

Table Item: Application for obtaining environmental clearance under EIA notification dated 14.09.2006 for mining of minor minerals (Sand) from the off river bed (Paleochannel of river Satluj) in the revenue estate of village Ratangarh, Tehsil Ludhiana (E) District Ludhiana, Punjab submitted by Sh. TANVIR SINGH GANDHI (Proposal No. SIA/PB/MIN/74942/201)

The facts of the case are as under:

The General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, District Industries Centre, Ludhiana was earlier granted environmental clearance under EIA notification dated 14.09.2006 by SEIAA, Punjab vide letter no. SEIAA//2017/664 dated 04.05.2017 for carrying out mining of minor minerals (Sand) @ 5,52,436 MT from the off river bed (Paleochannel of river Satluj) in total area of 13.76 hectare (Minalable Area: 12.63 ha) having H.B. no. 19 bearing Khasra nos 6//24, 25, 7//19/2, 20, 21, 22, 17//1, 2, 7/1, 8/1, 9, 10, 12/1, 23/1/2, 18//5/1, 5/2, 6/1, 20//3/1, 3/2, 8/1, 8/2, 9, 10, 30//23, 31//24, 34//4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 35//1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17/2, 18, 19, 20 located in the revenue estate of village Ratangarh, Tehsil Ludhiana (E) District Ludhiana, Punjab, subject to the conditions including the condition no.(xix) & (xxii) of General Conditions which are reproduced as under:

- (xix) The Mining Officer shall demarcate the mining lease area in the presence of revenue authorities and concerned Village Panchayat or their representatives
- (xxii) The Mining Officer may apply for transfer of environmental clearance under EIA notification dated 14.09.2006 to the contractor finalized by the Department of Industries & Commerce to SEIAA, Punjab. However, no activity shall be undertaken by the contractor till the environmental clearance is transferred in his name and he is lawfully bound to comply with the conditions of the environmental clearance.

The General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, District Industries Centre, SAS Nagar vide memo no. 396-98 dated 22.03.2018 has requested to transfer the Environmental Clearance for the above noted mining site in the favour of Sh. Tanvir Singh Gandhi S/o Sh. Gurdip Singh, H.No. 212-E, Bhai Randhir Singh Nagar, Ludhiana upto the remaining period of environmental clearance and has submitted the following documents alongwith the request:

- (i) Copy of letter no. 457-B dated 20.02.2018 issued by the Director Mining, Deptt. of Industries & Commerce, Punjab, Chandigarh to the Mining Officer, District

Industries Centre, Ludhiana, wherein, it has mentioned that the bid of Sh. Tanvir Singh Gandhi S/o Sh. Gurdip Singh, H.No. 212-E, Bhai Randhir Singh Nagar, Ludhiana has been approved with certain conditions.

- (ii) Copy of letter No. 458-B dated 20.02.2018 vide which, General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, District Industries Centre, Ludhiana has further conveyed the approval of the site in the favour of Sh. Tanvir Singh Gandhi S/o Sh. Gurdip Singh, H. No. 212-E, Bhai Randhir Singh Nagar, Ludhiana.
- (iii) Self declaration by Sh. Tanvir Singh Gandhi S/o Sh. Gurdip Singh, H. No. 212-E, Bhai Randhir Singh Nagar, Ludhiana to the effect that the above-mentioned site has been allotted to him and he will be responsible for abiding all the guidelines of environmental clearance.
- (iv) Affidavit by Sh. Mahesh Khanna, GMDIC, Ludhiana regarding the above-mentioned site.
- (v) Copy of the demarcation report dated 22.03.2018 of the mining site.

The case was considered by the SEIAA in its 130th meeting held on 11.04.2018, which was attended by the following on behalf of the project proponent:

- (i) Sh. Vipin Kumar, Mining Officer, O/o General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, District Industries Centre, Ludhiana
- (ii) Sh. Tanvir Singh, Proprietor cum Contractor

Sh.Vipin Kumar submitted an authority letter wherein he has been authorized by General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, District Industries Centre, Ludhiana to attend the meeting of SEIAA on 11.04.2018. The same was taken on record by the SEIAA.

