

of any violation of the above the ToR/Environmental Clearances shall be liable to be terminated forthwith”

Agenda No.130-07:

(File No. 6734/2019)

Existing Karumapurathanur Limestone Mine - GO-101 with an extent of 38.73 Ha, production capacity of 1.70 Lakh MTPA by M/s. The India Cements Limited at S.F. No. 112/2A(P), 138(P), 205(P), 208/2, 209/1, 209/2, 210/2, 210/3, 210/4, 211/1, 211/2, 211/3, 211/4, 213/1, 213/2, 213/3, 214/1, 214/2, 214/3, 225/2, 227/2, 234(P), 236, 241/1, 241/2, 241/3 & 242/3 in Chinnagoundanur Village, Sankari Taluk, Salem District, Tamil Nadu – Terms of Reference (ToR) to be issued under violation notification dated: 14.03.2017 & 14.03.2018 of MoEF & CC.

(SIA/TN/MIN/27501/2018 dated: 02.06.2018)

The proposal was placed in the 130th SEAC Meeting held on 10.06.2019. The project proponent gave detailed presentation. The salient features of the project and the environmental impact assessment as presented by the proponent are as follows:

1. M/s. The India Cements Limited (ICL) is having 2 mining leases namely G.O.No.101 with an extent of 38.73Ha and G.O.77 with an extent of 54.18Ha, collectively called Karumapurathanur limestone mines of India Cements Limited. The entire mined out limestone from these mines are costively used in Sankari cement plant.
2. The lease area of GO 101 falls between latitude 11°29'16.4"N to 11°28'22.58"N and longitude 77°48'27.5" E to 77°49'5.52" E and falls in Survey of India Toposheet No. 58E/15. The lease is well connected to NH47 located 3km south and to the cement plant located at Sankari which is located 5 km (by road) in the SE.
3. The mining operation in GO 101 lease area is carried out from 1968. Originally the lease was granted on 10.05.1976 with validity up to 5.12.1996. First renewal was issued on 06.12.1996 with validity up to

06.12.2016. As per MMDR Amended Act 2015, the lease was extended up to 31.03.2030. Presuming EC is to be obtained at the stage of lease renewal only, Application for obtaining EC was initially submitted to SEIAA Tamil Nadu on 03.12.2014 but got returned on 15.05.2017 Lr.No.SEIAA-TN/F.3200/2017/NGT being a violation project. Since this project falls under violation category, Form 1, Feasibility report was uploaded under violation on 20.06.2017 to MoEF&CC. File was transferred to SEIAA-Tamil Nadu subsequently.

4. Approval of mine plan including progressive mine closure plan granted vide letter no TN/SLM/LST/MP-2029.MDS dated 04.07.2017 for a period from 2016 -17 to 2020-21.
5. Out of 38.73 ha of lease area, 38.33Ha are of own patta land, 0.40Ha is of Government barren land and the entire lands are in India Cements Limited possession. There are no habitations in this area. The lease area does not include any forest land. No ecologically sensitive features like national parks, biospheres, sanctuaries, elephant corridors, Tiger reserves, flight paths of migrating fauna, etc occur in core & buffer areas of the project. The area does not come under CRZ category.
6. There are no streams or water bodies within the lease area. In the 10km of buffer zone major water bodies Sarabhangariver – 8km – NW, Mettur East bank canal - 8.63km – SW flows from the lease area. Suriyamalai Reserve Forest lies 1 km N of the lease area.
7. The proposed peak limestone production from this lease would be 0.20 MTPA of limestone. The mineable reserve as on 01.04.2017 is 1.85 million tonnes as per UNFC norms. The lease under GO.101 was being worked as an opencast fully mechanised mine. The bench height is 3-10m, and the bench slope is 60°. The expected life of the mine is 10 years. The groundwater table lies more than 100 m below the ground level. Hence, no groundwater intersection is envisaged.

