



THE RAMCO CEMENTS LIMITED

Corporate Office:

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Tel: +91 44 2847 8666 Fax: +91 44 2847 8676
Website: www.ramcocements.in
Corporate Identity Number: L26941TN1957PLC003566

RCL/MoEF&CC/40/2023-2024

26.10.2023

The Director,

IA. II(M) Division,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Vayu-305, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Jorbagh Road, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003.

Sub: Environmental Clearance for Expansion proposal of Ramco Budawada Limestone Mine (RF) over an extent of 160.0 Ha of Mining Lease and Limestone production capacity from 1.10 MTPA to 2.50 MTPA of The Ramco Cements Limited in Jaggayyapet Village, Jaggayyapet Mandal, NTR (earlier Krishna) District, Andhra Pradesh – Submission of ADS Reply for the ADS raised on 06.09.2023 – Reg.

Ref:

1. Environmental Clearance for Ramco Budawada Limestone Mine (RF) issued vide order No. J-11015/150/2008-IA.II(M) dated 10.12.2009.
2. EC Expansion Proposal No. IA/AP/MIN/25556/2014 and file No. J - 11015/443/2014-IA.II(M).
3. EAC (Non-Coal Mine) Committee meeting held on EAC Meeting held on 24.10.2017.
4. ADS raised on 01.11.2017.
5. Transfer of EC from 'M/s. Madras Cements Ltd.' to 'M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited' vide F.No. J-11015/150/2008-IA.II(M) dated 28.04.2023.
6. Environmental Clearance amendment order issued vide order No. J-11015/150/2008-IA.II(M) dated 07.08.2023.
7. ADS reply submitted on 10.08.2023.
8. ADS raised on 06.09.2023.

Respected Sir,

We herewith humbly submit that Ministry has accorded Environmental Clearance (EC) order for our Ramco Budawada Limestone Mine (Reserve Forest) for production of 1.10 Million Tonne per Annum Limestone vide 1st cited above.

We have applied for Expansion proposal for this mine vide Proposal No. IA/AP/MIN/25556/2014 and File No. J -11015/443/2014-IA.II(M), for expansion in production capacity from 1.10 MTPA to 2.50 MTPA.

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After conducting the Public hearing and submitting all the relevant documents for Final EIA, the project was considered in the EAC meeting held on 23-24th October, 2017. Based on the information furnished and discussion held, the Committee was of the view that only 10% of the production has been achieved and proposal for expansion could not be justified by the PP. The Committee also observed that the PP did not develop the green belt around the Mining lease, which is one of the conditions of the earlier EC. PP submitted that they could not develop the green belt and achieve their rated production as they did not get permission from the other nearby mining lease owners to use the area under their control to approach their mining lease and due to this the production is less. PP also submitted that they are in process of resolving the issue pertaining to approach road. Therefore, the Committee decided to defer the proposal and instructed the PP to take steps to fulfil the conditions stipulated in earlier EC and resolve the issues pertaining to approach road. Subsequently, the proposal is delisted on 10.05.2018 as we have not submitted the reply for the ADS (in the meeting held on 24.10.2017) as the mine is not in operation regularly due to approach road issue with Rastriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL).

The approach road issue is in Honourable High Court of Andhra Pradesh.

To overcome the problem, our management decided to establish railway siding along with a stacker and reclaimers in the Mining lease area for transportation of limestone by wagons from the mine to cement plant located at Jayanthipuram. Based on our request, MoEF & CC accorded EC amendment vide order No. J-11015/150/2008-IA.II(M) dated 07.08.2023.

Having complied with all EC conditions, we have also now fulfilled more than 40% annual production from this lease area. The condition Green Belt development is also complied and the same was certified by the IRO in certified compliance. With installation of the railways siding and spurt in demand of cement production, we foresee additional limestone requirement from our Mining lease. Hence we are approaching the MoEF& CC to clear our pending Expansion proposal that was delisted earlier. Based on our request, Ministry relisted this expansion project on 31.07.2023. We have submitted ADS reply point wise vide reference 7th cited above.

It is understood from the website of MOEF&CC that ADS is raised on 06.09.2023 and copy of the EC report is enclosed as Annexure – I. We are herewith submitting the compliance for the ADS point.

THE RAMCO CEMENTS LIMITED

S. No.	ADS Point raised	Present Status
i.	The Project Proponent is kindly requested to submit the latest certified compliance report as per Ministry's OM dated 08.06.2022 being an expansion proposal.	<p>We submit the chronological events since our application for recent EC amendment proposal for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>inclusion of Railway siding facility with stacker, reclaimer facility within the Mining lease area and to permit transportation of limestone from Ramco Budawada RF limestone mine to the cement plant by road as well as by railway line',</i> <p>we had then requested IRO, MoEF&CC, Vijayawada for certified compliance report for obtaining the above amendment in proposal for inclusion of Railway siding with stacker & reclaimer facility. The Joint Director (S), IRO, MoEF&CC, Vijayawada visited our said mine on 11.11.2021 and issued certified compliance report vide letter No. IRO/VIJ/EPA/MISC/111-01/2021-365 dated 24.05.2022. Copy of the same is enclosed as Annexure – II, for your kind perusal.</p> <p>The same was submitted to the Ministry. The EAC (NCM) meeting held on 31.05.2023, the honorable committee suggested for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The Project Proponent needs to submit the Closure report for the non-compliances identified by IRO.</i> <p>We had then again approached IRO, Vijayawada on 08.06.2023 and requested for closure report for the non-compliances identified.</p> <p>Vide Lr. No. IRO/VIJ/EC-A/101/05-86/2023-1003 dated 19.06.2023, The Joint Director (S), IRO, MoEF&CC, Vijayawada issued closure report for the same. Copy of the same is enclosed as Annexure – III, for your kind perusal. Upon submission of this; in the EAC meeting dated 12.07.2023, this EC amendment proposal is deliberated & recommended for EC amendment. The</p>

	<p>order is issued on 07.08.2023 vide 6th cited under Ref above.</p> <p>With this EC amendment dated 07.08.2023 and achieved nearly 40% of production level in the financial year 2022-2023 & complying the development of green belt condition, we have submitted our request <u>for re-listing of the earlier expansion proposal</u> <u>No. IA/AP/MIN/25556/2014 [File No. J - 11015/443/2014-IA.II (M)] on 25.07.2023.</u></p> <p>The Ministry has then re-listed the expansion proposal on 31.07.2023.</p> <p>We have uploaded the point-wise status report (for the points raised in the EAC meeting held on 24.10.2017) on 10.08.2023 in the PARIVESH portal.</p> <p>Now, the Ministry raised this ADS dated 06.09.2023 seeking certified compliance report from IRO. Accordingly, we have submitted a request letter to IRO, MoEF&CC, Vijayawada for latest certified compliance report as per this ADS (raised on 06.09.2023).</p> <p>On 04.10.2023, during our meeting with him, The Joint Director (S) suggested that as the ToR order for this expansion proposal made in the year 2015 & public hearing held in the in the year 2016, IRO is not authorized to issue latest certified compliance report as per the said guidelines dated 08.06.2022. The Joint Director (S) suggested that based on latest MoEF&CC guidelines, certified compliance reports can be issued for the following proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>For expansion projects</i> • <i>For amendment proposals</i> • <i>For name change proposals</i> • <i>For court cases</i> • <i>Any special request(s) made by the Ministry</i>
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THE RAMCO CEMENTS LIMITED

Considering all the above, we humbly request the Ministry to consider the following as latest certified compliance report (as ADS reply for the ADS raised on 06.09.2023) comprising:

- Certified compliance report vide letter No. IRO/VIJ/EPA/MISC/111-01/2021-365 dated 24.05.2022 &
- Closure report vide letter No. IRO/VIJ/EC-A/101/05-86/2023-1003 dated 19.06.2023.

