

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(IMPACT ASSESSMENT DIVISION)
NON-COAL MINING SECTOR**

SUMMARY RECORD OF 18TH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE RE-CONSTITUTION OF EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL OF NON-COAL MINING PROJECTS CONSTITUTED UNDER THE EIA NOTIFICATION, 2006.

The 18th meeting of the Re-constitution of Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for Environmental Appraisal of Mining Projects (Non-Coal) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was held during 31st July & 1st August, 2023 through video conference. The list of participants is annexed herewith. After login of the Committee Members through video conference link provided by NIC, discussion on each of the Agenda Items was taken up ad-seriatim.

(1.0) Deliberation & Circulation on the Minutes of 17th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 11-12 July, 2023:

The minutes of the 17th EAC meeting held during 11-12 July, 2023 were placed before the members of the EAC.

(1.1) Deliberation & Circulation of Minutes of 7th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 5th- 6th December, 2022

The EAC noted that the Project Proponent vide email dated 19.07.2023 requested for the following corrigendum w.r.t typographical error as given below: -

S. No	Reference as per Minutes of 7 th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 5 th – 6 th December, 2022	Clause as per Minutes of 7 th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 5 th – 6 th December, 2022	Recommendation by EAC in its meeting held during 31 st July & 1 st August, 2023
1	Agenda 1.1, Subject, Line 2, Page. No: 2	Guali Iron Ore Mine of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Limited for mining of Iron Ore for expansion in production capacity of 5.0 MTPA to 30.0 MTPA with total excavation of 37.67 Million TPA.....	Guali Iron Ore Mine of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Limited for mining of Iron Ore for expansion in production capacity of 5.7 MTPA to 30.0 MTPA with total excavation of 37.67 Million TPA.....
2	Agenda 1.1, Point No 1, Line 2, Page. No: 2	The proposal of M/s Odisha Mining	The proposal of M/s Odisha Mining

		Corporation Limited is for mining of Iron ore in Guali Iron ore mine for expansion in production capacity of 5.0 MTPA to 30.0 MTPA with total excavation of 37.67 Million TPA.....	Corporation Limited is for mining of Iron ore in Guali Iron ore mine for expansion in production capacity of 5.7 MTPA to 30.0 MTPA with total excavation of 37.67 Million TPA.....
3	Agenda 1.1, Point No 3, Para 9, Line 10, Page. No: 18	Environmental Clearance (EC) for mining of Iron ore in Guali Iron ore mine for expansion in production capacity of 5.0 MTPA to 30.0 MTPA with total excavation of 37.67 Million TPA.....	Environmental Clearance (EC) for mining of Iron ore in Guali Iron ore mine for expansion in production capacity of 5.7 MTPA to 30.0 MTPA with total excavation of 37.67 Million TPA.....

(1.2) Deliberation & Circulation of Minutes of 16th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held on 20th June, 2023

The EAC noted that the Project Proponent vide email dated 19.07.2023 requested for the following corrigendum w.r.t typographical error as given below: -

S. No	Reference as per Minutes of 16 th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held on 20 th June, 2023	Reference as per Minutes of 16 th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held on 20 th June, 2023	Recommendation by EAC in its meeting held during 31 st July & 1 st August, 2023
1	(1.3), S.No 1 under Table, Line 7, Page. No: 5	Agenda 1.1, Guali Iron Ore Mine of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Limited for mining of Iron Ore for expansion in production capacity of 5.0 MTPA to 30.0 MTPA.....	Agenda 1.1, Guali Iron Ore Mine of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Limited for mining of Iron Ore for expansion in production capacity of 5.7 MTPA to 30.0 MTPA.....

Day 1: 31st July 2023 (Monday)

1.1 Rohisa Limestone Mine of M/s Heidelberg Cement India Limited with Limestone Production Capacity 3.0 Million TPA, Top Soil 0.147 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 3.147 Million TPA) in the mine lease area of 891.7185 ha, located at Villages: Rohisa, Balana and Vadhera, Taluka: Jafrabad, District: Amreli, Gujarat – [F.No: IA-J-11015/19/2023-IA-II(NCM), Proposal No:

IA/GJ/MIN/434388/2023, Consultant: M/s J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd] – Terms of Reference

The instant proposal is for mining of Limestone in Rohisa Limestone Mine of M/s HeidelbergCement India Limited with Limestone Production Capacity 3.0 Million TPA, Top Soil 0.147 Million TPA (Total Excavation: 3.147 Million TPA) in the mine lease area of 891.7185 ha, located at Villages: Rohisa, Balana and Vadhera, Taluka: Jafrabad, District: Amreli, Gujarat.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the documents submitted by the Project Proponent and as revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under:

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and falls under Category “A” of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 as the mining lease area is greater than 250 ha and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 20°49’00” N to 20°51’00” N and Longitude: 71°13’00” E to 71°18’45” E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 41 P/5 (Restricted) and falls in Seismic Zone-III.
- iii. The instant proposal was earlier considered in the 34thEAC meeting held during 27thto 30th July 2021 wherein the Committee noted that part of mine lease falls under CRZ and no official document was present with the project proponent for clarification of CRZ issue. Also, it is an ecologically sensitive area due to the presence of Lion habitats nearby and has rich flora and fauna. Therefore, the Committee was of the view that clarification is required regarding the distance from CRZ through Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) authenticated by the Competent Authority in the State and therefore the Committee returned the proposal in present form as part of mine lease falls under CRZ.
- iv. In this regard, Project Proponent has carried out the CRZ study conducted by Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University, Chennai. Project Proponent also submitted that as per authorized CZMP Map of Gujarat and Map prepared by Institute of Remote Sensing, (IRS), Chennai, GCZMA is in view that an area 183.6332 ha falls within CRZ. GCZMA also in view that PP shall not carry out any activities otherwise permissible as per as per CRZ Notification within area falling in CRZ without prior permission from Competent Authority. In view of the above, the Project Proponent has submitted a fresh proposal for Terms of Reference and accordingly the proposal was placed in the 18th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 31st July & 1st August, 2023.
- v. Details of Mine Lease:
 - a) Initially, the prospecting license was granted by the State Govt. on 31.05.2000 over an area of 891.7185 Ha in Villages Rohisa, Balana and

Vadhera of Taluka - Jafrabad of Dist. Amreli (Gujarat) in favour of M/s Indorama Cement Ltd.

- b) Then, the Govt. of Gujarat vide its letter No. MCR-112005-987–CH-1 dated 08.02.2006 granted the Letter of Intent for grant of Mining lease for minerals Limestone and Marl over an area of 891.7185 Ha in favour of M/s Indorama Cement Ltd.
- c) Pursuant to a Scheme of Amalgamation sanctioned by the Hon'ble High Courts of Bombay and Karnataka, Indorama Cement Limited was amalgamated with Mysore Cements Limited and the new entity was renamed as HeidelbergCement India Limited w.e.f. 16.04.2009. The same was intimated to the office of Deputy Secretary, Industry and Mines Department, Govt. of Gujarat requesting to take note and confirm the aforesaid change of name of the company so that permits and licenses required to set up an integrated Cement Plant can be obtained and also for incorporation of change of name of company in relevant records and documents. The process took its own time and ultimately the Govt. of Gujarat issued the order no. MCR-112005-ML 987-CHH-1 dated 10.01.2017 for grant of mining lease over an area of 891.7185 Ha in favor of M/s HeidelbergCement India Limited.
- d) The mine lease deed was executed on 09.09.2020 and registered on 15.09.2020 for the mineral Limestone and Marloveran area of 891.7185 Ha for a period of 50 years i.e., upto 14.09.2070 in favor of M/s HeidelbergCement India Limited.

vi. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine Lease Area:

Private Agriculture land	526.1699 ha
Government land	292.6380 ha
Gauchar land	72.9106 ha
Forest land	-
Total Mining lease area (MLA), ha	891.7185 ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	Crusher to be Installed in premises of Proposed Interlinked Cement Plant
Additional information (if any)	Total ML Area is 891.7185 out of which 183.6332 ha falls in CRZ & 72.9106 ha is Gauchar land.

vii. Details of Mining Plan: -

Modified Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines	Letter No.	684 (4) (1)/MP-358/2021-22 GNR
	Date	01.09.2021
	Mineral & (Major/Minor)	Limestone (Major)
	Mine Lease Area, Ha	891.7185
	Validity	2021-22 to 2024-25
Additional information (if any)	Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan was approved by IBM vide COM (NZ) letter no.682(23)(452)/2006-Udai, dated 23.01.2006 in	

	the name of Indorama Cement Ltd. Modified mining plan in the name of HeidelbergCementIndia Limited (HCIL) has been approved by IBM vide letter dated 684(4)(1)/MP-358/2021-22GNR dated 01.09.2021. Now, HCIL has submitted the modification in the mining plan for further approval to IBM.
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description
Method of Mining	Opencast Mechanized method
Drilling/Blasting	No drilling & blasting is involved. The mineral will be mined by deploying surface miners, dumpers, bulldozer, and excavators/loaders.
Geological Reserves	230.438 Million Tonnes
Mineable Reserves	100.679 Million Tonnes
Breakup of Total Excavation (Topsoil/OB/SB/IB/Mineral Rejects/ Waste, MTPA)	Limestone: 3.0 Million TPA Top Soil: 0.147 Million TPA Total Excavation: 3.147 Million TPA
Life of mine	~34 years (Based on the future exploration life of mine may change)
Mine Bench Height & Bench Width	Bench Height: 6 m Bench Width: 12 m
No. of Mine Benches	5
Existing Depth, m bgl	This is proposed mine
Ultimate Depth of Mining, m bgl	26 m BGL
Ground Water Table, m bgl	26 m BGL
Details of ground water intersection	This proposal is for Terms of Reference (ToR). Details will be incorporated in EIA/EMP Report
Individual bench slope	75°
Overall pit slope	45°
Details of existing/ proposed Crusher	Crusher to be installed in premises of proposed Interlinked Cement Plant
Mineral Beneficiation	Mineral Beneficiation is not involved.
RoM output size	-80 mm
Transportation details including capacity of dumper/tipper, mode of transport and distance	The mined materials will be dozed and fed to a hopper located at mines using dumpers from where the material will be conveyed to the Cement Plant via covered conveyor belt.
Generation of Topsoil/OB & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	During Plan Period About 0.147 Million Tonnes of top soil will be generated which will be simultaneously used for the greenbelt/plantation purpose. At Conceptual Stage About 5.5 Million Tonnes of top soil to be generated which will be used in Greenbelt/plantation.
Generation of Mineral Rejects/ Waste & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	None

viii. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	150 KLD	Fresh water	142 KLD
		Treated water	8 KLD
Source	Desalination Plant (will be installed with Cement Plant) & from mine sump		
Permission for withdrawal/ intersection along with details of grant and its validity	This proposal is for Terms of Reference (ToR). Details will be incorporated in EIA/EMP Report.		

ix. Nearest village/town/ highway/interstate boundary/railway station/water bodies/monument/ forest

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Directions
Village	Balana	Adjacent in ENE direction
	Vadhera	~200 m in ENE direction
	Rohisa	Surrounded by ML
	Dharabander	~0.7 km in WNW direction
	Khatrivada	~1.0 km in ENE direction
Town	Jafrabad	~5.0 km in ENE direction
Highway	SH 34	~0.3 km in ENE direction
	SH 90	~0.3 km in ENE direction
	NH 51	~5.0 km in NW direction
	SH 104	~3.5 km in SW direction
Interstate Boundary	None	-
Railway Station/Railway line	Una Railway Station	~20 km in West direction
Water Bodies	Arabian Sea	In South direction
	Bhatia Nadi	Adjacent in WNW direction
	RawalNadi	~1.0 km in WSW direction
	RupanNadi	~1.5 km in WNW direction
	Malan Nadi	~3.0 km in WNW direction
	Jafrabad Creek	~6.0 km in ENE direction
	RaidiNadi	~7.5 km in ENE direction
Forest	RF	Adjacent in SW direction
	RF	~8.5 km in SW direction
	RF	~8.5 km in ENE direction

x. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area:

Forest Land/Protected Area/Environmental Sensitivity Zone	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter issued by the concerned Department mentioning the Lr no, date of grant and remarks
Forest Land within the mine lease area and (if yes) status of Forest Clearance	No	The Project Proponent has obtained the letter from the Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Gandhinagar vide dated 04.04.2022 stating that no forest land is involved in the project.
National Park	No	Project Proponent reported that no National Park, Wild Life Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Tiger Reserves, Wildlife Corridors,
Wildlife Sanctuary	No	
Elephant/Tiger Reserve	No	

Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ)/Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA)	No	<p>etc. falls within 10 km radius study area.</p> <p>The Project Proponent has obtained the letter from the Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Gandhinagar vide dated 04.04.2022 certifying that the distance between mining lease for mineral limestone of M/s Heidelberg Cement India Limited situated in Village: Rohisha, Balana and Vadhera, Area: 891.7185 ha. Dist: Amreli is 21.85 km away from the Gir Sanctuary. PP also submitted the map showing the distance of the forest area and Gir Wildlife Sanctuary from the mine lease area and which was authenticated by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Gandhinagar.</p>																								
Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)	Yes	<p>The Project Proponent has submitted that the CRZ study has been conducted by the Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University, Chennai. As per approved CZMP Map of Gujarat and Local Level Coastal Regulation Zone Map prepared by Institute of Remote Sensing, (IRS), Chennai GCZMA has confirmed that out of the total mine lease area i.e. 891.7185 ha, an area of 183.6332 ha falls under CRZ.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="746 1149 1401 1525"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No.</th> <th>CRZ Classification</th> <th>Area (In Ha)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>CRZ - 1B</td> <td>139.9037</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>CRZ – III (NDZ)</td> <td>30.9217</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>CRZ – III (200 m to 500 m from HTL)</td> <td>12.8078</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I</td> <td>Total Area falling in CRZ</td> <td>183.6332</td> </tr> <tr> <td>II</td> <td>Outside CRZ</td> <td>708.0853</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Total</td> <td>891.7185</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><i>Source: CRZ Study Report prepared by IRS, Anna University, Chennai</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Project Proponent also submitted that the Commissioner of Geology & Mining, Gandhinagar vide letter no. CGM/Lease/ML/Heidelberg/2022–23/848 dated 10.04.2023 has mentioned that an area of 183.6332 ha falls within the mine lease area under various categories of Coastal Regulation Zone. So, as mentioned in letter dated 21.10.2022, Director (Environment) & MS, GCZMA, GOI, the company shall not carry out any activities otherwise permissible as per CRZ notification within area falls in CRZ without prior permission of Competent Authority.</p>	S. No.	CRZ Classification	Area (In Ha)	A	CRZ - 1B	139.9037	B	CRZ – III (NDZ)	30.9217	C	CRZ – III (200 m to 500 m from HTL)	12.8078	I	Total Area falling in CRZ	183.6332	II	Outside CRZ	708.0853		Total	891.7185	<i>Source: CRZ Study Report prepared by IRS, Anna University, Chennai</i>		
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xi. Green belt/Plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation and no. of saplings proposed	Total Greenbelt/Plantation: 136.31 ha Greenbelt (7.5 m): 22.10 ha Plantation: 114.21 ha (3.56 ha on Bench Plantation & remaining 110.65 ha on unworked area, Road side, safety zone). No. of Saplings Proposed: 3,40,775
Budget for green plant & plantation till the end of life of mine.	Rs. 6.81 Crore
Budget for nursery	Rs. 10 Lakh
Details of existing plantation and its survival rate	Survival Rate will be maintained 95%
No. of tree cuts in the mine lease area and compensatory afforestation	250 trees will be cleared
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (In Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	22.10ha
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	2.74 ha area to be covered along the roads out of 110.65 ha total plantation

xii. Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R):

R & R details	The Project Proponent has submitted that the land will be purchased directly from the land owners on willing buyer willing seller basis. Adequate compensation based on mutual negotiations will be paid for the land, standing crop and any other infrastructure affected by the procurement of land. No. of Villages: 3 No. of Project Affected Families: 350 No. of Project Displaced Families: 104 Detailed R & R study is yet to be carried out.
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xiii. Court case details:

Court Case, No and its present status	The Project Proponent has reported that there is no court case pending against the project.
Undertaking by Project Proponent w.r.t court case	The Project Proponent has submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 23.06.2023 stating that there is no litigation pending against the project and/or any direction/order passed by any Court of Law against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed and that for any such litigation whatsoever, the sole responsibility will be borne by the Company.

xiv. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018	The Project Proponent has submitted an affidavit in a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing no: BK 485498 dated 24.06.2023 stating that the company hereby undertakes by affidavit to comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of
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	Hon'ble Supreme court dated 2 nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & Ors before grant of ToR/EC.
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xv. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	(Rs. In Crore)
Project Cost	Rs. 70 Crores
Employment (Nos)	91 Persons

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The Project Proponent/Consultant has informed the EAC that the instant proposal was earlier considered in the 34th EAC meeting held during 27th to 30th July 2021, wherein the Committee was of the view that clarification is required regarding the distance from CRZ through Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) authenticated by the Competent Authority in the State and therefore the Committee returned the proposal in present form as part of mine lease falls under CRZ. In this regard, Project Proponent has carried out the CRZ study conducted by Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University, Chennai and accordingly fresh proposal for Terms of Reference (ToR) has been submitted.

