

**Minutes of the 66<sup>th</sup> meeting of the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee, West Bengal (2023-2026) held on March 26, 2025 at 14:00 hr at the Conference Room, Paribesh Bhawan, Bidhannagar.**

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The 66<sup>th</sup> meeting of the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), West Bengal (2023-2026) was held on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 at 14:00 hr at the Conference Room, Paribesh Bhawan, Bidhannagar. The following members participated:

1)	Jagdish Prasad Meena, IAS	Secretary, SEAC	Present
2)	Prof. Indranath Sinha	Vice Chairman, SEAC	Present
3)	Prof. Pradip Sikdar	Member, SEAC	Present
4)	Prof. Suchandra Bardhan	Member, SEAC	Present
5)	Prof. Aniruddha Mukhopadhyay	Member, SEAC	Present

**1) Reconsideration Proposals :-**

**1.1) Environmental Clearance :**

**1.1.1) Industry Sector :**

- I. Proposed expansion of Cast Iron Casting production capacity at Dag No (L.R) 1,6,7,8, JL No. 20, Mouza - Kulgachia, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 188, 189, JL No. 12, Mouza - Srirampur and 280, 281, JL No. 15, Mouza - Kashyabpur, at Kulgachia, P.O. Mahishrekha, P.S. Uluberia, District Howrah, West Bengal.

**Proposal No.**

**SIA/WB/IND/78453/2018**

**Project Proponent -**

**M/s. Crescent Foundry Company Private Limited**

**Environmental Consultant -**

**M/s. Kadam Environmental Consultants.**

***Activities:***

- This is a proposal for enhancement of the production capacity of cast iron casting production from 1900 te/month to 8333 te/month.

***Salient Features of the project:***

- Salient features of the proposed project as uploaded by the Project Proponent (PP) in the PARIVESH portal is as below –

Size of the Project	Cast iron Casting: 1,900 te/month to 8,333 te/month	
Location of the Project	Dag No (L.R) .1,6,7,8, JL No. 20, Mouja- Kulgachia, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 188, 189, JL No. 12, Mouja- Srirampur and 280, 281, JL No. 15, Mouja- Kashyabpur, at Kulgachia, P.O. Mahishrekha, P.S. Uluberia, District Howrah, West Bengal.	
Details of Existing Facilities and Proposed after Expansion		
Topic	Existing	After Expansion

Total Plant Area	22,800 sqm	29,245 sqm		
Production per Month (Iron casting)	1,900 te/month	8,333 te/month		
Raw water (KLD)				
Domestic Water	20 KLD	30 KLD		
Industrial / Process	3 KLD	9 KLD		
Wastewater (KLD)				
Domestic	13	19		
Power – Connected load (kVA)/Day	1300	10800 (Power requirement shall be met from the WBSEDCL)		
Number of Stacks				
9.0 TPH Cupola Furnace (02 Nos.)	1	2		
Paint Line	3	6		
Vacuum Moulding Machine	2	4		
Diesel Engine	1	9		
D.G. Set (160 kVA)	1	1		
D.G. Set (1000 kVA)	--	1		
Shot Blasting Machine	3	7		
Induction Furnace (02 Nos.)	--	1		
Hazardous Waste Generation				
Paint Slag Waste, L/month	20.5	440		
Foundry Return	160	834		
Slag & Dust	190	1200		
Green belt in sqm	117.64	9186.54 (with green belt to be developed at other location)		
Rain water harvesting structure in cum /day	--	36		
Manpower	400	800		
Raw Material and Product usage and Storage Details	Material to be Used	Quantity (te/month)		
		Existing (1900)	Proposed (6433)	Total (8333)
	Pig iron/ Scrap	2090	6917	9007
	Foundry Returns	160	841	1001
	Lime Stone	100	127	227
	Coke	320	777	1097
	Paint	400 L/month	1350 L/month	1750 L/month
	Cast Iron	1900	6433	8333

