EAC asked the Proponent to show the photographs of the plantation. The Project Proponent has shown the photographs of the plantation, details of year wise plantation and the species planted and also informed the EAC that the survival rate of the plantation is 100%. The EAC asked about the when was the EC compliance report was certified last? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Certified Compliance Report was issued by the Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), Chennai vide dated 09.12.2019 for the EC's dated 18.10.2007 and 10.12.2008 and the site visit was conducted on 22.10.2019.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the ambient air quality monitoring has been conducted during March-May, 2022 at 12 locations and the monitored values are observed to be well within the limits of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). PP also informed that the monitored noise level is well within the standards. Further, the Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Ground Water fluctuation ranges between 5.6m BGL to 15.9m BGL (Pre monsoon and Post Monsoon). PP also informed the EAC that the monitoring of ambient air quality, water quality including mine pit water, ground water level and noise levels are collected on quarterly basis covering all strategic locations and reports are being submitted to the State Pollution Control Board. The EAC noted that there are two are two dumps, out of which one is active and the other one is inactive. The EAC asked the Project Proponent that what is the status of the inactive dump and whether it has been stabilized or not? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the height of the inactive dump is about 20m height and the forest plantation has been carried out over the inactive dump with a spacing of 2 x 2m. The EAC asked whether there is any plan for backfilling? The Project Proponent informed that the backfilling has been started already in the mined out pit and as of now an area of 6.5 ha has been backfilled.

The EAC asked about the past production details carried out by the Project Proponent. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the past production details duly authenticated from the O/o Dept. of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide letter dated 22.08.2022 for the period 2009-10 to 2021-22 and there is no violation has been done against the EC capacity, Mining Plan and CTO. The EAC asked that whether any court case is pending against the project. The Project

Proponent informed the EAC that there is no court case/litigation pending against the project and for the same undertaking has been submitted along with the proposal. Further, the Project Proponent informed that the concerns of the public hearing have been addressed. Based on the above discussions held, the EAC **recommended** the proposal in 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18th – 20th October, 2022 for amendment in EC dated 10.12.2008 for M/s Bharathi Cement Corporation Pvt Ltd for Bharathi Limestone mine for Limestone production of 5.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 632.278 ha, located at District: Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh along with the following additional specific conditions: -

- i. The dump should be scientifically vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface run off.
- ii. The overburden dumps should be stabilized by ankering with wire nets / erosion control blankets. Regular inspection should be carried out to examine slope stability, mine faces, overburden benches, ore etc.,
- iii. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining.
- iv. The Project Proponent shall ensure that the real time data generated from the continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations (CAAQMS) 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. Project Proponent shall propose to install additional Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station in the mine lease area in consultation with the CPCB/SPCB.
- v. Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. All the vehicles engaged in mining and allied activities shall operate only after obtaining 'PUC' certificate from the authorized pollution testing centres. PP shall explore the possibility of engaging electric vehicles/CNG to reduce the diesel consumption.
- vi. The Project Proponent needs to install the permanent water sprinklers along the haul road. Further, 5 nos. of fog canon/mist sprayer of atleast 40 mtrs throw shall be installed at various location in the mine area.
- vii. The Project Proponent shall undertake the gap plantation within 6 months from the issue of this EC and the status of the same shall be submitted to the Ministry's Integrated Regional Office along with the six monthly compliance report. PP shall undertake the fruit bearing trees/broad leaf plants all along the safety zone and PP shall complete the entire plantation in next two years.

- viii. The Project Proponent shall make the actual count on the saplings planted and its survival rate and in case of failure of achievement of survival rate, action plan for achieving the target survival rate shall be submitted to the Ministry's Integrated Regional Office. PP shall undertake bench plantation up to HFL for eco restoration of water bodies.
- ix. 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. Compliance of this condition after the mining activity is over at the cost of the mining lease holders/Project Proponent".

3.4 Mining of Bajri(Minor Mineral) with proposed production capacity of 2.8 MTPA (ROM) in the mine lease area 905.206 ha located at near revenue villages of Tehsil Pidawa, District Jhalawar, Rajasthan by M/s Shri Mukesh Sharma - [File No. J11015/113/2016-IA-II (M); Proposal No. IA/RJ/MIN/25369/2014, Consultant: Enkay Enviro Services Pvt. Ltd] - Reconsideration of Environmental Clearance

The instant proposal is for Mining of Bajri (Minor Mineral) with proposed production capacity of 2.8 MTPA (ROM) in the mine lease area 905.206 ha located at near revenue villages of Tehsil Pidawa, District Jhalawar, Rajasthan by M/s Shri Mukesh Sharma.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:
 - i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 24°09'56.30" N to 24°10'03.30" N and Longitude: 76°02'25.06" E to 76°02'41.01" E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 54D/ 3 and 54 D/4 and falls in Seismic Zone-II the proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals.
 - ii. The instant proposal is considered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022 as per Ministry's OM dated 27.09.2022 wherein it is mentioned that "*the proposals which have been considered/ appraised once by EAC either for TOR or EC, but final decision has not been taken, shall continue to be appraised at the Central level only, till final disposal for ToR/EC, even after the amendments in the EIA Notification are issued from to time regarding delegation of projects to SEIAAs*".
 - iii. The project was granted Terms of Reference (ToR) by the Ministry vide letter dated 12.04.2016 based on the recommendation of sectoral EAC meeting held during March 21-22, 2016.

- iv. The proposal was earlier considered in the EAC meeting held during March 22-23, 2018 wherein the Committee made detailed deliberations on the issues mentioned in preceding paragraphs and noted that there is a requirement of identification of active mining area within leased river stretches and subsequent identification and preparation of cross-section for assessing replenishment of sand in coming years. Hence, mining permission is technically required to be granted so as to conduct replenishment studies in future and demonstrate the same to State Govt. to regulate mining of paleo deposits in future. Accordingly, EAC recommended mining of river sand/ bajri up to 25% capacity of the annual proposed production capacity subject to submission of valid LOI along with the requisite information and undertaking. Then, the Ministry vide letter dated 18.04.2018 requested the Project Proponent to submit the desired information sought by the EAC in its meeting held during March 22-23, 2018. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 23.05.2018.
- v. The Environmental Clearance proposals for mining of Sand/Bajri which were received from the State of Rajasthan were deliberated and discussed in the EAC meeting held during May 30-31, 2018. The representatives of State Government of Rajasthan were also present during the meeting. Based on the detailed deliberations and discussions, the Committee was of the view that the complete appraisal may be done once the information as sought in the similar cases of State of Rajasthan for bajri/sand mining project may be submitted by the State Govt. of Rajasthan and Project Proponent. In view of the above, the Committee suggested that first State Govt. of Rajasthan and Project Proponent shall submit the above mentioned information for all similar case of the State of Rajasthan. Thereafter the proposals may be considered. The Committee also suggested that the proposals can only be considered before the EAC once all the complete information received from State Govt. of Rajasthan and Project Proponents. Accordingly, the Ministry vide letter dated 18.06.2018 requested the Project Proponent and Department of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Rajasthan to submit the requisite information for further necessary action. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 31.12.2021. Then, the Ministry vide letter dated 23.03.2022 requested the Project Proponent to submit the requisite information and accordingly the Project Proponent submitted the information on 25.03.2022.
- vi. Then, the proposal was considered in the 49thEAC Meeting (Non-Coal Mining) held during 19thto 21stApril, 2022 wherein the committee noted that the Consultant, Enkay Enviro Services Pvt. Ltd. wrongly informed to the committee that this proposal was earlier considered in the 47th EAC meeting held during 7thto 9thMarch, 2022. The Committee warned the consultant for misleading the members of the Expert Appraisal Committee. The Committee also observed that the baseline data was more than six years old and supporting documents were not submitted according to the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines of Sand Mining 2020. In view of the above, the