The Project Proponent/Consultant has presented the KML file to indicate the site features in the study area. The Project Proponent has shown the boundary of the mine lease area and an area of 183.6332 ha falls within CRZ. Project Proponent also informed that no mining activity will be carried out over an area of 183.6332 ha falling within CRZ. Further, the Project Proponent also informed the EAC that an area of 72.9106 ha of Grazing land will be under no mining zone. There are three villages located nearby to the mine lease area namely Balana (Adjacent, ENE), Vadhera (~200 m, ENE) and Rohisa surrounded by mine lease area. Nearest school is located at a distance of 0.02 km in Balana Village. The EAC asked about the route for transportation of mineral. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the mined materials will be dozed and fed to a hopper located at mines using dumpers from where the material will be conveyed to the cement plant on the northern side of the mine lease area with the help of belt conveyors.

The Project Proponent has also informed the EAC that the letter has been obtained from the Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Gandhinagar vide dated 04.04.2022 certifying that the distance between mining lease for mineral limestone of M/s Heidelberg Cement India Limited situated in Village: Rohisha, Balana and Vadhera, Area: 891.7185 ha is 21.85 km away from the Gir Sanctuary. Project Proponent has also shown the map authenticated by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Gandhinagar showing the distance of the Gir Wildlife Sanctuary from the mine lease area. The EAC asked about the approval of Mining Plan. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the modified mining plan was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) vide letter dated 01.09.2021. An area of 183.6332 ha

was excluded and accordingly modification in mining plan was submitted to IBM for approval. The EAC was of the view that no mining activity is allowed in CRZ and what is the need to have the area of 183.6332 ha and why not be surrendered. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that after obtaining the letter from State Coastal Management authority, a request letter has been submitted to the State Mining Dept. to separate the area of 183.6332 ha; wherein the Dept. has informed that an area of 183.6332 ha shall be maintained as no mining zone. The area was retained in the mine lease so as in future, CRZ clearance may be obtained. The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether any movement of Lions and turtle breeding observed in the study area or not? The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the same will be submitted along with the Final EIA/EMP report.

After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the Consultant, the EAC noted that an area of 183.6332 ha falls within CRZ and after obtaining the letter from State Coastal Management authority, the Project Proponent has submitted the modified mining plan for approval to the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM). The EAC felt that it is necessary to review the approved modified mining plan. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to ensure that the depth of mining may be planned in such a way that the floor RL at any place should not be lower than the mean sea level in the modified mining plan submitted for approval. Thus the EAC was of the view that the instant proposal to be considered only after the submission of the approved modified mining plan by IBM. The EAC also opined that the Ministry may seek comments from the CRZ Division in the Ministry in reference to the letter from the Forests & Environment Department, Govt. of Gujarat dated 21.10.2022 regarding opinion for CRZ-NOC for Rohisa Limestone Mine of M/s Heidelberg Cement India Limited. Therefore, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The Ministry may seek comments from the CRZ Division in the Ministry in reference to the letter from the Forests & Environment Department, Govt. of Gujarat dated 21.10.2022 regarding opinion for CRZ-NOC for Rohisa Limestone Mine of M/s Heidelberg Cement India Limited.
- ii. The Project Proponent needs to ensure that the depth of mining may be planned in such a way that the floor RL at any place should not be lower than the mean sea level in the modified mining plan submitted for approval.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the modified mining plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM).
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the copies of the letter wherein State DMG has mentioned that the CRZ area shall be kept as a non mining zone instead of surrendering it.

- v. The Project Proponent needs to submit the existing soil salinity data of the Mine lease area i.e adjacent to CRZ, within CRZ and farthest from CRZ boundary.

1.2 Amendment in EC's dated 30.07.2020, 05.08.2021 & 19.09.2022 for extension of validity of Environmental Clearance for further period of 02(Two) years to liquidate entire stock of old Dump Fines from Bolani Iron Ore Mines along with Beneficiation and Pellet Plant by keeping total production within approved EC capacity of 12.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 1321.45 ha of M/s SAIL, located at Village Bolani, Tehsil- Barbil, District Keonjhar, Odisha - [F.No:J-11015/418/2008-IA.II(M), Proposal No: IA/OR/MIN/436234/2023] – Amendment in EC

The instant proposal is for amendment in EC's dated 30.07.2020, 05.08.2021 & 19.09.2022 for extension of validity of Environmental Clearance for further period of 02 (Two) years to liquidate entire stock of old Dump Fines from Bolani Iron Ore Mines by keeping total production within approved EC capacity of 12.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 1321.45 ha of M/s SAIL, located at Village Bolani, Tehsil- Barbil, District Keonjhar, Odisha.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the documents submitted by the Project Proponent and as revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under:

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and 2(b) Mineral Beneficiation and falls under Category "A" of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 as the mining lease area is greater than 250 ha and appraised at Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude 22°05'11.65848"N - 22°07'46.2869"N and Longitude 85°16'52.81330"E - 85°20'13.85260"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet no: 73 F/8 (F45H8) and falls in Seismic Zone-II.
- iii. The Project Proponent has submitted the chronology of the Environmental Clearance (EC) as mentioned below:
 - a) Initially, the Project Proponent obtained Environmental Clearance (EC) on 21.12.2012 for enhancement of production of iron ore from 5.65 million TPA to 12.0 million TPA (ROM) in Bolani Iron Ore Mine (5.1 Sq. mile) along with installation of a new beneficiation plant of 12 million TPA throughput and pellet plant of 4.0 million TPA capacity of M/s SAIL, located at village Bolani, Tehsil Barbil, District Keonjhar, Odisha.
 - b) Subsequently, the Project Proponent obtained amendment in EC dated 21.12.2012 on 17.02.2014 w.r.t Para 6 (iii) and in addition the following was added to the EC letter "There are two adjacent mining leases in 'Bolani Ore Mines viz Bolani 5.1 Sq. miles lease' 'Bolani 6.9 Sq. miles lease'. Bolani 5.1 Sq. miles lease is the iron ore bearing area whereas Bolani 6.9 Sq. miles

- lease is manganese ore bearing. Common infrastructure facilities for both the mines viz. railway siding & loading yard township, tailing pond, water intake point etc. are located in 6.9 Sq. miles lease” and that the mine working will be open cast fully mechanized instead of semi-mechanized.
- c) Thereafter, PP obtained EC on 30th July, 2020 under para 7(ii) of EIA Notification 2006 (as amended) for change in excavation & dispatch pattern by increasing excavation and dispatch of iron ore fines from existing Fines Dumps up to 3.0 MTPA (from present 0.5 MTPA) and Modification of Mining parameters including updating of reserves and waste generation keeping total production within approved EC capacity of 12 MTPA. Bolani Iron Ore Mine (1321.45 ha) is located at Villages Boiani&Balagoda and Karo Reserve Forest (R.F.) in Barbil Tehsil, Champua Subdivision, Keonjhar District of Odisha with one of the specific condition that *"This amendment is valid for a period of one year and the same may be extended after the site visit or compliance monitoring by Regional Office, whichever is earlier"*.
- d) Further, PP obtained EC vide letter dated 05.08.2021 for amendment/extension of validity of EC dated 30.07.2020 for one year along with permitting dispatch of 8.5 MTPA ROM Iron Ore from mines, 1.5 MTPA from fines dump by SAIL's Bolani Rly. Siding and dispatch of 0.5 MTPA from Iron Ore from Mines and 1.5 MTPA from fines dump by Public Sidings Bolani/Barbil or by Road keeping total production within approved EC Capacity 12 MTPA under Para 7(ii) of the EIA Notification 2006.
- e) Again, the PP obtained amendment in EC on 19.09.2022 for the amendment in EC's dated 30.07.2020 and 05.08.2021 for extension of validity of EC for a further period of one year along with permitting dispatch of 8.5 MTPA ROM Iron Ore from mines, 1.5 MTPA from fines dump by SAIL's Bolani Rly. Siding and dispatch of 0.5 MTPA from Iron Ore from Mines and 1.5 MTPA from fines dump by Public Sidings Bolani/Barbil or by Road keeping total production within approved EC Capacity 12.0 MTPA located at village Boiani, TehsilBarbil, District Keonjhar, Odisha. This amendment in EC is valid upto 18.09.2023.
- iv. Now, the Project Proponent requested for amendment in EC's dated 30.07.2020, 05.08.2021 & 19.09.2022 for extension of validity of Environmental Clearance for further period of 02 (Two) years to liquidate entire stock of old Dump Fines from Bolani Iron Ore Mines by keeping total production within approved EC capacity of 12.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 1321.45 ha.
- v. The Project Proponent has submitted that subsequent to grant of amendment in EC dated 30.07.2020, 05.08.2021 & 19.09.2022, so far only 1.04 MT of dump fines could be sold in open market till 31.03.2023 from the start of selling process. About 1.91 MT of dump fines are still left unsold within Bolani Iron Ore Mines (5.10 Sq. Miles Mining Lease). In order to accelerate liquidation of the dump fines, it has also been planned to start dispatching these dumps to pellet conversion agents for beneficiation & palletization and

use of the converted pellet in SAIL Plants. Keeping the present demand of dump fines and market conditions in view and planned conversion to pellets, 02(two) more years are required to liquidate the entire stock of dump fines from Bolani Iron Ore Mines. To completely liquidate the iron ore dump fines within the already permitted EC capacity of 12 MTPA, the validity of the EC amendment dated Dt.30.07.2020, Dt 05.08.2021 & Dt. 19.09.2022 may further be extended for a period of 02(two) years under Para 7(ii) of EIA Notification 2006 with the following provisions:

- I. Continue excavation of iron ore fines from old Fines Dumps maximum up to 3 MTPA for selling in open market or supplying to external pellet conversion agencies for captive use of converted pellets keeping the total production within EC capacity of 12 MTPA.
 - II. Continue dispatch up to 1.5 MTPA dump fines with total dispatch up to 10 MTPA including iron ore production from the mines through SAIL's Bolani Railway Siding, and up to 1.5 MTPA dump fines & 0.5 MTPA iron ore from mines with total up to 2 MTPA through public roads leading to Public Sidings at Bolani / Barbil or beyond NH 520.
- vi. The Project Proponent has submitted that the traffic density was carried out on the proposed haul routes at 3 locations at hourly intervals continuously for 07 days from 12th May'23 to 18th May'23. The present maximum traffic on the Bolani – Barbil Road is ~2896 PCUs/day, which includes dispatch of dump fines from Bolani Ores Mines by road as compared to its recommended design service volume of 13800 PCUs/day. Therefore, the Bolani – Barbil Road is further having additional capacity to the tune of 10904 PCUs/day, i.e. can handle about additional 10 MTPA road traffic. Therefore, proposed continuation of the road transport to the tune of 2 MTPA from Bolani Ores Mines will not have any adverse impact on the traffic infrastructure at Bolani. It has been observed that adequate road capacity is available to undertake additional traffic load due to iron ore transportation by road from fines dumps located in 5.1 Sq. Mile lease as proposed.
- vii. The Project Proponent has submitted that ambient air quality was monitored at 04 locations including 02 locations in the vicinity of Transportation Route for PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x & CO during the month of March-May, 2023. It has been observed that the maximum PM₁₀ values ranged from 81.1 to 87.8 µg/m³ and PM_{2.5} varied from 47.3 to 48.2 µg/m³. Work Zone Air Quality, Ground Water, Surface Water, Drinking Water, Effluent Quality and Noise levels were monitored for the period from April, 2022 to March, 2023 through NABL accredited lab. The monthly averages of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) are well within the prescribed norms of 1200 µg/m³. A rise in water level is observed during September, 2022. pH of the water samples is neutral in the range of 6.54 to 8.28. The concentration of metals in ground water samples are found well within the norms including Iron which ranged from <0.05 to 0.25 mg/l. The concentrations of Fe are within 3.0 mg/l as per General

Standards for discharge of effluents into surface water. The environmental quality in and around the mine was found to be within the permissible limits.

- viii. The Project Proponent has submitted that there is no change in total dispatch quantity through either SAIL's Railway Siding or Public Sidings at Bolani/ Barbil or by road. In this regard the likely impacts, if any, on the local road infrastructure and air quality of the area, due to the proposed extension shall remain unchanged. The proposed liquidation of fines will not only result in effective utilization of these low grade minerals, but also eliminates environmental hazards associated due to storage of fines besides meeting the iron ore demand during scarcity period of the country.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the instant proposal is for amendment in EC's dated 30.07.2020, 05.08.2021 & 19.09.2022 for extension of validity of Environmental Clearance for further period of 02 (Two) years to liquidate entire stock of old Dump Fines from Bolani Iron Ore Mines by keeping total production within approved EC capacity of 12.0 MTPA in the mine lease area of 1321.45 ha of M/s SAIL, located at Village Bolani, Tehsil- Barbil, District Keonjhar, Odisha. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that initially fines generated has been stacked within the Bolani Iron Ore mine as a sub grade ore dump. About, 7.07 MT of fines has been accumulated including 2.95 MT in Bolani Iron Ore mine and 4.12 MT in adjoining mine lease of M/s SAIL. The Ministry of Mines vide order dated 16.09.2019 has directed the concerned State Governments to allow M/s SAIL to sell these low grade fines / slimes in open market. Subsequent to the permission granted by the Ministry of Mines on 16.09.2019, fines generated are dispatched to the Steel Plants, Sinter plant and Blast furnace.