The above documents has been recently considered by MoEF and awarded Grant of Amendment in EC for the same project vide their EC dated 07.08.2023 as provided under Ref 6 above.

We humbly request the Ministry to process our proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance for Ramco Budawada Limestone Mine (RF) for expansion in production capacity from 1.10 MTPA to 2.50 MTPA of limestone [Proposal No. IA/AP/MIN/25556/2014 & File No. J-11015/443/2014-IA.II(M)] over an area of 160.0 ha in Jaggayyapet Village, Jaggayyapet Mandal, NTR (earlier Krishna) District, Andhra Pradesh.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

For The Ramco Cements Limited,



Authorized Signatory

Encl.: As above.

v. Uploaded Additional Report/Study/Document as desired by Ministry/EAC: [Annexure-Additional Report/Study/Document](#)

vi. Uploaded Cover Letter: [Annexure-Cover Letter](#)

vii. Remarks: Final EIA Report alongwith Annexures is uploaded and Approved Mining plan is uploaded as Additional Document

3. Additional Detail Sought

Additional Detail Sought			
Sno.	ADS Letter	Remarks	Date of ADS
1.	NA	Based on the information furnished and discussion held, the Committee was of the view that only 10% of the production has been achieved and proposal for expansion could not be justified by the PP. Therefore, Committee decided to deferred the proposal and was of the view that PP has to submit the following documents, in addition to justification for seeking EC for expansion, for further decision on the matter by the committee i. The mine lease area is complete forest land however no Schedule 1 species was reported in the area. Therefore, list of flora and fauna of study area shall be authenticated by State Forest Department. ii. The Conservation plan for Schedule 1 species, if any, shall be submitted. iii. The baseline data appears to be incorrect. The fresh baseline data shall be coll	05 Oct 2016
2.	ADS Letter	Additional data for points raised in the earlier EAC meeting for EC proposal	14 Sep 2017
3.	NA	The proposal was again considered in the EAC Meeting held on 19-20 Sep, 2016. Based on the information furnished and discussion held, the Committee was of the view that only 10% of the production has been achieved and proposal for expansion could not be justified by the PP. Therefore, Committee decided to deferred the proposal and was of the view that PP has to submit the following documents, in addition to justification for seeking EC for expansion, for further decision on the matter by the committee. i. The mine lease area is complete forest land however no Schedule 1 species was reported in the area. Therefore, list of flora and fauna of study area shall be authenticated by State Forest Department. ii. The Conservation plan for Schedule 1 species, if any, shall be submitted. iii.	01 Nov 2017
4.	ADS Letter	Please find attached the reply for the additional details sought.	10 Aug 2023
5.	NA	Sir, The Project Proponent is kindly requested to submit the latest certified compliance report as per Ministry's OM dated 08.06.2022 being an expansion proposal.	06 Sep 2023

4. Accredited Consultant Details

i. Accreditation status : Yes

ii. Accreditation No. : NABET/EIA/1316/RA002



भारत सरकार / Government of India
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / Integrated Regional Office
ग्रीन हाउस, गोपालारेड्डी रोड, विजयवाड़ा, आंध्र प्रदेश - 520010
Green House, Gopalareddy Road,
Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh-520010.



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File No. IRO/VIJ/EPA/MISC/111-01/2021-365

Date: 24.05.2022

To

The Member Secretary,
 State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA),
 O/o Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board,
 D. No. 33-26-14 D/2, Near Sunrise Hospital,
 Pushpa Hotel Centre, Chalamalavari Street,
 Kasturibaipet, Vijayawada - 520 010. Andhra Pradesh.
 E-mail: msseiaaap@gmail.com, apseiaams@gmail.com

Sub: Issue of Certified Compliance Report in favor of Budawada Limestone (ML area 160 Ha. and Production capacity 1.1 MTPA) at village Budawada, Jaggaipet Taluk, Krishna Distt., Andhra Pradesh by M/s Madras Cements Ltd. - reg.

Ref: Ministry's Environmental Clearance No. J-11015/150/2008-IA. II (M) dated 10.12.2009

Sir,

I am directed to draw your kind attention to the subject and reference letter cited above and to state that the above project has been monitored by undersigned on 11.11.2021 for issue of Certified Compliance Report. Based on the observations made while monitoring of project, the detailed Certified Compliance Report has been prepared and enclosed for kind information and further needful action.

भवदीय / Yours faithfully,

Encl: as above

Digitally Signed by Suresh

Sd/-

Babu Pasupuleti

(डॉ। सुरेश बाबु पसुपुलेटी)

Date: 30-05-2022 19:20:19

(Dr. Suresh Babu Pasupuleti)

Reason: Approved

संयुक्त निदेशक (एस) / वैज्ञानिक 'डी'

Joint Director (S) / Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. **Shri Pankaj Verma**, Addl. Director, Member Secretary (Non-Coal Mining), 2nd Floor, Prithvi Block, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003. E-mail: pankaj.verma@nic.in for kind information and further necessary action.
2. **The Plant Head**, M/s The Ramco Cements Limited, (Formerly Madras Cements Ltd.) Kumarasamy Raja Nagar - 521 457, Jaggaiahpet Mandal, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh. E-mail: ihprasad@ramcocements.co.in, srraju@ramcocements.co.in for kind information and further necessary action.

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3. Project File.

4. Guard File.



Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / Integrated Regional Office
ग्रीन हाउस, गोपालारेड्डी रोड, विजयवाड़ा, आंध्र प्रदेश – 520010
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प्रमाणित अनुपालन रिपोर्ट / Certified Compliance Report

SN	Item	Details
1.	परियोजना का प्रकार Type of Project	Non-Coal Mine (Limestone)
2.	परियोजना का नाम Name of Project	Budawada Limestone (ML area 160 Ha. and Production capacity 1.1 MTPA) at village Budawada, Jaggayyapet Taluk, Krishna Distt., Andhra Pradesh by M/s Madras Cements Ltd.
3.	परियोजना प्राधिकरण का पता Address of project authorities	The Plant Head, M/s The Ramco Cements Limited, (Formerly Madras Cements Ltd.) Kumarasamy Raja Nagar – 521 457, Jaggaiahpet Mandal, Krishna District, AP
4.	पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति पत्र सं० एवं तिथि Env. Clearance Letter No. & Date	J-11015/150/2008-IA. II (M) dated 10.12.2009
5.	क्षेत्रीय कार्यालयपत्र सं० Regional Office File No.	IRO/VIJ/EPA/MISC/111-01/2021
6.	स्थल दौरातिथि Date of Site Visit	11.11.2021
7.	परियोजना की स्थिति Status of Project	Operational

8. परियोजना की वर्तमान स्थिति / Present status of the Project:

The project was monitored by undersigned on 11.11.2021. During monitoring, Shri N. Ravi Shankar, Sr President (Manufacturing), Shri P. Jani Reddy, Sr. DGM (Mines), Shri I. Hari Prasad, AGM (Env.), Shri U. Sitha Rama Raju, AGM (Mech.) and other Officials were present. As per the discussions held with Project Authorities (PAs), it has been observed that the project is Limestone mining over an area of 160 ha and the entire lease area is forest land. Method of mining is opencast mechanised involving drilling and blasting. It has been informed that the mine is opened on 01.02.2014. The production started as per the requirement of the cement plant. The Mine is not in full-fledged operations for production as planned due to lack of proper approach road to transport limestone from mines to plant.