committee deferred the proposal and sought the requisite information. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 13.06.2022. The Ministry again sought additional details on 13.09.2022 and the Project Proponent submitted the information 04.10.2022 and accordingly the proposal was reconsidered in the EAC meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC and the compliance of observation of EAC made by the Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent																																																		
1	The project proponent needs to submit the Environmental status report of the project site after carrying out study of Air, Water (Ground water & Surface water) and Noise for 15 days period (non-monsoon season). The project proponent should submit the photographs of monitoring stations & sampling locations. The photographs should mention the date, time, latitude & longitude of the monitoring station/sampling location. In addition to this, the project	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the baseline data was collected for a period of 15 days as per norms of MOEF&CC/CPCB during non-monsoon season (From 25 April to 09 May, 2022: Summer).</p> <p>PP submitted that the ambient air quality monitored at 13 locations, noise level at 13 locations, surface water at 2 locations and ground water at 13 locations.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameters</th> <th>No. of locations</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Standards</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="5">Ambient Air Quality Monitoring</td> <td rowspan="5">13 Locations</td> <td>PM10 – 44.2 µg/m³ to 55.4 µg/m³.</td> <td>100 µg/m³ (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PM2.5 - 24.3 to 33.0 µg/m³</td> <td>60 µg/m³ (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SO₂ - 6.0 to 7.2 µg/m³</td> <td>80 µg/m³ (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO₂ -6.8 to 9.2 µg/m³</td> <td>80 µg/m³ (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CO – 458.0 to 802.0 µg/m³</td> <td>2000 µg/m³</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Noise Level Monitoring</td> <td rowspan="3">13 Locations</td> <td>Day Time: 50.2 to 51.4 Leq dB (A)</td> <td colspan="2">All values in dB(A)</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Night Time: 41.9 to 43.7 Leq dB (A)</td> <td>Industrial</td> <td>75</td> <td>70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commercial</td> <td>65</td> <td>55</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Surface Water</td> <td rowspan="4">2 Locations</td> <td>pH –7.92 to 7.97</td> <td colspan="2">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BOD - <2 mg/l</td> <td colspan="2">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>COD- <5 mg/l</td> <td colspan="2">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DO- 4.3 to 4.5 mg/l</td> <td colspan="2">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Ground Water Sampling</td> <td rowspan="2">13 locations</td> <td>pH – 6.87 to 8.01</td> <td colspan="2">6.5 to 8.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Hardness – 48 to 1112 mg/l</td> <td colspan="2">600 mg/l</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Parameters	No. of locations	Description	Standards	Ambient Air Quality Monitoring	13 Locations	PM10 – 44.2 µg/m ³ to 55.4 µg/m ³ .	100 µg/m ³ (24 hours)	PM2.5 - 24.3 to 33.0 µg/m ³	60 µg/m ³ (24 hours)	SO ₂ - 6.0 to 7.2 µg/m ³	80 µg/m ³ (24 hours)	NO ₂ -6.8 to 9.2 µg/m ³	80 µg/m ³ (24 hours)	CO – 458.0 to 802.0 µg/m ³	2000 µg/m ³	Noise Level Monitoring	13 Locations	Day Time: 50.2 to 51.4 Leq dB (A)	All values in dB(A)		Night Time: 41.9 to 43.7 Leq dB (A)	Industrial	75	70	Commercial	65	55	Surface Water	2 Locations	pH –7.92 to 7.97	-		BOD - <2 mg/l	-		COD- <5 mg/l	-		DO- 4.3 to 4.5 mg/l	-		Ground Water Sampling	13 locations	pH – 6.87 to 8.01	6.5 to 8.5		Total Hardness – 48 to 1112 mg/l	600 mg/l	
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	<p>proponent should submit the original test reports and certificates of the lab which will analyze the samples.</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Alkalinity – 120 to 612 mg/l</td> <td>600 mg/l</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>TDS – 413 to 2544 mg/l</td> <td>2000 mg/l</td> </tr> </table> <p>Project Proponent submitted the photographs of the monitoring stations of ambient air quality, collection of ground and water samples. The Project Proponent also submitted the comparison of ambient air quality and noise level monitored during 2016 (Summer) and 2022 (Summer). The air quality data in the background shows increase in airborne dust, which is a normal scenario in case of Rajasthan in summer. All environmental parameters air, water and noise are in permissible range and thus no major change is observed due to no mining activity in proposed lease area. Further, the Project Proponent submitted that the budget of EMP has been revised to Rs 120.45 Lakhs as Capital cost and Rs 31.0 Lakhs as recurring cost.</p>			Alkalinity – 120 to 612 mg/l	600 mg/l			TDS – 413 to 2544 mg/l	2000 mg/l
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2	<p>The project proponent needs to submit the action plan to carry out Scientific Replenishment Study as per the Methodology prepared by MoEF&CC along with CMPDI i.e. “Methodology for sand Replenishment Study in pursuance to Hon’ble Supreme Court of India’s Order dated 11.11.2021 in S.L.P. (Civil) No. 10587 of</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the following action plan is proposed to undertake the replenishment studies of the potential stretches of the river bed: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Preparation of KML file with the coordinates of the LOI / existing lease covering 100 m additional boundary beyond to the lease boundary to capture nearby data; ii. Fixing of ground control points with the help of DGPS at fixed points; iii. Drone Survey for pre-monsoon and post monsoon season. 								

