



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 MEETING OF THE JK ENVIRONMENT IMPACT
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY HELD ON 16th JANUARY, 2021
AT 11:30 HRS. VIA VIDEO COFERENCING**

The following attended the meeting:-

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|---|--------------------------|
| 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 9th January, 2021 conveyed vide endorsement No.EAC/JK/20/4126-39 dated 14-01-2021, a Meeting of JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority was held 16th January, 2021 at 11:30 Hrs.

Following are the deliberations and decisions of the meeting: -

Agenda Item No: 01.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Dawwer Ahsraf Khanday S/O Shri Mohammad Ashraf Khanday R/O Near Masjid Shareef Khurda Mohalla Danwo, Kulgam for Nallah Bed Mining project situated at Minor Mineral Block No.06, F – Nehama Bridge Downstream, Vishu Nallah, Village Nehama Tehsil & District Kulgam, JK UT over an area of 9.14 ha. under proposal No. **SIA/JK/MIN/57376/2020**

Deliberations:

The above case has been discussed/examined by the JKEAC, wherein consultant has given a detailed power point presentation and also demonstrated the mining block on Google Earth platform. During examination of the mining block on the satellite image, the Committee has examined local environmental settings of the area and found the block fit for mining of river bed material. Accordingly, Committee has recommended to grant Terms of Reference for the project to enable consultant formulate the EIA/EMP and pre-feasibility report and to accomplish other statutory formalities.

Decision:

After deliberations, JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the Committee to issue Terms of Reference for the Project for preparation of EIA/EMP and other statutory requirements.

Agenda Item No: 02.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Khursheed Ahmad Mir S/O Shri Ghulam Mohammad Mir R/O Pahoo, Dahoogam, Pulwama, JK UT for Nallah Bed Mining project situated at Minor Mineral Block-13 ANG/LI/13 Akura Bridge, Lidder Nallah Downstream Anantnag JK UT over an area of 8.34 ha. under proposal No.**SIA/JK/MIN/57747/2020.**

Deliberations:

The case has been examined by the JKEAC, wherein consultant has given a detailed power point presentation and also demonstrated the mining block on Google Earth platform. During examination of the mining block on the satellite image, the Committee has examined local environmental settings of the area and found the block unfit for mining of river bed material due to the fact that most of the area of the mining block falls under active water channel and is also within 120 mts. from the bridge. Accordingly, JKEAC has recommended the case for rejection of ToRs being in close proximity to a bridge and most of its area being under active water channel which has high fisheries potential.

Decisions:

After deliberations, JKEIAA upheld recommendations of the Committee for rejection of T.O.R for reasons given by the committee herein above.

Agenda Item No: 03.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Ashaq Hussain Khan S/O Shri Mohammad Maqbool Khan R/O Danokandi Marg, Tehsil D.H.Pora, District Kulgam, JK UT for Nallah Bed Mining project situated at Minor Mineral Block-05 E, Nehama Bridge, Downstream, Veshaw Nallah Tehsil & District Kulgam over an area of 4.31 ha. under proposal No.**SIA/JK/MIN/57779/2020**

Deliberations:

During the presentation of the case before JKEAC, the consultant has given a detailed power point presentation and also demonstrated the mining block on Google Earth platform. During examination of the mining block on the satellite image, the Committee has examined the local environmental settings of the area and found that the block is within 140 mts from the bridge. The Committee has also examined the possibility of reducing its area by leaving a distance of 500 mts from the bridge but found that it could hardly leave a sizable area for economical mining. Also, there was no scope for its relocation as another mining block stood already approved for ToRs downstream at a distance of nearly 180 mts. The Committee accordingly recommended the case for rejection of T.O.R.'s for the reasons which among other include its close proximity to the bridge and lack of scope for its relocation/reduction in size to maintain distance of 500mts. from the bridge.

Decision:

After deliberations JKEIAA upheld recommendations of the Committee for rejection of T.O.R for reasons given by the committee herein above.