	Casting			
Project cost (Rs.)	Rs. Approx. INR 82 Crore			

***Chronology of the Events:***

- Earlier the PP had obtained EC issued by SEIAA, WB vide No. EN/1499/T-II-1/141/2008 dated 26.05.2009.
- The PP has obtained Consent to Operate from WBPCB vide Memo No. 27-PCB/How/196-2011 dated 29.08.2019 for production of C.I. Casting after expansion from 950 te/month to 1900 te/month which was valid upto 30.09.2022.
- The PP applied in prescribed format for Terms of Reference for the expansion proposal and uploaded the application in the PARIVESH portal on 14.11.2018 (Proposal No. SIA/WB/IND/29770/2018).
- In accordance with the recommendation of the SEAC, ToR was issued vide No. 330-2N-125/2008(E) dated 27.03.2019.
- Public Hearing was conducted by WBPCB on 27.08.2021.
- The PP applied for EC in prescribed format and uploaded final EIA report in the PARIVESH portal on 21.06.2022 before SEIAA, WB. SEIAA raised EDS on 22.07.2022.
- The PP replied to the EDS raised by SEIAA on 31.07.2024 which was forwarded to SEAC on 27.08.2024.
- The PP was called for the EC presentation in the 48<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 11.09.2024 and the PP presented their proposal in this meeting.
- PP has submitted the requisite EC processing fees as required under Notification No 924/T-II-1/021/2022 dated 23.05.2022 issued by Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal.
- The SEAC scrutinized the documents as submitted by the PP in its 48<sup>th</sup> meeting of held on 11.07.2024 and observed that the baseline monitoring for the project had been conducted in 2018-19, which is well beyond the stipulated limit of three years. Therefore, the SEAC decided that the PP should submit fresh EIA report with recent baseline monitoring data to be conducted post monsoon period.
- Also, the PP should submit Certified Compliance Report (CCR) in accordance with the provisions of MoEF&CC O.M. F No. IA3-22/10/2022-IA.III[E 177258] dated 08.06.2022.  
The SEAC recommended that the above documents may be submitted in the PARIVESH portal for further consideration of the application.
- The project proponent uploaded their reply in PARIVESH Portal on 10.01.2025 **along with certified compliance report of CTO**, which was considered in the 61<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 29.01.2025.
- The SEAC scrutinized the documents submitted by the PP in the 61<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 29.01.2025 and observed that the PP has submitted revised EIA report as recommended in the previous meeting. Therefore, the SEAC decided that the PP shall be called for a presentation in subsequent meeting on their revised EIA submitted in the portal.
- The project proponent was once again called for the presentation on the revised EIA report in the 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 19.02.2025 and the PP presented their proposal in this meeting.

- Based on the application made, documents uploaded / submitted, and the presentation made by the PP/Consultant, the SEAC made the following observations:

**Mandatory documents:**

- Details of land including status of mutation and conversion in the name of PP.
- Status of compliance of the points raised during the Public Hearing.

**Emission**

- Details of emission control system installed for cupola furnaces, induction furnaces, shot blasting, paint booth etc.

**Water and waste water**

- Details of rain water harvesting.
- Permission from SWID for abstraction of ground water for entire water requirement.

**Greenbelt**

- Details of greenbelt for 33% of the plot area for the project.

**Need-based activity**

- EMP for the project to be submitted as per Office Memorandum of MoEF & CC vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Need based activities should be based on the demands of the locality indicating the beneficiaries involved. Correspondence with the potential beneficiaries should be submitted.

The SEAC recommended that the above document may be submitted in the PARIVESH portal for further consideration of the application.

- The project proponent uploaded their reply in PARIVESH Portal on 10.03.2025, which was considered in the 66<sup>th</sup> meeting SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 26.03.2025.

**SEAC Observations and Recommendations:**

- The SEAC considered the submission made by the PP in the 66<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 26.03.2025. SEAC scrutinized the documents in the meeting and deliberated on the submissions made by the project proponent, SEAC accepted the final proposal consisting of various environmental parameters and salient features and **recommended the proposed project for Environmental Clearance.**

**1.1.2) Mining of Minerals :**

- Proposed Kherua Sand Mine on the Ajay River over an area of 3.15 ha (7.78 Acres) at JL No.- 97, Plot No.- 827(P), Mouza- Kherua, P.S.- Mongalkote, Dist- Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal.**