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As per the records, it has been observed that the following clearances / approvals has been accorded to the project by various Authorities:

Environmental Clearance (EC):

- Environmental Clearance (EC) has been granted by MoEF&CC vide letter No. J-11015/150/2008-IA.II (M) dated 10.12.2009 in favour of M/s Madras Cements Ltd., for mining of Lime stone with production capacity of 1.10 MTPA in Mine Lease area of 160.00 ha.
- It has been observed that the EC has been granted in favour of M/s Madras Cements Ltd., and has not been transferred to M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited.

Forest Clearance (FC):

- *Stage-I:*
 - Stage-I Forest Clearance has been granted by MoEF&CC (FC Division) vide letter No. 8-56/2005-FC dated 31.12.2008 in favour of M/s Madras Cements Ltd., for diversion of 160 ha of forest land for mining of Lime stone in Budavada Reserve Forest in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh.
- *Stage-II:*
 - Stage-II Forest Clearance has been granted by MoEF&CC (FC Division) vide letter No. 8-56/2005-FC dated 22.12.2011 in favour of M/s Madras Cements Ltd., for diversion of 160 ha of forest land for mining of Lime stone in Budavada Reserve Forest in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh.
- *Transfer of FC:*
 - The FC has been transferred from M/s Madras Cements Ltd., to M/s Ramco Cements Ltd., vide letter No. Rc.No:712/2000-TO dated 03.09.2016 granted by Forest Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Consent Orders:

- Consent for Establishment (CFE) granted by Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPC) vide Order No. 285/PCB/CFE/RO-VJA/HO/2009-69 dated 08.04.2010 for production of 1.10 MTPA Limestone over an area of 160 ha.



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- Combined Consent for Operation (CFO) and Authorisation granted by APPCB vide Order No. APPCB/VJA/VJA/488/HO/CFO/2021 dated 04.01.2022 for operation of following Mines:

Mine No.	Name of the Mine	Quantity
Mine-I	Jayanthipuram Limestone Mine (North Band)	1.80 million TPA
Mine-II	Jayanthipuram Limestone Mine (South Band)	1.75 million TPA
Mine-III	Ravirala Limestone Mine (RF)	1.20 million TPA
Mine-IV	Ramco Budawada Limestone Mine (RF)	1.10 million TPA
	Total	5.85 million TPA

The CFO is valid up to 31.01.2023.

Mining Lease:

- Mining Lease has granted by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O.Ms.No. 291 dated 31.10.2008 for Lime stone over an extent of 160.00 ha in Reserve Forest of Budavada for a period of 20 years in favour of M/s. Madras Cements Limited.
- Transfer of Mine Lease from M/s. Madras Cements Limited to M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited has granted by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O.Ms.No. 96 dated 13.10.2015.
- Extension of Mining Lease granted by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O.Ms.No. 59 dated 02.05.2017 for a period of 50 Years w.e.f. 17.03.2009 to 16.03.2059 for Limestone over an extent of 160.00 Ha issued in favour of M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited.
- The modified Mining Plan has approved by Indian Bureau of Mines, Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India vide Letter No. AP/KSN/MP/LST-30/HYD dated 07.07.2021 in respect of Budawada Limestone Mine (RF) of M/s. The Ramco Cements Ltd.

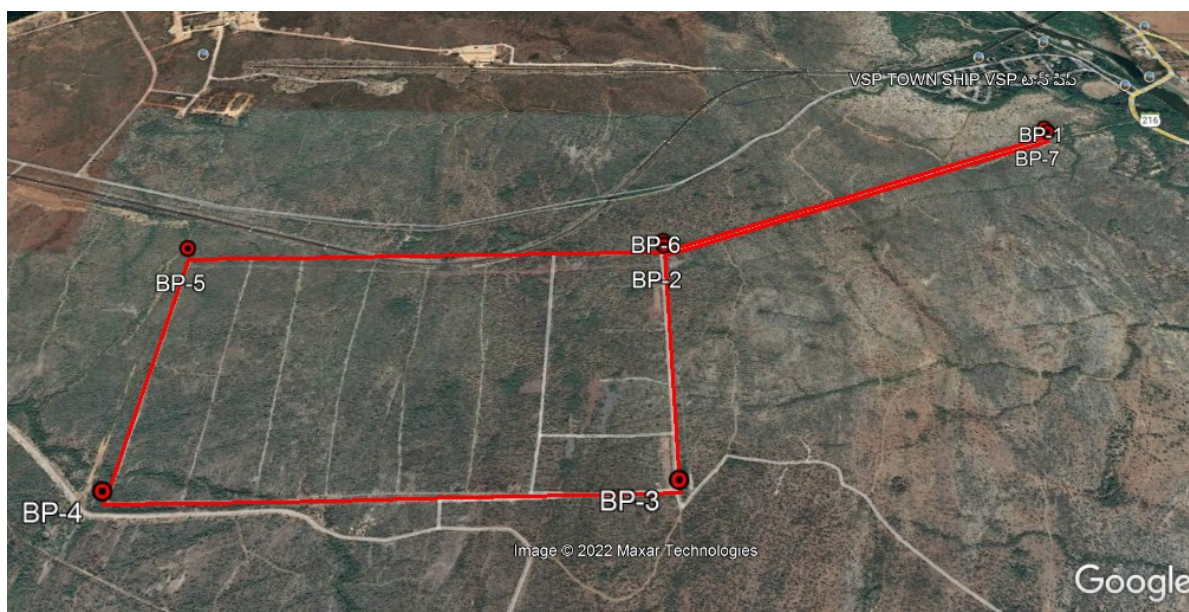
The photographs of the project area are as follows:

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The satellite image of the project location by google maps is as follows:

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It has been observed that the Project Authorities (PAs) have complied or are in process of complying the conditions stipulated in EC. The detailed observations are as follows:

9. Stipulated Conditions:

A: Specific Conditions:

- i. Environmental Clearance is subject to obtaining Forest Clearance under Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980 from the Competent Authority before start of work at mine.**

Status: Being complied

It has been informed that the mine is opened on 01.02.2014. The production started as per the requirement of the cement plant. The Mine is not in full pledged operations for production as planned due to lack of proper approach road to transport limestone from mines to plant.