Agenda Item No: 04.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Aajaz Ahmad Magray S/O Shri Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Magray R/O Village Kandi Khass, Handwara District Kupwara, JKUT for Nallah Bed Mining project situated at Minor Mineral Block-09 Check Drugmulla Bridge to Parepora Upstream Pohru Nallah, Village Check Drugmulla Tehsil & District Kupwara over an area of 9.40 ha. under proposal No. **SIA/JK/MIN/58384/2020.**

Deliberations:

During the presentation of the case before JKEAC, the consultant has given a detailed power point presentation and also demonstrated the mining block on Google Earth platform. During examination of the mining block on the satellite image, the Committee has examined the local environmental settings of the area and found the mining block encompassing part of a huge L-shaped building indicative of a school. Green patches comprising of trees were also detected within the mining block besides abutment /piers of a bridge which creates confusion as to whether these are abandoned old left-over ruins of a bridge or a bridge under construction. All this needs prior clarification from the concerned agencies as the consultant could not give any satisfactory explanation.

In view of the above observations, the Committee has recommended rejection of ToRs to the project in the present form and also recommended that PP may be asked to get the boundaries of the mining block refined/redrawn so as to exclude the green patches comprising of tree groves and the L-shaped building structure, with denovo approval of the mining Plan by the competent authority. Besides, the PP may also be asked to obtain a clarification from R&B Department with regard to effect of mining activity on the piers /abutment falling within the mining block and utility / existence of such structures in the water channel. Further, the PP may also be asked to obtain a certificate from the concerned Revenue Authority (Tehsildar Concerned) to the effect that the mining block covers only the river bed and does not include any land outside the river bed including proprietary land.

Decision:

After deliberations JKEIAA upheld recommendations of the Committee for rejection of T.O.R in the present form for reasons given by the committee herein above. The Authority agrees with the recommendation that PP may be asked to get the boundaries of the mining block refined/redrawn so as to exclude the green patches comprising of tree groves and the L-shaped building structure, with denovo approval of the mining Plan by the competent authority. Besides, the PP may also be asked to obtain a clarification from R&B Department with regard to effect of mining activity on the piers /abutment falling within the mining block and utility / existence of such structures in the water channel. Further, the PP may also be asked to obtain a certificate from the concerned Revenue Authority (Tehsildar Concerned) to the effect that the mining block covers only the river bed and does not include any land outside the river bed including proprietary land. Secretary shall inform PP accordingly.

Agenda Item No: 05.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Reyaz Ahmad Sofi S/O Shri Habib-Ullah Sofi R/O Waskhura Gonipora, Handwaraa, District Kupwara, JK UT for Nallah Bed Mining project situated at Minor Mineral Block No.02, Shedipora Rukhmachwari (Bakahakar) Bridge to Kachiwara Downstream, Talri Nlallah, Village Bakahakar Tehsil Rajwar District Kulgam over an area of 9.51 ha. under proposal No.**SIA/JK/MIN/58521/2020.**

Deliberations:

During the presentation of the case before JKEAC, the consultant has given a detailed power point presentation and also demonstrated the mining block on Google Earth platform. During examination of the mining block on the satellite image, the Committee has examined the local environmental settings of the area and found the mining block boundaries coarsely laid to encompass huge land masses apparently outside the nallah bed with a patch of land bearing tree cover and recommended to issue ToRs to the project subject to condition that boundaries of the mining block are refined/redrawn so as to exclude land outside the nallah bed (including land parcels bearing tree cover) besides obtaining a certificate from the concerned Revenue Authority (Tehsildar Concerned) to the effect that the mining block covers only the river bed and does not include any land outside the river bed including proprietary land.

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld the recommendation of the Committee to issue Terms of Reference to the project enabling the Consultant to formulate the EIA/EMP and pre-feasibility report and to accomplish other statutory formalities, subject to fulfillment of conditions recommended by JKEAC stated herein above.

Agenda Item No: 06.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Nasir Ahmed Mir S/O Shri Abdul Gani Mir Village Bumhama, District Kupwara JK UT for Nallah Bed Mining project situated at Minor Mineral Block-08, Bumhama to Parepora Downstream Nallah Pohru Village-Bumhama Tehsil & District – Kupwara over an area of 8.29 ha. under proposal No.**SIA/JK/MIN/58854/2020**

Deliberations:

During the presentation of the case before JKEAC, the consultant has given a detailed power point presentation and also demonstrated the mining block on Google Earth platform. During examination of the mining block on the satellite image, the Committee has examined the local environmental settings of the area and has found the mining block fit for grant of ToRs. The Committee has accordingly recommended to grant T.O.R.s to the project subject to the condition that no active water channel of the block shall be used for mining and the PP shall obtain a certificate from the concerned Revenue Authority (Tehsildar Concerned) to the effect that the mining block covers only the river bed and does not include any proprietary land.

