

**MINUTES OF THE 146th MEETING OF THE STATE LEVEL
ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY (SEIAA)
KERALA,
HELD ON 29th and 30th JULY 2024**

Present:

- 1. Dr H Nagesh Prabhu IFS (Retd), Chairman, SEIAA, Kerala**
- 2. Sri. K Krishna Panicker, Member, SEIAA**
- 3. Dr Rathan U. Kelkar IAS, Member Secretary, SEIAA**

The 146th meeting of the SEIAA, Kerala was held on 29th and 30th June 2024. The meeting started at 10.30 A.M. Dr. H. Nagesh Prabhu, Chairman, SEIAA Kerala chaired the meeting, Dr Rathan U. Kelkar IAS, Member Secretary, SEIAA and Sri. K. Krishna Panicker, Expert Member, SEIAA attended the meeting. Authority took note of the untimely and sad demise of Smt. Beena Govindan, a sincere and highly knowledgeable member of SEAC. Authority appreciated the dedicated efforts put in by Smt. Beena Govindan and paid rich tributes to departed noble soul. The Authority considered the agenda for the 146th meeting and took the following decisions:

Physical Files

Item No. 146.01 **Minutes of the 144th meeting of SEIAA held on 28th - 29th June 2024 and Minutes of the 145th meeting of SEIAA held on 04th July 2024.**

Noted.

Item No. 146.02 **Action Taken Report on 142nd meeting of SEIAA held on 30th - 31st May 2024 and 143rd meeting of SEIAA held on 04th June 2024.**

Noted.

Item No. 146.03 **Status of Proposals Pending for more than 365 days placed for information and necessary action.**

Authority noted the action taken and decided to have a combined review meeting in the forthcoming SEIAA meeting.

Item No. 146.04 **EC issued by DEIAA, Malappuram to the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. P. P Abdurahiman, M/s Karukamanna Metals at Re-Sy No. 130 pt in Pullipadam village, Nilambur Taluk, Malppuram - Judgment in WP (C) No. 27987/2019 (W) filed by Sri. Saseendran and others before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala.**
(File No. 3424/A2/2021/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the letter of District Collector, Malappuram received on 24.04.2024, the letter of the Secretary, Mampad Grama Panchayath received on 30.05.2024 and the letter of MS, KSPCB received on 21.06.2024. The Authority noticed that as per the letter of District Collector, Malappuram the quarry is not functioning now. Vide letters dated 30.05.2024 and 21.06.2024, the Panchayat Secretary and the Member Secretary, KSPCB intimated that licence and Consent to Operate have expired and not yet renewed. The Authority also noticed that the Project Proponent has not yet replied to the show cause notice issued on 06.04.2024.

Since, the EC was issued by DEIAA and expired on 30.11.2023 after Covid relaxation, the provision of S.O. 1807 (E) dated 12.04.2022 is not applicable for the project. The Project Proponent cannot conduct any mining activities with the existing EC unless it is reappraised and fresh EC is issued from SEIAA.

The Authority decided to direct the District Geologist, Malappuram, the KSPCB and the Secretary Mampad Grama Panchayat not to renew the leases / permit / licences without obtaining valid Environmental Clearance from SEIAA as per the O.M dated 28.04.2023. The SEIAA Secretariat shall issue necessary intimation regarding the same.

Item No. 146.05

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Saji K Alias, M/s Mariyem Industries, at Sy Nos: 302/6, 302/7-1, 302/7-2, 302/8, 302/1- 2, 298/15, 298/14, 298/16, 298/13, 298/12, 302/2-2, 301/1, 301/2, 302/5-1, 302/5-2-2 in Thiruvaniyoor Village, Muvattupuzha Taluk, Ernakulam - Extension - Rejected Proposal

(SIA/KL/MIN/262617/2022 File No. 553/SEIAA/KL/4087/2014)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decisions of various SEAC/SEIAA meeting and the letter of the Chairperson, KSPCB dated 05.07.2024. Vide the letter, the Chairperson, KSPCB intimated that the environmental damage assessment cannot be done by the Board alone and for that input from other concerned departments are required and Chairman has requested to form a Joint Committee to assess the damage. The Authority on detailed discussions observed that the assessment of environmental damage due to illegal mining needs inputs from various departments and is a collective effort. Therefore, the Authority accepted the suggestion of the KSPCB and decided to request the KSPCB to constitute of a Joint Committee for the assessment of the environmental damage. The suggested constitution of the committee shall be as follows:

1. Representative from District Office, KSPCB, shall be the Co-Ordinator
2. Representative of SEAC/Environmental Scientist nominated by Chairman SEAC
3. A representative from Department of Mining and Geology
4. Representative from concerned departments like Soil Conservation, Water Resources, Agriculture, etc, if required
5. Any other member as decided by Chairperson, KSPCB.

The Joint Committee shall submit the report to Chairperson, KSPCB within three months from its constitution.

Item No. 146.06 **Environmental Clearance issued to Sri. Musthafa Palakkan for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 2.2095 Ha at Sy No. Q02/1065 pt in Melmuri Village, Ernad Taluk, Malappuram – Submission of EMP in compliance with the EC condition**
(File No. 1265/EC2/2019/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings. Since the Project Proponent failed to submit comprehensive EMP on time, the authority decided to issue stop memo. After 4 years the Project Proponent submitted the comprehensive EMP and after its detailed scrutiny the SEAC in its 166th meeting recommended to revoke the stop memo subject to the condition that compliance of comprehensive EMP shall be verified after 6 months.

In these circumstances, the Authority decided to revoke the stop memo, with a condition that the Project Proponents shall comply with the mitigation measures in the comprehensive EMP in their respective project areas.

The Project Proponents shall submit the compliance status of the comprehensive EMP in the Half Yearly Compliance Report and the SEAC shall verify the same. The SEIAA Secretariat shall issue necessary intimation regarding the same to all the Project Proponents.

Item No. 146.07 **Environmental Clearance issued to the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Binu A. S, Managing Director, M/s Grava Metals Pvt Ltd for an area of 3.3686 Ha at Sy Nos. 487/1/2/3, 487/1/3/B, 491/1/2/4, 493/15/11, 491/1/2/4, 493/15/11, 491/1/ 2/4/2, 491/1/2/4/2, 491/1/2/4/2 in Pallarimangalam Village, Kothamangalam Taluk, Ernakulam**
(SIA/KL/MIN/282371/2022, 2130/EC3/2022/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the matter and noted the letter of the Project Proponent dated 22.06.2024 and the letter of the District Geologist, Ernakulam dated 12.07.2024. The Project Proponent vide his letter has requested to change the Survey Nos mentioned in the EC as 493/15/11 to 493/1/15/11. It is also stated that in Form – 2, PFR, Mining plan, mining plan approval letter, the survey no. is wrongly typed as 493/15/11, whereas in the Letter of Intent,

the Survey no. is 493/1/15/11. The District Geologist, Ernakulam also intimated to issue the EC with survey no. as mentioned in the Letter of Intent.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to correct the EC as per the Survey No. mentioned in the Letter of Intent. The Project Proponent shall submit the corrected mining plan as per the Survey Nos. in the Letter of Intent within one month.

Item No. 146.08 Environment Clearance for the Quarry project of M/s Shanio Metal Crushing Unit at Sy. Nos. 160/4, 160/5, 161/7, 161/8-1, 161/8-2, 161/8-5, 160/1, 160/1-1, 160/1-2, 160/1-3, 160/1-4, 160/2, 160/6, 160/3 and 160/7 in Thottappuzhessery Village, Thottappuzhessery Panchayath, Thiruvalla Taluk, Pathanamthitta -Interim Order dated 16.11.2023 in WP(C) No. 18680/2023
(File No. 75/SEIAA/KL/170/2013)

The Authority deliberated the matter and noted that the Hon'ble High Court on WP(C) No 18680/2023 filed by M/s Shanio Metal Crusher had stayed the decision of the 125th meeting of Authority vide its interim order 10.07.2023 and the status quo shall be maintained as per court orders and the matter is still sub-judice. Therefore, the 135th SEIAA decided to await for the final judgement of the Hon'ble High Court in WP(C) 37869 of 2016 and WP(C) No. 18680 of 2023. Now, vide Judgement dated 20.02.2024 in O.S. No. 473 of 2017, the Hon'ble Munciff Court observed that “..... *Environmental Clearance from SEIAA is a necessary condition to conduct quarrying operation and the 1st Respondent (M/s Shanio Metal Crusher) doesn't have the said permission from SEIAA.....*”. It is ordered that *the defendants and their men are restrained by a decree of permanent prohibitory injunction from conducting quarrying and crushing operations without obtaining necessary permissions from the authorities concerned ”.*

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided the following:

1. Intimate the Standing Counsel, SEIAA to vacate the stay in the WP (C) No 18680/2023 filed by M/s Shanio Metal Crusher. The Legal Officer, SEIAA shall provide an additional affidavit by incorporating the observations and directions of the Hon'ble Munciff Court in O.S. No. 473 of 2017.
2. Direct the District Geologist, Pathanamthitta, the KSPCB and the Secretary

Thottapuzhassery Grama Panchayat to not to issue the leases / permit / licenses without obtaining valid Environmental Clearance from SEIAA. The SEIAA, Secretariat shall provide the copy of the Judgement of the Hon'ble Munciff Court in O.S. No. 473 of 2017 to all the parties.

Item No. 146.09 **Environmental Clearance issued to the Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. K. Sadanandan at Sy Nos: 143/2, 143/4, 144/1, 144/2, 144/3, 146/1, 146/2, 146/3, 147/1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, 148, 149/4 , 152/4, 152/5, 152/6, 152/7, 152/8, 152/9, 152/10, 152/11, 152/12, 152/13, 152/14, 152/15 in V-Kottayam Village, Konni Taluk, Pathanamthitta - Judgement dated 13.10.2023 in Appeal No. 48 of 2022 (SZ) filed by Sri. Roy Thomas before the Hon'ble NGT & Judgment dated 21.02.2024 in WP(C) No. 2976/2024 filed by Sri. K. Sadanandan**
(File No. 200/SEIAA/EC4/86/2014)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decisions of previous SEAC/SEIAA meetings. The Authority noticed that the SEAC in its 166th meeting discussed the report of the Sub-Committee, in which it is reported that it is difficult to assess the environmental damage caused due to illegal mining in the project area without the support of the Mining and Geology Department, Revenue Department and State Pollution Control Board. Based on the report, the SEAC requested to form a Joint Committee with experts from SEAC, Mining & Geology Department and State PCB with following ToR.

- Assessment of the environmental damage caused due to illegal mining in the project area.
- Ascertain the veracity of the mining plans (including the life of mine/Life of the Project) submitted at the time of issuance of original EC and at the time of its revalidation.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to constitute of a Joint Committee with the following members.

1. Chairman, SEAC (Chairman)
2. Expert Member, SEAC
3. District Geologist, Pathanamthitta
4. Environmental Engineer, KSPCB Pathanamthitta (Convener)

The SEIAA, Secretariat shall contact the respective departments to depute respective officer and issue the necessary orders for constituting the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee shall be requested to submit the report within three months from its constitution.

Item No. 146.10 **Environmental Clearance issued to the Granite building Stone quarry of Sri. Jilmon John, Managing Director, M/s Gimsak Developers Pvt. Ltd. for an area of 2.2430 Ha at Block No. 30, Re-Sy Nos: 163/1, 163/2 in Alakkod Village, Thodupuzha Taluk, Idukki - Complaints Received**
(File No.1388/EC2/2019/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decisions of previous SEAC / SEIAA meetings and the field inspection report held on 26.03.2024. The Authority noticed that during field inspection, the Sub-Committee heard the complainants and verified the compliance status of the EC. From the report, it is obvious that the Project Proponent has committed violation of the EC conditions and the KMMC Rules 2015. Therefore, the SEAC recommended further necessary action against the Project Proponent. The Authority observed that five specific conditions out of seven and eighteen general conditions out of forty-five are not fully complied with.

In these circumstances, the Authority decided the following:

1. Issue show cause notice for cancellation of EC, quoting the non-compliance of the EC conditions as specified in the field inspection report. The Project Proponent shall submit explanation for the notice within 15 days from the date of receipt of the notice. Copy of the field inspection report shall also be provided to the Project Proponent.
2. The Mining & Geology Department shall assess the over extraction, if any, and take appropriate action including penalization for the violation of KMMC Rules 2015.
3. The Kerala State Pollution Control Board shall constitute the Joint Committee as suggested under Agenda item no 5 to assess the environmental damages for the violation of EC conditions and over extraction and submit the report within three months months.
4. The Project Proponent is directed to comply the following on priority basis:

- a. Shift the entire top soil and mine waste that haphazardly dumped, to the designated location and provide adequate protection to the dump site.
- b. Construct the garland drain, silt traps, siltation pond, collection tank, and outflow channel to the natural drain. Frequent de-siltation should be carried out to prevent the water pollution of surface water.
- c. Remove the boulders on the hilltop and hill slope without causing any accidents.
- d. Comply all other non-complied and partially complied specific and general EC conditions within 3 months and submit the report.

Item No. 146.11 **Environmental Clearance issued to the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. G Rajeevan, Managing Partner, M/s Koodal Granites for an area of 2.2 Ha at Block No. 30, Sy Nos: 404/3, 404/4, 404/5, 404/7, 404/7-1 in Koodal Village, Konni Taluk, Pathanamthitta - Letter from Secretary, Kalanjoor Grama Panchayat**

(SIA/KL/MIN/263676/2022, 1982/EC1/2022/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the letter of the Project Proponent dated 18.07.2024 enclosing the certificate of the Village Officer, Koodal and the photographs. The Authority noticed that as per the photographs and the letter, the road seems not black topped.

Authority decided to direct the Project Proponent to complete the black topping work of the road before commencement of mining. Mining & Geology Department and the Secretary. Kalanjoor Grama Panchayat to ensure that material from the quarry is taken out only on completion of the black topping of approach road. The decision of the Authority shall be informed to Project Proponent.

Item No. 146.12 **Environmental Clearance issued by DEIAA, Idukki for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Reji Jacob for an area of 1.0062 Ha at Block No. 10, Re-Sy No. 312/3, 322/7, 332/2 & 333/3 in Manakkad Village, Thodupuzha Taluk. Idukki**
(SIA/KL/MIN/447398/2023, 2495/EC2/2024/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings. The Authority noticed that as per the field inspection report, the Project Proponent has conducted mining by violating the mine plan and also, he has not complied with the following EC conditions:

1. The site proposed is found almost mined out and the feasibility of mining in the small protruding portion is poor due to lack of feasibility for environmentally friendly mining.
2. Benches are found only at southern end and all the other sides are vertically cut down to more than 40-50m.
3. The buffer zone is encroached for mining as well as for laying road.
4. The greenbelt development is not complied with in the buffer zone.
5. Adequate dust suppression mechanism using sprinklers are not provided in the quarry.
6. Mining is found to have intersected the ground water table.
7. Depth of mining exceeded 10m beyond the general ground level.
8. Garland drains are not provided.

The Authority also noticed that the EC was issued by the DEIAA, Idukki and the Project Proponent had conducted the mining unscientifically and committed grave violations of EC conditions and KMMC Rules 2015. The Project Proponent has not submitted all the required documents for the re-appraisal of the application. Besides, there is no adequate resource for scientific mining. The Project Proponent now requested to withdraw the application and the Authority by considering the grave violation, decided to reject the application at the cost of the Project Proponent. The Authority also noticed that the EC issued by the DEIAA, Idukki has already expired on 27.02.2024 after getting the benefit of Covid relaxation.

The Authority noted that vide his letter dated 16.7.24, addressed to MS SEIAA, the Project Proponents states that he has attended all observations made by SEAC and he intends to apply for a new EC.