The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that the in order to liquidate these low grade dump fines, necessary amendment in EC was obtained on 30th July, 2020 for change in product mix and configuration to excavate accumulated dump fines from Old Fines Dumps maximum up to 3.0 MTPA and dispatch of such changed product mix through rail / road or road & rail combination for selling of dump fines in open market or for pellet conversion basis by keeping total production within the approved EC limit of 12.0 MTPA for one year. As the total targeted liquidation of the dump fines could not be achieved, subsequent extensions of the amendment in EC was obtained on 05.08.2021 & 19.09.2022 for one year respectively and the amendment in EC dated 19.09.2022 is valid upto 18.09.2023.

Further, the Project Proponent has informed the EAC that till March 2023, only 1.04 MT of dump fines could be dispatched from Bolani Iron Ore lease (5.10 sq miles ML). About 1.91 MT of dump fines are still left unsold within the mine lease area. In order to accelerate liquidation of the dump fines, it has been planned to start dispatching these dumps to pellet conversion agents for beneficiation & palletisation and use of the converted pellet in SAIL Plants. Keeping the present demand of dump

finer and market conditions 02 (two) more years are required to liquidate the entire stock of dump fines from the 5.10 Sq Miles Mining Lease. In this regard, the Project Proponent is requesting for amendment in EC's dated 30.07.2020, 05.08.2021 & 19.09.2022 for a further period of 2 (two) more years i.e. upto 18.09.2025 to liquidate entire stock of dump fines inside 5.10 Sq. miles ML without any further change in mining parameters, product mix and configuration under Para 7(ii) of EIA Notification 2006 with the following provisions (i) Continue excavation of iron ore fines from old Fines Dumps maximum up to 3 MTPA for selling in open market or supplying to external pellet conversion agencies for captive use of converted pellets keeping the total production within EC capacity of 12 MTPA and (ii) Continue dispatch up to 1.5 MTPA dump fines with total dispatch up to 10 MTPA including iron ore production from the mines through SAIL's Bolani Railway Siding, and up to 1.5 MTPA dump fines & 0.5 MTPA iron ore from mines with total up to 2 MTPA through public roads leading to Public Sidings at Bolani / Barbil or beyond NH 520.

The EAC asked about the composition/grade of the dump fines. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the grade of the dump fines is 58-60% Fe. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the present maximum traffic on the Bolani – Barbil Road is ~2896 PCUs/day, which includes dispatch of dump fines from Bolani Ores Mines by road as compared to its recommended design service volume of 13800 PCUs/day. Therefore, the Bolani – Barbil Road is further having additional capacity to the tune of 10904 PCUs/day, i.e. it can handle about additional 10 MTPA road traffic. Therefore, proposed continuation of the road transport to the tune of 2 MTPA from Bolani Ores Mines will not have any adverse impact on the traffic infrastructure at Bolani. The Project Proponent has submitted that ambient air quality was monitored at 04 locations including 02 locations in the vicinity of Transportation Route for PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x & CO during the month of March-May, 2023. Work Zone Air Quality, Ground Water, Surface Water, Drinking Water, Effluent Quality and Noise levels were monitored for the period from April, 2022 to March, 2023 through NABL accredited lab. The monthly averages of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) are well within the prescribed norms of 1200 µg/m³. A rise in water level is observed during September, 2022. pH of the water samples is neutral in the range of 6.54 to 8.28. The concentration of metals in ground water samples are found well within the norms including Iron which ranged from <0.05 to 0.25 mg/l. The concentrations of Fe are within 3.0 mg/l as per General Standards for discharge of effluents into surface water. The environmental quality in and around the mine was found to be within the permissible limits.

The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that the Liquidation of fines will not only result in effective utilization of these low grade minerals, but also eliminates environmental hazards associated due to storage of fines. There is no change in scope of work from earlier EC amendment dated 19th September, 2022. The Project Proponent has shown the Certified Compliance report dated 25.07.2022. The EAC asked about the status of the court case. The Project Proponent informed the EAC

that the subsequent to the judgment of Apex Court dated 02.08.2017, the Government of Odisha vide letter dated 23.10.2017 issued a demand notice for payment of Rs. 47,49,46,999/- to recover the price of mineral produced beyond the CTO capacity. Against this demand, M/s SAIL had filed a Writ Petition bearing WP (C) No- 24279/2017 before High Court of Orissa at Cuttack. The matter was heard and Hon'ble High Court had passed the stay order on 04.04.2018. The matter was last heard on 26.04.2022 and the matter is sub-judice. There is no violation or demand against the Environment Clearance and Forest Clearance grant Orders.

Based on the discussions held, the EAC under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendments, **recommended** the proposal for amendment in EC's dated 30.07.2020, 05.08.2021 and 19.09.2022 of M/s SAIL for extension of validity of Environmental Clearance for further period of 02 (Two) years to liquidate entire stock of old Dump Fines from Bolani Iron Ore Mines by (i) continue excavation of iron ore fines from old Fines Dumps maximum up to 3 MTPA for selling in open market or supplying to external pellet conversion agencies for captive use of converted pellets keeping the total production within EC capacity of 12 MTPA, (ii) continue dispatch of 8.5 MTPA ROM Iron Ore from mines, 1.5 MTPA from fines dump with total dispatch up to 10 MTPA by SAIL's Bolani Rly. Siding and dispatch of 0.5 MTPA from Iron Ore from Mines and 1.5 MTPA from fines dump with total up to 2 MTPA through public roads leading to Public Sidings at Bolani / Barbil beyond NH 520 within approved EC Capacity 12.0 MTPA, in the mine lease area of 1321.45 ha, located at Village Bolani, Tehsil- Barbil, District Keonjhar, Odisha along with the following additional specific conditions: -

- i. The Project Proponent shall monitor the air quality, noise level, soil quality, water quality, water level and ground vibration at the edge of the mine, near the village and at other sensitive receptors and such collected data shall be submitted quarterly to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- ii. The Project Proponent shall monitor the environmental quality of the land use before and after continuation of excavation and dispatch of dump fines.
- iii. The Project Proponent shall ensure that the vehicles should not be overloaded. All the trucks should be properly covered during transportation of fines.
- iv. The Project Proponent shall regularly maintain the transport route for improvement of road capacity and to control the fugitive emissions during transportation and shall ensure that the transport of minerals will be as per IRC Guidelines with respect to complying with traffic congestion and density.

- v. The Project Proponent shall create awareness among the local people working within the project area as well as its surrounding area on the ban of Single Use Plastic (SUP) in order to ensure the compliance of Notification published by MoEF&CC on 12/08/2021. A report, along with photographs, on the measures taken shall also be included in the six monthly compliance report.
- vi. All other terms and conditions mentioned in the earlier EC dated 21.12.2012, 17.02.2014, 30.07.2020, 05.08.2021 and 19.08.2022 shall remain unchanged.

1.3 Amendment in EC dated 31.08.2020 w.r.t specific condition no: I of M/s Jaykaycem Central Limited in Kakra- Panna Limestone Mine for production capacity of 4.08 MTPA of Limestone in the mine leasearea of 1594.34 ha, located at Villages Kakra, Kamtana, Judi, Devra, DevriPurohit and Saptai, in Amanganj Tehsil, District Panna, Madhya Pradesh – [F.No: J-11015/190/2016-IA.II(M), Proposal No: IA/MP/MIN/435272/2023, Consultant: M/s J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd] - Amendment in EC

The instant proposal is for amendment in EC dated 31.08.2020 w.r.t specific condition no: I of M/s Jaykaycem Central Limited in Kakra- Panna Limestone Mine for production capacity of 4.08 MTPA of Limestone in the mine lease area of 1594.34 ha, located at Villages Kakra, Kamtana, Judi, Devra, DevriPurohit and Saptai, in Amanganj Tehsil, District Panna, Madhya Pradesh.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the documents submitted by the Project Proponent and as revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under:

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and falls under Category “A” of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 as the mining lease area is greater than 250 ha and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. Initially, the Project Proponent has obtained Environmental Clearance (EC) on 31.08.2020 for mining of Limestone in Kakra- Panna Limestone Mine for production capacity of 4.08 MTPA of Limestone in the mine lease area of 1594.34 ha, located at Villages Kakra, Kamtana, Judi, Devra, DevriPurohit and Saptai, in Amanganj Tehsil, District Panna, Madhya Pradesh. One of the specific condition (I) stipulated by EAC is that *“Mining shall be restricted to the land already acquired near Judi Village (235 ha). Meanwhile the PP may acquire the land, modify the mining sequence to avoid the void in west side of Dewra Village and approach the Ministry for re-validation or amendment in environmental clearance for permission for the entire area proposed for mining within the ML area”*.

- iii. Now, the Project Proponent requested to waive off the specific condition no: (I) and requested to allow the mining in the entire mine lease area of 1594.34 ha as per the approved Modified Mining Plan.
- iv. The Project Proponent has submitted that the Mining Plan has been modified and approved by Indian Bureau of Mines vide Letter No: E 6699 MCDR-MPC0LST/15/2023-JBP-IBM_RO_JBP dated 19.06.2023 with change of mining sequence to avoid the void in West side of Dewra Village. As on date, 360.66 ha of land has been purchased, Surface right has been granted over Govt. land of 75.754 ha for mining, total land under possession is 436.414 ha. The balance area of 1157.926 ha is under purchase as per the mining activities progress. Hence, in compliance of Specific Condition no: I, the Project Proponent requested to allow the mining as per the approved Modified Mining Plan.
- v. The Project Proponent has submitted that there was no production done till 31st March, 2023. PP also submitted that there is no change in production capacity, land area, mining equipment and mining technology. All the declarations, undertakings, EIA/EMP report, Public hearing action plan submitted during detailed deliberations for earlier granted EC dated 31st August, 2020 are same as per the earlier proposal.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The Project Proponent/Consultant informed the EAC that the instant proposal is for amendment in EC dated 31.08.2020 w.r.t waive off the specific condition no: 1 of M/s Jaykaycem Central Limited in Kakra-Panna Limestone Mine for production capacity of 4.08 MTPA of Limestone in the mine lease area of 1594.34 ha, located at Villages Kakra, Kamtana, Judi, Devra, Devri Purohit and Saptai, Amanganj Tehsil, District Panna, Madhya Pradesh. The specific condition (1) of EC dated 31.08.2020 states that *“Mining shall be restricted to the land already acquired near Judi Village (235 ha). Meanwhile the PP may acquire the land, modify the mining sequence to avoid the void in west side of Dewra Village and approach the Ministry for re-validation or amendment in environmental clearance for permission for the entire area proposed for mining within the ML area”*.

The Project Proponent/Consultant has presented the KML file to indicate the site features in the study area. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that there is no change in production capacity, mine lease area and method of mining. The mining operations started in the year 2023 only and till date only 165 Metric Tonnes of Limestone was excavated. The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether the instant mine lease falls under tiger dispersal route or not. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the instant mine lease does not fall in the tiger dispersal route.

The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the Mining Plan has been modified and approved by Indian Bureau of Mines vide letter dated 19.06.2023 with

change of mining sequence to avoid the void in West side of Dewra Village as per the specific condition no 1 as on date, an area of 360.66 ha of land has been purchased and Surface right has been obtained over an area of 75.754 ha of Govt. land for mining and thus the total land under possession is 436.414 ha. The balance area of 1157.926 ha is under purchase as per the mining activities progress. The Project Proponent has shown the earlier and proposed sequence of mining and their conceptual plans respectively. The sequence of mining has been changed and hence, in compliance of Specific Condition no 1, the Project Proponent requested to allow the mining as per the approved Modified Mining Plan and to waive off the specific condition no: 1.

After detailed deliberations made by the Project Proponent and the Consultant, the EAC noted that the Project Proponent has submitted the approved modified plan showing the change in sequence of mining as advised by earlier committee. The EAC wanted to know whether the Project Proponent acquired the land as per the advice of earlier committee. The EAC also wanted to know the documentary proof for the required acquisition of additional land and the location to access. Based on the discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The Project Proponent needs to give proper justification for amendment in EC with clear picture of sequence of mining, plan for backfilling and details of the land acquired and to be acquired in the villages for mining and location to access.
- ii. The Project proponent needs to submit the comparison of sequence of mining in earlier mining plan and modified mining plan with detailed note and colour coding map.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to ensure whether the tiger corridors/dispersal routes are passing through the study area or not as per the Integrated Landscape Management Plan for Greater Panna Landscape form the Chief Wildlife Warden, MP.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the compliance of the Wildlife Conservation Plan and their implementation status along with the proof of payments made to the State Forest Dept w.r.t approval of Wildlife Conservation Plan dated 13.12.2019.
- v. The EAC wanted to know the documentary proof for the required acquisition of additional land. Hence, the Project Proponent needs to submit the land possession certificate for an area of 436.414 ha.

