Committee scrutinize the additional documents submitted by the proponent as downloaded and provided by the SEIAA Secretariat. The Committee also observed that in the minutes of the meeting of the SEAC, it is normally stated that the additional documents are examined and found them satisfactory whenever the additional documents are scrutinized. The Committee decided to comply with the decision of the SEIAA in the matter subject to adequate support from the SEIAA Secretariat. The Committee also discussed the desirability of addressing briefly the shortcomings observed during the field inspection and suggesting corrective measures in the recommendation part to address this issue. The Committee observed that this is also being done in most of the cases. The Committee decided to comply with the suggestion of the SEIAA more strictly to improve the quality of field inspection reports.

PARIVESH FILES PART – 3

CONSIDERATION/RECONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

Item No.1 Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Linej TP for an extent of 0.2870 Ha at Re survey No- 106,108/1 in Kakkur village, Kozhikode Taluk, Kozhikode.

SIA/KL/MIN/169564/2020, 1823/EC4/2020/SEIAA

The Committee noted that all together, the minimum area required for operating the essential machines, setting the blasting array, and storage of materials on a day-to-day basis is about 865 m² for ensuring environmental safeguards. This is considering the buffer area required to be left for developing green belt, soil berm and temporary barriers all around, the width and height stipulated for benches, the length of the blast hole array (generally 12 to 15m), width of around 3.5m required for access ramps, area required for parking, loading and turning a medium sized truck (around 490 m²), space required for excavator operation (estimated as 150 m²), area required for stacking excavated materials (around 100 m²) and the area required for storage of machine tools and free space (around 50 m²). Since the total area of the proposed quarry is only 2870 m², the feasibility for mining is limited to only one bench, i.e. to a depth of 5m. Even for this quantity, all the arrangements as stipulated in the mining plan and conditions stipulated in the Environmental Clearance will have to be organized and complied with by the proponent. Therefore, the proposal for mining from such a small area is environmentally and economically not feasible. **Therefore, the Committee decided to recommend rejection of the proposal.**

Environmental Clearance for the extraction of Granite Building Stone of Sri. Siraj Hussain at Re-Sy: 281/2-3 of Mundakkayam Village, Kanjirappally Taluk, Kottayam (SIA/KL/MIN/176680/2020, 1877/EC3/2021/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee discussed the field inspection report conducted on 08.1.2023 and examined all the findings for and against the project. It is observed that the disadvantages to the environment are much more than the economic benefits. Considering the anticipated environmental harm and uncertainty, the Committee felt it necessary to invoke precautionary principle as protection of environment should have precedence over economic interest. Therefore, the **Committee decided to recommend rejection of the proposal due to the following reasons:**

- 1. The thickness of overburden in the project area is reported as 0.5 to 1.5m which increases significantly towards northwest. The general slope of the project site is moderate, but the slope of the adjacent area southwest of the proposed project site is very steep beyond the break-in-slope region adjacent to the southwestern boundary of the proposed project site. The very high thickness of overburden on the very steep slope area southwest of the break-in-slope region, characterizes the area as very vulnerable to landslide in the changing climatic scenario.
- 2. The critical nature of the site is evident from the landslide hazard zonation map, the climatic data, climate variability of the region evident from the devastating flood incidences of 2018 and 2019, hydrologic, physiographic and landform characteristics and nature of slope, high relative relief from 120m to 500m above MSL of the hill on which the site is located.
- 3. The principle of precaution is applicable in this case in anticipation of environmental harm and high-risk potential and therefore requires anticipatory action to be taken to prevent harm.
- 4. The NOC No. DC/KTM/8916/2022-DM dated 17.4.2023 from the District Level Crisis Management Committee submitted by the Proponent is for initiating quarrying operation in orange zone (Moderate Landslide Hazard Zone) for an area of 3.8415 Ha under Survey No. 281/1-2 and 282/2-3 of Mundakkayam Village, Kanjirappalli Taluk. Though the project area proposed in the application at present is only 0.9713 Ha, it is evident that the mining may extend to the steep slope region with thick over burden in future leading to anticipated severe environmental harm and increased high-risk potential.
- 5. As per the Report of the District Geologist of the Mining & Geology Department to the District Collector, Kottayam vide Lr. No. 3404/DOY/ML/2022 dated 17.1.2023, the risk potential further increases as the residential houses on both sides of the approach road to the proposed quarry are on the hill slope and in the moderate hazard zone.