Under the circumstances, Authority decided to conduct a joint inspection of the site under the leadership of Chairman SEAC, a representative from IRO Bangalore, District Geologist, a representative each from KSPCB and Manakkad Grama Panchayat and further decision will be taken as per the joint inspection report.

Item No. 146.13 Judgment in WP (C) No. 12591 of 2018 filed by Sri. Sumesh P.K before Hon'ble High Court of Kerala against District Geologist and others.

File No. 1526/EC3/2024/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the Judgement in WP (C) No. 12591 of 2018 dated 12.06.2024. The Authority noticed that the Hon'ble High Court directed SEIAA (to consider the application to clean the temple pond in the light of clauses 4, 5, 6 and 8 in Appendix IX issued vide S.O.141 (E) dated 15-01-2016 of MoEF&CC after giving an opportunity of hearing to the petitioner as expeditiously as possible. The Petitioner has not submitted any application before the SEIAA.

The Authority decided to hear the Petitioner in the next meeting. Necessary intimation regarding the same shall be provided to the Petitioner well in advance.

Item No. 146.14 Environment Clearance issued to the Residential project of M/s Sobha Developers Pune Ltd. at Sy Nos. 128/18-1, 128/20, 128/2-1, 128/3, 128/4-2, in Cheruvakkal Village, Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation, Thiruvananthapuram Taluk & District.

(SIA/KL/INFRA2/410612/2022, 2167/EC1/2022/SEIAA)

The Authority considered the letter dated 01.06.2024 of M/s Sobha Developers Pune Ltd requesting to amend CER activities based on the report of District Collector, Thiruvananthapuram. The Authority noticed that the EC was issued after careful consideration of the CER proposal submitted by the Project Proponent by the SEAC. The current proposal doesn't satisfy the norms for CER activities and relates to only health sector with no emphasis on environment in the project region.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided not to consider the request of the Project Proponent to amend the CER activities and direct the Project Proponent to proceed with the CER activities already approved without delay.

Item No. 146.15 Environmental Clearance for Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. J. Madhusoodhanan for an area of 2.1449 Ha at Block No. 35, Re-Sy Nos. 352/7, 353/1, 353/2, 353/2-1, 353/3, 353/4, 353/8, 353/9, & 354/2 in Nedumangad Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram.

(SIA/KL/MIN/401155/2022, 2123/EC1/2022/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decisions of various SEAC/SEIAA meeting, the CCR dated 01.07.2024 and the letter of the Chairperson, KSPCB dated 22.06.2024. Vide the letter, the Chairperson, KSPCB intimated that the environmental damage assessment cannot be done by the Board alone and for that input from other concerned departments are required and hence the Chairperson, KSPCB has suggested to constitute a Joint Committee to assess the damage. Therefore, the Authority accepted the suggestion of the KSPCB and decided to request the KSPCB to constitute of a Joint Committee for the assessment of the environmental damage

The suggested constitution of the committee shall be as follows:

1. Representatives from District Office, KSPCB, shall be the co-ordinator.
2. Representative of SEAC/Environmental Scientist nominated by Chairman SEAC
3. A representative from Department of Mining and Geology
4. Representative from concerned departments like Soil Conservation, Water Resources, Agriculture, etc, if required
5. Any other member as decided by Chairperson, KSPCB.

The Joint Committee to submit the report Chairperson, KSPCB within three months from its constitution. The SEAC shall further appraise the application after getting the environment damage assessment report from KSPCB by considering the CCR from IRO, Bangalore.

Item No. 146.16 **Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. Sasidharakurup K. for an area of 1.9152 Ha at Sy Block No. 44, Re-Sy Nos. 147/8, 147/9, 147/3, 154/5, 154/8, 154/9, 161/5, 161/15, 161/16, 161/6, 160/3, 160/4 (own land), 154/4pt (Government land) in Elamba Village, Chirayinkeezhu Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram. – Rejection order and Show Cause Notice issued.**

(SIA/KL/MIN/449111/2023, 2452/EC2/2023/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the explanation of the Project Proponent on the Show Cause Notice dated 25.05.2024 and the letter of the Chairperson, KSPCB dated 27.06.2024. The Authority noticed that the KSPCB has suggested to constitute a Joint Committee to assess the environmental damages as directed by the Authority. On verification of the reply of the Project Proponent, the Authority observed that the explanation is not satisfactory with respect to the violations committed. Therefore, the Authority decided to adhere to its earlier decisions taken in its 140th meeting.

Considering the suggestions of the KSPCB, the Authority decided to request the KSPCB to constitute of a Joint Committee for the assessment of the environmental damage. The suggested constitution of the committee shall be as follows:

1. Representatives from District Office, KSPCB, shall be the co-ordinator.
2. Representative of SEAC/Environmental Scientist nominated by Chairman SEAC
3. A representative from Department of Mining and Geology
4. Representative from concerned departments like Soil Conservation, Water Resources, Agriculture, etc, if required
5. Any other member as decided by Chairperson, KSPCB.

The Joint Committee shall submit the report Chairperson, KSPCB within three months from its constitution. Authority also decided not to consider the review petition of PP till the completion of environmental damage assessment proceedings.

Item No. 146.17 **Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Ratheesh P S, M/s Highrange Granites at Block No. 52, Re-Sy No: 67/1 (Govt. land) in Karunapuram Village, Udumbanchola Taluk, Idukki**
(SIA/KL/MIN/440674/2023, 2386/EC2/2023/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the complaint of Sri. M. P. Paulose received on 05.07.2024. The Authority noticed that in its 144th meeting, decided to issue the EC for the project with specific and general conditions. However, on further verification it is noticed that the proposed project area is notified as Cardamom Hill Reserve (CHR) in the forest maps. Besides, there are Scheduled Trees like Dalbergia sp., Diospyros sp. that need to be removed from the project area for mining activities. The Authority noticed that the Cardamom Hill Reserve is a protected area and the removal of trees, especially the Scheduled Trees require the permission of the Forest Department.

In these circumstances, the Authority decided the following:

1. The copy of the complaint shall be forwarded to the Project Proponent for his remarks.
2. A No Objection Certificate from the respective DFO, Forest Department should be provided to remove the trees including scheduled one and a no objection certificate to conduct mining operations in the notified CHR.
3. The EC shall be issued subject to satisfactory receipt of the above.

Item No. 146.18 **Environmental Clearance issued to the Granite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. P.V Santhosh, for an area of 4.7668 Ha at Block No. 29, Sy Nos. 279/2, 279/3-1, 279/3-2, 278//1-1, 278/1-3, 278/1-2, 284/2-2, 284/2-3, 284/2-4, 284/2-1 in Mazhuvannoor Village, Kunnathunad Taluk, Ernakulam**
(SIA/KL/MIN/72018/2019; 1470/EC3/2019/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the letter of Project Proponent dated 19.07.2024 along with the letter of District Geologist, Ernakulam dated 18.07.2024. The Project Proponent intimated that the District Geologist sought a direction from SEIAA to revise the mining plan with the same mineable reserve 1395603 MT for the mine life period

of five years by splitting the fourth-year production of 3,50,715 MT to half as 1,75,357.5 MT for both fourth and fifth year.

Authority decided to accept the request of the Project Proponent to revise the mining plan for 5 years, subject to a condition that the Project Proponent should submit the revised mining plan to modify the Environmental Clearance.

Item No. 146.19 Environmental Clearance issued by DEIAA to M/s Manikampara Granites – Judgement in WP (C) No. 29023/2019 filed by Manikampara Granites Pvt Ltd.
(File No. 4089/A2/19/SEIAA)

The Authority perused the item and noted the judgements in WP (C) no. 29023 of 2019 filed by M/s Manikampara Granites Pvt. Ltd., and the letter of Sub-Collector dated 01.06.2024. The Sub-Collector reported that the Thekkumkara Grama Panchayat issued the licence based on the direction of Hon'ble Court in WP(C) No. 29023 of 2019. The Authority noticed that the SEAC conducted the field inspection on 27.01.2020 and the 104th SEIAA accepted the recommendation of SEAC in the field verification report. The Authority noticed that the Environmental Clearance was issued by DEIAA, Thrissur on 07.12.2018 and as per the O.M dated 07.05.2024 the continuance of mining all over India under mining leases executed on the basis of EC granted by DEIAA after 13.09.2018 is prohibited unless the EC was reappraised by the respective SEIAA. In this case, neither the Project Proponent has applied for reappraisal of EC nor the fresh EC was issued by SEIAA.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided the following:

1. The Environmental Clearance Order No. B1/6692/2017/DEIAA/TSR dated 07.12.2018 hereby stands invalid as per O.M dated 07.05.2024 and all the mining activities should be stopped with immediate effect.
2. Issue stop memo to stop all the activities being carried out with the DIEAA issued EC, if the project is still continuing.
3. Show Cause notice to the above extent shall be issued to the Project Proponent to get his explanation within 15 days from the date of issue of the notice as to why the EC given to him should not be cancelled under clause 8 (vi) of EIA notification 2006.

4. The Project Proponent shall be heard in the next meeting and he / she shall attend the hearing with sufficient evidences / documents to substantiate his averments. The SEIAA Secretariat shall intimate the Project Proponent well in advance.
5. Intimate the District Geologist, Thrissur, the KSPCB and the Secretary, Thekkumkara Grama Panchayat to not to renew the leases / permit / licenses without obtaining fresh Environmental Clearance from SEIAA.
6. The Sub collector should be informed of the above position
7. Legal officer to take up the matter with Standing Counsel for the follow up action on WP(C) No. 29023 of 2019.

Item No. 146.20 **Environmental Clearance issued to Sri. Shaji S. for the Granite Building Stone Quarry in Chadayamangalam Village, Kottarakara Taluk, Kollam - Judgment in WP (C) 11106/2020 - Revalidation of EC.**

(File No. 752/SEIAA/KL/301/2015) (1402/EC6/2024/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the letter of the Project Proponent dated 13.06.2024. The Authority noticed that the Project Proponent requested to extend the period of life of mine from 12 years to 14 years as stated in the mining plan. The Authority noticed the SEAC had appraised the project and recommended the EC for 12 years.

Authority decided to direct the SEAC to consider the request of the Project Proponent as per its merit and make definite recommendation on validity period of environmental clearance.

Item No. 146.21 **Environmental Clearance for the Expansion of Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Thomas Mathai, M/s Chengalathu Quarry Industries at Sy Nos: 575/1-3-6-2pt & 581/1-5-7pt in Konni Thazham Village, Konni Taluk, Pathanamthitta - Judgement dated 03.04.2024 in WP(C) No. 8820 / 2023**
(SIA/KL/MIN/185659/2020, 1858/EC1/2020/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the email of the Project Proponent dated 23.07.2024. Vide email, the Project Proponent requested to reconsider the decision of the 144th SEIAA meeting to get a single mining plan for the entire project area. The Authority noticed that the entire project area is split up into three parts with three different mining plans, which is against the spirit of the judgment of Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of Deepak Kumar vs State of Haryana.

Authority decided to adhere to its earlier decision as per the proceedings issued on 19.07.2024 to get a single mine plan for the entire area from the Project Proponent since the area is contiguous and inform the same to Project Proponent.

Item No. 146.22 **Removal of Ordinary Earth in connection with Construction of Building for Educational Institution - Department of Mining and Geology, Kottayam - Clarification sought**
(File No. 494/EC4/2024/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the letter of Department of Mining and Geology dated 23.02.2024. Vide letter the District Geologist, Kottayam sought clarification regarding the transportation of Ordinary Earth, in connection with the construction of new educational building having a built up area of 70586.6 sq. m. in Panachikkadu Village. The Authority observed that as per the existing EIA norms all the building projects including the educational institutions, having a built up area greater than or equal to 20000 sq. m. has to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the SIEAA, Kerala.

It is noticed that the Project Proponent has neither obtained prior Environmental Clearance for the construction of educational institution nor submitted application for the same. Therefore, **the Authority decided to intimate the District Geologist, Kottayam that prior Environmental Clearance is mandatory for the removal and transportation of**

ordinary earth and also for the construction of the education building having a built up area of 70586.6 sq. m.

The Authority also noticed a few requests are received from various Panchayats regarding the requirement of EC for issuance of building permit by removing ordinary earth from the area other than digging foundation for the building. The Authority decided to inform the concerned Grama Panchayats that if the ordinary earth is to be removed from a particular site and transported to other areas shall be considered as winnowing of minerals and it requires prior EC.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided that all the residential buildings which requires removal of ordinary earth other than digging of foundation require environmental clearance, accordingly Project Proponents have to submit applications through-PARIVESH Portal with conceptual plan, production plan and the mitigation measures to avoid any landslip.

Item No.146.23 Utilization of Environment Benefit Fund for the Environmental restoration activities at M/s RDS Project, Kannur – Order of NGT.
(Closed File No: 520/A1/2022/SEIAA)
(New File No: 888/A1/2024/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the Execution Application No. 6 of 2023 in OA No. 75/2021, the decisions of various SEIAA / SEAC meetings, the proposals received from the District Collector, Kannur, etc. The Authority noted that the Project Proponent has remitted the amount to the Environment Protection Fund of KSPCB as per the Order of Hon'ble NGT. The State Government has constituted the '**Environment Benefit Fund**' and the Authority has already prepared and approved the guidelines for the utilization of said fund. The guideline was forwarded to the Government for approval. However, Government is yet to give sanction for the operation fund by DDO i.e., the Director, DoE&CC as per the approved guidelines for the restoration activities in the project area. The Authority also noticed that the District Collector, Kannur has forwarded a few proposals from the stakeholder departments for the restoration of the project area of M/s RDS Projects.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided the following:

1. To request the Director, DoECC to take up the matter with GoK for issuing urgent orders for the operation of fund by Director, DoE&CC as DDO of the Environment Benefit Fund for utilizing the fund as per guidelines for restoration and other activities. The Joint Secretary /Administrator to follow up the case with Member Secretary, SEIAA.
2. The Environment Department shall expedite its actions to streamline the operational procedures of the Environment Benefit Fund according to the guideline approved by the Authority. The KSPCB shall transfer the amount remitted by M/s RDS Projects once the DDO acquires the transaction freedom for the operation of the fund.
3. The SEAC shall appraise the proposals received from the District Collector, Kannur and recommend for implementation if it is feasible. The SEAC has the freedom to consult with concerned stakeholder departments during its scrutiny.
4. The District Collector should be reminded to expedite the restoration proposals for the implementation of NGT order.
5. The legal officer to follow up the execution petition before NGT and update the Authority on priority.

Item No. 146.24 **Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. Sabu Abraham, Managing Director, M/s Kurisummoottil Stone Quarry - Writ Appeal No. 678 of 2020 filed by Sri. Sabu Abraham against Judgment dated 16.11.2018 in WP(C) No. 23836 of 2018.**

(File No. 1592/EC4/2024/SEIAA)

The Authority perused the item and noted interim order of the Hon'ble High Court dated 26.06.2024, in Writ Appeal No. 678 of 2020 filed by Sri. Sabu Abraham against Judgment dated 16-11-2018 in WP(C) No. 23836 of 2018. The Authority observed that the Environmental Clearance was issued by the DEIAA, Kannur and no details / documents regarding the issuance of then EC are available. As per the Judgement dated 16.11.2018 in WP (C) No. 23836 of 2018, the EC was quashed by the Hon'ble High Court.

As per O.M dated 28.04.2023, the Project Proponents having valid ECs obtained from DEIAAs have to submit fresh EC application via PARIVESH for the reappraisal by SEAC and issue fresh EC by SEIAA. However, in this case, the EC was quashed by the Hon'ble Court, there was no valid EC unless and otherwise the Hon'ble Court has restored the EC. Besides, the petitioner has not applied either for re-appraisal of the existing EC or submitted fresh application for EC.

