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# State Environment Impact Assessment Authority West Bengal Minutes of SEIAA Meeting

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Subject: 89<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEIAA

Venue:- Conference Room of Environment Department, Prani Sampad Bhavan, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, LB – Block, Sector

- III, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700106

From:- **02 March 2023**To:- **02 March 2023** 

#### I. CONSIDERATION/RECONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

(1) Proposed project for installation of 2x10 Tonnes Induction Furnaces at JL No. 90, Touzi No. 1, C.S. Plot Nos. 33(P), 34(P), 35(F), 36(F), 37(F), 38(F), 57(P), 61(P), 596(P), 597(P), 698(P), 599(P), 600(P), 602(P), 604(P), 605(P), 606(P), 608(P), 609(P), 36/532, Touzi No. 10, C.S. Plot Nos. 37(P), 38(P), 39(F), 40(F), 41(P), 42(P), 579(P), 589(P), 591(F), 592(F), 593(P), 594(P), 595(P), 597(P), 427(F), Raturia, Angadpur Industrial Area, Dist – Paschim Bardhaman, Durgapur – 713215, West Bengal by **M/s. C. P. Re-Rollers Limited.** 

Proposal No.:- SIA/WB/IND/69795/2019 File No.: EN/T-II-1/021/2019, Type-EC

## INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. **SIA/WB/IND/69795/2019** dated **08 Dec 2021** along with copies of EIA/EMP seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. **3(a) Metallurgical industries (ferrous & non ferrous)** under Category "**B1**" of EIA Notification 2006.

The project proponent (PP) obtained ToR for the proposed project vide Memo No. 414-2N-26/2019(E) dated 06.05.2019 against proposal no. SIA/WB/IND/30878/2019.

SEAC recommended the proposed project for Environmental Clearance during its 50<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 31.08.2022 with the additional conditions mentioned in O.M. issued by MoEF&CC vide F No. 22-23/2018.IA.III(Pt.) dated 31.10.2019 as the project is located within the municipal boundaries of Durgapur Municipal Corporation which is declared as Severely Polluted Area.

The proposal was placed before SEIAA in its 88<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 21.02.2023 and it was observed that based on the order of the Hon'ble NGT, Eastern Bench, Kolkata decided to conduct a site inspection of the industrial unit on 28.02.2023 and a hearing of the PP on 02.03.2023 before passing appropriate orders. It was also observed that the plantation plan approved by the DFO is to be uploaded.

#### PROJECT DETAILS

The project of M/s C. P. Re-Rollers Limited located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Paschim Bardhaman

#### **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

A field visit of SEIAA was held on 28.02.2023 at the project site. During the visit the following points were observed :-

- i. Two induction furnaces having two crucible each (crucibles used alternatively) were found in operational. The emission control system for the Induction Furnaces consisted of fume extraction system (swiveling hood), ID fan, scrubber followed by stack of height 30 m from the G.L. The Ladle Refining Furnace Continuous Caster Machine and Rolling Mill were also found in operation.
- ii. Apart from the two Induction Furnaces, no other Induction Furnace in the premises was found to be existing.
- iii. Though the PP had applied for additional 2x10 MT Induction Furnaces, it was observed that the land area and the space allotted for operating such installation were inadequate within the project site. Thus, considering the space constraints, it was decided to allow only one additional Induction Furnace of 10 MT.
- iv. Since the project area falls within Durgapur Municipal Corporation, declared as a Severely Polluted Area, there is mandatory requirement for 40% tree plantation area. The present green area is around 5% of the total project area.

In compliance of the order dated 09.02.2023 in O.A. No. 165/2022/EZ of the Hon'ble NGT, the PP and the complainant were called for a hearing before SEIAA on 02.03.2023. The PP appeared before SEIAA, however the complainant was absent.

During the hearing the PP was informed that

- a) Since the project area is grossly insufficient for installation of 2 nos. Of Induction Furnaces of 10 MT each in additional to the existing 2 nos. Of Induction Furnaces of 8 MT each, the addition of only one Induction Furnaces of 10 MT capacity can be allowed.
- b) As mentioned above in point iv above about the inadequacy of green area in the existing project, the PP is required to arrange for compensatory greenery totalling upto 40% of the project area in another parcel of land either by procurement or on lease hold basis close to the existing project. The plantation plan is to be approved by the concerned DFO.

Both the aforesaid points were agreed upon by the PP. Thus PP is required to rectify the EC application and resubmit the same along with revised calculation in the PARIVESH portal.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

Therefore, the application for EC is deferred for additional information.

#### CONCLUSION

#### **Deferred (Additional Information).**

(2) Proposed MIN\_BNK\_50\_II Sand Mine on Darakeswar River in the area of 4.28 Ha. (10.57 Acres) at Plot No.- 60, 61, 70-72, 56, 58, 62, 67, 68, 69, 1747, 1748, 1742, Mouza: Chandipur, J.L.: 89 and 38, Mouza: Paschim Srirampur, P.S.-Joypur, District: Bankura, West Bengal by M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited

Proposal No. :- SIA/WB/MIN/415707/2023, File No. : EN/T-II-1/048/2023, Type-EC

# INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/415707/2023 dated

**30 Jan 2023** seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. **1(a) Mining of minerals** under Category "**B2**" of EIA Notification 2006.

SEAC recommended that Environmental Clearance be granted for the proposed project during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023.

# PROJECT DETAILS

The project of M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Bankura

#### **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and decided that the application for MIN\_BNK\_50\_II falling within the DSR potential code BNK\_DW\_JY\_24 is accepted.

# RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

The application for EC is approved.

## **CONCLUSION**

Approved for EC.

#### Conditions

- 1. From the documents uploaded and/ or otherwise made available to the SEIAA, WB, it is apparent that the lease area/ a part of the lease area is private land not owned by the lessee. Before commencement of any mining activity an affidavit should be obtained regarding consent of the land owner(s) concerned for carrying out the mining operation.
- 2. The Project Proponent (PP) shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with the budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing, if held.
- 3. Apart from possessing a valid lease the proponent shall obtain all other necessary permissions before commencement of any mining or allied activity at the lease hold area.
- 4. The directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 27.02.2012 in Deepak Kumar case [SLP(C) Nos. 19628-19629 of 2009] and order dated 05.08.2013 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in application No. 171/2013 must be followed strictly.
- 5. It shall be the responsibility of the PP to abide by and to comply with all the provisions made and restrictions imposed, particularly those regarding environment management practices, by and under the West Bengal

- Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021 and the West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016, failing which the EC shall be liable to be cancelled.
- 6. The EC is granted on the condition that the lease area falls under the potential sand mining area earmarked in the District Level Survey Report (DSR). Mining shall be done only in an area/ stretch which has been identified in the DSR as suitable for mining and so certified by the Sub Divisional Level Committee after necessary site visits.
- 7. No river bed mining shall be allowed beneath 3 meters of the river bed.
- 8. The depth of mining in riverbed shall also not exceed one meter above groundwater (base flow) level.
- 9. No River sand mining shall be carried out in rainy season, that is, between 15<sup>th</sup> of June to 15<sup>th</sup> of October (both days inclusive) of every calendar year.
- 10. The PP shall submit Annual Replenishment Report certified by an authorized agency. In case the replenishment is lower than the approved rate of production, then the mining activity / production levels shall be decreased / stopped accordingly till the replenishment is completed.
- 11. If the lease hold area is located in hilly terrain, it is to be ensured by the PP that the mine working depth is limited to 1.0 metre below the riverbed level.
- 12. In case the lease area, or a part of it, falls in the river flood plain<sup>1</sup>, a buffer of three metre to be left from the river bank for mining. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 13. In case the lease area, or a part of it, is an agricultural field, a buffer of three metre land shall be left between the mine boundary and the adjacent field. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 14. Mining shall be done in layers of not more than 1 metre depth to avoid ponding effect and only after the first layer is excavated, the process will be repeated for the second layer and so on.
- 15. The PP shall get the baseflow and groundwater level (water table) monitored on monthly basis. The water level should be referenced to both the 'mean sea level' and the 'local ground level'. During sand mining operations, a network of existing wells shall be established around the sand mining area and piezometers shall be installed at all sand quarry sites. A minimum of four piezometers shall be installed in the no-mining zone around the sand quarrying area. Monitoring of groundwater quality in the vicinity (one km radius from the sand quarrying site) shall be carried out once in every two months.
- 16. Any area falling within 7.5 metre or 12.5% of the river width, whichever is more, from the river bank (towards the channel) will be left intact as no mining zone. Subject to above the PP shall identify the central 3/4 part of river on map where there is a deposition of sand and remaining 1/4 part shall be left intact as no mining zone for the protection of the bank.
- 17. No stream shall be diverted for the purpose of sand mining. No natural water course and/ or water resources shall be obstructed due to mining operations.
- 18. No blasting shall be resorted to in river bed sand/ gravel mining and no blasting operation shall be carried out without permission at any other place.

A floodplain Is a generally flat area of land next to a river or stream and it stretches from the banks of the river to the outer edges of the valley

- 19. Irrespective of the location, thickness of sand deposition, agricultural land/ riverbed, the method of mining shall be manual and no earth moving machinery shall be deployed at or within the precincts of the lease hold area.
- 20. Mining shall begin only after pucca pillars marking the boundary of lease area are erected at the cost of the lease holder at every corner of the lease-hold area. Only after certification in this regard with the geo coordinates of the corner pillars is issued by the district mining officials, mining can commence. The geo coordinates of the corner pillars shall be made available to the District Level Committee.
- 21. The top soil in case of surface land mining shall be stored temporarily in an earmarked site and shall be, as far as practicable, concurrently used for land reclamation. {non river bed sand mining}
- 22. The EC holder shall keep a correct account of quantity of sand mined out, dispatched from the mine, mode of transport, registration number of vehicle, person in-charge of vehicle and mine plan. This shall be produced before officers of the Central Government and/ or the State Government for inspection.
- 23. Noise arising out of mining and processing unit(s) shall be abated and controlled at source to keep noise level within permissible limit.
- 24. No sand mining activity shall be carried out between dusk to dawn, i.e., between 18:00 hr to 06:00 hr.
- 25. Infrastructure and facilities erected for the mine shall conform to the provisions made for the purpose at the sand ghat designated and demarcated (with geo referencing) and laid out for the purpose by the District administration.
- 26. In particular the PP shall ensure that the approach road, from the proposed sand ghat to the sand storage depot, conform to the roadmap identified and demarcated for the purpose by the District Administration. Under no circumstances roads shall be laid without the consent of the land owners concerned.
- 27. There shall be a single point of entry and exit point for all vehicles. In case it is necessary to have more than one entry/exit, all such points shall have check points with all digital monitoring facilities as mentioned in the 'Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining' (January, 2020) issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. All other possible ways of entry /exit shall be closed using barriers. All provisions shall be made to make it impossible for any vehicle to enter or exit without an entry into the computerized system.
- 28. All such points shall have 24×7 CCTV coverage; the footage of the CCTV coverage shall be submitted to the District Collector by the PP at mutually agreed frequencies.
- 29. The PP shall ensure that pollution due to transportation is effectively controlled. The PP shall also ensure regular sprinkling of water.
- 30. Only potable water may be collected from nearby locality with prior permission of the authority concerned. Water for other purposes shall be taken from the river.
- 31. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the PP to ensure that air pollution due to dust, exhaust emission or fumes during mining and processing phase are controlled and kept within permissible limits specified under environmental laws.
- 32. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through covered trucks/ tractors only and the vehicles carrying the mineral shall not be overloaded. Wheel washing facility should be installed and used.
- 33. The mining operations are to be done in a systematic manner so that the operations shall not create a major

visual impact on the site.

- 34. Restoration of flora affected by mining must be done immediately. Five times the number of trees destroyed by mining shall be planted (preferably of indigenous species) and maintained over the entire lease period. Irrespective of the above the proponent shall plant and maintain, for the entire lease period, at least five trees per hectare of lease area in areas near the mine.
- 35. The PP shall ensure that, there is no damage to any fauna and its habitats/ nestings located close to the sand mining site, if any. The PP should receive clearance from the local Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC)<sup>2</sup> of the district concerned in this regard.
- 36. No felling of trees in or within the precincts of the mine shall be allowed. If a mining lease area, or a part of it, falls within 10 km from the periphery of any National Park/ Sanctuary or an Eco-Sensitive Zone or a Protected Area, no mining or related activity shall be undertaken without first obtaining a no objection certificate from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wild Life (NBWL), in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order in I.A. No. 460 of 2004.
- 37. The PP shall take all necessary protective measures to ensure that no spring sources are affected due to mining activities.
- 38. Removal, stacking and utilization of top soil in mining area shall be ensured. Where top soil cannot be used concurrently, it shall be stored properly for future use.
- 39. No overhangs shall be allowed to be formed due to mining and mining shall not be undertaken in areas where landslide is likely to occur due to unfavourable steep angle of slope.
- 40. No extraction of stone/ boulder/ sand shall be undertaken in landslide prone areas.
- 41. If clearance of riparian vegetation is to be undertaken it must be done under the supervision and control of an appropriate government authority. It shall be the responsibility of the project proponent to ensure absolute compliance with the relevant provisions of the West Bengal Trees (Protection and Conservation in Non Forest Areas) Act, 2006, and the Rules framed there under.
- 42. To reduce visual impact of mining the PP shall ensure tidiness.
- 43. Dumping of waste, if any, shall be done only in earmarked places as approved in the mining plan.
- 44. No rubbish shall be disposed in the river bed.
- 45. The PP shall take all possible precautions for the protection of environment and control of pollution.
- 46. Effluent discharge should be kept to the minimum and it should meet the standards prescribed.
- 47. No mining shall be undertaken in a mining lease located within 1 km from bridges, highways and railway lines on both upstream and downstream sides, or five times (5x) of the span (x) of bridge, public civil structure (including water intake point) on upstream side and ten times (10 x) the span of such bridge on downstream side, subjected to a minimum of 250 metres on the upstream and 500 metres on the downstream side.
- 48. Mining activities shall not be done for mine lease where mining can cause danger to site of flood protection

For all local bodies Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) of the WB State Biodiversity Board are constituted under Sec. 41(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002

- works, places of cultural, religious, historical, and archaeological importance.
- 49. Only such vehicles as are having valid fitness and PUC Certificates, shall be used for transportation of sand.
- 50. The PP shall develop proper junction at takeoff points of approach road with main road, with proper width and geometry required for safe movement of traffic, at his own cost.
- 51. The PP shall ensure that the road may not be damaged due to transportation of the mineral; and transport of minerals will be as per IRC Guidelines with respect to complying with traffic congestion and density.
- 52. No stacking shall be allowed on road side along State/ National Highways.
- 53. Suitable sand depots will be located in the vicinity of the sand quarry site to facilitate the sale of sand. While selecting the site for depots, it must be ensured that the site is within 25 km from the sand quarry site and has an area of around 04–06 ha (10-15 acres) with parking facility and proper entry and exit for smooth movement of the vehicles. The depot site shall preferably be a Government poramboke land<sup>3</sup>.
- 54. The PP shall undertake phased restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation of land affected by mining and shall complete this work before abandonment of mine.
- 55. Restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation in cluster should be done systematically and jointly by each EC holder in that cluster.
- 56. The site specific plan for eco-restoration submitted by the proponent along with the EC application shall be properly implemented.
- 57. Transport of mineral shall not be done through villages/ habitations.
- 58. The route of mineral transportation vehicle from source to destination shall be tracked through the system using checkpoints, Radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags, and GPS tracking.
- 59. The PP shall make arrangement for drinking water, first aid facility (along with species specific anti-venom provisioning) in case of emergency for the workers.
- 60. The PP shall implement the Disaster Management Plan if the mine lease area is located in Seismic Zone-IV. The Project Proponent shall appoint a Committee to have a check over any disaster to warn workers well before for the safety of the workers. Emergency helpline number will be displayed at all levels.
- 61. The PP shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project. Personal Health data like BP ECG, chest X-ray, PFT, smoking habits, blood and urine test etc. shall be undertaken once in six months to take necessary remedial/preventive measures. In this regard recommendations of National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) / Central Labour Institute (CLI) / All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (AIIH&PH) shall be adopted for ensuring good workenvironment for mine workers.
- 62. The PP shall report monitoring data on replenishment, traffic management, levels of production, river-bank erosion, maintenance of roads etc.
- 63. A year-wise excavation schedule showing the breakup of pay-mineral (sand) and waste (if any) may be clearly drawn up and areas may be demarcated for waste dumping. Site for intermediate stockpiling of the mineral

the land that doesn't fall under the list of revenue records.

may also be clearly demarcated and shown in the surface plan.

- 64. The PP shall review the Progressive Mine Closure Plan every two years from the date of opening of the mine and shall submit the same to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, for its approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. In the event of the progressive mine closure being not approved, or not deemed to be approved, the mining activities shall be discontinued.
- 65. One year prior to the proposed closure of the mine the proponent shall submit a Final Mine Closure Plan for approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf.
- 66. The PP shall ensure that the protective measures contained in the Mine Closure Plan referred to hereinabove including the reclamation and rehabilitation work are carried out in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan or with such modifications as are approved by the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016.
- 67. In addition to regular submission of environmental compliance reports as required under the EIA Notification, 2006, the PP shall submit to the Officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, a yearly report before 1st of July every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in the approved Mine Closure Plan, and if there is any deviation, reasons thereof.
- 68. For the purpose of carrying out mining operation in the area, the PP shall furnish financial assurance. The amount of financial assurance<sup>4</sup> shall be as laid down in the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. The financial assurance may be in any of the forms referred to in the said Rules.
- 69. The PP shall prepare a dust and noise minimization plan with adequate details and shall implement the same.
- 70. Needs of the locality shall be assessed and the social part of the EMP shall be undertaken as stipulated by MoEF&CC Office Memorandum F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Beneficiary of the social component of EMP should be identified and to be displayed at site. The amount for need based activities committed by project proponent is Rs. 2,477,043.62/- only.
- 71. The PP shall ensure that the provisions every relevant Acts, Rules Guidelines etc. shall be complied in both letter and spirit.
- 72. In particular, the PP shall ensure compliance with the provisions laid down in the following Acts/ Rules/ Guidelines.
  - a. The West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016;
  - b. Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - c. Sand Mining Framework, 2018, issued by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India;
  - d. Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Rupees 15 thousand per hectare of the mining lease area put to use for mining and allied activities or rupees fifty (50)thousand, whichever is higher

- e. The West Bengal Sand Mining Policy, 2021; and,
- f. The West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021.
- 73. Non-compliance of any of the terms and conditions mentioned hereinabove may lead to cancellation of the environmental clearance granted.
- 74. The Environmental Clearance is being issued without prejudice to any action initiated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any court case pending in any court of law, and it does not mean that the project proponent has not violated any environmental law in the past, and all future decisions made or directives/ orders/ notifications/ circulars issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be binding on the Project Proponent. Similarly, all verdicts/ orders of the Hon'ble Court will be binding on the project proponent. Hence, this clearance does not give immunity to the project proponent in the case(s) filed against her/ him, if any, or any action initiated against her/ him under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 75. In case of submission of false document and non-compliance of stipulated conditions, Authority/ Environment Department will revoke or suspend the Environmental Clearance without any intimation and initiate appropriate legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 76. The validity of this Environmental Clearance will be as provided in the Notification of MoEF&CC vide No. S.O.1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.
- 77. The EC is granted for the project as proposed. In case any deviation or alteration in the project is contemplated the proponent will apply afresh for Environmental Clearance for the proposed modifications and/ or expansion of the project.
- 78. The stipulations made under other relevant Acts, in particular the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, and the rules and regulations made there under, shall be strictly complied with.
- 79. The State Government may, in its own discretion, impose such further conditions as it may deem fit, necessary or expedient. All such conditions will have to be complied with.
- 80. Non-compliance to any of the stipulated terms and conditions may lead to cancellation of the EC.
- 81. If you are aggrieved by the grant of this Environmental Clearance or by any of the terms and conditions imposed herein, you may, in your own discretion, within a period of thirty days from today, prefer an appeal before the National Green Tribunal (Eastern Zonal Bench, Kolkata), HFXC+VR5, Kadampukur Village, Newtown, New Town, West Bengal 700156, under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

(3) Proposed MIN\_BNK\_16\_A on Damodar River in the area of 4.51 Ha. (11.12 Acres) at Mouza: Tasuli, Plot no: 869, J.L. No.-28, PS & Block: Patrasayer, District: Bankura, West Bengal by **M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited** 

Proposal No.:- SIA/WB/MIN/416022/2023, File No.: EN/T-II-1/047/2023, Type-EC

#### INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/416022/2023 dated 30 Jan 2023 seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned

project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. **1(a) Mining of minerals** projects under Category "**B2**" of EIA Notification 2006.

SEAC recommended that Environmental Clearance be granted for the proposed project during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023.

## PROJECT DETAILS

The project of M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Bankura

## **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and decided that the application for MIN\_BNK\_16\_A falling within the DSR potential code BNK\_DA\_PS\_27 is accepted.

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

The application for EC is approved.

## **CONCLUSION**

Approved for EC.