**Proposal No.**

**SIA/WB/MIN/262484/2022**

**Project Proponent -**

**Shri Binoy Dhara.**

**Environmental Consultant -**

**M/s. Eco Tech Labs Pvt Ltd.**

**Activity:**

- This is a proposal for riverbed sand mining of MNKT./KHERUA/827(P) & ORS./B Sand Block over an extent of 3.15 ha (7.78 Acres) on Ajay river bed at JL No.- 97, Plot No.- 827(P), Mouza- Kherua, P.S.- Mongalkote, Dist- Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal.
- **The project is falling within the DSR potential zone code PBBD\_KG1\_AJ\_11 & PBBD\_MK\_AJ\_12.**
- As required under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, the PP got a composite 'Mining Plan' prepared for proposed sand Mine at the site by an RQP. The Plan has been approved by the State Government on 04.02.2021 and the approved plan has been uploaded at the PARIVESH portal by the PP.
- **The PP has not uploaded pre-feasibility report for the proposed project.**
- **The PP has not uploaded the copy of valid LOI.**
- **The PP has not uploaded cluster certificate from the competent authority.**
- The PP has submitted the requisite EC processing fees as required under Notification No 924/T-II-1/021/2022 dated 23.05.2022 issued by Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal.

***Chronology of the event:***

- The PP applied in prescribed format for Environmental Clearance and uploaded the application in the PARIVESH portal on 24.12.2022.
- The PP was called for the EC presentation in the 66<sup>th</sup> SEAC meeting held on 15.02.2023 and the PP presented their proposal in this meeting.
- Based on the presentation made by the PP, the committee observed that **the plot area for the proposed project** (geo-coordinates) as reported in the approved Mining cum Progressive Mine Closure Plan **falls within the potential mining zone** recorded in the approved District Survey Report (DSR) of Purba Bardhaman district. Therefore, the SEAC recommended that the following submission / clarifications should be uploaded in the PARIVESH portal by the project proponent for further consideration :-
  1. Cluster certificate from the competent authority should be submitted.
  2. Valid LOI from the competent authority.
  3. Pre-feasibility report.
  4. Reserves to be submitted based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR.
  5. Progressive greenbelt plan.
  6. Need-based EMP as per Office Memorandum of MoEF & CC vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Communication with all the schools/institutions which have been identified, as per the need based EMP prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020.
  7. Details of accredited consultant.
  8. Study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs. It should be committed that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the proposal may also be revised.

- The project proponent uploaded their reply in PARIVESH Portal on 24.11.2023 **along with the cluster certificate**, which was considered in the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 29.11.2023.
- The PP has uploaded non-cluster certificate from the competent authority. **The sand block does not form a cluster with any adjacent sand block.**
- The SEAC scrutinized the documents submitted by the PP in the 20<sup>th</sup> SEAC meeting held on 29.11.2023 and after careful consideration of their reply, the SEAC observed that the project proponent has not submitted specific replies to the queries raised. Therefore, the PP is requested to submit specific and proper replies to the above-mentioned queries.
- Moreover, the NABET accreditation certificate of the consultant was valid upto 15.09.2023. A valid accreditation certificate of the consultant should be uploaded.

The SEAC recommended that the above documents may be submitted in the PARIVESH portal for further consideration of the application.

- The project proponent uploaded their reply in PARIVESH Portal on 29.12.2023, which was considered in the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 10.01.2024.
- The SEAC scrutinized the documents submitted by the PP in the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 10.01.2024. After careful consideration and detailed deliberation, the committee noted that the PP has not submitted any proper and specific reply to the queries raised especially the point nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8. The revised reserves based on the replenishment rate as per the approved DSR should be incorporated in the approved Mining cum Progressive Mine Closure Plan.

The SEAC recommended that the above document may be submitted in the PARIVESH portal for further consideration of the application.