It is also noticed that the copy of the WP(C) / WA has not been received by the Authority. In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to get clarification on the interim order in WA Nos. 2403 & 2404 of 2018, 1296 of 2019 and 678 of 2020 as there is mentioned that a meeting is scheduled on 27.06.2024 and the Authority has not scheduled any such meeting on that day. Also decided to request the Standing Counsel to provide a copy of the WP(C) / WA for further action.

A clarified position shall be put up in the next Authority meeting for taking appropriate follow up actions.

Item No. 146.25 **Judgement in WP(C) No. 12147/2020(P) dated 09.09.2020 filed by A.K. Joseph, Arackal House, Mundathadam, Parappa, Kasargod, 671533 Jimmy Alex, Manjakunnel, Parappa P.O, Kasargod, 671533, Vinayan V.K , District Environmental Samithi, Parappa, Kasargod**

&

Judgement in WP(C) No. 15745/2020(P) dated 18.08.2020 filed by K. P. Balakrishnan, Kanathil Parambil, Moolakayam, Parappa, Kasargod, Pramod K., Parappa, Kasargod, Sudhakaran M., Edavil Veedu, Parappa, Kasargod and U.V. Mohammed Kunhi, Valappil Kammadath, Parappa, Kasargod

(1992/EC2/2020/SEIAA)

As invited the Petitioners Sri. Vinayan V. K., Sri. Jimmy Alex and Sri. A.K. Joseph were present before the Authority for hearing. The Petitioners stated that the Project Proponent had been continuing the mining operations as on 01.03.2024 i.e., the date of judgement in WP(C) No. 8247 of 2024 even if the EC has expired on 15.03.2023.

The Authority also heard the Project Proponent Sri. C.N. Narayanan and the Consultant Sri. P.Z. Thomas. The Consultant informed that the CTO is valid up to 2028 and was working till 20.02.2024.

The Authority after hearing both the parties directed them to submit a detailed hearing note with supporting documents to substantiate their averments within 7 days.

**Item No. 146.26 Environmental Clearance issued by DEIAA, Kannur - Judgment dated 24.03.2022 in the WPC No. 4249/2022 filed by Sri. Vintu Thomas, Kannur before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala
(File No. 3517/EC4/SEIAA/2021)**

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the letter from Sreekandapuram Municipality and Kerala State Pollution Control Board, the Judgement dated 01.07.2024 in WP(C) No. 22971 of 2024 filed by Sri. T.T. Joseph. The Hon'ble High Court in its judgment disposed with a direction to the SEIAA to reconsider Ext.P10 (Minutes of the 140th SEIAA meeting), after affording an opportunity of being heard to the petitioner, on condition that the petitioner specifically gives a reply to Ext.P4 (a) show cause notice within a period of fifteen days from today.

The Authority noticed that the Petitioner has submitted the reply to the Show Cause Notice on 16.07.2024. The Authority heard the Advocate Sri. Lijin Thampan on behalf of the Petitioner on 30th July 2024. During hearing, the Advocate intimated the Petitioner has not submitted any application as per O.M. dated 28.04.2023 and only submitted the reply to the Show Cause Notice. The Authority intimated that the Advocate to inform the Petitioner to submit application through PARIVESH Portal with all documents as per the said O.M to comply with the direction of the Hon'ble High Court.

The Authority after hearing directed to submit a detailed hearing note with supporting documents to substantiate their averments within 7 days.

Item No. 146.27 **Environmental Clearance issued to Sri. Joby Joseph at Re-Sy No: 433/2 (Old Sy. No. 26/1) in Kaduthuruthi Village, Vaikom Taluk, Kottayam, Kerala – Extension of Validity**
(SIA/KL/MIN/286560/2022, 2565/A2/2019/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decisions of various SEIAA / SEAC meetings and the letter of the District Geologist, Kottayam dated 20.04.2024. The Authority noticed that Project Proponent has conducted mining by violating the EC conditions and District Geologist, Kottayam imposed a penalty of Rs. 35200/- for over extraction and issued demand notice. As the Project Proponent has turned down the demand notice, the Department of Mining and Geology is proceeding with revenue recovery.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to refer the case back to SEAC to relook its decision to recommend EC.

Item No. 146.28 **Environmental Clearance for the proposed expansion of the existing Hospital project to be developed by M/s Dr. K.M. Cherian Institute of Medical Sciences Pvt. Ltd. at Sy. Nos. 533/6-3-3, 534/6-1, 534/10-2-2, 534/13-1, 534/13, 534/11, 533/6-1-1, 137 533/7-1, 534/9, 533/6-1-2, 533/7-2, 534/13-2, 534/6, 534/10-2, 534/8-1, 534/8-2, 534/12, 534/10, 534/10/2, Thiruvandoor Village & Panchayat, Chengannur Taluk, Alappuza (SIA/KL/INFRA2/405879/2022; 2158/EC2/2022/SEIAA)**

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the letter of the Project Proponent dated 03.07.2024, requesting to amend the EC by including the quantity of excavation earth to be disposed. On verification of the application, the Authority noticed that the Project Proponent has entered the details regarding the ordinary earth to be removed from the project in Form 1. As per the Form 1, the Project Proponent intimated that the quantity of excess ordinary earth to be removed from the project area is 7700 cu. m.

Authority decided to issue an addendum to the EC by including the following condition:

1. The excess ordinary earth of 7700 cu.m shall be disposed as per existing norms. The Mining and Geology Department shall issue necessary pass for the same.

2. The excavated earth shall not be used for filling any wetlands or paddy lands or any other ecological sensitive areas.

Item No. 146.29 **Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of M/s Megha Engineering & Infrastructures Ltd at Re-Sy Nos: 74/772, 74/151, 74/154, 74/152, 74/1D in Kuttur Village, Payyannur Taluk, Kannur.**
(SIA/KL/MIN/269091/2022; 1975/EC4/2022/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the reply of the Project Proponent dated 08.05.2024 and the representation of Sri. A. K. Shaji dated 16.06.2024.

The Authority decided to hear the Project Proponent and the Complainant Sri. Shaji in its next meeting. Copy of the explanation received from the Project Proponent shall be provided to the Complainant.

Item No. 146.30 **Complaint filed by Sri. Vijesh K. against the illegal quarrying activities of Sri. Sanfeer K. P., M/s Sadeer Granites at Re-Sy. No. 175, in Kavilumpara Vilage, Vadakkara Taluk, Kozhikode**
(File No.2742/EC4/2020/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the letters dated 01.12.2020 & 24.12.2020 of Sri. Vijesh K. and the letter of the District Collector, Kozhikode dated 19.03.2024. The Authority noticed that the complaints were forwarded to District Collector, Kozhikode for necessary action vide Authority's letters dated 01.01.2021, 29.11.2021 & 16.02.2024.

The District Collector, Kozhikode submitted the report on 19.03.2024 in which it is stated that the District Geologist conducted field inspection on 07.01.2021 and reported that the quarrying lease area is not demarcated and quarrying operation was conducted outside the lease area. The District geologist also reported that due to excessive mining, penalty of Rs. 22, 04, 769/- has been remitted by the quarry owner. The Village Officer and District Geologist intimated that project was working without EC and the quarry is not operational now.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided the following:

1. An explanation shall be sought from the Project Proponent for conducting quarrying operations without valid EC. The explanation shall include the details regarding the illegal mining done without following the norms of KMMC Rule 2015.
2. The KSPCB shall take necessary prosecution action as per Sec 19 of Environment Protection Act 1986.

Item No. 146.31 **Environmental Clearance to Sri. Kichu K. Ravi for the Granite Quarry Project for an area of 4.2295 Ha at Sy No. 53/2 in Venganellur Village, Thalappilly Taluk, Thrissur – Judgment dated 06.06.2024 in WP(C) No. 7463 of 2024 - filed by Sri. Jimmy Dominic**
(SIA/KL/MIN/433891, 2317/EC6/2023/SEIAA)
(Old File No. 1028/EC6/2021/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the complaints received from Sri. Joseph Baby and Sri. Jimmy Dominic, the interim order of the Hon'ble High Court dated 06.06.2024 in WP(C) No. 7463 of 2024 and the observations of Hon'ble High Court in WA 931/2024 filed by Mr. Kichu K. Ravi against the Judgment dated 06.06.2024 in WP (C) 7463/2024. The Authority noticed that the Hon'ble High Court seeks clarification from the Authority on whether Ext P14 representation disclosed any concealment of material facts as envisaged in Clause 8 (vi) of EIA Notification, 2006.

The Authority noticed that the Project Proponent vide his proposal number SIA/KL/MIN/433891(Old File No. 1028/EC6/2021/SEIAA) submitted the application for the revalidation of the EC issued by DEIAA dated 18.06.2018, Thrissur. The Authority noticed that the lease was executed on 3rd July 2019 for a period of 12 years. Vide Judgement dated 24.11.2020 in WP(C) No. 25848 of 2020, the Hon'ble High Court directed the SEIAA to call for additional recommendations from the appraisal committees after estimating the life of the project.

The Appraisal Committee conducted the field inspection, to evaluate the compliance status of the EC issued by DEIAA. SEAC heard the presentation, verified the documents and sought some additional documents including the recent cluster certificate. As per the cluster

certificate dated 21.11.2023 of the District Geologist, Thrissur, it is stated that “*there are no any operational quarries at present within 500m radius of the proposed quarry project of Mr. Kichu K. Ravi, Kuzhippliyil(H), Mazhuvanoor PO, Valamboor, Ernakulam District, Kerala in the land having an extent of 4.2295 Ha comprised in Sy No. 53/2 of Venganoor Village, Thalappally Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala State*”. The SEAC in its 155th meeting after considering the non-cluster situation, recommended EC for the project life of 22 years.

The Authority verified the approved mining plan and the documents, which were considered for the issuance of the original EC by DEIAA. The mining plan comprises the non-assignment certificate, boundary demarcation certificate, possession certificate, land tax receipt, etc issued by the land revenue authorities. Besides, the EC was valid at the time of reappraisal with valid lease document. Based on the recommendations of SEAC, Authority decided to revalidate the EC for 22 years from the original date of EC issued by DEIAA.

The Authority considered the petition (Ext P14) of Sri Jimmy Dominic in detail and decided to bring the following to the kind notice of the Hon’ble High Court:

1. Sri. Kichu K. Ravi, the Project Proponent had a valid EC for an area of 4.2295 Ha at Sy No. 53/2 in Venganoor Village, Thalappally Taluk, Thrissur District, issued by DEIAA dated 18.06.2018
2. The quarry had a valid EC and also having a lease for a period of 12 years from 3rd July 2019.
3. The Project Proponent submitted the application on 22.03.2021 for the revalidation of the existing EC with all the same documents submitted for the original EC as per the Judgement of the Hon’ble High Court in WP(C) No. 25848 of 2020 dated 24.11.2020.
4. As per the cluster certificate dated 21.11.2023 of District Geologist, Thrissur, there are no working quarries within 500m radius of the project area, hence there was no cluster situation. The Authority was bound to proceed as per the documents issued by the concerned government agencies.
5. The Ext P14 submitted by the Petitioner was received after the issuance of EC. Now it is alleged that there may be a cluster situation as per the Ext P14. If the allegation is true, to that extent there is a concealment of fact by the Authority who issued the non-cluster certificate.

6. Revalidation of EC was done after appraising all required documents issued by the concerned statutory authorities.
7. The EC was issued to the Project Proponent subject to orders of the Hon'ble Courts, if any.
8. As per the EC conditions, if any concealment, suppression or misleading facts noticed, the Authority has the power to modify or cancel the EC as per EIA Notification 2006.

Item No. 146.32 General Items - Delay Noticed - Important Items for the immediate attention of Government and Directorate - Effective Function of Authority

Authority in one of the previous SEIAA meetings has decided that all administrative matters are to be settled at the level of Member Secretary, SEIAA. Only the matters directly effecting the efficient functioning of SEIAA and SEAC requiring the decision support of SEIAA are to be placed before the Authority for consideration. Accordingly, JS Administration may take necessary follow up action on issues raised.

Item No. 146.33 Appointment of Standing Counsel in the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No. 3894/2023 filed by M/s Covenant Stone Pvt. Ltd.

The Authority discussed the opinion of the Advocate General, Kerala that State Environment impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) is an independent statutory body constituted by the Government of India under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. There might be instances where the SEIAA adopts stand contrary to the views of the Government. So, it is desirable that a new Counsel may be engaged to represent the SEIAA before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Authority noticed that the Advocated General also forwarded a list of Advocates to engage as Standing Counsel in Supreme Court to defend SEIAA in Civil Appeal No.3894/2023 pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Authority decided to direct the SEIAA, Secretariat to get the detailed profiles of all the advocates, including protocol for hiring their services with detailed fee structure.

Item No. 146.34

Environmental Clearance issued to the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. C. Krishna Pillai for an area of 0.9705 Ha at Block No - 27, Re-Sy Nos. 283/1pt, 283/2pt, 283/4, 296/3pt in Ezhumattoor Village, Mallapally Taluk, Pathanamthitta – Complaint received from Smt. Usha Mohan

(SIA/KL/MIN/165625/2020, 1440/EC1/2019/SEIAA)

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decisions of SEIAA/SEAC in its various meetings, the Interim Order in Appeal No. 41 of 2024 dated 10.05.2024, received on 25.06.2024 and the field inspection report of the Technical Team of SEIAA. The Authority noticed that the Hon'ble NGT vide the interim order dated 10.05.2024 directed the SEIAA, Kerala (Respondent No. 2) to inspect the unit and if the Project Proponent is not using the NONEL technology, appropriate action may be taken. The SEIAA – Kerala is also directed to address the complaint of the appellant received earlier addressing the damages caused to her house.

The Authority noticed that the Technical Team of SEIAA along with the Expert Mine Engineer conducted the field inspection on 22nd July 2024. Based on the field inspection report and proof of documents, the Authority inferred that the Project Proponent is following NONEL technology for blasting. The Project Proponent also complied with all the EC conditions, except the following:

1. Garlands drains and the drainage channels leading to the desiltation tank (3 Nos) were found not properly constructed to contain the silt.
2. Planting of trees (Green Belt) as per EMP started; but not maintaining properly.
3. Top soil and overburden are found more than the quantity projected in the mining plan and is being stacked in the designated dumping area however the retaining boulder wall is not constructed.
4. Rainwater harvesting pond is not properly maintained.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to direct the Project Proponent to comply with the above observations within 1 month and submit the compliance report. The Authority also decided to accept the field inspection report and submit the same to Hon'ble NGT.

Item No. 146.35 **Suggestions on the Draft Environment Protection (Amendment) Rules 2024.**

The Authority deliberated the draft Environment Protection (Amendment) Rules, 2024 issued by the MoEF&CC. On invitation Chairman, SEAC also took part in the meeting. The Authority appreciated the initiative of the MoEF&CC to amend Environment Protection Rules 1986 leading to effective and speedy adjudication of the violation of Acts and Rules under EP Act 1986. The Authority decided to offer the following suggestions **for the kind** consideration of MoEF&CC:

1. The Rule 10H – the factors to be considered while determining quantum of penalty under section 14 & 15 of the Act.

As per 1(d) – types of contravention / violations such as working without EC, violation of EC conditions, non-compliance of environmental safeguards and standards or any other contravention or violations coming under the purview of EIA Notification 2006, are covered under the amended rules. This holds good for Category B projects being attended by SEIAAs in the country.

As per Appendix B, a list of presenting officers is also provided. However, it is noticed that there is no presenting officer representing SEIAAs of respective States.

It is to be noted that generally there is no post EC monitoring system in the states and the Project Proponents making use of this lacuna, violate EC conditions very often. To deal with such violations effectively the hands of SEIAAs in the states have to be strengthened. Even a random adjudication of violation cases presented by SEIAAs will send a strong message to all such violators.

It is strongly recommended to add Environmental Scientist working SEIAAs of different states as presenting officer on behalf of respective SEIAAs under serial no 8 of list of presenting officers.