#### **Conditions**

- 1. From the documents uploaded and/ or otherwise made available to the SEIAA, WB, it is apparent that the lease area/ a part of the lease area is private land not owned by the lessee. Before commencement of any mining activity an affidavit should be obtained regarding consent of the land owner(s) concerned for carrying out the mining operation.
- 2. The Project Proponent (PP) shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with the budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing, if held.
- 3. Apart from possessing a valid lease the proponent shall obtain all other necessary permissions before commencement of any mining or allied activity at the lease hold area.
- 4. The directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 27.02.2012 in Deepak Kumar case [SLP(C) Nos. 19628-19629 of 2009] and order dated 05.08.2013 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in application No. 171/2013 must be followed strictly.
- 5. It shall be the responsibility of the PP to abide by and to comply with all the provisions made and restrictions imposed, particularly those regarding environment management practices, by and under the West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021 and the West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession

- Rules, 2016, failing which the EC shall be liable to be cancelled.
- 6. The EC is granted on the condition that the lease area falls under the potential sand mining area earmarked in the District Level Survey Report (DSR). Mining shall be done only in an area/ stretch which has been identified in the DSR as suitable for mining and so certified by the Sub Divisional Level Committee after necessary site visits.
- 7. No river bed mining shall be allowed beneath 3 meters of the river bed.
- 8. The depth of mining in riverbed shall also not exceed one meter above groundwater (base flow) level.
- 9. No River sand mining shall be carried out in rainy season, that is, between 15<sup>th</sup> of June to 15<sup>th</sup> of October (both days inclusive) of every calendar year.
- 10. The PP shall submit Annual Replenishment Report certified by an authorized agency. In case the replenishment is lower than the approved rate of production, then the mining activity / production levels shall be decreased / stopped accordingly till the replenishment is completed.
- 11. If the lease hold area is located in hilly terrain, it is to be ensured by the PP that the mine working depth is limited to 1.0 metre below the riverbed level.
- 12. In case the lease area, or a part of it, falls in the river flood plain<sup>5</sup>, a buffer of three metre to be left from the river bank for mining. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 13. In case the lease area, or a part of it, is an agricultural field, a buffer of three metre land shall be left between the mine boundary and the adjacent field. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 14. Mining shall be done in layers of not more than 1 metre depth to avoid ponding effect and only after the first layer is excavated, the process will be repeated for the second layer and so on.
- 15. The PP shall get the baseflow and groundwater level (water table) monitored on monthly basis. The water level should be referenced to both the 'mean sea level' and the 'local ground level'. During sand mining operations, a network of existing wells shall be established around the sand mining area and piezometers shall be installed at all sand quarry sites. A minimum of four piezometers shall be installed in the no-mining zone around the sand quarrying area. Monitoring of groundwater quality in the vicinity (one km radius from the sand quarrying site) shall be carried out once in every two months.
- 16. Any area falling within 7.5 metre or 12.5% of the river width, whichever is more, from the river bank (towards the channel) will be left intact as no mining zone. Subject to above the PP shall identify the central 3/4 part of river on map where there is a deposition of sand and remaining 1/4 part shall be left intact as no mining zone for the protection of the bank.
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- 18. No blasting shall be resorted to in river bed sand/ gravel mining and no blasting operation shall be carried out without permission at any other place.
- 19. Irrespective of the location, thickness of sand deposition, agricultural land/ riverbed, the method of mining shall be manual and no earth moving machinery shall be deployed at or within the precincts of the lease hold area.
- 20. Mining shall begin only after pucca pillars marking the boundary of lease area are erected at the cost of the lease

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> A floodplain is a generally flat area of land next to a river or stream and it stretches from the banks of the river to the outer edges of the valley

- holder at every corner of the lease-hold area. Only after certification in this regard with the geo coordinates of the corner pillars is issued by the district mining officials, mining can commence. The geo coordinates of the corner pillars shall be made available to the District Level Committee.
- 21. The top soil in case of surface land mining shall be stored temporarily in an earmarked site and shall be, as far as practicable, concurrently used for land reclamation. {non river bed sand mining}
- 22. The EC holder shall keep a correct account of quantity of sand mined out, dispatched from the mine, mode of transport, registration number of vehicle, person in-charge of vehicle and mine plan. This shall be produced before officers of the Central Government and/ or the State Government for inspection.
- 23. Noise arising out of mining and processing unit(s) shall be abated and controlled at source to keep noise level within permissible limit.
- 24. No sand mining activity shall be carried out between dusk to dawn, i.e., between 18:00 hr to 06:00 hr.
- 25. Infrastructure and facilities erected for the mine shall conform to the provisions made for the purpose at the sand ghat designated and demarcated (with geo referencing) and laid out for the purpose by the District administration.
- 26. In particular the PP shall ensure that the approach road, from the proposed sand ghat to the sand storage depot, conform to the roadmap identified and demarcated for the purpose by the District Administration. Under no circumstances roads shall be laid without the consent of the land owners concerned.
- 27. There shall be a single point of entry and exit point for all vehicles. In case it is necessary to have more than one entry/exit, all such points shall have check points with all digital monitoring facilities as mentioned in the 'Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining' (January, 2020) issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. All other possible ways of entry /exit shall be closed using barriers. All provisions shall be made to make it impossible for any vehicle to enter or exit without an entry into the computerized system.
- 28. All such points shall have 24×7 CCTV coverage; the footage of the CCTV coverage shall be submitted to the District Collector by the PP at mutually agreed frequencies.
- 29. The PP shall ensure that pollution due to transportation is effectively controlled. The PP shall also ensure regular sprinkling of water.
- 30. Only potable water may be collected from nearby locality with prior permission of the authority concerned. Water for other purposes shall be taken from the river.
- 31. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the PP to ensure that air pollution due to dust, exhaust emission or fumes during mining and processing phase are controlled and kept within permissible limits specified under environmental laws.
- 32. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through covered trucks/ tractors only and the vehicles carrying the mineral shall not be overloaded. Wheel washing facility should be installed and used.
- 33. The mining operations are to be done in a systematic manner so that the operations shall not create a major visual impact on the site.
- 34. Restoration of flora affected by mining must be done immediately. Five times the number of trees destroyed by mining shall be planted (preferably of indigenous species) and maintained over the entire lease period. Irrespective of the above the proponent shall plant and maintain, for the entire lease period, at least five trees per hectare of lease area in areas near the mine.

- 35. The PP shall ensure that, there is no damage to any fauna and its habitats/ nestings located close to the sand mining site, if any. The PP should receive clearance from the local Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC)<sup>6</sup> of the district concerned in this regard.
- 36. No felling of trees in or within the precincts of the mine shall be allowed. If a mining lease area, or a part of it, falls within 10 km from the periphery of any National Park/ Sanctuary or an Eco-Sensitive Zone or a Protected Area, no mining or related activity shall be undertaken without first obtaining a no objection certificate from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wild Life (NBWL), in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order in I.A. No. 460 of 2004.
- 37. The PP shall take all necessary protective measures to ensure that no spring sources are affected due to mining activities.
- 38. Removal, stacking and utilization of top soil in mining area shall be ensured. Where top soil cannot be used concurrently, it shall be stored properly for future use.
- 39. No overhangs shall be allowed to be formed due to mining and mining shall not be undertaken in areas where landslide is likely to occur due to unfavourable steep angle of slope.
- 40. No extraction of stone/ boulder/ sand shall be undertaken in landslide prone areas.
- 41. If clearance of riparian vegetation is to be undertaken it must be done under the supervision and control of an appropriate government authority. It shall be the responsibility of the project proponent to ensure absolute compliance with the relevant provisions of the West Bengal Trees (Protection and Conservation in Non Forest Areas) Act, 2006, and the Rules framed there under.
- 42. To reduce visual impact of mining the PP shall ensure tidiness.
- 43. Dumping of waste, if any, shall be done only in earmarked places as approved in the mining plan.
- 44. No rubbish shall be disposed in the river bed.
- 45. The PP shall take all possible precautions for the protection of environment and control of pollution.
- 46. Effluent discharge should be kept to the minimum and it should meet the standards prescribed.
- 47. No mining shall be undertaken in a mining lease located within 1 km from bridges, highways and railway lines on both upstream and downstream sides, or five times (5x) of the span (x) of bridge, public civil structure (including water intake point) on upstream side and ten times (10 x) the span of such bridge on downstream side, subjected to a minimum of 250 metres on the upstream and 500 metres on the downstream side.
- 48. Mining activities shall not be done for mine lease where mining can cause danger to site of flood protection works, places of cultural, religious, historical, and archaeological importance.
- 49. Only such vehicles as are having valid fitness and PUC Certificates, shall be used for transportation of sand.
- 50. The PP shall develop proper junction at takeoff points of approach road with main road, with proper width and geometry required for safe movement of traffic, at his own cost.
- 51. The PP shall ensure that the road may not be damaged due to transportation of the mineral; and transport of minerals will be as per IRC Guidelines with respect to complying with traffic congestion and density.
- 52. No stacking shall be allowed on road side along State/ National Highways.

For all local bodies Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) of the WB State Biodiversity Board are constituted under Sec. 41(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002

- 53. Suitable sand depots will be located in the vicinity of the sand quarry site to facilitate the sale of sand. While selecting the site for depots, it must be ensured that the site is within 25 km from the sand quarry site and has an area of around 04–06 ha (10-15 acres) with parking facility and proper entry and exit for smooth movement of the vehicles. The depot site shall preferably be a Government poramboke land<sup>7</sup>.
- 54. The PP shall undertake phased restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation of land affected by mining and shall complete this work before abandonment of mine.
- 55. Restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation in cluster should be done systematically and jointly by each EC holder in that cluster.
- 56. The site specific plan for eco-restoration submitted by the proponent along with the EC application shall be properly implemented.
- 57. Transport of mineral shall not be done through villages/ habitations.
- 58. The route of mineral transportation vehicle from source to destination shall be tracked through the system using checkpoints, Radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags, and GPS tracking.
- 59. The PP shall make arrangement for drinking water, first aid facility (along with species specific anti-venom provisioning) in case of emergency for the workers.
- 60. The PP shall implement the Disaster Management Plan if the mine lease area is located in Seismic Zone-IV. The Project Proponent shall appoint a Committee to have a check over any disaster to warn workers well before for the safety of the workers. Emergency helpline number will be displayed at all levels.
- 61. The PP shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project. Personal Health data like BP ECG, chest X-ray, PFT, smoking habits, blood and urine test etc. shall be undertaken once in six months to take necessary remedial/preventive measures. In this regard recommendations of National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) / Central Labour Institute (CLI) / All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (AIIH&PH) shall be adopted for ensuring good workenvironment for mine workers.
- 62. The PP shall report monitoring data on replenishment, traffic management, levels of production, river-bank erosion, maintenance of roads etc.
- 63. A year-wise excavation schedule showing the breakup of pay-mineral (sand) and waste (if any) may be clearly drawn up and areas may be demarcated for waste dumping. Site for intermediate stockpiling of the mineral may also be clearly demarcated and shown in the surface plan.
- 64. The PP shall review the Progressive Mine Closure Plan every two years from the date of opening of the mine and shall submit the same to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, for its approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. In the event of the progressive mine closure being not approved, or not deemed to be approved, the mining activities shall be discontinued.
- 65. One year prior to the proposed closure of the mine the proponent shall submit a Final Mine Closure Plan for approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf.
- 66. The PP shall ensure that the protective measures contained in the Mine Closure Plan referred to hereinabove including the reclamation and rehabilitation work are carried out in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan or with such modifications as are approved by the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf

the land that doesn't fall under the list of revenue records.

- under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016.
- 67. In addition to regular submission of environmental compliance reports as required under the EIA Notification, 2006, the PP shall submit to the Officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, a yearly report before 1st of July every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in the approved Mine Closure Plan, and if there is any deviation, reasons thereof.
- 68. For the purpose of carrying out mining operation in the area, the PP shall furnish financial assurance. The amount of financial assurance<sup>8</sup> shall be as laid down in the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. The financial assurance may be in any of the forms referred to in the said Rules.
- 69. The PP shall prepare a dust and noise minimization plan with adequate details and shall implement the same.
- 70. Needs of the locality shall be assessed and the social part of the EMP shall be undertaken as stipulated by MoEF&CC Office Memorandum F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Beneficiary of the social component of EMP should be identified and to be displayed at site. The amount for need based activities committed by project proponent is Rs. 2,357,588.82/- only.
- 71. The PP shall ensure that the provisions every relevant Acts, Rules Guidelines etc. shall be complied in both letter and spirit.
- 72. In particular, the PP shall ensure compliance with the provisions laid down in the following Acts/ Rules/ Guidelines.
  - a. The West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016;
  - b. Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - c. Sand Mining Framework, 2018, issued by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India;
  - d. Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - e. The West Bengal Sand Mining Policy, 2021; and,
  - f. The West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021.
- 73. Non-compliance of any of the terms and conditions mentioned hereinabove may lead to cancellation of the environmental clearance granted.
- 74. The Environmental Clearance is being issued without prejudice to any action initiated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any court case pending in any court of law, and it does not mean that the project proponent has not violated any environmental law in the past, and all future decisions made or directives/ orders/ notifications/ circulars issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be binding on the Project Proponent. Similarly, all verdicts/ orders of the Hon'ble Court will be binding on the project proponent. Hence, this clearance does not give immunity to the project proponent in the case(s) filed against her/ him, if any, or any action initiated against her/ him under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 75. In case of submission of false document and non-compliance of stipulated conditions, Authority/ Environment Department will revoke or suspend the Environmental Clearance without any intimation and initiate appropriate

Rupees 15 thousand per hectare of the mining lease area put to use for mining and allied activities or rupees fifty (50)thousand, whichever is higher

- legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 76. The validity of this Environmental Clearance will be as provided in the Notification of MoEF&CC vide No. S.O.1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.
- 77. The EC is granted for the project as proposed. In case any deviation or alteration in the project is contemplated the proponent will apply afresh for Environmental Clearance for the proposed modifications and/ or expansion of the project.
- 78. The stipulations made under other relevant Acts, in particular the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, and the rules and regulations made there under, shall be strictly complied with.
- 79. The State Government may, in its own discretion, impose such further conditions as it may deem fit, necessary or expedient. All such conditions will have to be complied with.
- 80. Non-compliance to any of the stipulated terms and conditions may lead to cancellation of the EC.
- 81. If you are aggrieved by the grant of this Environmental Clearance or by any of the terms and conditions imposed herein, you may, in your own discretion, within a period of thirty days from today, prefer an appeal before the National Green Tribunal (Eastern Zonal Bench, Kolkata), HFXC+VR5, Kadampukur Village, Newtown, New Town, West Bengal 700156, under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

(4) Proposed Indas Sand Mine (MIN\_BNK\_51) on Darakeswar River in the area of 3.59 Ha. (8.87 Acres) at Mouza: Kalagram, J.L. No.- 40, Plot No. 2487 J.L. No.- 41, Mouza - Sahisnara, Plot no: 1475, Block – Indas, P.S. Indas, District: Bankura, West Bengal by M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited.

Proposal No. :- SIA/WB/MIN/415690/2023, File No. : EN/T-II-1/044/2023, Type-EC

# INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/415690/2023 dated 30 Jan 2023 seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. 1(a) Mining of minerals projects under Category "B2" of EIA Notification 2006.

SEAC recommended that Environmental Clearance be granted for the proposed project during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023.

# PROJECT DETAILS

The project of M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Bankura

#### **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and decided that the application for Indas Sand Mine

(MIN\_BNK\_51) falling within the DSR potential code BNK\_DW\_IN\_26 BNK\_DW\_KP\_26A is accepted.

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

The application for EC is approved.

## **CONCLUSION**

Approved for EC.

#### **Conditions**

- 1. From the documents uploaded and/ or otherwise made available to the SEIAA, WB, it is apparent that the lease area/ a part of the lease area is private land not owned by the lessee. Before commencement of any mining activity an affidavit should be obtained regarding consent of the land owner(s) concerned for carrying out the mining operation.
- 2. The Project Proponent (PP) shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with the budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing, if held.
- 3. Apart from possessing a valid lease the proponent shall obtain all other necessary permissions before commencement of any mining or allied activity at the lease hold area.
- 4. The directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 27.02.2012 in Deepak Kumar case [SLP(C) Nos. 19628-19629 of 2009] and order dated 05.08.2013 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in application No. 171/2013 must be followed strictly.
- 5. It shall be the responsibility of the PP to abide by and to comply with all the provisions made and restrictions imposed, particularly those regarding environment management practices, by and under the West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021 and the West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016, failing which the EC shall be liable to be cancelled.
- 6. The EC is granted on the condition that the lease area falls under the potential sand mining area earmarked in the District Level Survey Report (DSR). Mining shall be done only in an area/ stretch which has been identified in the DSR as suitable for mining and so certified by the Sub Divisional Level Committee after necessary site visits.
- 7. No river bed mining shall be allowed beneath 3 meters of the river bed.
- 8. The depth of mining in riverbed shall also not exceed one meter above groundwater (base flow) level.
- 9. No River sand mining shall be carried out in rainy season, that is, between 15<sup>th</sup> of June to 15<sup>th</sup> of October (both days inclusive) of every calendar year.
- 10. The PP shall submit Annual Replenishment Report certified by an authorized agency. In case the replenishment is lower than the approved rate of production, then the mining activity / production levels shall be decreased / stopped accordingly till the replenishment is completed.
- 11. If the lease hold area is located in hilly terrain, it is to be ensured by the PP that the mine working depth is limited to 1.0 metre below the riverbed level.

- 12. In case the lease area, or a part of it, falls in the river flood plain<sup>9</sup>, a buffer of three metre to be left from the river bank for mining. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 13. In case the lease area, or a part of it, is an agricultural field, a buffer of three metre land shall be left between the mine boundary and the adjacent field. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 14. Mining shall be done in layers of not more than 1 metre depth to avoid ponding effect and only after the first layer is excavated, the process will be repeated for the second layer and so on.
- 15. The PP shall get the baseflow and groundwater level (water table) monitored on monthly basis. The water level should be referenced to both the 'mean sea level' and the 'local ground level'. During sand mining operations, a network of existing wells shall be established around the sand mining area and piezometers shall be installed at all sand quarry sites. A minimum of four piezometers shall be installed in the no-mining zone around the sand quarrying area. Monitoring of groundwater quality in the vicinity (one km radius from the sand quarrying site) shall be carried out once in every two months.
- 16. Any area falling within 7.5 metre or 12.5% of the river width, whichever is more, from the river bank (towards the channel) will be left intact as no mining zone. Subject to above the PP shall identify the central 3/4 part of river on map where there is a deposition of sand and remaining 1/4 part shall be left intact as no mining zone for the protection of the bank.
- 17. No stream shall be diverted for the purpose of sand mining. No natural water course and/ or water resources shall be obstructed due to mining operations.
- 18. No blasting shall be resorted to in river bed sand/ gravel mining and no blasting operation shall be carried out without permission at any other place.
- 19. Irrespective of the location, thickness of sand deposition, agricultural land/ riverbed, the method of mining shall be manual and no earth moving machinery shall be deployed at or within the precincts of the lease hold area.
- 20. Mining shall begin only after pucca pillars marking the boundary of lease area are erected at the cost of the lease holder at every corner of the lease-hold area. Only after certification in this regard with the geo coordinates of the corner pillars is issued by the district mining officials, mining can commence. The geo coordinates of the corner pillars shall be made available to the District Level Committee.
- 21. The top soil in case of surface land mining shall be stored temporarily in an earmarked site and shall be, as far as practicable, concurrently used for land reclamation. {non river bed sand mining}
- 22. The EC holder shall keep a correct account of quantity of sand mined out, dispatched from the mine, mode of transport, registration number of vehicle, person in-charge of vehicle and mine plan. This shall be produced before officers of the Central Government and/ or the State Government for inspection.
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- 24. No sand mining activity shall be carried out between dusk to dawn, i.e., between 18:00 hr to 06:00 hr.
- 25. Infrastructure and facilities erected for the mine shall conform to the provisions made for the purpose at the sand ghat designated and demarcated (with geo referencing) and laid out for the purpose by the District administration.
- 26. In particular the PP shall ensure that the approach road, from the proposed sand ghat to the sand storage depot,

<sup>9</sup> A floodplain is a generally flat area of land next to a river or stream and it stretches from the banks of the river to the outer edges of the valley

- conform to the roadmap identified and demarcated for the purpose by the District Administration. Under no circumstances roads shall be laid without the consent of the land owners concerned.
- 27. There shall be a single point of entry and exit point for all vehicles. In case it is necessary to have more than one entry/exit, all such points shall have check points with all digital monitoring facilities as mentioned in the 'Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining' (January, 2020) issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. All other possible ways of entry /exit shall be closed using barriers. All provisions shall be made to make it impossible for any vehicle to enter or exit without an entry into the computerized system.
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landslide is likely to occur due to unfavourable steep angle of slope.

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- 62. The PP shall report monitoring data on replenishment, traffic management, levels of production, river-bank erosion, maintenance of roads etc.
- 63. A year-wise excavation schedule showing the breakup of pay-mineral (sand) and waste (if any) may be clearly drawn up and areas may be demarcated for waste dumping. Site for intermediate stockpiling of the mineral may also be clearly demarcated and shown in the surface plan.
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- 65. One year prior to the proposed closure of the mine the proponent shall submit a Final Mine Closure Plan for approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf.
- 66. The PP shall ensure that the protective measures contained in the Mine Closure Plan referred to hereinabove including the reclamation and rehabilitation work are carried out in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan or with such modifications as are approved by the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016.
- 67. In addition to regular submission of environmental compliance reports as required under the EIA Notification, 2006, the PP shall submit to the Officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, a yearly report before 1st of July every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in the approved Mine Closure Plan, and if there is any deviation, reasons thereof.
- 68. For the purpose of carrying out mining operation in the area, the PP shall furnish financial assurance. The amount of financial assurance<sup>12</sup> shall be as laid down in the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. The financial assurance may be in any of the forms referred to in the said Rules.
- 69. The PP shall prepare a dust and noise minimization plan with adequate details and shall implement the same.
- 70. Needs of the locality shall be assessed and the social part of the EMP shall be undertaken as stipulated by MoEF&CC Office Memorandum F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Beneficiary of the social component of EMP should be identified and to be displayed at site. The amount for need based activities

Rupees 15 thousand per hectare of the mining lease area put to use for mining and allied activities or rupees fifty (50)thousand, whichever is higher

- committed by project proponent is Rs. 1,862,422.01/- only.
- 71. The PP shall ensure that the provisions every relevant Acts, Rules Guidelines etc. shall be complied in both letter and spirit.
- 72. In particular, the PP shall ensure compliance with the provisions laid down in the following Acts/ Rules/ Guidelines.
  - a. The West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016;
  - b. Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - c. Sand Mining Framework, 2018, issued by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India;
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- 73. Non-compliance of any of the terms and conditions mentioned hereinabove may lead to cancellation of the environmental clearance granted.
- 74. The Environmental Clearance is being issued without prejudice to any action initiated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any court case pending in any court of law, and it does not mean that the project proponent has not violated any environmental law in the past, and all future decisions made or directives/ orders/ notifications/ circulars issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be binding on the Project Proponent. Similarly, all verdicts/ orders of the Hon'ble Court will be binding on the project proponent. Hence, this clearance does not give immunity to the project proponent in the case(s) filed against her/ him, if any, or any action initiated against her/ him under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 75. In case of submission of false document and non-compliance of stipulated conditions, Authority/ Environment Department will revoke or suspend the Environmental Clearance without any intimation and initiate appropriate legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 76. The validity of this Environmental Clearance will be as provided in the Notification of MoEF&CC vide No. S.O.1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.
- 77. The EC is granted for the project as proposed. In case any deviation or alteration in the project is contemplated the proponent will apply afresh for Environmental Clearance for the proposed modifications and/ or expansion of the project.
- 78. The stipulations made under other relevant Acts, in particular the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, and the rules and regulations made there under, shall be strictly complied with.
- 79. The State Government may, in its own discretion, impose such further conditions as it may deem fit, necessary or expedient. All such conditions will have to be complied with.
- 80. Non-compliance to any of the stipulated terms and conditions may lead to cancellation of the EC.
- 81. If you are aggrieved by the grant of this Environmental Clearance or by any of the terms and conditions imposed herein, you may, in your own discretion, within a period of thirty days from today, prefer an appeal

before the National Green Tribunal (Eastern Zonal Bench, Kolkata), HFXC+VR5, Kadampukur Village, Newtown, New Town, West Bengal 700156, under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010

(5) Proposed WB\_BIR\_AJ\_A1\_A Sand Mine on Ajay River in the area of 4.91 Ha at Mouza: Tamra, J.L. No.-87, Block & P.S.: Khairasole, District: Birbhum, West Bengal by **M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited.** 

Proposal No.:- SIA/WB/MIN/415921/2023, File No.: EN/T-II-1/049/2023, Type-EC

## INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/415921/2023 dated 29 Jan 2023 seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. 1(a) Mining of minerals projects under Category "B2" of EIA Notification 2006.

SEAC recommended that Environmental Clearance be granted for the proposed project during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023.

## **PROJECT DETAILS**

The project of M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited located in as follows

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Birbhum

#### **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and decided that the application for WB\_BIR\_AJ\_A1\_A falling within the DSR potential code BH\_KR\_AJ\_01 is accepted.

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

The application for EC is approved.

# **CONCLUSION**

Approved for EC.

#### **Conditions**

## **General Conditions**

1. From the documents uploaded and/ or otherwise made available to the SEIAA, WB, it is apparent that the lease area/ a part of the lease area is private land not owned by the lessee. Before commencement of any mining activity an affidavit should be obtained regarding consent of the land owner(s) concerned for carrying out the mining operation.