1.4 Revalidation of Environmental Clearance as per MoEF&CC Notification dated 06.04.2018 for Amtipani Bauxite Mine of M/s Hindalco Industries Limited

with production capacity of Bauxite 1,50,000 TPA (0.15 million TPA) in the mine lease area of 190.95 Ha, located near Villages: Amtipani, Chirodih&Gurdari, Taluka: Bishunpur, District: Gumla, Jharkhand - [File No. J-11015/241/2005-IA.II(M), Proposal No.IA/JH/MIN/409979/2022; Consultant: M/s J.M. EnviroNet Pvt. Ltd] – Revalidation of EC

The instant proposal is for revalidation of Environmental Clearance as per MoEF&CC Notification dated 06.04.2018 for Amtipani Bauxite Mine of M/s Hindalco Industries Limited with production capacity of Bauxite 1,50,000 TPA (0.15 million TPA) in the mine lease area of 190.95 Ha, located near Villages: Amtipani, Chirodih&Gurdari, Taluka: Bishunpur, District: Gumla, Jharkhand.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the documents submitted by the Project Proponent and as revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under:

- i. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals. The instant proposal attracts the general conditions as the Eco Sensitive Zone of Mahuadanar and Palamu Wildlife Sanctuary is located at a distance of ~1.04 km from the mine site and falls under Category “A” and appraised at the Central level.
- ii. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 23°21’38.12”N to 23°19’8.99”N and Longitude: 84°15’18.06” E to 84°15’59.66” E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 73A/7 and falls in Seismic Zone-II.
- iii. Details of previous Environmental Clearance (EC):
 - a) Initially, The Project Proponent has obtained Environmental Clearance on 14.08.2006 for Amtipani Bauxite Mining Project for production capacity of 1,50,000 TPA (0.15 million TPA) of Bauxite ore by opencast method in the mine lease area of 190.95 Ha under the provisions of EIA, 1994 in favour of M/s Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL).
 - b) Then, the Project Proponent on 27.10.2015 obtained Transfer of Environmental Clearance from M/s Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL) to M/s Hindalco Industries Limited.
- iv. Details of Terms of Reference (ToR):
 - a) The Project Proponent obtained Terms of Reference vide ToR letter dated 28.12.2020 for revalidation of Environmental Clearance as per MoEF&CC Notification dated 06.04.2018 for Amtipani Bauxite Mine of M/s Hindalco Industries Limited with production capacity of Bauxite 1,50,000 TPA (0.15 million TPA) in the mine lease area of 190.95 Ha for undertaking detailed EIA/EMP study.
 - b) Then, the Project Proponent obtained amendment in Terms of Reference on 04.08.2021 for public consultation in place of fresh public hearing in reference to the Ministry’s OM dated 16.02.2021.
- v. Details of Mine Lease:

- a) Initially, the State Government of Jharkhand, Department of Mines, vide letter no. 3 B.M. II-4/97/1593/M, Ranchi dated 19.08.2005 granted the mining lease over an area of 190.95 hain favor of M/s. Indian Aluminium Company Limited.
- b) Then, the Mining Lease was transferred in favor of M/s Hindalco Industries Limited on 21.02.2006. The mine lease deed was executed on 13.03.2006 for a period of 20 years i.e. upto 12.03.2026 in favor of M/s Hindalco Industries Limited.
- c) The validity of the mining lease has been extended upto 12.03.2056 as per Section 8A (3) of amended Mines & Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 2015. Accordingly, the Supplementary Lease Deed was executed on 27.03.2017 for the period upto 12.03.2056 over an area of 190.95 ha.

vi. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine Lease Area:

Private land (Raiyati Land)	190.62 ha
Government land (GM Land)	0.33 ha
Forest Land	-
Total Mining lease area (MLA), Ha	190.95 ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	No infrastructure is proposed outside the ML area

vii. Details of Mining Plan:

Modification in Review of Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines	Letter No.	RAN/GML/BX/MP-04/2021-22
	Date	03.08.2021
	Mineral & (Major/Minor)	Bauxite (Major)
	Mine Lease Area, Ha	190.95
	Validity	2021-22 to 2024-25
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of Mining	Fully Mechanized Opencast Mining Method	
Drilling/Blasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The lessee has obtained permission under Regulation 106(2) (b) of MMR, 1961 for forming benches using Heavy Earth Moving Machinery & system of deep hole blasting. ➤ Blasting will be done only in the harder patches, which cannot be cut by excavator. Holes of 100mm -115 mm diameter will be drilled by Crawler Mounted Drill to a depth of 5.5 M and charged with slurry explosives. Yield per kg of slurry explosive is expected to be 8.25 Tonnes in the case of ROM. ➤ However, the frequency of blasting will be very less and blasting is practiced only in case of harder rocks. About 10-20 deep holes will be blasted per blast to produce Bauxite at the rated capacity. 	
	Blasting Parameters	

	Explosive	ANFO with Detonating Fuse as Booster, Nonel& Ordinary detonator, Safety fuse
	Bench Height	6 m
	Depth of Hole	5.5 m
	Burden	2.5 m
	Spacing	3 m
	Volume	2.5 m x 3 m x 6.0 m =45 cum
	Method of blasting	1 row of 10-20 holes in one round
	Explosive charge	12 Kg
Geological Reserves	3.702 Million Tonnes (As on 01.04.2021)	
Mineable Reserves	3.24 Million Tonnes (As on 01.04.2021)	
Breakup of Total Excavation (Topsoil/OB/SB/IB/Mineral Rejects/ Waste, MTPA)	Total Excavation: 0.945 million TPA (Bauxite: 0.15 million TPA, Top Soil: 0.064 million TPA, OB Waste (Morrum&Laterite): 0.694 million TPA &Quarry Waste: 0.037 million TPA	
Life of mine	22 years (w.e.f. 01/04/2021)	
Mine Bench Height & Bench Width	Bench height & width: 6 m	
No. of Mine Benches	2	
Existing Depth, m bgl	10	
Ultimate Depth of Mining, m bgl	12 - 18 m bgl	
Ground Water Table, m bgl	>31 mbgl.	
Details of ground water intersection	The existing working depth is up to 10 m bgl and at the conceptual stage working will be till 12 - 18 m bgl. Water table is >31 mbgl. Thus, water table will not be intersected during entire life of mine	
Individual bench slope	45°	
Overall pit slope	45°	
Details of existing/ proposed Crusher	None	
Mineral Beneficiation	None	
RoM output size	4-350mm	
Transportation details including capacity of dumper/tipper, mode of transport and distance	Bauxite produced from this mine meets the requirement/demand of alumina in their plant situated at Muri in Jharkhand. At present loading of bauxite to trucks (25 tonnes) is being done manually, however, in future mechanical loading will be done if required and sent to the railway siding for onward raiment to its captive plant at Muri.	
Generation of Topsoil/OB & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During plan period, about 0.22 million cum and during conceptual period 1.04 million cum of topsoil will be generated which will be used for spreading over backfilled area concurrently through biological reclamation ➤ During plan period, 0.96 million cum of OB will be 	

	generated which will be backfilled over an area of 13.81 ha used for spreading over backfilled area concurrently through biological reclamation. During conceptual stage, 3.96 million cum of OB will be generated which will be backfilled over an area of 150.32 ha (73.22 ha area already backfilled)
Generation of Mineral Rejects/ Waste & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	During plan period, about 67,967 cum of quarry waste will be generated which will be backfilled over an area of 13.81 ha. During conceptual stage, 0.34 million cum of quarry waste will be generated which will be backfilled over an area of 150.32 ha along with the OB Waste (73.22 ha area already backfilled)

viii. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	23.0 KLD	Dust suppression	14.0 KLD
		Equipment Maintenance & Operation	2.0 KLD
		Greenbelt development	3.0 KLD
		Drinking water at mine site	1.0 KLD
		Domestic use (other than drinking)	3.0 KLD
Source	Harvested rainwater in water reservoir (19 KLD) and Borewell (04 KLD)		
Permission	NOC has been obtained from CGWB vide letter no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/REN/1/2021/6563 dated 06.09.2021 for abstraction of groundwater and is valid up to 05.09.2023.		

ix. Nearest village / town/ highway/railway station / water bodies:

Particulars	Villages	Distance & Directions
Nearest Village	Village- Khorajtoli	Adjacent, NE
	Village-Sakhwanitoli	Adjacent, South
Nearest Town/ City	Gumla	~42 km, SE
Nearest State/National Highway	SH- 9	~3.0 km, WNW
Interstate Boundary	None	-
Railway Station/Railway line	Lohardaga	~47 km, ENE
Water Bodies	AmbakonaNala	~1.0 km, NNE
	DharahariNala	~2.0 km, NNE
	ParasghariNala	~2.0 km, WSW
	ChappikonaNala	~6.5 km, West
	BeltarlaNala	~7.0 km, SSE
	NarnaNala	~7.0 km, NE
	North Koel River	~7.5 km, ESE
	SankhNala	~8.0 km, SSW
	BelwarNala	~8.0 km, NW
	Sankh River	~8.0 km, South

Forest	Chirodih PF (~1.0 km in SE), Kerakhar PF (~2.5 km in NW), Mail PF (~3.0 km in WNW), Chatamtoli PF (~3.5 km in ESE), Arahans PF (~3.5 km in NNW), Sohar PF (~4.0 km in WNW), Deoragani PF (~5.0 km in SE), Bahagara PF (~5.0 km in NE), Gasnidihir PF (~5.5 km in NNE), Husmu PF (~6.0 km in NW), Aigu PF (~6.5 km in NW), Belwar PF (~6.5 km in NW), Paharkapu PF (~7.0 km in NW), Sirsi PF (~7.5 km in North), Lgirpat PF (~7.5 km in SSE), Kewarki PF (~8.0 km in NW), Tender PF (~8.0 km in SSE), Pathiagani PF (~8.0 km in ESE), Horheng PF (~8.5 km in NNW), Dabna PF (~8.5 km in NE), Dumardih PF (~9.0 km in NW), Kubund PF (~9.0 km in WNW), Pirhapat PF (~9.0 km in SE), Husir PF (~9.5 km in ESE), Katabil RF (~ 2.5 km in WSW), Rajadera RF (~3.0 KM in SW), Narma RF (~5.5 km in NE), Udani RF (~ 7.0 km in SW), Angratanr RF (~7.5 km in NNE), Hotap RF (~8.0 km in WSW), Balatu RF (~8.5 km in NNE), Range RF (~8.5 km in North), Chatakpur RF (~9.5 km in NE)
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x. Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area:

Forest Land/Protected Area/Environmental Sensitivity Zone	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter/Remarks
Forest Land within the mine lease area and (if yes) status of Forest Clearance	No	Letter regarding no involvement of forest land has been obtained from CO, Bishunpur, Gumla dated 25.08.2022
National Park	No	None
Wildlife Sanctuary	No	None
Elephant/Tiger Reserve	No	None
Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA)	Yes	Eco Sensitive Zone of Mahuadanar and Palamu wildlife Sanctuary ~1.04 km from the mine site. Distance verification certificate has been obtained from PCCF/Chief Wildlife Sanctuary, Ranchi, Govt. of Jharkhand vide letter no. 2246 dated 04.12.2019
Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)	No	None
Schedule-I species (No.s and name of schedule-I species with authenticated letter)	Yes	There are 8 (eight) number of Schedule I species found within study area i.e. Wild Dog (<i>Cuon alpines</i>), Wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>), Asian Elephant (<i>Elephas maximus</i>), Sloth Bear (<i>Melursus ursinus</i>), Indian Pangolin (<i>Manis crassicaudata</i>), Indian Python (<i>Python molurus</i>), Monitor lizard (<i>Varanus monitor</i>), Indian Pea Fowl (<i>Pavocristatus</i>). Project Proponent has submitted that the

		list of flora and fauna is part of conservation plan which has been approved from PCCF/Chief Wildlife Warden, Ranchi, Govt of Jharkhand vide letter dated 02.12.2021.
Wildlife Conservation Plan	Yes	The sanction order for site-specific plan for conservation of Flora & Fauna has been obtained from Office of the Principle Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Jharkhand vide letter dated 02.12.2021 with a budget of Rs 575.05 Lakhs.

xi. Green belt/Plantation details:

Proposed area for green belt/plantation and no. of saplings proposed	Total area under greenbelt/plantation is estimated as 12.49 ha (10.69 ha area on 7.5 m safety zone of lease boundary and 0.70 ha area on safety barrier along habitation road and other mining constraints etc and 1.1 ha on backfilled area)		
Budget for green plant & plantation till the end of life of mine.	Rs. 1.10 Crores		
Budget for nursery	None		
Details of existing plantation and its survival rate	As on date 3.80 ha area has been covered with greenbelt and plantation (2.0 ha on 7.5 m lease periphery + 0.70 ha area on safety barrier along habitation road and other mining constraints etc and 1.10 ha on backfilled area)		
No. of tree cuts in the mine lease area and compensatory afforestation	NIL		
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)		
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	10.69 ha		
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	0.70 ha		

xii. Baseline detail:

Baseline Data (Air / Water / Noise / Soil / Hydro geological study/ Traffic Study/ others)			
Period of baseline data collection	March to May, 2022		
Season (Summer / Pre-monsoon / Post-monsoon / Winter)	Summer Season		
Predominant Wind direction (From)	NW direction		
Ambient Air Quality (no. of locations) and results	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results

		PM10	53.7 to 85.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$		
		PM2.5	29.5 to 50.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$		
	09	SO2	7.05 to 12.54 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$		
		NO2	12.6 to 24.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$		
		CO	BDL to 0.62 mg/m^3		
Noise level (no. of locations) and results	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results		
	09	During Day Time [Leq dB(A)]	51.7 to 59.3		
		During Night Time [Leq dB(A)]	41.2 to 44.6		
Water Quality (no. of locations) and results	Ground water quality				
	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results		
	08	pH	6.56 to 7.62		
		TDS (mg/l)	81 to 198 mg/l		
		Fluoride (mg/l)	0.15 to 0.30 mg/l		
	Surface Water Quality				
	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results		
	02	pH	7.6 to 7.8		
		Fluoride (mg/l)	0.12 to 0.14 mg/l		
		TDS	60.7 to 95.4 mg/l		
		Biochemical Oxygen Demand	BDL (DL 1.0)		
		Chemical Oxygen Demand	3.7 to 5.0 mg/l		
Dissolved Oxygen		8.0 – 8.2 mg/l			
Soil Quality (no. of locations) and results	No. of Locations	Parameters	Results		
	08	pH	7.12 to 7.65		
		Texture	Sandy Loam- Sandy Silt		
		Organic Matter (%)	0.43 to 0.68 %		
		Nitrogen, kg/ha	139.23 to 198.56		
		Phosphorous, kg/ha	26.53 to 42.18		
		Potassium, kg/ha	77.11 to 439.25		
Hydro geological study and results	Ground Water Level (Phreatic Surface) - 8Locations				
	Monitoring Location	Range of Water Table Pre-monsoon Season (in m below ground level)	Range of Water Table Post-Monsoon Season (in m below ground level)		
		From	To (Pre-	From	To (Post-

	(Pre-monsoon)	monsoon)	(Post-monsoon)	monsoon)
Buffer Zone	31	33	30	31
Core Zone	32.14	32.85	32.11	32.19

Traffic study (no. of locations) and results	The mine is being/will operate at 1,50,000 TPA. There is no change in the production capacity. Hence, the traffic due to transportation of bauxite through road is covered in the existing traffic. The LOS value for the traffic survey conducted for SH-9 at three survey points comes out to be “A” on first survey point at Approach road and “B” on rest two survey points for the present traffic scenario.
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xiii. Public Hearing (PH) Details:

Advertisement for PH with date (name of major national daily and one regional vernacular daily newspaper)	Public Hearing for Amtipani Bauxite Mine (Area-190.95 ha) Near Villages: Amtipani, Chirodih&Gurdari, Taluka: Bishunpur, District: Gumla (Jharkhand) of M/s. Hindalco Industries Limited was conducted in Gumla district on 21.06.2004 for 1.5 Lac TPA as per EIA Notification 1994 and on 11.07.2013 (3.0 Lac TPA) as per EIA Notification 2006. Amendment in ToR has been obtained on 04.08.2021 for public consultation in place of public hearing as per MoEFCC OM dated 16.02.2021. Now, public consultation was organized with villagers, rural representatives, Hindalco and the officials of N.K.C.P.L at Amtipani Bauxite Mines on 24.06.2022
Date of PH	
Venue	
Chaired by	
Main issues raised during PH/	Issues raised during public consultation were about employment, Drinking water, Education facilities, Health facilities, women empowerment etc.
Budget proposed for addressing issues raised during PH/ over 3 years	Rs. 95 Lakhs (Capital) and Rs. 3.5 Lakh/annum (Recurring)

xiv. Details of CTE/CTO, Certified Compliance Report, Certified Production Details from the inception of the mine:

Particulars	Details of Letter along with date of grant and validity
Consent to Establish (CTE)	CTE has already been obtained from JSPCB vide letter No PC/NOC/RNC/140/14/G-4078, dated 07.11.2014 for production capacity of 1,50,000 TPA of Bauxite.
Consent to Operate (CTO)	Renewal of CTO under Water Act and Air Act has been obtained from JSPCB vide letter No