2. The Rule 10K – Utilization of the amount of Environment Protection Fund

MoEF& CC is the nodal Ministry in GOI to safeguard the Environment in the country. Here is an opportunity to utilise the Environment Protection Fund for Environment related activities in the country. It is suggested that a minimum 50% of the Environment Protection Fund shall be utilised for environment protection/rejuvenation / restoration activities in the project region. The suggested activities are

- 1. Activities related to mitigating the effects of global warming and climate change**

- 2. Programmes under Swatch Bharat mission**
- 3. Use of alternative and renewable sources of energy**
- 4. Activities related to green India mission**
- 5. Any another activity coming under the purview of OM dated 01.05.2018 of MoEF&CC related to CER activities.**

The remaining 50% of Environment Protection Fund may be utilised for the activities listed under 10K [1].

3. Working without Environment Clearance -10H[1],d[i]

The Authority is of the opinion that the violators working without EC for instance, commencing building construction works, etc may also be brought under the purview of Adjudicating Officer, for Ex-Post Facto Environmental Clearance, after levying the penalty imposed by the Adjudicating Officer, after observing all procedures laid down under OM 07.07.2021 which deals with violation cases. It is noticed that the Ex-Post Facto Environmental Clearance was stayed by the Hon'ble Apex Court as per order dated 02.01.2024 and as of now there is no mechanism to deal with such cases.

Therefore, the above suggestion may be suitably modified and incorporated under the draft Amendment Rules under 10H[1],d[i] with clarification.

The Authority requested MS, SEIAA to forward the suggestions of SEIAA Kerala to MoEFCC for kind consideration.

PARIVESH FILES (Ver-1)

CONSIDERATION/RECONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

PART-1

Item No.01

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Muhammed Kutty for an area of 0.5379 Ha at Sy No. 247/3 in Pattithara Village, Pattambi Taluk, Palakkad.

(SIA/KL/MIN/143575/2020, 1990/EC1/2022/SEIAA)

Sri. Muhammed Kutty, Perinjiri House, Thalakkasseri- (P.O), Palakkad submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 0.5379 Ha at Sy No. 247/3 in Pattithara Village, Pattambi Taluk, Palakkad, Kerala.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 2, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 3 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 3 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the project life of 3 (Three) years, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions. The issuance of EC is subject to the production of NOC from the Irrigation Department.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*

3. *Considering the local groundwater regime, the ultimate depth is limited to 85 M AMSL. The District Geologist, Mining & Geology Department, Palakkad shall revise mineable reserve considering the reduction in ultimate depth of the mins.*
4. *Development of green belt should be initiated prior to the commencement of mining using indigenous species. The suggested species are Phyllanthus emblica (Nelli), Syzygium cumini (Njaval), Writia tinctoria (Dhanthapala), Ficus bengalensis (Peral), Ficus racemosa (Atti), Bambusa bamboos (Mullumula), Dendrocalamus strictus (Kallan mula), Strychnos nuxvomica (Kanjiram), Terminalia cattappa (Thanni), Schleicheria oleosa (Poovam), Artocarpus hirsutus (Ayiniplavu) etc.*
5. *Compensatory afforestation should be done prior to the commencement of mining, by planting local species of trees on available land owned by the proponent, at the lower portion of the land.*
6. *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.*
7. *Overflow water from the siltation pond should be discharged to the nearby natural drain after adequate filtration*
8. *Overburden should be stored at the designed place and gabion wall should be provided for the topsoil and overburden storage sites.*
9. *Geotagged photographs of the progress of compensatory afforestation should be submitted along with HYCR*
10. *Implementation of CER Plan should be done during the first two years of the EC period itself and its operation and maintenance should be done till the completion of mine closure plan.*
11. *The haulage road should be provided with sprinkling facility to prevent dust pollution.*

12. *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).*
13. *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.*
14. *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 5.00 pm).*
15. *Adequate sanitation, waste management and restroom facilities should be provided to the workers.*
16. *Adequate energy conservation measures should be implemented including solar power installations. At least 40% of the energy requirement shall be met from the solar power*
17. *The 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.*
18. *Adequate number of avenue trees of indigenous species should be planted along both sides of the haulage road.*
19. *Adequate measures should be adopted to harvest the rainwater as per the guidelines issued by the Central Groundwater Authority.*
20. *Blasting mats should be used during rock blasting to contain the blast, prevent fly rocks and suppress dust.*
21. *In the wake of occurrence of large scale landslides in the state, as per the information provided by the Department of Mining & Geology, it is directed to use only NONEL (Non Electrical) technology for blasting to reduce the vibration of the ground, which is one of the causative factors that triggers landslides, formation of cracks in the surrounding buildings and disturbance to human and wildlife.*

22. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.*
23. *As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.*
24. *The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.*

SEIAA Secretariat is directed to inform the Project Proponent to submit NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024. Only on submission of NOC, EC shall be issued.

Item No.02

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. C. K. Abdul Azeez, Managing Director, M/s Grand Stone Metals Pvt. Ltd. for an area of 4.9039 Ha at Sy No. 425 in Kannamangalam Village, Thirurangadi Taluk, Malappuram (SIA/KL/MIN/199564/2021, 1356/EC2/2019/SEIAA)

Sri. C. K. Abdul Azeez, Managing Director, M/s Grand Stone Metals Pvt. Ltd. Cheenathamkuzhi House, Malayamma P.O, Kozhikode – 673601 submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an

area of 4.9039 Ha at Sy No. 425 in Kannamangalam Village, Thirurangadi Taluk, Malappuram.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC SEIAA meetings held on different dates. Authority noted that the SEAC had appraised the proposal based on Form 2, Pre-Feasibility Report, EIA report, Mining Plan, additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal, and the Field Inspection Report. As per the approved mining plan mine life is 25 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 142nd meeting recommended EC for a Project Life of 25 years with certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

The Authority in its 128th Meeting sought NOC from the District Crisis Management Group since 76% of the project area falls under the Moderate Hazard Zone as per the Kerala State Disaster Management Plan 2016. Now the Project Proponent had submitted the NOC of District Crisis Management Group dated 05.07.2024 and found them satisfactory.

In these circumstances, the Authority decided to accept the recommendations of 142nd SEAC meeting and to issue Environmental Clearance initially for a period of 5 years from the date of execution of mine lease / permit and then to extend the EC period to cover the project life of 25 (Twenty Five) years, subject to the review by SEAC at the end of every five years, to verify whether the Project Proponent has violated any of the EC conditions and thereby caused any damage to the Environment in the project region.

The issuance of EC is subject to the production of NOC from the Irrigation Department.

The EC is subject to General Conditions and the following Additional Specific Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*

2. *The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
3. *The EC issued will be subject to a review by SEAC after every 5 years through field verification to ensure that mining is carried out sustainably as per the EC conditions.*
4. ***The mining should be limited to 180m above MSL to prevent intersection with ground water table and the mineable resources shall be reworked accordingly by the Mining and Geology Department while approving the Scheme of Mining / issuing the lease or permit.***
5. ***The conditions specified, if any in the NOC issued by the District Level Crisis Management Group shall be scrupulously followed in addition to observing all scientific mining norms as per KMMC Rules to prevent environmental hazards.***
6. *Development of green belt should be initiated prior to the commencement of mining using indigenous species. The suggested species are *Phyllanthus emblica* (Nelli), *Syzygium cumini* (Njaval), *Writia tinctoria* (Dhanthapala), *Ficus bengalensis* (Peral), *Ficus racemosa* (Atti), *Bambusa bamboos* (Mullumula), *Dendrocalamus strictus* (Kallan mula), *Strychnos nuxvomica* (Kanjiram), *Terminalia cattappa* (Thanni), *Schleichera oleosa* (Poovam), *Artocarpus hirsutus* (Ayiniplavu) etc.*
7. *Compensatory afforestation should be done prior to the commencement of mining, by planting local species of trees on available land owned by the proponent, at the lower portion of the land.*
8. *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.*
9. *Overflow water from the siltation pond should be discharged to the nearby natural drain after adequate filtration*

10. *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).*
11. *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.*
12. *Overburden should be stored at the designed place and gabion wall should be provided for the topsoil and overburden storage sites.*
13. *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.*
14. *Geotagged photographs of the progress of compensatory afforestation should be submitted along with HYCR*
15. *Implementation of CER Plan should be done during the first two years of the EC period itself and its operation and maintenance should be done till the completion of mine closure plan.*
16. *The haulage road should be provided with sprinkling facility to prevent dust pollution.*
17. *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 5.00 pm).*
18. *Adequate sanitation, waste management and restroom facilities should be provided to the workers.*
19. *Adequate energy conservation measures should be implemented including solar power installations. At least 40% of the energy requirement shall be met from the solar power*

20. *The 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.*
21. *Adequate number of avenue trees of indigenous species should be planted along both sides of the haulage road.*
22. *Adequate measures should be adopted to harvest the rainwater as per the guidelines issued by the Central Groundwater Authority.*
23. *Blasting mats should be used during rock blasting to contain the blast, prevent fly rocks and suppress dust.*
24. *In the wake of occurrence of large-scale landslides in the state, as per the information provided by the Department of Mining & Geology, it is directed to use only NONEL (Non Electrical) technology for blasting to reduce the vibration of the ground, which is one of the causative factors that triggers landslides, formation of cracks in the surrounding buildings and disturbance to human and wildlife.*
25. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.*
26. *As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder,*

flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.

27. The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986

SEIAA Secretariat is directed to inform the Project Proponent to submit NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024. Only on submission of NOC, EC shall be issued

Item No.03 Environmental Clearance for the proposed Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Ananthu Sunil for an area of 3.6153 Ha at Sy No. 231 part (Govt. Land) in Konnathady Village of Idukki Taluk, Idukki.
(SIA/KL/MIN/209584/2021; 1903/EC3/2021/SEIAA)

Sri. Ananthu Sunil, Galaxy Home, Govindamuttom P.O Kayamkulam, Puthuppally, Alappuzha - 690527, submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 3.6153 Ha in Sy No. 231 part (Govt. Land) at Konnathady Village, Idukki Taluk , Idukki.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 2, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal and the Field Inspection Report. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 5 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 5 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority noticed that the Project Proponent submitted a letter dated 04.07.2024 issued by Assistant Engineer, Minor Irrigation Section Adimali, Idukki, stating that there are no canals or check dams within 10 km radius of the project area.

On verification it is noticed that the proposed project area is notified as Cardamom Hill Reserve (CHR) in the forest maps. Besides, there are trees and Scheduled Trees like Dalbergia sp., which are to be removed from the project area for mining activities. The Authority noticed that the Cardamom Hill Reserves are protected areas and notified under Kerala Preservation of Trees Act and the removal of trees, especially the Scheduled Trees require the permission of the Forest Department.

In these circumstances, the Authority decided the following:

A No Objection Certificate from the respective DFO, Forest Department should be provided by the Project Proponent to remove the trees including scheduled ones and for conduct mining operations in the notified Cardamom Hill Reserve.

Item No.04 **Environment Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project of M/s. Irikkur Rocks Products Pvt. Ltd, for an area of 4.8404 Ha at Block No. 83, Re-Sy. No. 4, in Eruvessy Village, Thaliparamba Taluk, Kannur.**

(SIA/KL/MIN/214224/2021, 1900/EC4/2021/SEIAA)

Sri. Shamsudheen M.A., Managing Director, M/s. Irikkur Rocks Products Pvt. Ltd submitted an Environment Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 4.8404 Ha at Block No. 83, Re-Sy. No. 4, in Eruvessy Village, Thaliparamba Taluk, Kannur.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC SEIAA meetings held on different dates. Authority noted that the SEAC had appraised the proposal based on Form 2, Pre-Feasibility Report, EIA report, Mining Plan, additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal, and the Field Inspection Report. As per the approved mining plan mine life is 6 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting recommended EC for a Project Life of 6 years with certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala dated 19.04.2024.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to accept the recommendations of 166th SEAC meeting and to issue Environmental Clearance initially for a period of 5 years from the date of execution of mine lease / permit and then to extend the EC period to cover the project life of 6 (Six) years, subject to the review by SEAC at the end of every five years, to verify whether the Project Proponent has violated any of the EC conditions and thereby caused any damage to the Environment in the project region.

The issuance of EC is subject to the production of NOC from the Irrigation Department.

The EC is subject to General Conditions and the following Additional Specific Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The EC issued will be subject to a review by SEAC after every 5 years through field verification to ensure that mining is carried out sustainably as per the EC conditions.*
- 4. The copies of the EC shall be marked to DFO Kannur, Wild Life Warden Sultan Battery, Wayanad and Wild Life Warden Brhammagiri Wild Life Sanctuary. They are requested to ensure that mining is carried out in obedience to the existing directions of H'ble Supreme Court and MoEE&CC*
- 5. An additional buffer of 80 m from the boundary line connecting BP2 to BP3 towards south (from the elevation contour of 585m above to 540m above MSL) and carry out mining only from the area with elevation varying from 540m above MSL to 460m above MSL.*
- 6. The ultimate depth of mine should limited to 460m above MSL to prevent*

intersection with ground water table

- 7. The Mining Plan should be revised as per Specific Condition No. 4 and 5 and the mineable resources shall be reworked accordingly by the Mining and Geology Department while approving the Scheme of Mining / issuing the lease or permit. The revised Mining Plan should be submitted before the Authority before the commencement of mining.***
- 8. Development of green belt should be initiated prior to the commencement of mining using indigenous species. The suggested species are Phyllanthus emblica (Nelli), Syzygium cumini (Njaval), Writia tinctoria (Dhanthapala), Ficus bengalensis (Peral), Ficus racemosa (Atti), Bambusa bamboos (Mullumula), Dendrocalamus strictus (Kallan mula), Strychnos nuxvomica (Kanjiram), Terminalia cattappa (Thanni), Schleicheria oleosa (Poovam), Artocarpus hirsutus (Ayiniplavu) etc.*
- 9. Compensatory afforestation should be done prior to the commencement of mining, by planting local species of trees on available land owned by the proponent, at the lower portion of the land.*
- 10. 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.*
- 11. Overflow water from the siltation pond should be discharged to the nearby natural drain after adequate filtration*
- 12. 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).*
- 13. 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.*
- 14. Overburden should be stored at the designed place and gabion wall should be provided for the topsoil and overburden storage sites.*

15. *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.*
16. *Geotagged photographs of the progress of compensatory afforestation should be submitted along with HYCR*
17. *Implementation of CER Plan should be done during the first two years of the EC period itself and its operation and maintenance should be done till the completion of mine closure plan.*
18. *The haulage road should be provided with sprinkling facility to prevent dust pollution.*
19. *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 5.00 pm).*
20. *Adequate sanitation, waste management and restroom facilities should be provided to the workers.*
21. *Adequate energy conservation measures should be implemented including solar power installations. At least 40% of the energy requirement shall be met from the solar power*
22. *The 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.*
23. *Adequate number of avenue trees of indigenous species should be planted along both sides of the haulage road.*
24. *Adequate measures should be adopted to harvest the rainwater as per the guidelines issued by the Central Groundwater Authority.*
25. *Blasting mats should be used during rock blasting to contain the blast, prevent fly rocks and suppress dust.*

26. *In the wake of occurrence of large scale landslides in the state, as per the information provided by the Department of Mining & Geology, it is directed to use only NONEL (Non Electrical) technology for blasting to reduce the vibration of the ground, which is one of the causative factors that triggers landslides, formation of cracks in the surrounding buildings and disturbance to human and wildlife.*
27. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.*
28. *As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.*
29. *The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.*

SEIAA Secretariat is directed to inform the Project Proponent to submit NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024. Only on submission of NOC, EC shall be issued

Item No.05

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Sabu Kuriakose, Managing Director, M/s Kavumkal Granites for an area of 0.7070 Ha at Re-Sy No. 470/6 in Vadasserikkara Village, Ranni Taluk, Pathanamthitta.