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld the recommendation of the Committee to issue Terms of Reference to the project enabling the Consultant to formulate the EIA/EMP and pre-feasibility report and to accomplish other statutory formalities subject to fulfillment of conditions recommended by JKEAC stated herein above.

Agenda Item No:7.

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 District Pathankot, Punjab for River Bed Mining in Block No.06, ANG/SA/06, Nessu Bridge Downstream Sandran Nallah Lease area 9.82 ha. Mining project Category- "B1" Village, Nessu Tehsil Dooru District Anantnag under proposal No. **SIA/JK/MIN/59449/2020.**

Deliberations:

During the discussion of the case by the JKEAC, the Consultant has given a detailed power point presentation followed by demonstration of the local environmental settings using KML file on Google Earth platform. While examining the mining block on the satellite image, the Committee has pointed out that one bridge is located within the mining block while another is located at a distance of 120 mts, so any mining in the area is likely to affect the structures drastically and recommended the case for rejection of TOR's in view of the fact that one bridge lies inside the mining block and another is located at a distance of 120mts from it.

Decision:

After deliberations JKEIAA upheld recommendations of the Committee for rejection of T.O.R for reasons given by the committee herein above.

Agenda Item No:8.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Umesh Kumar Sharma S/O Shri Shiv Narayan Sharma R/O 33/568 near Gurdwara, Saroopnagar District Central post Ludhiana, Punjab for River Bed Mining in Block No.05, ANG/SA/05, Shankerpora Bridge Downstream Sandran Nallah Leasearea 5.82 ha. Mining project-Category "B1" Village-Shankerpora, Tehsil Dooru, District Anantnag under proposal No. **SIA/JK/MIN/59448/2020.**

Deliberations:

During the discussion of the case by the JKEAC, the Consultant has given a detailed power point presentation followed by demonstration of the local environmental settings using KML file on Google Earth platform. While examining the mining block on the satellite image, Committee has pointed out that one bridge is located at a distance of 91 mts while as another is located at a distance of 362 mts. It was further observed that by reducing the size of the mining block on either side to maintain a safe distance of 500mts from the bridges would render the size of the mining block below 5ha and therefore would qualify for change of membership to B2 category.

In view of the above deliberations, the Committee has recommended for rejection of ToRs for the project in the present form and desired that if the PP so requests, the mining block may be reduced in size to maintain a safe distance of 500mts from bridges on either side of the mining block which eventually would qualify the mining block to membership under B2 category. Subsequently, after obtaining fresh approval of the mining plan, the PP may apply directly for EC under B2 category.

Decision:

After deliberations on the recommendations of JKEAC, JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the Committee for rejection of ToRs in the present form. The Authority agrees with the recommendation of committee regarding downsizing of block to maintain a safe distance of 500mts from bridges on either side of the mining block, which would qualify under B2 category. PP may obtain fresh approval of the mining plan and apply directly for EC under B2 category.

Agenda Item No:9.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of Shri Jagdesh Singh S/O Shri Vijay Singh, R/O Malakpur, District Pathankot Punjab for River Bed Mining in Block No.02, ANG/SA/02, Mehmoodabad Bridge Upstream Sandan Nlla Lease area 3.27 ha. Mining project-category- “B1” Village Mehmoodabad, Tehsil Dooru District Anantnag under proposal No.**SIA/JK/MIN/59441/2020.**

Deliberations:

During the discussion of the case by the JKEAC, the Consultant has given a detailed power point presentation followed by demonstration of the local environmental settings using KML file on Google Earth platform. While examining the mining block on the satellite image, the members pointed out that the mining block is located at a distance of 110 mts. from the bridge and recommended the case for grant of Terms of Reference for enabling the consultant to formulate the EIA/EMP and pre-feasibility report and to accomplish other statutory formalities subject to the condition that if the Project Proponent so requests, the mining block be reduced in size so as to maintain a safe distance of 500mts from the bridge.

