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**STATE ENVIRONMENT IMPACT
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY (SEIAA)**

: MEGHALAYA :

Silviculture Building, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong – 793 001

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SEIAA, MEGHALAYA, HELD ON 2nd
FEBRUARY, 2017, AT 3: 00 PM, IN THE OFFICE CHAMBER OF THE CHAIRMAN.**

The Members present in the Meeting:

1. Shri.T.Blah, IAS (Retd.)..... Chairman, SEIAA
2. Prof. B.K.Tiwari,Member, SEIAA,
3. Shri.D. Sathiyar, IFS, CCF, SF & EMember Secy. SEIAA

Proceedings :

The meeting was chaired by the Shri T.Blah, IAS (Retd), Chairman, SEIAA. He welcomed the members of SEIAA and then invited the Member Secretary to present the Agenda points for discussion.

First, the Member Secretary informed about the action taken on the decisions taken in the SEIAA meeting dated 06.01.2017 and circulated the Minutes of the said meeting. The meeting approved the action taken and confirmed the Minutes. Then the following agenda items were discussed and decided upon in the meeting.

**Agenda : 1 -Application for Ordinary Earth Mining at 12 mile, Jorabat, Ri-
Bhoi District, Meghalaya by Smt. Q.Passah:**

The Member Secretary informed the members that this was a deferred case from the SEIAA's meeting dated 6.1.2017 to facilitate further scrutiny. The Member Secretary circulated a copy of the SEAC recommendations in respect of this project and also a copy of the letter received from Smt. Q. Passah, dated 25.1.2017 in which the PP requested for EC for a reduced mining area of 20,000 Sq. ft. only. It was noted that, as

per the original application dated 23.08.2016, EC was sought for ordinary earth mining covering an area of 2.2 Acres, and that the SEAC, after undertaking a site visit, has recommended for grant of EC for mining of ordinary earth found therein. The SEIAA has decided to accept the recommendation of the SEAC to issue final EC to the above project as per MoEF&CC's notification no S.O. No 1533 (E) dated 26-09-2006 and O.M. No. L- 11011/47/2011-1 A II (M) dated 24-06-2013. However, the SEIAA has decided to discourage granting EC to large-scale commercial projects of mining ordinary earth for sale outside the state in view of the environmental impacts of such projects. Accordingly, the SEIAA has decided to grant final Environmental Clearance to the present project for an area of 20,000 Sq.ft. only (covering Block-I and part of Block 2 in the map prepared by the RQP) as per the latest request of the PP to the SEIAA dated 25.01.2017. The meeting approved that the validity of the EC shall be 1 year and authorized the Member Secretary to issue EC.

Agenda :2 - Clarification sought by SEAC from SEIAA on some points relating to the TOR issued by SEIAA for preparation of final EIA/EMP to Limestone mining (Block III) at Thangskai village, East Jaintia Hills by M/s Adhunik Cement Ltd.-

The Member Secretary circulated the SEAC's letters- dated 06.01.17 and dated 25.01.17 in the meeting. After lengthy deliberation on the matter, the SEIAA unanimously decided to authorize the member Secretary, SEIAA to send the following clarifications to the SEAC:

- 2.1 The present project will be appraised by the SEAC and the final EC will be issued by the SEIAA. Though 'cluster' condition is not generally invoked in case of 'major minerals', the SEIAA imposed a condition in the TOR (Sl.no. 37) issued to the said mining project, as a proactive measure, only to capture and address the total pollution load of the 3(three) mines situated adjacently. This measure may be roughly equated with the Regional EMP concept that is followed in some states.
- 2.2 Another mine owned by the same PP (Block -IV with an area of 4.9Ha.) is under appraisal. Since one of the three mines in cluster (Block-V with an area of 128.52Ha.) was already granted EC by the MoEF&CC after due appraisal, Public

Hearing, etc., the present appraisal toward EC is only for projects on a small area, which the SEIAA is competent to deal with. Public Hearing need not be imposed again on the same project if the process was already completed already.

- 2.3 The SEAC may be advised to scrutinize the 'cluster EMP' submitted by the PP in detail. SEAC may ask the PP to provide a comparison of 'cluster EMP' against the standalone EMP of Block V, to see whether the 'cluster EMP' captures and addresses the additional pollution load on account of the cluster. SEAC may ensure that the interventions and budget proposed in the cluster EMP are enough and whether they are properly apportioned and distributed over a timeframe, in respect or the 2(two) new mining projects (Block III & Block IV) under appraisal.

Agenda : 3 : Fresh application

The SEIAA scrutinized the fresh application for '**Brick Earth Mining**' (area =1B-4K-5L), at Kalumalupara, Sakmal Village, Rajabala, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya received from M/s- Skylark Brick Industries seeking EC for mining of brick earth at Kalumalupara, Sakmal Village, Rajabala, West Garo Hills. It was decided by the SEIAA that since the DEIAA/DEAC are yet to be functional in the districts, it would continue to deal with such applications also. The meeting unanimously decided to forward the application (which was already scrutinized by the SEIAA's secretariat) to the SEAC for appraisal.

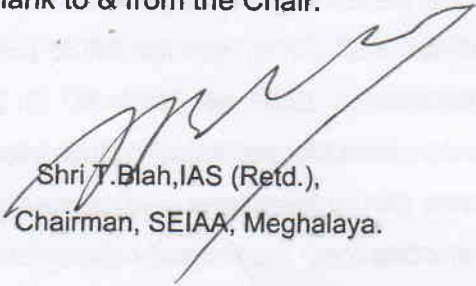
Agenda : 4 . Miscellaneous/Other.

As an off shoot of discussions in connection with agenda 2 above, the SEIAA discussed the issue of putting in place a mechanism to take care of the cumulative pollution load due to cluster of developmental projects and to suitably address the impacts. The SEIAA observed that there is a need to capture such 'clusters' comprising projects already granted with EC in the state and to cause preparation of 'Regional EMP' to address the cumulative pollution loads, by engaging the services of capable institutions. The SEIAA felt that introduction of Regional EMP as done in some of the states may be attempted in Meghalaya too. The SEIAA unanimously decided to

examine the matter further and to take it up with the State Government for further action.

The meeting ended with the vote of thank to & from the Chair.

Dated, Shillong,
The 3rd. Feb.2016.




Shri T. Blah, IAS (Retd.),
Chairman, SEIAA, Meghalaya.

Memo.No. SEIAA/(ESTT-2/2008)/PT/16. *2015/1494* Dated : Shillong, the 3rd Feb., 2017. *OC*

Copy to :

1. The Member, SEIAA, Meghalaya (email) for information.
2. The concerned filed for record.



Member Secretary,
SEIAA, Meghalaya