(SIA/KL/MIN/278377/2022, 2058/EC1/2022/SEIAA)

Sri. Sabu Kuriakose, Managing Director, M/s. Kavumkal Granites Pvt. Ltd submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 0.7070 Ha at Re-Sy No. 470/6 in Vadasserikkara Village, Ranni Taluk, Pathanamthitta.

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decisions of various SEAC/ SEIAA meetings. As per the 166th meeting, the SEAC recommended rejection of the proposal as the Project Proponent submitted a request dated 03.06.2024 to withdraw the application due to financial crisis.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to accept the recommendation of SEAC to reject the project proposal at the risk of the Project Proponent and also intimate the Mining and Geology Department to cancel the Mining Plan. The SEIAA Secretariat shall issue necessary proceedings accordingly, explaining the reasons for rejection.

Item No.06

Environmental Clearance for Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Abdul Nazar A. for an area of 0.7562 ha at Re-Sy Nos. 98/2-1, 98/1, 98/1-1 in Nellanad Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram

(Previous proposal No. SIA/KL/MIN/161967/2020)

(SIA/KL/MIN/407637/2022, 1747/EC1/2022/SEIAA)

Sri. Abdul Nazar A., Alfia Nivas, Navadhara Junction, Korani P.O, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala - 695104, submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry at Re-Sy Nos. 98/2-1, 98/1, 98/1-1 in Nellanad Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Authority noted the action taken by SEAC in its 120th, 122nd, 126th, 128th, 131st, 137th, 143rd, 147th, 150th, 153rd, 154th & 166th meeting held on different dates. Invoking the Precautionary Principle the Committee in its 143rd meeting recommended rejection of the proposal. The 128th meeting of the SEIAA considered the recommendation of the 143rd

SEAC along with the request of the Project Proponent to give an opportunity of hearing before taking final decision and decided to refer back the case to SEAC to give a final recommendation after giving a hearing opportunity to the Project Proponent.

The Authority noticed that the 150th meeting of the SEAC heard the Project Proponent and the 154th meeting of the SEAC examined the hearing note and also a complaint received through email dated 11.09.2023 from Kadal Kaani Para Action Council. The Sub-Committee of SEAC conducted a field inspection on 26.02.2024. The SEAC in its 166th meeting discussed the field inspection report and after due appraisal found the following factors against granting permission to the project.

1. The road to the site is not developed and is not feasible for the movement of trucks loaded with mined materials.
2. The site is located on the lower middle portion of a hill of maximum elevation of 200m above MSL as per Google imagery and the elevation of the site varies from 108m to 129m above MSL. The proposal is to mine up to a depth of 100m above MSL, which is expected to lead to a mine pit of 8m in depth. The storage of water in the pit and its accidental breach, if so happens, will be disastrous.
3. The average soil thickness in and around the site 2m and the thickness varies significantly. There are large number of boulders within the site. There is a possibility of downward movement of boulders and soil in the event of high intensity rainfall.
4. One-third portion of the site in the north-eastern side is having very steep slope
5. There is vertical cut abandoned quarry adjacent to the MC road on the western side of the proposed site. The abandoned quarry land is developed with buildings. The vertical wall of the abandoned quarry is at a distance of about 110m. There are also houses and other buildings on the lower side slope of the site, including the MC road, which has heavy traffic. MC road is at around 170m from the proposed project boundary and the relative relief of the road is around 80m above MSL. There is a possibility of downward movement of boulders and soil in the event of high intensity rainfall.
6. The site is not feasible for any high intrusive activity such as mining.

The Expert Committee recommended rejection of the application by invoking precautionary principle. The Authority also noticed the representation submitted by the

Project Proponent dated 10.07.2024 against the observation of Field inspection Report and it is not found satisfactory.

In these circumstances, the Authority decided to accept the recommendation of SEAC to reject the project proposal by invoking precautionary principle. The SEIAA Secretariat shall issue necessary proceedings accordingly explaining the reasons for rejection.

Item No.07

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. Jismon A. B., for an area of 0.9980 Ha at Re-Sy Nos. 27, 28 & 28/1 in Erumeli South Village, Kanjirappally Taluk, Kottayam.

(SIA/KL/MIN/413982/2023, 2212/EC3/2023/SEIAA)

Sri. Jismon A.B, Managing Partner, M/s. J.S Blue Metals LLP, Ambarappillil (H), Muvattupuzha P.O, Ernakulam, submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 0.9980 Ha at Re-Sy Nos. 27, 28 & 28/1 in Erumeli South Village, Kanjirappally Taluk, Kottayam.

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decision of various SEAC meetings. The Authority noticed that as per the Field inspection Report conducted on 13.01.2024 there is a quarry at a distance of 450m and the Cluster Certificate dated 04.01.2023, based on the report of the Village Officer stated that there is no quarry within 500m. The SEAC in its 161st meeting sought clarification regarding the Cluster Certificate submitted as per the report of Village Officer. Meanwhile, the Project Proponent submitted a request letter dated 08.06.2024 to withdraw the application as there is a cluster condition. Based on this letter, the SEAC in its 166th meeting decided to direct the Project Proponent to apply for ToR for conducting EIA study.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided the following:

- 1. The Authority decided to reject present application and directed the Project Proponent to submit ToR application with required documents.**
- 2. The SEIAA Secretariat shall provide necessary intimation regarding the same to the Project Proponent.**

- 3. The District Collector, Kottayam shall take an appropriate action against Village Officer, Erumeli South Village, who provided misleading information with regard to the presence of quarry within 500m radius.**

Item No.08

Environmental Clearance for Laterite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. Muraleedharan L. for an area of 0.1158 Ha at Sy No. 467/8-2 in Naduvathoor Village, Kottarakara Taluk, Kollam.

(Old Prop. No. SIA/KL/MIN/276929/2022, 540/A1/2019/SEIAA)

(New Prop. No. SIA/KL/MIN/424274/2023)

Sri. Muraleedharan L., Kailasamangalath Puthanveedu, Vendhar P.O Kottarakkara Kollam, 691507, submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the laterite building stone quarry project for an area of 0.1158 Ha at Survey No. 467/8-2 in Naduvathoor Village, Kottarakara Taluk, Kollam.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC/SEIAA meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan and the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 1 year. The 163th SEAC heard the presentation of the proposal. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 163th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 1 year, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

The Authority in its 142nd meeting noted the discrepancies observed in the production plan and sought clarification from the Project Proponent. The Authority noted the clarification letter submitted by the Project Proponent dated 25.06.2024 regarding the discrepancies observed in production plan in the previous and present mining plan and found satisfactory. As per the letter, the present mining plan was prepared by considering the already excavated area as part of the previous EC and the quantity proposed for mining is 15,000MT.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the project life of 1 (One) year with a production of 15,000 MT, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should*

strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.

- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. **The mining should be restricted to a maximum depth of 7m below ground level as per the clarification submitted dated 25.06.2024, subject to limiting the depth 1 m above the lithomarge.***
- 4. Proper benches should be provided at an interval of every 1.5 m.*
- 5. The excavation activity should not involve blasting.*
- 6. The excavation activity should be restricted to 2m above the groundwater table at the site.*
- 7. The excavation activity should not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area*
- 8. The excavated pit should be restored by the Project Proponent for agriculture and other useful purposes.*
- 9. Appropriate fencing all around the excavated pit should be made to prevent any mishap.*
- 10. Measures should be taken to prevent dust emissions by covering excavated earth during transportation.*
- 11. Safeguards should be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to the excavation of earth.*
- 12. Workers/labourers should be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.*
- 13. A berm should be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of the proposed excavation.*
- 14. A minimum distance of 50m from any civil structure should be kept from the periphery of the project area.*

15. *No water logging should be allowed in the mine pit. Appropriate drainage should be ensured from the project area prior to the commencement of mining.*
16. *The drain should be provided with silt traps and siltation pond and the overflow water should be clarified and drained to the nearest natural drain without any hindrance.*
17. *The drainage system should be cleaned and desilted periodically to facilitate unhindered drainage.*
18. *Measures incorporated in the CER should be implemented within 6 months from the date of EC.*
19. *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 5.00 pm)*
20. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.*
21. *As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.*
22. *The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.*

Item No.09

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Binu George for an area of 3.0 Ha at Block No. 49, Sy No. 304 part (Govt. Land) in Parathodu Village, Udumbanchola Taluk, Idukki.

(SIA/KL/MIN/428582/2023, 2263/EC3/2023/SEIAA)

Sri. Binu George, Naduvathuchira House, Parathodu, Combayar P.O, Idukki – 685552, submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project for an area of 3.0 Ha, at Block No. 49, Sy No. 304 part (Govt. Land) in Parathodu Village, Udumbanchola Taluk, Idukki.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, Field Inspection Report, and the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 12 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 12 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

On verification it is noticed that the proposed project area is designated notified as Cardamom Hill Reserve (CHR) in the forest maps. The Authority noticed that the Cardamom Hill Reserves are protected areas and notified under Kerala preservation of trees Act hence the removal of trees require the permission of the Forest Department. **In these circumstances, the Authority decided the following:**

1. A No Objection Certificate from the respective DFO, Forest Department should be provided to remove the trees including scheduled one and for conduct mining operations in Cardamom Hill Reserve.
2. NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

Item No.10

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Shans Paul, M/s Chattupara Granites Pvt Ltd for an area of 3.0274 Ha at Sy nos. 734/1B-1, 734/1B-4, 734/1B-5, 734/1B-6, 734/1B-7, 734/1B-8, 734/1B-9 in Kalloorkkad Village, Muvattupuzha Taluk, Ernakulam.

(SIA/KL/MIN/437379/2023, 2342/EC3/2023/SEIAA)

Sri. Shans Paul, Managing Director, M/s Chattupara Granites Pvt Ltd, East Marady P.O, Ernakulam - 686673 submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project for an area of 3.0274 Ha at Sy Nos. 734/1B-1, 734/1B-4, 734/1B-5, 734/1B-6, 734/1B-7, 734/1B-8, 734/1B-9 in Kalloorkkad Village, Muvattupuzha Taluk, Ernakulam.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal and the Field Inspection Report. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 5 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 5 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority noticed that as per the Cluster Certificate dated 30.06.2023 there were two non-working quarries owned by Sri. Raju Chacko for an area of 1ha and quarry of Sri Nithin James for an area of 0.8502 Ha. As per the Field Inspection Report conducted on 20.01.2024, it is stated that there is another quarry owned by the Project Proponent for an area of 0.97 ha in addition to the two non-working quarries mentioned in the cluster certificate.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to refer the proposal back to SEAC to re-examine cluster condition considering the status of non-working and other quarries within 500m radius.

Item No.11

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Yunus Mayakkara for an area of 4.5246 Ha at Block No. 35, Re-Sy Nos. 8/1-3, 8/1-4 in Nediyruppu Village, Kondotty Taluk, Malappuram.

(SIA/KL/MIN/438697/2023, 2396/EC1/2023/SEIAA)

Sri. Yunus Mayakkara, Koonayil House, Muthuvallur P.O, Malappuram – 673638 submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry for an area of 4.5246 Ha at Block No. 35, Re-Sy Nos. 8/1-3, 8/1-4 in Nediyruppu Village, Kondotty Taluk, Malappuram.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, Field Inspection Report, and the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 12 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 12 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority noticed that as per the Approved Mining Plan the total geological reserve is 2065126 MT and the mineable reserve is 14,32,428 MT, which is about 70% of the total geological reserve. On deliberation, the Authority is of the opinion that 70% of the total geological reserve shall not be scientifically mineable from an area by safeguarding the environmental aspects. Further the proposed mining plan seems not suitable for the area such as bench formation suggested in the mining plan is not scientific and will lead to over extraction.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to direct the Project Proponent to submit a clarification regarding the minable reserves, blocked reserve and annual production mentioned in the Mining Plan.

Item No.12

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Saji K Elias, Managing Director, M/s Factum Granites Pvt. Ltd., for an area of 0.6377 Ha at Block No: 21, Re Survey Nos. 35/23, 35/6 in Erimayur-1 Village, Alathur Taluk, Palakkad.

(SIA/KL/MIN/440170/2023, 2428/EC3/2023/SEIAA)

Sri. Saji K Elias, Managing Director, M/s. Factum Granites Pvt. Ltd, Chenoth Kuzhikandathil (H) Thiruvaniyoor P.O, Ernakulam submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project for an area of 0.6337 Ha at Block No: 21, Re-Sy No. 35/23, 35/6 in Erimayur-1 Village, Alathur Taluk, Palakkad.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC/SEIAA meetings held on different dates. The Authority in its 140th meeting decided to reject the application and directed the Project Proponent to submit ToR application as per the recommendations of the 157th SEAC meeting. Accordingly, the rejection order dated 18.05.2024 issued to the Project Proponent. But, due to technical errors, the EC application is not disposed from the PARIVESH Portal and is seen as 'pending with SEAC'. In these circumstances, the proposal was again considered in the 166th SEAC meeting and adhered to its earlier decision to reject the application.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to adhere the previous decision to reject present application and directed the Project Proponent to submit ToR application with required documents.

Item No.13

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. K. G. Ajikumar for an area of 1.2328 Ha, at Block No. 13, Re-Sy Nos. 394/4(p), 394/14(p), 394/15(p), 394/16(p), 399/3-1(p), 399/3-1-2(p), 399/3-2-2(p), 399/3-2, 399/3-3, 399/3-3-2, 399/4, 399/4-2, 399/4-3, 399/4-4(p) & 396/5-1 in Kalayapuram Village, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam.

(SIA/KL/MIN/448332/2023, 2491/EC1/2024/SEIAA)

Sri. K G Ajikumar submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the granite building stone quarry project for an area of 1.2328 Ha at Block No.13, Re-Sy Nos. 394/4(p), 394/14(p), 394/15(p), 394/16(p), 399/3-1(p), 399/3-1-2(p), 399/3-2-2(p), 399/3-2, 399/3-3, 399/3-3-2, 399/4, 399/4-2, 399/4-3, 399/4-4(p) & 396/5-1 at Kalayapuram Village, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC SEIAA meetings held on different dates. Authority noted that the SEAC had appraised the proposal based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, and additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan mine life is 6 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting recommended EC for a Project Life of 6 years with certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

In these circumstances, the Authority decided to accept the recommendations of 166th SEAC meeting and to issue Environmental Clearance initially for a period of 5 years from the date of execution of mine lease / permit and then to extend the EC period to cover the project life of 6 (Six) years, subject to the review by SEAC at the end of every five years, to verify whether the Project Proponent has violated any of the EC conditions and thereby caused any damage to the Environment in the project region.

The issuance of EC subjected to the production of NOC from the Irrigation Department.

The EC is subject to General Conditions and the following Additional Specific Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The EC issued will be subject to a review by SEAC after every 5 years through field verification to ensure that mining is carried out sustainably as per the EC conditions.*
- 4. Development of green belt should be initiated prior to the commencement of mining using indigenous species. The suggested species are Phyllanthus emblica*

(Nelli), Syzygium cumini (Njaval), Writia tinctoria (Dhanthapala), Ficus bengalensis (Peral), Ficus racemosa (Atti), Bambusa bamboos (Mullumula), Dendrocalamus strictus (Kallan mula), Strychnos nuxvomica (Kanjiram), Terminalia cattappa (Thanni), Schleicheria oleosa (Poovam), Artocarpus hirsutus (Ayiniplavu) etc.