- 2. The Project Proponent (PP) shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with the budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing, if held.
- 3. Apart from possessing a valid lease the proponent shall obtain all other necessary permissions before commencement of any mining or allied activity at the lease hold area.
- 4. The directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 27.02.2012 in Deepak Kumar case [SLP(C) Nos. 19628-19629 of 2009] and order dated 05.08.2013 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in application No. 171/2013 must be followed strictly.
- 5. It shall be the responsibility of the PP to abide by and to comply with all the provisions made and restrictions imposed, particularly those regarding environment management practices, by and under the West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021 and the West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016, failing which the EC shall be liable to be cancelled.
- 6. The EC is granted on the condition that the lease area falls under the potential sand mining area earmarked in the District Level Survey Report (DSR). Mining shall be done only in an area/ stretch which has been identified in the DSR as suitable for mining and so certified by the Sub Divisional Level Committee after necessary site visits.
- 7. No river bed mining shall be allowed beneath 3 meters of the river bed.
- 8. The depth of mining in riverbed shall also not exceed one meter above groundwater (base flow) level.
- 9. No River sand mining shall be carried out in rainy season, that is, between 15<sup>th</sup> of June to 15<sup>th</sup> of October (both days inclusive) of every calendar year.
- 10. The PP shall submit Annual Replenishment Report certified by an authorized agency. In case the replenishment is lower than the approved rate of production, then the mining activity / production levels shall be decreased / stopped accordingly till the replenishment is completed.
- 11. If the lease hold area is located in hilly terrain, it is to be ensured by the PP that the mine working depth is limited to 1.0 metre below the riverbed level.
- 12. In case the lease area, or a part of it, falls in the river flood plain<sup>13</sup>, a buffer of three metre to be left from the river bank for mining. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 13. In case the lease area, or a part of it, is an agricultural field, a buffer of three metre land shall be left between the mine boundary and the adjacent field. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 14. Mining shall be done in layers of not more than 1 metre depth to avoid ponding effect and only after the first layer is excavated, the process will be repeated for the second layer and so on.
- 15. The PP shall get the baseflow and groundwater level (water table) monitored on monthly basis. The water level should be referenced to both the 'mean sea level' and the 'local ground level'. During sand mining operations, a network of existing wells shall be established around the sand mining area and piezometers shall be installed at all sand quarry sites. A minimum of four piezometers shall be installed in the no-mining zone around the sand quarrying area. Monitoring of groundwater quality in the vicinity (one km radius from the sand quarrying site) shall be carried out once in every two months.
- 16. Any area falling within 7.5 metre or 12.5% of the river width, whichever is more, from the river bank (towards the channel) will be left intact as no mining zone.

A floodplain is a generally flat area of land next to a river or stream and it stretches from the banks of the river to the outer edges of the valley

- Subject to above the PP shall identify the central 3/4 part of river on map where there is a deposition of sand and remaining 1/4 part shall be left intact as no mining zone for the protection of the bank.
- 17. No stream shall be diverted for the purpose of sand mining. No natural water course and/ or water resources shall be obstructed due to mining operations.
- 18. No blasting shall be resorted to in river bed sand/ gravel mining and no blasting operation shall be carried out without permission at any other place.
- 19. Irrespective of the location, thickness of sand deposition, agricultural land/ riverbed, the method of mining shall be manual and no earth moving machinery shall be deployed at or within the precincts of the lease hold area.
- 20. Mining shall begin only after pucca pillars marking the boundary of lease area are erected at the cost of the lease holder at every corner of the lease-hold area. Only after certification in this regard with the geo coordinates of the corner pillars is issued by the district mining officials, mining can commence. The geo coordinates of the corner pillars shall be made available to the District Level Committee.
- 21. The top soil in case of surface land mining shall be stored temporarily in an earmarked site and shall be, as far as practicable, concurrently used for land reclamation. {non river bed sand mining}
- 22. The EC holder shall keep a correct account of quantity of sand mined out, dispatched from the mine, mode of transport, registration number of vehicle, person in-charge of vehicle and mine plan. This shall be produced before officers of the Central Government and/ or the State Government for inspection.
- 23. Noise arising out of mining and processing unit(s) shall be abated and controlled at source to keep noise level within permissible limit.
- 24. No sand mining activity shall be carried out between dusk to dawn, i.e., between 18:00 hr to 06:00 hr.
- 25. Infrastructure and facilities erected for the mine shall conform to the provisions made for the purpose at the sand ghat designated and demarcated (with geo referencing) and laid out for the purpose by the District administration.
- 26. In particular the PP shall ensure that the approach road, from the proposed sand ghat to the sand storage depot, conform to the roadmap identified and demarcated for the purpose by the District Administration. Under no circumstances roads shall be laid without the consent of the land owners concerned.
- 27. There shall be a single point of entry and exit point for all vehicles. In case it is necessary to have more than one entry/exit, all such points shall have check points with all digital monitoring facilities as mentioned in the 'Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining' (January, 2020) issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. All other possible ways of entry /exit shall be closed using barriers. All provisions shall be made to make it impossible for any vehicle to enter or exit without an entry into the computerized system.
- 28. All such points shall have 24×7 CCTV coverage; the footage of the CCTV coverage shall be submitted to the District Collector by the PP at mutually agreed frequencies.
- 29. The PP shall ensure that pollution due to transportation is effectively controlled. The PP shall also ensure regular sprinkling of water.
- 30. Only potable water may be collected from nearby locality with prior permission of the authority concerned. Water for other purposes shall be taken from the river.
- 31. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the PP to ensure that air pollution due to dust, exhaust emission or fumes during mining and processing phase are controlled and kept within permissible limits specified under

environmental laws.

- 32. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through covered trucks/ tractors only and the vehicles carrying the mineral shall not be overloaded. Wheel washing facility should be installed and used.
- 33. The mining operations are to be done in a systematic manner so that the operations shall not create a major visual impact on the site.
- 34. Restoration of flora affected by mining must be done immediately. Five times the number of trees destroyed by mining shall be planted (preferably of indigenous species) and maintained over the entire lease period. Irrespective of the above the proponent shall plant and maintain, for the entire lease period, at least five trees per hectare of lease area in areas near the mine.
- 35. The PP shall ensure that, there is no damage to any fauna and its habitats/ nestings located close to the sand mining site, if any. The PP should receive clearance from the local Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC)<sup>14</sup> of the district concerned in this regard.
- 36. No felling of trees in or within the precincts of the mine shall be allowed. If a mining lease area, or a part of it, falls within 10 km from the periphery of any National Park/ Sanctuary or an Eco-Sensitive Zone or a Protected Area, no mining or related activity shall be undertaken without first obtaining a no objection certificate from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wild Life (NBWL), in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order in I.A. No. 460 of 2004.
- 37. The PP shall take all necessary protective measures to ensure that no spring sources are affected due to mining activities.
- 38. Removal, stacking and utilization of top soil in mining area shall be ensured. Where top soil cannot be used concurrently, it shall be stored properly for future use.
- 39. No overhangs shall be allowed to be formed due to mining and mining shall not be undertaken in areas where landslide is likely to occur due to unfavourable steep angle of slope.
- 40. No extraction of stone/ boulder/ sand shall be undertaken in landslide prone areas.
- 41. If clearance of riparian vegetation is to be undertaken it must be done under the supervision and control of an appropriate government authority. It shall be the responsibility of the project proponent to ensure absolute compliance with the relevant provisions of the West Bengal Trees (Protection and Conservation in Non Forest Areas) Act, 2006, and the Rules framed there under.
- 42. To reduce visual impact of mining the PP shall ensure tidiness.
- 43. Dumping of waste, if any, shall be done only in earmarked places as approved in the mining plan.
- 44. No rubbish shall be disposed in the river bed.
- 45. The PP shall take all possible precautions for the protection of environment and control of pollution.
- 46. Effluent discharge should be kept to the minimum and it should meet the standards prescribed.
- 47. No mining shall be undertaken in a mining lease located within 1 km from bridges, highways and railway lines on both upstream and downstream sides, or five times (5x) of the span (x) of bridge, public civil structure (including water intake point) on upstream side and ten times (10 x) the span of such bridge on downstream side, subjected to a minimum of 250 metres on the upstream and 500 metres on the downstream side.

For all local bodies Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) of the WB State Biodiversity Board are constituted under Sec. 41(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002

- 48. Mining activities shall not be done for mine lease where mining can cause danger to site of flood protection works, places of cultural, religious, historical, and archaeological importance.
- 49. Only such vehicles as are having valid fitness and PUC Certificates, shall be used for transportation of sand.
- 50. The PP shall develop proper junction at takeoff points of approach road with main road, with proper width and geometry required for safe movement of traffic, at his own cost.
- 51. The PP shall ensure that the road may not be damaged due to transportation of the mineral; and transport of minerals will be as per IRC Guidelines with respect to complying with traffic congestion and density.
- 52. No stacking shall be allowed on road side along State/ National Highways.
- 53. Suitable sand depots will be located in the vicinity of the sand quarry site to facilitate the sale of sand. While selecting the site for depots, it must be ensured that the site is within 25 km from the sand quarry site and has an area of around 04–06 ha (10-15 acres) with parking facility and proper entry and exit for smooth movement of the vehicles. The depot site shall preferably be a Government poramboke land<sup>15</sup>.
- 54. The PP shall undertake phased restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation of land affected by mining and shall complete this work before abandonment of mine.
- 55. Restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation in cluster should be done systematically and jointly by each EC holder in that cluster.
- 56. The site specific plan for eco-restoration submitted by the proponent along with the EC application shall be properly implemented.
- 57. Transport of mineral shall not be done through villages/ habitations.
- 58. The route of mineral transportation vehicle from source to destination shall be tracked through the system using checkpoints, Radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags, and GPS tracking.
- 59. The PP shall make arrangement for drinking water, first aid facility (along with species specific anti-venom provisioning) in case of emergency for the workers.
- 60. The PP shall implement the Disaster Management Plan if the mine lease area is located in Seismic Zone-IV. The Project Proponent shall appoint a Committee to have a check over any disaster to warn workers well before for the safety of the workers. Emergency helpline number will be displayed at all levels.
- 61. The PP shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project. Personal Health data like BP ECG, chest X-ray, PFT, smoking habits, blood and urine test etc. shall be undertaken once in six months to take necessary remedial/preventive measures. In this regard recommendations of National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) / Central Labour Institute (CLI) / All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (AIIH&PH) shall be adopted for ensuring good workenvironment for mine workers.
- 62. The PP shall report monitoring data on replenishment, traffic management, levels of production, river-bank erosion, maintenance of roads etc.
- 63. A year-wise excavation schedule showing the breakup of pay-mineral (sand) and waste (if any) may be clearly drawn up and areas may be demarcated for waste dumping. Site for intermediate stockpiling of the mineral may also be clearly demarcated and shown in the surface plan.
- 64. The PP shall review the Progressive Mine Closure Plan every two years from the date of opening of the mine

the land that doesn't fall under the list of revenue records.

- and shall submit the same to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, for its approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. In the event of the progressive mine closure being not approved, or not deemed to be approved, the mining activities shall be discontinued.
- 65. One year prior to the proposed closure of the mine the proponent shall submit a Final Mine Closure Plan for approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf.
- 66. The PP shall ensure that the protective measures contained in the Mine Closure Plan referred to hereinabove including the reclamation and rehabilitation work are carried out in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan or with such modifications as are approved by the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016.
- 67. In addition to regular submission of environmental compliance reports as required under the EIA Notification, 2006, the PP shall submit to the Officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, a yearly report before 1st of July every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in the approved Mine Closure Plan, and if there is any deviation, reasons thereof.
- 68. For the purpose of carrying out mining operation in the area, the PP shall furnish financial assurance. The amount of financial assurance 16 shall be as laid down in the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. The financial assurance may be in any of the forms referred to in the said Rules.
- 69. The PP shall prepare a dust and noise minimization plan with adequate details and shall implement the same.
- 70. Needs of the locality shall be assessed and the social part of the EMP shall be undertaken as stipulated by MoEF&CC Office Memorandum F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Beneficiary of the social component of EMP should be identified and to be displayed at site. The amount for need based activities committed by project proponent is Rs. 2,246,322/- only.
- 71. The PP shall ensure that the provisions every relevant Acts, Rules Guidelines etc. shall be complied in both letter and spirit.
- 72. In particular, the PP shall ensure compliance with the provisions laid down in the following Acts/ Rules/ Guidelines.
  - a. The West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016;
  - b. Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - c. Sand Mining Framework, 2018, issued by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India;
  - d. Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - e. The West Bengal Sand Mining Policy, 2021; and,
  - f. The West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021.
- 73. Non-compliance of any of the terms and conditions mentioned hereinabove may lead to cancellation of the environmental clearance granted.

Rupees 15 thousand per hectare of the mining lease area put to use for mining and allied activities or rupees fifty (50)thousand, whichever is higher

- 74. The Environmental Clearance is being issued without prejudice to any action initiated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any court case pending in any court of law, and it does not mean that the project proponent has not violated any environmental law in the past, and all future decisions made or directives/ orders/ notifications/ circulars issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be binding on the Project Proponent. Similarly, all verdicts/ orders of the Hon'ble Court will be binding on the project proponent. Hence, this clearance does not give immunity to the project proponent in the case(s) filed against her/ him, if any, or any action initiated against her/ him under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 75. In case of submission of false document and non-compliance of stipulated conditions, Authority/ Environment Department will revoke or suspend the Environmental Clearance without any intimation and initiate appropriate legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 76. The validity of this Environmental Clearance will be as provided in the Notification of MoEF&CC vide No. S.O.1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.
- 77. The EC is granted for the project as proposed. In case any deviation or alteration in the project is contemplated the proponent will apply afresh for Environmental Clearance for the proposed modifications and/ or expansion of the project.
- 78. The stipulations made under other relevant Acts, in particular the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, and the rules and regulations made there under, shall be strictly complied with.
- 79. The State Government may, in its own discretion, impose such further conditions as it may deem fit, necessary or expedient. All such conditions will have to be complied with.
- 80. Non-compliance to any of the stipulated terms and conditions may lead to cancellation of the EC.
- 81. If you are aggrieved by the grant of this Environmental Clearance or by any of the terms and conditions imposed herein, you may, in your own discretion, within a period of thirty days from today, prefer an appeal before the National Green Tribunal (Eastern Zonal Bench, Kolkata), HFXC+VR5, Kadampukur Village, Newtown, New Town, West Bengal 700156, under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010

(6) Proposed WB\_BIR\_AJ\_B1\_A Sand Mine on Ajay River over an area of 4.14 Ha at Mouza: Shimsa, J.L. No.-86, Block & P.S.: Khairasole, District: Birbhum, West Bengal by **M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited.** 

Proposal No.: SIA/WB/MIN/415703/2023, File No.: EN/T-II-1/045/2023, Type-EC

## INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/415703/2023 dated 29 Jan 2023 seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. 1(a) Mining of minerals under Category "B2" of EIA Notification 2006.

SEAC recommended that Environmental Clearance be granted for the proposed project during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023.

## **PROJECT DETAILS**

The project of M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Birbhum

## **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and decided that the application for WB\_BIR\_AJ\_B1\_A falling within the DSR potential code BH\_KR\_AJ\_01 is accepted.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA**

The application for EC is approved.

## **CONCLUSION**

Approved for EC.

#### **Conditions**

- 1. From the documents uploaded and/ or otherwise made available to the SEIAA, WB, it is apparent that the lease area/ a part of the lease area is private land not owned by the lessee. Before commencement of any mining activity an affidavit should be obtained regarding consent of the land owner(s) concerned for carrying out the mining operation.
- 2. The Project Proponent (PP) shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with the budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing, if held.
- 3. Apart from possessing a valid lease the proponent shall obtain all other necessary permissions before commencement of any mining or allied activity at the lease hold area.
- 4. The directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 27.02.2012 in Deepak Kumar case [SLP(C) Nos. 19628-19629 of 2009] and order dated 05.08.2013 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in application No. 171/2013 must be followed strictly.
- 5. It shall be the responsibility of the PP to abide by and to comply with all the provisions made and restrictions imposed, particularly those regarding environment management practices, by and under the West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021 and the West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016, failing which the EC shall be liable to be cancelled.
- 6. The EC is granted on the condition that the lease area falls under the potential sand mining area earmarked in the District Level Survey Report (DSR). Mining shall be done only in an area/ stretch which has been identified in the DSR as suitable for mining and so certified by the Sub Divisional Level Committee after necessary site visits.
- 7. No river bed mining shall be allowed beneath 3 meters of the river bed.

- 8. The depth of mining in riverbed shall also not exceed one meter above groundwater (base flow) level.
- 9. No River sand mining shall be carried out in rainy season, that is, between 15<sup>th</sup> of June to 15<sup>th</sup> of October (both days inclusive) of every calendar year.
- 10. The PP shall submit Annual Replenishment Report certified by an authorized agency. In case the replenishment is lower than the approved rate of production, then the mining activity / production levels shall be decreased / stopped accordingly till the replenishment is completed.
- 11. If the lease hold area is located in hilly terrain, it is to be ensured by the PP that the mine working depth is limited to 1.0 metre below the riverbed level.
- 12. In case the lease area, or a part of it, falls in the river flood plain<sup>17</sup>, a buffer of three metre to be left from the river bank for mining. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 13. In case the lease area, or a part of it, is an agricultural field, a buffer of three metre land shall be left between the mine boundary and the adjacent field. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 14. Mining shall be done in layers of not more than 1 metre depth to avoid ponding effect and only after the first layer is excavated, the process will be repeated for the second layer and so on.
- 15. The PP shall get the baseflow and groundwater level (water table) monitored on monthly basis. The water level should be referenced to both the 'mean sea level' and the 'local ground level'. During sand mining operations, a network of existing wells shall be established around the sand mining area and piezometers shall be installed at all sand quarry sites. A minimum of four piezometers shall be installed in the no-mining zone around the sand quarrying area. Monitoring of groundwater quality in the vicinity (one km radius from the sand quarrying site) shall be carried out once in every two months.
- 16. Any area falling within 7.5 metre or 12.5% of the river width, whichever is more, from the river bank (towards the channel) will be left intact as no mining zone. Subject to above the PP shall identify the central 3/4 part of river on map where there is a deposition of sand and remaining 1/4 part shall be left intact as no mining zone for the protection of the bank.
- 17. No stream shall be diverted for the purpose of sand mining. No natural water course and/ or water resources shall be obstructed due to mining operations.
- 18. No blasting shall be resorted to in river bed sand/ gravel mining and no blasting operation shall be carried out without permission at any other place.
- 19. Irrespective of the location, thickness of sand deposition, agricultural land/ riverbed, the method of mining shall be manual and no earth moving machinery shall be deployed at or within the precincts of the lease hold area.
- 20. Mining shall begin only after pucca pillars marking the boundary of lease area are erected at the cost of the lease holder at every corner of the lease-hold area. Only after certification in this regard with the geo coordinates of the corner pillars is issued by the district mining officials, mining can commence. The geo coordinates of the corner pillars shall be made available to the District Level Committee.
- 21. The top soil in case of surface land mining shall be stored temporarily in an earmarked site and shall be, as far as practicable, concurrently used for land reclamation. {non river bed sand mining}
- 22. The EC holder shall keep a correct account of quantity of sand mined out, dispatched from the mine, mode of transport, registration number of vehicle, person in-charge of vehicle and mine plan. This shall be produced

A floodplain Is a generally flat area of land next to a river or stream and it stretches from the banks of the river to the outer edges of the valley

- before officers of the Central Government and/ or the State Government for inspection.
- 23. Noise arising out of mining and processing unit(s) shall be abated and controlled at source to keep noise level within permissible limit.
- 24. No sand mining activity shall be carried out between dusk to dawn, i.e., between 18:00 hr to 06:00 hr.
- 25. Infrastructure and facilities erected for the mine shall conform to the provisions made for the purpose at the sand ghat designated and demarcated (with geo referencing) and laid out for the purpose by the District administration.
- 26. In particular the PP shall ensure that the approach road, from the proposed sand ghat to the sand storage depot, conform to the roadmap identified and demarcated for the purpose by the District Administration. Under no circumstances roads shall be laid without the consent of the land owners concerned.
- 27. There shall be a single point of entry and exit point for all vehicles. In case it is necessary to have more than one entry/exit, all such points shall have check points with all digital monitoring facilities as mentioned in the 'Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining' (January, 2020) issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. All other possible ways of entry /exit shall be closed using barriers. All provisions shall be made to make it impossible for any vehicle to enter or exit without an entry into the computerized system.
- 28. All such points shall have 24×7 CCTV coverage; the footage of the CCTV coverage shall be submitted to the District Collector by the PP at mutually agreed frequencies.
- 29. The PP shall ensure that pollution due to transportation is effectively controlled. The PP shall also ensure regular sprinkling of water.
- 30. Only potable water may be collected from nearby locality with prior permission of the authority concerned. Water for other purposes shall be taken from the river.
- 31. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the PP to ensure that air pollution due to dust, exhaust emission or fumes during mining and processing phase are controlled and kept within permissible limits specified under environmental laws.
- 32. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through covered trucks/ tractors only and the vehicles carrying the mineral shall not be overloaded. Wheel washing facility should be installed and used.
- 33. The mining operations are to be done in a systematic manner so that the operations shall not create a major visual impact on the site.
- 34. Restoration of flora affected by mining must be done immediately. Five times the number of trees destroyed by mining shall be planted (preferably of indigenous species) and maintained over the entire lease period. Irrespective of the above the proponent shall plant and maintain, for the entire lease period, at least five trees per hectare of lease area in areas near the mine.
- 35. The PP shall ensure that, there is no damage to any fauna and its habitats/ nestings located close to the sand mining site, if any. The PP should receive clearance from the local Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC)<sup>18</sup> of the district concerned in this regard.
- 36. No felling of trees in or within the precincts of the mine shall be allowed. If a mining lease area, or a part of it, falls within 10 km from the periphery of any National Park/ Sanctuary or an Eco-Sensitive Zone or a Protected

For all local bodies Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) of the WB State Biodiversity Board are constituted under Sec. 41(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002

Area, no mining or related activity shall be undertaken without first obtaining a no objection certificate from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wild Life (NBWL), in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order in I.A. No. 460 of 2004.

- 37. The PP shall take all necessary protective measures to ensure that no spring sources are affected due to mining activities.
- 38. Removal, stacking and utilization of top soil in mining area shall be ensured. Where top soil cannot be used concurrently, it shall be stored properly for future use.
- 39. No overhangs shall be allowed to be formed due to mining and mining shall not be undertaken in areas where landslide is likely to occur due to unfavourable steep angle of slope.
- 40. No extraction of stone/ boulder/ sand shall be undertaken in landslide prone areas.
- 41. If clearance of riparian vegetation is to be undertaken it must be done under the supervision and control of an appropriate government authority. It shall be the responsibility of the project proponent to ensure absolute compliance with the relevant provisions of the West Bengal Trees (Protection and Conservation in Non Forest Areas) Act, 2006, and the Rules framed there under.
- 42. To reduce visual impact of mining the PP shall ensure tidiness.
- 43. Dumping of waste, if any, shall be done only in earmarked places as approved in the mining plan.
- 44. No rubbish shall be disposed in the river bed.
- 45. The PP shall take all possible precautions for the protection of environment and control of pollution.
- 46. Effluent discharge should be kept to the minimum and it should meet the standards prescribed.
- 47. No mining shall be undertaken in a mining lease located within 1 km from bridges, highways and railway lines on both upstream and downstream sides, or five times (5x) of the span (x) of bridge, public civil structure (including water intake point) on upstream side and ten times (10 x) the span of such bridge on downstream side, subjected to a minimum of 250 metres on the upstream and 500 metres on the downstream side.
- 48. Mining activities shall not be done for mine lease where mining can cause danger to site of flood protection works, places of cultural, religious, historical, and archaeological importance.
- 49. Only such vehicles as are having valid fitness and PUC Certificates, shall be used for transportation of sand.
- 50. The PP shall develop proper junction at takeoff points of approach road with main road, with proper width and geometry required for safe movement of traffic, at his own cost.
- 51. The PP shall ensure that the road may not be damaged due to transportation of the mineral; and transport of minerals will be as per IRC Guidelines with respect to complying with traffic congestion and density.
- 52. No stacking shall be allowed on road side along State/ National Highways.
- 53. Suitable sand depots will be located in the vicinity of the sand quarry site to facilitate the sale of sand. While selecting the site for depots, it must be ensured that the site is within 25 km from the sand quarry site and has an area of around 04-06 ha (10-15 acres) with parking facility and proper entry and exit for smooth movement of the vehicles. The depot site shall preferably be a Government poramboke land<sup>19</sup>.
- 54. The PP shall undertake phased restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation of land affected by mining and shall complete this work before abandonment of mine.

the land that doesn't fall under the list of revenue records.