	JSPCB/HO/RNC/CTO-8761909/2020/2056 dated 31.12.2020 and is valid up to 31.12.2025.																																																																				
Certified Compliance Report and Inspection date	<p>Certified Compliance Report has been issued by the Regional Office of MoEF&CC vide F.No 103-102/06/E.P.E/429 dated 25.07.2022. Site visit was conducted by RO on 25.03.2022.</p> <p>Project Proponent has submitted the action taken report to the Regional Office of MoEF&CC, Ranchi vide letter dated 18.08.2022. To ascertain the latest compliance status, project was again monitored/inspected on 27.04.2023. Regional Office of MoEF&CC, Ranchi has given their latest remarks on 30.06.2023 on the basis of site inspection dated 27.04.2023 and action taken reports and other documents submitted by the Project Proponent.</p>																																																																				
Certified Production Details from the inception of the mine (in tabular form against the EC capacity)	<p>Past production details has been authenticated by the District Mining Officer, Gumla vide letter dated 27.12.2018 and 21.12.2022 for the period 2006-07 to 2021-22.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No</th> <th>Year</th> <th>EC sanctioned capacity (Tonnes)</th> <th>Actual production (Tonnes)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td>2006 - 07</td><td>150000</td><td>Nil</td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td>2007 - 08</td><td>150000</td><td>Nil</td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td>2008 - 09</td><td>150000</td><td>28068</td></tr> <tr><td>4.</td><td>2009 - 10</td><td>150000</td><td>149863</td></tr> <tr><td>5.</td><td>2010 - 11</td><td>150000</td><td>149118</td></tr> <tr><td>6.</td><td>2011 - 12</td><td>150000</td><td>149695</td></tr> <tr><td>7.</td><td>2012 - 13</td><td>150000</td><td>149579</td></tr> <tr><td>8.</td><td>2013 - 14</td><td>150000</td><td>149665</td></tr> <tr><td>9.</td><td>2014 - 15</td><td>150000</td><td>149515</td></tr> <tr><td>10.</td><td>2015 - 16</td><td>150000</td><td>149880</td></tr> <tr><td>11.</td><td>2016 - 17</td><td>150000</td><td>149450</td></tr> <tr><td>12.</td><td>2017 - 18</td><td>150000</td><td>149560</td></tr> <tr><td>13.</td><td>2018 - 19</td><td>150000</td><td>144670</td></tr> <tr><td>14.</td><td>2019 - 20</td><td>150000</td><td>59995</td></tr> <tr><td>15.</td><td>2020 - 21</td><td>150000</td><td>128890</td></tr> <tr><td>16.</td><td>2021 - 22</td><td>150000</td><td>149000</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S. No	Year	EC sanctioned capacity (Tonnes)	Actual production (Tonnes)	1.	2006 - 07	150000	Nil	2.	2007 - 08	150000	Nil	3.	2008 - 09	150000	28068	4.	2009 - 10	150000	149863	5.	2010 - 11	150000	149118	6.	2011 - 12	150000	149695	7.	2012 - 13	150000	149579	8.	2013 - 14	150000	149665	9.	2014 - 15	150000	149515	10.	2015 - 16	150000	149880	11.	2016 - 17	150000	149450	12.	2017 - 18	150000	149560	13.	2018 - 19	150000	144670	14.	2019 - 20	150000	59995	15.	2020 - 21	150000	128890	16.	2021 - 22	150000	149000
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xv. Rehabilitation & Resettlement:

R & R details	The lease area comprises of 0.33 ha as GM land & remaining 190.62 ha land as Raiyati land. Mining lease is falling under CNT land, hence land will be purchased as per the direction of DC, GoJ. As per khasra details there are 352 PAFs involved in the lease area in which, 332 PAFs having only land and 20 PAFs having land. As on date, 156.65 Ha of land is acquired and rest 33.97 Ha will be acquired.
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xvi. Court case details:

Court Case, No and its present status	Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment W.P (C) 114/2014 dated 02-08-2017, District Mining Officer issued a provisional demand notice on 12.11.2017 to Amtipani Bauxite Mine amounting to Rs 97,85,066. As company never exceeded the production limits of any of the statutory clearances, Writ Petitions was filed before the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand at Ranchi challenging this demand notice. Stay in this matter has been granted in favour of company as an interim protection. The matter is awaited for further hearing before Chief Justice of Jharkhand.
Undertaking by Project Proponent w.r.t court case	

xvii. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018	The Project Proponent has submitted the Affidavit in a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing no: D 440 610 dated 13.01.2020 that they will comply with all statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2 nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India &Ors.
Undertaking by Project Proponent in EIA/EMP report	The Project Proponent has submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 28.11.2022 stating that the conditions laid down in Terms of Reference (ToR) dated 28.12.2020 and amended ToR letter dated 04.08.2021 have been complied with and the data submitted and the information presented in this report are factually correct.
Undertaking by Consultant in EIA/EMP report	The Consultant has submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 09.12.2022 to the effect that the Terms of Reference (ToR) granted by MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide letter no. J-11015/241/2005-IA.II(M) on 28.12.2020 and amended on 04.08.2021 have been complied as per data/details provided by Project Proponent & as per Modification in Review of Mining Plan approved by IBM and the data submitted are factually correct.
Plagiarism Certificate	The Head of the Accredited Consultant Organization/ Authorized person certified that this EIA Report has been evaluated by using online software viz. Plagiarism Checker X on 08.12.2022. The report produced has been analyzed by the system and based on that the EIA Report produced in accordance with good scientific practice.

xviii. Details of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP):

Activities	Capital cost	Recurring cost
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	(Crores)	(Lakhs/annum)
Environment Management Protection	1.23	0.29
Cost for Issues raised during public consultation	0.95	0.04

xix. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	Budget (Rs. in Crores)
Total Cost for EMP (Capital Cost of EMP + Capital cost of public hearing)	Rs. 2.18 Crore
Project Cost	No capital investment is involved as this proposal is for validation of existing EC as per MoEFCC Notification dated 06.04.2018. However, existing project cost is Rs. 12 Crore
Employment	About 204 Nos.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC: -

The Project Proponent/Consultant has informed the EAC that the instant proposal is for revalidation of EC as per Ministry's Notification S.O 1530(E) dated 06.04.2018. Initially, Environmental Clearance (EC) was obtained on 14.08.2006 for Amtipani Bauxite Mining Project for production capacity of 1,50,000 TPA (0.15 million TPA) of Bauxite ore by opencast method in the mine lease area of 190.95 Ha under the provisions of EIA, 1994 in favour of M/s Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL). Then, the Transfer of Environmental Clearance was obtained on 27.10.2015 from M/s Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL) to M/s Hindalco Industries Limited. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that there is no change in the Bauxite production capacity (1.50 Lac TPA), no change in mine lease area (190.95 ha), no change in mining method, mining plan, mineral transportation, water requirement and reclamation plan.

The Project Proponent/Consultant has presented the KML file to indicate the site features in the study area. The Project Proponent has shown the boundary of the mine lease area. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the Eco Sensitive Zone of Mahuadanar and Palamu Wildlife Sanctuary are located at a distance of ~1.04 km from the mine site. There are no tiger corridors in the study area. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to verify with the KML file from the NTCA website by superimposing on the KML file of the mine lease area. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the Tiger Corridor is located at a distance of 650m from the mine lease area. The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether any letter has been obtained from the State Forest Dept. stating that the instant mine lease area falls outside the ESZ or not. Proponent informed the EAC that the distance verification certificate has been obtained from PCCF/Chief Wildlife Sanctuary, Ranchi, Govt of Jharkhand vide letter dated 04.12.2019 stating that the Eco Sensitive Zone of Mahuadanar and Palamu Wildlife Sanctuary ~1.04 km from the mine site. However, the EAC opined that the Ministry may seek comments from the

ESZ Division in the Ministry clarifying whether the instant mine lease area falls outside the ESZ or not as the distance is 1.04 km from the mine lease area.

The EAC asked about the status of the Wildlife Conservation. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the Wildlife Conservation Plan was approved from the Office of the Principle Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Jharkhand vide letter dated 02.12.2021 with a budget of Rs 575.05 Lakhs. The EAC was of the view that the Project Proponent needs to submit the reason for delay for approval of Wildlife Conservation Plan to the Ministry's Regional Office. No forest land is involved in the mine lease area. Method of mining will be opencast mechanized method. Mine lease is valid upto 12.03.2056. Final Closure for Compliance report was issued by Regional Office, MoEF&CC vide dated 30.06.2023. The Proponent has shown the past production details from the year 2006-07 to 2021-22. Demand notice issued by the District Mining Officer on 12.11.2017 to Amtipani Bauxite Mine amounting to Rs 97,85,066 in pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment W.P (C) 114/2014 dated 02-08-2017. The Project Proponent did not exceed the production limits of any of the statutory clearances and hence Writ Petitions was filed before the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand at Ranchi challenging the demand notice. Stay in this matter has been granted in favour of Project Proponent as an interim protection. The matter is awaited for further hearing before Chief Justice of Jharkhand. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to submit the copy of the demand notice and the relevant court orders mentioning about the Amtipani Bauxite Mine.

The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that an area of 149.22 Ha after reclamation will be handed over to the villagers for agriculture. The EAC asked about the plan for greenbelt and plantation. The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the total area under greenbelt is estimated as 10.69 ha, plantation on safety barrier will be over an area of 0.70 ha and 1.10 ha on backfilled area. Budget of Rs. 109 Lakhs has been earmarked towards the development of plantation/greenbelt over an area of 12.49 Ha including cost for sapling, fertilizers, tree guard, tool stackers and maintenance etc. The EAC asked the Project Proponent whether the public consultation has been conducted as per the EIA Notification, 2006 or not. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that the public consultation has not been carried out as per the EIA Notification, 2006. The EAC noted that the EIA Consultant has not guided the Project Proponent properly and submitted the proposal without adhering to the statutory requirement of the Public Consultation as per EIA Notification, 2006. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to carry out the Public Consultation as per EIA Notification, 2006 and also to explain why the component of public consultation has been missed out. Based on the discussions held, the EAC **deferred** the proposal for want of following additional information: -

- i. The Ministry may seek comments from the ESZ Division in the Ministry clarifying whether the instant mine lease area falls outside the ESZ or not as the distance is 1.04 km from the mine lease area.

- ii. The Project Proponent needs to carry out the Public Consultation as per EIA Notification, 2006 and also to explain why the component of public consultation has been missed out.
- iii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the reason for delay for approval of Wildlife Conservation Plan to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to submit the proof of payment deposited to the State Forest Dept w.r.t. Wildlife Conservation Plan dated 02.12.2021.
- v. The Project Proponent needs to submit the copy of the demand notice dated 12.11.2017 and the details of the court case and relevant court orders mentioning about the Amtipani Bauxite Mine.
- vi. The Project Proponent needs to submit the copy of the extension of the mine lease document granted for the period upto 12.03.2056.
- vii. The Project Proponent needs to submit the copy of the NOC obtained from CGWB vide letter no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/REN/1/2021/6563 dated 06.09.2021.

Day 2: 1st August 2023 (Tuesday)

2.1 Proposal for Environmental Clearance of M/s. RCCPL Pvt Ltd for expansion of Limestone production from 3.5 MTPA to 5.0 MTPA, Top soil/alluvium: 0.039 MTPA, Overburden: 0.628 MTPA, Mineral Reject/IB:0.250 MTPA, (Total excavation: 5.917 MTPA) within the mine lease area of 363.440 ha [Forest land: 66.359 ha + Non-Forest land (Revenue land): 297.081 ha], located at Village Sadhera, Maihar Tehsil, Satna District, Madhya Pradesh - [File No: J-11011/700/2008-IA.II(I), Proposal No: IA/MP/MIN/258597/2010; Consultant: M/s Pragathi Labs & Consultants Pvt Limited] - Environmental Clearance (Expansion)

The instant proposal is for grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) for M/s. RCCPL Pvt Ltd for expansion of Limestone production from 3.5 MTPA to 5.0 MTPA, Top soil/alluvium: 0.039 MTPA, Overburden: 0.628 MTPA, Mineral Reject/IB:0.250 MTPA, (Total excavation: 5.917 MTPA) within the mine lease area of 363.440 ha [Forest land: 66.359 ha + Non-Forest land (Revenue land): 297.081 ha], located at Village Sadhera, Maihar Tehsil, Satna District, Madhya Pradesh.

2. The details of the project as ascertained from the documents submitted by the Project Proponent and as revealed from the discussions held during the meeting are given as under:

- i. The mine lease area is located between Latitude: 24°06'54.34"N to 24°08'37.7"N and Longitude: 80°44'29.85"E to 80°45'50.05"E. The mine lease area falls under the Survey of India Toposheet No: 63 D/12 & 16 and falls in Seismic Zone-II.
- ii. The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of Minerals and falls under Category "A" of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 as the mining lease area is greater than 250 ha and appraised at the Central level.
- iii. The proposal was earlier considered in the 48thEAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 28-30 March, 2022 and after detailed deliberations the EAC deferred the proposal for want of additional information. Then, the Project Proponent submitted the information on 02.05.2023 in Parivesh portal. Accordingly, the proposal was considered in the 15th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 30-31 May, 2023 wherein the EAC deferred the proposal for want of requisite information. Then, the Project Proponent submitted the information on 14.07.2023 in Parivesh portal. Accordingly, the proposal was reconsidered in the 18th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 31st July & 1st August, 2023.