5. *Compensatory afforestation should be done prior to the commencement of mining, by planting local species of trees on available land owned by the proponent, at the lower portion of the land.*
6. *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.*
7. *Overflow water from the siltation pond should be discharged to the nearby natural drain after adequate filtration*
8. *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).*
9. *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.*
10. *Overburden should be stored at the designed place and gabion wall should be provided for the topsoil and overburden storage sites.*
11. *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.*
12. *Geotagged photographs of the progress of compensatory afforestation should be submitted along with HYCR*

13. *Implementation of CER Plan should be done during the first two years of the EC period itself and its operation and maintenance should be done till the completion of mine closure plan.*
14. *The haulage road should be provided with sprinkling facility to prevent dust pollution.*
15. *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 5.00 pm).*
16. *Adequate sanitation, waste management and restroom facilities should be provided to the workers.*
17. *Adequate energy conservation measures should be implemented including solar power installations. At least 40% of the energy requirement shall be met from the solar power*
18. *The 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.*
19. *Adequate number of avenue trees of indigenous species should be planted along both sides of the haulage road.*
20. *Adequate measures should be adopted to harvest the rainwater as per the guidelines issued by the Central Groundwater Authority.*
21. *Blasting mats should be used during rock blasting to contain the blast, prevent fly rocks and suppress dust.*
22. *In the wake of occurrence of large scale landslides in the state, as per the information provided by the Department of Mining & Geology, it is directed to use only NONEL (Non Electrical) technology for blasting to reduce the vibration of the ground, which is one of the causative factors that triggers landslides, formation of cracks in the surrounding buildings and disturbance to human and wildlife.*
23. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should*

implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.

24. As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.

25. The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.

SEIAA Secretariat is directed to inform the Project Proponent to submit NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024. Only on submission of NOC, EC shall be issued.

Item No.14

Environmental Clearance for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Kunhimammed for an area of 0.2700 Ha at Re-Sy No. 19/148 in Koodathai Village, Thamarassery Taluk, Kozhikode.

(SIA/KL/MIN/451721/2023, 2455/EC2/2023/SEIAA)

Sri. Kunhimammed, S/o. Mammad Kutty, Parammal House, Cheruvadi Post, Kozhikode submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry for an area of 0.2700 Ha at Re-Sy No. 19/148 in Koodathai Village, Thamarassery Taluk, Kozhikode.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan and the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 2 years. The 158th SEAC meeting heard the presentation of the proposal. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 2 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority observed that the laterite mining projects are non-blasting mining activities, and hence the NOC from the Irrigation Department is not required.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the project life of 2 (Two) years, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The mining should be restricted to a maximum depth of 6 m below ground level, subject to limiting the depth 1 m above the lithomarge.*
- 4. Proper benches should be provided at an interval of every 1.5 m.*
- 5. The excavation activity should not involve blasting.*
- 6. The excavation activity should be restricted to 2m above the groundwater table at the site.*
- 7. The excavation activity should not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area*

8. *The excavated pit should be restored by the Project Proponent for agriculture and other useful purposes.*
9. *Appropriate fencing all around the excavated pit should be made to prevent any mishap.*
10. *Measures should be taken to prevent dust emissions by covering excavated earth during transportation.*
11. *Safeguards should be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to the excavation of earth.*
12. *Workers/labourers should be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.*
13. *A berm should be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of the proposed excavation.*
14. *A minimum distance of 50m from any civil structure should be kept from the periphery of the project area.*
15. *No water logging should be allowed in the mine pit. Appropriate drainage should be ensured from the project area prior to the commencement of mining.*
16. *The drain should be provided with silt traps and siltation pond and the overflow water should be clarified and drained to the nearest natural drain without any hindrance.*
17. *The drainage system should be cleaned and desilted periodically to facilitate unhindered drainage.*
18. *Measures incorporated in the CER should be implemented within 6 months from the date of EC.*
19. *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 5.00 pm)*
20. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal,*

covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.

21. As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.

22. The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.

Item No.15 Environmental Clearance for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. Rintu Sebastian, for an area of 0.1752 Ha at Block No. 39, Re-Sy No. 57/110 in Peringome Village, Payyannur Taluk, Kannur. (SIA/KL/MIN/452107/2023, 2462/EC4/2023/SEIAA)

Sri. Rintu Sebastian, Njattuthotttiyil House, Thattummal P.O., Kannur submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 0.1752 Ha at Block No. 39, Re-Sy Nos. 57/110 in Peringome Village, Payyannur Taluk, Kannur.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan and the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 2 years. The 161st SEAC meeting heard the presentation of the proposal. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 2 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the

submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority observed that the laterite mining projects are non-blasting mining activities, and hence the NOC from the Irrigation Department is not required.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the project life of 2 (Two) years, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The mining should be restricted to a maximum depth of 6 m below ground level, subject to limiting the depth 1 m above the lithomarge.*
- 4. Proper benches should be provided at an interval of every 1.5 m.*
- 5. The excavation activity should not involve blasting.*
- 6. The excavation activity should be restricted to 2m above the groundwater table at the site.*
- 7. The excavation activity should not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area*
- 8. The excavated pit should be restored by the Project Proponent for agriculture and other useful purposes.*
- 9. Appropriate fencing all around the excavated pit should be made to prevent any mishap.*
- 10. Measures should be taken to prevent dust emissions by covering excavated earth during transportation.*

11. *Safeguards should be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to the excavation of earth.*
12. *Workers/labourers should be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.*
13. *A berm should be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of the proposed excavation.*
14. *A minimum distance of 50m from any civil structure should be kept from the periphery of the project area.*
15. *No water logging should be allowed in the mine pit. Appropriate drainage should be ensured from the project area prior to the commencement of mining.*
16. *The drain should be provided with silt traps and siltation pond and the overflow water should be clarified and drained to the nearest natural drain without any hindrance.*
17. *The drainage system should be cleaned and desilted periodically to facilitate unhindered drainage.*
18. *Measures incorporated in the CER should be implemented within 6 months from the date of EC.*
19. *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 5.00 pm)*
20. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.*

21. As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.

22. The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.

Item No.16 **Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Sajeev S. for an area 4.1792 Ha at Sy Nos. 302/152, 302/1/157, 302/1/158, 302/1/161, 302/1/159, 302/1/46/378, 302/1/46, 302/1/46/330/384, 302/1/46/330 in Vilakkudy Village, Pathanapuram Taluk, Kollam.**
(SIA/KL/MIN/453327/2023, 2470/EC1/2023/SEIAA)

Sri. Sajeev S., S. R. Bhavan, Parayaruville, Karyara PO, Vilakkudy, Kollam – 691332, submitted an Environmental Clearance application for Granite Building Stone Quarry Project for an area of 4.1792 Ha at Survey Nos: 302/152, 302/1/157, 302/1/158, 302/1/161, 302/1/159, 302/1/46/378, 302/1/46, 302/1/46/330/384, 302/1/46/330 of Vilakkudy Village, Pathanapuram Taluk, Kollam.

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the observations of 166th SEAC meeting. As per the cluster certificate dated 19.10.2023, there are three working quarries owned by Sri. K. Chackochan (0.7815Ha), Sri Sundaran (0.8139 Ha.) and Sri. Jayarajan V. (0.3392Ha). The letter of Geologist dated 30.05.2024 indicates that the closure plan of the quarry owned by Sri Sundaran was submitted and the mine closure is not yet completed. As per the Cluster Certificate the quarries owned by Sri Sundaran (0.8139 Ha.) and Jayarajan V (0.3392Ha) are in the same survey numbers and the mine closure is not yet done. Considering all the surrounding quarries the area comes to more than 5Ha in the cluster.

The Authority also noted the letter dated 22.07.2024 along with clarification from the Mining and Geology Department submitted by the Project Proponent, regarding the cluster condition. As per the letter of District Geologist dated 22.07.2024 it is stated that, the

quarry owned by Sri. Jayarajan V. for an area of 0.3392 Ha was worked for one year of permit on 06.11.2014 and doesn't have a mining plan and there is no need to submit final closure plan as per the KMMCR. The same survey number of the aforementioned quarry was also included in the quarry of the Sri. Sundaran for an area of 0.8139 Ha, and the mine closure plan of the same was submitted on 07.06.2024. Accordingly, there is only 1 working quarry owned by the Chackochan remains in the 500m radius.

On deliberation, the Authority observed that the proposed project and the adjacent working quarry together having an area of 4.9607 ha (4.1792 Ha +0.7815Ha), which is sparsely less than 5 Ha. Besides, another quarry of Sri. Sundaran for an area of 0.8139 Ha has not implemented the mine closure plan. Considering all the above quarries, the Authority is of the opinion that there is a cluster condition. Section 5 of Environmental Protection Act 1986, empowers the Authority to take all such measures as it deems necessary or expedient for the purpose of protecting and improving the quality of the environment and preventing controlling and abating environmental pollution. Therefore, the EIA study is prerequisite in this case, as the proposed project and the adjacent working quarry together having an area of 4.9607 ha and there is considerable impact of old mining activities within 500m radius.

In the above circumstances, under section 5 of EP Act 1986, the Authority decided to reject the application and direct the Project Proponent to submit ToR application with required documents. The SEIAA Secretariat shall provide necessary intimation regarding the same to the Project Proponent.

Item No.17

Environmental Clearance application for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. Sujith C. S. for an area of 0.0971 Ha at Block No: 91, Re-Sy No. 46/1204 in Kalliyad Village, Iritty Taluk, Kannur.

(SIA/KL/MIN/456785/2023, 2516/EC4/2024/SEIAA)

Sri. Sujith C. S. Chenthuruthiyil House, Kelakam, Chettiyamparamba P.O Kannur-670 674, submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry for an area of 0.0971 Ha at Block No: 91, Re-Sy No: 46/1204 in Kalliyad Village, Iritty Taluk, Kannur.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan and the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 1 year. The 166th SEAC meeting heard the presentation of the proposal. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 1 year, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority observed that the laterite mining projects are non-blasting mining activities, and hence the NOC from the Irrigation Department is not required.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the project life of 1 (One) year, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The mining should be restricted to a maximum depth of 5 m below ground level, subject to limiting the depth 1 m above the lithomarge.*
- 4. Proper benches should be provided at an interval of every 1.5 m.*
- 5. The excavation activity should not involve blasting.*
- 6. The excavation activity should be restricted to 2m above the groundwater table at the site.*
- 7. The excavation activity should not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area*

8. *The excavated pit should be restored by the Project Proponent for agriculture and other useful purposes.*
9. *Appropriate fencing all around the excavated pit should be made to prevent any mishap.*
10. *Measures should be taken to prevent dust emissions by covering excavated earth during transportation.*
11. *Safeguards should be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to the excavation of earth.*
12. *Workers/labourers should be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.*
13. *A berm should be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of the proposed excavation.*
14. *A minimum distance of 50m from any civil structure should be kept from the periphery of the project area.*
15. *No water logging should be allowed in the mine pit. Appropriate drainage should be ensured from the project area prior to the commencement of mining.*
16. *The drain should be provided with silt traps and siltation pond and the overflow water should be clarified and drained to the nearest natural drain without any hindrance.*
17. *The drainage system should be cleaned and desilted periodically to facilitate unhindered drainage.*
18. *Measures incorporated in the CER should be implemented within 6 months from the date of EC.*
19. *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 5.00 pm)*
20. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal,*

covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.

21. As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.

22. The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.

Item No.18

Environmental Clearance for Granite Building stone Quarry of Sri. Eldho Issac for an area of 4.7023 Ha at Sy. No. 208/1 of Alanallur- III Village, Mannarkkad Taluk, Palakkad.

(SIA/KL/MIN/72951/2022, 1590/EC1/2019/SEIAA)

Sri. Eldho Issac, Kollialil House, Vengola P.O., Perumbavoor, Ernakulam submitted an Environmental Clearance application for Granite Building Stone Quarry Project for an area of 4.7023 Ha at Sy No. 208/1 in Alanallur- III Village, Mannarkkad Taluk, Palakkad.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 2, Pre-Feasibility Report, EIA report, Mining Plan, Field inspection report and the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 166th meeting, recommended EC with the project life of 6 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority noticed that as per the approved mining plan the life of mine is 16 years, but the SEAC had recommended EC for 6 years. As per the 166th SEAC meeting the Project Proponent has not submitted the proof of application submitted for wildlife clearance from the SCNBWL. Instead, a certificate from the Wildlife Warden, Silent Valley Division dated 13.12.2023 is submitted stating that the distance of the project site from the Silent Valley National Park is 4.430 km and the distance to the buffer zone as per the draft ESZ of Silent Valley is 1.775 km from the project site.

The Authority opined that as the project area is located within 10km from the Silent Valley National Park and the Project Proponent should obtain Wildlife Clearance from the SCNBWL as per the OM dated 17.05.2022 of MoEF&CC as per the directions in the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement dated 26.04.2023 in IA 13177 of 2022. Therefore, the proof of applying for Wildlife Clearance should be obtained from the Project Proponent before considering the proposal for appraisal. Besides, the SEAC in its earlier meeting observed several shortcomings in the EIA Report, which seems not properly addressed by the Project Proponent.

In these circumstances, the Authority decided to refer the proposal back to SEAC and make definite recommendation considering the following.

1. Proof of application submitted to SCNBWL for wildlife Clearance shall be produced.
2. The clarification regarding the contradiction in the mine life mentioned in the mining plan and the SEAC recommendation.
3. Clarifications on misleading information regarding Puliyaamthodu in the public hearing and the need for incorporating watershed conservation measures in the case of Puliyaamthodu.
4. All issues raised in public hearing and observations SEAC during field inspection specially related protecting environment in the project region, effecting the local population in general are to be addressed.
5. Shortcomings in the traffic study, operation of quarries by the Project Proponent in and around the proposed site.

6. NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

Item No.19

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Shaji P. for an area of 1.3153 Ha at Re-Sy Nos. 242(981), 242 (982), 242(930) in Valayam Village, Vatakara Taluk, Kozhikkode.

(SIA/KL/MIN/411362/2022, 2344/EC2/2023/SEIAA)

As intimated by the Authority, the Project Proponent Sri. Shaji. P. and the RQP Sri. A. G Korah attended the hearing. The RQP explained the mining plan and reiterated that the mineable quantity proposed for mining is 10,93,092 MT without any benches on the sides of the mine pit. The Authority clarified that for scientific mining and by safeguarding the environment, the explanation of the RQP and Project Proponent is not acceptable. In these circumstances, **the Authority decided to direct the Project Proponent to revise the mining plan considering the topography and environmental aspects of the project area.**

Item No.20

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 Ha at Block No.47, Re-Sy Nos. 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)

Sri. Sreejith S.S, Managing Partner, M/s VSC Villaments, TC54/928, Rohini Sadanam, Melamcode, Nemom P.O., Thiruvananthapuram submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Building Stone Quarry Project for an area of 2.700 Ha at Block No.47, Re-Sy Nos. 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.

The Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal and the Field Inspection Report. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 10 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 164th meeting, recommended EC with the project life of 10 years, subject to the production of proof of

Wildlife Clearance from SCNBWL or authenticated exemption letter from the Forest Department.

The 142th SEIAA meeting noticed that the Peppara Wild Life Sanctuary is found at a distance of 4.75 km and Neyyar Wild Life Sanctuary at a distance of 3.75 km. An overhead water tank is located at a distance of 103m. As directed by the 142th SEIAA the Project Proponent submitted the proof of application for Wildlife Clearance and the NOC from the Kerala Water Authority and found satisfactory.

The Authority noted that for the sustainable management of quarry operations, the approved mining plan is revised every five years till the project life of mine as per KMMC Rules, incorporating scheme of activities to be carried out for the next 5 years. Authority is of the opinion that it is essential to match these procedures and time lines followed in the department of Mining and Geology with the time lines ECs issued for the sustainable management of quarry operations and protection of environment in the project region.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to accept the recommendations of 164th SEAC meeting and to issue Environmental Clearance initially for a period of 5 years from the date of execution of mine lease / permit and then to extend the EC period to cover the project life of 10 (Ten) years, subject to the review by SEAC at the end of every five years, to verify whether the Project Proponent has violated any of the EC conditions and thereby caused any damage to the Environment in the project region.

