



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE JK ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
HELD ON 17TH NOVEMBER, 2020 AT 12:00 HRS. VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING**

The following attended the meeting: -

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

In pursuance to the Minutes of the Meeting of JKEAC held on 4th & 5th November, 2020 conveyed vide endorsement No.EAC/JK/20/3010-26 dated 11-11-2029, a Meeting of JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority was held on 17th November, 2020 at 12:00 Hrs.

The deliberations of the meeting and decisions taken are as under: -

Agenda Item No.1.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Sahib Singh S/O Shri Paras Singh R/O Ferozpur Kalan, Tehsil Pathankot Baheri Bazurag District Gurdaspur, Punjab under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/56123/2020 for Minor Mineral (River Bed Material at Block No.27 with the description, Army Camp Aghama D/Stream Nllah Rambiar, Area 9.43 Ha. Village Aghama, Taluka, Chitragam District Shopian, U.T. of J&K.

Deliberations:

During appraisal in its meeting, JKEAC desired that while applying for Environmental clearance project proponent shall produce NOC from the Irrigation & Flood Control Department. The Committee further desired that in future, the Geology & Mining Department be asked to obtain prior NOC's for mining blocks before putting the cases to e-auction and recommendation for grant Terms of Reference enabling the consultant to formulate the EIA/EMP reports and to conduct the public hearing and other formalities.

Decision: The JK Environmental Impact Assessment Authority deliberated on the issue and decided to uphold the recommendations of the Committee to grant Terms of Reference to the project proponent. Member Secretary JKEIAA shall also write to Geology & Mining Department to obtain prior NOC's from Irrigation and Flood Control Department for mining blocks before putting the cases to e-auction in future.

Agenda Item No.2

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Ranbir Singh S/O Shri Gulwant Singh R/O Sheikhpur Bagh, SBS Nagar, Punjab under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/54959/2020 for Minor Mineral (River Bed Material at Block No.12/D (Area 3.72 Ha.) Bundzoo Bridge Downstream Nallah Sasara, Village Bundzoo, District Pulwama U.T. of J&K.

Deliberations: During appraisal JKEAC has expressed dismay at the non-availability of replenishment data in the DSR in spite of concerted efforts to fast track the process of Environmental clearance. The project proponent was asked to produce NOC from Irrigation & Flood Control Department while applying for Environmental clearance. The Committee further observed that the mining block is within 245m from the bridge, which needs to be relocated/ restricted to provide minimum 500m distance from the bridge. Consequent to this change, there is every possibility that category of mining block may change to B2 if there is no other mining block forming cluster with it in the downstream. In such Situation, the Project proponent is free to apply directly for E.C. under B2 category. In case it becomes cluster after restricting length, the project proponent must tie up with other project proponent/consultants representing the other mining blocks in the cluster and formulate comprehensive EIA/EMP for the entire cluster. With these riders, the committee recommended to grant Terms of Reference in favour of the project enabling the consultant to formulate the EIA/EMP and to conduct the public hearing besides other formalities.

Decision: The JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority deliberated on the issue and decided to uphold the recommendation of the Committee to grant Terms of Reference to the project proponent enabling the consultant to formulate the EIA/EMP and to conduct the public hearing besides other formalities subject to fulfillment of riders recommended by JKEIC.

Agenda Item No.3

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Farooq Ahmad Wani R/O Udipora, Awantipora District Pulwama under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/56811/2020 for Minor Mineral Block 33, House of Ab.Gaffar Bhat Sugun U/stream Nallah Rambiar, Sugun, Shopian, U.T. of J&K (Area 9.27 Ha.)

Deliberations: During the appraisal of the project the Committee has observed that the block qualified for grant of Terms of Reference and recommended to grant Terms of Reference to the project enabling the consultant to prepare EIA/EMP and undertake other formalities.

Decision: The JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority upheld the recommendations of the Committee for grant of Terms of Reference to the project enabling the consultant to prepare EIA/EMP and undertake other formalities.

