



0191-2474553/0194-2490602

Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

J&K ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY

(at) DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND REMOTE SENSING

S.D.A. Colony, Bemina, Srinagar-190018 (May-Oct) / Paryavaran Bhawan, Transport Nagar, Gladni, Jammu-180006 (Nov-Apr)

Email: jkseiaa@gmail.com, website:www.parivesh.nic.in



MINUTES OF THE MEETING

In pursuance to the Minutes of the 102nd Meeting of the JK Expert Appraisal Committee held on 21st December, 2022 through video conferencing issued vide No. NO.EAC/JK/22/14455-14467 dated 27-12-2022, the 88th Meeting of the JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority was held on 30th of December, 2022 at 14:30 Hrs and re-discussed on 04th January 2023 and 6th January 2023 through video conferencing:

The following attended the meeting:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Lal Chand, IFS (Retd.) | Chairman, JKEIAA |
| 2. Er. Nazir Ahmad (Chief Engineer, Retd.) | Member, JKEIAA |
| 3. Shri S. Rakesh Kumar, IFS,
Director, EE&RS, J&K | Member-Secretary, JKEIAA |

Besides following members of JKEAC were also invited for scientific discussions on the replenishment reports as and when required.

(Special Invitees)

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4. Sh. S. C. Sharma, IFS (Retd) | Chairman JKEAC (06-01-2023) |
| 5. Er. B. B. Sharma, (Retd) | Member JKEAC (06-01-2023) |
| 6. Sh. Humayun Rashid, Secretary JKEAC | Secretary JKEAC (04 & 06-01-2023) |

Following are the deliberations & decisions of the meeting:

Agenda Item No.1.

To discuss the recommendations of JKEAC on examination and evaluation on the Replenishment Report of Minor Mineral Block No.1 and 2 of Rambiara, Minor Mineral Block No.9 of Sasara, Minor Mineral Block No.31 Nallah Narastan and Minor Mineral Block No. 33 and 34 of Naristan/Lam of Pulwama District formulated by Geology & Mining Department.

DELIBERATIONS/SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS OF JKEAC:

The replenishment report of the above cited mining blocks was presented and the Committee observed that replenishment study has been carried out by employing only the Longitudinal Sections. It is not understood as to how the L-Sections and Cross Sections have been made use of for arriving at replenishment volume/rate of replenishment. The Committee discussed the matter threadbare and observed that for any objective assessment of replenishment data, there is no alternative but to faithfully adopt the following steps which are in consonance with Enforcement & Monitoring guidelines for Sand Mining-2020 and the same have been advised from time to time during various deliberations more specifically under Agenda 6 of 94th JKEAC record of deliberations (MoM) issued vide NO: EAC/JK/22/13723- 13735 dated 10-06-2022:

- Visual inspection of the nallah/river to identify zones of aggradation and thus identification of the mining blocks.
- In case of mining blocks already identified, permanent bench marks on the two banks on upstream, downstream and the mining block need to be established.

- iii. After diligent inspection of the mining block and taking into account the surface topography, flow pattern etc., working out the number of L- Sections/cross sections at regular intervals of 10m centre to centre which need to be taken / recorded before and after monsoon/rainy season to establish the profile of the Nallah. For each cross section, the spot levels, to be recorded with respect to the permanent bench marks established at the upper extremity of the mining block, need to be spaced to truly represent the bed profile.
- iv. Plotting of the survey data for each cross section recorded before and after monsoon/rainy season on the same graph to objectively establish the aggradation and calculation of the replenishment by multiplying the average of the aggradation observed at each cross section with the length of the block to know the total volume of the river bed material deposited in the mining block. Division of the aggradation volume by the area will give the average rate of replenishment for the block.

One of the Members observed that the data as reported, does not indicate time/period of its collection and that the time lines are critical to reliability of data so collected. He also pointed out that Kashmir, unlike other parts of the country has a different weather cycle and it experiences precipitation mostly in the form of snow during the period December to Feb and rains during the period March to April and some rains in July to August.

JKEAC, in light of above, is of the considered view that in view of unique climate/ weather patterns of Kashmir valley, the Govt. of J&K may constitute a high-level Expert Committee comprising of members from G&M Dept., IMD, Srinagar, Irrigation & Flood Control Dept., Fisheries Dept. and Environment Dept. to determine the appropriate season / time lines for mining activities in the river basins of Kashmir valley in line with sustainable exploitation of the natural resources.