Based on observation of EAC in its EAC meeting held during 30-31 May, 2023 and compliance of observation of EAC made by PP are detailed below:

S o N	Observation of EAC in its meeting held during 30-31 May, 2023	Reply by Project Proponent											
1	The Project Proponent needs to submit the time targeted action plan to strengthen the plantation on the topsoil/OB dumps in the mine lease area along with the exact figures against the EC dated 23.03.2011.	<p>The Project Proponent has submitted that topsoil and over burden dumps have been scientifically vegetated with native species i.e. Jatropha, Makoye, Kaner etc. to prevent erosion and surface runoff. Till date, an area of 19.32 ha has been developed under greenbelt against target of 13 Ha. as per approved mining plan.</p> <p>Project Proponent also submitted that initially mining plan was prepared and approved for 539.561 Hectare area and later on the State Government has granted only 363.44 hectare area by reducing non-mineralized forest area. Therefore, the green belt area figures are changed accordingly as 170.467 hectare area at the end of mine life as per approved mining plan in place of 386 Ha. Further, the Project Proponent has submitted the action plan for plantation in the mine lease area as given below: -</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="539 1944 1377 2024"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="539 1944 751 2024">Year</th> <th data-bbox="751 1944 963 2024">Area (Ha)</th> <th data-bbox="963 1944 1176 2024">No. of Plants</th> <th data-bbox="1176 1944 1377 2024">Species</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Year	Area (Ha)	No. of Plants	Species				
Year	Area (Ha)	No. of Plants	Species										

		Upto June, 2022	15.0	30162	Teak, Tendu, Palash, Amaltash, Landia, Shisam, Neem etc.								
		Upto 31.03.2023	2.26	36819									
		Upto 14.06.2023	2.06	41319									
		2023-24	7.94	20500									
		2024-25	10	25000									
		2025-26	10	25000									
		2026-27	10	25000									
		2027-28	10	25000									
		At the end of ML (16.06.2040) at backfilled area	103.20	426000									
		Green belt development will be taken at backfilled area according to the subsequent approval of mining plan during the period April 2029 to June 2040											
2	The Project Proponent needs to submit the closure report to be issued by the Ministry's IRO.	<p>The Project Proponent has submitted the examination of the action taken report by the Regional Office of MoEF&CC, Bhopal vide letter dated 11.07.2023. RO has submitted that the PP vide email dated 09.06.2023 submitted Compliance /Action taken report (ATR) with respect to conditions marked as partly complied which were examined by this RO after undertaking a fresh site visit to the project site on 14.06.2023. During the site visit, project proponent was requested to revise the ATR incorporating addl. information on greenbelt and expenditure incurred details after the earlier visit. According, project proponent submitted revised ATR vide e-mail dated 08.07.2023.</p> <p>RO has submitted the Updated Compliance status of partly complied/ Not complied conditions as on 11.07.2023 stating that 4 conditions are complied (Specific condition no xxiv, General condition no. iii, & vii, ix), 2 conditions are in progress of compliance (Specific condition no. xxvii, xxix,) and 2 are agreed to comply (Specific condition no. xx, xxiii) by the Project Proponent.</p>											
3	The EAC observed that in EIA report, the Project	<p>The Project Proponent has submitted that the actual budget for public hearing is Rs. 182.80 Lakhs over a period of 3 years.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sr.</th> <th>Thematic Area</th> <th>Action Plan</th> <th>Budget in lakhs</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Sr.	Thematic Area	Action Plan	Budget in lakhs				
Sr.	Thematic Area	Action Plan	Budget in lakhs										

<p>Proponent has mentioned that the budget for public hearing as Rs 182.80 Lakhs and in ADS reply, Project Proponent mentioned as Rs 31.6 Lakhs and whereas during the presentation, the Project Proponent presented as Rs 84.0 Lakhs. The EAC noted that there is a mismatch in the figures of the budget earmarked for public hearing. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to revisit the same with actual budget and activities with a timeline of 3 years.</p>	No.		1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	
	1	Providing Drinking Water Facility	Providing drinking water in the summer season	6.00	5.00	3.70
			Hand pump installation	1.00	1.00	1.00
			Deepening/desiltation of pond	4.00	4.00	3.00
	2	Health & Sanitation drive	Mobile Medical Unit	3.00	3.00	3.00
			Aarogya Sakhi Project (ANC, PNC, malnutrition, Prathamahar, women empowerment etc.)	5.00	6.00	4.50
			Modern Anganwadi program	5.00	5.00	3.50
	3	Promotion of sports	Playground preparation and supply of sports equipment/kits etc.	4.50	4.50	2.00
			Promotion of sports tournaments etc.	0.50	0.50	0.50
	4	Livelihood and Skill development	Skill training Centre(Stitch Centre/ For advance products development centre/Beauty parlour training centre)	3.50	4.00	3.50
			Livestock & Entrepreneurship Development program (With BAIF)	3.50	4.00	3.50
	5	Rural Infrastructure Development	Construction of CC road	7.50	7.50	7.50
			Repairing of school buildings, community building, stage, school boundary wall/toilet etc.	5.50	5.50	4.50
	6	Environment and Energy	Installation of Solar streetlight	2.60	2.50	2.50
			Plantation of fruit bearing plants (Resta HariyaliKa)	1.50	1.50	1.50
		Fugitive dust control	2.00	2.00	2.00	
7	Education Support	Adhyanshree: Education project	4.50	4.50	4.50	
8	Others	Fire fighting supporting summer to control fire on Barn happening due to shortserket.	1.50	1.50	1.50	
		Desilting of seasonal nala and bunding to Prevent Waterlogging	2.50	2.50	2.50	
	TOTAL(in lakhs)	182.80	63.60	64.50	54.70	
4	The Project Proponent	The Project Proponent has submitted that the two private mining leases have already been granted adjacent to the				

	<p>needs to submit the details regarding another mine lease area located within the instant mine lease area belonging to different owner and which is non-operational from the year 2000 w.r.t details of EC, status of mine operation, transportation route and MoU signed between the two lessees.</p>	<p>instant mine lease in the name of SardarManjit Singh. (ML 1 area - 10.860 Ha & ML 2 area - 7.546 Ha). As per e-Khanij portal, Mineral Resource Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, ML 1 has been lapsed and ML 2 is non-working and Environment Clearance is not available for ML 2. Project Proponent also submitted the copy of the status downloaded from e-Khanij portal, Mineral Resource Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.</p> <p>Further, the Project Proponent has submitted that both the leases are not operating and hence MoU is not signed between the lessee and M/s RCCPL Pvt. Ltd. Transportation is being carried out as per conceptual plan. Project Proponent also submitted the map showing the existing transportation route between the two lessees.</p>
5	<p>The Project Proponent needs to submit the certified production detail for the FY 2022-23 as shown before the EAC during the presentation.</p>	<p>The Project Proponent has submitted the certified past production from the Office Collector (Mineral Branch) District-Satna (M.P.) vide Letter No. 10/4/ Minerals / 2023Satna, dated 26.05.2023 for the year 2022-23 i.e., 34,98,924.69 Tonnes.</p>
6	<p>The Project Proponent/Consultant needs to submit an undertaking regarding the change of EIA Consultant for owning the contents of EIA report.</p>	<p>The Consultant (M/s Pragathi Labs & Consultants Pvt Limited) has submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 02.05.2023 stating that the EIA/EMP report submitted by M/s RCCPL Private Limited was gone through and found that the baseline data was generated by NABL approved laboratory. The baseline data has been verified during April, 2023. Accordingly, the consultant has given consent to present additional details sought by the EAC.</p>

- iv. The details of the previous Environmental Clearance (EC) are furnished as below:

Date of application	Proposal No	Consideration	Details	Date of accord
01.02.2010	IA/MP/MIN/185836/2010	17 th – 18 th May, 2010	Integrated Environmental Clearance for Cement Plant (Clinker 3.6 MTPA; Cement 5.0 MTPA) along with captive power plant (75 MW) near Villages Bharauli&Itahara and Limestone Mines (Sadhera Mine, 3.5 MTPA, 539.561 Ha) near Village Sadhera at Tehsil Maihar, District Satna, Madhya Pradesh in the name of M/s Reliance Cementation Pvt Ltd	23.03.2011
07.11.2019	IA/MP/IND/123735/2019	Nil	Name change of project in Environmental Clearance from M/s Reliance Cementation Pvt Ltd to M/s RCCPL Pvt Ltd	24.01.2020

- v. The details of the Terms of References (TOR) are furnished as below:

Date of application	Proposal No	Consideration	Details	Date of accord
01.12.2020	IA/MP/MIN/185837/2010	9 th – 11 th December, 2020	Terms of Reference for expansion of Limestone from 3.5 MTPA to 5.0 MTPA, Top soil/alluvium: 0.039 MTPA, Overburden: 0.628 MTPA, Mineral Reject/IB: 0.250 MTPA, (Total excavation: 5.917 MTPA) within the mine lease area of 363.440 ha	30.12.2020

- vi. Details of Mine Lease:

- a) The Project Proponent submitted that the Government of Madhya Pradesh vide Order No: F2-69/07/12/1, Bhopal dated 16.07.2009 has communicated grant over precise area of 539.561 Ha.
- b) Then, the Government of Madhya Pradesh vide Order No: F2-69/07/12/1, Bhopal dated 30.04.2010 communicated grant of mine lease over revenue area of 291.792 Ha and it was communicated that the remaining area would be added to the above mine lease area through supplementary agreement

provided required diversion/permission are obtained under Forest Conservation Act. The mine lease was executed on 17.06.2010 and subsequently registered on 30.07.2010.

- c) Thereafter, the Government of Madhya Pradesh vide Order No: F2-69/07/12/1, Bhopal dated 04.03.2014 granted supplementary mine lease over 66.359 Ha diverted forest land and 11.989 Ha of forest safety zone land and ShuddhiPatrak dated 28.05.2014. Accordingly, Project Proponent executed the supplementary lease deed over an area of 363.44 Ha on 31.07.2014 and the mine lease is valid from 17.06.2010 to 16.06.2040. Then, PP obtained the name change from M/s Reliance Cement Company Private Limited to M/s RCCPL Private Limited on 01.08.2018. PP also submitted that the EC will be construed to be available for the mining area as per the revised mining lease deed.

vii. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine lease area:

Forest land	66.359 ha
Non-Forestland	297.081 ha
Total Mining lease area (MLA)	363.440 ha
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	Nil

viii. Mining Plan:

Review of Mining Plan along with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by Indian Bureau of Mines	Letter No.	MP/Satna/Limestone/RMP-37/2019-20, 1695
	Date	02.07.2020
	Validity	2020-21 to 2024-25
	Mine lease area	363.440 Ha
	Mineral	Limestone
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description	
Method of mining	Opencast fully mechanized method of mining with deep hole drilling & blasting.	
Total Geological Reserves	93.944Million Ton	
Mineable Reserves	79.763Million Ton	
Life of the Mine	16 years	
Bench Height	6-10 m	
Bench Width	Minimum working bench width would be kept as 20 m	
Individual bench slope	80°	
Overall pit slope	60°	
Transportation details	Hydraulic excavator and Electrical Shovels are being used to load the blasted limestone into 55 Ton dumpers and the same is transported to the crushing plant located at a distance of about 2 to 3 km.The crushed limestone will be dispatched to the cement plant located at Bharauli in Satna district by 'Over Land	

	Closed Belt Conveyor' of around 7.5 km length.
Crusher	The Project Proponent has submitted that there is no proposal for installation of additional crusher. The existing crusher will be adequate for the proposed expansion.
Topsoil	PP submitted that during plan period 74,238 m ³ of topsoil will be generated and upto conceptual period, total 2,68,014 m ³ which will be generated which will be backfilled in south-east direction.
OB/Waste	PP reported that during the first five years period, about 14,61,948m ³ of OB/waste will be generated. Upto conceptual period 73,70,385m ³ OB will be generated. The generated OB/waste material will be mainly siliceous clay and high MgO shale, limestone etc. This material will be dumped on earmarked area and finally utilized for backfilling in subsequent stages of mining. In the later stages of mine, entire quantity of waste and soil will be utilized for back-filling and plantation purposes.
Ultimate Depth of mining	40 m Minimum Depth of working: 354 mRL Maximum Depth of working: 394 mRL
Ground water intersection	PP reported that the present mining operation encountered with the groundwater table. PP submitted the application for renewal of NOC from CGWA vide 21-4/53/MP/IND/2009 dated 30.03.2019.

ix. The Project Proponent reported that the present requirement of water in the mine is about 250 m³/day. The total water requirement after enhancement will be about 343 m³/day. Required water for drinking purpose is being provided from the tube wells already installed in the mining area. For dust suppression water is sourced from the accumulated rain water from the pits. PP submitted the application for renewal of NOC from CGWA vide 21-4/53/MP/IND/2009 dated 30.03.2019.

x. Nearest village / town/ highway/railway station / water bodies:

Particulars	Villages	Directions
Nearest Village	Karaundi	0.2 km, NNE
Nearest Town/ City	Maihar	14.2 km, N
Nearest Highway	SH-11 NH-30	5.8 km, E 8.2 km, NW
Nearest Railway Station	Bhadanpur	8.3 km, NW
Water Bodies	ChakdahiNala Tons River KalindariNala	Adjacent to mine site, E 3.6 km, NNW 3.9 km, E

- xi. The Project Proponent reported that the total mine lease area is 363.440 ha, out of which 66.359 ha is Forest land and 297.081 ha is Revenue land. PP submitted that the MOEF has accorded Stage - I & Stage - II clearances for approval of the diversion of 66.359 ha forest land vide order No.F.No.8-66/2010-FC dated 14.01.2011 and vide order No.F.No.8-66/2010-FC dated 08.11.2011 respectively in the name of M/s Reliance Cementation Pvt Ltd. The Project Proponent has submitted that the Forest Department, Government of MP has been given administrative approval for name change from Reliance Cementation Private Limited to RCCPL Private Limited in the forest clearance which has been recommended to MoEF&CC, New Delhi by PCCF land management vide letter dated 9/01/2023.
- xii. The Project Proponent reported that the following Reserve Forest such as Kaimur Hills – Adjacent to mine site, E and Hardua R.F – 6.7 km, SSE are found within 10km radius of the study area. PP also reported that there is no National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Biosphere reserves, Elephant/Tiger Reserve found within 10km radius of the study area. PP also the submitted the map authenticated by PCCF stating that there is no National Park/Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Wildlife Corridors exist within 10 km from project site.
- xiii. The Project Proponent reported that two Schedule-I species such as Peacock (*Pavo cristatus*) and Common Indian Monitor (*Veranus bengalensis*) are found in the study area. PP also submitted the authenticated list of flora and fauna and Wildlife conservation plan for Schedule-I species approved by PCCF, Chief Wild Life Warden, Madhya Pradesh.
- xiv. The Project Proponent submitted that the afforestation will be done covering an area of 170.467 Ha, out of which 52.27 Ha will be developed over external OB dump and 118.197 Ha will be developed under greenbelt. PP reported that a total of 28,617 saplings have planted over an area of 13.09 Ha from the year 2013-14 to 2019-20. Out of the of 28,617 saplings planted, 17,506 plants have survived with a survival rate of 61.17%. PP proposed to carry out the gap plantation in order to ensure a survival rate of over 80%. PP reported that a total of 3,43,840 saplings will be planted over an area of 170.467 Ha at the end of life of mine. PP earmarked a budget of Rs 15.0 Lakhs as Capital cost and Rs 0.4 Lakhs as recurring cost/annum till the end of the life of the mine.
- xv. The primary baseline data for specific micro-meteorology data, ambient air quality, waste quality, noise level, soil and flora & fauna has been collected during Pre-monsoon. The monitoring results of ambient air, surface water, soil, ambient noise and ground water for the month of March to May, 2019 have been reported and no major divergence was observed with respect to concentration values of various parameters of collected samples.