Agenda Item No.4

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Danish Yousuf S/O Shri Mohd. Yousuf Mir R/O Doughama, Kakpora District Pulwama under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/56959/2020 for River Bed Mining project situated at Minor Mineral Block-15, Army camp Balapur D/Stream Nallah Rambiar, Village, Balapur Tehsil Shopian U.T. of J&K (Area 4.63 Ha.)

Deliberations:

During appraisal of the case JKEAC has observed that the mining block though less than 5 Ha, forms cluster with mining block 16 and therefore change in its membership to category B1. The Committee has desired that the Consultant should join hands with other consultants/project proponents of the cluster

blocks and prepare Joint and comprehensive EIA/EMP/PFR for the entire cluster in accordance with standing guidelines from the Ministry of EF&CC. The JKEAC unanimously recommended grant of Terms of Reference to the project for enabling the PP to undertake other formalities.

Decisions: The JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority upheld the recommendations of the Committee and agreed to issue Terms of Reference to the project proponent for preparation of EIA/ EMP/ PFR jointly with PP's of other blocks in the cluster as per recommendations of JKEAC.

Agenda Item No.5

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Khurshid Ahmad Mir S/O Shri Gh. Mohammad Mir R/O Dahoogam District Pulwama under proposal No.SUA/JK/MIN/56774/2020 for River Bed Mining project situated at Minor Mineral Block-03 C-Lassipora SIDCO Bridge, D/stream Nallah Rambiar, Village Lassipora, Tehsil Litter, District Pulwama, U.T. of J&K (Area 4.37 Ha.)

Deliberations:

During appraisal of the case JKEAC has observed that that the mining block though less than 5 Ha, forms cluster with mining blocks 2 & 4 and therefore change in membership to category B1. The Committee desired that Consultant should join hands with other consultants/project proponents of the cluster blocks in the area and prepare joint and comprehensive EIA/EMP/PFR for the entire cluster in accordance with standing guidelines from the Ministry of EF&CC.

Decision: The JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority upheld the recommendations of the Committee and agreed to issue Terms of Reference to the project proponent for preparation of EIA/ EMP/ PFR jointly with PP's of other blocks in the cluster as per recommendations of JKEAC.

Agenda Item No.06

Grant of Environment clearance in favour of Shri Surjeet Kumar S/ Shri Ishar Dass R/O Kali Deh, Banpuri Bhajwal Rajouri under proposal No.SISA/JK/MIN/56698/2019 for River Bed Material from downstream old Chenab Bridge, Malpur, Akhnoor at Block 5/6 (Area 9.90 Ha).

Agenda Item No.07

Grant of Environment clearance in favour of Shri Vipin Kumar S/O Shri Sat Pal Mehta R/O Dhangri, Rajouri U.T. of J&K. under proposal No.SUA/JK/MIN/56634/2019 for Minor Mineral (River Bed Material) at Block No.28(5/3) Chenab River Downstream Old Bridge, Akhnoor, Malpur, Bhalwal, Jammu (Area 9.94 Ha.) U.T. of J&K

Agenda Item No.08 and 09

Grant of Environment clearance in favour of Shri Rameshwar Singh S/O Shri Gian Singh R/O H.No.03, Lane No.1, Sharika Vihar, Talab Tillo Jammu Jammu under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/56635/2019 for Minor Mineral (River Bed Material) at Block No.29(5/4), Chenab River Downstream Old Chenab Bridge, Akhnoor, Malpur Bhalwal, Jammu (Area 9.32 Ha)

and

Grant of Environment clearance in favour of Shri Zaheer Choudhary S/O Shri Gulam Mohd, R/O Lane No.3, Madina Hills, Near Boys Madarasa, Bathindi, Jammu under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/56651/2019 for Minor Mineral (River Bed Material) at Block No.27(5/2) Chenab River Downstream Old Bridge Akhnoor, Malpur, Bhalwal, Jammu Area 9.16 Ha.

