



Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
J&K ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY

(at) DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND REMOTE SENSING

S.D.A. Colony, Bemina, Srinagar-190018 (May-Oct)/ Paryavaran Bhawan, Transport
Nagar, Gladni, Jammu-180006 (Nov-Apr)

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**MINUTES OF THE 38TH MEETING OF JK ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
HELD ON 15TH May, 2021 AT 1400 HRS. THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING**

In pursuance to the Minutes of the 39th Meeting of JK Expert Appraisal Committee held on 29th April, 2021 conveyed vide endorsement No.EAC/JK/20/7224-236 dated: 05-05-2021, the 38th Meeting of JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority was held on 15th May, 2021 through video conferencing.

The following attended the meeting:-

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| 1. Mr. Lal Chand, IFS (Retd.) | Chairman, JKEIAAA |
| 2. Er. Nazir Ahmad (Retd. Chief Engineer) | Member, JKEIAA |
| 3. Dr. Neelu Gera, IFS, Pr.CCF/Director, EE&RS, J&K | Member-Secretary, JKEIAA |

Following are the deliberations & decisions of the meeting:-

AGENDA ITEM NO.01.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Sanjay Mehta S/o Shri Ram Mehta, R/o H. No-4/A, Jain Nagar, Talab Tillo, Jammu, JK UT River Bed Minor Mineral Block 5/5, Chenab River Downstream old bridge Akhnoor, District Jammu, JK UT Mining Lease area-9.99 Ha under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/61291/2021.

Deliberations:

The project has been discussed/appraised in the JKEAC meeting. The consultant has given a detailed presentation on the project and informed that Lol was granted by G&M Dept. on 28/08/2020 and mining plan was approved by the competent authority on 09/12/2020 at a total cost of the project of ₹ . 306.56 Lakh. The mining block was examined on Google Earth Image of November, 2020 and observed around 80% of the area under active channel of river Chenab. JKEAC expressed its displeasure at the non-application of mind by the concerned in demarcating the mining block in an active water channel which is predominantly under water even during the lean season.

In view of the above deliberations, JKEAC unanimously recommended for rejection of ToRs to the project in view of major portion of the mining block being under active water channel of river Chenab.

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the Committee for rejection of ToRs to the project proponent in view of major portion of the mining block being under active water channel of river Chenab, even during the lean season.

AGENDA ITEM NO.02.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Kiran Kumar Sharma S/o Sh. Daleep Kumar Sharma, R/o W. No- 05, Jawahar Nagar, Dist Rajouri, JK UT for River Bed Minor Mineral Block-1/2, In Nowshera, Tawi River, Downstream Muradpur Bridge, District Rajouri, JK UT Mining Lease area - 7.89 Ha under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/61238/2021

Deliberations:

The project has been discussed/appraised in the JKEAC meeting. The consultant gave a detailed presentation on the project and informed the Committee that Lol was granted by G&M Dept on 25/11/2020 and mining plan was approved by the competent authority on 16/02/2021 at a total project cost of ₹ .220.52 Lakh. The mining block was examined on multi-date Google Earth Images and observed a bridge at a distance of 414 m upstream from the mining block boundary and a patch of cropland with scattered trees inside the mining block. Therefore, the Committee desired reduction/resizing of the mining block to exclude the green patch and to maintain safe distance to the bridge. During discussions, the Committee desired that the mining block should be properly demarcated on ground well before the conduct of Public Hearing so that locals are able to know where the mining activity is going to be undertaken. It was further desired that the demarcation should be done by fixing standard sized boundary pillars on the corners (at least 2.5 m deep below the NSL) to remove any apprehension of their shifting/removal. The committee also observed considerable area under active water channel and desired its exclusion while calculating targeted mineral production from the mining block. Besides, features indicative of illegal mining were also observed inside the mining block. Same features existed outside the mining block downstream in the vicinity of a stone crusher. Therefore, the Committee desired that Geology & Mining Department be asked to constitute an interdepartmental committee comprising of officers from Irrigation & Flood Control Department, Geology & Mining Department, Soil Conservation Department, Fisheries Dept and SSP concerned to enquire into the matter in order to fix responsibility for the illegal mining in the designated mineral block and its neighborhood after recording statements from the local panchayat representatives. In case the PP is involved in illegal mining, directly or indirectly, the case shall be treated under violation category.