The SEIAA observed that the demarcation report submitted by the Mining Department stipulates only the ownership of land and does not indicate the physical structures at site. To this query, the Mining Officer submitted that it is off river bed mining and it is agriculture land as well as non replenishable site. On further crosschecking of the khasra nos mentioned in the report with the khasra nos mentioned in the application form submitted at the time of grant of environmental clearance, the SEIAA observed that the demarcation report is incomplete as some khasra nos are missing which were shown to the Mining Officer as well as the

contractor during meeting. They sought time to submit the complete demarcation report. The SEIAA acceded to the request of the Mining Officer and the contractor.

After deliberations, the SEIAA decided that the Mining Department is required to comply with the following observations before the case is considered for transfer of environmental clearance in the name of contractor :-

- (i) Submit the complete demarcation certified by Mining Officer after getting the demarcation in the presence of revenue authorities, concerned Village Panchayat or their representatives, representative of Mining Officer, contractor & land owner(s). After demarcation, pucca pillars with reference to some permanent bench mark shall be erected at site.
- (ii) Submit Geo-Coordinates (Latitude and Longitude) of all corners of demarcated mining site.

In compliance to the decision of SEIAA, General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, District Industries Centre, Ludhiana was requested vide letter no. 564 dated 23.04.2018 to attend the above said observations and copy of the same was endorsed to the Director (Mining), Department of Mines & Geology, Punjab Udyog Bhawan, 18, Himalaya Marg, Chandigarh and to the contractor namely Sh. Tanvir Singh Gandhi S/o Sh. Gurdip Singh, H. No. 212-E, Bhai Randhir Singh Nagar, Ludhiana vide endst no. 565-566 dated 23.04.2018.

General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, District Industries Centre, Ludhiana vide its memo no. 588-589 dated 30.04.2018 requested that the observations raised in the 130th meeting of SEIAA have been attended and has submitted a copy of the demarcation report showing the detail of khasra nos which were missing in its earlier demarcation report duly signed by the Mining Officer, Ludhiana, Naib Tehsildar, Kumbh Kalan & Sarpanch, Village Ratangarh, Ludhiana-II alongwith details of latitude and longitude of the mining site.

The case was considered by the SEIAA in its 131st meeting held on 04.05.2018, which was attended by the following on behalf of the project proponent:

- (i) Sh. Vipin Kumar, Mining Officer, O/o General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, District Industries Centre, Ludhiana
- (ii) Sh. Tanvir Singh, Proprietor cum Contractor

Sh. Vipin Kumar submitted an authority letter wherein he has been authorized by General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, District Industries Centre,

Ludhiana to attend the meeting of SEIAA on 04.05.2018. The same was taken on record by the SEIAA.

The SEIAA observed that the demarcation report is still incomplete as the report of some khasra nos & Geo-Coordinates of all the corners have still not been mentioned. To this query, the contractor submitted that inadvertently report of two khasra nos have not been mentioned, however, Geo-Coordinates of the four corners in respect of both land parcels have been submitted. The contractor requested SEIAA that the transfer of environmental clearance be allowed in his name as it is off river bed mining & report of the left out khasra nos will be submitted within a week.

After detailed deliberations, the SEIAA decided that transfer of environmental clearance is allowed in the name of contractor subject to the submission of the demarcation report of left out khasra nos. and geo-coordinates of all the corners of site. Transfer letter be issued only after the same is submitted by the contractor and is approved by Chairman SEIAA on case record file

In compliance to the aforesaid decision, environmental clearance has been transferred vide letter no. 708 dated 24.05.2018 in the name of Sh. Tanvir Singh Gandhi for the period of 5 years i.e. mine lease period or extraction of total permitted quantity of minor minerals, whichever occurs earlier, subject to the same conditions as mentioned in the environmental clearance issued vide letter no. SEIAA/2017/664 dated 04.05.2017.