Baseline Data (Air / Water / Noise / Soil / Ground water table/ others)

Period of baseline data collection		March to May, 2019			
Season (Summer / Pre-monsoon / Post-monsoon / Winter)		Pre-monsoon			
Period	Results of Baseline monitoring				
AAQ parameters at 8 locations	Pollutant	Min, µg/m ³	Max, µg/m ³	98 %l e,µg/m ³	Standard, µg/m ³
	PM2.5	23.3	49.6	38.7	60
	PM10	35.1	74.2	60.3	100
	SO2	8.9	16.8	14.2	80
	NOx	10.5	18.2	16.0	80
AAQ modelling (Incremental GLC)	Pollutant	Baseline Concentration, µg/m ³	Incremental Concentration, µg/m ³	Total GLC,µg/m ³	Standard
	PM2.5	49.6	0.1	49.7	60
	PM10	74.2	1.8	76.0	100
	SO2	16.8	0.2	17.0	80
	NOx	18.2	1.3	19.5	80
The Project Proponent has submitted that the cumulative impact assessment has been carried out by considering the 11 mines within 10 km radius.					
Noise level at 8 locations	Day Time: 45.5 to 68.3Leq dB (A) Night Time: 41.4 to 64.2Leq dB (A)				
Surface water quality at 4 locations	PP reported that the pH value was observed to be in the range of 7.23 to 7.66, Electrical conductivity (EC) was observed to be in the range of 395 µS/cm to 624 µS/cm, Dissolved Oxygen (DO) was observed in the range of 5.3 mg/l to 6.4 mg/l and BOD values were observed in the range less than 3 mg/l.The physico-chemical and biological analysis revealed that most of the parameters are well within the permissible limits as per IS: 2296. The surface water quality does not indicate any industrial contamination.				
Ground water quality at 8 locations	PP reported that the pH value was observed to be in the range of 6.9 to 7.6, Electrical conductivity (EC) was observed to be in the range of 591 µS/cm to 1010 µS/cm, The Total Hardness of the samples ranged from 155.2–288.1 mg/l, Total Dissolved solids of the samples ranged from 298 - 625 mg/l. All the parameters are found to comply with the requirements of IS: 10500 specifications.				
Soil quality at 8 locations	PP reported that the pH of the soil ranged from 6.24 to 7.66. Electrical conductivity (EC) observed to be in the range of 128 µmhos/cm to 358 µmhos/cm, the nitrogen values ranged between 42.3 to 88.3 kg/ha indicating that nitrogen content is very less to less category.The phosphorus values ranged between 49.6 to 76.8 kg/ha, indicating that the phosphorus content in the study area falls in medium to sufficient category. The potassium values ranged between 118.6 – 165.8 kg/ha indicating that the potassium content falls in very less to less category.				
Traffic study	PP reported that the traffic study was conducted at three locations at Sadhera – Bhadanpur, [SH-11](To & Fro), Maihar – Bharauli,[NH-30] (To & Fro) and Maihar – Bhadanpur, [SH-11](To &				

	<p>Fro)passing adjacent to mine & cement plant site for 24 hours.It was observed that the 2/3 wheelers, cars/jeeps and trucks/buses form the major volume of the traffic. The total traffic PCU of this road is minimal.The total traffic load after implementation of the mining project will be well within the IRC stipulated maximum load of 15,000 PCU/day for a two-lane highway.</p>																																																																																																																																																		
<p>Revalidation of baseline data</p>	<p>The Project Proponent has submitted that one-month validation of baseline data was carried out during the month of April 2023. PP also submitted that the ambient air quality monitored at 8 locations, noise level monitored at 8 locations, surface water at 4 locations, ground water at 8 locations and soil quality at 10 locations. Further, PP has submitted the comparison of baseline data carried out during March-May, 2019 and revalidation of one-month baseline data carried out during April, 2023.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="424 734 1391 1079"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Ambient Air Quality</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S.No</th> <th>Parameters</th> <th>Summer 2019</th> <th>April 2023</th> <th>Standards ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>PM₁₀</td> <td>35.1-73.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</td> <td>40.6- 79.3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>PM_{2.5}</td> <td>23.3-49.6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</td> <td>28.6-54.3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>SO₂</td> <td>10.2-16.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</td> <td>13.1- 19.6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>NO₂</td> <td>10.5-18.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</td> <td>15.6- 21.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$</td> <td>80</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="424 1137 1391 1626"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6">Noise Level</th> </tr> <tr> <th rowspan="2">S.No</th> <th rowspan="2">Locations</th> <th colspan="2">Summer 2019</th> <th colspan="2">April 2023</th> </tr> <tr> <th>L_{day}</th> <th>L_{Night}</th> <th>L_{day}</th> <th>L_{Night}</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Mine Site</td> <td>68.3</td> <td>64.2</td> <td>70.7</td> <td>53.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Itahara</td> <td>52.6</td> <td>49.0</td> <td>55.8</td> <td>40.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Hinauta</td> <td>47.4</td> <td>43.4</td> <td>49.1</td> <td>36.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Bhadanpur</td> <td>48.9</td> <td>44.0</td> <td>52.5</td> <td>38.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Sadhera</td> <td>50.1</td> <td>44.8</td> <td>53.9</td> <td>41.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Badera</td> <td>47.4</td> <td>42.2</td> <td>51.5</td> <td>37.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Ajwain</td> <td>45.5</td> <td>41.4</td> <td>48.5</td> <td>38.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>Khirwa</td> <td>49.2</td> <td>44.3</td> <td>53.5</td> <td>38.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Standards Day Time dB (A):</td> <td colspan="4">Industrial: 75, Commercial: 65 Residential: 55, Silence: 50</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Standards Night Time dB (A):</td> <td colspan="4">Industrial: 70, Commercial: 55 Residential: 45, Silence: 40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="424 1684 1391 1966"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Ground Water quality</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S. No</th> <th>Parameters</th> <th>Summer 2019</th> <th>April 2023</th> <th>Standards</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>pH</td> <td>6.9-7.6</td> <td>7.2-7.8</td> <td>6.5 to 8.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>TDS (mg/l)</td> <td>298-625</td> <td>200-476</td> <td>500-2000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Fluoride (mg/l)</td> <td>0.3-0.8</td> <td>0.5-0.9</td> <td>1-1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Total Hardness, mg/l</td> <td>155.2-288.1</td> <td>155-372</td> <td>200 – 600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Calcium (mg/l)</td> <td>32.8-62.8</td> <td>30.0-76.0</td> <td>75-200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Magnesium(mg/l)</td> <td>16.7-38.6</td> <td>13.4-54.7</td> <td>30-100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ambient Air Quality					S.No	Parameters	Summer 2019	April 2023	Standards ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	1	PM ₁₀	35.1-73.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	40.6- 79.3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	100	2	PM _{2.5}	23.3-49.6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	28.6-54.3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	60	3	SO ₂	10.2-16.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	13.1- 19.6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	80	4	NO ₂	10.5-18.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	15.6- 21.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	80	Noise Level						S.No	Locations	Summer 2019		April 2023		L _{day}	L _{Night}	L _{day}	L _{Night}	1	Mine Site	68.3	64.2	70.7	53.8	2	Itahara	52.6	49.0	55.8	40.0	3	Hinauta	47.4	43.4	49.1	36.0	4	Bhadanpur	48.9	44.0	52.5	38.1	5	Sadhera	50.1	44.8	53.9	41.5	6	Badera	47.4	42.2	51.5	37.8	7	Ajwain	45.5	41.4	48.5	38.1	8	Khirwa	49.2	44.3	53.5	38.6	Standards Day Time dB (A):		Industrial: 75, Commercial: 65 Residential: 55, Silence: 50				Standards Night Time dB (A):		Industrial: 70, Commercial: 55 Residential: 45, Silence: 40				Ground Water quality					S. No	Parameters	Summer 2019	April 2023	Standards	1	pH	6.9-7.6	7.2-7.8	6.5 to 8.5	2	TDS (mg/l)	298-625	200-476	500-2000	3	Fluoride (mg/l)	0.3-0.8	0.5-0.9	1-1.5	4	Total Hardness, mg/l	155.2-288.1	155-372	200 – 600	5	Calcium (mg/l)	32.8-62.8	30.0-76.0	75-200	6	Magnesium(mg/l)	16.7-38.6	13.4-54.7	30-100
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4	Bhadanpur	48.9	44.0	52.5	38.1																																																																																																																																														
5	Sadhera	50.1	44.8	53.9	41.5																																																																																																																																														
6	Badera	47.4	42.2	51.5	37.8																																																																																																																																														
7	Ajwain	45.5	41.4	48.5	38.1																																																																																																																																														
8	Khirwa	49.2	44.3	53.5	38.6																																																																																																																																														
Standards Day Time dB (A):		Industrial: 75, Commercial: 65 Residential: 55, Silence: 50																																																																																																																																																	
Standards Night Time dB (A):		Industrial: 70, Commercial: 55 Residential: 45, Silence: 40																																																																																																																																																	
Ground Water quality																																																																																																																																																			
S. No	Parameters	Summer 2019	April 2023	Standards																																																																																																																																															
1	pH	6.9-7.6	7.2-7.8	6.5 to 8.5																																																																																																																																															
2	TDS (mg/l)	298-625	200-476	500-2000																																																																																																																																															
3	Fluoride (mg/l)	0.3-0.8	0.5-0.9	1-1.5																																																																																																																																															
4	Total Hardness, mg/l	155.2-288.1	155-372	200 – 600																																																																																																																																															
5	Calcium (mg/l)	32.8-62.8	30.0-76.0	75-200																																																																																																																																															
6	Magnesium(mg/l)	16.7-38.6	13.4-54.7	30-100																																																																																																																																															

Surface Water quality			
S. No	Parameters	Summer 2019	April 2023
1	pH	7.23-7.66	7.2 – 7.4
2	EC	395-624	845 – 1135
3	DO, mg/l	5.3-6.4	5.0 – 5.6
4	Total Hardness, mg/l	122.5-194.8	264 – 324
5	COD	<5.0	<5.0
6	BOD	<3.0	<3.0
7	Fluoride (mg/l)	0.5-0.7	0.3-0.4

Soil quality			
S.No	Parameters	Summer 2019	April 2023
1	pH	6.24-7.66	7.4-7.9
2	Electrical Conductivity (µmhos/cm)	128-358	182-325
3	Organic Carbon	0.64-1.16	0.48-1.09
4	Nitrogen (kg/ha)	42.3-88.3	38-76
5	Phosphorus (kg/ha)	49.6-76.8	39-65
6	Potash (kg/ha)	118.6-165.8	124-177

Further, Project Proponent submitted that the existing mine is maintaining the Air Pollution Control Equipment i.e. bag filters which are operating with efficacy of 99.99%. Air quality modeling was carried out for worst case and controlled case scenarios and the post project concentration with 60% controlled measures observed to be PM10: 83.2 µg/m³ and PM2.5: 54.5 µg/m³. The material will be transported by fully covered Over Land Belt Conveyor (OLBC) to the cement plant. There will not be any dust pollution due to the transportation of limestone.

PP also submitted the test report for analysis of ambient air quality, noise level, water quality and soil analysis done by Pragathi Labs & Consultants Pvt. Ltd (Lab recognized by Ministry of Environment, Forests, Govt. of India).

xvi. Public Hearing (PH) Details:

Advertisement for PH with date	Hindi newspaper namely “Patrika” and “Nava Swadesh” dated 12.11.2021.
Date of PH	13.12.2021
Venue	Govt. Primary School, Village Sadhera, Tehsil Maihar, Dist. Satna
Chaired by	Additional District Magistrate, Satna
Main issues raised during PH	Employment, land compensation, CSR, Environmental Protection
Budget proposed for addressing issues raised during PH	Rs 1.828 Cr

xvii. The Project Proponent has submitted the Consent to Operate issued by the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board vide Outward No:113501 dated 21.09.2021 for Mining of Limestone of 3.50 Million Ton per year and the consent was valid up to 31.08.2022.

- xviii. The Project Proponent has submitted the Certified Compliance Report issued by the Regional Office (IRO), Bhopal vide F.No: 5-21/2011(Env.) dated 21.07.2022. Site was conducted by IRO on 15.06.2022.
- xix. The Project Proponent has submitted the past production details authenticated from the Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Madhya Pradesh vide letter dated 07.01.2020 from the year 2013-14 to 2015-16 and vide letter dated 30.08.2019 from the year 2016-17 to 2018-19 and vide letter dated 05.07.2022 for the period 2019-20 to 2021-22. PP also submitted the Affidavit in a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs 100 bearing AF 819060 dated 28.05.2020 that they will comply with all the statutory requirement & judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of common cause versus Union of India & others.
- xx. The Project Proponent has submitted that Sadhera is the only affected in the mine lease area and there are 178 Project Displaced Families (PDFs) and 27 Project Affected Families (PAFs). Land has been purchased from 168 owners out of total 205 owners and out of 178 owners of homestead, 141 have been displaced. PP submitted that the assistance has been given to 13 out of 14 self-employed people who had lost their livelihood such as shops, pretty business etc.,
- xxi. The Project Proponent has submitted that there is no any litigation pending against the project and/or land in which the project is proposed to be set up.
- xxii. Details of the EMP:

S.No	EMP Measures	Proposed Cost of EMP (Rs. In Crores)		Existing EMP Cost (In Crores)	
		Capital Cost	Recurring Cost per Annum	Capital Cost	Recurring Cost per Annum
A	Air environment	0.50	0.85	36.32	0.40
B	Water environment	0.48	0.46	0.86	0.28
C	Noise and ground vibration	0.05	0.02	0.06	0.02
D	Soil and waste dump management	0.10	0.03	0.27	0.07
E	Plantation & Green belt	2.82	0.57	0.76	0.27
	Grand Total	3.95	1.94	38.26	1.04

- xxiii. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	(Rs. In Crore)
Total cost of EMP (Capital Cost of EMP + capital cost of Public hearing)	Proposed -Rs. 3.95 Crores Recurring - Rs. 1.93 Crores

	Public hearing cost- Rs. 182.80 Lakhs
Project Cost	Rs. 51 Crores
Employment (No.s)	Existing manpower–81 nos Additional manpower–26 nos. Total-107 nos.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC:-

The EAC deliberated on the additional details submitted by the Project Proponent and the Consultant. The Project Proponent informed the EAC that till date, about 41,319 no. of saplings have been planted over an area of 19.32 ha under plantation. At the conceptual stage, about 4,26,000 no. of saplings will be planted over an area of 170.46 under plantation. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that from the month of June to till now, an area of 2.0 ha has been developed under plantation. The EAC was of the view that by this time, the Project Proponent should have completed the targeted plantation for the year 2023-24. The EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to complete the targeted plantation for the year 2023-24 within two months from the issue of this EC and the same shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office with documentary evidence. The EAC also opined that the Project Proponent needs to undertake the mixed planation with proper bund formation. The Project Proponent has shown the examination of the action taken report issued by the Regional Office (RO) of MoEF&CC, Bhopal vide letter dated 11.07.2023. The Project Proponent has informed that the RO has informed that 4 conditions are complied (Specific condition no xxiv, General condition no. iii, & vii, ix), 2 conditions are in progress of compliance (Specific condition no. xxvii, xxix,) and 2 are agreed to comply (Specific condition no. xx, xxiii) by the Project Proponent.

The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the actual budget for public hearing is Rs. 182.80 Lakhs over a period of 3 years. Drinking water will be provided during the Summer season. The EAC opined that the Project Proponent needs to provide the drinking water to the villagers throughout the year. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that there are two mine leases such as ML 1:10.860 Ha & ML 2: 7.546 Ha belonging to SardarManjit Singh located inside the mine lease area. As per the information downloaded from e-Khanij portal, Mineral Resource Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, ML 1 has been already lapsed and ML 2 is non-working and Environment Clearance is not available for ML 2. MoU will be signed between the lessee's when the mine is under operation. Further, the Project Proponent has shown the certified past production from the Office Collector (Mineral Branch) District- Satna (M.P.) vide letter dated 26.05.2023 for the year 2022-23 i.e., 34,98,924.69 Tonnes and informed the EAC that the production capacity is well within the limits of EC capacity 3.5 MTPA. The Project Proponent has shown the undertaking submitted by the EIA Consultant vide letter dated 02.05.2023. The EAC felt that the undertaking submitted by the consultant is

improper. The Consultant informed the EAC that they have gone through the EIA report and own the contents and data of the EIA report. As informed before the EAC, the EIA Consultant has submitted the revised undertaking vide letter dated 01.08.2023 stating that they own the contents & data of EIA & EMP Report.