In view of the above deliberations, the Committee unanimously recommended as under: -

- I. To include a specific ToR for demarcation of mining block on ground prior to conduct of Public Hearing with boundary pillars of standard specifications at least 2.5 m below NSL.
- II. To include specific ToR recently recommended w.r.t submission of a detailed site appreciation note, retrospectively for the cases where ToRs have already been issued. An addendum to this effect may accordingly be issued by JKEIAA.
- III. Grant of ToRs to the instant project for preparation of EIA/EMP and to undertake Public Hearing through JKPCB subject to exclusion of the green patch and active water channel and reduction of mining block size to maintain a safe distance of 500mts. to the bridge and subject to fixing of responsibility for illegal mining by an interdepartmental Committee as deliberated herein above.

Decision:

- I. The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the Committee to grant ToRs to the instant project for further necessary action as required under rules, subject to reduction of

mining block size to maintain a safe distance of 500m from the bridge, exclusion of green patch and active water channel. The approval is further subject to fixing responsibility for illegal mining by an interdepartmental Committee as deliberated herein above.

- II. Regarding the matter of fixing boundary pillars, demarcation is done by Geology and Mining Department in presence of revenue officials on the basis of coordinates already given in Lol/approved mining plan, but before execution of Mining leases. The Authority is of the view that prior demarcation of mining block on ground before conduct of Public Hearing may cause discrepancies, as sometimes, changes in block size and coordinates are necessitated even after conduct of public hearing to exclude certain features, such as bridges, croplands and active water channels or on public demand. However, the revenue authority / DMO can put prominent temporary markings, before conducting the public hearing. The Dept of G&M shall put such a system in place in consultation with local revenue authorities and PCB.
- III. Specific ToR condition regarding submission of a detailed site appreciation note is agreed. The site appreciation note should be part of the EIA report, explaining the local environmental settings.
- IV. Recommendation regarding submission of a detailed site appreciation note by PPs for ToRs already issued is also agreed. Member Secretary, JKEIAA shall take necessary action in this regard.

AGENDA ITEM NO.03.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Naseem Raja S/o Shri Abdul Satar Bhat R/o H.No-80, Thanamandi, Azmat Abad, Rajouri, JK UT for Minor mineral Block 2/1, Nowshera Tawi River Downstream Muradpur Bridge (Chatyari), District Rajouri, JK UT Mining Lease Area-7.37 Ha under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/61180/2021.

Deliberations:

The project has been discussed/appraised in the JKEAC meeting. The consultant gave a detailed presentation on the project and informed that Lol was granted by G&M Dept. on 06/08/2020 and mining plan was approved by the competent authority on 16/02/2021 at a total project cost of ₹ .178.34 Lakh. The mining block was examined on multi-date Google Earth Images and observed a bridge at a distance of 269m upstream from mining block boundary and local irrigation canal headway inside the mining block. One of the Members informed that the local communities in the area have irrigation rights that cannot be ignored and if mining activity is allowed in the mining block, it would lower the bed height at the take off point and deprive local community of irrigation facility. Therefore, JKEAC desired reduction/resizing of the mining block to maintain safe distance of 500m from the bridge besides, seeking prior NOC from the Irrigation & Flood Control Department and the local panchayat representatives w.r.t the irrigation canal headway. The Consultant was asked whether the presence of such an important feature has been mentioned in the approved mining plan to which he replied that the mining plan does not make any mention of the structure. He was also asked if he, as an accredited consultant, had taken cognizance of this important site condition and prescribed necessary mitigative measures in the PFR. But he could not provide any such detail. Therefore, the Committee took a view that the ToRs should not be recommended in this case without prior NOC from the Irrigation & Flood Control Department and local panchayat. Even if NOC is

granted by the concerned stake holder department and the local panchayat, the Consultant shall have to include this feature in his Pre-feasibility report and prescribe necessary mitigative measure, if at all technically feasible.

In view of the above deliberations, the Committee recommended that the PP be asked to seek prior NOC from the Irrigation & Flood Control Department and the local panchayat in view of presence of irrigation canal headway inside the mining block. Besides, the mining block be reduced /resized to maintain a safe distance of 500mts from the bridge and targeted mineral production recalculated accordingly, if NOCs are granted by stake holders as cited above.

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the Committee that PP be asked to seek prior NOC from the Irrigation & Flood Control Department and the local panchayat in view of presence of irrigation canal headway inside the mining block. The Authority also agreed that mining block be reduced /resized to maintain a safe distance of 500m from the bridge and targeted mineral production recalculated accordingly, if NOCs are granted by stake holders as cited above.

