

Minutes of the 48th meeting of the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee, West Bengal (2023-2026) held on September 11, 2024 at 14:00 hr at the Conference Room, Paribesh Bhawan, Bidhannagar.

The 48th meeting of the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), West Bengal (2023-2026) was held on Wednesday the 11th September, 2024 at 14:00 hr at the Conference Room, Paribesh Bhawan, Bidhannagar. The following members participated:

1)	Dr. Rajesh Kumar, IPS	Secretary, SEAC	Present
2)	Prof. Anirban Gupta	Chairman, SEAC	Present
3)	Prof. Pradip Kumar Sikdar	Member, SEAC	Present
4)	Prof. Sampa Chakrabarti	Member, SEAC	Present
5)	Prof. Aniruddha Mukhopadhyay	Member, SEAC	Present
6)	Prof. Indranath Sinha	Member, SEAC	Present
7)	Shri Shubhendu Bandyopadhyay	Member, SEAC	Present

1) Technical Presentation :-

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 Casting	1900	6433	8333
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 48th meeting of the SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 11.09.2024 and the PP presented their proposal in this meeting.

SEAC Observations and Recommendations:

- The SEAC scrutinized the documents as submitted by the PP in its 48th 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.

All the documents should be duly signed both by the project proponent and the environmental consultant.

The SEAC will further consider the case on submission of satisfactory reply on the above-mentioned queries only through "PARIVESH" portal. The PP should also make request for a fresh presentation in the portal.

2) Reconsideration Proposal :-**2.1) Terms of Reference :****2.1.1) Mining of Minerals :**

- I. **Proposed Gopiballavpur - II Sand Block MGB - 10 over an area of 5.00 ha (12.35 acres) on the Subarnarekha River at Plot No. 1057 (p), J. L. No. - 188, Village – Pithapur, Mouza – Pithapur, Post – Malincha, PS – Beliaberah, District – Jhargram, West Bengal.**

Proposal No.

SIA/WB/MIN/74576/2022

Project Proponent -

Shri Ashis Kumar Manna.

Environmental Consultant -

M/s. Crystal Consultants.

Activities:

- This is a proposal for riverbed sand mining of MGB-10 Sand Block over an area of 4.97 ha on Subarnarekha River at Plot No. 1057 (p), J. L. No. - 188, Village – Pithapur, Mouza – Pithapur, Post – Malincha, Police Station – Beliaberah, District – Jhargram, West Bengal.
- As required under the West Bengal Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2016, the PP got a composite 'Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan' prepared for riverbed sand mining at the site by an RQP. The revised Plan has been approved by the State Government on 25.07.2023 and the approved plan has been uploaded at the PARIVESH portal by the PP.
- The PP has uploaded the pre-feasibility report for the proposed project.
- **The PP has not uploaded the copy of valid Lol.**
- **The PP has not uploaded cluster certificate** from the competent authority.
- The PP has informed that there is no litigation pending against the project.

Chronology of the Events:

- The PP applied in prescribed format for ToR and uploaded the application in the PARIVESH portal on 30.03.2022.
- The PP was called for the ToR presentation in the 71st SEAC meeting held on 22.03.2023 and the PP presented their proposal in this meeting.
- Based on the submission and presentation made by the PP, the committee observed that the entire plot area of the proposed project as delineated by the geo-coordinates mentioned in the approved Mining cum Progressive Mine Closure Plan **falls within the potential mining zone** recorded in the approved District Survey Report (DSR) of Jhargram district. But the PP has not uploaded / submitted a few mandatory documents. As such, the SEAC recommended that the following submission / clarifications should be uploaded in the PARIVESH portal by the project proponent for further consideration :-
 - 1) Original Lol along with all subsequent letters of validity-extension from the competent authority should be submitted.
 - 2) Cluster certificate from the competent authority.
 - 3) Taking into consideration the replenishment rates reported in the approved DSR for Jhargram district, the mining reserves for second year (of production) onwards may be re-estimated and the annual production levels may be modified accordingly.

- 4) Means of access and egress between the embankment and the sand quarry may be clearly earmarked. The Project Proponent must commit that no hard topping or paving of any haulage route within the riverbed will be attempted.
 - 5) A plan on management and handling of sand during the period of intermediate stock piling should be submitted.
 - 6) A Progressive Greenbelt Plan may be prepared. The project being a riverbed project 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.
 - 7) 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.
 - 8) A study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs may be submitted. It should be committed that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the excavation plan may also be revised.
- The project proponent uploaded their reply in PARIVESH Portal on 30.08.2024 **along with the revised Mining Plan dated 25.07.2023, cluster certificate, valid Lol**, which was considered in the 48th meeting SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 11.09.2024.
 - **The project is falling within the DSR potential zone code JR_GB2_SR_24.**
 - The PP has uploaded cluster certificate from the competent authority. **The sand block is forming cluster with adjacent 3 (three) no. of sand blocks of MGB-9(79/SB2021), MGB-11(81/SB2021) and MGB-12(104/SB2021).**
 - The production details as mentioned in the Mining Plan is given below :-