Now, the project proponent has submitted fresh application for obtaining environmental clearance under EIA notification dated 14.09.2006 for mining of minor minerals (Sand) from the off river bed (Paleochannel of river Satluj) with semi mechanized method in the revenue estate of village Ratangarh, Tehsil Ludhiana (E) District Ludhiana, Punjab. The project is covered under category 1 (a) of the Schedule appended to the said notification.

- The proposed project of mining of sand mining falls under Category "B2" as per MOEF Gazette Notification.
- The Project proponent has submitted Pre- Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, EMP, Risk Assessment, Final District Survey Report along with Form -1. The project proponent has submitted mining plan alongwith EMP has been prepared based on Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines (2016) issued by the Ministry of

Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Notification dated 15.01.2016 and final district survey report and Punjab Minor Minerals Rules-2013.

- The project proponent has proposed to extract about 5,52, 436Tonnes of Sand out of the total 6, 82,020 tonnes of reserve over the period of 5 years in an area of 13.76 from the off river bed (Paleochannel of river Satluj) in H.B. no. 19 located in the revenue estate of village Ratangarh, Tehsil Ludhiana (E) District Ludhiana, Punjab.
- The estimated project cost is Rs 182.1 Lakhs.
- The Salient features of the project are as under:-

Project name	Ratangarh Sand Mining Project
Mining Lease Area	13.76 hectare (Minable Area: 12.63 Ha)
Location of mine	6//24,25,7//19/2,20,21,22,17//1,2,7/1,8/1,9, 10,12/1,23/1/2,18//5/1,5/2,6/1,20//3/1,3/2, 8/1,8/2,9,10,30//23,31//24,34//4,5,6,7,8,13,1 4,15,16,35//1,2,9,10,11,12,13,14,17/2,18,19,20 Area 13.76Ha
Latitude & Longitude	30°56'28.82"N to 30°56'24.66"N 76° 3'55.82"E to 76° 4'10.64"E
Toposheet number	H43K01
Minerals of mine	Sand
Proposed production of mine	5,52,436 Tonnes in 5 years.
Method of mining	Semi Mechanized
No of working days	290 days
Cost of the Project	Rs 1,82,10,000
Water demand	0.59 KLD of water shall be used for domestic and 0.48 KLD for dust suppression purpose. Hence Total water requirement is 1.07KLD
Sources of water	Water shall be supplied through nearby available source
Man power	13

Nearest railway station	Sanahwal Railway Station approximately 14 Km in SW direction
Nearest state highway/ national highway	Machiwara Rahon Highway: approximately 8.66 km in East direction
Nearest airport	Ludhiana Airport which is approximately 14.5 Km away from the mine site in SW direction..
Seismic zone	Seismic zone IV

➤ **Mining Methodology:**

The mining is confined to extraction of Sand from the proposed mine site. Earlier, the same Mine plan was approved and manual mining was suggested on dated 24.10.16. Now, as per point no 19 on page no 74 of Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines 2016, issued by MoEF & CC, revised Mine plan has been prepared on existing production, to extract sand with the help of excavator up to a depth of 3m bgl during the day time only. Mining will be completely stopped or restricted during the monsoon season. A clear gap of 7.5m is provided along the lease boundary for the green belt development. At the end stage of mine the mined out area will be reclaimed by backfilling of the over burden (top soil) generated as a waste and agriculture waste also used for backfilling purpose.

Justification of Semi-mechanized Mining

Excavation of sand shall be semi mechanized means mining through excavator because

- In order to meet the present market demand, Semi mechanized mining is need of the hour.
- In order to mine out 3m depth, manual mining is not possible hence excavator shall be used in mining.
- Loading of trucks is difficult by using manual means of mining.
- Using semi mechanized method will help to reduce overall cost of mining in long run.

➤ **Working Depth (below ground level)**

During the lease period, the deposit will be worked from the top surface to 3 m bgl or above ground water table, whichever comes first.

➤ **Manpower Requirement:**

The manpower requirement for the proposed project will be around 13 nos.

➤ **Power**

All the activities will be carried out in semi mechanized manner using by excavator. The operation will be done only from sun rise to sun set hence there is no power requirement for the project at site.