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the Committee to grant Terms of Reference for the project enabling the consultant to formulate the EIA/EMP and pre-feasibility report and to accomplish other statutory formalities subject to the condition that, the mining block be reduced in size, so as to maintain a safe distance of 500mts from the bridge.

Agenda Item No:10.

Grant of Terms of Reference in favour of M/S Sai Mines R/O Logate, Kathua, JK UT for Minor Mineral Block-23, Johad Khad at Village Johad, District Kathua over an area of 6.31 ha. under proposal No.**SIA/JK/MIN/59417/2020.**

Deliberations:

During the discussion of the case by the JKEAC, the Consultant has given a detailed power point presentation followed by demonstration of the local environmental settings using KML file on Google Earth platform. While examining the mining block on the satellite image, the Committee has found the mining block fit for grant of ToRs and accordingly recommended to grant Terms of Reference for the project for enabling the consultant to formulate the EIA/EMP and pre-feasibility report and to accomplish other statutory formalities:

Decision:

The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the Committee to grant Terms of Reference for the project for enabling the consultant to formulate the EIA/EMP and pre-feasibility report and to accomplish other statutory formalities:

Agenda Item No:11.

Grant of Environment clearance in favour of Shri Jagdish Singh S/O Shri Vijay Singh, R/O Mahipur, Tehsil & District Pathankot, Gurdaspur, Punjab-145001 for Minor Mineral Block No.III/2, Downstream under construction Bridge at Chenab River, Gulabgarh, Kishtwar under proposal No.**SIA/JK/MIN/187756/2020.**

Deliberations:

During the discussion of the case project, the consultant has given a detailed Power Point presentation and informed the Committee that the mining block covers a total area of 2 ha with a minable area of 0.75 ha only as the rest of the area is under active water channel. He informed that the project is required to be considered for grant of EC under B2 category. The Committee deliberated on various aspects of the project like; mining depth, active water channel, haulage route and the presence of settlements in the vicinity. The consultant also demonstrated the mining block on the Google Earth Image using KML file. While examining the mining block on the temporal multirate images on Google Earth platform, the following observations were made:-

1. The boundaries of the mining block do not exactly fit on the features on ground.
2. There is a triangular dry riverbed mass measuring 0.30 ha towards the North west on the image but the coordinates of the mining block do not exactly fit onto this but fall partly in the active water channel.
3. There is another triangular dry riverbed mass measuring 0.50 ha in the South East of the proposed mining block at a distance of approx..140 mts. from the northern dry riverbed mass, both separated by an active water channel throughout the year.
4. Though, the consultant was able to show haulage route for the south Eastern dry riverbed mass, he informed that there is no such haulage route for the North-western dry riverbed mass and the PP is actively involved in negotiations with the villagers for access through their cropland on lease basis.
5. These intricacies have unfortunately not been dealt with in the approved mining plan which even prescribes 50% exploitation (35156MT at mining

depth of 2.5m) in the active water channel in contravention to existing national guidelines on the subject.

6. That, in spite of the project discrepancies, the area has a high potential of sand accumulations.

In view of the above deliberations and observations, the Committee recommended only 0.50 ha of the South Eastern dry riverbed mass out of 2 ha of the proposed mining block for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to condition that the project proponent submits a revised mining plan with necessary corrections in minable area and mining depth duly approved by the competent authority prior to grant of formal EC and subject to standard and specific conditions including those mentioned by the concerned stake holders in the NOCs, which the PP must submit prior to issuance of formal EC, as per approved checklist.

Decision:

After thorough deliberations on the recommendations of JKEAC, the JKEIAA upheld the recommendation for grant of Environmental Clearance to the project for extraction in an area of 0.50 ha. of the South Eastern dry river bed mass out of 2 ha. of the proposed mining bloc. However, the EC is conditionally granted to enable the PP to complete the other formalities. This is further subject to condition that the project proponent submits a revised mining plan with necessary corrections in minable area and mining depth duly approved by the competent authority, within three months of grant of EC, but before the mining is actually started on ground and subject to standard and specific conditions including those mentioned by the concerned stake holders in the NOCs, which the PP must submit prior to issuance of formal EC. The conditional EC shall be validated as formal EC on receipt of above documents.

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/III/

Dated:16/01/2021

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(s)

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