Till this happens, for the purpose of replenishment study, the pre-precipitation data may be collected in Nov-Dec. and the post-precipitation data in the month of September without disturbing the replenishment footprints of the designated measurement sites.

The Committee however, desired that though the process of replenishment studies has been initiated but the same needs to be made fully conformant with the sand mining guidelines and needs to be based on both L-Section and Cross Section with data recorded in the appropriate months peculiar to unique climatic / weather conditions of Kashmir valley.

Recommendations of the JKEAC.

In view of the above deliberations, the following recommendations were made with respect to replenishment reports of the mining blocks of Pulwama district.

Agenda	District	River / Nallah	Studies conducted in Mining blocks	Average annual replenishment (m) in Nallah reported by G&M Dept	Remarks
1.	Pulwama	Rambiara	Block No. 01 Block No. 02	-0.13m 0.26m	Replenishment report may be adopted and treated actionable for the year 2022-23 only. However, in view of No/poor replenishment in the mining blocks, the mining activity may not be pursued/ allowed in these blocks
		Sasara	Block No. 09	0.93m	Replenishment report may be adopted and treated actionable for the year 2022-23 only.

		Naristan	Block No. 31	0.64m	- do -
		Naristan/ Lam	Block No. 33	0.42m	- do -
		Lam/ Naristan	Block No. 34	0.69m	- do -

Decisions of the JKEIAA:

After due deliberations, the JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of JKEAC and approved the replenishment report of Block No. 09, of Sasara Nallah, Block No. 31 for Naristan Nallah, Block No. 33 of Naristan/Lam Nallah and Block No. 34 of Lam/Naristan Nallah, to be adopted and treated actionable for the year 2022-23 only.

In respect of Block No. 01 and Block No. 02 of Rambiara Nallah although the JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of JKEAC and approved the replenishment report, but, in view of insufficient replenishment in the mining block, the mining activity for these blocks shall not be pursued until the revised DSR is formulated.

Agenda Item No.2.

To discuss the recommendations of JKEAC on examination and evaluation on the revised Replenishment Report of Minor Mineral Block No 11 and 12 of Doodganga Nallah and Block, 1, 2, 4 and 10 of Shaliganga, Budgam District formulated by Geology & Mining Department.

DELIBERATIONS/SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS OF JKEAC:

The deliberations recorded under agenda No.1 were found to be applicable to the agenda item No.2 and are therefore to be considered as such.

Recommendations of the JKEAC.

In view of the above deliberations, the following recommendations were

Agenda	District	River / Nallah	Studies conducted in Mining blocks	Average annual replenishment (m) in Nallah reported by G&M Dept	Remarks
2.	Budgam	Doodhganga	Block No. 11 Block No. 12	0.15m 0.25m	Replenishment report may be adopted and treated actionable for the year 2022-23 only. However, in view of No/poor replenishment in the mining blocks, the mining activity may not be pursued/ allowed in these blocks
		Shaliganga	Block No. 10 Block No. 01 Block No. 02 Block No. 04	0.35m 0.15m 0.16m 0.19m	Replenishment report may be adopted and treated actionable for the year 2022-23 only. However, in view of No/poor replenishment in the mining blocks 01,02 and 04, the mining activity may not be pursued /allowed except in mining block No.10

Decisions of the JKEIAA:

After due deliberations, the JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of JKEAC and approved the replenishment report of Block No. 10 of Shaliganga Nallah to be adopted and treated actionable for the year 2022-23 only.

In respect of Mining Block Nos. 11 and 12 of Doodganga Nallah and Block No. 01, 02 and 04 of Shaliganga Nallah, although the JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of JKEAC and approved the replenishment report, but, in view of insufficient replenishment in the mining block, the mining activity for these blocks shall not be pursued until the revised DSR is formulated.

Agenda Item No 3.

To discuss the recommendations of JKEAC on examination and evaluation on the revised Replenishment Report of Minor Mineral Block No. 16 Baramulla District (Block 16 only) formulated by Geology & Mining Department.

DELIBERATIONS/SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS OF JKEAC:

The replenishment report of the above cited mining blocks was deliberated threadbare and following recommendations were made by JKEAC as are recorded in the remark's column.

Recommendations of the JKEAC.