	2019” to assess the available quantity of Bajri.																																					
3	The project proponent needs to submit the action plan as per Enforcement & Monitoring guidelines of sand mining 2020.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that there are four entry point (Roads) from where river may be approached. Therefore, four numbers of night vision camera will be installed and data will be made available to state government to curb the illegal mining. PP ensured to curb the illegal mining for remaining area with surveillance as detailed:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No.</th> <th>Particulars</th> <th>Capital Cost (In Lacs)</th> <th>Recurring Cost (In Lacs)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>I</td> <td>CCTV Camera</td> <td>6.0</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>II</td> <td>Weight bridge</td> <td>25.0</td> <td>2.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>III</td> <td>Personal Computer with power backup</td> <td>2.0</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IV</td> <td>Mobile Application Barcode Scanner</td> <td>3.0</td> <td>0.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>V</td> <td>Radio Frequency identification tags (RFID) and Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking</td> <td>25.0</td> <td>5.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VI</td> <td>Annual audit of each lease</td> <td>--</td> <td>10.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VII</td> <td>Security Guard/Task Force</td> <td>--</td> <td>20.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td>61.0</td> <td>38.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Further, the Project Proponent informed that this inference will be done after the mining sanction and prior to operation with data collected the pre-monsoon and post-monsoon. Rest all the mandated sand mining guidelines will be adhered to from time to time.</p>	S. No.	Particulars	Capital Cost (In Lacs)	Recurring Cost (In Lacs)	I	CCTV Camera	6.0	0.6	II	Weight bridge	25.0	2.5	III	Personal Computer with power backup	2.0	0.2	IV	Mobile Application Barcode Scanner	3.0	0.3	V	Radio Frequency identification tags (RFID) and Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking	25.0	5.0	VI	Annual audit of each lease	--	10.0	VII	Security Guard/Task Force	--	20.0	Total		61.0	38.6
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4	The project proponent needs to compare the current study data with the previous study data. If any changes exist, then detailed mitigation measures needs to be submitted.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the summary of current study data with the previous study data and the results are given below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameters</th> <th>No. of Locations</th> <th>During 2016</th> <th>During 2022</th> <th>Standards</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="5">Ambient Air</td> <td rowspan="5">13 Locations</td> <td>PM10 – 24.6 to 38.0 µg/m3</td> <td>PM10 – 44.2 to 55.4 µg/m³.</td> <td>100 µg/m3 (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PM2.5 - 12.1 to 20.1 µg/m3</td> <td>PM2.5 - 24.3 to 33.0 µg/m3</td> <td>60 µg/m3 (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SO2 - 4.0 to 5.0 µg/m3</td> <td>SO2 - 6.0 to 7.2 µg/m3</td> <td>80 µg/m3 (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO2 - 8.5 to 14.5 µg/m3</td> <td>NO2 - 6.8 to 9.2 µg/m3</td> <td>80 µg/m3 (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CO - 505 to 976 µg/m3</td> <td>CO – 458.0 to 802.0 µg/m3</td> <td>2000 µg/m3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Parameters	No. of Locations	During 2016	During 2022	Standards	Ambient Air	13 Locations	PM10 – 24.6 to 38.0 µg/m3	PM10 – 44.2 to 55.4 µg/m ³ .	100 µg/m3 (24 hours)	PM2.5 - 12.1 to 20.1 µg/m3	PM2.5 - 24.3 to 33.0 µg/m3	60 µg/m3 (24 hours)	SO2 - 4.0 to 5.0 µg/m3	SO2 - 6.0 to 7.2 µg/m3	80 µg/m3 (24 hours)	NO2 - 8.5 to 14.5 µg/m3	NO2 - 6.8 to 9.2 µg/m3	80 µg/m3 (24 hours)	CO - 505 to 976 µg/m3	CO – 458.0 to 802.0 µg/m3	2000 µg/m3														
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	Surface Water	2 Locations	--	pH –7.92 to 7.97	-																			
			--	BOD - <2 mg/l	-																			
			--	COD- <5 mg/l	-																			
			--	DO- 4.3 to 4.5 mg/l	-																			
	Ground Water	13 locations	pH – 6.28 to 7.49	pH – 6.87 to 8.01	6.5 to 8.5																			
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5	The project proponent needs to submit the detailed plan in tabular format (yearwise) for afforestation and green belt development in and around the mining lease. The project proponent should submit the number of saplings to be	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the Time-bound, activity-wise action plan for Plantation along with the budgetary provisions are given below:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Total ML Area</td> <td>905.206 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(3% of village area)</td> <td>8.154 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Number of Plant to be planted @ 2000 plant/ ha</td> <td>16,300 No.s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total area for avenue plantation along the Road No 1(8400m), Road No 2 (3539m), Road No 3(5465m) and Road No 4(7221m), Road No 5 (2816m), Road No6(6201m), Road No7(25574m), Road No8(7654m)and Road</td> <td>8400m + 3539m + 5465m + 7221m + 2816m + 6201m + 2557m + 7654m + 3138m = 46991 meters 46991 * 2 = 93982 meters</td> </tr> </table>				Total ML Area	905.206 ha	(3% of village area)	8.154 ha	Total Number of Plant to be planted @ 2000 plant/ ha	16,300 No.s	Total area for avenue plantation along the Road No 1(8400m), Road No 2 (3539m), Road No 3(5465m) and Road No 4(7221m), Road No 5 (2816m), Road No6(6201m), Road No7(25574m), Road No8(7654m)and Road	8400m + 3539m + 5465m + 7221m + 2816m + 6201m + 2557m + 7654m + 3138m = 46991 meters 46991 * 2 = 93982 meters											
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planted, area to be covered under afforestation & green belt, location of plantation, target for survival rate and budget earmarked for the afforestation & green belt development.	No93138(m)	
	Total Number of Plant to be planted	93982 / 5m = 18,796 or 18,800
	Total Plantation	Avenue plantation along the road (18,800) + SC, PB, Village Road PHC and CC of the villages 16,300) = 35,100
	Plantation will be done in the community area like: Village Panchayat, Government Schools, Hospitals, Community Centre and vetiver grasses both side of river bank. CC = Community Centre PHC = Public Health Centre PB = Panchayat Bhawan AP = Approach Road SC = School	

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC noted that the instant proposal is for reconsideration of Environmental Clearance (EC). The EAC also noted the instant proposal is being considered at the Central level as per Ministry's OM dated 27.09.2022 wherein it is mentioned that *"the proposals which have been considered/ appraised once by EAC either for TOR or EC, but final decision has not been taken, shall continue to be appraised at the Central level only, till final disposal for ToR/EC, even after the amendments in the EIA Notification are issued from to time regarding delegation of projects to SEIAAs"*.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Letter of Intent (LoI) is valid upto 31.10.2022. As per approved mining plan in 2014, Geological Reserve of the lease is 2,96,16,112 tonne and Mineable reserve is 2,91,93,445 tonne. PP also informed that the mineable area is 37%. The Project cost is Rs 0.37 Cr and the EMP cost is Rs 120.45 Lakhs.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the baseline data was revalidated and collected for a period of 15 days as per norms of MoEF&CC/CPCB during non-monsoon season (From 25 April to 09 May, 2022: Summer). The ambient air quality monitored at 13 locations, noise level at 13 locations, surface water and ground water collected at 2 locations and 13 locations respectively. PP also informed the EAC that the baseline data collected during Summer season seems to be higher than the baseline data collected during the year 2016 and the difference in the concentration values is due to seasonal variations. Further, PP informed the EAC that the post project concentration of the air pollutants will be within the limits of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

The EAC asked the Project Proponent to show the KML file. The Project Proponent has shown the patches of the river and the mineable area in the mine lease area. The EAC asked the Project Proponent that what is the width of the river? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the width of the river varies between 200-400m. The EAC also asked whether there are any permanent structures in the river? The Project Proponent informed the EAC that there are no permanent structures. PP also informed the EAC that the mineable area is 333.30 Ha (37%) out of the total mine lease area of 905.206 Ha. The Project Proponent has shown the flow chart for the sand volume calculation using Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) as per the methodology prescribed by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI). The Project Proponent informed the EAC that four numbers of night vision camera will be installed and data will be made available to state government to curb the illegal mining.

