

Agenda No. 128-11 :

(File No. 6730/2019)

Existing coloured Granite Quarry at SF No. 2 over an extent of 9.21 Ha in Pappankulam Village, Ambasamudram Taluk, Thirunelveli District, in the state of Tamil Nadu by Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd – For Terms of Reference Under Violation notification dated 8th March 2018 and 14th March 2017 of MoEF & CC.

(SIA/TN/MIN/27234/2018) Dated: 06.09.2017

The proposal was placed in the 128th SEAC Meeting held on 15.04.2019. The project proponent gave detailed presentation. The salient features of the project and the environmental impact assessment as presented by the proponent are as follows:

1. TAMIN uploaded the subject proposal in respect of Pappankulam colour Granite Quarry at SF No. 2 over an extent of 9.21 Ha in Pappankulam Village, Ambasamudram Taluk, Thirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu through online of MoEF&CC under violation case as per MoEF &CC Notification S.O 804(E) dated.14.03.2017 for obtaining ToR vide Proposal No. IA/TN/MIN/67961/2017, dated 06.09.2017
2. The proposal was considered before the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) meeting on 31.07.2018 vide Agenda S.No. 11.3.1 of 11<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting and accordingly minutes of the meeting was put up on the MoEF portal. Wherein it has been mentioned that “the Committee observed that general condition does not apply for project activity of mining on minor minerals of category B1 and hence proponent has to submit EC application to SEIAA only vide Agenda SI No. 11.3.1.3”. Further it has been mentioned that “Public Hearing (PH) has been conducted on 30.08.2016 covering all the issues, Committee felt that one time PH as the order of Hon’ble High Court of Madras has already taken care and hence repeat PH is not required” vide Agenda SI No. 11.3.1.3 (Vii).
3. Subsequently, MoEF & CC had transferred the file of the said project to SEIAA, Tamil Nadu vide reference Proposal No. SIA/TN/MIN/27234/2018 and TAMIN submitted the proposal TAMIN letter No. 3450/ML3/2015, dated 01.03.2019.
4. TAMIN has prepared in respect to Pappankulam White Granite Quarry of TAMIN at S.F. No – 2, Pappankulam Village, Ambasamudram Taluk, Tirunelveli

District for the enhancement of production capacity from 1200 m<sup>3</sup> to 3100 m<sup>3</sup> per annum from the mine lease area of 9.21 Ha. The entire mine lease area is Government Poramboke Land.

#### MINING LEASE AND OTHER APPROVAL STATUS

- M/s. TamilNadu Minerals Limited, was granted for Quarry lease over an extent of 9.21 Ha. in SF. No. 2 of Pappankulam Village, Ambasamudram Taluk, Tirunelveli District, TamilNadu for 20 years vide G.O. 3 (D) No. 10, Industries (MME-1) Department, dated 23-01-2004 and valid up to 22.01.2024 for the production capacity of 1200 m<sup>3</sup> per annum.
- Mining plan was approved for this mining by Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Chennai vide letter no. 9303/MM2/03, dated 21.10.2003.
- Subsequently, the mining scheme-I was submitted for this area on 11.06.2008.
- The modified scheme of mining for the next five years (Scheme – II) in respect of the above said M.L. area (9.21 Ha.) with production enhancement from 1200 m<sup>3</sup> to 3100 m<sup>3</sup> by considering recovery percentage of 15% based on the preliminary investigation in the past and progressed mining in the top level was prepared and submitted to the Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Chennai vide letter No. 7873/ML2/2013, Dated 10.04.2014 and the same is still in under process at the Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Chennai.
- The Scheme of Mining shall be deemed to have been approved under Rule 18(5) of GCDR 1999.

As per MOEF O.M.No. L-11011/47/2011-IA. II (M) dated 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2012, leases of minor minerals also requires environmental clearance. For getting environmental clearance, depending on the nature, magnitude and capacity, the project is Categorized as “B2” Category. Kalakadu- Mundanthurai Tiger Sanctuary (G.O. MS No. 145 Dated 2007) is located within 2.61 Km (SSW) from the project site, since the total area is less than 25 Ha general condition is not applicable as per MoEF&CC notification S.O.141 (E) dated 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016 (7 (k) i. Page # 18).