As per the records, it has been observed that the PAs have obtained the following forest clearances:

- *Stage-I:*
 - Stage-I Forest Clearance has been granted by MoEF&CC (FC Division) vide letter No. 8-56/2005-FC dated 31.12.2008 in favour of M/s Madras Cements Ltd., for diversion of 160 ha of forest land for mining of Lime stone in Budavada Reserve Forest in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh.
- *Stage-II:*

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- Stage-II Forest Clearance has been granted by MoEF&CC (FC Division) vide letter No. 8-56/2005-FC dated 22.12.2011 in favour of M/s Madras Cements Ltd., for diversion of 160 ha of forest land for mining of Lime stone in Budavada Reserve Forest in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh.
- *Transfer of FC:*
 - The FC has been transferred from M/s Madras Cements Ltd., to M/s Ramco Cements Ltd., vide letter No. Rc.No:712/2000-TO dated 03.09.2016 granted by Forest Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

- ii. **Wild life conservation plan shall be prepared in consultation with the office of the Chief Wild Life Warden and implemented within six months. The plan shall comprise of in-built monitoring mechanism with special emphasis to protection of Schedule-I species. The status of implementation shall be submitted to the Ministry.**

Status: Partially complied

As per the discussions held, it has been informed that, as per the authenticated list of Flora and Fauna from The DFO, Krishna Division, Vijayawada vide Letter No. Rc.No.712/95-V6 dated 29.08.2008, no wild life and schedule - I species are present in the area and no wild life is observed, after opening the mine in the subject area. Hence, Wild life conservation plan is not prepared.

It has been observed that the PAs have submitted letters dated 04.12.2009, 05.01.2010, 13.11.2012, 26.05.2014, 20.11.2015 and 11.05.2022 addressed to The Chief Wild Life Warden, Guntur for Wild Life Conservation Measures. However, Wild life conservation plan yet to be prepared.

It is required to consult Chief Wild Life Warden for preparation of Wild life conservation plan in consultation with the office of the Chief Wild Life Warden. The plan shall comprise of in-built monitoring mechanism with special emphasis to protection of Schedule-I species. The status of implementation shall be submitted to Ministry's IRO along with six monthly compliance reports on regular basis.

- iii. **Hydro-geological study of the area shall be reviewed annually and results submitted to the Ministry and concerned agency in the State Govt. In case adverse impact on ground water quality and quantity is observed, mining shall be immediately stopped and resumed only after mitigating steps to contain any adverse**

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impact on ground water is implemented.

Status: Partially complied

As per the discussions held, it has been informed that the detailed hydro-geological study is carried out & report submitted to the Ministry along with EIA report submitted for the project. Presently, the mine workings are not touched the ground water table. Groundwater level is being monitored regularly (at 3 locations) and readings are being recorded. The ground water data is being submitted to the CGWB regularly.

It is required to conduct Hydro-geological study of the area annually and results submitted to the Ministry's IRO, Vijayawada and concerned agency in the State Govt. In case adverse impact on ground water quality and quantity is observed, mining shall be immediately stopped and resumed only after mitigating steps to contain any adverse impact on ground water is implemented.

- iv. A 50 m barrier of no mining zone on the side(s) of the nallahs / streams flowing in or adjacent the lease (if any) shall be demarcated and the barrier shall be thickly vegetated with native species of trees and shrubs.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that no nallah or stream is flowing in or adjacent to the mining lease.

- v. The company shall ensure that no silt originating due to mining activity is transported in the surface water course (if any) flowing in the area.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that no silt is being generated due to mining activity and there is no surface water course flowing in the mining lease area also.

- vi. Shelter belt i.e., Wind Break consisting of adequate tiers of plantations around lease facing the human habitation, school / agricultural fields etc., (if any in the vicinity) shall be raised.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the entire mine lease area is forest land. No human habitation / school / agricultural fields exist within the vicinity of subject area.



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- vii. Occupational Health Cell shall be created at the company under the charge of an officer of adequate seniority who is a qualified person in occupational health.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the PAs have established a full-fledged Occupational Health Centre with a qualified Occupational Health Specialist with supporting staff with the following facilities:

- X-ray
- ECG
- Spirometry (lung function test)
- Audiometry
- Semi-auto analyser to carryout bio-chemical tests
- Clinical lab for micro-biological tests (including sputum test)
- Checking colour blindness
- Dental chair
- Ambulance

As per the records, Occupational Health Surveillance programme is being taking up periodically and records are being maintained.

- viii. Personnel exposure monitoring for dust shall be carried out for the workers.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the personnel dust sampling is being done by MoEF&CC approved external environmental monitoring agency.

- ix. Land-use pattern of the nearby villages shall be studied, including common property resources available for conversion into productive land. Action plan for abatement and compensation for damage to agricultural land / common property land (if any) in the nearby villages, due to mining activity shall be submitted to the Ministry within six months.**

Status: Being complied

As per the discussions held, it has been stated that the detailed land use pattern of the nearby villages is made in EIA/EMP. The Mine is not in full pledged operations for production as planned due to lack of proper approach road to transport limestone from mines to Cement Plant. As per the information provided, it has been that the PAs have identified about four nos. of agricultural lands for conversion of productive lands. The map showing the identified lands area as follows:



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- x. **Need based assessment for the nearby villages shall be conducted to study economic measures with action plan which can help in upliftment of poor section of society. Income generating projects consistent with the traditional skills of the people besides development of fodder farm, fruit bearing orchards, vocational training etc., can form a part of such programme. Company shall provide separate budget for community development activities and income generating programmes. This will be in addition to vocational training for individuals imparted to take up self employment and jobs.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the PAs are in process of organizing various socio-economic activities for the surrounding villages. All the CSR activities for the nearby villages are being carried out as per the need basis of the local people (requirements collected from them), subjected to the budget availability. It has been informed that an amount of about Rs. 1018.79 lakh has incurred for the period 2003-2021 (for a period of 18 years), with an average of Rs. 56.60 lakh per annum is being spent for various socio-economic activities for the surrounding villages as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities. These activities include village-wise, sector-wise (health, skill development and infrastructure requirements such as strengthening of village roads, avenue plantation, etc.). Children from the surrounding villages are studying in the school located in the cement plant colony. Apprentice training with stipend is being given for local people who have completed Industrial Training

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Institute (ITI) certificate, regularly. Details of CSR expenditure is being submitted along with half-yearly compliance reports on regular basis.

- xi. Fugitive dust generation shall be controlled. Fugitive dust emission shall be regularly monitored at locations of nearest human habitation (including schools and other public amenities located nearest to sources of dust generation as applicable) and records submitted to the Ministry.**

Status: Being complied.

It has been observed that the PAs are in process of controlling fugitive dust emissions generated during mining activities by water spraying and implementing wet drilling. There are no human habitations including schools and other public amenities located nearer to the mine. It has been observed that the PAs are regularly conducting fugitive dust emissions and as per the reports submitted, the fugitive dust emissions are within the prescribed limits.

- xii. Cumulative impacts of the proposed mine and other mines including mine of M/s Jaypee Cement on the Ambient Air shall be assessed and data submitted to the Ministry within six months.**

Status: Being complied.

As per the discussions held, it has been observed that the report on cumulative impacts along with neighbouring M/s Jaypee Balaji Cements has submitted vide our Lr. No. TRCL/MoEF/3323/2013 dated 11.11.2013 to the Ministry.

- xiii. Rain water harvesting shall be undertaken to recharge the ground water source. Status of implementation shall be submitted to the Ministry within six months.**

Status: Being complied.

It has been observed that the PAs are in process of implementing the following measures for rain water harvesting to recharge the ground water source.