The EAC asked the Project Proponent that the transportation will be carried out for transporting the material of roughly about 9300 TPD and how this target will be achieved. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the depth of the mining is restricted to a depth of 1.0 m and no heavy machinery will be deployed and it will be done by manual means and already transportation route is defined. The EAC also asked how the Project Proponent shall ensure that the depth of the mining will be restricted to 1.0 m. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that total volume has been already defined in different blocks. The Total Station survey will be carried out. GPS trackers and barcode will be used for monitoring purpose. The EAC asked whether the Mining Plan is valid as on date. PP informed the EAC that the Mining Plan is valid as on date. However, the valid mining plan has not been uploaded by the Project Proponent. Furthermore, the EAC observed that chapters of EIA/EMP report are not in the prescribed generic structure as per the EIA Notification 2006. The EAC asked who has approved the District Survey Report? The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the Dept. of Mines and Geology has forwarded the District Survey Report (DSR) to the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Rajasthan for approval and the SEIAA is yet to approve the District Survey Report (DSR). The EAC discussed about the District Survey Report (DSR) as follows: -

- 1) Ministry issued Notification S.O. 141 (E) dated 15th January, 2016, which stipulates the constitution of the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority (DEIAA) for matters falling under Category 'B2' for mining of minor minerals. In the Notification the concept of DSR had been introduced and prescribed the procedure for preparation of District Survey Report for Sand Mining or River Bed Mining and Mining of other Minor Minerals and approval from the DEIAA.

- 2) The Ministry in 2016 issued Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016 which *inter-alia* focus on preparation of District Survey Report.
- 3) Then, the Ministry issued Notification S.O No. 3611 (E) dated 25th July, 2018 wherein a detailed procedure for preparation of district survey report for sand mining or river bed mining as well as procedure for preparation of district survey report of minor minerals other than sand mining or river bed mining has been mentioned.
- 4) The Notification S.O. 141(E) dated 15th January, 2016 has been challenged before Hon'ble Tribunal in the matter of Original Application No. 186 of 2016 titled as Satendra Pandey vs Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change wherein, Hon'ble Tribunal directed that:- *The MoEF&CC shall, therefore, take appropriate steps to revise the procedure laid down in the impugned Notification dated 15th January, 2016 in terms of the above directions and observations so that it is in conformity with the letter and spirit of the directions passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Deepak Kumar (supra).*
- 5) In pursuance to the order dated 13.09.2018 and 11.12.2018 passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal, Ministry has undergone to challenge the above mentioned orders by way of a Civil Appeal before Hon'ble Apex Court in the matter titled "*Union of India Vs Rajiv Suri*" having Civil Appeal No. 3799-3800 of 2019 and the case is sub-judice as of now.
- 6) The, Ministry in compliance of direction passed by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in its order dated 04.09.2018 in *Original Application No. 173/2018 in the matter of Sudarsan Das vs. State of West Bengal & Ors*, the answering respondent has formulated the new guidelines i.e. "Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining" (EMGSM-2020) supplemental to the existing guidelines i.e. Sustainable Sand Management Guidelines 2016 (SSMG-2016).
- 7) Thereafter, the e-auction of 14 sand Ghats in District Banka, Bihar in the absence of a District Survey Report (DSR) was challenged in the matter of Pawan Kumar versus State of Bihar & Ors having Original Application No. 40/2020/EZ before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi. The matter was disposed of vide order dated 14.10.2020 with the following direction: -

102. *In the result, we allow the applications and hold that:*

- g) *DSR 2018 cannot be considered as a final DSR and is only an Interim report.*

- h) The DSR 2019 incorporating the 14 Sand Ghats also cannot be considered as a final DSR and is hereby quashed.*
- i) All actions taken pursuant to DSR 2018 and DSR 2019 referred to in (a) and (b) above are hereby held to be void and a nullity.*

103. *In the light of the above findings, we direct as follows:*

- 7. Having regard to the findings at (a), (b) and (c) above, we direct the State to undertake further exercise for preparation of a fresh DSR for the Banka district.*
-
 - 8. As the DEIAA is not functioning as a consequence of the decision of the Tribunal in Satendra Pandey (supra), the DSR shall be prepared through a consultant(s) accredited by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training/ Quality Control Council of India in terms of O.M. of MoEF&CC dated 16.03.2010.*
 - 9. The DSR so prepared shall be submitted to the District Magistrate who shall verify the DSR only in respect of the relevant facts pertaining to the physical and geographical features of the district which shall be distinct from the scientific findings based on the parameters prescribed in the SSMMG- 89 2016. After such verification, the District Magistrate shall forward the DSR for examination and evaluation by the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) having regard to the fact that the SEIAA comprises of technical/scientific experts. The SEAC after appraisal of the report shall forward it to the SEIAA for consideration and approval if it meets all scientific/technical requirements.*
 - 10. While preparing the DSR, the MoEF&CC Accredited Agency/Consultant shall scrupulously follow the procedure and the parameters laid down under the SSMMG-2016 and EMGSM-2020 read in sync with each other.*
- 8) Further, in another matter i.e Original Application no. 360 of 2015 titled as NGT Bar Association versus Virender Singh (State of Gujarat), vide order dated 26.02.2021 in para no.14 held that :-
- 14. Considering the above, vide order dated 04.11.2020 in O.A. No. 726 of 2018, Rupesh Pethe v. State of M.P. & Ors., the Tribunal directed that the above direction ought to be followed pan India, as follows: -*
- 5. The above direction may be followed by the State of MP also for the sake of uniformity.*

.....

6. *We are of the view that the above directions need to be followed by all other States where the issue of mining is relevant.*

9) In view of the NGT order dated 14.10.2020, the State of Bihar filed an Civil Appeal before the Hon'ble Supreme Court having Civil Appeals Nos. 3661-3662 of 2020 tiled as State of Bihar V/s Pawan Kumar. The Hon'ble Supreme court has given its verdict on the above matter on 10.11.2021.