- 55. Restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation in cluster should be done systematically and jointly by each EC holder in that cluster.
- 56. The site specific plan for eco-restoration submitted by the proponent along with the EC application shall be properly implemented.
- 57. Transport of mineral shall not be done through villages/ habitations.
- 58. The route of mineral transportation vehicle from source to destination shall be tracked through the system using checkpoints, Radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags, and GPS tracking.
- 59. The PP shall make arrangement for drinking water, first aid facility (along with species specific anti-venom provisioning) in case of emergency for the workers.
- 60. The PP shall implement the Disaster Management Plan if the mine lease area is located in Seismic Zone-IV. The Project Proponent shall appoint a Committee to have a check over any disaster to warn workers well before for the safety of the workers. Emergency helpline number will be displayed at all levels.
- 61. The PP shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project. Personal Health data like BP ECG, chest X-ray, PFT, smoking habits, blood and urine test etc. shall be undertaken once in six months to take necessary remedial/preventive measures. In this regard recommendations of National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) / Central Labour Institute (CLI) / All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (AIIH&PH) shall be adopted for ensuring good workenvironment for mine workers.
- 62. The PP shall report monitoring data on replenishment, traffic management, levels of production, river-bank erosion, maintenance of roads etc.
- 63. A year-wise excavation schedule showing the breakup of pay-mineral (sand) and waste (if any) may be clearly drawn up and areas may be demarcated for waste dumping. Site for intermediate stockpiling of the mineral may also be clearly demarcated and shown in the surface plan.
- 64. The PP shall review the Progressive Mine Closure Plan every two years from the date of opening of the mine and shall submit the same to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, for its approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. In the event of the progressive mine closure being not approved, or not deemed to be approved, the mining activities shall be discontinued.
- 65. One year prior to the proposed closure of the mine the proponent shall submit a Final Mine Closure Plan for approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf.
- 66. The PP shall ensure that the protective measures contained in the Mine Closure Plan referred to hereinabove including the reclamation and rehabilitation work are carried out in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan or with such modifications as are approved by the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016.
- 67. In addition to regular submission of environmental compliance reports as required under the EIA Notification, 2006, the PP shall submit to the Officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, a yearly report before 1st of July every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in

- the approved Mine Closure Plan, and if there is any deviation, reasons thereof.
- 68. For the purpose of carrying out mining operation in the area, the PP shall furnish financial assurance. The amount of financial assurance shall be as laid down in the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. The financial assurance may be in any of the forms referred to in the said Rules.
- 69. The PP shall prepare a dust and noise minimization plan with adequate details and shall implement the same.
- 70. Needs of the locality shall be assessed and the social part of the EMP shall be undertaken as stipulated by MoEF&CC Office Memorandum F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Beneficiary of the social component of EMP should be identified and to be displayed at site. The amount for need based activities committed by project proponent is Rs. 1,959,429.78/- only.
- 71. The PP shall ensure that the provisions every relevant Acts, Rules Guidelines etc. shall be complied in both letter and spirit.
- 72. In particular, the PP shall ensure compliance with the provisions laid down in the following Acts/ Rules/ Guidelines.
  - a. The West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016;
  - b. Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - c. Sand Mining Framework, 2018, issued by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India;
  - d. Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - e. The West Bengal Sand Mining Policy, 2021; and,
  - f. The West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021.
- 73. Non-compliance of any of the terms and conditions mentioned hereinabove may lead to cancellation of the environmental clearance granted.
- 74. The Environmental Clearance is being issued without prejudice to any action initiated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any court case pending in any court of law, and it does not mean that the project proponent has not violated any environmental law in the past, and all future decisions made or directives/ orders/ notifications/ circulars issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be binding on the Project Proponent. Similarly, all verdicts/ orders of the Hon'ble Court will be binding on the project proponent. Hence, this clearance does not give immunity to the project proponent in the case(s) filed against her/ him, if any, or any action initiated against her/ him under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 75. In case of submission of false document and non-compliance of stipulated conditions, Authority/ Environment Department will revoke or suspend the Environmental Clearance without any intimation and initiate appropriate legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 76. The validity of this Environmental Clearance will be as provided in the Notification of MoEF&CC vide No. S.O.1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.
- 77. The EC is granted for the project as proposed. In case any deviation or alteration in the project is contemplated

Rupees 15 thousand per hectare of the mining lease area put to use for mining and allied activities or rupees fifty (50)thousand, whichever is higher

- the proponent will apply afresh for Environmental Clearance for the proposed modifications and/ or expansion of the project.
- 78. The stipulations made under other relevant Acts, in particular the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, and the rules and regulations made there under, shall be strictly complied with.
- 79. The State Government may, in its own discretion, impose such further conditions as it may deem fit, necessary or expedient. All such conditions will have to be complied with.
- 80. Non-compliance to any of the stipulated terms and conditions may lead to cancellation of the EC.
- 81. If you are aggrieved by the grant of this Environmental Clearance or by any of the terms and conditions imposed herein, you may, in your own discretion, within a period of thirty days from today, prefer an appeal before the National Green Tribunal (Eastern Zonal Bench, Kolkata), HFXC+VR5, Kadampukur Village, Newtown, New Town, West Bengal 700156, under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010

(7) Proposed WB\_BIR\_AJ\_A2\_B Sand Mine on Ajay River over an area of 4.68 Ha at Mouza: Brajadihi, J.L. No.- 91 & Jabalpur, J.L. No.- 92, Plot no: 342/363, 431/855 Block & P.S.: Khairasole, District: Birbhum, West Bengal by **M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited.** 

Proposal No.:- SIA/WB/MIN/416019/2023, File No.: EN/T-II-1/046/2023, Type-EC

## INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/416019/2023, dated 29 Jan 2023 seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. 1(a) Mining of minerals under Category "B2" of EIA Notification 2006.

SEAC recommended that Environmental Clearance be granted for the proposed project during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023.

## PROJECT DETAILS

The project of M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Birbhum

#### **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and decided that the application for WB\_BIR\_AJ\_A2\_B falling within the DSR potential code BH\_KR\_AJ\_04 is accepted.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

The application for EC is approved.

## **CONCLUSION**

## Approved for EC.

### **Conditions**

#### **General Conditions**

- 1. From the documents uploaded and/ or otherwise made available to the SEIAA, WB, it is apparent that the lease area/ a part of the lease area is private land not owned by the lessee. Before commencement of any mining activity an affidavit should be obtained regarding consent of the land owner(s) concerned for carrying out the mining operation.
- 2. The Project Proponent (PP) shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with the budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing, if held.
- 3. Apart from possessing a valid lease the proponent shall obtain all other necessary permissions before commencement of any mining or allied activity at the lease hold area.
- 4. The directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 27.02.2012 in Deepak Kumar case [SLP(C) Nos. 19628-19629 of 2009] and order dated 05.08.2013 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in application No. 171/2013 must be followed strictly.
- 5. It shall be the responsibility of the PP to abide by and to comply with all the provisions made and restrictions imposed, particularly those regarding environment management practices, by and under the West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021 and the West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016, failing which the EC shall be liable to be cancelled.
- 6. The EC is granted on the condition that the lease area falls under the potential sand mining area earmarked in the District Level Survey Report (DSR). Mining shall be done only in an area/ stretch which has been identified in the DSR as suitable for mining and so certified by the Sub Divisional Level Committee after necessary site visits.
- 7. No river bed mining shall be allowed beneath 3 meters of the river bed.
- 8. The depth of mining in riverbed shall also not exceed one meter above groundwater (base flow) level.
- 9. No River sand mining shall be carried out in rainy season, that is, between 15<sup>th</sup> of June to 15<sup>th</sup> of October (both days inclusive) of every calendar year.
- 10. The PP shall submit Annual Replenishment Report certified by an authorized agency. In case the replenishment is lower than the approved rate of production, then the mining activity / production levels shall be decreased / stopped accordingly till the replenishment is completed.
- 11. If the lease hold area is located in hilly terrain, it is to be ensured by the PP that the mine working depth is limited to 1.0 metre below the riverbed level.
- 12. In case the lease area, or a part of it, falls in the river flood plain<sup>21</sup>, a buffer of three metre to be left from the river bank for mining. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 13. In case the lease area, or a part of it, is an agricultural field, a buffer of three metre land shall be left between the

A floodplain is a generally flat area of land next to a river or stream and it stretches from the banks of the river to the outer edges of the valley

- mine boundary and the adjacent field. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 14. Mining shall be done in layers of not more than 1 metre depth to avoid ponding effect and only after the first layer is excavated, the process will be repeated for the second layer and so on.
- 15. The PP shall get the baseflow and groundwater level (water table) monitored on monthly basis. The water level should be referenced to both the 'mean sea level' and the 'local ground level'. During sand mining operations, a network of existing wells shall be established around the sand mining area and piezometers shall be installed at all sand quarry sites. A minimum of four piezometers shall be installed in the no-mining zone around the sand quarrying area. Monitoring of groundwater quality in the vicinity (one km radius from the sand quarrying site) shall be carried out once in every two months.
- 16. Any area falling within 7.5 metre or 12.5% of the river width, whichever is more, from the river bank (towards the channel) will be left intact as no mining zone. Subject to above the PP shall identify the central 3/4 part of river on map where there is a deposition of sand and remaining 1/4 part shall be left intact as no mining zone for the protection of the bank.
- 17. No stream shall be diverted for the purpose of sand mining. No natural water course and/ or water resources shall be obstructed due to mining operations.
- 18. No blasting shall be resorted to in river bed sand/ gravel mining and no blasting operation shall be carried out without permission at any other place.
- 19. Irrespective of the location, thickness of sand deposition, agricultural land/ riverbed, the method of mining shall be manual and no earth moving machinery shall be deployed at or within the precincts of the lease hold area.
- 20. Mining shall begin only after pucca pillars marking the boundary of lease area are erected at the cost of the lease holder at every corner of the lease-hold area. Only after certification in this regard with the geo coordinates of the corner pillars is issued by the district mining officials, mining can commence. The geo coordinates of the corner pillars shall be made available to the District Level Committee.
- 21. The top soil in case of surface land mining shall be stored temporarily in an earmarked site and shall be, as far as practicable, concurrently used for land reclamation. {non river bed sand mining}
- 22. The EC holder shall keep a correct account of quantity of sand mined out, dispatched from the mine, mode of transport, registration number of vehicle, person in-charge of vehicle and mine plan. This shall be produced before officers of the Central Government and/ or the State Government for inspection.
- 23. Noise arising out of mining and processing unit(s) shall be abated and controlled at source to keep noise level within permissible limit.
- 24. No sand mining activity shall be carried out between dusk to dawn, i.e., between 18:00 hr to 06:00 hr.
- 25. Infrastructure and facilities erected for the mine shall conform to the provisions made for the purpose at the sand ghat designated and demarcated (with geo referencing) and laid out for the purpose by the District administration.
- 26. In particular the PP shall ensure that the approach road, from the proposed sand ghat to the sand storage depot, conform to the roadmap identified and demarcated for the purpose by the District Administration. Under no circumstances roads shall be laid without the consent of the land owners concerned.
- 27. There shall be a single point of entry and exit point for all vehicles. In case it is necessary to have more than one entry/exit, all such points shall have check points with all digital monitoring facilities as mentioned in the 'Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining' (January, 2020) issued by the Ministry of

- Environment, Forest and Climate Change. All other possible ways of entry /exit shall be closed using barriers. All provisions shall be made to make it impossible for any vehicle to enter or exit without an entry into the computerized system.
- 28. All such points shall have 24×7 CCTV coverage; the footage of the CCTV coverage shall be submitted to the District Collector by the PP at mutually agreed frequencies.
- 29. The PP shall ensure that pollution due to transportation is effectively controlled. The PP shall also ensure regular sprinkling of water.
- 30. Only potable water may be collected from nearby locality with prior permission of the authority concerned. Water for other purposes shall be taken from the river.
- 31. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the PP to ensure that air pollution due to dust, exhaust emission or fumes during mining and processing phase are controlled and kept within permissible limits specified under environmental laws.
- 32. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through covered trucks/ tractors only and the vehicles carrying the mineral shall not be overloaded. Wheel washing facility should be installed and used.
- 33. The mining operations are to be done in a systematic manner so that the operations shall not create a major visual impact on the site.
- 34. Restoration of flora affected by mining must be done immediately. Five times the number of trees destroyed by mining shall be planted (preferably of indigenous species) and maintained over the entire lease period. Irrespective of the above the proponent shall plant and maintain, for the entire lease period, at least five trees per hectare of lease area in areas near the mine.
- 35. The PP shall ensure that, there is no damage to any fauna and its habitats/ nestings located close to the sand mining site, if any. The PP should receive clearance from the local Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC)<sup>22</sup> of the district concerned in this regard.
- 36. No felling of trees in or within the precincts of the mine shall be allowed. If a mining lease area, or a part of it, falls within 10 km from the periphery of any National Park/ Sanctuary or an Eco-Sensitive Zone or a Protected Area, no mining or related activity shall be undertaken without first obtaining a no objection certificate from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wild Life (NBWL), in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order in I.A. No. 460 of 2004.
- 37. The PP shall take all necessary protective measures to ensure that no spring sources are affected due to mining activities.
- 38. Removal, stacking and utilization of top soil in mining area shall be ensured. Where top soil cannot be used concurrently, it shall be stored properly for future use.
- 39. No overhangs shall be allowed to be formed due to mining and mining shall not be undertaken in areas where landslide is likely to occur due to unfavourable steep angle of slope.
- 40. No extraction of stone/ boulder/ sand shall be undertaken in landslide prone areas.
- 41. If clearance of riparian vegetation is to be undertaken it must be done under the supervision and control of an appropriate government authority. It shall be the responsibility of the project proponent to ensure absolute compliance with the relevant provisions of the West Bengal Trees (Protection and Conservation in Non Forest

For all local bodies Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) of the WB State Biodiversity Board are constituted under Sec. 41(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002

Areas) Act, 2006, and the Rules framed there under.

- 42. To reduce visual impact of mining the PP shall ensure tidiness.
- 43. Dumping of waste, if any, shall be done only in earmarked places as approved in the mining plan.
- 44. No rubbish shall be disposed in the river bed.
- 45. The PP shall take all possible precautions for the protection of environment and control of pollution.
- 46. Effluent discharge should be kept to the minimum and it should meet the standards prescribed.
- 47. No mining shall be undertaken in a mining lease located within 1 km from bridges, highways and railway lines on both upstream and downstream sides, or five times (5x) of the span (x) of bridge, public civil structure (including water intake point) on upstream side and ten times (10 x) the span of such bridge on downstream side, subjected to a minimum of 250 metres on the upstream and 500 metres on the downstream side.
- 48. Mining activities shall not be done for mine lease where mining can cause danger to site of flood protection works, places of cultural, religious, historical, and archaeological importance.
- 49. Only such vehicles as are having valid fitness and PUC Certificates, shall be used for transportation of sand.
- 50. The PP shall develop proper junction at takeoff points of approach road with main road, with proper width and geometry required for safe movement of traffic, at his own cost.
- 51. The PP shall ensure that the road may not be damaged due to transportation of the mineral; and transport of minerals will be as per IRC Guidelines with respect to complying with traffic congestion and density.
- 52. No stacking shall be allowed on road side along State/ National Highways.
- 53. Suitable sand depots will be located in the vicinity of the sand quarry site to facilitate the sale of sand. While selecting the site for depots, it must be ensured that the site is within 25 km from the sand quarry site and has an area of around 04–06 ha (10-15 acres) with parking facility and proper entry and exit for smooth movement of the vehicles. The depot site shall preferably be a Government poramboke land<sup>23</sup>.
- 54. The PP shall undertake phased restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation of land affected by mining and shall complete this work before abandonment of mine.
- 55. Restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation in cluster should be done systematically and jointly by each EC holder in that cluster.
- 56. The site specific plan for eco-restoration submitted by the proponent along with the EC application shall be properly implemented.
- 57. Transport of mineral shall not be done through villages/ habitations.
- 58. The route of mineral transportation vehicle from source to destination shall be tracked through the system using checkpoints, Radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags, and GPS tracking.
- 59. The PP shall make arrangement for drinking water, first aid facility (along with species specific anti-venom provisioning) in case of emergency for the workers.
- 60. The PP shall implement the Disaster Management Plan if the mine lease area is located in Seismic Zone-IV. The Project Proponent shall appoint a Committee to have a check over any disaster to warn workers well before for the safety of the workers. Emergency helpline number will be displayed at all levels.

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the land that doesn't fall under the list of revenue records.

- 61. The PP shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project. Personal Health data like BP ECG, chest X-ray, PFT, smoking habits, blood and urine test etc. shall be undertaken once in six months to take necessary remedial/preventive measures. In this regard recommendations of National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) / Central Labour Institute (CLI) / All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (AIIH&PH) shall be adopted for ensuring good workenvironment for mine workers.
- 62. The PP shall report monitoring data on replenishment, traffic management, levels of production, river-bank erosion, maintenance of roads etc.
- 63. A year-wise excavation schedule showing the breakup of pay-mineral (sand) and waste (if any) may be clearly drawn up and areas may be demarcated for waste dumping. Site for intermediate stockpiling of the mineral may also be clearly demarcated and shown in the surface plan.
- 64. The PP shall review the Progressive Mine Closure Plan every two years from the date of opening of the mine and shall submit the same to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, for its approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. In the event of the progressive mine closure being not approved, or not deemed to be approved, the mining activities shall be discontinued.
- 65. One year prior to the proposed closure of the mine the proponent shall submit a Final Mine Closure Plan for approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf.
- 66. The PP shall ensure that the protective measures contained in the Mine Closure Plan referred to hereinabove including the reclamation and rehabilitation work are carried out in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan or with such modifications as are approved by the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016.
- 67. In addition to regular submission of environmental compliance reports as required under the EIA Notification, 2006, the PP shall submit to the Officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, a yearly report before 1st of July every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in the approved Mine Closure Plan, and if there is any deviation, reasons thereof.
- 68. For the purpose of carrying out mining operation in the area, the PP shall furnish financial assurance. The amount of financial assurance<sup>24</sup> shall be as laid down in the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. The financial assurance may be in any of the forms referred to in the said Rules.
- 69. The PP shall prepare a dust and noise minimization plan with adequate details and shall implement the same.
- 70. Needs of the locality shall be assessed and the social part of the EMP shall be undertaken as stipulated by MoEF&CC Office Memorandum F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Beneficiary of the social component of EMP should be identified and to be displayed at site. The amount for need based activities committed by project proponent is Rs. 2,137,178.92/- only.
- 71. The PP shall ensure that the provisions every relevant Acts, Rules Guidelines etc. shall be complied in both letter and spirit.
- 72. In particular, the PP shall ensure compliance with the provisions laid down in the following Acts/ Rules/ Guidelines.

Rupees 15 thousand per hectare of the mining lease area put to use for mining and allied activities or rupees fifty (50)thousand, whichever is higher

- a. The West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016;
- b. Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
- c. Sand Mining Framework, 2018, issued by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India;
- d. Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
- e. The West Bengal Sand Mining Policy, 2021; and,
- f. The West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021.
- 73. Non-compliance of any of the terms and conditions mentioned hereinabove may lead to cancellation of the environmental clearance granted.
- 74. The Environmental Clearance is being issued without prejudice to any action initiated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any court case pending in any court of law, and it does not mean that the project proponent has not violated any environmental law in the past, and all future decisions made or directives/ orders/ notifications/ circulars issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be binding on the Project Proponent. Similarly, all verdicts/ orders of the Hon'ble Court will be binding on the project proponent. Hence, this clearance does not give immunity to the project proponent in the case(s) filed against her/ him, if any, or any action initiated against her/ him under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 75. In case of submission of false document and non-compliance of stipulated conditions, Authority/ Environment Department will revoke or suspend the Environmental Clearance without any intimation and initiate appropriate legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 76. The validity of this Environmental Clearance will be as provided in the Notification of MoEF&CC vide No. S.O.1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.
- 77. The EC is granted for the project as proposed. In case any deviation or alteration in the project is contemplated the proponent will apply afresh for Environmental Clearance for the proposed modifications and/ or expansion of the project.
- 78. The stipulations made under other relevant Acts, in particular the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, and the rules and regulations made there under, shall be strictly complied with.
- 79. The State Government may, in its own discretion, impose such further conditions as it may deem fit, necessary or expedient. All such conditions will have to be complied with.
- 80. Non-compliance to any of the stipulated terms and conditions may lead to cancellation of the EC.
- 81. If you are aggrieved by the grant of this Environmental Clearance or by any of the terms and conditions imposed herein, you may, in your own discretion, within a period of thirty days from today, prefer an appeal before the National Green Tribunal (Eastern Zonal Bench, Kolkata), HFXC+VR5, Kadampukur Village, Newtown, New Town, West Bengal 700156, under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010

(8) Proposed Chengmari Sand Mine (MIN\_APD\_17\_A) on Raidak II River over an area of 4.25 Ha at Mouza: Chengmari, Plot No. 4, J.L No.-41, Block & P.S. Kumargram, District: Alipurduar, West Bengal by **M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited.** 

Proposal No.:- SIA/WB/MIN/415155/2023, File No.: EN/T-II-1/043/2023, Type-EC

## INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/415155/2023 dated 29 Jan 2023 seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. 1(a) Mining of minerals under Category "B2" of EIA Notification 2006.

SEAC recommended that Environmental Clearance be granted for the proposed project during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023.

## PROJECT DETAILS

The project of M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited located in as follows

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Alipurduar

# **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and decided that the application for Chengmari Sand Mine (MIN\_APD\_17\_A) falling within the DSR potential code AD\_KG\_RD2\_19\_21\_15 is accepted.

# **RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA**

The application for EC is approved.

### **CONCLUSION**

Approved for EC.