- 48 Nos. of rain water harvesting pits are made at colony & 4 Nos. of rain water harvesting pits are made at associated cement plant for roof top collection to recharge ground water table.
- It has been assured that rain water harvesting pits will be constructed to recharge the ground water after commencement

of full-fledged production from the mine.

- xiv. Monitoring of ground and surface water quality shall be regularly conducted and records maintained and data submitted to the Ministry regularly. Further, monitoring points shall be located between the mine and drainage in the direction of flow of ground water and records maintained. Monitoring for Arsenic in ground water shall be undertaken.**

Status: Being complied.

It has been observed that the PAs are monitoring ground water quality and level at various locations in buffer zone and records are being maintained. Compiled data on analysis reports of the same is being submitted regularly to the Ministry, along with half yearly compliance reports regularly. It has been observed from the ground water analysis reports that Arsenic concentration is Below Detectable Limit (<0.01 mg/L) and other parameters are within the prescribed limits.

- xv. Measures for prevention and control of soil erosion and management of slit shall be undertaken. Protection of dumps against erosion shall be carried out with geo textile matting or other suitable material and thick plantations of native trees and shrubs shall be carried out at the dump slopes. Dumps shall be protected by retaining walls.**

Status: Assured to comply

It has been observed that there is no top soil generation from this mining lease area. As on date there are no dumps. It has been assured by PAs that, dumps generated, if any, will be protected accordingly.

- xvi. Provision shall be made for the housing the labourers within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.**

Status: Not applicable at present

As per the discussions held, it has been informed that the labourers are being mobilized from the nearby villages. Once the regular production starts, the housing will be provided in the colony located near cement plant, for the regular employees.

- xvii. Trenches / garland drains shall be constructed at foot of dumps**



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and coco filters installed at regular intervals to arrest silt from being carried to water bodies. Adequate number of Check Dams and Gully Plugs shall be constructed across seasonal / perennial nallahs (if any) flowing through the ML area and silts arrested. De-silting at regular intervals shall be carried out.

Status: Assured to complied

It has been observed that, till date no dumps are developed in the mine lease. PAs have assured to comply the condition during development of dumps in the mine lease area.

- xviii. Occupational health and Safety measures for the workers including identification of work related health hazards, training on malaria eradication, HIV, and health effects on exposure to mineral dust etc. shall be carried out. The company shall engage a full time qualified doctor who is trained in occupational health. Periodic monitoring for exposure to respirable mineral dust on the workers shall be conducted and records maintained including health records of the workers. Awareness programme for workers on impact of mining on their health and precautionary measures like use of personal equipments etc. shall be carried out periodically. Review of impact of various health measures undertaken (at interval of five years or less) shall be conducted followed by follow up action wherever required.**

Status: Being complied

As per the discussions held, it has been observed that the awareness programme on health & safety for workers of work related health hazards, training on malaria eradication, HIV and health effects on exposure to mineral dust etc., and precautionary measures like the use of PPE are also being imparted. Protective respiratory devices are provided to the personnel working in dusty areas (near drilling and loading areas) and adequate training and information on safety and health aspects are being provided as part of Mines Vocational Training.

A full time qualified doctor who is trained in occupational health services is appointed. Occupational health checkup is being carried out for all mine workers at the time of joining and is periodically reviewed as per statute for all mine workers.

- xix. Greenbelt development and selection of plant species shall be as per CPCB guidelines. Herbs and shrubs shall also form a part of afforestation programme besides tree plantation. Details of year wise afforestation programme including rehabilitation of mined out area shall be submitted to the Ministry within six months.**



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Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the PAs are in process of developing green belt in around the mine lease area. Around 10,346 Nos. of plants are planted over an area of 3.50 Ha all along the boundary up to September 2021. It has been informed that the mine is opened on 01.02.2014. As on date, no mined out area is available. As and when the mined out is available, the rehabilitation programme will be taken up accordingly.

It is required to develop green belt all along the mine lease area. Greenbelt development and selection of plant species shall be as per CPCB guidelines. Herbs and shrubs shall also form a part of afforestation programme besides tree plantation.

- xx. Top soil / solid waste shall be stacked properly with proper slope and adequate safeguards and shall be utilized for backfilling (wherever applicable) for reclamation and rehabilitation of mined out area. Top soil shall be separately stacked for utilization later for reclamation and shall not be stacked along with over burden.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that there is no top soil in the subject area. Any solid waste generated during mining will be stacked separately within the angle of repose of material, in the SW corner of mining lease area. The same material will be utilized for formation of internal roads and for backfilling on I & II benches to a height of 1 - 1.5 m for plantation purpose at the end of mining.

- xxi. Over burden (OB) shall be stacked at earmarked dump site(s) only and shall not be kept active for long period. The maximum height of the dump shall not exceed 30 m, each stage shall preferably be of 10 m and overall slope of the dump shall not exceed 28°. The OB dump shall be backfilled. The OB dumps shall be scientifically vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface run off. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliances status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests on six monthly basis.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that, at present, there is no OB generated in the area as the regular production from the mine is yet to start.



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- xxii. Slope of the mining bench and ultimate pit limit shall be as per the mining scheme approved by Indian Bureau of Mines.**

Status: Being complied

As per the discussions held, it has been observed that the ultimate pit slope of the Mining bench will be maintained at 45° as per approved mining scheme.

- xxiii. The waste water from the mine shall be treated to confirm to the prescribe standards before discharging into the natural stream. The discharged water from the Tailing Dam (if any) shall be regularly monitored and report submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Board.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that there is no waste water generation from the mine. There is no generation of tailings from the mining of limestone, hence no proposal for tailing dam. The domestic wastewater is being treated in septic tank followed by soak pit.

- xxiv. Action plan with respect to suggestions / improvements and recommendations made during public consultation / hearing shall be submitted to the Ministry and the State Govt. within six months.**

Status: Being complied

As per records, it has been observed that the action plan with respect to suggestions / improvements and recommendations made during public consultation / hearing has submitted.

- xxv. A final mine closure plan, along with details of Corpus Fund, shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, 5 years in advance of final mine closure for approval.**

Status: Assured to comply.

PAs have assured that the final mine closure plan, along with details of Corpus Fund, will be submitted to the Ministry 5 years in advance of final mine closure for approval.

- xxvi. Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Vehicles used for transportation of ores and others shall have valid permissions as prescribed under Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 and its amendments. Transportation of ore shall be done only during day time. The vehicles transporting**



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ores shall be covered with a tarpaulin or other suitable enclosures so that no dust particles / fine matters escape during the course of transportation. No overloading of ores for transportation shall be committed.

Status: Being complied.

As per the discussions held, it has been observed that the vehicles having valid permission as per Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 are being used for transportation of material.

To avoid fine particles escape while transporting, the following measures will be adopted:

- Moderately loading of tippers.
- Body height of the tippers will be raised by 1 foot.

A separate road on company's own land is proposed to make for transportation of limestone to crusher.

xxvii. The Environmental Clearance is subject to the condition, if any, stipulated by the IBM on the mining scheme submitted by the project proponent for its approval.