Thus, the EAC opined that the District Survey Report (DSR) shall be approved by the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Rajasthan. Based on the above discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The Project Proponent needs to submit the District Survey Report (DSR) approved by SEIAA.
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for planting Vetiver Grass on the banks of the river in consultation with the Forest Institute.
- iii. The project proponent needs to submit the valid mining plan on the Parivesh portal.
- iv. The project proponent needs to submit the chapter which are not included in the EIA/EMP report.

3.5 Mining of Sand (Minor Mineral) with production capacity of 0.42 MTPA in the mine lease area 360.97 ha, located at Revenue Villages of Baran TehsilUlthi, Majrawta, KalyanpurGhata, Ghisri, Hanotiya, Koyla, Shahgarh, Revenue Villages of Kishanganj TehsilKaglaBamori,Mehrawata, Rani Badod District Baran, Rajasthan by M/s Shri Mukesh Sharma [File No. J-11015/408/2015-IA.II(M); Proposal No. IA/RJ/MIN/32677/2015, Consultant: Enkay Enviro Services Pvt. Ltd.] - Reconsideration of Environmental Clearance (EC)

The instant proposal is for mining of Sand (Minor Mineral) with production capacity of 0.42 MTPA in the mine lease area 360.97 ha, located at Revenue Villages of Baran Tehsil Ulthi, Majrawta, KalyanpurGhata, Ghisri, Hanotiya, Koyla, Shahgarh, Revenue Villages of Kishanganj Tehsil KaglaBamori, Mehrawata, Rani Badod District Baran, Rajasthan by M/s Shri Mukesh Sharma.

2. Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 25°15'13.07"N to 25°03'47.68"N and Longitude: 76°35'22.26" E to 76°37'58.58" E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 54C/ 11 and 54C/12

- and falls in Seismic Zone-II the proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals.
- ii. The instant proposal is considered in the 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022 as per Ministry's OM dated 27.09.2022 wherein it is mentioned that "the proposals which have been considered/ appraised once by EAC either for TOR or EC, but final decision has not been taken, shall continue to be appraised at the Central level only, till final disposal for ToR/EC, even after the amendments in the EIA Notification are issued from to time regarding delegation of projects to SEIAAs".
 - iii. The project was granted Terms of Reference (ToR) by the Ministry vide letter dated 08.01.2016 based on the recommendation of sectoral EAC meeting held during December 21-22, 2015.
 - iv. The proposal was earlier considered in the EAC meeting held during February 26-27, 2018 and March 22-23, 2018 and EAC its meeting held during March 22-23, 2018 wherein the Committee made detailed deliberations on the issues mentioned in preceding paragraphs and noted that there is a requirement of identification of active mining area within leased river stretches and subsequent identification and preparation of cross-section for assessing replenishment of sand in coming years. Hence, mining permission is technically required to be granted so as to conduct replenishment studies in future and demonstrate the same to State Govt. to regulate mining of paleo deposits in future. Accordingly, EAC recommended mining of river sand/ bajri up to 25% capacity of the annual proposed production capacity subject to submission of valid LOI alongwith the requisite information and undertaking. Then, the Ministry vide letter dated 18.04.2018 requested the Project Proponent to submit the desired information sought by the EAC in its meeting held during March 22-23, 2018. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 23.05.2018.
 - v. The Environmental Clearance proposals for mining of Sand/Bajri which were received from the State of Rajasthan were deliberated and discussed in the EAC meeting held during May 30-31, 2018. The representatives of State Government of Rajasthan were also present during the meeting. Based on the detailed deliberations and discussions, the Committee was of the view that the complete appraisal may be done once the information as sought in the similar cases of State of Rajasthan for bajri/sand mining project may be submitted by the State Govt. of Rajasthan and Project Proponent. In view of the above, the Committee suggested that first State Govt. of Rajasthan and Project Proponent shall submit the above mentioned information for all similar case of the State of Rajasthan. Thereafter the proposals may be considered. The Committee also suggested that the proposals can only be considered before the EAC once all the complete information received from State Govt. of Rajasthan and Project Proponents. Accordingly, the Ministry vide letter dated 18.06.2018 requested the Project Proponent and Department of Mines and Geology, Govt. of Rajasthan to submit the requisite information for further

- necessary action. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 31.12.2021.
- vi. Then, the proposal was considered in the 47thEAC Meeting (Non-Coal Mining) held during 7thto 9thMarch 2022. After detailed deliberations, the Committee observed that earlier the proposal was considered in the 29th EAC Meeting (Non-Coal mining) held during March 22-23, 2018 wherein the Committee recommended the mining of river sand/ bajri up to 25% capacity of the annual proposed production capacity subject to submission of valid LOI. The project proponent then submitted that initially, the Letter of Intent was issued from Government of Rajasthan, Kota vide letter no. P.9 (10) Khan/ Gr. – 2/ 2013 dated 03.12.2014 in favour of Mukesh Sharma. The project proponent also submitted the letter dated 21.12.2021, wherein it was mentioned that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP 10587/2019 gave judgement on 11.11.2021 and directed State government to amend Rule 5(4) as per finding of Central Empowered Committee. In compliance of the above mentioned judgement, Rajasthan Government issued a Gazette notification on 16.11.2021 and extended validity of Lol to 68 months from issuance of rule i.e. 1.3.2017. Therefore, as per notification dated 16.11.2021 Lol is valid till 31stOctober 2022. The same was confirmed by representative of DMG, Rajasthan during the presentation. The Committee also observed that the project proponent has not submitted the authenticated District Survey Report as per Ministry's Notification S.O. 3611(E) dated 25.07. 2018. As per 2018 Notification "The District Survey Report shall form the basis for application for environmental clearance, preparation of reports and appraisal of projects". Therefore, the Committee deferred the proposal. The project proponent needs to submit the (i) DSR as per 2018 notification and (ii) Undertaking that only Scrapers shall be used for mining to ensure that the mining depth be maintained as 1.0 meters (max.) from Original Ground Level and No other heavy machinery like bucket excavators, JCB machines etc. shall be used which may adversely impact the aquatic biota on Parivesh Portal for further consideration by EAC. Then, the Ministry on 23.03.2022 requested the Project Proponent to submit the requisite information and accordingly the Project Proponent submitted the information on 25.03.2022.
- vii. Again, the proposal was considered in the 49th EAC Meeting (Non-Coal Mining) held during 19th to 21st April, 2022 wherein the committee observed that the baseline data was more than six years old and supporting documents were not submitted according to the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines of Sand Mining 2020. In view of the above, the committee deferred the proposal and sought the additional information. The Project Proponent submitted the information on 13.06.2022. The Ministry again sought additional details on 13.09.2022 and the Project Proponent submitted the information 04.10.2022 and accordingly the proposal was reconsidered in the EAC meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022.