➤ **Water Requirement**

Total water requirement will be around 1.07 KLD. About 0.48 KLD will be required for dust suppression and 0.59 KLD for domestic purpose. This water will be supplied through tankers from nearby area. Additional water will also required for plantation purpose.

➤ **Sewerage system**

No sewerage system is provided as no effluent will be produced at the mine site.

➤ **Solid waste management**

As such no solid waste will be generated during the mining activity. Little amount of domestic waste will be generated that will be disposed off through municipal way.

➤ **Connectivity (traffic and transportation road/rail/metro/water ways etc.)**

The lease area is situated in district Ludhiana of Punjab and is approachable through an unmetalled road at a distance of 120m which further connect to Gumana Chaunta Road. For the mining activity 4 trucks per hour will be plying during the working hours due to this mining activity. Densely populated areas, villages will be avoided & alternate route will be followed for evacuation purpose. Movement of the vehicles will be restricted during the peak hours of the work.

➤ **Plantation**

Plantation will be carried out along the lease area and along the both sides of road after consultation with local competent authority. Local Fast growing species will be planted.

➤ **Status of documents submitted viz-a-viz required as per the check list is as under:**

1.	Properly filled Form-1 and pre-feasibility report.	Submitted
2.	Proof of ownership of land such as copy of latest jamabandi.	Submitted
3.	Mining Plan duly approved by the State Geologist	Submitted
4.	NOC from concerned DFO regarding forest land	Submitted
5.	Exact distance of proposed mining site from nearest Wildlife Sanctuary and in case site falls within 10 kms radius of Wildlife Sanctuary, a copy of acknowledgement along with complete set of application submitted online for obtaining NBWL permission be submitted.	No wild life Sanctuary within 10 km radius of project site. Google Map Submitted
6.	Status of mining at the site, if any, along with photographs from all the four sides.	Photographs from all the four sides are Submitted
7.	500 meter radius map of the area from periphery of project site clearly indicating the physical features.	Map Submitted.
8.	Mining lay out plan showing key distances of the mining site from the various features such river bank, active channels, bundh and other structures in the vicinity, if any, drawn on portion of 'Aks Sajra' of the mining site, so as to ensure that minimum statutory distances are maintained. The route map to be followed should also be marked on the layout plan.	The route map is Submitted
9.	Final District Survey Report for minor mineral, which should be the basis of application for EC, preparation of reports and appraisal of projects.	Final DSR is Submitted
10.	An undertaking to the effect that: (i) No other mining site falls within a radius of 500 m from the periphery of proposed site to whom either environmental clearance has already been granted by SEIAA or MoEF or application has been submitted for obtaining environmental clearance with SEIAA/DEIAA/MoEF&CC. (ii) In case any new mining site comes at any stage in future within a radius of 500 m of the above said site, the same	The undertaking Submitted.

	<p>will be informed to the SEIAA/DEIAA/MoEF&CC, immediately.</p> <p>(iii) Mining site is not located in stream as per the actual layout plan enclosed herewith and no in stream mining is involved.</p> <p>Mining will be carried out by manual opencast method by hand tools without use of drilling, blasting and JCB or any other mechanized means. All the stipulations provided in the OM dated 24.12.2013 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change will be complied with in true letter & spirit.</p>	
11.	The declaration about Environmental Consultant engaged and who have prepared EIA/EMP report needs to be made. The Consultant has to be NABET approved as per MoEF&CC notification dated 03.03.2016 and necessary proof in this regard is required to be attached.	NABET certificate Submitted
12.	Environmental Management Plan indicating the following:	
a)	Plan to follow the sustainable sand and gravel mining guidelines, 2016 issued by MoEF&CC	Mine Plan is as Per the given guideline.
b)	All mitigation measures for each item-wise activity to be undertaken during the construction, operation and the entire life cycle to minimize adverse environmental impacts as a result of the activities of the project.	Undertaking Submitted
c)	Compliance of various environmental regulations.	Will be complied.
d)	Steps to be taken in case of emergency such as accidents at the site including fire.	
e)	For how long period the project proponent will be responsible for implementation of EMP and the name of the person(s) responsible for implementation of EMP.	5 years, Person Responsible: Sh. Tanveer Singh Gandhi
f)	Capital & recurring cost for the EMP per year and the details of funds for the same.	Given in EMP
g)	Name of the individual persons / organization, who will be responsible for implementation of EMP after the lapse of the period for which the project proponent is responsible.	Sh. Tanveer Singh Gandhi
13.	<p>Whether the periphery of any other area of borrowing/excavation falls within a radius of 500 m from the periphery of this area borrowing/excavation or not? If yes, how much is the total area of all such borrowing/ excavation sites? The project proponent shall submit an undertaking to the effect that the total area of all</p>	No.