- The project proponent uploaded their reply in PARIVESH Portal on 06.02.2025 **along with the valid Lol and revised mine plan dated 15.01.2025**, which was considered in the 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting of SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 19.02.2025.
- The production details as mentioned in the Mining Plan is given below :-

Mineable reserves / annual production of the sand mine :

Year	Net mineable reserve after considering safety zone and maintaining 45° slope (cum)	Replenishment Rate (%)	Mineable Reserve (cu.m)	Annual Production (cu.m)
1	76047	100	76047	76047
2	76047	73	55514.31	55514.31
3	76047	73	55514.31	55514.31
4	76047	73	55514.31	55514.31
5	76047	73	55514.31	55514.31
<b>Total Mineable Reserve</b>			<b>298104.24</b>	<b>298104.24</b>

- The SEAC scrutinized the documents submitted by the PP in the 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting of SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 19.02.2025. The committee after detailed deliberation recommended that the PP should submit the following :-
  - Details of accredited consultant including validity period of accreditation.
  - A need-based EMP may be prepared in accordance with the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum vide F. No. 22-65/2017.IA.III dated 30.09.2020. Record of

communications made in this regard with the identified/ intended beneficiaries (schools/ institutions etc.) may also be uploaded. Year wise break up along with allocation for each budgetary head should be submitted. Care should be taken so that the same activity is not repeated with the same beneficiary in two consecutive years.

- 3) The PP has to do tree plantation in an area equivalent to 33% of the lease area @2500 trees / ha within first two years from the starting of the mining operation. A Progressive Greenbelt Plan may be prepared. The project area being entirely on the riverbed, afforestation/ vegetation should be attempted alongside the village roads or other public land. This may be done with prior approval of the local self-governing bodies. If no public land is available for the purpose the Project Proponent shall arrange for land with his personal means. To enhance success/ survival rate the plantation shall be attempted during the first two years of the project life and the plantation so done shall be taken care of during the rest of the project life. Species of the plant selected should be self-sustaining in that particular region. Spatial year wise progressive plantation programme to be submitted.

The SEAC recommended that the above document may be submitted in the PARIVESH portal for further consideration of the application.

- The project proponent uploaded their reply in PARIVESH Portal on 05.03.2025, which has considered in the 66<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 26.03.2025.

#### ***SEAC Observations and Recommendations:***

- The SEAC scrutinized the documents submitted by the PP in the 66<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 26.03.2025. It was observed that the PP has submitted a proposal for withdrawal on 25.03.2025 which was taken up in the meeting.
- Considering the request for withdrawal made by the PP, the proposal is recommended to be sent to SEIAA for rejection.

**Table-1 : List of the projects which were placed before the SEAC, WB (2023-2026) in the sixty-sixth meeting held on 26.03.2025 and the Summary Decisions / Recommendations thereon:**

Sl. No.	Name of the unit and Project address	Summary Decision
1. Reconsideration proposals		
1.1) Environmental Clearance		
1.1.1) Industry Sector		
I.	M/s. Crescent Foundry Company Private Limited Proposed expansion of Cast Iron Casting production capacity at Dag No (L.R) 1,6,7,8, JL No. 20, Mouja-Kulgachia, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 188, 189, JL No. 12, Mouja- Srirampur and 280, 281, JL No. 15, Mouja- Kashyabpur, at Kulgachia, P.O. Mahishrekha, P.S. Uluberia, District Howrah, West Bengal. (Proposal No. SIA/WB/IND/78453/2018).	Recommended for Environmental Clearance

Sl. No.	Name of the unit and Project address	Summary Decision
1.1.2) Mining of Minerals		
I.	Shri Binoy Dhara. Proposed Kherua Sand Mine on the Ajay River over an area of 3.15 ha (7.78 Acres) at JL No.- 97, Plot No.- 827(P), Mouza- Kherua, P.S.- Mongalkote, Dist- Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal. (Proposal No. SIA/WB/MIN/262484/2022).	Forwarded to SEIAA for rejection as withdrawal letter submitted by the PP

There being no other agenda the Chair thanked the members present for their fruitful participation and deliberations. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-

Sd/-

(Indranath Sinha)  
Vice Chairman  
S E A C, West Bengal

(Pradip Sikdar)  
Member  
S E A C, West Bengal

Sd/-

Sd/-

(Aniruddha Mukhopadhyay)  
Member  
S E A C, West Bengal

(Suchandra Bardhan)  
Member  
S E A C, West Bengal

Sd/-

Jagdish Prasad Meena, IAS  
Secretary  
S E A C, West Bengal