

**Minutes of the 1144<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023 (Session-2)**

The 1144<sup>th</sup> meeting of the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) was held under the Chairmanship of Shri H. K. Dash and attended by Prof.(Dr.) V. K. Srivastava, Member and Shri Asav P. Gadhvi, Member Secretary of the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) at Paryavaran Bhavan, Sector 10-A, Gandhinagar.

**The following case was taken up during the meeting:-**

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| 1.  | <b>Clarification for exemption from prior Environmental Clearance for Sourcing / Borrowing of Ordinary Earth for construction of Airstrip by Dholera International Airport Company Limited (DIACL) at Village: Navagam, Tal: Dholera, Dist. Ahmedabad.</b><br><br><b>Proposal from M/s. Dholera International Airport Company Limited (DIACL) dated 11-08-2023</b> | <b>Exemption of Environment Clearance</b> | <b>Consented</b> |
| <b>Deliberation &amp; Decision of SEIAA</b>   |  |   |                  |
| <p>The proposal received from Mr. Vijay Nehra (IAS), Managing Director, M/s. Dholera International Airport Company Limited (DIACL) dated 11-08-2023 was fully appraised by the SEAC and SEAC has recommended to grant the exemption of prior Environmental Clearance (EC) for Sourcing / Borrowing of Ordinary Earth for construction of Airstrip at village Navagam, Tal. : Dholera, Dist. : Ahmedabad.</p> <p>The matter is regarding exempting mining of ordinary earth for construction of Air strip at Village Navagam, Ta. Dholera, Dist. Ahmedabad for obtaining prior Environmental Clearance. As mentioned and submitted in the DIACL letter dated 11-08-2023 – Government of Gujarat vide GR No. SPV 112010/521321/I dated 01.01.2011 formed Dholera International Airport Company Limited (DIACL) for the construction of New Greenfield International Airport at Village Navagam, Taluka Dholera, District Ahmedabad. On 25 th of March 2019, DIACL become a Joint Venture of the Airports Authority of India (AAI (51%), the Government of Gujarat (33%), the National industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (16%) and 100% owned by government entities.</p> <p>SEAC has done a comprehensive appraisal for all parameters mentioned in the recommendation letter during its meetings dated 10-10-2023 and 14-12-2023 and have recommended for giving consent and clarification for sourcing/borrowing of Ordinary Earth for construction of Airstrip at village Navagam, Tal. : Dholera, Dist.: Ahmedabad.</p> <p>The important points of proposals were examined by SEAC including but not limited to (1) Explore the possibility of seeking Opinion from MoEF&amp;CC regarding exemption from obtaining prior EC for such a large quantity of Ordinary earth from respective survey</p> |  |   |                  |



numbers as mentioned/claimed in the DIACL letter dated 11.08.2023 & presentation submitted on 26.09.2023 with respect to / in continuation with granted Environmental Clearance (EC) vide letter No. F.NO. 10-85/2011-1A III, dated 27.11.2015 by MoEF&CC,

(2) To obtain opinion letter from the competent authority/ CGM, Gujarat stating that (i) excavation/mechanical digging of ordinary earth from the borrow areas does not fall under the "Mining Activity" and (ii) there is no other mineral (except Ordinary earth) available at the identified borrow areas which falls in respective survey numbers, villages and talukas as mentioned in the DIACL submission dated 11.08.2023 and

(3) To provide the documentary evidence for the "write-off" of royalty amount by Government of Gujarat (Industries and Mines Department) as mentioned/claimed by the representative during the SEAC meeting for the proposal etc.

(4) SEAC has also deliberated that the proposed project is a State Government / Central Government sponsored project, is linear in nature and the mineral proposed for excavation is ordinary earth and hence gets qualified for Exemption from prior Environmental Clearance as per para 6 of Appendix IX of amended EIA Notification SO 1224 (E) dated 28th March 2020, which entails Exemption of certain cases from requirement of EC vide para 6 in particular as- Extraction or sourcing or borrowing of ordinary earth for the linear projects such as roads, pipelines etc.

(5) Further, DIACL has submitted notarized undertaking (i) For excavation of ordinary earth (ii) For Compliance of MoEF&CC OM dated 08.08.2022 and 21.08.2023 and (iii) For development of Amrit Sarovar.

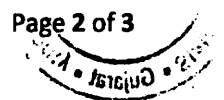
After detail deliberation and discussion of recommendation of SEAC dated 21-12-2023, it was decided as follows:

- I. SEIAA considered to consent the exemption of prior Environmental Clearance (EC) for Sourcing / Borrowing of Ordinary Earth for construction of Airstrip at village Navagam, Tal. : Dholera, Dist. : Ahmedabad.
- II. The quantity of Borrowing /excavation of Ordinary earth shall not exceed the 3,57,07,200 MT and it has to be completed within the 410 working days as proposed by DIACL.
- III. The excavation activity of above mentioned mineral is exempted from obtaining EC only till the completion of excavation of above referred quantity from the identified borrow areas / survey numbers of the villages of Buranpur, Navagam, Pipali, Valinda (Ta. Dholera) & Paccham (Ta, Dhandhuka) or till the completion of the project i.e. 410 days, whichever is early.
- IV. The excavated material shall strictly be used in the aforementioned Government sponsored project and for the intended purpose only.
- V. Office of the Commissioner of Geology and Mines / District Geologist, Ahmedabad to monitor the proposed borrowing activities from time to time as a part of their prevailing monitoring mechanism and observe the compliance thereof. It shall be

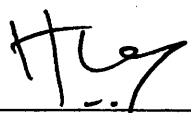

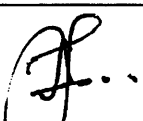


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|       | the responsibility of DIACL to extend all support in this regard.   |
| VI.   | It would be the sole responsibility of DIACL for any damages, injuries, or losses if at all that occur during the excavation and all related activities.  |
| VII.  | On completion of the project, DIACL shall inform the same through formal letter to the office of the Commissioner Geology and Mining under the intimation of SEIAA, Gujarat.  |
| VIII. | This exemption is being given on the basis of linear nature of project, involving non mining activity, certified by mining department, fulfilling all sensitivities criteria, commitment to following the SOP, as per OM of MoEF&CC, land ownership, it being a government project of infrastructure importance and specifics which are intrinsic, characteristic and exclusivity of this project.  |
| IX.   | Other conditions by SEIAA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the Environment Clearance has been granted by MoEF&amp;CC on 27-11-2015 for Development of Dholera Greenfield International Airport in Village: Navagam of District Ahmedabad (Gujarat) by Airport Authority of India., the consent given by SEIAA is subject to confirmation obtained from MoEF&amp;CC.</li> <li>• Copy of the SEAC Recommendation and signed copy of the SEIAA's Minutes of Meeting shall be forwarded to MOEF&amp;CC for concurrence.</li> <li>• State Government may be approached by the project proponent to declare the activity of sourcing/borrowing of Ordinary Earth as a non-mining activity.</li> </ul> |

| Sr. No. | NAME                         | Designation      | Sign  |
|---------|------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 1.      | Shri H. K. Dash              | Chairman         |  |
| 2.      | Prof. (Dr.) V. K. Srivastava | Member           |  |
| 3.      | Shri Asav P. Gadhvi          | Member Secretary |  |