	borrowing/excavation sites including the area of proposed project within a radius of 500 m from the proposed area of borrowing / excavation is less than 5 hectares.	
14.	Mining sites located more than 1 km apart are to be considered as different block/cluster and are required to obtain separate environmental clearance under EIA notification dated 14.09.2006.	Mining blocks are within 1 km radius.
15.	Complete transportation plan giving detailed procedure to be followed as per requirements of appendix-XII of the MoEF&CC notification dated 15.01.2016.	Given in Annexure VIII of EDS,
16.	Status verification with regard to legal notice received/court case pending, if any.	No Case Pending.

After initial scrutiny the following EDS have been raised to which project proponent replied as under: -

Sr. No	EDS	Reply
1.	Mine plan and EIA/EMP shall be prepared based on following main documents: (i) Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016 issued by MoEF&CC. (ii) MoEF&CC notification dated 15.01.2016 (iii) Final District Survey Report as per provisions of MoEF&CC Notification dated 15.01.2016. (iv) Minor Minerals Rules, 2013.	Revised Mine Plan along with EIA/EMP has been prepared based on Sustainable Sand Mining guidelines, 2016 issued by MoEF&CC, Notification dated 15.01.2016 and Punjab Minor Minerals Rules, 2013 has been prepared and submitted as annexure-1 of the application.
2.	Extent of mechanization with list of machinery & equipment to be used (activitywise). Justify need of mechanization as sustainable sand mining suggests that manual method of mining should be preferred over mechanized methods.	Extend of mechanization & equipment to be used along with justification of need of mechanization has been mentioned in the Annexure –II of the application.
3.	Site identification and mineral potential needs to be done based on the report of designated sub-committee constituted as per provisions of notification dated 15.01.2016.	Approved District Survey Report as per provisions of notification dated 15.01.2016 has been submitted as annexure-III of the application
4.	Demarcation report by Revenue Authorities in the presence of	Demarcation report has been submitted as annexure-IV of the application.

	representative of Mining Department and Local Panchayat representative.	
5.	Demarcation of mine lease area with pucca pillars and certified by Mining Officer.	Mining officer letter has been submitted as Annexure-V of the application.
6.	GEO coordinates of all corners of mine lease area.	Geo coordinate comers of mine lease area has been submitted as annexure-VI of the application.
7.	Transportation Plan & route map. Establish a monitoring committee including local Panchayat to check traffic movement.	Transport plan and route map has been submitted as Annexure-VII of application.
8.	Monitoring mechanism of mining & transportation and tracking system as per guidelines, 2016.	Minutes of meeting along with letter from Director Mining, Punjab has been submitted as Annexure-VIII of the application.
9.	Safety zones as per guidelines, 2016 and Minor Mineral Rules, 2013.	Safety zone of 7.5m (barrier zone) has been left out for mining operation and details of the same has been mentioned in mining plan.
10.	Consent of land owner in case of private land.	Consent letters of land owner have been attached as Annexure-IX of the application.
11.	Buffer zone from adjacent fields in case of agriculture field mining	As per sustainable sand mining guidelines, 2016, a buffer of 3 meter to be left from the adjacent field in the case of agriculture field mining. In this case, a barrier zone of 7.5 m already been left out, hence required buffer zone from adjacent fields has been maintained.

The case is placed before SEAC for consideration