Deliberations:

During appraisal of above projects JKEAC has observed that major portion of Block No.5/6 falls in the running waters of the river and owing to in-stream mining, qualifies for rejection in the light of national guidelines. It was noticed that the Consultant has mentioned Block No.5/4 in the PFR instead of Block 5/6. The secretary pointed out that the Block No. mentioned in the public hearing is 31 while as the letter of intent mentions it as Block No.5/6. The consultant clarified that the Block 31 is in fact also named as the Block 5/6 and it is the same mining block. The Committee has observed that river Chenab branches off to form delta type parcel of land in which the cluster of mining blocks have been identified and e-auctioned in its southern limits. The Committee has expressed apprehensions that the mining activity may change the river course from the major axis in the north of the parcel to the southern side due to deepening of the river bed and it may result in flood hazard and threaten villages in the south. Therefore, JKEIC has recommended that the mining activity be undertaken only after thorough technical assessment by the Flood Control Department in respect of mining blocks 5/2, 5/3 and 5/4 only. The Committee recommended rejection of E.C. in favour of mining block 5/6 and deferred the deliberations of Block 5/2, 5/3 and 5/4 till the project proponent obtains NOC/approvals from the Chief Engineer, Flood Control Department or till next meeting of JKEAC, whichever is earlier.

Decision: The JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority deliberated on the issue and decided to uphold the recommendations of the Committee.

Agenda Item No.10.

Grant of Environment clearance in favour of Mr.Ubaid Hussain Lala R/O Tawheed bad-II, Nowshera, Srinagar(J&K) for M/S Mehboob Cement Industries, Wuyan Bala, District, Pulwama U.T. of J&K.

Deliberations:

During appraisal of the case JKEAC has observed that the Office Memorandum dated 8thAugust, 2019 had not been invoked while granting E.C. in favour of M/S Kashmir Cements but recourse has been taken to O.M. No.22-34/2018-III dated 09-08-2019 relating to Standard Environmental conditions for granting E.C. under various sectors. In this regard, the Committee recommended that clarification may be sought from the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi.

Decision: The JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority upheld the recommendations of the Committee to seek clarification in the matter from Govt., of India

Agenda Item No.11.

Grant of Environmental clearance in favour of:-

- i. M/S Kohinoor Mining project
- ii. M/S Neelam Valley Gypsum Mining project
- iii. M/S Tower Chemical Gypsum Mining project
issuance of Corrigendum thereof.

Deliberations:

The office of JKEIAA is in receipt of communication from Director Geology and Mining vide No:820/MCC/DGM/M17/7231-33 dated 07.11.2020 endorsing the request made by Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla bearing No: ADCB/Reader/2020-21/157 dated:26-08-2020 regarding the issuance of corrigendum with respect to the consideration of date of meeting as date of issuance of Environmental Clearance in favor of aforementioned Gypsum Mining Projects.

Whereas, it has been reported by Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla that the DEAC meeting was conducted on 28-11-2018 but the Environmental Clearances have been issued on 13-02-2019/19-02-2019.

Whereas, as per O.M. Dated 12-12-2018 the DIEAAs/DEACs were dissolved by the MoEF&CC and the authority to issue ECs was given to SEIAA/SEAC. However, Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla had inadvertently issued the EC in favour of projects after the cessation of DIEAA.

Now, the Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla has approached JKEIAA through Directorate of Geology and Mining for ratifying the date of issuance of Environmental Clearance as 28-11-2018 instead of 13-02-2019/19-02-2019 in favor of aforementioned Gypsum Mining Projects.

Decision: The JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority discussed the issue threadbare and decided to ratify the date of issuance of Environmental Clearance as 28-11-2018 instead of 13-02-2019/19-02-2019 in favour of above-mentioned Gypsum Mining Projects. Further, the Member Secretary JKEIAA may obtain copies of Minutes of Meeting of DEIAA/DEAC Baramulla for record in this office.

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/III/1349-53

Dated:17/11/2020

Copy by email to:

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


(Staff Officer) 17/11/2020
to PCCF/Director/Member Secretary JKEIAA
Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing, J&K