8. About 5.97 million tonnes of waste comprising 2.77 million tonnes of interstitial waste and 3.20 million tonnes of developmental / SB waste is to be generated for extracting 1.85 million tonnes of limestone from this lease area which will be dumped in the dumps No.1 & 3 in Block II and dump No.2 in Block III. It is also proposed to stabilize the waste dump by carrying out plantation along the dump slopes and providing garland drain around the dump at the end of the life of the mine.
9. In the post mining stage, the entire 18.10Ha of mined out area will be left as water body which will recharge the ground water, greenbelt development will be carried out over 7.56Ha of area.
10. The manpower for both the mine leases on direct basis works out to be 70 (including contract laborers). Indirectly about 350 people derive benefit due to allied service sectors like trading, logistics, casual labor needs, green belt creation etc.
11. The peak water requirements for mine leases will be about 50 KLD, comprising 2 KLD for domestic purpose, 25 KLD for water sprinkling/ dust suppression, 5.0 KLD for Wet Drilling and 18 KLD for green belt development/plantation. Total water required for the mine is and will be met from Rain water collected in the nearby pit.
12. Infrastructure facilities in the form of time office, store room, first aid room, drinking water tank etc as per statutory requirement are already available in the mine.
13. The total cost of the project is Rs. 95 Lakhs.

The SEAC noted the following:

1. The Proponent, M/s. The India Cements Limited has applied for Terms of Reference to MoEF & CC on 20.06.2017 under violation Notification on 14.03.2017 for the existing Karumapurathanur Limestone Mine - GO-101 with an extent of 38.73 Ha, production capacity of 1.70 Lakh MTPA at S.F. No. 112/2A(P), 138(P), 205(P), 208/2, 209/1, 209/2, 210/2,

210/3, 210/4, 211/1, 211/2, 211/3, 211/4, 213/1, 213/2, 213/3, 214/1, 214/2, 214/3, 225/2, 227/2, 234(P), 236, 241/1, 241/2, 241/3 & 242/3 in Chinnagoundanur Village, Sankari Taluk, Salem district, Tamil Nadu.

2. The application was transferred from MoEF & CC to SEIAA on 02.06.2018.
3. The project/activity is covered under Category "B1" of Item 1(a) "Mining of Mineral Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.

Based on the presentation made by the proponent and the documents furnished, the committee decided to recommend for the grant of Standard ToR for mining projects as specified by MoEF & CC subject to the conditions in addition to the Additional TOR specified (Annexure-I) with Public Hearing as per the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in its order dated 13.10.2017 in W.P.No.11189 of 2017 by the SEAC to deal with the violation aspects of the mining projects.

In addition to the above, the proponent shall submit the following details:

1. Points raised in the public hearing shall be covered in the EIA report.
2. The report for green belt developed with necessary photographs.
3. The proponent shall furnish the photographs for fencing around the project site.
4. The proponent shall furnish the proposal for CER.
5. A detailed mine closure plan shall be prepared and the same shall be got approved by the Geology of mining, Department and the same shall be submitted along with EIA report.
6. Contour map for 1 km radius surrounding the site, village map, FMB & A Register may be furnished.
7. The details of annual rate of replenishment and timeframe for replenishment after mining closure in the area shall be furnished.

8. Comprehensive study shall be carried out to evaluate the impact of mining operations on the environment through experts in the field of hydrogeology, ecology, mining and environment.
9. Hydro geological studies on removal of ground water shall be carried out to evaluate the impact of mining activities on the surrounding agricultural farms and habitations. It is seen that on the North west direction Sarabhanga River flows within 10 km from the project site. Suriya malai Reserve Forest is located at 2.94 km from the project site . It is also learnt that agricultural activities are being carried out at present. There are habitations surrounding the mining area. The EIA study should completely investigate the possible adverse impact on agriculture, vegetation, suriya malai and economics of the people living nearby.
10. The proponent shall furnish an undertaking in an affidavit that the proponent won't repeat any such violation in future as per MoEF & CC, Office Memorandum No. F.No.3-50/2017-IA.III(Pt.) dated:30.05.2018 given below.

"I/We, the applicant / the Project Proponent, commit to comply with all the statutory requirements and judgments of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated the 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.114 of 2014 in the matter of the common cause versus Union of India and Ors. Before grant of ToR/ EC and I am also to commit, not to repeat any such violation in future. In case of any violation of the above the ToR/Environmental Clearances shall be liable to be terminated forthwith"

Agenda No.130-08:

(File No. 6816/2019)

Proposed for Rough stone and Gravel quarry from over an Extent of 2.95.0 Ha by M/s. Suganya Blue Stone in S.F.Nos. 455/1B, 455/5, 459/12,459/13, 459/14, 459/15, 460, 461, 471/4A, 471/4B, 471/4C, 471/4D & 471/5 at Thiruppanamoor Village of Vembakkam Taluk, Tiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu – for Environmental Clearance.

(SIA/TN/MIN/36119/2018 dated: 12.05.2019)


CHAIRMAN
SEAC-TN