Based on observation of EAC and the compliance of observation of EAC made by the Project Proponent are detailed below:

S. No	Observation of EAC	Reply by Project Proponent																																																		
1	The project proponent needs to submit the Environmental status report of the project site after carrying out study of Air, Water (Ground water & Surface water) and Noise for 15 days period (non-monsoon season). The project proponent should submit the photographs of monitoring stations & sampling locations. The photographs should mention the date, time, latitude & longitude of the monitoring station/sampling location. In addition to this, the project proponent should submit the original test reports and certificates of	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the baseline data was collected for a period of 15 days as per norms of MOEF&CC/CPCB during non-monsoon season (From 25 April to 09 May, 2022: Summer).</p> <p>PP submitted that the ambient air quality monitored at 11 locations, noise level at 11 locations, surface water at 2 locations and ground water at 11 locations.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameters</th> <th>No. of locations</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Standards</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="5">Ambient Air Quality Monitoring</td> <td rowspan="5">11 Locations</td> <td>PM10 – 45.2 to 65.2 µg/m³</td> <td>100 µg/m³ (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PM2.5 - 26.2 to 39.8 µg/m³</td> <td>60 µg/m³ (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SO₂ - 6.0 to 8.3 µg/m³</td> <td>80 µg/m³ (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO₂ -6.5 to 15.0 µg/m³</td> <td>80 µg/m³ (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CO - 458 to 802 µg/m³</td> <td>2000 µg/m³</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Noise Level Monitoring</td> <td rowspan="2">11 Locations</td> <td>Day Time – 50.0 to 52.5Leq dB (A)</td> <td> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">All values in dB(A)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Industrial</th> <th>75</th> <th>70</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Commercial</th> <th>65</th> <th>55</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Residential</th> <th>55</th> <th>45</th> </tr> </thead> </table> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Night Time – 40.5 to 44.1 Leq dB (A)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Surface Water</td> <td rowspan="4">2 Locations</td> <td>pH –7.32 to 7.76</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BOD - <2 mg/l</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>COD- <5 mg/l</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DO- 3.9 to 4.3 mg/l</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Ground Water Sampling</td> <td rowspan="2">11 locations</td> <td>pH – 6.89 to 7.52</td> <td>6.5 to 8.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Hardness – 296 to 960 mg/l</td> <td>600 mg/l</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Parameters	No. of locations	Description	Standards	Ambient Air Quality Monitoring	11 Locations	PM10 – 45.2 to 65.2 µg/m ³	100 µg/m ³ (24 hours)	PM2.5 - 26.2 to 39.8 µg/m ³	60 µg/m ³ (24 hours)	SO ₂ - 6.0 to 8.3 µg/m ³	80 µg/m ³ (24 hours)	NO ₂ -6.5 to 15.0 µg/m ³	80 µg/m ³ (24 hours)	CO - 458 to 802 µg/m ³	2000 µg/m ³	Noise Level Monitoring	11 Locations	Day Time – 50.0 to 52.5Leq dB (A)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">All values in dB(A)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Industrial</th> <th>75</th> <th>70</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Commercial</th> <th>65</th> <th>55</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Residential</th> <th>55</th> <th>45</th> </tr> </thead> </table>	All values in dB(A)			Industrial	75	70	Commercial	65	55	Residential	55	45	Night Time – 40.5 to 44.1 Leq dB (A)		Surface Water	2 Locations	pH –7.32 to 7.76	-	BOD - <2 mg/l	-	COD- <5 mg/l	-	DO- 3.9 to 4.3 mg/l	-	Ground Water Sampling	11 locations	pH – 6.89 to 7.52	6.5 to 8.5	Total Hardness – 296 to 960 mg/l	600 mg/l
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2	<p>The project proponent needs to submit the action plan to carry out Scientific Replenishment Study as per the Methodology prepared by MoEF&CC along with CMPDI i.e. “Methodology for sand Replenishment Study in pursuance to Hon’ble Supreme Court of India’s Order dated 11.11.2021 in</p>	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that the following action plan is proposed to undertake the replenishment studies of the potential stretches of the river bed: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Preparation of KML file with the coordinates of the LOI / existing lease covering 100 m additional boundary beyond to the lease boundary to capture nearby data; ii. Fixing of ground control points with the help of DGPS at fixed points; iii. Drone Survey for pre-monsoon and post monsoon season. 								

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3	The project proponent needs to submit the action plan as per Enforcement & Monitoring guidelines of sand mining 2020.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted that there are four entry point (Roads) from where river may be approached. Therefore, four numbers of night vision camera will be installed and data will be made available to state government to curb the illegal mining. PP ensured to curb the illegal mining for remaining area with surveillance as detailed:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No.</th> <th>Particulars</th> <th>Capital Cost (In Lacs)</th> <th>Recurring Cost (In Lacs)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>I.</td> <td>CCTV Camera</td> <td>4.0</td> <td>0.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>II.</td> <td>Weight bridge</td> <td>25.0</td> <td>2.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>III.</td> <td>Personal Computer with power backup</td> <td>2.0</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IV.</td> <td>Mobile Application Barcode Scanner</td> <td>2.0</td> <td>0.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>V.</td> <td>Radio Frequency identification tags (RFID) and Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking</td> <td>25.0</td> <td>5.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VI.</td> <td>Annual audit of each lease</td> <td>--</td> <td>10.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VII.</td> <td>Security Guard/Task Force</td> <td>--</td> <td>20.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td>58.00</td> <td>38.3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Further, the Project Proponent informed that this inference will be done after the mining sanction and prior to operation with data collected the pre-monsoon and post-monsoon. Rest all the mandated sand mining guidelines will be adhered to from time to time.</p>	S. No.	Particulars	Capital Cost (In Lacs)	Recurring Cost (In Lacs)	I.	CCTV Camera	4.0	0.4	II.	Weight bridge	25.0	2.5	III.	Personal Computer with power backup	2.0	0.2	IV.	Mobile Application Barcode Scanner	2.0	0.2	V.	Radio Frequency identification tags (RFID) and Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking	25.0	5.0	VI.	Annual audit of each lease	--	10.0	VII.	Security Guard/Task Force	--	20.0	Total		58.00	38.3
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4	The project proponent needs to compare the current study data with the previous study data. If any changes exist, then detailed mitigation measures needs to be submitted.	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the summary of current study data with the previous study data and the results are given below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameters</th> <th>Number of Locations</th> <th>During 2015</th> <th>During 2022</th> <th>Standards</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="5">Ambient Air</td> <td rowspan="5">11 Locations</td> <td>PM10 – 12.9 to 30.5 µg/m3</td> <td>PM10 – 45.2 to 65.2 µg/m3</td> <td>100 µg/m3 (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PM2.5 - 6.5 to 14.8 µg/m3</td> <td>PM2.5 - 26.2 to 39.8 µg/m3</td> <td>60 µg/m3 (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SO2 - 4.0 to 4.6 µg/m3</td> <td>SO2 - 6.0 to 8.3 µg/m3</td> <td>80 µg/m3 (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NO2 -5.9 to 10.6 µg/m3</td> <td>NO2 -6.5 to 15.0 µg/m3</td> <td>80 µg/m3 (24 hours)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CO -504 to 814µg/m3</td> <td>CO - 458 to 802 µg/m3</td> <td>2000 µg/m3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Noise Level</td> <td>11 Locations</td> <td>Noise Level During Day Time –</td> <td>Noise Level During Day Time –</td> <td> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="3">All values in dB(A)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Industrial</td> <td>75</td> <td>70</td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Parameters	Number of Locations	During 2015	During 2022	Standards	Ambient Air	11 Locations	PM10 – 12.9 to 30.5 µg/m3	PM10 – 45.2 to 65.2 µg/m3	100 µg/m3 (24 hours)	PM2.5 - 6.5 to 14.8 µg/m3	PM2.5 - 26.2 to 39.8 µg/m3	60 µg/m3 (24 hours)	SO2 - 4.0 to 4.6 µg/m3	SO2 - 6.0 to 8.3 µg/m3	80 µg/m3 (24 hours)	NO2 -5.9 to 10.6 µg/m3	NO2 -6.5 to 15.0 µg/m3	80 µg/m3 (24 hours)	CO -504 to 814µg/m3	CO - 458 to 802 µg/m3	2000 µg/m3	Noise Level	11 Locations	Noise Level During Day Time –	Noise Level During Day Time –	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="3">All values in dB(A)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Industrial</td> <td>75</td> <td>70</td> </tr> </table>	All values in dB(A)			Industrial	75	70			
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Minutes of 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022