Agenda	District	River / Nallah	Studies conducted in Mining blocks	Average annual replenishment (m) in Nallah reported by G&M Dept	Remarks
3.	Baramulla	Nalla Ferozpora	Block No. 16	0.45m	Replenishment report may be adopted and treated actionable for the year 2022-23 only.

Decisions of the JKEIAA:

After due deliberations, the JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of JKEAC and approved the replenishment report of Block No. 16 of Ferozpur Nallah of District Baramulla to be adopted and treated actionable for the year 2022-23 only.

Agenda Item No.4.

To discuss the recommendations of JKEAC on examination and evaluation on the Replenishment Report of Minor Mineral Block No. 1/1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/5, 2/2, 2/3, 2/4, 2/5, 2/8, 3/1, 3/2, 3/4, 3/5, 3/6, 3/7 of Nowshara Tawi, Minor Mineral Block No. 31 and 32 of Darhali Nallah, Minor Mineral Block No. 1/8 of Ans River and Minor Mineral Block No. 27, 28 and 29 of Solki Nari Tawi of Rajouri District formulated by Geology & Mining Department.

DELIBERATIONS/SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS OF JKEAC:

The replenishment report of the above cited mining blocks of Rajouri district was presented before JKEAC. On page 24 of the report, it has been mentioned that 23 number of pits were excavated during field work from December, 2021 to March 2022 to estimate the minable reserves. JKEAC made the following observations:

- i. The average thickness of annual replenishment reported for the current year and depth of the pits used for estimating total minable reserves shows little variability. This puts the authenticity of the data in question.
- ii. Data from only two locations per minor mineral block seems to have been collected and presented which is not in line with methodology provided under Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining-2020.
- iii. No measurements on the specific spots along Cross Sections/L-Sections have been recorded/presented.
- iv. The pre-monsoon and post monsoon data for the specific spots has not been provided in the report.

Shri H.L. Langeh, JD, G&M Dept., Jammu was asked to respond to clarify the issue. In response, he and his other colleagues including Dr. Davinder Singh did not come up with satisfactory clarification.

JKEAC members were not convinced in view of the shortcomings as deliberated herein above and the data presented in the report was far more confusing than conveying a clear picture vis- a-vis replenishment.

Therefore, JKEAC recommended that replenishment studies should be carried out strictly in accordance with Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining 2020 and as advised here-in-above under agenda item No.1.

In the light of above, JKEAC felt it necessary to re-examine the replenishment reports of mining blocks of Jammu and Samba also which had been cleared earlier in the previous meeting. On the face of it, the data presented in the said reports had appeared to be satisfactory but on deeper scrutiny, a similar pattern of data presentation, as observed in the case of Rajouri district, was found, thus putting in question the authenticity of the data and its usefulness for assessing replenishment in the pertinent mining blocks.

Recommendations of the JKEAC.

In view of the above deliberation, JKEAC desired that before considering the replenishment reports of mining blocks of Rajouri District for adoption, the G&M Dept. may be asked to constitute a team of officers (other than the authors of the replenishment reports) headed by Joint Director (G&M Dept.) to check / verify and certify the authenticity of replenishment data to the effect that the same has been compiled in strict accordance with the methodology given in the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining-2020. Shortcomings in the report may be rectified in light of the standing guidelines/deliberations made herein above.

A similar exercise is required to be carried out by G&M Dept. for the replenishment reports of Jammu and Samba districts cleared earlier by JKEAC / JKEIAA and till then their acceptance may be kept on hold by JKEIAA.

Decisions of the JKEIAA:

After due deliberations, the JKEIAA is in agreement with the shortcomings pointed out by the committee therefore the G&M department shall address these shortcomings in the replenishment report as per the methodology given in the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020 and submit the report.

Further, as pointed out by JKEAC, similar exercise is required to be carried out by G&M Department in respect replenishment reports of Jammu and Samba districts, cleared earlier by JKEAC/JKEIAA and same may be resubmitted. Until then the acceptance accorded thereof is decided to be withheld.

Agenda Item No 5.

To discuss the recommendations of JKEAC on examination and evaluation on the Replenishment Report of Minor Mineral Block No.4,15,22,24,25,28,30 and 31 of Suran River, Minor Mineral Block No. 8,9 and 10 of Betar River and Minor Mineral Block No. 18,19,20 and 32 of river Mandhar of Poonch District formulated by Geology & Mining Department.

DELIBERATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JKEAC:

The Committee made observations similar to those under agenda 4 and therefore, made same recommendations with respect to replenishment reports of the mining blocks of Poonch district as well.

Decisions of the JKEIAA:

After due deliberations, the JKEIAA is in agreement with the shortcomings pointed out by the committee therefore the G&M department shall address these shortcomings in the replenishment report as per the methodology given in the Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020 and resubmit the report.

Agenda Item No 6.

To discuss the revised replenishment report of Minor Mineral Block 09, 18, 25, 26 of Rambiarra Nalla and 42, 43 of Vishu Nallah of District Shopian formulated by Geology and Mining Department.

Deliberations of JKEIAA:

The replenishment reports submitted by G&M department vide No: 1299/MCC/DGM/Transfer/Repl/22/6575 dated 25-11-22 were apprised by the JKEAC in its 101st Meeting wherein the committee had recommended the replenishment reports, subject to condition that an updated version of replenishment report with methodology and illustrations on the analogy of Replenishment reports of Jammu District is re-submitted to JKEIAA for its acceptance. The Details of the blocks are as below:

District	River/Nallah	Studies conducted in Mining Blocks	Average annual Replenishment (m) in Nallah reported by G&M Dept.	Remarks of JKEAC
Shopian	Rambiarra	Block No. 09	0.80m	Recommended subject to condition that an updated version of replenishment report with methodology and illustrations on the analogy of Replenishment reports of Jammu District is re-submitted to JKEIAA for its acceptance
		Block No.18	0.50m	
		Block No. 25	0.60m	
		Block No. 26	0.90m	
	Vishu	Block No. 42	0.80m	
		Block No. 43	1.40m	

The G&M Department submitted the following revised replenishment reports vide No: JDK/DGM/AFP/2020-21/F-97-II/1356-1358 dated: 12-12-2021, which were deliberated in the 87th Meeting of JKEIAA.

District	River/Nallah	Studies conducted in Mining Blocks	Average annual Replenishment (m) in Nallah reported by G&M Dept.	Remarks
Shopian	Rambiarra	Block No. 09	1.08m	Resubmitted replenishment data showing variance with the replenishment data submitted earlier as shown in table above
		Block No.18	0.35m	
		Block No. 25	0.31m	
		Block No. 26	0.54m	
	Vishu	Block No. 42	1.46m	
		Block No. 43	2.03m	

The Authority was informed by JKEIAA secretariat that replenishment data resubmitted by the G&M Department in respect of designated blocks of Shopian District, were found to be at variance with the previously submitted replenishment data. Accordingly, these were returned to G&M Department for reconciliation and

resubmission to JKEIAA. The JKEIAA received a clarification from the G&M Department vide No:JDK/DGM/SGR/F-280/6611-13 dated 27-12-2022 stating that the data submitted vide No: JDK/DGM/AFP/2020-21/F-97-II/1356-1358 dated:12-12-2021 be treated as final.

Decisions of the JKEIAA:

After due deliberations, the JKEIAA approved the replenishment report of Block No. 09, 18, 25 and 26 of Rambiarā Nallah and Block No. 42 and 43 of Vishu Nallah to be adopted and treated actionable for the year 2022-23 only.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-
S. Rakesh Kumar, IFS, Director,
Member Secretary, JKEIAA, EE&RS

Sd/-
Nazir Ahmad (Rtd. Chief Engineer)
Member, JKEIAA

Sd/-
Lal Chand, IFS (Rtd.)
Chairman, JKEIAA

No: JKEIAA/2016/02/IX/7881-87

Dated: 07-01-2023

Copy by email to:

1. Mr. Lal Chand, IFS (Rtd.), Hon'ble Chairman, JKEIAA, for information.
2. Er. Nazir Ahmad (Rtd. Chief Engineer), Hon'ble Member, JKEIAA, for information.
3. Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, J&K Government, Civil Secretariat, Jammu for favour of kind information.
4. Secretary to Government, Mining Department, J&K Government for favour of information.
5. Director, EE&RS, Member Secretary, JKEIAA, for information
6. Director, Geology & Mining Department, J&K Government, Jammu for information and necessary action.
7. The Secretary, JK Expert Appraisal Committee for information.
8. Website(s)


(Staff Officer)
Director EERS/Member Secretary JKEIAA
07/01/2023