The EC is subject to General Conditions and the following Additional Specific Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*

3. *The EC issued will be subject to a review by SEAC after every 5 years through field verification to ensure that mining is carried out sustainably as per the EC conditions.*
4. *A buffer distance of 150m should be maintained between the overhead water tank and the project boundary and the mineable resources shall be reworked, if necessary by the Mining and Geology Department while approving the Scheme of Mining / issuing the lease or permit.*
5. Temporary wall using light-roofing material of height 5m should be erected on the boundary connecting the boundary pillars BP1-BP2-BP3-BP4-BP5-BP6.
6. *Development of green belt should be initiated prior to the commencement of mining using indigenous species. The suggested species are Phyllanthus emblica (Nelli), Syzygium cumini (Njaval), Writia tinctoria (Dhanthapala), Ficus bengalensis (Peral), Ficus racemosa (Atti), Bambusa bamboos (Mullumula), Dendrocalamus strictus (Kallan mula), Strychnos nuxvomica (Kanjiram), Terminalia cattappa (Thanni), Schleicheria oleosa (Poovam), Artocarpus hirsutus (Ayiniplavu) etc.*
7. *Since, the distance to Peppara Wild Life Sanctuary is 4.75 km and the distance to Neyyar Wild Life Sanctuary is 3.75 km from the proposed area, the Project Proponent has to obtain Wildlife Clearance from the SCNBWL as per the OM dated 17.05.2022 of MoEF&CC as per the directions in the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement dated 26.04.2023 in IA 13177 of 2022 before the commencement of mining.*
8. *The Authority makes it amply clear that EC issued does not necessarily imply that Wildlife clearance shall be granted to the Project Proponent and that the proposal for Wildlife clearance will be considered by the respective Authorities on its merit and decision taken accordingly. The investment made in the project if any based on this EC in anticipation of clearance from Wildlife angle shall be entirely at the cost and risk of the Project Proponent and MoEF&CC and SEIAA shall not be responsible in this regard in any manner.*
9. *Copy of the EC shall be marked to IGF (WL), MoEF&CC, PCCF and Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala, SEAC, District Collector, Thiruvananthapuram, and*

Department of Industries GoK, besides others for information and necessary further action. PCCF and Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala to ensure that the Project Proponent will not start mining operations without clearance from SCNBWL.

- 10. Copy of the EC shall be marked to Wild Life Warden of Peppara Wild Life Sanctuary and Neyyar Wild Life Sanctuary. He / She is requested ensure that the Project Proponent will not start mining operations without clearance from SCNBWL.*
- 11. Compensatory afforestation should be done prior to the commencement of mining, by planting local species of trees on available land owned by the proponent, at the lower portion of the land.*
- 12. 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.*
- 13. Overflow water from the siltation pond should be discharged to the nearby natural drain after adequate filtration*
- 14. 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).*
- 15. 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.*
- 16. Overburden should be stored at the designed place and gabion wall should be provided for the topsoil and overburden storage sites.*
- 17. 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.*

18. *Geotagged photographs of the progress of compensatory afforestation should be submitted along with HYCR*
19. *Implementation of CER Plan should be done during the first two years of the EC period itself and its operation and maintenance should be done till the completion of mine closure plan.*
20. *The haulage road should be provided with sprinkling facility to prevent dust pollution.*
21. *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 5.00 pm).*
22. *Adequate sanitation, waste management and restroom facilities should be provided to the workers.*
23. *Adequate energy conservation measures should be implemented including solar power installations. At least 40% of the energy requirement shall be met from the solar power*
24. *The 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.*
25. *Adequate number of avenue trees of indigenous species should be planted along both sides of the haulage road.*
26. *Adequate measures should be adopted to harvest the rainwater as per the guidelines issued by the Central Groundwater Authority.*
27. *Blasting mats should be used during rock blasting to contain the blast, prevent fly rocks and suppress dust.*
28. *In the wake of occurrence of large-scale landslides in the state, as per the information provided by the Department of Mining & Geology, it is directed to use only NONEL (Non Electrical) technology for blasting to reduce the vibration of the ground, which is one of the causative factors that triggers landslides, formation of cracks in the surrounding buildings and disturbance to human and wildlife.*

29. As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.
30. As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.
31. The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986

Item No.21

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Safeer K. for an area of 0.9796 Ha at Block No.77, Re-Sy. No. 325/1-1 in Thiruvalli Village, Nilambur Taluk, Malappuram.

(SIA/KL/MIN/436281/2023, 2373/EC1/2023/SEIAA)

Sri. Safeer K., Kandamkulathingal House, Punnappala Post, Malappuram - 679328 submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 0.9796 Ha at Block No.77, Re-Sy. No. 325/1-1 in Thiruvalli Village, Nilambur Taluk, Malappuram.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC/SEIAA meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project

based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 3 years. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 163th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 3 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

The Authority in its 142nd meeting noticed that there is a building at 45m from the project boundary and sought clarification regarding the ownership of the house. The Project Proponent submitted an affidavit, stating that the building situated at a distance of 45m from the project site will be used as office building. As per the affidavit, the building is owned by Smt. Jasmin and it was rented for the anticipated use during mining. The explanation submitted by the Project Proponent was found satisfactory.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance as per the recommendations of the 163th SEAC meeting for the project life of 3 (Three) years, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The ultimate depth of mine should limited to 85m above MSL to prevent intersection with ground water table and the mineable resources shall be reworked accordingly by the Mining and Geology Department while approving the Scheme of Mining / issuing the lease or permit.*
- 4. The Project Proponent should be maintained a buffer distance of 50m between the building at 45m and the project boundary. As declared in the affidavit, the building at 45m should only be used for official purpose and any damage to the*

building should take care of by the Project Proponent.

5. *Development of green belt should be initiated prior to the commencement of mining using indigenous species. The suggested species are Phyllanthus emblica (Nelli), Syzygium cumini (Njaval), Writia tinctoria (Dhanthapala), Ficus bengalensis (Peral), Ficus racemosa (Atti), Bambusa bamboos (Mullumula), Dendrocalamus strictus (Kallan mula), Strychnos nuxvomica (Kanjiram), Terminalia cattappa (Thanni), Schleicher oleosa (Poovam), Artocarpus hirsutus (Ayiniplavu) etc.*
6. *Compensatory afforestation should be done prior to the commencement of mining, by planting local species of trees on available land owned by the proponent, at the lower portion of the land.*
7. *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.*
8. *Overflow water from the siltation pond should be discharged to the nearby natural drain after adequate filtration*
9. *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).*
10. *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.*
11. *Overburden should be stored at the designed place and gabion wall should be provided for the topsoil and overburden storage sites.*
12. *Geotagged photographs of the progress of compensatory afforestation should be submitted along with HYCR*

13. *Implementation of CER Plan should be done during the first two years of the EC period itself and its operation and maintenance should be done till the completion of mine closure plan.*
14. *The haulage road should be provided with sprinkling facility to prevent dust pollution.*
15. *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 5.00 pm).*
16. *Adequate sanitation, waste management and restroom facilities should be provided to the workers.*
17. *Adequate energy conservation measures should be implemented including solar power installations. At least 40% of the energy requirement shall be met from the solar power*
18. *The 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.*
19. *Adequate number of avenue trees of indigenous species should be planted along both sides of the haulage road.*
20. *Adequate measures should be adopted to harvest the rainwater as per the guidelines issued by the Central Groundwater Authority.*
21. *Blasting mats should be used during rock blasting to contain the blast, prevent fly rocks and suppress dust.*
22. *In the wake of occurrence of large scale landslides in the state, as per the information provided by the Department of Mining & Geology, it is directed to use only NONEL (Non Electrical) technology for blasting to reduce the vibration of the ground, which is one of the causative factors that triggers landslides, formation of cracks in the surrounding buildings and disturbance to human and wildlife.*
23. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should*

implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.

24. *As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.*
25. *The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.*
26. SEIAA Secretariat is directed to inform the Project Proponent to submit NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024. Only on submission of NOC, EC shall be issued.

PARIVESH FILES (Ver-2)

PART-1

Item No.01 **Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Nazar Hussain. K. for an area of 0.9524 Ha at Re-Sy Nos. 8/1-1, 7/1-1 in Nediyruppu Village, Kondotty Taluk, Malappuram. (SIA KL/MIN/461143/2024)**

Sri. Nazar Hussain. K, Inny Mahal, 1st mile, Kaloth, Kondotty, Malappuram-673638 submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry for an area of 0.9524 Ha at Re-Sy Nos. 8/1-1, 7/1-1 in Nediyruppu Village, Kondotty Taluk, Malappuram.

The Authority deliberated the item and noted that as per the 166th SEAC meeting the Project Proponent submitted withdrawal request dated 23.03.2024 since there is a cluster situation is anticipated. Hence, the SEAC in its 166th meeting recommended rejection of the application.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to accept the recommendation of the SEAC to reject the application and directed the Project Proponent to submit ToR application with required documents. The SEIAA Secretariat shall provide necessary intimation regarding the same to the Project Proponent.

Item No.02 **Reappraisal of Environmental Clearance issued by DEIAA, Malappuram for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. K. Mohammed, Managing Partner, M/s Blue Stone Crusher for an area of 4.9649 Ha at Sy Nos. 300/1 (pt), 300/2 (pt), 300/3(pt) in Oorakam Village, Tirurangadi Taluk, Malappuram. (SIA/KL/MIN/453464/2023)**

Sri. K. Mohammed, Managing Partner, M/s. Blue Stone Crusher, Neduvakkad P O, Oorakam Malappuram - 676 519 submitted an application for reappraisal of Environmental Clearance issued by DEIAA, Malappuram for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 4.9649 Ha at Sy Nos. 300/1 (pt), 300/2 (pt), 300/3(pt) in Oorakam Village, Tirurangadi Taluk, Malappuram.

The Authority deliberated the item and noted that as per the 166th SEAC meeting, the Committee recommended rejection of the application and direct the Project Proponent to apply for ToR, as there is cluster condition. As per the cluster certificate dated 18.04.2022, there are two other quarries within the radius of 500m and altogether having an area of more than 5 ha.

The Authority considered the letter submitted by the Project Proponent dated 15.07.2024. The Project Proponent stated that the application was submitted on 27.11.2023 and the proposal was considered in many SEAC meetings as per the direction of the Hon'ble High Court in WP(C) No. 10928 of 2021. The Project Proponent also requested to consider the EIA study and public consultation conducted for the adjacent project of Sri. Mohamed Ali (Proposal No. SIA/KL/460888/2024), in which the present project area was also included in the cluster.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to refer the proposal back to SEAC for further consideration on the basis of the letter and documents submitted by the Project Proponent and re-examine the decision according to its merit.

Item No.03

Environmental Clearance for Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Abdul Kareem for an area of 0.9800 Ha at Block No. 29, Re-Sy Nos: 474/3, 475/10 in Manickal Village, Nedumangad Taluk Thiruvananthapuram.

(SIA/KL/MIN/465522/2024)

Sri. Abdul Kareem, Managing Partner, M/s Al-Falah Metal Crusher, Marankuzhi, Katta, Vembayam P.O Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695615, submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building stone Quarry Project for an area of 0.9800 Ha at Block No. 29, Re-Sy Nos: 474/3, 475/10 in Manickal Village, Nedumangad Taluk Thiruvananthapuram.

The Authority deliberated the item and noted that the 166th SEAC meeting decided to direct the proponent to apply for ToR due to cluster condition. As per the Cluster Certificate dated 21.02.2024, there are 3 other quarries within the radius of 500m without mine closure certificate and altogether having an area more than 5 ha within the cluster. Besides, the Authority also noticed that the Hon'ble NGT observed rampant violation of EC conditions and unscientific mining followed by the adjacent quarry owned by M/s Covenant Stones Pvt.

Ltd. and levied them about Rs. 41.46 Crore as environmental compensation. Moreover, there are several complaints and several cases are pending in different Courts. Hence, EIA study and public hearing is imperative in the project area to address the environmental issues in the region and propose comprehensive environmental management plan for the entire area.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to reject present application and directed the Project Proponent to submit ToR application with required documents. The SEIAA Secretariat shall provide necessary intimation regarding the same to the Project Proponent.

Item No.04 Reappraisal of Environmental Clearance issued by DEIAA, Thrissur for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Gowtham V Pavithran, Director, M/s Crown Aggregates (P) Ltd for an area of 3.8446 Ha at Sy Nos. 1830(Part), 1837(Part), 1884(Part), 1885(Part), 1886(Part) in Pazhayannur Village, Thalapilly Taluk, Thrissur.
(SIA/KL/MIN/454125/2023)

Sri. Gowtham V. Pavithran, Director, M/s Crown Aggregates (P) Ltd, Vellapara Estate Enclave, Ward XVII, Bldg No 317, Pazhyannur, Thrissur, submitted a reappraisal application for the DEIAA, Thrissur issued Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 3.8446 Ha at Sy Nos. 1830(Part), 1837(Part), 1884(Part), 1885(Part), 1886(Part) in Pazhayannur Village, Thalapilly Taluk, Thrissur.

The Authority deliberated the item and noted that the 167th SEAC meeting decided to direct the proponent to apply for ToR due to cluster condition. As per the Cluster certificate dated 20.9.2023, there is another quarry having an area of 2.8936 Ha within the radius of 500m and altogether having an area of more than 5 ha. Therefore, the Project Proponent has to conduct an EIA study, submit EIA report with comprehensive environmental management plan, and conduct public hearing as per existing norms.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to reject present application and directed the Project Proponent to submit ToR application with required documents. The SEIAA Secretariat shall provide necessary intimation regarding the same to the Project Proponent.

Item No.05

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Ashraf P.T., M/s Aljouf Granite Metals for an area of 1.6942 Ha at Re-Sy Nos. 184pt, 183/8pt in Urangattiri Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram.

(SIA/KL/MIN/464139/2024)

Sri. Ashraf P.T, Managing Partner, M/s Aljouf Granite Metals, Vezhakode, Poovathikkal P.O, Malppuram – 673639 submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project for an area of 1.6942 Ha at Re-Sy Nos. 184pt, 183/8pt in Urangattiri Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram.

The Authority deliberated the item and noted that the 167th SEAC meeting decided to direct the proponent to apply for ToR due to cluster condition. As per the Cluster certificate dated 12.02.2024, there is another quarry having an area of 5.5373 Ha within the radius of 500m and altogether having an area of more than 5 ha. Therefore, the Project Proponent has to conduct an EIA study, submit comprehensive environmental management plan, and conduct public hearing as per existing norms.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to reject present application and directed the Project Proponent to submit ToR application with required documents. The SEIAA Secretariat shall provide necessary intimation regarding the same to the Project Proponent.

Item No.06

Reappraisal of Environmental Clearance issued by DEIAA, Kozhikode for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Raveendran V. K., for an area of 1.2604 Ha at Re-Sy No. 262/15 in Maruthonkara Village, Vatakara Taluk, Kozhikode

(SIA/KL/MIN/471083/2024)

Sri. Raveendran V. K., Vattakandiyil (H), Chathankottu Nada P.O, Kavilumpara (via), Kozhikode – 673 513, submitted an application for the Reappraisal of Environmental Clearance issued by DEIAA, Kozhikode for the Granite Building Stone Quarry Project for an area of 1.2604 Ha at Re-Sy No. 262/15 in Maruthonkara Village, Vatakara Taluk, Kozhikode.

The Authority noticed that the 167th SEAC recommended rejection of the application as the Project Proponent submitted an incomplete application, and most of the documents submitted are not legible.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to accept the recommendation of SEAC to reject present application. The Project Proponent has the liberty to apply afresh with all the necessary documents as mentioned in the O.M dated 28.04.2023. The SEIAA Secretariat shall provide necessary intimation regarding the same to the Project Proponent.