AGENDA ITEM NO.04.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Jagjeet Bali S/o Shri Om Prakash Bali R/o Ward No. 6, Jawahar Nagar, Rajouri, JK UT for Minor mineral Block 1/5, Nowshera Tawi River Downstream Muradpur Bridge (Kallar), District Rajouri, JK UT MINING LEASE AREA-9.51 Ha under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/61231/2021.

Deliberations:

The project has been discussed/appraised in the JKEAC meeting. The consultant gave a detailed presentation on the project and informed that the Lol was granted by G&M Dept. on 18/08/2020 and mining plan was approved by the competent authority on 16/02/2021 at a total project cost of ₹ 366.53 Lakh. The mining block was examined on multi-date Google Earth Images and observed a huge green patch with scattered trees inside the mining block necessitating title verification. The Committee accordingly desired reduction/ resizing of the mining block to exclude the green patch. The committee also observed some area under active water channel and desired its exclusion while calculating targeted mineral production from the mining block. Besides, some features on image of December, 2020 indicative of illegal mining were observed inside the mining block and same features also existed outside the mining block, downstream. Therefore, the Committee desired that the Geology & Mining Department be asked to constitute an interdepartmental committee comprising of officers from Irrigation & Flood Control Department, Geology & Mining Department, Soil Conservation Department, Fisheries Dept and SSP concerned to file its enquiry report fixing responsibility for the illegal mining in the designated mineral block and its neighborhood, after recording statements from the local panchayat representatives. In case the PP is involved in illegal mining, directly or indirectly, the case shall be treated under violation category.

In view of the above deliberations, JKEAC unanimously recommended grant of ToRs to the project for preparation of EIA/EMP and to undertake Public Hearing through JKPCB subject to title verification, exclusion of the green patch as well as active water channel and subject to fixing responsibility for illegal mining by an interdepartmental Committee as deliberated herein above.

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of JKEAC to grant ToRs to the project for further necessary action as required under rules, subject to resizing of the block by exclusion of green patch as well as active water channel, besides title verification and also subject to fixing responsibility for illegal mining by an inter-departmental Committee as deliberated in the JKEAC meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.05.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of M/S Mahavir Mining R/o 01 Lane 3 Shaheed Udham Singh Nagar, Pathankot, Punjab for Minor Mineral Block No-26, Suran River Downstream Pamrote Bridge Pamrote Area, District-Poonch, JK UT Area 6.69 Ha under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/60553/2021.

Deliberations:

The project has been discussed/appraised in the JKEAC meeting. The consultant gave a detailed presentation on the project during which he informed that Lol was granted by G&M Dept. to the project on 09/09/2020 and mining plan was approved on 15/12/2020 at a total project cost of ₹ .107.59 Lakh. One of the members asked the consultant that he had, in his earlier presentations relating to projects in vicinity of Arnas village, mentioned that the water requirement would be 7 KLDs. If all the projects had similar requirement of water from the same village, how could it be met and therefore, the Consultant was asked to conduct a detailed study under EIA on this aspect. The mining block was examined on Google Image platform using the KML file and it was observed that one suspension bridge exists at a distance of 515m. The members also pointed out the presence of active water channel and heavy illegal mining inside and outside the mining block.

In view of the above deliberations, the Committee unanimously recommended grant of ToRs to the project for preparation of EIA/EMP and to undertake Public Hearing through JKPCB subject to exclusion of active water channel and subject to fixing of responsibility for illegal mining by an inter-departmental Committee as deliberated herein above.

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld recommendations of JKEAC to grant ToRs to the project for further necessary action as required under rules subject to resizing the block by excluding the active water channel and further subject to fixing responsibility for illegal mining by an interdepartmental Committee as deliberated in the JKEAC meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.06.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Karanvir Singh S/o Shri Surinder Singh R/o 01 Lane No.03 Shaheed Udham Singh Nagar Pathankot for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No.28, Suran River Downstream Dhara Morha Foot Bridge Daraba Area District Poonch, Area : 8.94 Ha under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/61308/2021.

Deliberations:

The project has been discussed/appraised in the JKEAC meeting. The consultant gave a detailed presentation on the project and informed that Lol was granted by G&M Dept. on 31/07/2020 and mining plan was approved by the competent authority on 03/02/2021 at a total project

cost of ₹ . 223.04 Lakh. The mining block was examined on multi-date Google Earth Images and observed one bridge at a distance of 514 m and another foot bridge at a distance of 232m from the mining block. Therefore, the Committee desired reduction/resizing of the mining block to maintain a safe distance of 500m from the footbridge as its abutment falls in the line of flow of the stream. The committee also observed some area under active water channel and some fringes of the mining block falling on cropland, and as such desired their exclusion while calculating targeted mineral production from the mining block. Besides, the Committee also observed features on image of December, 2020 indicative of illegal mining inside the mining block. Therefore, the Committee desired that the Geology & Mining Department be asked to constitute an interdepartmental committee comprising of officers from Irrigation & Flood Control Department, Geology & Mining Department, Soil Conservation Department, Fisheries Dept and SSP concerned to file its enquiry report fixing responsibility for the illegal mining in the designated mineral block and its neighborhood, after recording statements from the local panchayat representatives. In case the PP was involved in the illegal mining, the case shall be treated under violation category.