Status: Being complied

As per the discussions held, it has been assured that the conditions stipulated by IBM on the modifications in the approved Mining plan will be followed, after commencement of full-fledged production from the mine. The present Modifications in the Mining plan approved by IBM is valid from 2019-2020 to 2023-2024.

xxviii. Adequate buffer zone shall be maintained between two consecutive mineral bearing deposits.

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the PAs are maintaining adequate buffer zone between two consecutive mineral bearing deposits.

B. General Conditions:

i. No change in mining technology and scope of working shall be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that there is no change in mining technology and scope of working made without prior approval of the Ministry.



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- ii. **No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral and waste shall be made.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that there is no change in the calendar plan, excavation, quantum of mineral and waste. A quantity of 0.123 million tonne(from April 2021 to September 2021) as against 1.10 million TPA. In the financial year 2020-2021 limestone production was 0.04 million tonne against EC quantity of 1.10 million TPA. The production was less due to less market demand and also due to lack of proper approach road to transport limestone from mine to the cement plant. As per the information provided, the production details from mine since FY 2016-17 are as follows:

Financial Year	Production (TPA)	Overburden (TPA)
2016-2017	1,000	Nil
2017-2018	240	Nil
2018-2019	97,140	Nil
2019-2020	85,200	Nil
2020-2021	4,000	Nil

- iii. **Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources shall be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points shall be provided and properly maintained.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the PAs are in process of controlling fugitive dust emissions from all the sources by water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points.

- iv. **Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for RSPM, PM₁₀ / PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical feature and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.**

Being complied.

It has been observed that the PAs are monitoring Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) at four (04) and nine (09) locations in core and buffer

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zones respectively based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets in consultation with the SPCB. The 04 locations in the core zone are drilling area, loading area, haul road-1 and haul road-2. The 09 locations in the buffer zone are Dharmavarapupadu tanda, Jayanthipuram, Chilakallu, K. Agraharam village, Jaggayyapet, Budawada, Vedadri, Pachampalli and Ravirala. It has been observed that the PAs are monitoring AAQ fortnightly third party monitoring agency M/s Universal Enviro Associates, Hyderabad for PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x and CO. The reports are being submitted along with six monthly compliance reports on regular basis. The latest six monthly compliance report along with monitored data for the period April-September, 2021 has submitted vide letter no. RCL/MoEF&CC/RBLM-239/318 dated 29.11.2021.

- v. Data on ambient air quality (RSPM, PM₁₀ / PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x) should be made regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional office located at Bangalore and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months. The monitored data of criteria pollutants mentioned above shall be regularly uploaded on the company's website and also displayed at project site.**

Status: Being complied.

As per the records, it has been observed that the PAs are regularly submitting the data of the Ambient Air Quality to Ministry's Regional Office on regular basis along with six monthly compliance reports. The latest six monthly compliance report along with monitored data for the period April-September, 2021 has submitted vide letter no. RCL/MoEF&CC/RBLM-239/318 dated 29.11.2021. The data is also being displayed at project site. The six monthly compliance reports are being uploaded on the company's website (<http://www.ramcocements.in/environment.aspx>) and regularly being updated.

- vi. Measure shall be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dB(A) in the work environment. Workers engaged in operations of HEMM, etc. shall be provided with ear plugs / muffs.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the PAs are in process of taking following measures for control of noise levels below 85 dB(A) in the work environment:

- Vehicles are being maintained properly for control of noise.
- Ear plugs / muffs are provided to respective HEMM operators.
- Various other precautions are also being taken to control the



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noise.

- Compiled data is being submitted to the Ministry regularly along with half-yearly compliance reports.

As per the information provided, it has been observed that the PAs are monitoring noise levels at five (05) locations viz., drilling area, loading area, haul road-1, haul road-2 and rest shelter. As per the reports, the noise levels are below 85 dB(A).

- vii. Industrial waste water (workshop and waste water from the mine) should be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated 19th May, 1993 and 31st December, 1993 or as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap shall be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that there is no waste water generation from the mine. The domestic wastewater is being treated in septic tank followed by soak pit.

- viii. Personnel working in dusting areas shall be provided with protective respiratory devices and they shall also be imparted adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the Personal Protective Equipment are being provided and adequate training and information on safety and health aspects are being provided as part Mines Vocational Training. All areas where dust is being generated is being suppressed at source by water sprinkling, wet drilling etc.

- ix. Provision shall be made for the housing the labourers within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.**

Status: Not applicable at present

As the project is completed and there is no requirement of housing of the labour. It has been stated that, during the project time, the labourers were mobilized from the nearby villages. Once the regular production starts, the housing will be provided in the colony located near cement plant, for the regular employees.

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- x. **A separate Environmental Management Cell equipped with full-fledged laboratory facilities shall be set up to carry out the Environmental Management and Monitoring functions.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the PAs have a separate Environmental Management Cell for the project to carry out the Environmental Management and Monitoring functions.

- xi. **The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the Ministry located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the projects by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.**

Status: Partially complied.

It has been informed that the mine is opened on 01.02.2014 and date of financial closure for this project is not required as total funding for this project is from own funds.

It is required to provide the details regarding the financial closure and final approval of the projects by the concerned authorities.

- xii. **The funds earmarked for environment protection measures shall be kept in separate account and shall not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure shall be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bangalore.**

Status: Being complied.

As per the discussions held, it has been observed that the funds earmarked for environment protection are not being diverted for other purposes. The details of expenditure incurred under environmental protection are being submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office along with six monthly compliance reports on regular basis. As per the information provided, the expenditure incurred under environmental protection measures for the FY 2020-21 was Rs. 11.95/- Lakhs and for FY 2021-22 was Rs. 5.29/- Lakhs.

- xiii. **The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the Ministry located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the projects by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.**

Status: Partially complied.

It has been informed that the mine is opened on 01.02.2014 and



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date of financial closure for this project is not required as total funding for this project is from own funds.

It is required to provide the details regarding the financial closure and final approval of the projects by the concerned authorities.

- xiv. The Regional Office of the Ministry located at Bangalore shall monitor compliances of the stipulated condition. The project authorities shall extend full cooperation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.**

Status: Being complied.

It has been observed that the condition is being complied with. PAs are extending full cooperation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.

- xv. The project proponent shall submit six monthly reports on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, its Regional office, Bangalore, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board. The project proponent shall upload the status compliances of the environment of the environmental clearance conditions on their website and update the same periodically and simultaneously send the same by e-mail to the Regional Office, Ministry of Environment Forests, Bangalore.**

Status: Being complied

As per the records, it has been observed that the PAs are regularly submitting the six monthly compliance reports along with all monitored data to Ministry's Regional Office on regular basis. The latest six monthly compliance report along with monitored data for the period April-September, 2021 has submitted vide letter no. RCL/MoEF&CC/RBLM-239/318 dated 29.11.2021. The data is also being displayed at project site. The six monthly compliance reports are being uploaded on the company's website (<http://www.ramcocements.in/environment.aspx>) and regularly being updated.

- xvi. The project proponent shall advertise in at least two local newspapers widely circulated in the region around the project, one which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality, / office of Municipal Corporation / Gram Panchayat concerned on the company's website within seven days from the date of this clearance letter, informing that the project has been accorded**



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environmental clearance and copies of clearance letter are available with the State Pollution Control Board / Committee and may also be seen at website of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>.