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				TDS – 602 to 3032 mg/l	TDS – 678 to 1815 mg/l	2000 mg/l												
5	The project proponent needs to submit the detailed plan in tabular format (yearwise) for afforestation and green belt development in and around the mining lease. The project proponent should submit the number of saplings to be planted, area to be covered under afforestation & green belt, location of plantation, target for survival rate	<p>The Project Proponent submitted the Time-bound, activity-wise action plan for Plantation along with the budgetary provisions are given below:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Total ML Area</td> <td>360.97 Ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(3% of village area)</td> <td>6.47 Ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Number of Plant to be planted @ 2000 plant/ ha</td> <td>12946 Nos.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total area for avenue plantation along the Road No 1(23335m), Road No 2(10666m), Road No 3(19072m) and Road No 4(4696m)</td> <td>23335m + 10666m + 19072m + 4696m = 57,769 m 57769 * 2 = 1,15,538 m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Number of Plant to be planted</td> <td>1,15,538 /5 m = 23,108 or 23,110 No of plants</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Plantation</td> <td>Avenue plantation by Beema Bamboo along the road (23,110) + SC, PB, Village Road PHC and CC of the villages 12946) = 36,056</td> </tr> </table> <p>Plantation will be done in the community area like: Village Panchayat, Government Schools, Hospitals, Community Centre and vetiver grasses both side of river bank.</p> <p>CC = Community Centre PHC = Public Health Centre PB = Panchayat</p>					Total ML Area	360.97 Ha	(3% of village area)	6.47 Ha	Total Number of Plant to be planted @ 2000 plant/ ha	12946 Nos.	Total area for avenue plantation along the Road No 1(23335m), Road No 2(10666m), Road No 3(19072m) and Road No 4(4696m)	23335m + 10666m + 19072m + 4696m = 57,769 m 57769 * 2 = 1,15,538 m	Total Number of Plant to be planted	1,15,538 /5 m = 23,108 or 23,110 No of plants	Total Plantation	Avenue plantation by Beema Bamboo along the road (23,110) + SC, PB, Village Road PHC and CC of the villages 12946) = 36,056
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and budget earmarked for the afforestation & green belt development.	Bhawan AP = Approach Road SC = School
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3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The EAC noted that the instant proposal is for reconsideration of Environmental Clearance (EC). The EAC also noted the instant proposal is being considered at the Central level as per Ministry’s OM dated 27.09.2022 wherein it is mentioned that *“the proposals which have been considered/ appraised once by EAC either for TOR or EC, but final decision has not been taken, shall continue to be appraised at the Central level only, till final disposal for ToR/EC, even after the amendments in the EIA Notification are issued from to time regarding delegation of projects to SEIAAs”*.

The EAC asked the Project Proponent to begin with the KML file. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the total mine lease area is 360.97 ha, out of which 199.95 Ha (55%) is the mineable area. The mining operation will be carried out in four blocks. The depth of the mining will be upto 1.0 m. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the Letter of Intent (LoI) is valid upto 31.10.2022. As per earlier approved mining plan in 2014, Geological Reserve of the lease is 2,95,72,900 tonne and Mineable reserve is 2,81,00,000 tonne. The Project cost is Rs 0.75 Cr and the EMP cost is Rs 126.83 Lakhs.

The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the baseline data was revalidated and collected for a period of 15 days as per norms of MoEF&CC/ CPCB during non-monsoon season (From 25 April to 09 May, 2022: Summer). The ambient air quality monitored at 11 locations, noise level at 11 locations, surface water and ground water collected at 2 locations and 11 locations respectively. PP also informed the EAC that the baseline data collected during Summer season seems to be higher than the baseline data collected during the December, 2015 – February, 2016 and the difference in the concentration values is due to seasonal variations. Further, PP informed the EAC that the post project concentration of the air pollutants will be within the limits of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The EAC asked the Project Proponent that what is the depth of the ground water? The Project Proponent/consultant informed the EAC that the depth varies between 10-12m. The huge depositions are found.

The Project Proponent has shown the flow chart for the sand volume calculation using Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) as per the methodology prescribed by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI). The Project Proponent informed the EAC that four numbers of night vision camera will be installed and data will be made available to state government to curb the

illegal mining. The EAC asked the Project Proponent that whether the boundary pillars are erected for demarcation of the mine lease area. The Project Proponent informed the EAC the boundary pillars are erected for demarcation of the mine lease area.