## Conditions

#### **General Conditions**

- 1. From the documents uploaded and/ or otherwise made available to the SEIAA, WB, it is apparent that the lease area/ a part of the lease area is private land not owned by the lessee. Before commencement of any mining activity an affidavit should be obtained regarding consent of the land owner(s) concerned for carrying out the mining operation.
- 2. The Project Proponent (PP) shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with the budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing, if held.
- 3. Apart from possessing a valid lease the proponent shall obtain all other necessary permissions before

- commencement of any mining or allied activity at the lease hold area.
- 4. The directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 27.02.2012 in Deepak Kumar case [SLP(C) Nos. 19628-19629 of 2009] and order dated 05.08.2013 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in application No. 171/2013 must be followed strictly.
- 5. It shall be the responsibility of the PP to abide by and to comply with all the provisions made and restrictions imposed, particularly those regarding environment management practices, by and under the West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021 and the West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016, failing which the EC shall be liable to be cancelled.
- 6. The EC is granted on the condition that the lease area falls under the potential sand mining area earmarked in the District Level Survey Report (DSR). Mining shall be done only in an area/ stretch which has been identified in the DSR as suitable for mining and so certified by the Sub Divisional Level Committee after necessary site visits.
- 7. No river bed mining shall be allowed beneath 3 meters of the river bed.
- 8. The depth of mining in riverbed shall also not exceed one meter above groundwater (base flow) level.
- 9. No River sand mining shall be carried out in rainy season, that is, between 15<sup>th</sup> of June to 15<sup>th</sup> of October (both days inclusive) of every calendar year.
- 10. The PP shall submit Annual Replenishment Report certified by an authorized agency. In case the replenishment is lower than the approved rate of production, then the mining activity / production levels shall be decreased / stopped accordingly till the replenishment is completed.
- 11. If the lease hold area is located in hilly terrain, it is to be ensured by the PP that the mine working depth is limited to 1.0 metre below the riverbed level.
- 12. In case the lease area, or a part of it, falls in the river flood plain<sup>25</sup>, a buffer of three metre to be left from the river bank for mining. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 13. In case the lease area, or a part of it, is an agricultural field, a buffer of three metre land shall be left between the mine boundary and the adjacent field. (non river-bed sand mining)
- 14. Mining shall be done in layers of not more than 1 metre depth to avoid ponding effect and only after the first layer is excavated, the process will be repeated for the second layer and so on.
- 15. The PP shall get the baseflow and groundwater level (water table) monitored on monthly basis. The water level should be referenced to both the 'mean sea level' and the 'local ground level'. During sand mining operations, a network of existing wells shall be established around the sand mining area and piezometers shall be installed at all sand quarry sites. A minimum of four piezometers shall be installed in the no-mining zone around the sand quarrying area. Monitoring of groundwater quality in the vicinity (one km radius from the sand quarrying site) shall be carried out once in every two months.
- 16. Any area falling within 7.5 metre or 12.5% of the river width, whichever is more, from the river bank (towards the channel) will be left intact as no mining zone. Subject to above the PP shall identify the central 3/4 part of river on map where there is a deposition of sand and remaining 1/4 part shall be left intact as no mining zone for the protection of the bank.
- 17. No stream shall be diverted for the purpose of sand mining. No natural water course and/ or water resources

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> A floodplain Is a generally flat area of land next to a river or stream and it stretches from the banks of the river to the outer edges of the valley

- shall be obstructed due to mining operations.
- 18. No blasting shall be resorted to in river bed sand/ gravel mining and no blasting operation shall be carried out without permission at any other place.
- 19. Irrespective of the location, thickness of sand deposition, agricultural land/ riverbed, the method of mining shall be manual and no earth moving machinery shall be deployed at or within the precincts of the lease hold area.
- 20. Mining shall begin only after pucca pillars marking the boundary of lease area are erected at the cost of the lease holder at every corner of the lease-hold area. Only after certification in this regard with the geo coordinates of the corner pillars is issued by the district mining officials, mining can commence. The geo coordinates of the corner pillars shall be made available to the District Level Committee.
- 21. The top soil in case of surface land mining shall be stored temporarily in an earmarked site and shall be, as far as practicable, concurrently used for land reclamation. {non river bed sand mining}
- 22. The EC holder shall keep a correct account of quantity of sand mined out, dispatched from the mine, mode of transport, registration number of vehicle, person in-charge of vehicle and mine plan. This shall be produced before officers of the Central Government and/ or the State Government for inspection.
- 23. Noise arising out of mining and processing unit(s) shall be abated and controlled at source to keep noise level within permissible limit.
- 24. No sand mining activity shall be carried out between dusk to dawn, i.e., between 18:00 hr to 06:00 hr.
- 25. Infrastructure and facilities erected for the mine shall conform to the provisions made for the purpose at the sand ghat designated and demarcated (with geo referencing) and laid out for the purpose by the District administration.
- 26. In particular the PP shall ensure that the approach road, from the proposed sand ghat to the sand storage depot, conform to the roadmap identified and demarcated for the purpose by the District Administration. Under no circumstances roads shall be laid without the consent of the land owners concerned.
- 27. There shall be a single point of entry and exit point for all vehicles. In case it is necessary to have more than one entry/exit, all such points shall have check points with all digital monitoring facilities as mentioned in the 'Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining' (January, 2020) issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. All other possible ways of entry /exit shall be closed using barriers. All provisions shall be made to make it impossible for any vehicle to enter or exit without an entry into the computerized system.
- 28. All such points shall have 24×7 CCTV coverage; the footage of the CCTV coverage shall be submitted to the District Collector by the PP at mutually agreed frequencies.
- 29. The PP shall ensure that pollution due to transportation is effectively controlled. The PP shall also ensure regular sprinkling of water.
- 30. Only potable water may be collected from nearby locality with prior permission of the authority concerned. Water for other purposes shall be taken from the river.
- 31. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the PP to ensure that air pollution due to dust, exhaust emission or fumes during mining and processing phase are controlled and kept within permissible limits specified under environmental laws.
- 32. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through covered trucks/ tractors only and the vehicles carrying

- the mineral shall not be overloaded. Wheel washing facility should be installed and used.
- 33. The mining operations are to be done in a systematic manner so that the operations shall not create a major visual impact on the site.
- 34. Restoration of flora affected by mining must be done immediately. Five times the number of trees destroyed by mining shall be planted (preferably of indigenous species) and maintained over the entire lease period. Irrespective of the above the proponent shall plant and maintain, for the entire lease period, at least five trees per hectare of lease area in areas near the mine.
- 35. The PP shall ensure that, there is no damage to any fauna and its habitats/ nestings located close to the sand mining site, if any. The PP should receive clearance from the local Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC)<sup>26</sup> of the district concerned in this regard.
- 36. No felling of trees in or within the precincts of the mine shall be allowed. If a mining lease area, or a part of it, falls within 10 km from the periphery of any National Park/ Sanctuary or an Eco-Sensitive Zone or a Protected Area, no mining or related activity shall be undertaken without first obtaining a no objection certificate from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wild Life (NBWL), in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order in I.A. No. 460 of 2004.
- 37. The PP shall take all necessary protective measures to ensure that no spring sources are affected due to mining activities.
- 38. Removal, stacking and utilization of top soil in mining area shall be ensured. Where top soil cannot be used concurrently, it shall be stored properly for future use.
- 39. No overhangs shall be allowed to be formed due to mining and mining shall not be undertaken in areas where landslide is likely to occur due to unfavourable steep angle of slope.
- 40. No extraction of stone/ boulder/ sand shall be undertaken in landslide prone areas.
- 41. If clearance of riparian vegetation is to be undertaken it must be done under the supervision and control of an appropriate government authority. It shall be the responsibility of the project proponent to ensure absolute compliance with the relevant provisions of the West Bengal Trees (Protection and Conservation in Non Forest Areas) Act, 2006, and the Rules framed there under.
- 42. To reduce visual impact of mining the PP shall ensure tidiness.
- 43. Dumping of waste, if any, shall be done only in earmarked places as approved in the mining plan.
- 44. No rubbish shall be disposed in the river bed.
- 45. The PP shall take all possible precautions for the protection of environment and control of pollution.
- 46. Effluent discharge should be kept to the minimum and it should meet the standards prescribed.
- 47. No mining shall be undertaken in a mining lease located within 1 km from bridges, highways and railway lines on both upstream and downstream sides, or five times (5x) of the span (x) of bridge, public civil structure (including water intake point) on upstream side and ten times (10 x) the span of such bridge on downstream side, subjected to a minimum of 250 metres on the upstream and 500 metres on the downstream side.
- 48. Mining activities shall not be done for mine lease where mining can cause danger to site of flood protection works, places of cultural, religious, historical, and archaeological importance.

For all local bodies Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) of the WB State Biodiversity Board are constituted under Sec. 41(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002

- 49. Only such vehicles as are having valid fitness and PUC Certificates, shall be used for transportation of sand.
- 50. The PP shall develop proper junction at takeoff points of approach road with main road, with proper width and geometry required for safe movement of traffic, at his own cost.
- 51. The PP shall ensure that the road may not be damaged due to transportation of the mineral; and transport of minerals will be as per IRC Guidelines with respect to complying with traffic congestion and density.
- 52. No stacking shall be allowed on road side along State/ National Highways.
- 53. Suitable sand depots will be located in the vicinity of the sand quarry site to facilitate the sale of sand. While selecting the site for depots, it must be ensured that the site is within 25 km from the sand quarry site and has an area of around 04–06 ha (10-15 acres) with parking facility and proper entry and exit for smooth movement of the vehicles. The depot site shall preferably be a Government poramboke land<sup>27</sup>.
- 54. The PP shall undertake phased restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation of land affected by mining and shall complete this work before abandonment of mine.
- 55. Restoration, reclamation and rehabilitation in cluster should be done systematically and jointly by each EC holder in that cluster.
- 56. The site specific plan for eco-restoration submitted by the proponent along with the EC application shall be properly implemented.
- 57. Transport of mineral shall not be done through villages/ habitations.
- 58. The route of mineral transportation vehicle from source to destination shall be tracked through the system using checkpoints, Radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags, and GPS tracking.
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- 60. The PP shall implement the Disaster Management Plan if the mine lease area is located in Seismic Zone-IV. The Project Proponent shall appoint a Committee to have a check over any disaster to warn workers well before for the safety of the workers. Emergency helpline number will be displayed at all levels.
- 61. The PP shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project. Personal Health data like BP ECG, chest X-ray, PFT, smoking habits, blood and urine test etc. shall be undertaken once in six months to take necessary remedial/preventive measures. In this regard recommendations of National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) / Central Labour Institute (CLI) / All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (AIIH&PH) shall be adopted for ensuring good workenvironment for mine workers.
- 62. The PP shall report monitoring data on replenishment, traffic management, levels of production, river-bank erosion, maintenance of roads etc.
- 63. A year-wise excavation schedule showing the breakup of pay-mineral (sand) and waste (if any) may be clearly drawn up and areas may be demarcated for waste dumping. Site for intermediate stockpiling of the mineral may also be clearly demarcated and shown in the surface plan.
- 64. The PP shall review the Progressive Mine Closure Plan every two years from the date of opening of the mine and shall submit the same to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, for its approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. In the event of the progressive mine closure being not

the land that doesn't fall under the list of revenue records.

- approved, or not deemed to be approved, the mining activities shall be discontinued.
- 65. One year prior to the proposed closure of the mine the proponent shall submit a Final Mine Closure Plan for approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf.
- 66. The PP shall ensure that the protective measures contained in the Mine Closure Plan referred to hereinabove including the reclamation and rehabilitation work are carried out in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan or with such modifications as are approved by the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016.
- 67. In addition to regular submission of environmental compliance reports as required under the EIA Notification, 2006, the PP shall submit to the Officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, a yearly report before 1st of July every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in the approved Mine Closure Plan, and if there is any deviation, reasons thereof.
- 68. For the purpose of carrying out mining operation in the area, the PP shall furnish financial assurance. The amount of financial assurance<sup>28</sup> shall be as laid down in the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. The financial assurance may be in any of the forms referred to in the said Rules.
- 69. The PP shall prepare a dust and noise minimization plan with adequate details and shall implement the same.
- 70. Needs of the locality shall be assessed and the social part of the EMP shall be undertaken as stipulated by MoEF&CC Office Memorandum F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Beneficiary of the social component of EMP should be identified and to be displayed at site. The amount for need based activities committed by project proponent is Rs. 1,300,652.64/- only.
- 71. The PP shall ensure that the provisions every relevant Acts, Rules Guidelines etc. shall be complied in both letter and spirit.
- 72. In particular, the PP shall ensure compliance with the provisions laid down in the following Acts/ Rules/ Guidelines.
  - a. The West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016;
  - b. Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - c. Sand Mining Framework, 2018, issued by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India;
  - d. Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - e. The West Bengal Sand Mining Policy, 2021; and,
  - f. The West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021.
- 73. Non-compliance of any of the terms and conditions mentioned hereinabove may lead to cancellation of the environmental clearance granted.
- 74. The Environmental Clearance is being issued without prejudice to any action initiated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any court case pending in any court of law, and it does not mean that the project

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Rupees 15 thousand per hectare of the mining lease area put to use for mining and allied activities or rupees fifty (50)thousand, whichever is higher

proponent has not violated any environmental law in the past, and all future decisions made or directives/ orders/ notifications/ circulars issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be binding on the Project Proponent. Similarly, all verdicts/ orders of the Hon'ble Court will be binding on the project proponent. Hence, this clearance does not give immunity to the project proponent in the case(s) filed against her/ him, if any, or any action initiated against her/ him under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- 75. In case of submission of false document and non-compliance of stipulated conditions, Authority/ Environment Department will revoke or suspend the Environmental Clearance without any intimation and initiate appropriate legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 76. The validity of this Environmental Clearance will be as provided in the Notification of MoEF&CC vide No. S.O.1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.
- 77. The EC is granted for the project as proposed. In case any deviation or alteration in the project is contemplated the proponent will apply afresh for Environmental Clearance for the proposed modifications and/ or expansion of the project.
- 78. The stipulations made under other relevant Acts, in particular the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, and the rules and regulations made there under, shall be strictly complied with.
- 79. The State Government may, in its own discretion, impose such further conditions as it may deem fit, necessary or expedient. All such conditions will have to be complied with.
- 80. Non-compliance to any of the stipulated terms and conditions may lead to cancellation of the EC.
- 81. If you are aggrieved by the grant of this Environmental Clearance or by any of the terms and conditions imposed herein, you may, in your own discretion, within a period of thirty days from today, prefer an appeal before the National Green Tribunal (Eastern Zonal Bench, Kolkata), HFXC+VR5, Kadampukur Village, Newtown, New Town, West Bengal 700156, under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010

(9) Proposed WB\_BIR\_AJ\_A1\_C Sand Mine on Ajay River over an area of 4.65 Ha. at Mouza: Tamra, J.L. No.-87, Block & P.S.: Khairasole, District: Birbhum, West Bengal by **M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited.** 

Proposal No.:- SIA/WB/MIN/414568/2023, File No.: EN/T-II-1/042/2023, Type-EC

## **INTRODUCTION**

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. **SIA/WB/MIN/414568/2023** dated **24 Jan 2023** seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above-mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL. No. **1(a) Mining of minerals** under Category "**B2**" of EIA Notification 2006.

SEAC recommended that Environmental Clearance be granted for the proposed project during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023.

# **PROJECT DETAILS**

The project of M/s. West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Birbhum

### **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and decided that the application for WB\_BIR\_AJ\_A1\_C falling within the DSR potential code BH\_KR\_AJ\_01 is accepted.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA**

The application for EC is approved.

## CONCLUSION

Approved for EC.

#### **Conditions**

#### **General Conditions**

- 1. From the documents uploaded and/ or otherwise made available to the SEIAA, WB, it is apparent that the lease area/ a part of the lease area is private land not owned by the lessee. Before commencement of any mining activity an affidavit should be obtained regarding consent of the land owner(s) concerned for carrying out the mining operation.
- 2. The Project Proponent (PP) shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with the budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing, if held.
- 3. Apart from possessing a valid lease the proponent shall obtain all other necessary permissions before commencement of any mining or allied activity at the lease hold area.
- 4. The directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 27.02.2012 in Deepak Kumar case [SLP(C) Nos. 19628-19629 of 2009] and order dated 05.08.2013 of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in application No. 171/2013 must be followed strictly.
- 5. It shall be the responsibility of the PP to abide by and to comply with all the provisions made and restrictions imposed, particularly those regarding environment management practices, by and under the West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021 and the West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016, failing which the EC shall be liable to be cancelled.
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- 13. In case the lease area, or a part of it, is an agricultural field, a buffer of three metre land shall be left between the mine boundary and the adjacent field. (non river-bed sand mining)
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- 20. Mining shall begin only after pucca pillars marking the boundary of lease area are erected at the cost of the lease holder at every corner of the lease-hold area. Only after certification in this regard with the geo coordinates of the corner pillars is issued by the district mining officials, mining can commence. The geo coordinates of the corner pillars shall be made available to the District Level Committee.
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- 61. The PP shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project. Personal Health data like BP ECG, chest X-ray, PFT, smoking habits, blood and urine test etc. shall be undertaken once in six months to take necessary remedial/preventive measures. In this regard recommendations of National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) / Central Labour Institute (CLI) / All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (AIIH&PH) shall be adopted for ensuring good workenvironment for mine workers.
- 62. The PP shall report monitoring data on replenishment, traffic management, levels of production, river-bank erosion, maintenance of roads etc.
- 63. A year-wise excavation schedule showing the breakup of pay-mineral (sand) and waste (if any) may be clearly drawn up and areas may be demarcated for waste dumping. Site for intermediate stockpiling of the mineral may also be clearly demarcated and shown in the surface plan.
- 64. The PP shall review the Progressive Mine Closure Plan every two years from the date of opening of the mine and shall submit the same to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, for its approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. In the event of the progressive mine closure being not approved, or not deemed to be approved, the mining activities shall be discontinued.
- 65. One year prior to the proposed closure of the mine the proponent shall submit a Final Mine Closure Plan for approval under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, to the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf.
- 66. The PP shall ensure that the protective measures contained in the Mine Closure Plan referred to hereinabove including the reclamation and rehabilitation work are carried out in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan or with such modifications as are approved by the officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016.
- 67. In addition to regular submission of environmental compliance reports as required under the EIA Notification, 2006, the PP shall submit to the Officer authorised by the State Government in this behalf, a yearly report before 1st of July every year setting forth the extent of protective and rehabilitative works carried out as envisaged in

- the approved Mine Closure Plan, and if there is any deviation, reasons thereof.
- 68. For the purpose of carrying out mining operation in the area, the PP shall furnish financial assurance. The amount of financial assurance<sup>32</sup> shall be as laid down in the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016. The financial assurance may be in any of the forms referred to in the said Rules.
- 69. The PP shall prepare a dust and noise minimization plan with adequate details and shall implement the same.
- 70. Needs of the locality shall be assessed and the social part of the EMP shall be undertaken as stipulated by MoEF&CC Office Memorandum F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Beneficiary of the social component of EMP should be identified and to be displayed at site. The amount for need based activities committed by project proponent is Rs. 2,141,784.16/- only.
- 71. The PP shall ensure that the provisions every relevant Acts, Rules Guidelines etc. shall be complied in both letter and spirit.
- 72. In particular, the PP shall ensure compliance with the provisions laid down in the following Acts/ Rules/ Guidelines.
  - a. The West Bengal Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016;
  - b. Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - c. Sand Mining Framework, 2018, issued by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India;
  - d. Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, Government of India;
  - e. The West Bengal Sand Mining Policy, 2021; and,
  - f. The West Bengal Sand (Mining, Transportation, Storage and Sale) Rules, 2021.
- 73. Non-compliance of any of the terms and conditions mentioned hereinabove may lead to cancellation of the environmental clearance granted.
- 74. The Environmental Clearance is being issued without prejudice to any action initiated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or any court case pending in any court of law, and it does not mean that the project proponent has not violated any environmental law in the past, and all future decisions made or directives/ orders/ notifications/ circulars issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 shall be binding on the Project Proponent. Similarly, all verdicts/ orders of the Hon'ble Court will be binding on the project proponent. Hence, this clearance does not give immunity to the project proponent in the case(s) filed against her/ him, if any, or any action initiated against her/ him under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 75. In case of submission of false document and non-compliance of stipulated conditions, Authority/ Environment Department will revoke or suspend the Environmental Clearance without any intimation and initiate appropriate legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 76. The validity of this Environmental Clearance will be as provided in the Notification of MoEF&CC vide No. S.O.1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.
- 77. The EC is granted for the project as proposed. In case any deviation or alteration in the project is contemplated

Rupees 15 thousand per hectare of the mining lease area put to use for mining and allied activities or rupees fifty (50)thousand, whichever is higher

- the proponent will apply afresh for Environmental Clearance for the proposed modifications and/ or expansion of the project.
- 78. The stipulations made under other relevant Acts, in particular the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, and the rules and regulations made there under, shall be strictly complied with.
- 79. The State Government may, in its own discretion, impose such further conditions as it may deem fit, necessary or expedient. All such conditions will have to be complied with.
- 80. Non-compliance to any of the stipulated terms and conditions may lead to cancellation of the EC.
- 81. If you are aggrieved by the grant of this Environmental Clearance or by any of the terms and conditions imposed herein, you may, in your own discretion, within a period of thirty days from today, prefer an appeal before the National Green Tribunal (Eastern Zonal Bench, Kolkata), HFXC+VR5, Kadampukur Village, Newtown, New Town, West Bengal 700156, under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010

# II. CONSIDERATION/RECONSIDERATION OF TOR PROPOSALS

(1) Proposed Bhasra Sand Mine on Subarnarekha River in the area of 4.58 Ha. (11.32 Acres) at Plot No.-2667(P), JL No. - 139, Mouza- Bhasra, P.S. - Keshiary, District - Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal by **Ataur Rahaman Mandal**.

Proposal No. :- SIA/WB/MIN/73467/2022, File No. : EN/T-II-1/024/2023, Type-ToR

### INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. **SIA/WB/MIN/73467/2022** dated **21 Jan 2023** seeking Terms of reference (TOR) under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above mentioned proposed project. The proposed project activity is listed at S. No. **1(a) Mining of minerals** projects under Category **B** of EIA Notification, 2006.

The SEAC during its  $65^{th}$  meeting held on 08.02.2023 recommended issuance of Standard Terms of Reference for EIA preparation for the project with the following additional conditions:-

- 1) Valid LOI from the competent authority.
- 2) Cluster certificate from the competent authority should be submitted.
- 3) Reserves to be submitted based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR.
- 4) Need-based EMP, prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020.
- 5) Study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs. It should be committed that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the proposal may also be revised.

The proponent, – while applying for environmental clearance, shall upload in the PARIVESH portal, the EIA/EMP report along with the documents/ sought above.

### PROJECT DETAILS

The project of **Ataur Rahaman Mandal** located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Paschim Medinipur

The salient features of the project submitted by the project proponent is available at Report under online proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/73467/2022.

#### **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and accepted the same.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA**

SEIAA approved the proposal for ToR.

## **CONCLUSION**

Approved ToR.

#### **Conditions**

#### A. STANDARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 1. Year-wise production details since 1994 should be given, clearly stating the highest production achieved in any one year prior to 1994. It may also be categorically informed whether there had been any increase in production after the EIA Notification 1994 came into force, w.r.t. the highest production achieved prior to 1994.
- 2. A copy of the document in support of the fact that the Proponent is the rightful lessee of the mine should be given.
- 3. All documents including approved mine plan, EIA and Public Hearing should be compatible with one another in terms of the mine lease area, production levels, waste generation and its management, mining technology etc. and should be in the name of the lessee.
- 4. All corner coordinates of the mine lease area, superimposed on a High Resolution Imagery/ toposheet, topographic sheet, geomorphology and geology of the area should be provided. Such an Imagery of the proposed area should clearly show the land use and other ecological features of the study area (core and buffer zone).
- 5. Information should be provided in Survey of India Toposheet in 1:50,000 scale indicating geological map of the area, geomorphology of land forms of the area, existing minerals and mining history of the area, important water bodies, streams and rivers and soil characteristics.
- Details about the land proposed for mining activities should be given with information as to whether mining
  conforms to the land use policy of the State; land diversion for mining should have approval from State land use
  board or the concerned authority.
- 7. It should be clearly stated whether the proponent Company has a well laid down Environment Policy approved by its Board of Directors? If so, it may be spelt out in the EIA Report with description of the prescribed operating process/procedures to bring into focus any infringement/deviation/violation of the environmental or forest norms/conditions? The hierarchical system or administrative order of the Company to deal with the environmental issues and for ensuring compliance with the EC conditions may also be given. The system of reporting of non-compliances / violations of environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the Company and/or shareholders or stakeholders at large, may also be detailed in the EIA Report.
- 8. Issues relating to Mine Safety, including subsidence study in case of underground mining and slope study in case of open cast mining, blasting study etc. should be detailed. The proposed safeguard measures in each case should also be provided.