Status: Complied

It has been observed that the PAs have advertised details regarding grant of Environmental Clearance in two local newspapers viz., Saakshi (Telugu daily) and Deccan Chronicle (English daily) on 12.12.2009 and copy of the same has submitted to Ministry's Regional Office. The EC is uploaded to the company's website (<http://www.ramcocements.in/environment.aspx>).

- xvii. A copy of clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO, if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall be also put on the website of the company.**

Status: Complied

As per the discussions held, it has been informed that the copy of EC letter has marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO, if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal. The EC is uploaded to the company's website (<http://www.ramcocements.in/environment.aspx>).

- xviii. State Pollution Control Board shall display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industries Centre and Collector's Office / Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.**

Status: Complied

It has been observed that the condition has complied with.

- xix. The Environmental Statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form - V as is mandated shall be submitted to the State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental clearance conditions. The same shall also be sent to the Regional Office of Ministry by e-mail.**

Status: Being complied

It has been observed that the PAs are regularly submitting environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in

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Form-V to Ministry's Regional Office. The Environment Statement in Form V for the year 2020-2021 has submitted vide letter no. RCL/PCB-Form-V/238/171 dated 24.09.2021 and is uploaded on the website of the company.

10. Observations:

The PAs have complied or are in process of complying the conditions stipulated by the Ministry. In this context, information/action plans have been sought on following points.

1. It has been observed that the EC Letter No. J-11015/150/2008-IA. II (M) dated 10.12.2009 has been granted in favour of M/s Madras Cements Ltd., and has not been transferred to M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited.
2. It has been observed that the PAs have submitted letters dated 04.12.2009, 05.01.2010, 13.11.2012, 26.05.2014, 20.11.2015 and 11.05.2022 addressed to The Chief Wild Life Warden, Guntur for Wild Life Conservation Measures. However, Wild life conservation plan yet to be prepared. It is required to consult Chief Wild Life Warden for preparation of Wild life conservation plan in consultation with the office of the Chief Wild Life Warden. The plan shall comprise of in-built monitoring mechanism with special emphasis to protection of Schedule-I species. The status of implementation shall be submitted to Ministry's IRO along with six monthly compliance reports on regular basis.
3. It is required to conduct Hydro-geological study of the area annually and results submitted to the Ministry's IRO, Vijayawada and concerned agency in the State Govt. In case adverse impact on ground water quality and quantity is observed, mining shall be immediately stopped and resumed only after mitigating steps to contain any adverse impact on ground water is implemented.
4. It is recommended to develop green belt all along the mine lease area. Greenbelt development and selection of plant species shall be as per CPCB guidelines. Herbs and shrubs shall also form a part of afforestation programme besides tree plantation at the earliest.
5. It is required to provide the details regarding the financial closure and final approval of the projects by the concerned authorities.

11. Recommendations:

This project can be put up in the following tick-marked category of compliance status.

- Compliance status could not be judged as the project was shut down / not in operational during the site visit.
 - No non-compliances detected. No any further action is required.
- ✓ **Minor non-compliances detected (not of immediate danger to**

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health & safety of the people). Letter issued to project authorities for taking corrective measures.

- Serious non-compliances detected. Recommended to issue a Show-Cause Notice to Project Authorities.

Digitally Signed by Suresh

Babu Pasupuleti

Date: 30-05-2022 19:21:54

Reason: Approved

Sd/-

(डॉ। सुरेश बाबु पसुपुलेटी)

(Dr. Suresh Babu Pasupuleti)

संयुक्त निदेशक (एस) / वैज्ञानिक 'डी'

Joint Director (S) / Scientist 'D'

Copy to: Project File



I/46669/2023



भारत सरकार / Government of India
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / Integrated Regional Office
ग्रीन हाउस, गोपालारेड्डी रोड, विजयवाड़ा, आंध्र प्रदेश – 520010
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File No. IRO/VIJ/EPA/EC-A/101/05-86/2023

Date: 19.06.2023

To

Shri Pankaj Verma,

Addl. Director, Member Secretary (Non-Coal Mining),
 2nd Floor, Prithvi Block,
 Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
 Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
 New Delhi – 110 003.

E-mail: pankaj.verma@nic.in

Sub: Examination of reply submitted by Budawada Limestone Mine (ML area 160 Ha and Production Capacity 1.1 MTPA) at village Budawada, Jaggayyapet Taluk, Krishna Distt., Andhra Pradesh by M/s The Ramco Cements Limited (formerly M/s. Madras Cements Limited) – reg.

Ref: 1. Ministry's Environmental Clearance No. J-11015/150/2008-IA. II (M) dated 10.12.2009.
 2. This Office Letter No. IRO/VIJ/EPA/MISC/111-01/2021 dated 24.05.2022.
 3. Action Taken Report submitted vide letter No. TRCL/Mines/BWD RF/MoEF&CC/116 dated 09.06.2023.

Sir,

I am directed to draw your kind attention to the subject and reference letters cited above and to state that the above project was monitored by undersigned on 11.11.2021 for issue of certified compliance report. During monitoring various non-compliances were observed. Subsequently, letter was sent on 24.05.2022 to the Project Authorities (PAs) for taking corrective measures. Subsequently, the PAs have submitted Action Taken Report (ATR) vide their letter dated 09.06.2023. As per Action Taken Report, which is required to be verified in the next round of monitoring, the condition wise reply is furnished below:

1.	<p>Observation made during monitoring on 11.11.2021:</p> <p>It has been observed that the EC Letter No. J-11015/150/2008-IA.II(M) dated 10.12.2009 has been granted in favour of M/s Madras Cements Ltd., and has not been transferred to M/s. The Ramco Cements Limited.</p> <p>Action taken report submitted by the project proponent on</p>
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	<p>09.06.2023:</p> <p>MoEF&CC accorded Transfer of EC in name of The Ramco cements Limited under clause 11 of the EIA Notification, 2006 vide letter No. J-11015/150/2008-IA.II(M) dated 28.04.2023 (Annexure – III).</p> <p>Review of Action Taken Report: Complied</p> <p>It has been observed that the Ministry has transferred the EC in the name of M/s The Ramco Cements Limited vide letter No. J-11015/150/2008-IA.II(M) dated 28.04.2023.</p>
2.	<p>Wild life conservation plan shall be prepared in consultation with the office of the Chief Wild Life Warden and implemented within six months. The plan shall comprise of in-built monitoring mechanism with special emphasis to protection of Schedule-I species. The status of implementation shall be submitted to the Ministry (Specific Condition No. ii).</p> <p>Observation made during monitoring on 11.11.2021:</p> <p>It has been observed that the PAs have submitted letters dated 04.12.2009, 05.01.2010, 13.11.2012, 26.05.2014, 20.11.2015 and 11.05.2022 addressed to The Chief Wild Life Warden, Guntur for Wild Life Conservation Measures. However, Wild life conservation plan yet to be prepared. It is required to consult Chief Wild Life Warden for preparation of Wild life conservation plan in consultation with the office of the Chief Wild Life Warden. The plan shall comprise of in-built monitoring mechanism with special emphasis to protection of Schedule-I species. The status of implementation shall be submitted to Ministry's IRO along with six monthly compliance reports on regular basis.</p> <p>Action taken report submitted by the project proponent on 09.06.2023:</p> <p>As advised, Wild Life Conservation Plan will be submitted in consultation with Chief Wild Life Warden. We have submitted letters dated 04.12.2009, 05.01.2010, 13.11.2012, 26.05.2014, 20.11.2015 and 11.05.2022 addressed to The Chief Wild Life Warden, Guntur for Wild Life Conservation Measures to be adopted for wild life if any. Again, we have submitted letter to Chief Wild Life Warden vide Letter No. RCL/Mines/BWDRF/95/478, dated 08.06.2023 (Annexure IV) regarding the same. We will follow up with Chief Wild Life Warden and The Wild life conservation plan will be submitted on receipt, if any.</p> <p>However, as per the Authenticated List of Flora & Fauna, issued by Office of the District Forest Officer, Krishan division, Vijaywada in the subject mining lease area of Core & Buffer zone of 10KM radius vide Letter Rc. No. 712/95-V6 dated 29.08.2008 and Letter no. 712/2000-TO dated 17.10.2017 (enclosed for reference), there are no Schedule- I Species exists in core and buffer zone of the Mining lease area and also stated that, the fauna is of common varieties without having any endangered species and there are no wild life in the lease area. Hence, no wild life Conservation Plan is Proposed.</p>