Item No.3 Environmental Clearance for Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Adeshkumar C.S for an area of 0.9913Ha in Survey No. 208/1-62,208-1-28 in Alanallur-III Village, Mannarkkad Taluk, Palakkad, Kerala SIA/KL/MIN/239186/2021, 2056/EC1/2022/SEIAA

Decision: The Committee observed the direction of SEIAA in its 134th meeting and examined the additional documents submitted by the project proponent and found them satisfactory. The total mineable reserve is 294080 MT with annual production of 58816 MTA. The life of mine is 5 years. The highest elevation is 145 m and the lowest is 115 m respectively. The nearest house is at 213.8 m. The moderate hazard zone is at 2.15 km and

high hazard zone is at 2.8 km from the proposed site. The Silent Valley National Park is situated at 2.9 km and the project proponent has submitted the proof of application to NBWL. The total project cost is 1.27 Crore. The field inspection was carried out on 29.03.2023. The Committee heard the presentation in its 138th SEAC meeting. Based on discussions, the Committee decided to recommend EC for the project life of 5 years subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the general conditions:

- 1. The depth of mining should be limited to 110 m above MSL considering the depth to water table.
- 2. Fencing around the boundary should be completed before starting the mining operation
- 3. Development of green belt should be initiated prior to the commencement of mining using indigenous species.
- 4. Compensatory afforestation should be completed using indigenous species during the 1st year of operation itself and the seedlings/plants in both buffer and compensatory afforestation sites have to be protected and nurtured. Photographs of the same should be uploaded in the HYCR
- 5. Drainage system incorporating garland canal, silt traps, siltation pond and outflow channel connecting to a natural drain should be provided prior to the commencement of mining.
- 6. Garland drain, silt-traps, siltation ponds and outflow channel should be desilted periodically and geo-tagged photographs of the process should be included in the half-yearly compliance report (HYCR).
- 7. Overflow water from the siltation pond should be discharged to the nearby natural drain and to the *Velliyar* river after adequate filtration
- 8. Drainage water should be monitored at different seasons by an NABL accredited lab and clear water should only be discharged into the natural stream. Geotagged photographs of the drainage and sampling site should be submitted along with HYCR.
- 9. The impact of vibration due to blasting on the houses and other built structures within 500m distance from the project boundary should be monitored in terms of Peak Particle Velocity and amplitude for maximum charge per delay and included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report.
- 10. Overburden should be stored at the designed place and gabion wall should be provided for the topsoil and overburden storage sites
- 11. CER Plan should be implemented within the first 2 years and it should be operated and maintained till the mine closure plan is implemented.
- 12. Transportation of mined material should not be done during the peak hours in the forenoon (8.00am to 10.00am) and afternoon (3.30pm to 5 pm).
- 13. Adequate sanitation, waste management and rest room facilities should be provided to the workers.
- 14. Adequate energy conservation measures should be implemented including solar power installations.
- 15. Adequate facilities should be adopted to harvest the rainwater as per the guidelines issued by the Central Ground water Authority.

- 16. Environment Management Cell (EMC) should include one subject expert in environment management. The proceedings of the monthly meeting of the EMC should be submitted along with the HYCR.
- 17. Adequate number of avenue trees of indigenous species should be planted along both sides of the haulage road.
- 18. Geotagged Photographs of the progress of compensatory afforestation should be submitted along with HYCR.

Item No.4 Environment Clearance for the Laterite building stone quarry of Sri. Jayakrishnan for an area of 0.6824 Ha at Re Survey No. 2/5,5/2 of Ongallur-1 village, Pattambi taluk, Palakkad, Kerala. (SIA/KL/MIN/272889/2022, 2144/EC1/2022/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.5 Environmental Clearance for the Laterite building stone quarry of Sri. Kunhi Mohammed at Re-Survey No-1/41(1/1B2) in Poolakode Village, Kozhikode Taluk, Kozhikode SIA/KL/MIN/286387/2022, 2077/EC4/2022/SEIAA

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.6 Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Jayesh Thomas in Survey Block No. 31, Re. Survey No.317/10, 317/11, 317/3, 317/12 in Vadasserikkara Village, Ranni Taluk, Pathanamthitta District, SIA/KL/MIN/291136/2022, 2111/EC1/2022/SEIAA

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.7 Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Binoj. K. Baby, Managing Partner, M/s.Pulpally Stone Crushers for an area of 4.1000 at Survey Nos. 398/8, 398/30, 420/2, 420/3, 420/4, 420/6, 420/7, 420/8, 420/11, 421/2, 421/3, 421/4, 421/7 of Padichira Village, Sultan Bathery Taluk, Wayanad SIA/KL/MIN/402910/2022, 2124/EC2/2022/SEIAA