In view of the above deliberations, the Committee unanimously recommended grant of ToRs to the project for preparation of EIA/EMP and to undertake Public Hearing through JKPCB subject to title verification and exclusion of active water channel and also subject to fixing of responsibility for illegal mining by an interdepartmental Committee as deliberated herein above: -

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld recommendations of JKEAC to grant ToRs to the project proponent to take further necessary action as required under rules, subject to resizing the block by excluding the active water channel and also subject to fixing of responsibility for illegal mining by an inter-departmental Committee as deliberated in the JKEAC meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO.07.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of M/S Nishat Minerals R/o H. No: 244 Lane No:2 Adarsh Enclave Trikuta Nagar, Jammu JK UT for Mining Plan with Progressive Closure Plan in respect of Gypsum Deposits Doda, Survey No.43 0/11 Khasra No. 59 Karnoti Assar, Doda, JK UT Area 4.465 Ha under proposal No. **SIA/JK/MIN/197891/2021.**

Deliberations:

The project has been discussed/appraised in the JKEAC meeting. The RQP gave a detailed presentation on the project and informed that the project is an existing gypsum mine which had earlier been granted Environmental Clearance by the District Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority. He was asked to present and read out the contents of the said Environmental Clearance so that Members could see the date of its validity and production capacity allowed besides other standard and specific conditions. But, the RQP failed to produce the same due to which the case was rejected in the present form for want of documents.

In view of the above deliberations, the Committee rejected the case in the present form for want of documents, viz. previous Environmental Clearance issued by the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority, compliance report of EC Conditions etc.

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld recommendations of JKEAC to reject the case in the present form, for want of documents, viz. previous Environmental Clearance issued by the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority, compliance report of EC Conditions, etc.

Agenda Item No.08.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of M/S Shalimar Minerals (Prop. Shri Rakesh Bhat) Lane No 16, Phase-II, SIDCO Industrial Complex, Bari-Brahamana, Jammu JK UT for Revised Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan in respect of Gypsum Deposits, Survey No 43 0/11, Khasra No. 1375, Chadoti Jattar, Assar, Doda, JK UT Area 4.30 ha under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/197680/2021.

Deliberations:

The project has been discussed/appraised in the JKEAC meeting. The RQP of the project gave a detailed presentation on the project during which he informed that the project is existing gypsum mine of the same nature as the previous one dealt with under agenda item 7 which too had earlier been granted Environmental Clearance by the District Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority. He was again asked to present and read out the contents of the said Environmental Clearance so that Members could see the date of its validity and production capacity allowed besides other standard and specific conditions to proceed further. But, the RQP failed to produce the same due to which the case was rejected in the present form for want of documents.

In view of the above deliberations, the Committee rejected the case in the present form for want of documents, viz. previous Environmental Clearance issued by the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority, compliance report of EC Conditions etc.

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld recommendations of JKEAC to reject the case in the present form, for want of documents, viz. previous Environmental Clearance issued by the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority, compliance report of EC Conditions, etc.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-

Dr. Neelu Gera, IFS PCCF/Director,
Member Secretary, JKEIAA, EE&RS

Sd/-

Nazir Ahmad (Rtd. Chief Engineer)
Member, JKEIAA

Sd/-

Lal Chand, IFS (Rtd.)
Chairman, JKEIAA

No: JKEIAA/2016/02/V/1340-44
Copy by email to:

Dated: 17/5/2021

1. Mr. Lal Chand, IFS (Rtd.), Chairman, JKEIAA, for information.
2. Er. Nazir Ahmad (Rtd. Chief Engineer), Member, JKEIAA, for information.
3. Dr. Neelu Gera, IFS PCCF/Director, EE&RS, Member Secretary, JKEIAA, for information.
4. The Secretary, JK Expert Appraisal Committee for information.
5. Website(s)


(Staff Officer)
to PCCF/Director/Member Secretary JKEIAA
Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing, J&K