	<p>Review of Action Taken Report: Being complied</p> <p>As per the ATR submitted, it has been observed that the PAs are in process of preparing wild life conservation plan in consultation with the office of the Chief Wild Life Warden. In this regard, PAs have submitted letter to Chief Wild Life Warden vide Letter No. RCL/Mines/BWDRF/95/478, dated 08.06.2023. PAs have assured that they will follow up with Chief Wild Life Warden and The Wild life conservation plan will be submitted on receipt.</p>
3.	<p>Hydro-geological study of the area shall be reviewed annually and results submitted to the Ministry and concerned agency in the State Govt. In case adverse impact on ground water quality and quantity is observed, mining shall be immediately stopped and resumed only after mitigating steps to contain any adverse impact on ground water is implemented (Specific Condition No. iii).</p> <p>Observation made during monitoring on 11.11.2021:</p> <p>It is required to conduct Hydro-geological study of the area annually and results submitted to the Ministry's IRO, Vijayawada and concerned agency in the State Govt. In case adverse impact on ground water quality and quantity is observed, mining shall be immediately stopped and resumed only after mitigating steps to contain any adverse impact on ground water is implemented.</p> <p>Action taken report submitted by the project proponent on 09.06.2023:</p> <p>State Ground Water Department, Govt. of AP has conducted the detailed hydro-geological study in the Lease Area during Dec-2020 and the Report submitted (Annexure – V). As per the Survey, ground water-table in the mine vicinity is at 45-60 m below ground level (BGL). The mine is presently working in first bench only at a depth 8 m BGL and not intersected the Water table. However, 3 piezometers are constructed in the lease area and water levels & quality are being monitored periodically and reports are being submitted to the Authority.</p> <p>Based on this study, the APWALTA has issued the NOC to work below ground water table vide Lr No. PRR05-11028/16/2019-SLNA-GIS-CORD, dt 13.02.2021, which is valid upto 12.02.2024 (Annexure – VI).</p> <p>Annual Hydrogeological study will be conducted and report will be submitted once the mining operations encounter water table / during renewal of NOC.</p> <p>Review of Action Taken Report: Being complied</p> <p>As per the ATR submitted, It has been observed that the State Ground Water Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has conducted the detailed hydro-geological study in the Lease Area during Dec-2020 and the Report submitted. As per the Survey, ground water-table in the mine vicinity is at 45-60 m below ground level (BGL). The mine is presently working in first bench only at a depth 8 m BGL and not intersected the Water table.</p>

	<p>Based on the study, the APWALTA has issued the NOC to work below ground water table vide Lr No. PRR05-11028/16/2019-SLNA-GIS-CORD, dt 13.02.2021, which is valid up to 12.02.2024. PAs have informed that the Annual Hydrogeological study will be conducted and report will be submitted once the mining operations encounter water table / during renewal of NOC.</p> <p>In addition, PAs have installed 3 piezometers in the lease area and water levels & quality are being monitored periodically and reports are being submitted to the Authority.</p>
4.	<p>Greenbelt development and selection of plant species shall be as per CPCB guidelines. Herbs and shrubs shall also form a part of afforestation programme besides tree plantation. Details of year wise afforestation programme including rehabilitation of mined out area shall be submitted to the Ministry within six months (Specific Condition No. xix).</p> <p>Observation made during monitoring on 11.11.2021:</p> <p>It is recommended to develop green belt all along the mine lease area. Greenbelt development and selection of plant species shall be as per CPCB guidelines. Herbs and shrubs shall also form a part of afforestation programme besides tree plantation at the earliest.</p> <p>Action taken report submitted by the project proponent on 09.06.2023:</p> <p>The greenbelt is developed all along the mine lease boundary by planting around 10346 Nos. of plants over an area of 3.5 ha up to Sep' 2021, in compliance with CPCB guideleines. Herbs and shrubs are part of the afforesatation program. Further during the year 2022-2023; 3,100 plants are planted for densification of existing greenbelt area with Survival Rate of 80%. The plantation will be continued during the financial year 2023-2024 & subsequent years also.</p> <p>Review of Action Taken Report: Being complied</p> <p>As per the ATR submitted, it has been informed that the PAs are in process of developing green belt all along the mine lease boundary by planting around 10346 Nos. of plants over an area of 3.5 ha up to Sep' 2021, in compliance with CPCB guideleines. Herbs and shrubs are part of the afforesatation program.</p> <p>During the year 2022-2023, around 3,100 plants are planted for densification of existing greenbelt area with Survival Rate of 80%. It has been informed that the plantation will be continued during the financial year 2023-2024 & subsequent years also.</p>
5.	<p>The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the Ministry located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the projects by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work (General Condition No. xi).</p>

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	<p>Observation made during monitoring on 11.11.2021:</p> <p>It is required to provide the details regarding the financial closure and final approval of the projects by the concerned authorities.</p> <p>Action taken report submitted by the project proponent on 09.06.2023:</p> <p>Total funding for this project is met from Company's own source. The financial closure and final approval date is 20.10.2010.</p> <p>Review of Action Taken Report: Complied</p> <p>As per the ATR submitted, it has been informed that total funding for this project is met from Company's own source. The financial closure and final approval date is 20.10.2010.</p>
	<p>Conclusion: The PAs have complied or are in process of complying the conditions stipulated by the Ministry, accordingly, the Action Taken Report may be considered for further necessary action.</p>

This is for kind information and necessary action.

Encl: as above

Signed by

Dr. Suresh Babu Pasupuleti

Date: 19-06-2023 11:32:33

भवदीय / Yours faithfully,
Sd/-

(डॉ। सुरेश बाबु पसुपुलेटी)

(Dr. Suresh Babu Pasupuleti)

संयुक्त निदेशक (एस) / Joint Director (S)

Copy to:

1. **The Plant Head**, M/s The Ramco Cements Limited (Formerly Madras Cements Ltd.), Kumarasamy Raja Nagar – 521 457, Jaggaiahpet Mandal, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh. E-mail: ihprasad@ramcocements.co.in, srraju@ramcocements.co.in for kind information and further necessary action.
2. Guard File.