- 9. The study area will comprise of 10 km zone around the mine lease from lease periphery and the data contained in the EIA such as waste generation etc. should be for the life of the mine / lease period.
- 10. Land use of the study area delineating forest area, agricultural land, grazing land, wildlife sanctuary, national park, migratory routes of fauna, water bodies, human settlements and other ecological features should be indicated. Land use plan of the mine lease area should be prepared to encompass preoperational, operational and post operational phases and submitted. Impact, if any, of change of land use should be given.
- 11. Details of the land for any Over Burden Dumps outside the mine lease, such as extent of land area, distance from mine lease, its land use, R&R issues, if any, should be given.
- 12. A Certificate from the Competent Authority in the State Forest Department should be provided, confirming the involvement of forest land, if any, in the project area. In the event of any contrary claim by the Project Proponent regarding the status of forests, the site may be inspected by the State Forest Department along with the Regional Office of the Ministry to ascertain the status of forests, based on which, the Certificate in this regard as mentioned above be issued. In all such cases, it would be desirable for representative of the State Forest Department to assist the Expert Appraisal Committees.
- 13. Status of forestry clearance for the broken up area and virgin forestland involved in the Project including deposition of net present value (NPV) and compensatory afforestation (CA) should be indicated. A copy of the forestry clearance should also be furnished.
- 14. Implementation status of recognition of forest rights under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 should be indicated.
- 15. The vegetation in the RF / PF areas in the study area, with necessary details, should be given.
- 16. A study shall be got done to ascertain the impact of the Mining Project on wildlife of the study area and details furnished. Impact of the project on the wildlife in the surrounding and any other protected area and accordingly, detailed mitigative measures required, should be worked out with cost implications and submitted.
- 17. Location of National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Ramsar site Tiger/Elephant Reserves/(existing as well as proposed), if any, within 10 km of the mine lease should be clearly indicated, supported by a location map duly authenticated by Chief Wildlife Warden. Necessary clearance, as may be applicable to such projects due to proximity of the ecologically sensitive areas as mentioned above, should be obtained from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife and copy furnished.
- 18. A detailed biological study of the study area [core zone and buffer zone (10 km radius of the periphery of the mine lease)] shall be carried out. Details of flora and fauna, endangered, endemic and RET Species duly authenticated, separately for core and buffer zone should be furnished based on such primary field survey, clearly indicating the Schedule of the fauna present. In case of any scheduled-I fauna found in the study area, the necessary plan along with budgetary provisions for their conservation should be prepared in consultation with State Forest and Wildlife Department and details furnished. Necessary allocation of funds for implementing the same should be made as part of the project cost.
- 19. Proximity to Areas declared as 'Critically Polluted' or the Project areas likely to come under the 'Aravali Range', (attracting court restrictions for mining operations), should also be indicated and where so required, clearance certifications from the prescribed Authorities, such as the SPCB or State Mining Department should be secured and furnished to the effect that the proposed mining activities could be considered.
- 20. Similarly, for coastal Projects, A CRZ map duly authenticated by one of the authorized agencies demarcating LTL HTL, CRZ area, location of the mine lease w.r.t CRZ, coastal features such as mangroves, if any, should be furnished. (Note: The Mining Projects falling under CRZ would also need to obtain approval of the concerned Coastal Zone Management Authority).
- 21. R&R Plan/compensation details for the Project Affected People (PAP) should be furnished. While preparing the R&R Plan, the relevant State/National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy should be kept in view. In respect of SCs /STs and other weaker sections of the society in the study area, a need based sample survey, family-wise, should be undertaken to assess their requirements, and action programmes prepared and submitted accordingly,

- integrating the sectorial programmes of line departments of the State Government. It may be clearly brought out whether the village(s) located in the mine lease area will be shifted or not. The issues relating to shifting of village(s) including their R&R and socio-economic aspects should be discussed in the Report.
- 22. One season (non-monsoon) [i.e. March-May (Summer Season); October-December (post monsoon season); December-February (winter season)]primary baseline data on ambient air quality as per CPCB Notification of 2009, water quality, noise level, soil and flora and fauna shall be collected and the AAQ and other data so compiled presented date-wise in the EIA and EMP Report. Site-specific meteorological data should also be collected. The location of the monitoring stations should be such as to represent whole of the study area and justified keeping in view the pre-dominant downwind direction and location of sensitive receptors. There should be at least one monitoring station within 500 m of the mine lease in the pre-dominant downwind direction. The mineralogical composition of PM10, particularly for free silica, should be given.
- 23. Air quality modeling should be carried out for prediction of impact of the project on the air quality of the area. It should also take into account the impact of movement of vehicles for transportation of mineral. The details of the model used and input parameters used for modeling should be provided. The air quality contours may be shown on a location map clearly indicating the location of the site, location of sensitive receptors, if any, and the habitation. The wind roses showing pre-dominant wind direction may also be indicated on the map.
- 24. The water requirement for the Project, its availability and source should be furnished. A detailed water balance should also be provided. Fresh water requirement for the Project should be indicated.
- 25. Necessary clearance from the Competent Authority for drawl of requisite quantity of water for the Project should be provided.
- 26. Description of water conservation measures proposed to be adopted in the Project should be given. Details of rainwater harvesting proposed in the Project, if any, should be provided.
- 27. Impact of the Project on the water quality, both surface and groundwater, should be assessed and necessary safeguard measures, if any required, should be provided.
- 28. Based on actual monitored data, it may clearly be shown whether working will intersect groundwater. Necessary data and documentation in this regard may be provided. In case the working will intersect groundwater table, a detailed Hydro Geological Study should be undertaken and Report furnished. The Report inter-alia, shall include details of the aquifers present and impact of mining activities on these aquifers. Necessary permission from Central Ground Water Authority for working below ground water and for pumping of ground water should also be obtained and copy furnished.
- 29. Details of any stream, seasonal or otherwise, passing through the lease area and modification / diversion proposed, if any, and the impact of the same on the hydrology should be brought out.
- 30. Information on site elevation, working depth, groundwater table etc. Should be provided both in AMSL and bgl. A schematic diagram may also be provided for the same.
- 31. A time bound Progressive Greenbelt Development Plan shall be prepared in a tabular form (indicating the linear and quantitative coverage, plant species and time frame) and submitted, keeping in mind, the same will have to be executed up front on commencement of the Project. Phase-wise plan of plantation and compensatory afforestation should be charted clearly indicating the area to be covered under plantation and the species to be planted. The details of plantation already done should be given. The plant species selected for green belt should have greater ecological value and should be of good utility value to the local population with emphasis on local and native species and the species which are tolerant to pollution.
- 32. Impact on local transport infrastructure due to the Project should be indicated. Projected increase in truck traffic as a result of the Project in the present road network (including those outside the Project area) should be worked out, indicating whether it is capable of handling the incremental load. Arrangement for improving the infrastructure, if contemplated (including action to be taken by other agencies such as State Government) should be covered. Project Proponent shall conduct Impact of Transportation study as per Indian Road Congress Guidelines.
- 33. Details of the onsite shelter and facilities to be provided to the mine workers should be included in the EIA Report.

- 34. Conceptual post mining land use and Reclamation and Restoration of mined out areas (with plans and with adequate number of sections) should be given in the EIA report.
- 35. Occupational Health impacts of the Project should be anticipated and the proposed preventive measures spelt out in detail. Details of pre-placement medical examination and periodical medical examination schedules should be incorporated in the EMP. The project specific occupational health mitigation measures with required facilities proposed in the mining area may be detailed.
- 36. Public health implications of the Project and related activities for the population in the impact zone should be systematically evaluated and the proposed remedial measures should be detailed along with budgetary allocations.
- 37. Measures of socio-economic significance and influence to the local community proposed to be provided by the Project Proponent should be indicated. As far as possible, quantitative dimensions may be given with time frames for implementation.
- 38. Detailed environmental management plan (EMP) to mitigate the environmental impacts which, should inter-alia include the impacts of change of land use, loss of agricultural and grazing land, if any, occupational health impacts besides other impacts specific to the proposed Project.
- 39. Public Hearing points raised and commitment of the Project Proponent on the same along with time bound Action Plan with budgetary provisions to implement the same should be provided and also incorporated in the final EIA/EMP Report of the Project.
- 40. Details of litigation pending against the project, if any, with direction /order passed by any Court of Law against the Project should be given.
- 41. The cost of the Project (capital cost and recurring cost) as well as the cost towards implementation of EMP should be clearly spelt out.
- 42. A Disaster management Plan shall be prepared and included in the EIA/EMP Report.
- 43. Benefits of the Project if the Project is implemented should be spelt out. The benefits of the Project shall clearly indicate environmental, social, economic, employment potential, etc.
- 44. Besides the above, the below mentioned general points are also to be followed:
  - a. Executive Summary of the EIA/EMP Report (enclosed as **Annexure A**).
  - b. All documents to be properly referenced with index and continuous page numbering.
  - c. Where data are presented in the Report especially in Tables, the period in which the data were collected and the sources should be indicated.
  - d. Project Proponent shall enclose all the analysis/testing reports of water, air, soil, noise etc. using the MoEF&CC/NABL accredited laboratories. All the original analysis/testing reports should be available during appraisal of the Project.
  - e. Where the documents provided are in a language other than English, an English translation should be provided.
  - f. The Questionnaire for environmental appraisal of mining projects as devised earlier by the Ministry shall also be filled and submitted.
  - g. While preparing the EIA report, the instructions for the Proponents and instructions for the Consultants issued by MoEF&CC vide O.M. No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, which are available on the website of this Ministry, should be followed.
  - h. Changes, if any made in the basic scope and project parameters (as submitted in Form-I and the PFR for securing the TOR) should be brought to the attention of MoEF&CC with reasons for such changes and permission should be sought, as the TOR may also have to be altered. Post Public Hearing changes in structure and content of the draft EIA/EMP (other than modifications arising out of the P.H. process) will entail conducting the PH again with the revised documentation.
  - i. As per the circular no. J-11011/618/2010-IA.II(I) dated 30.5.2012, certified report of the status of compliance of the conditions stipulated in the environment clearance for the existing operations of the project, should be

obtained from the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, as may be applicable.

j. The EIA report should also include (i) surface plan of the area indicating contours of main topographic features, drainage and mining area, (ii) geological maps and sections and (iii) sections of the mine pit and external dumps, if any, clearly showing the land features of the adjoining area.

#### **B.** Additional Terms of Reference

- 1) Valid LOI from the competent authority.
- 2) Cluster certificate from the competent authority should be submitted.
- 3) Reserves to be submitted based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR.
- 4) Need-based EMP, prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA. dated 30.09.2020.
- 5) Study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs. It should be committed that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the proposal may also be revised.

The proponent, – while applying for environmental clearance, shall upload in the PARIVESH portal, the EIA/EMP report along with the documents/ sought above.

The ToR is valid for a period of 3 (three) years from the date of issue.

Annexure - A

### **Executive Summary**

The Executive summary of the EIA/EMP report in about 8-10 pages should be prepared incorporating the information on following points:

- 1) Project name and location (Village, District, State, Industrial Estate (if applicable).
- 2) Products and capacities. If expansion proposal, then existing products with capacities and reference to earlier EC.
- 3) Requirement of land, raw material, water, power, fuel, with source of supply (Quantitative).
- 4) Process description in brief, specifically indicating the gaseous emission, liquid effluent and solid and hazardous wastes.
- 5) Measures for mitigating the impact on the environment and mode of discharge or disposal.
- 6) Capital cost of the project, estimated time of completion.
- 7) Site selected for the project Nature of land Agricultural (single/double crop), barren, Govt./private land, status of is acquisition, nearby (in 2-3 km.) water body, population, with in 10km. other industries, forest, eco-sensitive zones, accessibility, (note in case of industrial estate this information may not be necessary).
- 8) Baseline environmental data air quality, surface and ground water quality, soil characteristic, flora and fauna, socio-economic condition of the nearby population.
- 9) Identification of hazards in handling, processing and storage of hazardous material and safety system provided to mitigate the risk.

- 10) Likely impact of the project on air, water, land, flora-fauna and nearby population.
- 11) Emergency preparedness plan in case of natural or in plant emergencies.
- 12) Issues raised during public hearing (if applicable) and response given.
- 13) Environment Management Plan (EMP) as per Office Memorandum issued by the MoEF & CC vide F. No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30.09.2020 with proposed expenditure.
- 14) Occupational Health Measures.
- 15) Post project monitoring plan.
- (2) Proposed Dumur Sand Mine on River Damodar in the area of 4.31 Ha. (10.65 Acres) at Plot No: 930(P), J.L. No.-86, Mouza: Dumur, P.S. Galshi, District: Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal by **M/s. Haque Mercantile Private Limited.**

Proposal No.:- SIA/WB/MIN/407028/2022, File No.: EN/T-II-1/037/2023, Type-ToR

## **INTRODUCTION**

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/407028/2022 dated 05 Dec 2022 seeking Terms of reference (TOR) under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above mentioned proposed project. The proposed project activity is listed at S. No. 1(a) Mining of minerals projects under Category B of EIA Notification, 2006.

The SEAC during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023 recommended issuance of Standard Terms of Reference for EIA preparation for the project with the following additional conditions:-

- 1) Cluster certificate from the competent authority should be submitted.
- 2) Reserves to be submitted based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR.
- 3) Need-based EMP, prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020.
- 4) Study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs. It should be committed that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the proposal may also be revised.

The proponent, – while applying for environmental clearance, shall upload in the PARIVESH portal, the EIA/EMP report along with the documents/ sought above.

## PROJECT DETAILS

The project of M/s. Haque Mercantile Private Limited located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Purba Bardhaman

The salient features of the project submitted by the project proponent is available at Report under online proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/407028/2022.

## **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and accepted the same.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

SEIAA approved the proposal for ToR.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Approved ToR.

#### Conditions

#### A. STANDARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 1. Year-wise production details since 1994 should be given, clearly stating the highest production achieved in any one year prior to 1994. It may also be categorically informed whether there had been any increase in production after the EIA Notification 1994 came into force, w.r.t. the highest production achieved prior to 1994.
- 2. A copy of the document in support of the fact that the Proponent is the rightful lessee of the mine should be given.
- 3. All documents including approved mine plan, EIA and Public Hearing should be compatible with one another in terms of the mine lease area, production levels, waste generation and its management, mining technology etc. and should be in the name of the lessee.
- 4. All corner coordinates of the mine lease area, superimposed on a High Resolution Imagery/ toposheet, topographic sheet, geomorphology and geology of the area should be provided. Such an Imagery of the proposed area should clearly show the land use and other ecological features of the study area (core and buffer zone).
- 5. Information should be provided in Survey of India Toposheet in 1:50,000 scale indicating geological map of the area, geomorphology of land forms of the area, existing minerals and mining history of the area, important water bodies, streams and rivers and soil characteristics.
- 6. Details about the land proposed for mining activities should be given with information as to whether mining conforms to the land use policy of the State; land diversion for mining should have approval from State land use board or the concerned authority.
- 7. It should be clearly stated whether the proponent Company has a well laid down Environment Policy approved by its Board of Directors? If so, it may be spelt out in the EIA Report with description of the prescribed operating process/procedures to bring into focus any infringement/deviation/violation of the environmental or forest norms/ conditions? The hierarchical system or administrative order of the Company to deal with the environmental issues and for ensuring compliance with the EC conditions may also be given. The system of reporting of non-compliances / violations of environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the Company and/or shareholders or stakeholders at large, may also be detailed in the EIA Report.
- 8. Issues relating to Mine Safety, including subsidence study in case of underground mining and slope study in case of open cast mining, blasting study etc. should be detailed. The proposed safeguard measures in each case should also be provided.
- 9. The study area will comprise of 10 km zone around the mine lease from lease periphery and the data contained in the EIA such as waste generation etc. should be for the life of the mine / lease period.
- 10. Land use of the study area delineating forest area, agricultural land, grazing land, wildlife sanctuary, national park, migratory routes of fauna, water bodies, human settlements and other ecological features should be indicated. Land use plan of the mine lease area should be prepared to encompass preoperational, operational and post operational phases and submitted. Impact, if any, of change of land use should be given.
- 11. Details of the land for any Over Burden Dumps outside the mine lease, such as extent of land area, distance from mine lease, its land use, R&R issues, if any, should be given.
- 12. A Certificate from the Competent Authority in the State Forest Department should be provided, confirming the

involvement of forest land, if any, in the project area. In the event of any contrary claim by the Project Proponent regarding the status of forests, the site may be inspected by the State Forest Department along with the Regional Office of the Ministry to ascertain the status of forests, based on which, the Certificate in this regard as mentioned above be issued. In all such cases, it would be desirable for representative of the State Forest Department to assist the Expert Appraisal Committees.

- 13. Status of forestry clearance for the broken up area and virgin forestland involved in the Project including deposition of net present value (NPV) and compensatory afforestation (CA) should be indicated. A copy of the forestry clearance should also be furnished.
- 14. Implementation status of recognition of forest rights under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 should be indicated.
- 15. The vegetation in the RF / PF areas in the study area, with necessary details, should be given.
- 16. A study shall be got done to ascertain the impact of the Mining Project on wildlife of the study area and details furnished. Impact of the project on the wildlife in the surrounding and any other protected area and accordingly, detailed mitigative measures required, should be worked out with cost implications and submitted.
- 17. Location of National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Ramsar site Tiger/Elephant Reserves/(existing as well as proposed), if any, within 10 km of the mine lease should be clearly indicated, supported by a location map duly authenticated by Chief Wildlife Warden. Necessary clearance, as may be applicable to such projects due to proximity of the ecologically sensitive areas as mentioned above, should be obtained from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife and copy furnished.
- 18. A detailed biological study of the study area [core zone and buffer zone (10 km radius of the periphery of the mine lease)] shall be carried out. Details of flora and fauna, endangered, endemic and RET Species duly authenticated, separately for core and buffer zone should be furnished based on such primary field survey, clearly indicating the Schedule of the fauna present. In case of any scheduled-I fauna found in the study area, the necessary plan along with budgetary provisions for their conservation should be prepared in consultation with State Forest and Wildlife Department and details furnished. Necessary allocation of funds for implementing the same should be made as part of the project cost.
- 19. Proximity to Areas declared as 'Critically Polluted' or the Project areas likely to come under the 'Aravali Range', (attracting court restrictions for mining operations), should also be indicated and where so required, clearance certifications from the prescribed Authorities, such as the SPCB or State Mining Department should be secured and furnished to the effect that the proposed mining activities could be considered.
- 20. Similarly, for coastal Projects, A CRZ map duly authenticated by one of the authorized agencies demarcating LTL. HTL, CRZ area, location of the mine lease w.r.t CRZ, coastal features such as mangroves, if any, should be furnished. (Note: The Mining Projects falling under CRZ would also need to obtain approval of the concerned Coastal Zone Management Authority).
- 21. R&R Plan/compensation details for the Project Affected People (PAP) should be furnished. While preparing the R&R Plan, the relevant State/National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy should be kept in view. In respect of SCs /STs and other weaker sections of the society in the study area, a need based sample survey, family-wise, should be undertaken to assess their requirements, and action programmes prepared and submitted accordingly, integrating the sectorial programmes of line departments of the State Government. It may be clearly brought out whether the village(s) located in the mine lease area will be shifted or not. The issues relating to shifting of village(s) including their R&R and socio-economic aspects should be discussed in the Report.
- 22. One season (non-monsoon) [i.e. March-May (Summer Season); October-December (post monsoon season); December-February (winter season)]primary baseline data on ambient air quality as per CPCB Notification of 2009, water quality, noise level, soil and flora and fauna shall be collected and the AAQ and other data so compiled presented date-wise in the EIA and EMP Report. Site-specific meteorological data should also be collected. The location of the monitoring stations should be such as to represent whole of the study area and justified keeping in view the pre-dominant downwind direction and location of sensitive receptors. There should be at least one monitoring station within 500 m of the mine lease in the pre-dominant downwind direction. The

- mineralogical composition of PM10, particularly for free silica, should be given.
- 23. Air quality modeling should be carried out for prediction of impact of the project on the air quality of the area. It should also take into account the impact of movement of vehicles for transportation of mineral. The details of the model used and input parameters used for modeling should be provided. The air quality contours may be shown on a location map clearly indicating the location of the site, location of sensitive receptors, if any, and the habitation. The wind roses showing pre-dominant wind direction may also be indicated on the map.
- 24. The water requirement for the Project, its availability and source should be furnished. A detailed water balance should also be provided. Fresh water requirement for the Project should be indicated.
- 25. Necessary clearance from the Competent Authority for drawl of requisite quantity of water for the Project should be provided.
- 26. Description of water conservation measures proposed to be adopted in the Project should be given. Details of rainwater harvesting proposed in the Project, if any, should be provided.
- 27. Impact of the Project on the water quality, both surface and groundwater, should be assessed and necessary safeguard measures, if any required, should be provided.
- 28. Based on actual monitored data, it may clearly be shown whether working will intersect groundwater. Necessary data and documentation in this regard may be provided. In case the working will intersect groundwater table, a detailed Hydro Geological Study should be undertaken and Report furnished. The Report inter-alia, shall include details of the aquifers present and impact of mining activities on these aquifers. Necessary permission from Central Ground Water Authority for working below ground water and for pumping of ground water should also be obtained and copy furnished.
- 29. Details of any stream, seasonal or otherwise, passing through the lease area and modification / diversion proposed, if any, and the impact of the same on the hydrology should be brought out.
- 30. Information on site elevation, working depth, groundwater table etc. Should be provided both in AMSL and bgl. A schematic diagram may also be provided for the same.
- 31. A time bound Progressive Greenbelt Development Plan shall be prepared in a tabular form (indicating the linear and quantitative coverage, plant species and time frame) and submitted, keeping in mind, the same will have to be executed up front on commencement of the Project. Phase-wise plan of plantation and compensatory afforestation should be charted clearly indicating the area to be covered under plantation and the species to be planted. The details of plantation already done should be given. The plant species selected for green belt should have greater ecological value and should be of good utility value to the local population with emphasis on local and native species and the species which are tolerant to pollution.
- 32. Impact on local transport infrastructure due to the Project should be indicated. Projected increase in truck traffic as a result of the Project in the present road network (including those outside the Project area) should be worked out, indicating whether it is capable of handling the incremental load. Arrangement for improving the infrastructure, if contemplated (including action to be taken by other agencies such as State Government) should be covered. Project Proponent shall conduct Impact of Transportation study as per Indian Road Congress Guidelines.
- 33. Details of the onsite shelter and facilities to be provided to the mine workers should be included in the EIA Report.
- 34. Conceptual post mining land use and Reclamation and Restoration of mined out areas (with plans and with adequate number of sections) should be given in the EIA report.
- 35. Occupational Health impacts of the Project should be anticipated and the proposed preventive measures spelt out in detail. Details of pre-placement medical examination and periodical medical examination schedules should be incorporated in the EMP. The project specific occupational health mitigation measures with required facilities proposed in the mining area may be detailed.
- 36. Public health implications of the Project and related activities for the population in the impact zone should be

- systematically evaluated and the proposed remedial measures should be detailed along with budgetary allocations.
- 37. Measures of socio-economic significance and influence to the local community proposed to be provided by the Project Proponent should be indicated. As far as possible, quantitative dimensions may be given with time frames for implementation.
- 38. Detailed environmental management plan (EMP) to mitigate the environmental impacts which, should inter-alia include the impacts of change of land use, loss of agricultural and grazing land, if any, occupational health impacts besides other impacts specific to the proposed Project.
- 39. Public Hearing points raised and commitment of the Project Proponent on the same along with time bound Action Plan with budgetary provisions to implement the same should be provided and also incorporated in the final EIA/EMP Report of the Project.
- 40. Details of litigation pending against the project, if any, with direction /order passed by any Court of Law against the Project should be given.
- 41. The cost of the Project (capital cost and recurring cost) as well as the cost towards implementation of EMP should be clearly spelt out.
- 42. A Disaster management Plan shall be prepared and included in the EIA/EMP Report.
- 43. Benefits of the Project if the Project is implemented should be spelt out. The benefits of the Project shall clearly indicate environmental, social, economic, employment potential, etc.
- 44. Besides the above, the below mentioned general points are also to be followed:
  - a. Executive Summary of the EIA/EMP Report (enclosed as **Annexure B**).
  - b. All documents to be properly referenced with index and continuous page numbering.
  - c. Where data are presented in the Report especially in Tables, the period in which the data were collected and the sources should be indicated.
  - d. Project Proponent shall enclose all the analysis/testing reports of water, air, soil, noise etc. using the MoEF&CC/NABL accredited laboratories. All the original analysis/testing reports should be available during appraisal of the Project.
  - e. Where the documents provided are in a language other than English, an English translation should be provided.
  - f. The Questionnaire for environmental appraisal of mining projects as devised earlier by the Ministry shall also be filled and submitted.
  - g. While preparing the EIA report, the instructions for the Proponents and instructions for the Consultants issued by MoEF&CC vide O.M. No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, which are available on the website of this Ministry, should be followed.
  - h. Changes, if any made in the basic scope and project parameters (as submitted in Form-I and the PFR for securing the TOR) should be brought to the attention of MoEF&CC with reasons for such changes and permission should be sought, as the TOR may also have to be altered. Post Public Hearing changes in structure and content of the draft EIA/EMP (other than modifications arising out of the P.H. process) will entail conducting the PH again with the revised documentation.
  - i. As per the circular no. J-11011/618/2010-IA.II(I) dated 30.5.2012, certified report of the status of compliance of the conditions stipulated in the environment clearance for the existing operations of the project, should be obtained from the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, as may be applicable.
  - j. The EIA report should also include (i) surface plan of the area indicating contours of main topographic features, drainage and mining area, (ii) geological maps and sections and (iii) sections of the mine pit and external dumps, if any, clearly showing the land features of the adjoining area.