Geological Resource of the sand mine

Year	Total Volume of the Area (cum)	Replenishment Rate (%)	Geological Resource (cu.m)
1	125000	100	125000
2	125000	73.67	92087.50
3	125000	73.67	92087.50
4	125000	73.67	92087.50
5	125000	73.67	92087.50
Total Geological Resource			493350.00

Leaving aside the safety berms and barriers, and taking into account the rate of replenishment, the mineable reserves are estimated as below:

Year	Total volume inside 7.5 m berm after maintaining 45°	Replenishment rate %	Mineable reserve (cu.m)	Annual production (cu.m)

	slope (cum)			
1	104928	100	104928	104928
2	104928	73.67	77300.4576	77300.4576
3	104928	73.67	77300.4576	77300.4576
4	104928	73.67	77300.4576	77300.4576
5	104928	73.67	77300.4576	77300.4576
Total Mineable Reserve(cu.m)			414129.8304	414129.8304

SEAC Observations and Recommendations:

- The SEAC scrutinized the documents submitted by the PP in the 48th meeting SEAC, WB (2023-2026) held on 11.09.2024 and after careful consideration and detailed deliberation the SEAC **recommended** issuance of **Standard Terms of Reference** for EIA preparation for the project with the following additional conditions :-
 1. Drone videography of the entire project area explicitly showing the entire project site along with the existing tree plantation/green belt. Minimum 2 minute video to be submitted.
 2. Photographs of the site mentioning the geo-coordinates.
 3. Standard practice of management of the intermediate storage area should be submitted
 4. Means of access and egress between the embankment and the sand quarry may be clearly earmarked. The Project Proponent must commit that no hard toping or paving of any haulage route within the riverbed will be attempted.
 5. A plan on the management and handling of sand during the period of intermediate stockpiling should be submitted.
 6. 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.
 7. Plan showing spatial year wise distribution of the proposed greenbelt has to be submitted along-with supporting documents of administrative approval/s.
 8. Being a mine in operation, the plantation created so far may be submitted with geotagged photographs.
 9. EIA should also include detailed study of the baseline condition and impact on aquatic flora and fauna.
 10. The project cost may include the auction bid value, estimated royalty to be paid, cost of any infrastructure built like office space, stockyard, etc. The calculation/documents to estimate the project cost should be submitted. The planned expenditure for components like need-based activities may be derived based on the project cost.

11. 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. Evidence of the activities should be provided by photographs with geo-coordinates. The activities should be completed within the first two years of the project life.
12. A study report on base flow level measured at 5 points with date and supporting photographs should be submitted. It should be committed that mining will be done at least 1m above the base flow level. Accordingly, if required, the excavation plan may also be revised.
13. Management plan including the final closure plan of haul road to be submitted.
14. Study and protection plan of the aquatic life available both during the mining and non-mining seasons should be provided.

The PP shall, – while applying for environmental clearance, upload in the PARIVESH portal, the EIA/EMP report along with the documents/ submissions/ clarifications sought above.

All the documents should be duly signed both by the project proponent and the environmental consultant.

Table-1 : List of the projects which were placed before the SEAC, WB (2023-2026) in the forth-eighth meeting held on 11.09.2024 and the Summary Decisions / Recommendations thereon:

Sl. No.	Name of the unit and Project address	Summary Decision
1. Technical Presentations		
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).	Additional Details Sought
2. Reconsideration Proposals		
2.1) Terms of Reference		
2.1.1) Mining of Minerals		
I.	Shri Ashis Kumar Manna Proposed Gopiballavpur - II Sand Block MGB - 10 over an area of 4.97 ha on Subarnarekha River at Plot No. 1057 (p), J. L. No. - 188, Village – Pithapur, Mouza – Pithapur, Post – Malincha, Police Station – Beliaberah, District – Jhargram, West Bengal. (Proposal No. SIA/WB/MIN/74576/2022).	Recommended for Terms of Reference

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/-

(Anirban Gupta)
Chairman
S E A C, West Bengal

Sd/-

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

Sd/-

(Indranath Sinha)
Member
S E A C, West Bengal

Sd/-

(Sampa Chakrabarti)
Member
S E A C, West Bengal

Sd/-

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

Sd/-

(Shubhendu Bandyopadhyay)
Member
S E A C, West Bengal

Sd/-

(Rajesh Kumar, IPS)
Secretary
S E A C, West Bengal