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.8 Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri.Vijayan . R for an area of 0.3900 Ha in Re.Survey No. 339/4 in Pallikkal Village, Varkala Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram (Re uploading of the proposal No. SIA/KL/MIN/164458/2020) (SIA/KL/MIN/411101/2022, 1847/EC1/2020/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.9 Environmental Clearance for Granite (Building Stone) Quarry of Sri. Shamsudheen for an area of 4.5622 Ha. at Survey No 1 in Udayagiri village, Taliparamba Taluk, Kannur (SIA/KL/MIN/411554/2022, 2224/EC4/SEIAA/2023)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

<u>Item No.10</u> Environmental Clearance for the Laterite Building Stone Project of Sri. Sharafudheen for an area of 0.0971 Ha at Sy.Nos.533/1-33, 533/1-63 in Kuttippuram Village, Tirur Taluk, Malappuram. (SIA/KL/MIN/415396/2023, 2248/EC6/2023/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.11 Environmental Clearance for Laterite (Building Stone) Quarry of Sri.Bharathan for an area of 0.9532 Ha at Survey Nos: 7/2-14, 7/2-15, 7/2-8, 7/2-7 in Koppam Village, Pattambi Taluk, Palakkad District, Kerala (SIA/KL/MIN/415821/2023, 2222/EC1/2023/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.12 Environmental Clearance for Laterite (Building Stone) Quarry of Sri.Abdu Rasak for an area of 0.9400 Ha at Block No 25, Re-Survey Nos: 7/2-10, 7/2-9, 7/2-8, 7/2-16, 7/2-17 in Koppam Village, Pattambi Taluk, Palakkad (SIA/KL/MIN/415955/2023, 2221/EC1/2023/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.13 Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project of Shri. K. Sudhakaran , M/s. Kanakakunnu Stone Industries and M Sand, for an area of 3.4501 Ha. at Survey No: Sy. No. 292/1A, in New Naduvil Village, Thaliparamba Taluk, Kannur (SIA/KL/MIN/423358/2023, 2381/EC4/2022/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.14 Environmental Clearance for the Laterite (Building Stone) Quarry of Sri.Cheriya Vilappinakath Siyad, for an area of 0.0971 Ha at Block no .138, Re-Survey No: 362/29 of Chuzhali Village, Taliparamba Taluk, Kannur. (SIA/KL/MIN/424608/2023, 2249/EC4/2023/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.15 Environmental Clearance for Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. Sreejith S.S., Managing Partner of M/s VSC Villaments for an area of 2.700 hectares. at Block No.47, Re-Survey 319/7, 318/13, 322/5, 320/1-1, 320/4-2, 320/1-3, 320/1-4, 320/1-6 in Aryanad Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram. SIA/KL/MIN/426206/2023, 2261/EC1/2023/SEIAA

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.16 Environmental Clearance for Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. R. Mohandas, for an area of 3.7390 Ha. at Re-Survey Nos. 1293/1623, 1293/1621, 1293/1622, 1293/2870, 1293/2872, 1293/2793, 1293/2794 & 1293/1624 in Ayyankunnu Village, Iritty Taluk, Kannur (SIA/KL/MIN/428391/2023, 2283/EC4/2023/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.17 Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. Sreejith M S, for an area of 1.5506 Ha at Block no: 44, Re-survey No: 114/1,115/1-1,115/4-1,115/5-1, in Kondoor Village Meenachil Taluk Kottayam. (SIA/KL/MIN/434282/2023, 2377/EC4/2023/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee discussed the field inspection report conducted on 09.11.2023. **The Committee decided to invite the project proponent for a presentation.**

Item No.18 Environmental Clearance for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Asees Kadakkadan for an area of 0.5827 Ha at Sy.No. 458/2, 3 in Ponmala Village, Tirur Taluk, Malappuram. (Old ProposalNo.SIA/KL/MIN/194573/2021) SIA/KL/MIN/436541/2023, 1889/EC6/2021/SEIAA

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.19 Environmental Clearance for Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri.Binoj K.Baby, M/s. Pulpally Stone Crushers which is situated at Survey No's. 256/2,256/3,257/1,257/2,257/3,257/6,257/7 of Padichira Village, Sultan Bathery Taluk, Wayanad (SIA/KL/MIN/439177/2023, 2402/EC6/2023/SEIAA)

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.

Item No.20 Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Benny Abraham, Managing Partner, M/s.Amayoor Granites for an area of 3.6733 Ha at Re-Sy Block No: 2, Re-Sy. No: 33/8-2, of Pattambi Village and Re-Sy Block No: 24, Re-Sy. No's. 314/5 & 314/6 in Koppam

Village, Pattambi Taluk, Palakkad SIA/KL/MIN/440361/2023, 2184/EC1/2023/SEIAA

Decision: The Committee decided to defer the item for detailed scrutiny.