The EAC asked whether the Mining Plan is valid as on date. PP informed the EAC that the Mining Plan is valid as on date. However, the valid mining plan has not been uploaded by the Project Proponent. Furthermore, the EAC observed that chapters of EIA/EMP report are not in the prescribed generic structure as per the EIA Notification 2006. The EAC asked who has approved the District Survey Report? The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the Dept. of Mines and Geology has forwarded the District Survey Report (DSR) to the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Rajasthan for approval and the SEIAA is yet to approve the District Survey Report (DSR). The EAC discussed about the District Survey Report (DSR) as follows: -

- 1) Ministry issued Notification S.O. 141 (E) dated 15th January, 2016, which stipulates the constitution of the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority (DEIAA) for matters falling under Category 'B2' for mining of minor minerals. In the Notification the concept of DSR had been introduced and prescribed the procedure for preparation of District Survey Report for Sand Mining or River Bed Mining and Mining of other Minor Minerals and approval from the DEIAA.
- 2) The Ministry in 2016 issued Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016 which *inter-alia* focus on preparation of District Survey Report.
- 3) Then, the Ministry issued Notification S.O No. 3611 (E) dated 25th July, 2018 wherein a detailed procedure for preparation of district survey report for sand mining or river bed mining as well as procedure for preparation of district survey report of minor minerals other than sand mining or river bed mining has been mentioned.
- 4) The Notification S.O. 141(E) dated 15th January, 2016 has been challenged before Hon'ble Tribunal in the matter of Original Application No. 186 of 2016 titled as Satendra Pandey vs Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change wherein, Hon'ble Tribunal directed that:- *The MoEF&CC shall, therefore, take appropriate steps to revise the procedure laid down in the impugned Notification dated 15th January, 2016 in terms of the above directions and observations so that it is conformity with the letter and spirit of the directions passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Deepak Kumar (supra).*

- 5) In pursuance to the order dated 13.09.2018 and 11.12.2018 passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal, Ministry has undergone to challenge the above mentioned orders by way of a Civil Appeal before Hon'ble Apex Court in the matter titled "*Union of India Vs Rajiv Suri*" having Civil Appeal No. 3799-3800 of 2019 and the case is sub-judice as of now.
- 6) The, Ministry in compliance of direction passed by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in its order dated 04.09.2018 in *Original Application No. 173/2018 in the matter of Sudarsan Das vs. State of West Bengal & Ors*, the answering respondent has formulated the new guidelines i.e. "Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining" (EMGSM-2020) supplemental to the existing guidelines i.e. Sustainable Sand Management Guidelines 2016 (SSMG-2016).
- 7) Thereafter, the e-auction of 14 sand Ghats in District Banka, Bihar in the absence of a District Survey Report (DSR) was challenged in the matter of Pawan Kumar versus State of Bihar & Ors having Original Application No. 40/2020/EZ before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi. The matter was disposed of vide order dated 14.10.2020 with the following direction: -

102. *In the result, we allow the applications and hold that:*

- j) DSR 2018 cannot be considered as a final DSR and is only an Interim report.*
- k) The DSR 2019 incorporating the 14 Sand Ghats also cannot be considered as a final DSR and is hereby quashed.*
- l) All actions taken pursuant to DSR 2018 and DSR 2019 referred to in (a) and (b) above are hereby held to be void and a nullity.*

103. *In the light of the above findings, we direct as follows:*

- 11. Having regard to the findings at (a), (b) and (c) above, we direct the State to undertake further exercise for preparation of a fresh DSR for the Banka district.*
-
- 12. As the DEIAA is not functioning as a consequence of the decision of the Tribunal in Satendra Pandey (supra), the DSR shall be prepared through a consultant(s) accredited by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training/ Quality Control Council of India in terms of O.M. of MoEF&CC dated 16.03.2010.*
- 13. The DSR so prepared shall be submitted to the District Magistrate who shall verify the DSR only in respect of the relevant facts pertaining to the physical and geographical features of the district which shall be*

distinct from the scientific findings based on the parameters prescribed in the SSMMG- 89 2016. After such verification, the District Magistrate shall forward the DSR for examination and evaluation by the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) having regarding to the fact that the SEIAA comprises of technical/scientific experts. The SEAC after appraisal of the report shall forward it to the SEIAA for consideration and approval if it meets all scientific/technical requirements.

14. While preparing the DSR, the MoEF&CC Accredited Agency/Consultant shall scrupulously follow the procedure and the parameters laid down under the SSMMG-2016 and EMGSM-2020 read in sync with each other.

8) Further, in another matter i.e Original Application no. 360 of 2015 titled as NGT Bar Association versus Virender Singh (State of Gujarat), vide order dated 26.02.2021 in para no.14 held that :-

14. Considering the above, vide order dated 04.11.2020 in O.A. No. 726 of 2018, *Rupesh Pethe v. State of M.P. & Ors.*, the Tribunal directed that the above direction ought to be followed pan India, as follows: -

5. *The above direction may be followed by the State of MP also for the sake of uniformity.*

.....

6. *We are of the view that the above directions need to be followed by all other States where the issue of mining is relevant.*

9) In view of the NGT order dated 14.10.2020, the State of Bihar filed an Civil Appeal before the Hon'ble Supreme Court having Civil Appeals Nos. 3661-3662 of 2020 tiled as State of Bihar V/s Pawan Kumar. The Hon'ble Supreme court has given its verdict on the above matter on 10.11.2021.

Thus, the EAC opined that the District Survey Report (DSR) shall be approved by the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Rajasthan. Based on the above discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The Project Proponent needs to submit the District Survey Report (DSR) approved by SEIAA.
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the action plan for planting Vetiver Grass on the banks of the river in consultation with the Forest Institute.

- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the valid mining plan on the Parivesh portal.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the chapters in EIA/EMP report which are not included.

List of members of Expert Appraisal Committee participated through VC

S.No	Member Name	Member Address	Designation	18th Oct., 2022	19th Oct., 2022	20th Oct., 2022
1	Dr. Dinesh Misra, IFS (Retd.)	Plot No 65, Sector 8, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, 382 008	Chairman	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	Sh. Niranjan Kumar Vasu, IFS (Retd.)	816, Shanti Nagar, Opposite Durgapur Railway Station, Jaipur-Rajasthan, 302018	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	Dr. Asha Rajvanshi Scientist 'G' (Retd.), WII	B/104/106 Rock Valley Apartments, GMSRoad, Sewla Kalan, P.O. Majra, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248171	Member	No	No	No
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 (CMD-South Eastern Coalfields Limited)- (Retd.)	Flat No-503 A, Jyoti Cosmos, White Fields, Hi-Tech City, Kondapur,Hyderabad- 500081	Member	Yes	Yes	No

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.DeveshWalia, Professor, Department of Environmental Studies	Department of Environmental Studies, NEHU, Shillong- 793022 Meghalaya	Member	No	Yes	Yes
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	No	No	No
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 Abhay Agrawal & Dr. Yogesh G.Kale, Representative of Indian Bureau of Mines	Controller of Mines, IBM Block D, Second Floor, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes
13	Shri Niazi Mohammed	Representative of Directorate General of Mines Safety	Member	Yes	Yes	Yes

Minutes of 5th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 18-20, October, 2022

14	Shri Pankaj Verma	2 nd Floor, Prithvi Block, Indira Paryawaran Bhawan, MoEF&CC, Jorbagh, New Delhi- 110003.	Member Secretary	Yes	Yes	Yes
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