TAMIN as a part of the compliance to the regulatory requirement i.e., to obtain Environmental Clearance from MOEF & CC has appointed Environmental Consultants who are accredited by National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (NABET)-Quality Council of India (QCI), New Delhi.



The proposed Pappankulam White granite quarry for the enhancement of production is located at survey number - 2, Pappankulam village, Ambasamudram Taluk, Tirunelveli District, TamilNadu. The entire mine lease of 9.21 Ha. is Govt. Poramboke land. The project site is comes under Toposheet No – 58H/6 & 10 and lies between the GPS coordinates of E “77° 27’ 33.65 To E 77° 27’ 51.83” and N “8° 40’ 08.41 To N 8° 40’ 22.41”.

The project site is located at a distance of 3 km south of Tirunelveli to Ambasamudram road. The nearest railway station is Kallidaikurchi 1.18 km in N direction from the mine site. The nearest harbour Tuticorin is situated at a distance of 80 km from the mine site.

The SEAC noted the following:

1. The Proponent, M/s. Tamil Nadu minerals has applied for Tor to SEIAA-TN on 22.08.2017 for the Existing colour Granite Quarry at SF No. 2 over an extent of 9.21 Ha in Pappankulam Village, Ambasamudram Taluk, Thirunelveli District, Tamilnadu For Terms of Reference Under Violation notification dated 8th March 2018 and 14th March 2017 of MoEF & CC.
2. The project/activity is covered under Category “B1” of Item 1(a) “Mining of Minor Mineral Projects” of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.

Based on the presentation made by the proponent and the documents furnished, the committee decided to recommend for the grant of Standard ToR for mining projects as specified by MoEF & CC subject to the above conditions in addition to the Additional TOR specified (Annexure-I) by the SEAC to deal with the violation aspects of the mining projects. As for as public hearing has concern the project proponent in his letter dated 12.04.2019 has informed that the public hearing was conducted on 30.08.2016 and also the copy of the public hearing minutes enclosed. He requested for exemption of public hearing , since the public hearing was conducted within 3 years. Accordingly, the SEAC accepted the representation and decided to exempted the public hearing subject to condition that the proponent should submit the EIA report within three years from the date of Public hearing already conducted as per the MoEF&CC’s Office Memorandum dated 29.08.2017.

In addition to the above, the proponent shall submit the following details:

1. Kalakadu Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve sanctuary is located at 2.61 km from the project site. Nation Board for Wild Life clearances is mandatory for the project.

Hence the proponent is directed to apply for NBWL clearance, the copy of the acknowledgement for the same should be furnished before placing the subject to SEIAA-TN.

2. Impact of noise on the wild life needs to be analysed and necessary mitigation measures to be proposed for reduce the same.
3. The proponent should furnish the point wise compliance report/ action taken report for the points raised during public hearing conducted on 30.08.2016.
4. The report for green belt developed with necessary photographs.
5. The proponent shall furnish the photographs for fencing around the project site.
6. The proponent shall furnish the proposal for CER.
7. Contour map for the 1 km radius surrounding the site, village map, FMB & A Register may be furnished.
8. The comprehensive study shall be carried out to evaluate the impact of mining operations on the environment through expertise in the field of hydrogeology, ecology, mining and environment.
9. Conduct Hydro geological study and furnish the report along with EIA.
10. The proponent furnish in affidavit undertaking inter-alia includes commitment of the Project Proponent not to repeat any such violation in future as follows as per MoEF & CC, Office Memorandum No. F.No.3-50/2017-IA.III(Pt.) dated:30.05.2018
11. "I/We, the applicant / the Project Proponent, commit to comply with all the statutory requirements and judgments of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated the 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.114 of 2014 in the matter of the common cause versus Union of India and Ors. Before grant of ToR/ EC and I am also to commit, not to repeat any such violation in future. In case of any violation of the above the ToR/Environmental Clearances shall be liable to be terminated forthwith".
12. The District Survey Report as per the MoEF & CC notification, S.O.3611(E) dated 25.07.2018 for the Tirunelveli District has to be submitted along with the EIA report.