Item No.07 Environmental Clearance for the Removal of Ordinary Earth Project of Sri. Joshy T A, Proprietor, M/s Shivalaya Constructions Pvt. Ltd. for an area of 0.5867 Ha at Re-Sy No. 127/1-1 in Alur Village, Kunnamkulam Taluk, Thrissur.
(SIA/KL/MIN/471971/2024)

Sri. Joshy T. A., S/o. Antony Tharakan House, Koonammoochi, Choondal Koonammoochi P.O Thrissur – 680504, submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the removal of Ordinary Earth from an area of 0.5867 Ha at Re-Sy No.127/1-1 in Alur Village, Kunnamkulam Taluk, Thrissur.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan and the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 1 year. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 167th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 1 year, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority observed that the removal of ordinary earth are non-blasting mining activities, and hence the NOC from the Irrigation Department is not required.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the project life of 1 (One) year, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The depth of mining should be limited to 5m bgl to prevent intersection with ground water table*
- 4. Special effort should be taken for greening up the mined out area by planting fruit bearing trees.*
- 5. A series of water harvesting pits should be developed so as minimize the adverse impacts on ground water.*
- 6. Proper benches should be provided at an interval of every 1.5m.*
- 7. The excavated earth should be not be used for the reclamation of paddy fields and / or wetlands.*
- 8. The excavation activity should not involve blasting.*
- 9. The excavation activity should be restricted to 2m above the groundwater table at the site.*
- 10. The excavation activity should not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area.*
- 11. The excavated pit should be restored by the Project Proponent for agriculture and other useful purposes.*
- 12. Appropriate fencing all around the excavated pit should be made to prevent any mishap.*

13. *Measures should be taken to prevent dust emissions by covering excavated earth during transportation.*
14. *Safeguards should be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to the excavation of earth.*
15. *Workers/labourers should be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.*
16. *A berm should be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of the proposed excavation.*
17. *A minimum distance of 50m from any civil structure should be kept from the periphery of the project area.*
18. *No water logging should be allowed in the mine pit. Appropriate drainage should be ensured from the project area prior to the commencement of mining.*
19. *The drain should be provided with silt traps and siltation pond and the overflow water should be clarified and drained to the nearest natural drain without any hindrance.*
20. *The drainage system should be cleaned and desilted periodically to facilitate unhindered drainage.*
21. *Measures incorporated in the CER should be implemented within 6 months from the date of EC.*
22. *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 5.00 pm)*
23. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation*

support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.

24. As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.

25. The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.

Item No.08

Environmental Clearance for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry Project of Sri. Shajahan P K for an area of 0.2320 Ha at Block No. 3, Re-Sy Nos. 38/2-28 and 39/1-11 in Kuruva Village, Perinthalmanna Taluk, Malappuram.

(SIA/KL/MIN/472679/2024)

Sri. Shajahan P. K., Poozhikunnath House, Vattalur Post, Perinthalmanna, Malappuram submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry Project for an area of 0.2320 Ha at Block No. 3, Re-Sy Nos. 38/2-28 and 39/1-11 in Kuruva Village, Perinthalmanna Taluk, Malappuram.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan and the additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 1 year. After the due appraisal, the SEAC in its 167th meeting, recommended EC for the mine life of 1 year, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority observed that the laterite mining projects are non-blasting mining activities, and hence the NOC from the Irrigation Department is not required.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the project life of 1 (One) year, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The mining should be restricted to a maximum depth of 5.5 m below ground level, subject to limiting the depth 1 m above the lithomarge.*
- 4. Proper benches should be provided at an interval of every 1.5 m.*
- 5. The excavation activity should not involve blasting.*
- 6. The excavation activity should be restricted to 2m above the groundwater table at the site.*
- 7. The excavation activity should not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area*
- 8. The excavated pit should be restored by the Project Proponent for agriculture and other useful purposes.*
- 9. Appropriate fencing all around the excavated pit should be made to prevent any mishap.*
- 10. Measures should be taken to prevent dust emissions by covering excavated earth during transportation.*
- 11. Safeguards should be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to the excavation of earth.*

12. *Workers/laborers should be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.*
13. *A berm should be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of the proposed excavation.*
14. *A minimum distance of 50m from any civil structure should be kept from the periphery of the project area.*
15. *No water logging should be allowed in the mine pit. Appropriate drainage should be ensured from the project area prior to the commencement of mining.*
16. *The drain should be provided with silt traps and siltation pond and the overflow water should be clarified and drained to the nearest natural drain without any hindrance.*
17. *The drainage system should be cleaned and desilted periodically to facilitate unhindered drainage.*
18. *Measures incorporated in the CER should be implemented within 6 months from the date of EC.*
19. *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 5.00 pm)*
20. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.*
21. *As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the*

land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.

22. The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.

Item No.09

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project of Sri. Joby John for an area of 0.7300 Ha at Re-Sy. Nos. 382/1 & 382/5 in Padichira Village, Sulthan Bathery Taluk, Wayanad.

**(Old Prop. No. SIA/KL/MIN/140590/2020; 1791/EC2/2020/SEIAA)
(New Proposal No. SIA/KL/MIN/472498/2024)**

Sri. Joby John, Mundokuzhiyil House, Seethamound P.O, Pulpally, Wayanad - 673579 submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 0.7300 Ha at Re-Sy Nos. 382/1 & 382/5 in Padichira Village, Sulthan Bathery Taluk, Wayanad.

The Authority perused the item and noted the decisions of SEIAA/SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the old proposal (SIA/KL/MIN/140590/2020) was rejected due to the presence of a residential building within 50m from the project area. However, based on the Judgement in WP(C) No. 14020 of 2023, the Authority directed the SEAC to reconsider the application and the SEAC has completed the appraisal processes physically and recommend Environmental Clearance. Since the application was processed physically, the Authority in its 126th meeting, directed the Project Proponent to submit the application in PARIVESH Portal.

Now the 166th SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 2, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan, additional details/documents obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal and the Field Inspection Report. As per the Application, the mineable reserve is 1,90,816 MT. The life of mine is 5 years. The project cost is 180.70 Lakh. The distance to Moderate Hazard Zone is 1.32 km and the distance to High Hazard Zone is 14.96 km. As per the presentation, the depth to water table is 7m bgl at 738 MSL. After due appraisal, the SEAC decided to adhere to the decision taken in the 158th meeting of the

Committee to recommend EC for the mine life of 5 years subject to the specific conditions in addition to the general conditions.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the project life of 5 (Five) years, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions:

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The residential building owned and occupied by the Project Proponent located at a distance of about 31 m from the proposed quarrying area should not be utilized for the residential purpose as per the affidavit submitted.*
- 4. The approach road, with a minimum width of 7 m, should be done before the commencement of mining.*
- 5. Since, the distance to Wayanad Wild Life Sanctuary is 3.20 km from the proposed area, the Project Proponent has to obtain Wildlife Clearance from the SCNBWL as per the OM dated 17.05.2022 of MoEF&CC as per the directions in the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement dated 26.04.2023 in IA 13177 of 2022 before the commencement of mining.*
- 6. The Authority makes it amply clear that EC issued does not necessarily imply that Wildlife clearance shall be granted to the Project Proponent and that the proposal for Wildlife clearance will be considered by the respective Authorities on its merit and decision taken accordingly. The investment made in the project if any based on this EC in anticipation of clearance from Wildlife angle shall be entirely at the cost and risk of the Project Proponent and MoEF&CC and SEIAA shall not be responsible in this regard in any manner.*

7. ***Copy of the EC shall be marked to IGF (WL), MoEF&CC, PCCF and Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala, SEAC, District Collector Wayanad, and Department of Industries GoK, besides others for information and necessary further action. PCCF and Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala to ensure that the Project Proponent will not start mining operations without clearance from SCNBWL.***
8. ***Copy of the EC shall be marked to Wild Life Warden of Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary. He / She is requested ensure that the Project Proponent will not start mining operations without clearance from SCNBWL.***
9. *Development of green belt should be initiated prior to the commencement of mining using indigenous species. The suggested species are Phyllanthus emblica (Nelli), Syzygium cumini (Njaval), Writia tinctoria (Dhanthapala), Ficus bengalensis (Peral), Ficus racemosa (Atti), Bambusa bamboos (Mullumula), Dendrocalamus strictus (Kallan mula), Strychnos nuxvomica (Kanjiram), Terminalia cattappa (Thanni), Schleicher oleosa (Poovam), Artocarpus hirsutus (Ayiniplavu) etc.*
10. *Compensatory afforestation should be done prior to the commencement of mining, by planting local species of trees as proposed.*
11. *Geotagged photographs of the progress of compensatory afforestation should be submitted along with HYCR*
12. *Adequate number of avenue trees of indigenous species should be planted along both sides of the haulage road.*
13. *The haulage road should be provided with sprinkling facility to prevent dust pollution.*
14. *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.*
15. *Garland drain, silt-traps, siltation ponds and outflow channels should be desilted periodically and geo-tagged photographs of the process should be included in the half-yearly compliance report (HYCR).*

16. *Overflow water from the siltation pond should be discharged to the nearby natural drain after adequate filtration.*
17. *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.*
18. *Overburden should be stored at the designed place and gabion wall should be provided for the topsoil and overburden storage sites.*
19. *The impact of vibration due to blasting on the houses and other built structures within 200m 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.*
20. *Implementation of CER Plan should be done during the first two years of the EC period itself and its operation and maintenance should be done till the completion of mine closure plan.*
21. *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 5.00 pm).*
22. *Adequate sanitation, waste management and restroom facilities should be provided to the workers.*
23. *Adequate energy conservation measures should be implemented including solar power installations. At least 40% of the energy requirement shall be met from the solar power.*
24. *The 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.*
25. *Adequate measures should be adopted to harvest the rainwater as per the guidelines issued by the Central Groundwater Authority.*
26. *Blasting mats should be used during rock blasting to contain the blast, prevent fly rocks and suppress dust.*

27. *In the wake of occurrence of large scale landslides in the state, as per the information provided by the Department of Mining & Geology, it is directed to use only NONEL (Non Electrical) technology for blasting to reduce the vibration of the ground, which is one of the causative factors that triggers landslides, formation of cracks in the surrounding buildings and disturbance to human and wildlife.*
28. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.*
29. *As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.*
30. *The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.*

SEIAA Secretariat is directed to inform the Project Proponent to submit NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024. Only on submission of NOC, EC shall be issued.

Item No.10

Environmental Clearance for the Granite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Suhair T for an area of 2.2366 Ha at Block No. 41, Re-Sy Nos. 77/2, 77/3 in Cherpulasserry Village, Ottappalam Taluk, Palakkad.

(SIA/KL/MIN/472789/2024)

Sri, Suhair T, Thairanil House, Pang, Padinjattumuri Kuruva, Malappuram-679338 submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Granite Building Stone Quarry project for an area of 2.2366 Ha at Block No. 41, Re-Survey Nos. 77/2, 77/3 in Cherpulasserry Village, Ottappalam Taluk, Palakkad.

The Authority deliberated the item and noted the decision 167th SEAC meeting. As per the Cluster Certificate dated 23/02/2024, there is another quarry having an area of 3.0757 Ha within the radius of 500m and altogether having an area of more than 5 Ha. Therefore, the Project Proponent has to conduct an EIA study, submit the comprehensive environmental management plan, and conduct public hearing as per existing norms. Hence, the SEAC in its 167th meeting decided to direct the proponent to apply for ToR.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to accept the recommendation of the SEAC to reject present application and directed the Project Proponent to submit ToR application with required documents. The SEIAA Secretariat shall provide necessary intimation regarding the same to the Project Proponent.

Item No.11

Environmental Clearance for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry of Sri. Muhammed Basheer for an area of 0.9786 Ha at Re-Sy No: 143/6-2 in Ponmala Village, Tirur Taluk, Malappuram.

(SIA/KL/MIN/459132/2024)

Sri. Muhammed Basheer, Varikkodan House, Randathani Post, Malappuram - 676510 submitted an Environmental Clearance application for the Laterite Building Stone Quarry for an area of 0.9786 Ha at Re-Sy No: 143/6-2 in Ponmala Village, Tirur Taluk, Malappuram.

The Authority perused the proposal and noted the decisions of various SEAC meetings held on different dates. Authority noticed that the SEAC had appraised the project based on Form 1, Pre-Feasibility Report, Mining Plan and the additional details/documents

obtained from the Project Proponent during appraisal. As per the approved mining plan, the mine life is 3 years. The 167th SEAC meeting heard the presentation of the proposal. After the due appraisal, the SEAC recommended EC for the mine life of 3 years, subject to certain Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions after the submission of NOC from the Irrigation Department in compliance to Section 40(2) of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003 as ordered by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 30737 of 2022 dated 19.04.2024.

The Authority observed that the laterite mining projects are non-blasting mining activities, and hence the NOC from the Irrigation Department is not required.

In the above circumstances, the Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the project life of 3 (Three) year, subject to the following Specific Conditions in addition to the General Conditions.

- 1. The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby.*
- 2. The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.*
- 3. The mining should be restricted to a maximum depth of 5.5m below ground level, subject to limiting the depth 1 m above the lithomarge.*
- 4. Proper benches should be provided at an interval of every 1.5 m.*
- 5. The excavation activity should not involve blasting.*
- 6. The excavation activity should be restricted to 2m above the groundwater table at the site.*
- 7. The excavation activity should not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area.*
- 8. The excavated pit should be restored by the Project Proponent for agriculture and other useful purposes.*

9. *Appropriate fencing all around the excavated pit should be made to prevent any mishap.*
10. *Measures should be taken to prevent dust emissions by covering excavated earth during transportation.*
11. *Safeguards should be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to the excavation of earth.*
12. *Workers/laborers should be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.*
13. *A berm should be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of the proposed excavation.*
14. *A minimum distance of 50m from any civil structure should be kept from the periphery of the project area.*
15. *No water logging should be allowed in the mine pit. Appropriate drainage should be ensured from the project area prior to the commencement of mining.*
16. *The garland drains should be provided with silt traps and siltation pond and the overflow water should be clarified and drained to the nearest natural drain without any hindrance.*
17. *The drainage system should be cleaned and desilted periodically to facilitate unhindered drainage.*
18. *Measures incorporated in the CER should be implemented within 6 months from the date of EC.*
19. *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 5.00 pm)*
20. *As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt.*

Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.

21. *As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.*

22. *The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986.*

General Decisions

(1) Prevention of the use of mining sites by anti-social elements for antisocial activities

It has come to the notice of the Authority that at places quarry sites are being used by anti-social elements for antisocial activities. In a densely populated State like Kerala this kind of nefarious activities, in the long run are detrimental for peaceful co-existence. Hence Authority decided to add a following common condition in all ECs issued for mining projects.

“The Project Proponent is directed to install a CCTV camera and take all other essential measures to ensure that mining site is not used by antisocial elements for nefarious antisocial activities which are detrimental for peaceful coexistence in the project region. In case if such complaints are received, the EC given is likely to be cancelled after a police verification.”

(2) Constitution of next new SEIAA and SEAC

The term of present SEIAA and SEAC will end on 02.03.2025. Generally, it takes 6-7 months to complete all formalities at the level of Govt. of Kerala and at the level of MoEF&CC to constitute a new SEIAA. In the absence of SEIAA, the proposals can be dealt only by EAC of MoEF&CC. In order to avoid the hardship to Project Proponents and for

smooth execution of developmental activities in the state, Authority decided to request the Secretary, Department of Environment and Climate Change to initiate the process for constitution next new SEIAA and SEAC.

Sd/-

Dr. H Nagesh Prabhu IFS (Retd)
Chairman, SEIAA

Sd/-

Sri K Krishna Panicker
Expert Member, SEIAA

Sd/-

Dr Rathan U. Kelkar IAS
Member Secretary, SEIAA