#### **B.** Additional Terms of Reference

- 1) Cluster certificate from the competent authority should be submitted.
- 2) Reserves to be submitted based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR.
- 3) Need-based EMP, prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA. dated 30.09.2020.
- 4) Study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs. It should be committee that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the proposal may also trevised.

The proponent, – while applying for environmental clearance, shall upload in the PARIVESH portal, the EIA/EMP report along with the documents/ sought above.

The ToR is valid for a period of 3 (three) years from the date of issue.

Annexure - B

## **Executive Summary**

The Executive summary of the EIA/EMP report in about 8-10 pages should be prepared incorporating the information on following points:

- 1. Project name and location (Village, District, State, Industrial Estate (if applicable).
- 2. Products and capacities. If expansion proposal, then existing products with capacities and reference to earlier EC.
- 3. Requirement of land, raw material, water, power, fuel, with source of supply (Quantitative).
- 4. Process description in brief, specifically indicating the gaseous emission, liquid effluent and solid and hazardous wastes.
- 5. Measures for mitigating the impact on the environment and mode of discharge or disposal.
- 6. Capital cost of the project, estimated time of completion.
- 7. Site selected for the project Nature of land Agricultural (single/double crop), barren, Govt./private land, status of is acquisition, nearby (in 2-3 km.) water body, population, with in 10km. other industries, forest, ecosensitive zones, accessibility, (note in case of industrial estate this information may not be necessary).
- 8. Baseline environmental data air quality, surface and ground water quality, soil characteristic, flora and fauna, socio-economic condition of the nearby population.
- 9. Identification of hazards in handling, processing and storage of hazardous material and safety system provided to mitigate the risk.
- 10. Likely impact of the project on air, water, land, flora-fauna and nearby population.
- 11. Emergency preparedness plan in case of natural or in plant emergencies.
- 12. Issues raised during public hearing (if applicable) and response given.
- 13. Environment Management Plan (EMP) as per Office Memorandum issued by the MoEF & CC vide F. No. 22-

65/2017-IA.III dated 30.09.2020 with proposed expenditure.

- 14. Occupational Health Measures.
- 15. Post project monitoring plan.
- (3) Proposed Desher Mohan Sand Mine on River Ajay in the area of 3.82 Ha. (9.44 Acres) at Plot No: 583(P), J.L. No.-14, Mouza: Desher Mohan, P.S. & Block Jamuria, District: Paschim Bardhaman, West Bengal by **Koilash Mahato.**

Proposal No.:- SIA/WB/MIN/411078/2022, File No.: EN/T-II-1/040/2023, Type-ToR

### INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. **SIA/WB/MIN/411078/2022** dated **19 Dec 2022** seeking Terms of reference (TOR) under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above mentioned proposed project. The proposed project activity is listed at S. No. **1(a) Mining of minerals** projects under Category **B** of EIA Notification, 2006.

The SEAC during its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 08.02.2023 recommended issuance of Standard Terms of Reference for EIA preparation for the project with the following additional conditions:-

- 1) Valid LOI from the competent authority.
- 2) Cluster certificate from the competent authority should be submitted.
- 3) Reserves to be submitted based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR.
- 4) Need-based EMP, prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020.
- 5) Study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs. It should be committed that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the proposal may also be revised.

The proponent, – while applying for environmental clearance, shall upload in the PARIVESH portal, the EIA/EMP report along with the documents/ sought above.

## PROJECT DETAILS

The project of **Koilash Mahato** located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Paschim Bardhaman

The salient features of the project submitted by the project proponent is available at Report under online proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/411078/2022.

#### **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and accepted the same.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

SEIAA approved the proposal for ToR.

#### **CONCLUSION**

### Approved ToR.

### **Conditions**

## A. STANDARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 1. Year-wise production details since 1994 should be given, clearly stating the highest production achieved in any one year prior to 1994. It may also be categorically informed whether there had been any increase in production after the EIA Notification 1994 came into force, w.r.t. the highest production achieved prior to 1994.
- 2. A copy of the document in support of the fact that the Proponent is the rightful lessee of the mine should be given.
- 3. All documents including approved mine plan, EIA and Public Hearing should be compatible with one another in terms of the mine lease area, production levels, waste generation and its management, mining technology etc. and should be in the name of the lessee.
- 4. All corner coordinates of the mine lease area, superimposed on a High Resolution Imagery/ toposheet, topographic sheet, geomorphology and geology of the area should be provided. Such an Imagery of the proposed area should clearly show the land use and other ecological features of the study area (core and buffer zone).
- 5. Information should be provided in Survey of India Toposheet in 1:50,000 scale indicating geological map of the area, geomorphology of land forms of the area, existing minerals and mining history of the area, important water bodies, streams and rivers and soil characteristics.
- 6. Details about the land proposed for mining activities should be given with information as to whether mining conforms to the land use policy of the State; land diversion for mining should have approval from State land use board or the concerned authority.
- 7. It should be clearly stated whether the proponent Company has a well laid down Environment Policy approved by its Board of Directors? If so, it may be spelt out in the EIA Report with description of the prescribed operating process/procedures to bring into focus any infringement/deviation/violation of the environmental or forest norms/ conditions? The hierarchical system or administrative order of the Company to deal with the environmental issues and for ensuring compliance with the EC conditions may also be given. The system of reporting of non-compliances / violations of environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the Company and/or shareholders or stakeholders at large, may also be detailed in the EIA Report.
- 8. Issues relating to Mine Safety, including subsidence study in case of underground mining and slope study in case of open cast mining, blasting study etc. should be detailed. The proposed safeguard measures in each case should also be provided.
- 9. The study area will comprise of 10 km zone around the mine lease from lease periphery and the data contained in the EIA such as waste generation etc. should be for the life of the mine / lease period.
- 10. Land use of the study area delineating forest area, agricultural land, grazing land, wildlife sanctuary, national park, migratory routes of fauna, water bodies, human settlements and other ecological features should be indicated. Land use plan of the mine lease area should be prepared to encompass preoperational, operational and post operational phases and submitted. Impact, if any, of change of land use should be given.
- 11. Details of the land for any Over Burden Dumps outside the mine lease, such as extent of land area, distance from mine lease, its land use, R&R issues, if any, should be given.
- 12. A Certificate from the Competent Authority in the State Forest Department should be provided, confirming the involvement of forest land, if any, in the project area. In the event of any contrary claim by the Project Proponent regarding the status of forests, the site may be inspected by the State Forest Department along with the Regional Office of the Ministry to ascertain the status of forests, based on which, the Certificate in this regard as mentioned above be issued. In all such cases, it would be desirable for representative of the State Forest Department to assist the Expert Appraisal Committees.

- 13. Status of forestry clearance for the broken up area and virgin forestland involved in the Project including deposition of net present value (NPV) and compensatory afforestation (CA) should be indicated. A copy of the forestry clearance should also be furnished.
- 14. Implementation status of recognition of forest rights under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 should be indicated.
- 15. The vegetation in the RF / PF areas in the study area, with necessary details, should be given.
- 16. A study shall be got done to ascertain the impact of the Mining Project on wildlife of the study area and details furnished. Impact of the project on the wildlife in the surrounding and any other protected area and accordingly, detailed mitigative measures required, should be worked out with cost implications and submitted.
- 17. Location of National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Ramsar site Tiger/Elephant Reserves/(existing as well as proposed), if any, within 10 km of the mine lease should be clearly indicated, supported by a location map duly authenticated by Chief Wildlife Warden. Necessary clearance, as may be applicable to such projects due to proximity of the ecologically sensitive areas as mentioned above, should be obtained from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife and copy furnished.
- 18. A detailed biological study of the study area [core zone and buffer zone (10 km radius of the periphery of the mine lease)] shall be carried out. Details of flora and fauna, endangered, endemic and RET Species duly authenticated, separately for core and buffer zone should be furnished based on such primary field survey, clearly indicating the Schedule of the fauna present. In case of any scheduled-I fauna found in the study area, the necessary plan along with budgetary provisions for their conservation should be prepared in consultation with State Forest and Wildlife Department and details furnished. Necessary allocation of funds for implementing the same should be made as part of the project cost.
- 19. Proximity to Areas declared as 'Critically Polluted' or the Project areas likely to come under the 'Aravali Range', (attracting court restrictions for mining operations), should also be indicated and where so required, clearance certifications from the prescribed Authorities, such as the SPCB or State Mining Department should be secured and furnished to the effect that the proposed mining activities could be considered.
- 20. Similarly, for coastal Projects, A CRZ map duly authenticated by one of the authorized agencies demarcating LTL. HTL, CRZ area, location of the mine lease w.r.t CRZ, coastal features such as mangroves, if any, should be furnished. (Note: The Mining Projects falling under CRZ would also need to obtain approval of the concerned Coastal Zone Management Authority).
- 21. R&R Plan/compensation details for the Project Affected People (PAP) should be furnished. While preparing the R&R Plan, the relevant State/National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy should be kept in view. In respect of SCs /STs and other weaker sections of the society in the study area, a need based sample survey, family-wise, should be undertaken to assess their requirements, and action programmes prepared and submitted accordingly, integrating the sectorial programmes of line departments of the State Government. It may be clearly brought out whether the village(s) located in the mine lease area will be shifted or not. The issues relating to shifting of village(s) including their R&R and socio-economic aspects should be discussed in the Report.
- 22. One season (non-monsoon) [i.e. March-May (Summer Season); October-December (post monsoon season); December-February (winter season)]primary baseline data on ambient air quality as per CPCB Notification of 2009, water quality, noise level, soil and flora and fauna shall be collected and the AAQ and other data so compiled presented date-wise in the EIA and EMP Report. Site-specific meteorological data should also be collected. The location of the monitoring stations should be such as to represent whole of the study area and justified keeping in view the pre-dominant downwind direction and location of sensitive receptors. There should be at least one monitoring station within 500 m of the mine lease in the pre-dominant downwind direction. The mineralogical composition of PM10, particularly for free silica, should be given.
- 23. Air quality modeling should be carried out for prediction of impact of the project on the air quality of the area. It should also take into account the impact of movement of vehicles for transportation of mineral. The details of the model used and input parameters used for modeling should be provided. The air quality contours may be shown on a location map clearly indicating the location of the site, location of sensitive receptors, if any, and the

- habitation. The wind roses showing pre-dominant wind direction may also be indicated on the map.
- 24. The water requirement for the Project, its availability and source should be furnished. A detailed water balance should also be provided. Fresh water requirement for the Project should be indicated.
- 25. Necessary clearance from the Competent Authority for drawl of requisite quantity of water for the Project should be provided.
- 26. Description of water conservation measures proposed to be adopted in the Project should be given. Details of rainwater harvesting proposed in the Project, if any, should be provided.
- 27. Impact of the Project on the water quality, both surface and groundwater, should be assessed and necessary safeguard measures, if any required, should be provided.
- 28. Based on actual monitored data, it may clearly be shown whether working will intersect groundwater. Necessary data and documentation in this regard may be provided. In case the working will intersect groundwater table, a detailed Hydro Geological Study should be undertaken and Report furnished. The Report inter-alia, shall include details of the aquifers present and impact of mining activities on these aquifers. Necessary permission from Central Ground Water Authority for working below ground water and for pumping of ground water should also be obtained and copy furnished.
- 29. Details of any stream, seasonal or otherwise, passing through the lease area and modification / diversion proposed, if any, and the impact of the same on the hydrology should be brought out.
- 30. Information on site elevation, working depth, groundwater table etc. Should be provided both in AMSL and bgl. A schematic diagram may also be provided for the same.
- 31. A time bound Progressive Greenbelt Development Plan shall be prepared in a tabular form (indicating the linear and quantitative coverage, plant species and time frame) and submitted, keeping in mind, the same will have to be executed up front on commencement of the Project. Phase-wise plan of plantation and compensatory afforestation should be charted clearly indicating the area to be covered under plantation and the species to be planted. The details of plantation already done should be given. The plant species selected for green belt should have greater ecological value and should be of good utility value to the local population with emphasis on local and native species and the species which are tolerant to pollution.
- 32. Impact on local transport infrastructure due to the Project should be indicated. Projected increase in truck traffic as a result of the Project in the present road network (including those outside the Project area) should be worked out, indicating whether it is capable of handling the incremental load. Arrangement for improving the infrastructure, if contemplated (including action to be taken by other agencies such as State Government) should be covered. Project Proponent shall conduct Impact of Transportation study as per Indian Road Congress Guidelines.
- 33. Details of the onsite shelter and facilities to be provided to the mine workers should be included in the EIA Report.
- 34. Conceptual post mining land use and Reclamation and Restoration of mined out areas (with plans and with adequate number of sections) should be given in the EIA report.
- 35. Occupational Health impacts of the Project should be anticipated and the proposed preventive measures spelt out in detail. Details of pre-placement medical examination and periodical medical examination schedules should be incorporated in the EMP. The project specific occupational health mitigation measures with required facilities proposed in the mining area may be detailed.
- 36. Public health implications of the Project and related activities for the population in the impact zone should be systematically evaluated and the proposed remedial measures should be detailed along with budgetary allocations.
- 37. Measures of socio-economic significance and influence to the local community proposed to be provided by the Project Proponent should be indicated. As far as possible, quantitative dimensions may be given with time frames for implementation.
- 38. Detailed environmental management plan (EMP) to mitigate the environmental impacts which, should inter-alia

- include the impacts of change of land use, loss of agricultural and grazing land, if any, occupational health impacts besides other impacts specific to the proposed Project.
- 39. Public Hearing points raised and commitment of the Project Proponent on the same along with time bound Action Plan with budgetary provisions to implement the same should be provided and also incorporated in the final EIA/EMP Report of the Project.
- 40. Details of litigation pending against the project, if any, with direction /order passed by any Court of Law against the Project should be given.
- 41. The cost of the Project (capital cost and recurring cost) as well as the cost towards implementation of EMP should be clearly spelt out.
- 42. A Disaster management Plan shall be prepared and included in the EIA/EMP Report.
- 43. Benefits of the Project if the Project is implemented should be spelt out. The benefits of the Project shall clearly indicate environmental, social, economic, employment potential, etc.
- 44. Besides the above, the below mentioned general points are also to be followed:
  - a. Executive Summary of the EIA/EMP Report (enclosed as **Annexure C**).
  - b. All documents to be properly referenced with index and continuous page numbering.
  - c. Where data are presented in the Report especially in Tables, the period in which the data were collected and the sources should be indicated.
  - d. Project Proponent shall enclose all the analysis/testing reports of water, air, soil, noise etc. using the MoEF&CC/NABL accredited laboratories. All the original analysis/testing reports should be available during appraisal of the Project.
  - e. Where the documents provided are in a language other than English, an English translation should be provided.
  - f. The Questionnaire for environmental appraisal of mining projects as devised earlier by the Ministry shall also be filled and submitted.
  - g. While preparing the EIA report, the instructions for the Proponents and instructions for the Consultants issued by MoEF&CC vide O.M. No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, which are available on the website of this Ministry, should be followed.
  - h. Changes, if any made in the basic scope and project parameters (as submitted in Form-I and the PFR for securing the TOR) should be brought to the attention of MoEF&CC with reasons for such changes and permission should be sought, as the TOR may also have to be altered. Post Public Hearing changes in structure and content of the draft EIA/EMP (other than modifications arising out of the P.H. process) will entail conducting the PH again with the revised documentation.
  - i. As per the circular no. J-11011/618/2010-IA.II(I) dated 30.5.2012, certified report of the status of compliance of the conditions stipulated in the environment clearance for the existing operations of the project, should be obtained from the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, as may be applicable.
  - j. The EIA report should also include (i) surface plan of the area indicating contours of main topographic features, drainage and mining area, (ii) geological maps and sections and (iii) sections of the mine pit and external dumps, if any, clearly showing the land features of the adjoining area.

### **B.** Additional Terms of Reference

- 1) Valid LOI from the competent authority.
- 2) Cluster certificate from the competent authority should be submitted.

- 3) Reserves to be submitted based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR.
- 4) Need-based EMP, prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.I dated 30.09.2020.
- 5) Study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs. It should be committee that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the proposal may also I revised.

The proponent, – while applying for environmental clearance, shall upload in the PARIVESH portal, the EIA/EMP report along with the documents/ sought above.

The ToR is valid for a period of 3 (three) years from the date of issue.

Annexure - C

### **Executive Summary**

The Executive summary of the EIA/EMP report in about 8-10 pages should be prepared incorporating the information on following points:

- 1) Project name and location (Village, District, State, Industrial Estate (if applicable).
- 2) Products and capacities. If expansion proposal, then existing products with capacities and reference to earlier EC.
- 3) Requirement of land, raw material, water, power, fuel, with source of supply (Quantitative).
- 4) Process description in brief, specifically indicating the gaseous emission, liquid effluent and solid and hazardous wastes.
- 5) Measures for mitigating the impact on the environment and mode of discharge or disposal.
- 6) Capital cost of the project, estimated time of completion.
- 7) Site selected for the project Nature of land Agricultural (single/double crop), barren, Govt./private land, status of is acquisition, nearby (in 2-3 km.) water body, population, with in 10km. other industries, forest, ecosensitive zones, accessibility, (note in case of industrial estate this information may not be necessary).
- 8) Baseline environmental data air quality, surface and ground water quality, soil characteristic, flora and fauna, socio-economic condition of the nearby population.
- 9) Identification of hazards in handling, processing and storage of hazardous material and safety system provided to mitigate the risk.
- 10) Likely impact of the project on air, water, land, flora-fauna and nearby population.
- 11) Emergency preparedness plan in case of natural or in plant emergencies.
- 12) Issues raised during public hearing (if applicable) and response given.
- 13) Environment Management Plan (EMP) as per Office Memorandum issued by the MoEF & CC vide F. No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30.09.2020 with proposed expenditure.
- 14) Occupational Health Measures.
- 15) Post project monitoring plan.

(4) Proposed Madhpur Sand Mine on Ajay River at Plot No.- 1416(P), JL No. -86, Mouza Madhpur, P.S. - Mongalkote, District - Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal by **Manirul Mondal.** 

Proposal No. :- SIA/WB/MIN/55484/2020, File No. : EN/T-II-1/053/2023, Type-ToR

### INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. **SIA/WB/MIN/55484/2020** dated **23 Mar 2022** seeking Terms of reference (TOR) under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above mentioned proposed project. The proposed project activity is listed at S. No. **1(a) Mining of minerals** projects under Category **B** of EIA Notification, 2006.

The SEAC during its 66<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 15.02.2023 recommended issuance of Standard Terms of Reference for EIA preparation for the project with the following additional conditions:-

- 1) Cluster certificate from the competent authority should be submitted.
- 2) Valid LOI from the competent authority should be submitted.
- 3) Reserves to be submitted based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR.
- 4) Need-based EMP, prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Communication with all the schools/institutions which have been identified, as per the need based EMP prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020.
- 5) Study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs. It should be committed that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the proposal may also be revised.

While applying for the environmental clearance, the Project Proponent shall, – along with the EIA/EMP report of the project, upload the documents and clarifications sought above, to the PARIVESH portal.

## PROJECT DETAILS

The project of Manirul Mondal located in as follows:

S. No.	State	District
(1.)	West Bengal	Purba Bardhaman

The salient features of the project submitted by the project proponent is available at Report under online proposal no. SIA/WB/MIN/55484/2020.

## **DELIBERATION IN SEIAA**

SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC and accepted the same.

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

**SEIAA** approved the proposal for ToR.

## **CONCLUSION**

Approved ToR.