Based on the discussions held, the EAC under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendments, **recommended** the proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance to M/s. RCCPL Pvt Ltd for expansion of Limestone production from 3.5 MTPA to 5.0 MTPA, Top soil/alluvium: 0.039 MTPA, Overburden: 0.628 MTPA, Mineral Reject/IB: 0.250 MTPA, (Total excavation: 5.917 MTPA) within the mine lease area of 363.440 ha [Forest land: 66.359 ha + Non-Forest land (Revenue land): 297.081 ha], located at Village Sadhera, Maihar Tehsil, Satna District, Madhya Pradesh subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the standard EC conditions applicable for non-coal mining projects: -

- i. This Environmental Clearance will be valid upto the life of the mine i.e., 16 years.
- ii. The Project Proponent shall monitor the ground induced blasting regularly for every blast performed and the values of “peak particle velocity” and “Air Over Pressure” shall be maintained below the permissible values prescribed by the DGMS, from time to time. The data needs to be maintained and submitted along with the six monthly compliance report.
- iii. At the end of the life of the mine, the Project Proponent shall convert the mine void of 182.83 ha into water reservoir/pisciculture.
- iv. The Project Proponent needs to implement the water conservation measures as suggested in the EIA/EMP report.
- v. The Project Proponent shall ensure that the desilting should be carried out at regular intervals.
- vi. The Project Proponent needs to make provision for permanent water sprinklers so as to reduce the water consumption. Further, 10 nos. of fog canon/mist sprayer of atleast 40 m throw shall be installed at various locations in the mine area. Effective dust suppression system shall also be adopted at other parts of the mining lease to arrest the fugitive dust emission.
- vii. The air pollution control equipment's like bag filters, vacuum suction hoods, dry fogging system etc. shall be installed at Crushers, and other areas prone to air pollution. PP shall take necessary measures to avoid generation of fugitive dust emissions. The dense plantation shall be carried out in the

vicinity of the crusher. The Stack emission monitoring of the Crusher shall be carried out at periodic intervals.

- viii. The Project Proponent shall undertake the plantation over an area of 52.27 ha to be backfilled.
- ix. The Project Proponent needs to complete the targeted plantation for the year 2023-24 within two months from the issue of this EC and the same shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office with documentary evidence. The Project Proponent needs to undertake the mixed planation with proper bund formation.
- x. The Project Proponent shall maintain and strengthen the bund on regular basis with a survival rate not less than 95%.
- xi. The Project Proponent should plant quality sapling of appropriate height of native and fruit bearing species. In case of tall transplants (seedlings) the seedlings should have proper trained root stock with root biomass commensurate with seedling height to ensure good growth after out planting. Plantation shall be undertaken in consultation with the State Forest Department. The Project Proponent shall implement the practice of drip irrigation for plantation.
- xii. The Project Proponent shall monitor the air quality, noise level, water quality, water level and ground vibration during drilling and blasting at the edge of the mine, near the village and at other sensitive receptors and such collected data shall be submitted quarterly to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- xiii. The Project Proponent should adopt the proper mitigation measures as proposed under EMP with budgetary provision of Rs3.95 Cr. The adoption of mitigation measures and monitoring of the same as proposed in the EMP shall be done under the supervision of the qualified environmental personnel. The implementation status of the same shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- xiv. The Project Proponent should establish in house (at project site) environment laboratory for measurement of environment parameter with respect to air quality and water (surface and ground). A dedicated team to oversee environment management shall be setup at site which should comprise of Environment Engineers, Laboratory chemist and staff for monitoring of air, water quality parameters on routine basis instead of engaging environment monitoring laboratories/consultants within two years of grant of EC. Any non-compliance or infringement should be reported to the concerned authority.

- xv. The Project Proponent shall conduct third party audit of compliance of EC condition at an interval one year and its report shall be submitted to IRO, MoEF&CC.
- xvi. The budget of Rs. 182.80 Lakhs to address the concerns raised by the public in the public hearing to be completed within 3 years from the date of start of mining operations. PP shall comply with all action plans made for public hearing concerns and make regular maintenance and record the progressive activity out comes. The Project proponent shall ensure that the activities proposed under the public hearing is different from the CSR activities.
- xvii. The Project Proponent needs to facilitate the online education system in the schools by providing Wi-Fi connectivity, smart classrooms and desktops/ tablets. PP shall construct a library which shall be made available to the school children as well as local people.
- xviii. The Project Proponent shall create awareness among the local people working within the project area as well as its surrounding area on the ban of Single Use Plastic (SUP) in order to ensure the compliance of Notification published by MoEF&CC on 12/08/2021. A report, along with photographs, on the measures taken shall also be included in the six monthly compliance report.
- xix. The Project Proponent shall supply the RO drinking water to the identified Villages throughout the year at free of cost.
- xx. The Project Proponent shall explore the possibility of using atleast 20% of Electric vehicles/CNG/Solar instead of diesel operation within three years.
- xxi. NoC from the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA)/ Concerned Local authority, as the case may be, shall be obtained before drawing the ground water for the project activities, State Pollution Control Board / Pollution Control Committees shall not issue the Consent to Operate (CTO) under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act till the project proponent shall obtain such permission.
- xxii. The Project Proponent shall also organize employment-based apprenticeship/ internship training program every year with appropriate stipend for the youth and other programs to enhance the skill of the local people. The data should be maintained for the training imparted to the persons and the outcome of the training, for the assessment of the training program should be analyzed periodically and improved accordingly. The preference shall be given to the local people for the purpose of employment.

- xxiii. The Project Proponent should periodically monitor and maintain the health records of the mine workers digitally prior to mining operations, at the time of operation of mine and post mining operations. Regular surveillance on Silicosis shall be carried through regular occupational health check-up every year for mine workers. PP shall also organize medical camp for the benefit of the local people and also the monitor the health impacts due to mining activity.
- xxiv. The mining lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake regrassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The implementation report of the above said condition shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.

2.2 Color Granite Quarry of M/s Vishwaksen Industries Pvt. Ltd. with proposed production capacity of 2400m³/Annum of Color Granite within the mine lease area of 15.0 ha, located at Village Gagarajapuram, Tehsil-Meliaputti Mandal, District Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh – [File. No: J-11015/150/2013-IA.II(M), Proposal No: IA/AP/MIN/27523/2013] – Environmental Clearance (EC)

The instant proposal is for mining of Color Granite Quarry by M/s Vishwaksen Industries Pvt. Ltd. with proposed production capacity of 2400m³/Annum of Color Granite within the mine lease area of 15.0 ha, located at Village Gagarajapuram, Meliaputti Mandal, District Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh.

2. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC:-

The EAC noted that the Project Proponent vide email dated 31.07.2023 (i.e., one day before the EAC meeting) circulated the technical presentation to the members of the EAC. The EAC also noted that the Project Proponent has not submitted the complete information within the prescribed timeframe as per the 18th EAC Agenda. The EAC observed that the Project Proponent has changed the EIA Consultant from M/s Vision Labs to M/s Southern Enviro Engineers Pvt. Ltd and did not give prior intimation to the Ministry regarding the change of the EIA Consultant. The EAC asked the Project Proponent to provide the details regarding any action initiated by the State Govt. under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 against the Proponent if any. Thus the EAC asked the Project Proponent to submit the complete information including the change of EIA Consultant within the stipulated timeframe so as the EAC may go through the complete details of the project. Therefore, the EAC **deferred** the proposal.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA:

2.3 Bauxite mining project of M/s Panditrao Mines and Minerals Private Limited with production capacity of 0.80 MTPA in the mine lease area of 90.0

ha, located at Village MincheBudruk, Taluka-Budhargarh, District-Kolhapur, Maharashtra - Environmental Clearance (EC) regarding

The instant proposal was earlier considered in the 14thEAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 3-4 May, 2023 on the basis of the request of the Project Proponent to provide an opportunity to explain the details. A meeting notice was issued to the Project Proponent on 24.04.2023 to participate in the EAC meeting and also requested to provide the chronological sequence of grant of EC for the Mining Operation and the applicable provisions of ESZ Notification (Distance of Mines from the Protected Areas and the Actual Distance of the Mine from the Protected Areas) in the tabular form. Accordingly, the proposal was considered in the EAC (Non-Coal Mining) held during 3-4 May, 2023 for due deliberations.

2. The Project Proponent gave the technical presentation on 03.05.2023 with chronology of events. the chronological sequence of grant of EC for the Mining Operation and the applicable provisions of ESZ Notification (Distance of Mines from the Protected Areas and the Actual Distance of the Mine from the Protected Areas). Further, the Project Proponent has informed that there is no specific distance defined by the State of Maharashtra and the same was at under process which was missed inadvertently in Form-A by the consultant. The Project Proponent also informed the EAC that due to halt of mining operations, the proponent and the employee suffers a lot and requested the EAC to revoke the abeyance order.

3. After detailed deliberations, the EAC noted that the EC for the instant project was already kept in abeyance w.e.f 02.11.2018 as the Project Proponent operated the mine without obtaining Clearance from the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife. The EAC observed that the Project Proponent has accepted that in Form A, it was inadvertently missed to mention the distance of nearest National Park/Sanctuary from the mining site. The EAC observed that the Project Proponent has concealed the information in Form A as per EIA-1994. The EAC reiterated the provisions of Clause 8 (vi) of EIA Notification, 2006, that *“Deliberate concealment and/or submission of false or misleading information or data which is material to screening or scoping or appraisal or decision on the application shall make the application liable for rejection, and cancellation of prior environmental clearance granted on that basis. Rejection of an application or cancellation of a prior environmental clearance already granted, on such ground, shall be decided by the regulatory authority, after giving a personal hearing to the applicant, and following the principles of natural justice”*. Thus, the EAC opined that the Ministry may revoke the Environmental Clearance (EC) granted by the Ministry vide EC letter dated 13.03.2007 for concealment of information. The EAC also opined that the Project Proponent may submit the fresh proposal for Terms of Reference under Ministry's SOP dated 07.07.2021 and shall start the process de-novo after the revocation of EC by the Ministry.

4. Then, the Project Proponent vide letter dated 02.06.2023 has informed that the issues of the violation were never pointed out by the Ministry despite keeping the Environmental Clearances in abeyance. The PCCF (Wildlife) Nagpur returned the proposal of NBWL Clearance as not applicable. After finalization of ESZ Notification dated 15.10.2020, the violation could not be tantamount to be with regards to Wildlife Clearance as the alleged conditions is no longer applicable. The Project Proponent also informed that the sanctuary boundary was not proper and so it was difficult to mention the distance in Form-A. There was no question/ objection raised by the EAC during appraisal of EC in the year 2007. The EAC opined for revocation of EC without jurisdiction in contrary to the SOP in Ministry's OM dated 25.11.2022. In view of the above, the Project Proponent requested to review the minutes of the EAC (Non-Coal Mining) held during 3-4 May, 2023 and also requested for revocation of the abeyance order. Accordingly, the proposal was placed in the 17th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 11-12 July, 2023 for due deliberations. The Project Proponent requested the EAC to adjourn the instant proposal to the next EAC meeting and further the Project Proponent vide email dated 12.07.2023 informed the same. Based on the request of the Project Proponent, the EAC deferred the proposal.

5. Based on the request of the Project Proponent vide email dated 12.07.2023, the instant proposal was again considered in the 18th EAC (Non-Coal Mining) meeting held during 31st July & 1st August, 2023 for due deliberations.

3. Observation and Recommendation of the EAC:-

The EAC noted that the Project Proponent vide email dated 31.07.2023 informed that the Mr. Pandit Rao who has been authorized as Nominated owner was not feeling well and requested to defer the proposal to the next EAC meeting. The EAC noted that the Project Proponent sought deferment for the consecutive two EAC meetings held during 11-12 July, 2023 and 31st July & 1st August, 2023. Based on the request of the Project Proponent vide email dated 31.07.2023, the EAC **deferred** the proposal.

List of members of Expert Appraisal Committee participated through VC

S.No	Member Name	Member Address	Designation	31st July, 2023	1st August, 2023
1	Dr. Dinesh Misra, IFS (Retd.)	Plot No 65, Sector 8, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, 382 008	Chairman	Yes	Yes
2	Sh. Niranjana Kumar Vasu, IFS (Retd.)	816, Shanti Nagar, Opposite Durgapur Railway Station, Jaipur-Rajasthan, 302018	Member	Yes	Yes

3	Dr. Asha Rajvanshi, Scientist 'G' (Retd.), WII	B/104/106 Rock Valley Apartments, GMS Road, Sewla Kalan, P.O. Majra, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248171	Member	Yes	Yes
4	Shri. Avijit Ghosh (CMD- Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited) (Retd.)	Singhee Marg, A- 604 Shahadeo Tower, P.P.Compound, Ranchi 834001, Jharkhand	Member	Yes	Yes
5	Shri. Bandi Ramchandra Reddy (CMD-South Eastern Coalfields Limited)- (Retd.)	Flat No-503 A, Jyoti Cosmos, White Fields, Hi-Tech City, Kondapur, Hyderabad-500081	Member	Yes	Yes
6	Prof. Pramod Kumar, Professor, Shri Aurobindo College, University of Delhi	Shri Aurobindo College, University of Delhi 1372, B-1, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070	Member	No	No
7	Prof. Devesh Walia, Department of Environmental Studies	Department of Environmental Studies, NEHU, Shillong-793022 Meghalaya	Member	No	Yes
8	Dr. Suresh Tiwari Scientist-F	Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, New Delhi Branch, Prof. Ram Nath Vij Marg Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi - 110060	Member	No	No
9	Dr. K.G Asha Manjari, Professor, University of Mysore	10/B, "SPARSHA", 2nd Main, 2 nd Cross, Bhogadi II Ind Stage, Mysore-570026, Karnataka	Member	Yes	Yes
10	Prof. Dev Dutt Sharma, Vice-Chancellor	Sardar Patel University, Mandi H.P. 175001	Member	No	No
11	Shri V. K. Soni, Representative of India Meteorological Department	Government of India, Ministry of Earth Sciences, India Meteorological Department, Mausam Bhawan, Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110003	Member	No	No
12	Shri Yogesh Kale, Representative of Indian Bureau of Mines	Controller of Mines, IBM Block D, Second Floor, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001	Member	Yes	Yes
13	Shri Upendra Rapolu, Dy. Director	Representative of Directorate General of Mines Safety	Member	Yes	Yes

14	Shri Pankaj Verma	3 rd Floor, Vaayu Block, Indira Paryawaran Bhawan, MoEF&CC, Jorbagh, New Delhi- 110003.	Member Secretary	Yes	Yes
15	Dr. Saurabh Upadhyay	2 nd Floor, Vaayu Block, Indira Paryawaran Bhawan, MoEF&CC, Jorbagh, New Delhi- 110003.	Scientist C	Yes	Yes