#### **Conditions**

#### A. STANDARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 1. Year-wise production details since 1994 should be given, clearly stating the highest production achieved in any one year prior to 1994. It may also be categorically informed whether there had been any increase in production after the EIA Notification 1994 came into force, w.r.t. the highest production achieved prior to 1994.
- 2. A copy of the document in support of the fact that the Proponent is the rightful lessee of the mine should be given.
- 3. All documents including approved mine plan, EIA and Public Hearing should be compatible with one another in terms of the mine lease area, production levels, waste generation and its management, mining technology etc. and should be in the name of the lessee.
- 4. All corner coordinates of the mine lease area, superimposed on a High Resolution Imagery/ toposheet, topographic sheet, geomorphology and geology of the area should be provided. Such an Imagery of the proposed area should clearly show the land use and other ecological features of the study area (core and buffer zone).
- 5. Information should be provided in Survey of India Toposheet in 1:50,000 scale indicating geological map of the area, geomorphology of land forms of the area, existing minerals and mining history of the area, important water bodies, streams and rivers and soil characteristics.
- 6. Details about the land proposed for mining activities should be given with information as to whether mining conforms to the land use policy of the State; land diversion for mining should have approval from State land use board or the concerned authority.
- 7. It should be clearly stated whether the proponent Company has a well laid down Environment Policy approved by its Board of Directors? If so, it may be spelt out in the EIA Report with description of the prescribed operating process/procedures to bring into focus any infringement/deviation/violation of the environmental or forest norms/ conditions? The hierarchical system or administrative order of the Company to deal with the environmental issues and for ensuring compliance with the EC conditions may also be given. The system of reporting of non-compliances / violations of environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the Company and/or shareholders or stakeholders at large, may also be detailed in the EIA Report.
- 8. Issues relating to Mine Safety, including subsidence study in case of underground mining and slope study in case of open cast mining, blasting study etc. should be detailed. The proposed safeguard measures in each case should also be provided.
- 9. The study area will comprise of 10 km zone around the mine lease from lease periphery and the data contained in the EIA such as waste generation etc. should be for the life of the mine / lease period.
- 10. Land use of the study area delineating forest area, agricultural land, grazing land, wildlife sanctuary, national park, migratory routes of fauna, water bodies, human settlements and other ecological features should be indicated. Land use plan of the mine lease area should be prepared to encompass preoperational, operational and post operational phases and submitted. Impact, if any, of change of land use should be given.
- 11. Details of the land for any Over Burden Dumps outside the mine lease, such as extent of land area, distance from mine lease, its land use, R&R issues, if any, should be given.
- 12. A Certificate from the Competent Authority in the State Forest Department should be provided, confirming the involvement of forest land, if any, in the project area. In the event of any contrary claim by the Project Proponent regarding the status of forests, the site may be inspected by the State Forest Department along with the Regional Office of the Ministry to ascertain the status of forests, based on which, the Certificate in this regard as mentioned above be issued. In all such cases, it would be desirable for representative of the State Forest Department to assist the Expert Appraisal Committees.
- 13. Status of forestry clearance for the broken up area and virgin forestland involved in the Project including deposition of net present value (NPV) and compensatory afforestation (CA) should be indicated. A copy of the forestry clearance should also be furnished.

- 14. Implementation status of recognition of forest rights under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 should be indicated.
- 15. The vegetation in the RF / PF areas in the study area, with necessary details, should be given.
- 16. A study shall be got done to ascertain the impact of the Mining Project on wildlife of the study area and details furnished. Impact of the project on the wildlife in the surrounding and any other protected area and accordingly, detailed mitigative measures required, should be worked out with cost implications and submitted.
- 17. Location of National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Ramsar site Tiger/Elephant Reserves/(existing as well as proposed), if any, within 10 km of the mine lease should be clearly indicated, supported by a location map duly authenticated by Chief Wildlife Warden. Necessary clearance, as may be applicable to such projects due to proximity of the ecologically sensitive areas as mentioned above, should be obtained from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife and copy furnished.
- 18. A detailed biological study of the study area [core zone and buffer zone (10 km radius of the periphery of the mine lease)] shall be carried out. Details of flora and fauna, endangered, endemic and RET Species duly authenticated, separately for core and buffer zone should be furnished based on such primary field survey, clearly indicating the Schedule of the fauna present. In case of any scheduled-I fauna found in the study area, the necessary plan along with budgetary provisions for their conservation should be prepared in consultation with State Forest and Wildlife Department and details furnished. Necessary allocation of funds for implementing the same should be made as part of the project cost.
- 19. Proximity to Areas declared as 'Critically Polluted' or the Project areas likely to come under the 'Aravali Range', (attracting court restrictions for mining operations), should also be indicated and where so required, clearance certifications from the prescribed Authorities, such as the SPCB or State Mining Department should be secured and furnished to the effect that the proposed mining activities could be considered.
- 20. Similarly, for coastal Projects, A CRZ map duly authenticated by one of the authorized agencies demarcating LTL. HTL, CRZ area, location of the mine lease w.r.t CRZ, coastal features such as mangroves, if any, should be furnished. (Note: The Mining Projects falling under CRZ would also need to obtain approval of the concerned Coastal Zone Management Authority).
- 21. R&R Plan/compensation details for the Project Affected People (PAP) should be furnished. While preparing the R&R Plan, the relevant State/National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy should be kept in view. In respect of SCs /STs and other weaker sections of the society in the study area, a need based sample survey, family-wise, should be undertaken to assess their requirements, and action programmes prepared and submitted accordingly, integrating the sectorial programmes of line departments of the State Government. It may be clearly brought out whether the village(s) located in the mine lease area will be shifted or not. The issues relating to shifting of village(s) including their R&R and socio-economic aspects should be discussed in the Report.
- 22. One season (non-monsoon) [i.e. March-May (Summer Season); October-December (post monsoon season); December-February (winter season)]primary baseline data on ambient air quality as per CPCB Notification of 2009, water quality, noise level, soil and flora and fauna shall be collected and the AAQ and other data so compiled presented date-wise in the EIA and EMP Report. Site-specific meteorological data should also be collected. The location of the monitoring stations should be such as to represent whole of the study area and justified keeping in view the pre-dominant downwind direction and location of sensitive receptors. There should be at least one monitoring station within 500 m of the mine lease in the pre-dominant downwind direction. The mineralogical composition of PM10, particularly for free silica, should be given.
- 23. Air quality modeling should be carried out for prediction of impact of the project on the air quality of the area. It should also take into account the impact of movement of vehicles for transportation of mineral. The details of the model used and input parameters used for modeling should be provided. The air quality contours may be shown on a location map clearly indicating the location of the site, location of sensitive receptors, if any, and the habitation. The wind roses showing pre-dominant wind direction may also be indicated on the map.
- 24. The water requirement for the Project, its availability and source should be furnished. A detailed water balance should also be provided. Fresh water requirement for the Project should be indicated.

- 25. Necessary clearance from the Competent Authority for drawl of requisite quantity of water for the Project should be provided.
- 26. Description of water conservation measures proposed to be adopted in the Project should be given. Details of rainwater harvesting proposed in the Project, if any, should be provided.
- 27. Impact of the Project on the water quality, both surface and groundwater, should be assessed and necessary safeguard measures, if any required, should be provided.
- 28. Based on actual monitored data, it may clearly be shown whether working will intersect groundwater. Necessary data and documentation in this regard may be provided. In case the working will intersect groundwater table, a detailed Hydro Geological Study should be undertaken and Report furnished. The Report inter-alia, shall include details of the aquifers present and impact of mining activities on these aquifers. Necessary permission from Central Ground Water Authority for working below ground water and for pumping of ground water should also be obtained and copy furnished.
- 29. Details of any stream, seasonal or otherwise, passing through the lease area and modification / diversion proposed, if any, and the impact of the same on the hydrology should be brought out.
- 30. Information on site elevation, working depth, groundwater table etc. Should be provided both in AMSL and bgl. A schematic diagram may also be provided for the same.
- 31. A time bound Progressive Greenbelt Development Plan shall be prepared in a tabular form (indicating the linear and quantitative coverage, plant species and time frame) and submitted, keeping in mind, the same will have to be executed up front on commencement of the Project. Phase-wise plan of plantation and compensatory afforestation should be charted clearly indicating the area to be covered under plantation and the species to be planted. The details of plantation already done should be given. The plant species selected for green belt should have greater ecological value and should be of good utility value to the local population with emphasis on local and native species and the species which are tolerant to pollution.
- 32. Impact on local transport infrastructure due to the Project should be indicated. Projected increase in truck traffic as a result of the Project in the present road network (including those outside the Project area) should be worked out, indicating whether it is capable of handling the incremental load. Arrangement for improving the infrastructure, if contemplated (including action to be taken by other agencies such as State Government) should be covered. Project Proponent shall conduct Impact of Transportation study as per Indian Road Congress Guidelines.
- 33. Details of the onsite shelter and facilities to be provided to the mine workers should be included in the EIA Report.
- 34. Conceptual post mining land use and Reclamation and Restoration of mined out areas (with plans and with adequate number of sections) should be given in the EIA report.
- 35. Occupational Health impacts of the Project should be anticipated and the proposed preventive measures spelt out in detail. Details of pre-placement medical examination and periodical medical examination schedules should be incorporated in the EMP. The project specific occupational health mitigation measures with required facilities proposed in the mining area may be detailed.
- 36. Public health implications of the Project and related activities for the population in the impact zone should be systematically evaluated and the proposed remedial measures should be detailed along with budgetary allocations.
- 37. Measures of socio-economic significance and influence to the local community proposed to be provided by the Project Proponent should be indicated. As far as possible, quantitative dimensions may be given with time frames for implementation.
- 38. Detailed environmental management plan (EMP) to mitigate the environmental impacts which, should inter-alia include the impacts of change of land use, loss of agricultural and grazing land, if any, occupational health impacts besides other impacts specific to the proposed Project.
- 39. Public Hearing points raised and commitment of the Project Proponent on the same along with time bound Action Plan with budgetary provisions to implement the same should be provided and also incorporated in the final

EIA/EMP Report of the Project.

- 40. Details of litigation pending against the project, if any, with direction /order passed by any Court of Law against the Project should be given.
- 41. The cost of the Project (capital cost and recurring cost) as well as the cost towards implementation of EMP should be clearly spelt out.
- 42. A Disaster management Plan shall be prepared and included in the EIA/EMP Report.
- 43. Benefits of the Project if the Project is implemented should be spelt out. The benefits of the Project shall clearly indicate environmental, social, economic, employment potential, etc.
- 44. Besides the above, the below mentioned general points are also to be followed:
  - a. Executive Summary of the EIA/EMP Report (enclosed as **Annexure D**).
  - b. All documents to be properly referenced with index and continuous page numbering.
  - c. Where data are presented in the Report especially in Tables, the period in which the data were collected and the sources should be indicated.
  - d. Project Proponent shall enclose all the analysis/testing reports of water, air, soil, noise etc. using the MoEF&CC/NABL accredited laboratories. All the original analysis/testing reports should be available during appraisal of the Project.
  - e. Where the documents provided are in a language other than English, an English translation should be provided.
  - f. The Questionnaire for environmental appraisal of mining projects as devised earlier by the Ministry shall also be filled and submitted.
  - g. While preparing the EIA report, the instructions for the Proponents and instructions for the Consultants issued by MoEF&CC vide O.M. No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, which are available on the website of this Ministry, should be followed.
  - h. Changes, if any made in the basic scope and project parameters (as submitted in Form-I and the PFR for securing the TOR) should be brought to the attention of MoEF&CC with reasons for such changes and permission should be sought, as the TOR may also have to be altered. Post Public Hearing changes in structure and content of the draft EIA/EMP (other than modifications arising out of the P.H. process) will entail conducting the PH again with the revised documentation.
  - i. As per the circular no. J-11011/618/2010-IA.II(I) dated 30.5.2012, certified report of the status of compliance of the conditions stipulated in the environment clearance for the existing operations of the project, should be obtained from the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, as may be applicable.
  - j. The EIA report should also include (i) surface plan of the area indicating contours of main topographic features, drainage and mining area, (ii) geological maps and sections and (iii) sections of the mine pit and external dumps, if any, clearly showing the land features of the adjoining area.

#### **B.** Additional Terms of Reference

- 1. Cluster certificate from the competent authority should be submitted.
- 2. Valid LOI from the competent authority should be submitted.
- 3. Reserves to be submitted based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR.
- 4. Need-based EMP, prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.I dated 30.09.2020. Communication with all the schools/institutions which have been identified, as per the need-

based EMP prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III date 30.09.2020.

5. Study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs. It should be committee that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the proposal may also be revised.

The proponent, – while applying for environmental clearance, shall upload in the PARIVESH portal, the EIA/EMP report along with the documents/ sought above.

The ToR is valid for a period of 3 (three) years from the date of issue.

Annexure - D

## **Executive Summary**

The Executive summary of the EIA/EMP report in about 8-10 pages should be prepared incorporating the information on following points:

- 1) Project name and location (Village, District, State, Industrial Estate (if applicable).
- 2) Products and capacities. If expansion proposal, then existing products with capacities and reference to earlier EC
- 3) Requirement of land, raw material, water, power, fuel, with source of supply (Quantitative).
- 4) Process description in brief, specifically indicating the gaseous emission, liquid effluent and solid and hazardous wastes.
- 5) Measures for mitigating the impact on the environment and mode of discharge or disposal.
- 6) Capital cost of the project, estimated time of completion.
- 7) Site selected for the project Nature of land Agricultural (single/double crop), barren, Govt./private land, status of is acquisition, nearby (in 2-3 km.) water body, population, with in 10km. other industries, forest, ecosensitive zones, accessibility, (note in case of industrial estate this information may not be necessary).
- 8) Baseline environmental data air quality, surface and ground water quality, soil characteristic, flora and fauna, socio-economic condition of the nearby population.
- 9) Identification of hazards in handling, processing and storage of hazardous material and safety system provided to mitigate the risk.
- 10) Likely impact of the project on air, water, land, flora-fauna and nearby population.
- 11) Emergency preparedness plan in case of natural or in plant emergencies.
- 12) Issues raised during public hearing (if applicable) and response given.
- 13) Environment Management Plan (EMP) as per Office Memorandum issued by the MoEF & CC vide F. No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30.09.2020 with proposed expenditure.
- 14) Occupational Health Measures.
- 15) Post project monitoring plan.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

1. Hearing in compliance of order dated 22.02.2023 of Hon'ble High Court in WPA 2264 of 2023 (Bhutoria Construction Private Limited & Anr. –Vs- The State of West Bengal & Ors.).

Based on the orders of the Hon'ble High Court in WPA 2264 of 2023, the PP (M/s. BHUTORIA CONSTRUCTION PVT LTD & ORS.) was requested to appear before SEIAA for a hearing. Meanwhile the PP applied for EC against ZIRCON in the PARIVESH portal on 27.02.2023 for a built up area of 18940.75 sqm.

The PP appeared for the hearing on 02.03.2023 and explained the project in details, which are enumerated as follows:

- i. The total land area of the entire project is 32.782 acres as per the master plan vide Ref. No. 690/820/Plotting/KMDA dated 31.01,2022 sanctioned by South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad vide Memo No. 1354/ZP/ENGG/BP/22 dated 31.01.2022 which includes the Dag No. 374(P), 375(P), 376(P), 377(P), 378(P), 379(P), 380(P), 381(P), 382(P), 383(P), 384(P), 385(P), 386(P), 387(P), 388(P), 391(P), 392(P), 413(P), 414(P), 415(P), 417(P), 418(P), 419(P), 420(P), 421(P), 422(P), 423(P), 424(P), 425(P), 426(P), 438(P), 439(P), 440(P), 441(P), 450(P), Mouza – Uttarkajirahat, JL 22, PS – Bishnupur, under Paschim Bishnupur GP, RS Dag No. 4(P), 7(P), 8(P), 9(P) 10(P), 11(P), 12(P), 13(P), 14(P), 15(P), 16(P), 17(P), 18(P), 19(P), 20(P), 21(P), 22(P) 23(P), 24(P), 25(P), 26(P), 27(P), 28(P), 29(P), 30(P), 31(P), 32(P), 33(P), 34(P), 35(P), 36(P), 37(P), 38(P), 39(P), 40(P), 41(P), 42(P), 43(P), 100(P), 102(P), 103(P), 104(P), 105(P), 106(P), 107(P), 108(P), 109(P), 110(P), 111(P), 112(P), 113(P), 114(P), 115(P), 116(P), 117(P), 118(P), 119(P), 121(P), 122(P), Mouza – Samali, JL 23, PS Bishnupur under Rasapunja GP, RS Dag No. 107(P), 109(P), 110(P), 111(P), 112(P), 113(P), 114(P), 115(P), 116(P), & Mouza Rasapunja, JL 15, PS Bishnupur under Rasapunja GP, RS Dag No. 4701(P), 4702(P), 4687(P), 4688(P), 4691(P). The entire project is divided into several plots. PP informed that they have obtained the mandatory sanctions / approvals from the Regulatory Authorities for each plot independently including ZIRCON. The present application against project ZIRCON is a part of the entire project, which is mentioned as Plot No 2 comprising of area of 1.52 acres in the above mentioned document.
- ii. The project is abutting the main road through two narrow access roads of 10 mtr. and 12 mtr. respectively. FAR for the entire project is based on the main road which is 12 mtr wide Bakrahat Road.
- iii. A well established school named Gems Academia is presently running since 2011. The school premises is also not abutting the main road but dependent on the same narrow access road.
- iv. The PP intended to develop the entire area in a plotted manner wherein PP remains a stakeholder along with other developers/owners.
- v. The PP intends to take all approvals including EC however, was ignorant of the fact that the project is to be treated in entirety for assessment and management of all environmental parameters.

Based on the above deliberations, following observations are made:-

- i. Considering all other relevant documents as well as the submission made by the PP, it is found that the above mentioned project is a part of the entire project, which will be developed in a phased manner. Thus this particular project cannot be considered as a standalone independent project. This fact has also been accepted by the PP.
- ii. From the master plan as produced by the PP during the hearing, it is found that a bulk land (Lot A) which is not a part of the project, has been kept abutting the main road with a majority frontage. The development in this vacant land would add additional FAR in that particular area resulting in more footfall and vehicular load.

The present project (ZIRCON: Plot 2) has been conceptualized as a part of the whole project, which is located at the rear portion of this bulk land which is marked as (Lot B) in the Annexure -1. As per the application the built up area of ZIRCON is 18940.75 sqm. The PP mentioned that in two more plots similar construction work has already been undertaken. In each of these two plots the built up area is around 18940.75 sqm. (RUBY: Plot 1) and 6033.3 sqm. (TOPAZ: Plot 5). The total built up area of all three plots is 43914.8 sqm. on a total land area of 5.1 acre. As per the master plan submitted by the PP, it may be assumed that a built up area of about 238346 sqm. would be constructed in future in Lot B. Further to this there would be additional construction in Lot A as well which will attract the clause 8(b) of EIA Notification, 2006 dealing with Area Development Projects and Township.

It has been noted by SEIAA that all the plots 1 to 12 as mentioned in the approved master plan are contiguous in manner taking advantage of the main road i.e. 12 mtr wide Bakrahat Road for calculation of FAR. The scale of the entire project also attracts the provision of URDPFI guidelines.

Though PP has mentioned that they have declared the internal roads as public roads in the master plan but no such document from the Zilla Parishad was produced by PP during the hearing. Thus the internal roads in the project cannot be accepted as access roads to the individual projects.

- iii. Though PP mentioned that Gems Academia International School is not within the project boundary, the school is found abutting the same internal road connecting the main Bakrahat Road. The operation of the school since 2011 is further adding to the traffic and environmental load for the entire project.
- iv. Though the developers of each of the plots are different, the owner (M/s. Shiv Niketan Ltd.) of the entire project remains the same with a varying stake in each of the plots/projects. The master plan approved by Zilla Parishad is also submitted by the owner (M/s. Shiv Niketan Ltd.). This is also corroborated in the Registered Development Agreement vide No. 4465 dated 22.12.2017.
- v. Since PP has accepted all facts mentioned above and also ready to apply for EC for the entire project, the present application needs to be withdrawn.

As per the registration certificate issued by HIRA vide No. HIRA/P/SOU/2018/000002 dated 14.09.2018, the total built up area mentioned against ZIRCON project is 68712 sqm. in Phase I and again another certificate vide No. HIRA/P/SOU/2018/000147 dated 15.11.2018 with the total built up area 7979 sqm. This implies that the total built up area for the ZIRCON project is more than 20000 sqm.

The present EC application was made on 27.02.2023 for 'ZIRCON' by M/s. Bhutoria Construction Pvt. Ltd. (Proposal No. SIA/WB/INFRA2/420192/2023) wherein M/s. Shiv Niketan Ltd. being the owner. Subsequently another EC application was made on 01.03.2023 for 'RUBY' by M/s. Shiv Niketan Ltd. (Proposal No. SIA/WB/INFRA2/420490/2023). Both the projects are contiguous in manner as per the approved master plan submitted by the PP. In both the applications the built up area is mentioned as 18940.75 sqm. which is less than mandatory requirement for EC application. SEIAA is unable to understand the reason behind such consecutive individual applications instead of applying for the entire project. It is anticipated that more such individual projects depicted in the master plan would be applying in the PARIVESH portal for obtaining EC in future.

The above mentioned set of projects will create cumulative environmental load and impact in the entire area. During the hearing the PP mentioned that they are not able to anticipate the scale of future development in all the adjoining vacant plots.

Multiple high-rise, high-density projects are coming up in the area which falls under rural / peri-urban area where there is no provision of water supply, sewerage, solid waste management, traffic & transportation and other basic infrastructure. The local authority has accorded approval for the master plan without any commitment for provision of any of the aforesaid infrastructural facilities. This would eventually create an enormous environmental load in the area which will affect the ambient air and water quality, noise levels, sub-surface water table and finally the population living within and around the project area.

While considering EC application for a project, the SEIAA is mandated to address the environmental parameters

for the project in totality including its surrounding in a holistic manner. Since the construction activity in three adjoining plots with a total built up area of more than 20000 sqm. has already been undertaken as mentioned in the WBPCB inspection report dated 17.05.2022 and further corroborated by PP during the hearing. During inspection by WBPCB officials it was noticed that some of the water bodies were under filling up activity by construction debris and excavated earth. Filling up of water bodies or relocation of water bodies can only be undertaken after obtaining necessary permission from competent authority under West Bengal Land and Land Reforms Act, 1955 and West Bengal Inland Fisheries Act, 1984.

Thus the present EC application needs to be withdrawn by the PP and a fresh application is to be made for the entire project under 'violation' category.

PI.OT-8
AREA = 1.709 Acre
P.S. DAO NO.
421(P).422(P).423(P).424(P).425(P).
426(P).426(P).118(P).119(P).721(P).722(P)

5 mi Lip 1- 121 PROPOSED PLOTTING PLAN SHOWING NOTHER PLOT & INT. WIDLAL PLOTS AS PER RULE 8 (1) & (2) OF ZILLA PARISHAD AT 2014, SHOWING ALLIER RESTRUCTURE SERVICES, FACILITY & AMENITIES AT MOLZA, NOAR-D JL-19, F. 3-, BISHNO-ZIR LINDER, R-SSAPUN IA GRAM PARICH-YAT RS. D. G. NO.314 (P), ATS (2) - TO P. (1) - TO P. (1) - TO P. (1) - TO P. (1) - TO P. (2) - TO P. (3) - TO P. (3) - TO P. (4) -

ANAND EDUCATION TRUST

Trustee

SINV NIKETAN LTD. Push Pa Blubyio

Director

BHUTORIA CONSTRUCTION PVT. LTD. Kunta Bhutoan'a

Director

TIRUPATI ENCLAVE PRIVATE LIMITED Karba Bhutanit

Director

TIRUFATI CARRIER LTD. PUGNTA BLUTERS.

Director

Charles Commercial Pvt. Ltd.

PUSNIG Bharlanit

Director

THE OWNER(S)

U 3 SEP 2021

-सिटान'प Regn. No.:1101/98 AKANKSHIT COMMODITIES PVT. LT 2 & 3, Bankehal Street Asturb

ATROAD

PLOT-7 AREA=1.30 Acro R.S. DAG NO-9 116(P),117(P),2 418(P)419(P), PLOT-6 LREA=1.62 Acre RS, DAG NO-420(P),421(P) AREA-1.461 AG AREA . SY R.S. DAG NO. 380(P),382(P), 383(P),384(P) S DAG HO EL PLOT-1 AREA=1.5 Acre R.S. DAG NO-376(P),378(P), 379(P),380(P),381(P) PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AREA: 1.181 ACM RS. DAG HO APLIGPIANTLUP

LOT B

12 MT. WIDE BAKRAI

Kanta

ALL DIMENSION ARE IN MM

For / mand Education Trust